

Chronicles of... Ginger Farm

Written Specially for The Acton Free Press by GWENDOLINE P. CLARKE

Maybe there has been an October as warm as this one before, but I certainly don't remember it. In fact it isn't warm—it is downright hot. It seems so queer—hot weather and autumn leaves. It just doesn't make sense. But then there isn't much that does make sense these days, so maybe the weatherman is just sort of keeping in step.

However, things are straightening up a little bit the steel strike and the farmer's delivery strike both having come to an end. It is possible there will be probably something a little more like peace on the home-front providing the estate strikers can be persuaded to stop fighting among themselves.

Then of course, we are all anxiously awaiting the findings of the Royal Commission set up to inquire into the production and distribution costs of whole milk. Which reminds me a funny thing nearly happened the other morning. I forgot to get our daily quota of milk from the barn. The truck had picked up the cans before I even thought of it. "Well," I said to myself, "it looks as if we shall know what it feels like to buy fifteen-cent milk for once in our lives." And to tell you the truth I didn't quite relish the thought. But Partner saved the day. He remembered I hadn't been after it and he brought me some up in the milk pail, so we were able to drink eight-cent milk after all.

There are still plenty of farms changing hands in this neighborhood and when a farmer gets out we know just about what a let-down feeling it must give him. But the other day I came to realize that it is possible to have that same sense of loss but on the installment plan. You see, we had come to the parting of the ways with Perch, one of the good old faithfuls with which we started farming in Ontario. In fact he was the one remaining link with our early struggles in this game of farming. Perch, along with his teammate, Nell, served us well through good times and bad. Then about five years ago Nell dropped dead in her tracks while ploughing, presumably of heart failure. That left us with Perch and Prince, and finally just Perch, although other horses have, of course, been purchased to take the place of the old ones.

Perch was quite a character. No matter what horse he was hitched up with he always had to be a little ahead. It was the same thing at night or first thing in the morning. He seemed absolutely tireless and yet always looked half starved. But he wasn't he couldn't be on the oats he ate. When he wasn't working Perch was quite contented out in the pasture. He didn't worry about anything or anybody, unless he thought he had been left to pasture too long without a drink in which case he didn't bother to wait our convenience, but would jump the fence and help himself. In fact he could jump any fence he wanted to if he felt like it, but strangely enough, he never bothered unless it was for a special reason. For instance in his later years Perch was allergic to cold water, so rather than walk through the creek to get home he made a detour by jumping a couple of fences. Even this last year when he was past work he could still take a fence like a colt. Yes, poor old Perch was still young in spirit right up to the very end, even though he had "heaves" so badly he sounded more like a tractor than a horse and was so thin you could count his ribs. The thinness was not lack of food, but lack of teeth to chew it with. In cold weather he also had a habit of "getting down" and not being able to get up again. Horses can suffer a lot that way, so there was only one thing to do, and Partner had it done—swiftly and painlessly, which we thought was more humane than keeping the poor old thing around to suffer and eventually die.

But still, when an old horse goes, something of yourself goes with it and when it is the last of the original stock, it is like losing part of the farm.

However, we haven't been lonely for horses just lately. A neighbor's team has been visiting us quite frequently, crossing over two of his own fields and then into ours. One day the young lad came after the trunks and they gave him quite a run for his money. But eventually he got them home. Then he went into dinner. Came out and the horses were nowhere in sight. Which wasn't surprising since they were back in our field again!

That's the time when a farmer is glad to have a boy.

TURNCOAT

YORKTON, Sask. (CP)—A district farmer looked to heavy rains to make his crop green but hadn't anticipated the same effect on his dog. The pet sought refuge under the eaves of a freshly painted green roof and as the rain spattered down it dyed the animal's coat.

Acton Fair Draws Record Crowd and Best in 34 Years

(Continued from Page One)

The Prize Winners

HORSES Clydes and Shires Brood Mare—W. Hewson, W. Hewson, R. Reid & Son. Spring Foal—R. Reid & Son, W. Hewson.

One Year Old—W. Hewson, Archie Taylor, R. Reid & Son. Two Year Old Taylor Bros., W. Hewson, R. Reid & Son. Three Year Old Wm. Taylor, A. Taylor.

Best Animal—W. Hewson. Belgians and Percherons Brood Mare—H. Rodney & Son, E. Armstrong, A. Harrison. Spring Foal H. Rodney & Son, A. Harrison.

