

(Continued)

1972

Keeping cattle, pigs, and chickens, helps cut meat and poultry bills. Monteith's abattoir sends to the kitchens about 2,100 lbs. of dressed beef; 12,00 lbs. of dressed pork, 325 lbs. of dressed chicken, each month. Seven hundred dozen eggs a month come from the farm's chickens—a cross between Sussex and New Hampshire.

Of the institutions 800 acres about 400 are under cultivation plus a couple of hundred acres in Currie Township whose sandy soil is great for potatoes.

In a year Monteith produces 300 tons of bailed hay, 425 tons of ensilage, seven and a half tons of turnips, 2,200 lbs. carrots, 400 lbs. beets, 300 lbs. radishes, 200 lbs. leaf lettuce, 200 lbs. green onions, 200 lbs. Swiss chard, 400 lbs. string beans, 100 lbs. cauliflower, 2,600 lbs. cabbage, 400 lbs. peas, 200 lbs. cooking onions and 100 lbs. celery.

"We have a very successful operation as far as productivity and the limited training facility for our people are concerned," said Mr. Griggs.

The farm's closure will affect about 30 inmates in that program. An education program is being developed to fill the vacuum, but what this will be has not been determined yet.

No dates have been mentioned for the farming phase-out which will sever the institution's almost continuous tie with agriculture.

Monteith was an experimental farm set up to pave the way for First World War veterans who took to the land. It was also the site of Northern Academy, a boarding high school with pupils from the northern rural community. In 1938 Monteith became a satellite of Burwash Industrial Farm, with farming on a limited scale.

During the second World War, the site was a prisoner-of-war camp housing at one time as many as 5,000 enemy prisoners.

Monteith became a separate institution in 1947 under the old Department of Reform. In 1965 it expanded to become a three-in-one establishment—the only one of its kind—with jail, correctional centre (industrial farm) and adult training centre.



**QUARTER CENTURY.** Farm manager at Monteith Correctional Centre, Mr. Ivan Ellis (left) receives a pin and certificate from the institution's superintendent, Mr. Don Griggs (right). Mr. Ellis has been in the Ontario Public Service for a quarter century 25 years at Monteith and one year with the former Department of Lands and Forests.