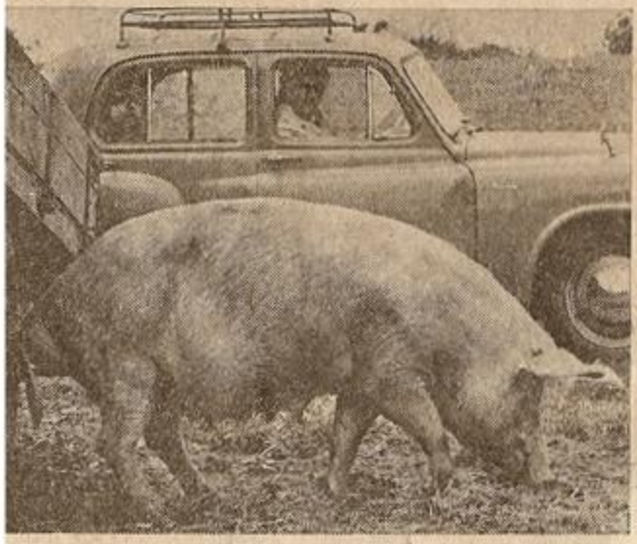
Harold's pig-power car invention gives the green light to road hogs



Harold Bate's car — and a source of fuel

THE LAST MAN to worry about the world's energy crisis will be Harold Bate.

For even if petrol rationing does come, he will still be able to drive as far as he likes—in a car powered by *pigs*.

For six years Mr. Bate has run his 1955 Hillman Minx without using a gallon of petrol.

The secret fuel that keeps him cruising at up to 70 miles an hour is a powerful gas extracted from pig manure.

Instead of stopping at a garage for a gallon of four-star, Mr. Bate visits the local piggeries near his home in Blackawton, Devon, now and then for a hundredweight of pig manure.

The 65-year-old inventor is convinced that the answer to the Energy Crunch — the predicted world shortage of natural fuels—is simple.

Any excrement produces methane as it degenerates. And methane—which is the same as North Sea Gas—is a valuable and easily tapped source of power.

Device

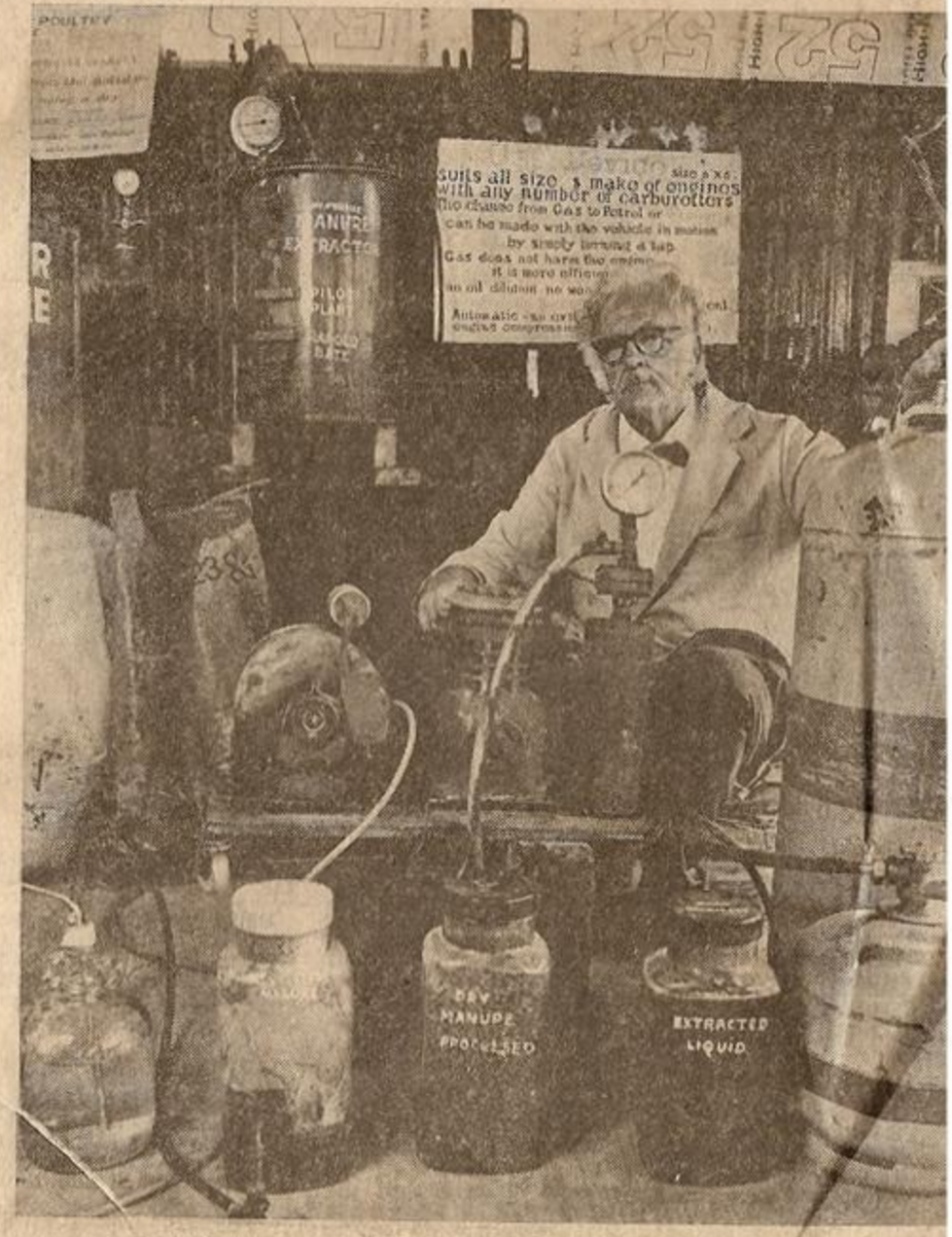
He has developed and patented an "autogas converter" device which can be fitted to any car to enable it to run on the odourless gas.