One Year Old M. MacDougall, A. Harrison. Two Year Old H. Rodney & Son, A. Harrison. Three Year Old E. Armstrong, H. Rodney & Son, R. W. Lowrie. Best Animal E. Armstrong.

Wagon Team One Year Old M. MacDougall. Three Year Old E. Armstrong. Best Animal E. Armstrong.

Horses in Harness Span Express or Wagon Mares—R. Kerr. Span Agricultural Mares or Geldings—A. Taylor, Wm. Taylor, W. Hewson.

Draught Mares or Geldings—W. Hewson, G. Francis & Son, Taylor Bros. Span Percheron or Belgian Mares or Geldings—McCutcheon Bros., McCutcheon Bros., E. Armstrong.

Four Horse Team G. Francis & Son, W. Hewson, McCutcheon Bros., Taylor Bros.

Specials Span, any breed—W. Hewson, Taylor Bros., G. Francis & Son. Mare or Gelding any breed—W. Hewson, G. Francis & Son. Delivery Horse—R. Kerr, A. Kerr, E. Armstrong.

LIGHT HORSES

Carriage Brood Mare—H. Holmes, M. MacDougall. Spring Foal—H. Holmes, M. MacDougall, R. Johnson. One Year Old—R. Johnson. Best Animal—H. Holmes.

Readsters

Spring Foal—H. Black, John Hamilton. Brood Mare—H. Black, John Hamilton. One Year Old—H. Black, S. Somerville.

Light Horses in Harness

Single Roadster, mare or gelding, 152 and under—S. Somerville, Joe Hamilton, J. McDiarmid. Single Roadster, mare or gelding, 152 and over—S. Somerville, Joe Hamilton, S. Somerville.

Single Carriage, mare or gelding, 152 and over—J. A. Kay, K. McMillan, K. McMillan. Single Carriage, mare or gelding, 152 and under—K. McMillan, R. Kerr, R. Kerr.

Carriage Team, 152 and over—J. A. McKay, R. Kerr. Carriage Team, 152 and under—K. McMillan, R. Kerr. Tandem Horses—K. McMillan, M. MacDougall, R. Kerr.

Three Year Old Roadster—S. Somerville.

Hackney Pony, under 14 hands—M. MacDougall. Pony, 12 hands and under—S. Houlding, A. Winter, W. Moody. Team Hackneys—M. MacDougall.

Specials

High Stepper—M. MacDougall, J. A. McKay. Single Turnout—R. Kerr, K. McMillan, J. McDiarmid. Span High Steppers—M. MacDougall, J. A. McKay, K. McMillan. Lady Rider—Miss Klopstock. Lady Driver—K. McMillan, K. McMillan, Mrs. Kerr, M. MacDougall. Saddle Mare for Hunter—Miss Klopstock, S. Houlding.

Pony, 12 hands and under—S. Houlding, W. Moody, A. Winter. Showmanship Foal—R. Reid & Son, H. Black, R. Johnson. 5 Horses—Houston, Taylor, Kerr.

CATTLE

Shorthorns

Bull, 2 yrs. and over—J. E. Pearson. Bull, 1 yr. and under—T. Mitchell & Son. Senior Bull Calf—J. E. Pearson, T. Mitchell & Son. Junior Bull Calf—G. W. and J. A. Lasby, T. Mitchell & Son. Cow, any age—J. E. Pearson. 2 yr. old Heifer—J. E. Pearson. Senior Yearling—Griffin. Junior Yearling Heifer—J. E. Pearson.

Junior Heifer Calf—J. E. Pearson. 2 animals get of one sire—J. E. Pearson, T. Mitchell & Son, T. Mitchell & Son. Heifer, bull and 3 females—J. E. Pearson. Baby Beef—A. McKinnon, L. Mack. Best Male—J. E. Pearson. Best Female—J. E. Pearson.

Aberdeen Angus

Bull, 2 yrs. or over—A. McKinnon & Son, L. Mack. Bull over 1 yr. and under 2—A. McKinnon & Son. Bull Calf—A. McKinnon & Son, L. Mack. Cow, any age—A. McKinnon & Son, L. Mack. 2 yr. old Heifer—L. Mack, A. McKinnon & Son. 1 yr. old Heifer—L. Mack, A. McKinnon & Son.

Heifer Calf—L. Mack, A. McKinnon & Son. Herd, bull and 3 females—L. Mack, A. McKinnon & Son. 2 animals, get of one sire—L. Mack, A. McKinnon & Son. Best Male—A. McKinnon & Son. Best Female—L. Mack.

