

# FARM NEWS

## Outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease Serious Blow To Canada

The outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in the Region district of Saskatchewan is a serious blow to Canadian agriculture. The embargo, which was immediately clamped down by the United States has had a serious effect on live stock marketings and prices.

The whole picture at the moment would appear to be badly confused. Just what is entailed by the United States embargo no one seemed to be too sure of when we were writing this column on Saturday morning last.

According to the Health of Animals Branch in Toronto, no proclamation had at that time been handed down by the United States Bureau of Animal Diseases. We do not wish to minimize the seriousness of the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease nor its effect on our Canadian economy nevertheless we can't help but feel that the disastrous slump in beef cattle prices has to some extent at least, been counteracted by panicky marketing on the part of some live stock producers.

In our opinion live stock producers would be well advised to "tighten" and market only such animals as are ready for the market.

## Hog Production Costs

The summary of hog production costs for the period July 1, 1950, to June 30, 1951, has just been released by the Farm Economics Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture. The data is based on records kept by 45 commercial swine producers across Ontario.

In general the figures compare

very closely with those of Cedric Harrop, Halton Co-operator, whose figures are contained in the prize list for the Halton Seed Fair and Bacon Show.

The average figure of the 45 herds in producing a 200-pound pig during the period referred to above, was \$27.52. This figure includes cost of feed, labour at 40 cents per hour, interest and depreciation and other current expenses. The average cost of producing 100 lbs. pork at that time was \$16.43. The average percentage of A's for the group was 51 per cent while Mr. Harrop marketed 80 per cent A's.

At the present price of \$20.00 dressed weight, a 200-lb. hog on the Toronto market brings approximately \$20.00, depending on dressing percentage. Even at the 1950-51 feed prices the margin for profit is very close.

At present feed prices it would appear to us that the average producer is either paying for the pleasure of keeping hogs or he is getting less than 80c per hour for his labour. In short one would have to be a very efficient producer with a low overhead to much more than break even under present conditions.

One should, however, bear in mind the statement of W. P. Watson Ontario Live Stock Commissioner, when addressing the annual meeting of the Halton Crop Improvement Association in Milton early in January. "There was never a time when the hog producer made money on every litter. It is the man who stays with the business who in the end comes out on the right side of the ledger."

## IMPERIAL MEDAL IS GRANTED TO W. MULHOLLAND OF ROCKWOOD

The Imperial Service Medal, awarded by His Late Majesty, King George VI to William Mulholland of Rockwood, was presented to him on February 23, by George Day, the local postmaster. This medal is awarded after 25 years meritorious service. Mr. Mulholland, who was appointed to a post office position in 1913, has spent 38 years in the Department's service. He was a letter carrier in Toronto.

The same week, Mr. Mulholland was presented with the instructor's certificate in first aid, granted by the Priory in Canada of the St. John's Ambulance. Mr. Mulholland was in charge of first aid in the Toronto post office before moving to Rockwood not long ago.

The certificate accompanying the Imperial Service Medal reads as follows:

"Central Chancery of The Order

of Knighthood, St. James Palace, London, England, 31st August, 1951.

"I am commanded to forward the Imperial Service Medal, which His Majesty the King has graciously been pleased to award to you in recognition of the meritorious services which you have rendered.

"I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant, Ivan DeLa Bera, Brigadier, Registrar of the Imperial Service Order."

## PRIVATE SALE

"I had some trouble when a customer put down her own hat and it was snatched up by another lady. Eventually the first one agreed to sell it, so a private sale took place and number one was able to buy a new hat with the money she'd got from the old one."

—Marjorie Higgs, a London shop assistant on the BBC.

## Books IN REVIEW

From Acton Public Library.

### "I MARRIED AN ARTIST"

By Billy Button

Notable for the names bobbing on its pages rather than the style in which it was written, "I Married an Artist" is nevertheless a whimsical description of a very different kind of life. Some housewives could make a fascinating story out of nothing much that goes on all day. Mrs. Clarke who writes "Ginger Farm" is one of these. But Billy Button tends to see her most fascinating facts and interesting situations as rather humdrum.

But the book's proximity to us in time set shortly before the war, place Toronto, near Uxbridge, and characters essentially the narrator could be any of us—makes it splendid reading.

Billy Button is the daughter of Henry Button of Dent's Publishing Company in Toronto, and she married Toronto artist A. A. MacDonnell.

Their second home was a house on Grenville St., near Eaton's College Street store, and neighboring artists were Guy and Ren Roberts, Archibald Burns, Arthur Henning, Archie Arbuckle and Franz Johnson.