A methane-driven car goes faster, never "knocks," pulls better, never needs a decoke, and the only exhaust is a little water vapour and carbon monoxide.

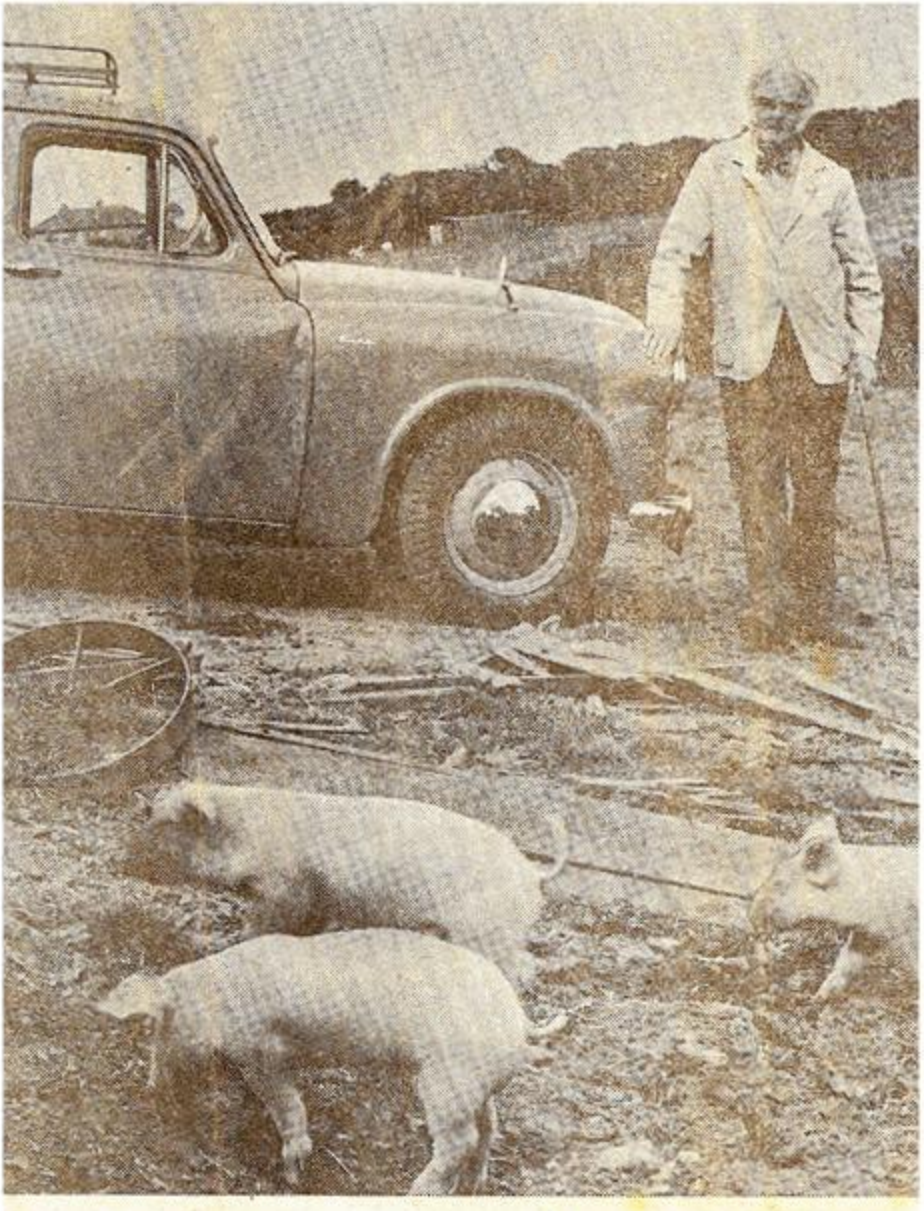
Mr. Bate first had the idea of using natural gas as a motor fuel back during the Suez crisis of 1957 when he realised then that the Western world was almost wholly dependent on the Middle East for petroleum products.

Now he hopes to market his invention world-wide. He has had thousands of orders from the U.S., supplied the Chicago and Los Angeles police forces and every week gets nearly 100 letters.

He believes a fuel that is clean, non-polluting, powerful, plentiful and cheap—roughly a penny a gallon—cannot be ignored much longer.



Inventor's laboratory: Where Harold Bate's idea became a reality



Harold Bate . . . with his 10-year-old car and the pigs that help him to run it