Beef Specials

Two Beef Calves—L. Mack, A. McKinnon & Son, J. E. Pearson. Junior Heifer—J. E. Pearson, A. McKinnon & Son, L. Mack. Three Shorthorns—J. E. Pearson. Beef Calf Exhibit—G. W. and J. A. Lasby, A. McKinnon & Son.

Jerseys

Bull, 2 yrs. and over—J. M. Dolson, McDonald Bros. Bull, 1 yr. and under—J. M. Dolson. Bull Calf, 1 yr. and under—Miss S. Cochenour. Cow, any age—J. M. Dolson, Miss S. Cochenour. 2 yr. old Heifer—J. M. Dolson, Miss S. Cochenour. 1 yr. old Heifer—J. M. Dolson, Miss S. Cochenour, McDonald Bros. Senior Heifer Calf—S. Cochenour, J. M. Dolson. Junior Heifer Calf—J. M. Dolson. Pure Bred Heifer—J. M. Dolson, S. Cochenour. 2 animals get of 1 sire—S. Cochenour, J. M. Dolson. Best Male—J. M. Dolson. Best Female—J. M. Dolson.

Specials

Jersey get of sire—T. Eaton Specials—S. Cochenour. Two Dairy Calves—T. Brownridge, J. M. Dolson, W. Wingrove. Dairy Calf Exhibit—T. Brownridge, H. Archer. Holsteins Bull, over 1 yr. and under 2—T. Dolson. Bull Calf, 1 yr. and under—W. Wingrove, T. Brownridge, H. Archer. Cow, any age—W. Wingrove, T. Dolson, T. Brownridge. 2 yr. old Heifer—W. Wingrove, T. Dolson, T. Brownridge. 1 yr. old Heifer—T. Dolson, W. Wingrove. Senior Heifer Calf—T. Brownridge, W. Wingrove, T. Dolson, W. Wingrove. Junior Heifer Calf—W. F. Darby, T. Brownridge, H. Archer. 2 animals get of one sire—T. Dolson, W. Wingrove, W. Wingrove, T. Brownridge, W. Wingrove. Herd, W. Wingrove, T. Dolson, T. Brownridge. Best Male—T. Dolson. Best Female—W. Wingrove.

SHREPP

Leicester, Cotswold or Lincoln Ram—W. H. Allan & Son, J. R. Little. Shearling Ram—J. R. Little. Ram Lamb—J. R. Little, W. H. Allan & Son. Ewe—J. R. Little, W. H. Allan & Son. Shearling Ewe—W. H. Allan & Son, J. R. Little. Ewe Lamb—J. R. Little, W. H. Allan & Son. Flock, 1 ram, 2 ewes—J. R. Little, W. H. Allan & Son. Best Ram—W. H. Allan & Son. Best Ewe—J. R. Little. Southdown Ram, 2 yrs. and over—J. P. Benham & Son, M. Stark. Shearling Ram—J. P. Benham & Son, M. Stark. Ram Lamb—M. Stark, J. P. Benham & Son. Ewe, 2 yrs. and over—M. Stark, J. P. Benham & Son. Shearling Ewe—J. P. Benham & Son, M. Stark. Ewe Lamb—J. P. Benham & Son, M. Stark. Best Ram—J. P. Benham & Son. Best Ewe—J. P. Benham & Son. Oxford Down All classes won by E. Pasmore. Suffolk Ram, 2 yrs. or over—W. H. Allan & Son, A. Job. Ram Shearling—W. H. Allan & Son. Ram Lamb—W. H. Allan & Son. Ewe, 2 yrs. or over—W. H. Allan & Son, A. Winter. Shearling Ewe—M. Stark, W. H. Allan & Son. Ewe Lamb—W. H. Allan & Son, A. Job. Best Ram—W. H. Allan & Son. Best Ewe—M. Stark. Best Pen of 5—W. H. Allan & Son. Shropshire Ram, 2 yrs. or over—P. Peavoy, T. H. Price. Shearling Ram—P. Peavoy, T. H. Price. Ram Lamb—P. Peavoy, T. H. Price. Ewe, 2 yrs. or over—T. H. Price, P. Peavoy. Shearling Ewe—P. Peavoy, T. H. Price. Ewe Lamb—T. H. Price, P. Peavoy. Best Ram—P. Peavoy. Short-Wooled, any other breed Ram, 2 yrs. or over—J. E. McKinnon, J. H. Willmott. Shearling Ram—J. E. McKinnon, J. H. Willmott. Ram Lamb—J. H. Willmott, J. E. McKinnon. Ewe, 2 yrs. or over—J. H. Willmott, J. E. McKinnon. Shearling Ewe—J. H. Willmott, J. E. McKinnon. Ewe Lamb—J. E. McKinnon, J. H. Willmott. Flock Sheep—J. E. McKinnon, J. H. Willmott. Best Ram—J. E. McKinnon. Best Ewe—J. H. Willmott. Sheep Specials Flock Sheep—M. Stark, J. P. Benham & Son. Weather Lambs—P. Peavoy, M. Stark. 5 Ewe Lambs—M. Stark. Lincoln Aged Ram—A. J. Gardhouse, A. Winters. Shearling Ram—A. J. Gardhouse.