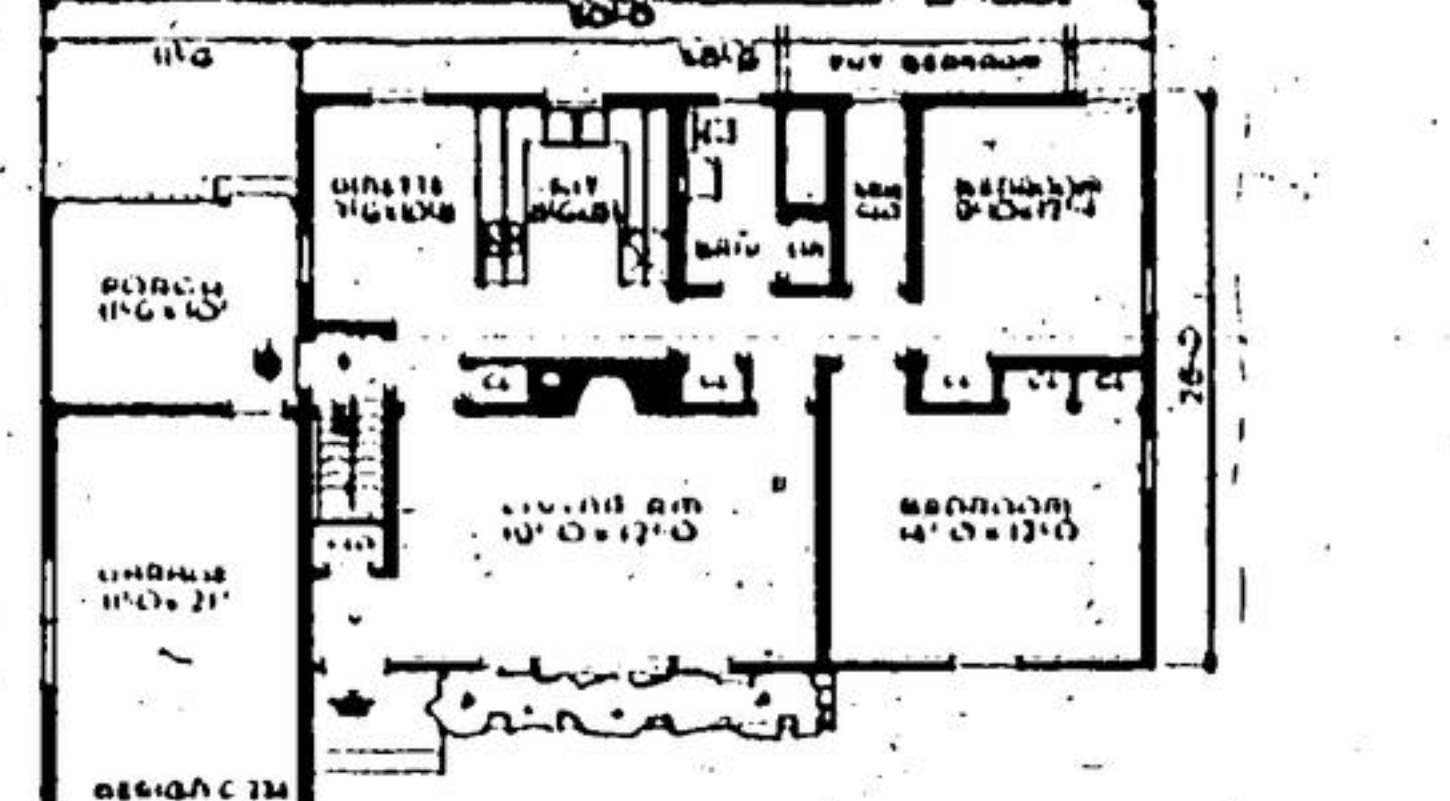
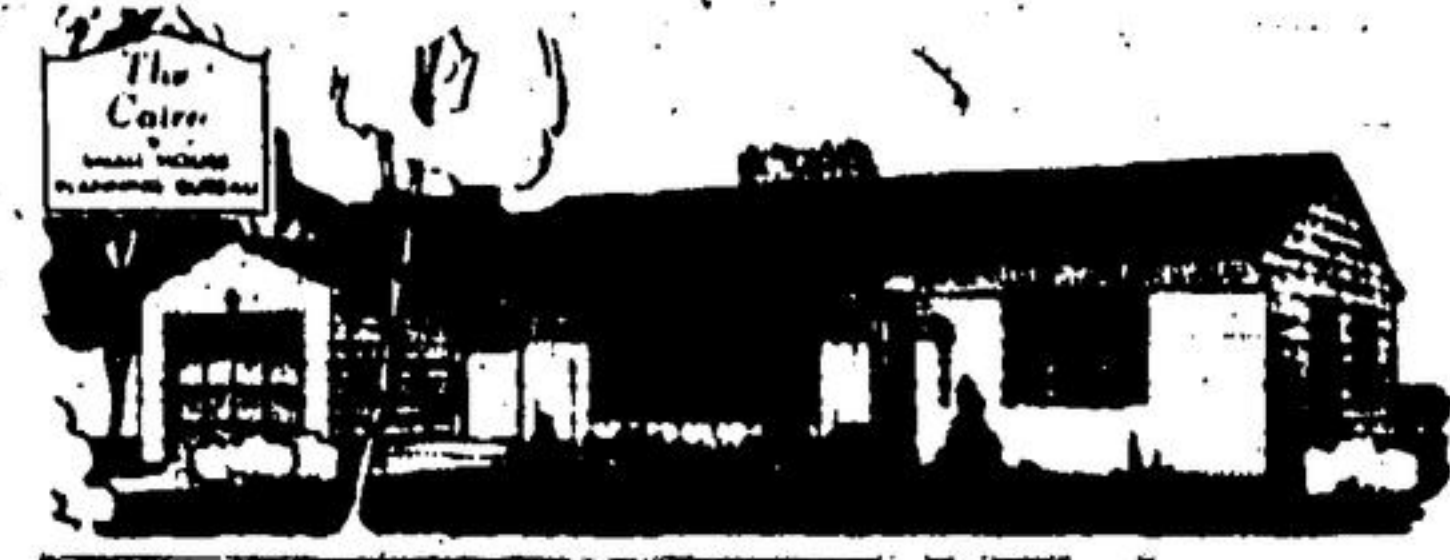
Next they moved to live in a converted mill near Uxbridge on a tributary of the Don River.

