



**Holstein Milk Producers Entertainment reported "Best Ever"**

The annual entertainment sponsored jointly by the Halton Holstein Breeders' Club and the Halton Milk Producers' Association has over the years achieved the enviable reputation of being the best program held annually in this County. The 1952 event held in the Princess Theatre, Milton, on Wednesday evening of last week, was according to all reports well up to standard of former years. As a matter of fact we have had quite a number go to the trouble of phoning or dropping in to tell us that it was the best yet. We do know that the tickets were "snapped up" within a day or two of the announcement that they were available.

It is unfortunate that it is always impossible to accommodate all who would like to attend. As it was we understand 460 were crowded into a house supposed to accommodate 429. During the past few days all sorts of suggestions have been received, i.e. "Why don't you conduct it on two nights?" "Why don't you increase the admission charge—it was worth \$5.00 rather than 60 cents?" All that we can answer is that those responsible are all busy people—attempts to give service to many individuals and organizations and there just aren't sufficient days or nights to do more than is being done—there is no desire to make it a money-making affair. The objective is primarily to stage an outstanding program once a year for the rural folk of Halton and at the same time "break even" on the effort. Certainly there is no class of citizens more deserving nor is there any cross section of the citizens of Halton who have a greater appreciation for top talent.

Dean R. O. Hurst of the Ontario College of Pharmacy was the guest speaker. His address entitled "King Alfred was Right" was filled with humour and meat. In brief, it was thought provoking and yet with sufficient humour to be a delight to everyone. The program also included the outstanding skit entitled "School Days" presented by the Palerino Juniors. Other artists were Jennie Pengelly, one of Canada's greatest artists—a great soprano and she sang gloriously; Ronald Stewart, noted tenor, who is an old favorite with Halton audiences; Jack McLean of Toronto, impersonator and Johnny Dash, a 16 year old juggler both of whom amazed their audiences with their ability and skill in their respective fields. All in all, it was a good clean program, with plenty of variety for all, staged by outstanding artists.

**Crop Association Plans 1952 Program**

The directorate of the Halton Crop Improvement Association recently made plans for their 1952 program. Over the years failure of seed catches has been a serious problem throughout Halton and in fact in all parts of Ontario, there is a wide difference of opinion as to the best method of sowing grass seeds. Experimental work at the Ontario Agricultural College and at the Dominion Experimental Farm at Ottawa favours surface seeding, followed by a stroke of a light set of harrows and in dry seasons the drill is followed by the packer.

In the heavy clay loam sections of Halton and Haldimand the great majority mix their alfalfa with the grain and sow down the grain spouts—in fact some mix all of their small seeds with the grain and drill shallow—just sufficiently deep to get the small seeds down to moisture. It has been our observation that in dry seasons the men who drill in their small seeds are the boys who get the catches. However, all do not agree even on the heavy clay loams as to the best method. Over the past ten years the officers of the Crop Association have laid down tests involving various methods. On each occasion moisture conditions were favorable and all methods appeared to be equally good. A year ago comprehensive tests were laid down on three different farms and, of course again moisture conditions were favourable and last fall all methods appeared to give equally good results. However, this time the officers are determined that the tests will be continued annually over a period of years—yields taken the succeeding years until more definite data is available.

The practice of mulching a portion of several fields immediately after seeding was initiated in 1951. This idea will again be repeated this year on several farms until more definite data can be secured.

**Top dressing of wheat fields and meadows with ammonium nitrate at varying rates per acre will also be repeated.** On the Brock Harris farm in Nelson Township,

where nine different combinations of grasses and clovers were laid down in half acre blocks a year ago, these plots will be cross-fertilized at different rates of application with ammonium nitrate, 4-12 8-phosphate manure—ordinary manure, etc. In connection with boys' grain club work, it was agreed to continue the policy of subsidizing the cost of the first two bushels for each club member. It is also the intention of the officers of the Association to take yields on a number of other tests and demonstrations laid down a year ago.

**Clovers Germinate Between Blotters**

In addition to examination for purity, all foreign crop seeds offered for sale must be tested for germination in accordance with Regulations in the Seeds Act.

The medium used by Department of Agriculture analysts for germination tests varies according to the kind of seed. Clovers are germinated between special blotters, but sometimes sand is used when the interpretation of normal and abnormal sprouts is difficult. Grasses are germinated on top of blotter; in closed germination tanks, the moisture being regulated by filter paper wicks which dip into the water in the tank. Only pure seed as defined in the Canadian Rules for Seed Testing is planted.

All foreign crop seeds may present problems in germination at one time or another says R. A. Ingalls, District Seed Analyst at Saskatoon. The most common of these is dormancy—a distinct rest period during which seeds fail to germinate even though the best conditions are duplicated. This delayed germination is due to several known natural causes and varies in intensity any duration from season to season depending to a large extent upon the environmental conditions during the growth and maturation.

Most seeds received for test immediately after harvest must, therefore, receive special treatment to break the rest period if maximum viability is to be determined. In the laboratory this is usually done by subjecting the planted seeds to a temperature of fifty degrees for two to six days according to kind of seed. After this pre-chill, the test is continued in germinators where the optimum temperatures for growth prevails.

In many cases light is known to induce germination and grasses which come within this category, are exposed to extra light during daytime. Some seeds are further induced to complete germination by moistening the growing medium with a solution of potassium nitrate, while still others are influenced by sharply alternating them between one temperature during the day and another at night.