Ram Lamb—A. Winters, A. J. Gardhouse. Shearling Ewe—A. J. Gardhouse, A. Winters. Ewe, 2 yrs. and over—A. Winters, A. J. Gardhouse. Ewe Lamb—A. Winters, A. J. Gardhouse. Flock, 1 ram, 2 ewes—A. J. Gardhouse, A. Winters. Best Ram—A. J. Gardhouse. Best Ewe—A. J. Gardhouse. HOGS Boar, born between Sept. 1945 and March 1946—C. C. Cunningham, T. Brownridge. Boar, born after March 1946—T. Brownridge, C. C. Cunningham. Champion Boar—C. C. Cunningham. Sow, born before Sept. 1945—C. C. Cunningham. Sow, born between Sept. 1, 1945 and March 1, 1946—T. Brownridge. Sow, born after March 1, 1946—T. Brownridge, C. C. Cunningham. Pen Bacon Hogs—T. H. Price and Son. Champion Sow—C. C. Cunningham. Specials Young Sows—C. C. Cunningham. Pen Bacon Hogs—T. H. Price and Son, C. C. Cunningham. POULTRY R I Red Cocker—C. Creek, W. J. Alexander, F. Kentner. R I Red Hen—W. J. Alexander, C. Creek, F. Kentner. I I Red Cockerel—C. Creek, F. Kentner, W. J. Alexander. R I Red Pullet—C. Creek, F. Kentner, W. J. Alexander. Buff Rock Cocker—W. J. Alexander, F. Kentner. Buff Rock Hen—W. J. Alexander, F. Kentner. Buff Rock Cockerel—F. Kentner, F. Kentner. Buff Rock Pullet—W. J. Alexander, F. Kentner. Light Sussex Cocker—W. J. Alexander, W. MacLaren, F. Kentner. Light Sussex Hen—W. MacLaren, W. J. Alexander, F. Kentner. Light Sussex Cockerel—F. Kentner, W. J. Alexander, W. MacLaren. Light Sussex Pullet—W. MacLaren, A. E. Waddie, W. J. Alexander. Hampshire Red Cocker—W. MacLaren, W. J. Alexander. Hampshire Red Hen—W. MacLaren, W. J. Alexander. Hampshire Red Cockerel—F. Kentner, W. J. Alexander, W. MacLaren. Hampshire Red Pullet—W. MacLaren, W. J. Alexander, F. Kentner. Minorca Cocker—C. Creek, W. MacLaren, F. Kentner. Minorca Hen—F. Kentner, W. MacLaren, C. Creek. Minorca Cockerel—F. Kentner, A. Mason, C. Creek. Minorca Pullet—A. Mason, F. Kentner, C. Creek. Leghorn Cocker—C. Creek, W. J. Alexander, W. H. Allan & Son. Leghorn Hen—C. Creek, W. J. Alexander, W. H. Allan & Son. Leghorn Cockerel—W. J. Alexander, W. H. Allan & Son. Leghorn Pullet—W. J. Alexander, C. Creek, W. H. Allan & Son. Wyandotte Cocker—C. Creek, W. MacLaren. Wyandotte Hen—W. J. Alexander, C. Creek, W. MacLaren. Wyandotte Cockerel—C. Creek, W. J. Alexander, W. H. Allan & Son. Wyandotte Pullet—C. Creek, W. J. Alexander, W. H. Allan & Son. B. P. Rock Cocker—W. MacLaren, C. Creek, W. J. Alexander. B. P. Rock Hen—W. MacLaren, C. Creek, W. H. Allan & Son. B. P. Rock Cockerel—W. H. Allan & Son, C. Creek, W. MacLaren. B. P. Rock Pullet—C. Creek, W. MacLaren, W. J. Alexander. White Rock Cocker—C. Creek, W. MacLaren, W. J. Alexander. (Continued on Page Six)

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