Rats, floods, leaks, cold all are dealt with in a rather sorrowful manner.

Ballad singer Susan Reed became a friend.

Fabric designer Elizabeth Wilkes joined with the MacDonnells in their mill to set up a fabric factory there, and that business, interestingly, is now carried on near Oakville.

Two babies are counted among the disasters, as the author sees them, during the course of the book. While the easy-to-read volume is punctuated by the young girls' tears, it's still very good reading and in top demand.



"THE CAIRN" is a two bedroom plan that can be expanded into three bedrooms by adding a room on the rear, using the storage closet as a future hall. In addition, there is a full basement under the main house, living room, combination kitchen-dinette, attached garage and screened porch.

Cabinets separate the kitchen from the dinette, with an open counter for serving. A double compartment sink is located under the windows, the stove on the left and the refrigerator on the right.

Closets are well distributed and include coat closets at the entrance, wardrobe bedroom closets, linen, storage and general closet in the hall for a total of eight.

The exterior finish is of siding, with asphalt shingles, a brick chimney and planting area and vertical redwood in front.

Dimensions are 50 feet by 20 feet, the area is 1020 square feet and cubage 21,021 cubic feet.

## Have All Farm Machinery Ready

It is not too soon to think of checking farm machinery and equipment after the long winter lay-away. There is sometimes delay in getting spare parts, and a machine that won't work is no help in the spring rush.

Only too often a worn part gives out or a casting breaks in the field. Generally these breakdowns could have been avoided by a winter overhaul. Bolts and set screws used in adjustments can be the cause of much delay if they are found to be inoperative at a busy time.

While the machine may have been working well the last time it was used it will work all the better for a thorough cleaning, checking and oiling during the off season. It may save a breakdown at a busy time, it will certainly save wear and tear on the machine at any time.

## Antique Dealers' Sales Pre-1830

Superb works of art to the total value of \$12,000,000 are to be on show at the twelfth antique dealer's fair and exhibition, opening at Grosvenor House, London, in June. Except for the loans from the Royal collection, all the articles will be for sale. Dealers from all over Britain will display objects of art, ranging from furniture, pottery, tapestries and jewellery, to Greek, Roman, Egyptian, and Chinese antiquities.

Every article exhibited must have been made before 1830. Before each item is allowed to be placed on a stand for sale it has to be passed by experts. It is this procedure, together with the willingness of dealers to accept expert judgment, which has gained this fair such a reputation for integrity.

MARKET PRICES PAID FOR

## DEAD STOCK

HORSES - CATTLE HOGS

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## GOOD YEAR Tires

## THOMPSON MOTORS

PHONE 69

## RED, WHITE PINE GROWN UP AT 120

If red and white pine in Ontario 120 years to reach maximum growth, according to the findings of the Forest Research Institute which is now approaching its conclusion. In timber sales on the Pelawawa Management Unit operated by the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests, no red or white pine will in future be cut under this age unless specially marked for felling because of die, can, age or needs of silviculture.

At 120 years, the experts found, the tree has reached its maximum growth and begins showing up yellowish furrows (thrombosis) in from 50 to 100 years. The inventory has shown.



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## THE CHALLENGE

This year again the Red Cross Appeal presents us with a challenge . . . and an opportunity. New victims of war wounds, greater need of life-saving blood transfusion services, the inevitability of great disasters of fire and flood . . . all must find the Red Cross ready. As the need to alleviate suffering grows, the generosity of Canadians grows too. But today, the task is almost beyond measure. There is the challenge. The opportunity to help is before you.

Give TODAY to carry on tomorrow's work of mercy

## \$5,222,000 is urgently needed to KEEP YOUR RED CROSS STRONG

Gifts to your Red Cross are wisely used. Each year the accounting is approved by auditors of the Dominion Government.

## GET IN TUNE WITH SPRING

It's a time when people buy new clothes, new footwear, new hats, discard old furniture for new, get the old car tuned up or have eyes on a new model.

It's a season when housewives get at now painting and cleaning and buy new drapes! The amateur gardener and the farmer get interested in spring seeding and spring is just around the corner.

TO SELL THEM YOU MUST TELL THEM AND NOW'S THE TIME TO GET THE LOCAL MARKET BY REGULAR ADVERTISING IN

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## The Acton Free Press

ACTON, ONT.

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