



Ontario Crop Annual Largely Attended

The annual convention of the Ontario Crop Improvement Association was held in the Coliseum, Exhibition Park, Toronto, the first three days of last week. At the same time the Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers and the Ontario Retail Farm Equipment Dealers were also in session. All three conventions were well attended with delegates in attendance from all sections of Ontario.

Personally we attended the Crop Convention for two days and a wealth of valuable information was presented to Soils, Crops, Water, Marketing, etc. It is perhaps foolhardy to single out any speaker for special mention, but in so far as we could gather the highlights were the addresses of Dr. L. L. Harrod, U. S. Soil Conservation Service at Coshocton, Ohio, who spoke on Water and Soils in Agriculture; W. P. Watson, Ontario Livestock Commissioner, who took as his topic "The Agricultural Outlook for 1951" and the Rt. Hon. James G. Gardiner, Minister of Agriculture for Canada, who was the guest speaker at the Annual Banquet.

We cannot hope to deal with all three addresses in this week's column and it has occurred to us that a few of the highlights of W. P. Watson's address would be of interest. Incidentally, Mr. Watson has gained in former years, an enviable reputation as an accurate prognosticator of the Agricultural Outlook. Keeping in mind the present international situation, Mr. Watson stated "there is no reason for pessimism in the economic front." He pointed out that the governments on this continent are spending astronomical sums of money for defence purposes; this can have only one result and that is of an inflationary nature, but he stated, "if higher prices are the only sacrifice we have to make, we are getting off very lightly. In the past decade Great Britain has been our greatest market—furthermore, the buying power in Great Britain has been bolstered by Marshall Aid, but there is to be no Marshall Aid to Great Britain in 1951 and very little to Europe. We cannot, stated Mr. Watson, look to W. Europe for a market for surpluses. It was also pointed out that in 1950, over 50 per cent of our exports in dollar value were to U.S., in contrast to one third in previous years. In short, our economy is now linked more closely with that of U. S. than ever before. There is today full employment in U.S. and Canada and only a limited amount of labour will be available in 1951. Supplies of feed grain in Canada are larger today than at any time since 1944. The greatest factor in price of grain is the price of grain in U.S. All western feed grain is channeled through Canadian Grain Board. There is little reason for believing that grain prices will be any lower at least until spring when navigation opens.

In referring to livestock, Mr. Watson pointed out that the price of beef cattle is close to an all time high, due largely to the fact that our beef cattle population on this continent in recent years has not kept pace with the increase in human population. In his opinion consumers can look forward to paying a high price for beef in 1951. In 1950 we consumed 50 million pounds less beef but consumed 75 million more pounds pork. Mr. Watson does not anticipate that the removing of the embargo against U.S. work will materially affect the price of Canadian hogs, nor does he think Canada will produce more hogs in 1951 than was done in 1950. Mr. Watson in referring to the dairy situation, stated that the threat of war may cause a switch from cheese production to the production of canned milk. The most tragic situation in the livestock field is our sheep. Today less than 300,000 head in Ontario, and it was pointed out that wool in New Zealand had recently hit one sterling per pound and \$1.00 per pound in U.S. Sheep men can keep all ewe lambs over the next five years—there is no danger of over production. "The bad news I have for you," stated Mr. Watson, "pertains to labour." The supply of farm machinery is likely to be less, due to supply of available steel and available Hydro Electric Power. Mr. Watson concluded his address by stating "If you handle more of that green stuff, the more of it will stick" and further, "From the standpoint of efficiency we must be thinking in terms of Cost of Production, rather than Price," because as I see it, "we are more likely to have falling prices than lower prices."

Incidentally, Mr. Watson is to be the guest speaker at the Halton Seed Fair and Bacon Show in Milton.

R. H. Graham to Address Halton Hog Producers

Halton Hog Producers met in the Court House, Milton, on Saturday, January 27th, at 2.00 p.m. when R. H. Graham, Associate Livestock Commissioner for Ontario, is to be the guest speaker, states Percy Merry, President of the Halton association. We understand the programme will also include a report on Cost of Production, by Cedric Harrop, prominent Halton hog producer.

Prof. G. W. Rathby Guest Speaker at H. Jersey Annual

The eleventh annual meeting of the Halton Jersey Club was held at Hornby, on Friday of last week. President Duncan Moffat was in charge of the excellent programme. Following their business session in the morning, 105 sat down to an excellent turkey repast served by the Hornby W.I. Numbered among the guests were Norman and Alfred Baggs, of Edgeley, and Col. Bartley Bull of Brampton.

Prof. G. W. Rathby of the Department of Animal Husbandry, O.A.C., who was introduced by M. C. Beatty, was the guest speaker taking as his subject, "The Black Fifty." Prof. Rathby ably reviewed the history and development of the Jersey breed during the past fifty years. According to statistics in 1907, there were 327 pure bred Jerseys in Canada and 68 per cent of these were in Ontario. Today the Jersey population runs into five figures and they are in all provinces in Canada with 57 per cent in Ontario. He further pointed out that in 1907, of all the registered cattle of the dairy breeds in Canada, 6 per cent were Jerseys, whereas today 12 per cent are Jerseys.