**Mealtime Glory Life's Big Moment**

A service that one still sometimes gets is the parade to the restaurant dining table, with the head waiter grandly leading the way and grandly drawing out a chair. This continues to be one of life's heady moments. It is what one has always secretly felt was fitting to one's real importance.

Other services have become inferior along with many goods; plumbers sneer or don't even turn up to sneer; sales clerks chew gum at you, indifferent to your problems; gas attendants wipe off your windshield when you ask to borrow a rag so you may do it yourself—but now and then in restaurants you still get the grand parade and the grandly outdrawn chair.

The irony of it is that the chair that is outdrawn is inevitably the one fattest around the table from your point of entry to the dining room. It is the chair from behind which the waiter may face you as you approach the table. This makes a pleasing scene, but there is little real useful service to it.

Al! 'tis a fine old-world attitude that the waiter strikes but it will be plain luck if the chair he selects gives you a good view out a window or of the more interesting fellow diners. Chances are you will be seated facing the kitchen or a sideboard covered with dirty dishes. However, the thing was done with a fine flourish and you do not feel too badly about the draft on your neck. Besides, when the waiter isn't looking you can sneak into the next chair.

**Peas Biggest Item On Export Listing**

Exports of canned fruits, vegetables and products processed from them are a sizeable item in Canada's foreign business. In 1951 nearly 35 million pounds of these commodities were exported valued at some \$5 million.

The United States was the chief customer, taking 25 million pounds. Concentrated apples and apple juice; jams, jellies and marmalades; canned corn and canned tomatoes were popular items.

Great Britain imported six million pounds, 5 1/2 million pounds being tomato soup and juice. Bermuda purchased 38 different types of product for a total of over a million pounds. The biggest single item was 238,850 pounds of canned peas.

**GRAFTING WAX**

A new wax, reported in The Financial Post, is said to need no warming, and will not run in hot weather or crack in cold. The maker states it is pliable and will stretch with growth of graft, eliminating air and moisture. No special equipment is necessary for its application.

**CLEARING AUCTION SALE**

**Holstein Cows, Heifers, Hogs, Tractor Power Implements, Farm Implements, Chickens, etc.**

The undersigned have received instructions from

**J. C. SWITZER**

To sell by public auction at his farm, lot 3, 10th line, Esquimaux, 3 miles south-east of Norval, on

**SATURDAY, APRIL 5th**

Commencing at 2:00 o'clock, the following:

**HORSES**—Bay Gelding, 6 years old; Black Mare, 12 years old; Grey Mare, 12 years old; Jersey cow, not bred; reg. Holstein cow, fresh, not bred; Holstein cow, due time of sale; Jersey cow, fresh, not bred; 2 Holstein cows, in full flow, bred Mar. 6; Blue cow, in full flow, bred Mar. 3; Holstein cow, in full flow, bred Mar. 25; Jersey cow, due Mar. 13; Jersey cow, due July 10; Ayrshire cow, due Mar. 10; 3 Holstein heifers, 2 years old, open; 6 Holstein heifers, 1 year old; 3 Heifer calves; 3 bull calves.

**HOGS AND POULTRY**—Mature York sow, due time of sale; mature York sow, bred Mar. 10; Tam sow, not bred; 6 young York sows, ready to breed; 13 York weaners; 3 fat pigs; 300 mixed chicks, 4 weeks old.

**TRACTOR, FARM IMPLEMENTS, ETC.**—W4 M.D. tractor, on rubber, with power take-off; M.D. tractor disc; 2-furrow Oliver tractor or plow; Int. corn harvester with power take-off, in A1 shape; manure spreader; M.H. 2-row corn scuffler; 8 ft. on rubber, complete with power take-off; Gehl hammer mill, complete with fine and coarse screens; cultipacker; Int. side rake, on rubber, new last year; Deering hay loader; Deering mower; rubber tired wagon; sloop sleigh; flat hay rack, 14 ft.; dump rake; M.H. 13-hoe grain drill; 2 cutters; 4-drum land roller; 2 root pulpers; long extension ladder; single furrow walking plow; M.H. 2-row corn scuffler; 2-wheeled car trailer; Reo truck; 2 ton, stake body; quantity of scrap iron; forks; shovels; hoes, etc.

**FURNITURE**—Consisting of odd chairs; odd tables; some dishes and silverware; Gilson electric vacuum; victrola; hanging lamp; large sideboard with mirror; clock; rump bed; parlor lamp; organ; xylophone, etc.

**TERMS**—Cash settlement with clerk day of sale.

Everything sells as the proprietor is giving up farming.

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**OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS** work with patients under the supervision of the Ontario Society for Crippled Children. It is for such work that the Easter Seal appeal for funds is made locally through the Rotary Club. Donations may be left in Acton at the Bank of Nova Scotia.

**FARM IMPROVEMENT LOANS HELP TO BUY SECOND-HAND MACHINERY**

Get your eye on a good second-hand tractor! If you're sure it's a real "buy", you'll be wise to get it now even if it costs a little more than you can afford in cash. You can make up the difference by getting a low-cost Farm Improvement Loan from the Bank of Montreal.

If you have any improvements you would like to carry through on your farm, using either new or used materials or equipment, drop in for a chat with Gordon Ode, manager of the Acton branch of the B. of M.

An F. I. L. is a low-interest five per cent loan, intended to help farmers make their farm more productive and profitable. It can be repaid by easy instalments, timed to seasonal income periods. See Mr. Ode about your F. I. L. next time you're near his office.

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