Potato Pie Shows English Madness

Eating is the main advertised attraction at a back-concession Canadian church social, or sociable. Pic eating is the principal kind of eating. There are first-course pies and second-course pies; a customer may go the whole meal without getting off pies. Among the desserts, squash pie is a notable oddity in some localities; but for body and bulk in the long first course of many helpings, nothing compares to tater pie. This contradiction comes from Devon. The Irish know about potato pies but it is the Devon English who have the lust for consuming them.

The repression that the English imposed on themselves in the centuries when they were running an empire and the world has given them a name for being a steady people. Not theirs the wild excesses of the haggis. But at a Canadian social among people of Devon origin the madness of these English shows up in their excitement as they set to with tater pie.

Turkey Steaks Are Proving Popular

With wars and rumours of wars threatening on the international front, here's good news for the housewife on the home front—the disagreeable job of "cleaning the chicken" is on the way out. With the increasing use of eviscerated and ready-to-cook poultry in Canadian homes another housewife's chore will be struck off the list. Today in many Canadian communities the consumer has the choice of buying an attractively dressed whole fowl, a half, a quarter, a leg—and if she likes, she can leave the wings for those who want them! Turkey steaks have caught on and are proving popular on some markets. Because of its better flavour and quality and the elimination of much unpleasant kitchen labour, ready-to-cook and eviscerated poultry is finding increasing favour from coast to coast.

To maintain an optimum balance between production and consumption, poultry producers realize that not only must the product be attractively presented, it must have the highest quality and flavour possible. E. D. Bonnyman, poultry marketing specialist in the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa says

that while it is important to produce a bird with good flavour, it is equally important to rejoin that flavour right up to the time it reaches the consumer's table.

Research work has shown that one of the best ways to achieve this and avoid "off" flavours and visceral taint, is to remove the entrails soon after the bird is killed. This of course must be combined with up-to-date and approved processing practices such as are followed in the registered grading station program in Canada, where emphasis is placed on sanitation. When everyone is interested in cutting down costs, Bonnyman points out that when cutting-up and evisceration is practised at the initial shipping point, a considerable saving is made in freight as the eviscerating shrink has been estimated to be about 22 to 25 per cent. On left-hauls this saving in freight has been found to approximate a cent a pound. Considered in terms of the millions of pounds shipped in Canada every year, it is readily seen what an effect this would have on the whole poultry meat industry. And if this saving in shipping might be passed on to the consumer, then it is conceivable that the present 23 pounds annually consumed per capita might be increased to the benefit of all concerned.

Proven Wives Have Better Education

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics came up with some interesting figures recently on the cysts in mental institutions. In the same release it took a sample of the 1951 preliminary census data and came up with these conditions:

Canadian wives are younger than their husbands. Wives generally are better educated.

The mental institution figures were based on 1947 when there were 54,703 persons in mental institutions. For every 10,000 people in Canada there were 40 receiving care in those institutions. For every 100 females in them, there were 110.8 males.

In connection with the education the Bureau notes that the tendency for the wife to be better educated is becoming more pronounced.

REPAIRS LINOLEUMS
Glass-like finish of natural rubber can be used to renew linoleum, furniture and leather, reports The Financial Post. It also damp-proofs walls and can be used as a sealer on plaster or cement surfaces. Fast-drying, new substance is not harmed by strong acids, etc.

Pollock and Campbell
Manufacturers of HIGH GRADE MEMORIALS MEMORIAL ENGRAVING
62 Water St., North GALT
TELEPHONE 3045

WALLPAPERS One of the largest stocks of Wallpapers to choose from in Western Ontario.
PAINTS Some of the more popular brands of nationally advertised paints carried in stock.
BOOKS Stationery Supplies
TOYS
KENNEDY'S BOOK STORE
25 Wyndham St., Guelph — Angus Kennedy, Prop.

FOR 1951

GMC

BRINGS YOU THE GREATEST OF ALL TRUCKS!

Most efficient of all TRUCK ENGINES!
* Great GMC Valvoline Head engine delivers more power! Torqueometer now increased to 154 Lbs. Loadmeter 103 Lbs. Thriftmeter 92 Lbs.

Most comfortable of all TRUCK CABS!
* New No-Drift Ventilation... Super-40 seat adjustment... extra wide valves!

Strongest of all TRUCK CHASSIS!
* Built for the broad road! New approved brakes... massive frames... easy landing!

MORE MODELS than any other make!
* More models, more load ranges, more wheelbases, more axle designs, more gear ranges!

In these greater-than-ever 1951 GMC's you'll get the constant dividend of GMC's greater pulling power... truck-built horsepower with greater sustained torque than other engines. And with that power goes the greater stamina of GMC's rugged truck-engineered frame! You get extra-value features in every model.

Underneath the brawny beauty of the new 1951 GMC, there's truck engineering that will pay off in operations—cut maintenance costs—step up dependability even higher. Drivers get more comfort than ever before—owners get more power, with real economy. GMC gives you far more choice—models built to do a job on every kind of truck operation.

Sure, they're the greatest of all trucks! See them today at your GMC dealer's!

Robt. R. Hamilton
OPTOMETRIST
72 ST. GEORGES SQUARE
GUELPH
COMPLETE EYESIGHT SERVICE

LORNE GARNER MOTORS
MAIN at BOWER ACTON PHONE 326-w
GMC FOR ANY LOAD ON ANY ROAD