



FARM NEWS

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Good Progress With Harvest - Binders, combines and threshing machines have been busy in all sections of the County during the past few weeks. With the exception of some wheat and spring grain waiting for the combine, most of the grain crop has been cut and a good deal of it has been threshed and considerable of the fall wheat crop has been delivered to the mills. In general the fall wheat crop is turning out better than anticipated—in fact the same might be said for a good deal of the spring grain crop.

Some 45 bus. crops of wheat have been reported but in the main 30 to 35 bus. per acre seems to be the general yield. We note a recent bulletin issued by the Ontario Federation of Agriculture is advocating that wheat be held in farm bins or elevators until the outlook becomes clearer.

They state in only one year since 1931 has the price failed to rise above the opening price sometime during the crop year. Local millers are reported to be paying from \$1.85 to \$1.95 per bus. This is somewhat higher than the opening price a year ago which could be anticipated in view of the very substantial reduction in the acreage sown to fall wheat a year ago.

Present prospects point to large crops of spring wheat in both Canada and the U.S.—perhaps the largest on record. This normally would be depressing were it not for the fact that considerable emphasis is apparently being placed on stock piling, in order to ensure adequate emergency supplies in the event of war.

As usual a few cases have come to our attention of smutty wheat—in fact we have seen a few lots which weren't fit for feed, let alone for pastry flour. While the Cornell variety is quite resistant to loose smut, it has no more resistance to the covered or stinking smut than our old friend Dawsons. In short, it still pays to take time to treat one's seed wheat with one of the mercury dusts or liquids.

Weed Menace Still Here - In recent weeks many farms in Halton have been literally covered with chicory and wild carrot. It is, however, encouraging to note that all four townships in addition to the county have or are spraying their roadsides. It is quite noticeable that some municipalities have got a better kill on their roadsides than others. We have every confidence that as time goes on and as the men doing the work become more accustomed to using the various chemicals, a better job will be done. It is definitely noticeable that the 2-4 D's to get good results. That the 2-4 D's will kill chicory and wild carrot is, however, very evident. One has only to visit some of the farms where they are spraying their fence bottoms or where they are spraying the roadsides in front of their respective farms to know that 2-4 D applied in sufficient quantity and at the proper time, will definitely do a complete job and at a reasonable cost.

Incidentally, it is encouraging to note more and more Halton farmers spraying their fence bottoms and in some cases their grain and pastures. While there is much in the way of weed eradication requiring attention, it is encouraging to note that our municipal authorities and farm leaders are making same effort to correct the situation. Needless to add, there is much to be accomplished if Halton is to retain her place as one of the leading counties in Ontario agriculture.

If maximum results are to be secured from the expenditures being made for weed eradication then it would seem to us that our County Crop Improvement Association must give some leadership towards organizing and sponsoring a "Spray Day" next May.

The literature on Chemical Weed Killers while very praiseworthy is nevertheless very complicated and difficult to interpret by the great majority of us who have had little or no experience in using the many commercial preparations on the market.

Canadians have had of seeing a combine with a built-in straw baler. We understand however, that this machine is in general use in Great Britain and most European countries and many other parts of the world. Frankly, it was a bit of a jolt to many of us to learn that in Europe they have for many years been manufacturing and using a combine which certainly appears to be very much superior to any Canadian or American machine now on the market.

We understand that the Claas Super Combine is going to be at the Wheatland Day scheduled for the Kohler Airport, near Cayuga, on July 31st. It is, and the Claas machine gets an opportunity to put on a demonstration, many Halton folk who saw it in action locally, profess that it will steal the show. It is an all-purpose machine and is claimed to be suitable for all crops from cereal grains to every type of small seed, including corn, beans and peas.

Only two of the machines are now in Canada. In addition to the one demonstrating in Halton, the second machine is doing similar work in Waterloo County near Kitchener. Following the Wheatland Day at Cayuga, the machines head for Western Canada.

It will also be of interest to our readers to learn that the young man demonstrating the Claas Combine is George Humerfath, a young Swiss Agricultural College graduate. He was employed on the farm of James Carney, Lot 5, Concession 5, Esqueping Township, in 1951.

The operator of the second machine now in the Kitchener district was employed a year ago on the farm of Wm. Marshall, near Milton. These young men in their demonstrations are certainly presenting a real challenge to Canadian and American agricultural engineers. It is our understanding that the German built Claas Super Combine is likely to be on the Canadian market the coming year.

Twilight Meeting at Robert Hurren Farm - Some 70 Halton farmers attended the Twilight Meeting sponsored by the Halton Crop Improvement Association of the Robert Hurren farm near Campbellville on Tuesday evening of last week.

The first part of the program centred around the replicated oat and barley variety tests laid down on the Hurren farm by Russell Hurren. Despite the dry season the plots were in excellent condition and here Professor James Laughland of the Department of Field Husbandry, led a very informative discussion.

Two new varieties known at present as G. A. 14 and G. A. 19 appeared very promising. They are the result of selections made from crosses between Erban and Ajax. Among the barley varieties an American variety known as Moore also appeared to be superior to some of the older varieties being grown. Promising new O.A.C. productions included the G. B. 11 and G. B. 19.

Prof. Wm. Toss also of the Field Husbandry Department at the O.A.C. gave an excellent address on

Forage Crops. The program also included a brief discussion on chemical weed killers by Stanley Young of the Crops, Seeds and Weeds branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto. Many of those present also took advantage of the opportunity to see some of the labor saving devices being utilized by R. A. Hurren & Sons on their outstanding farm.

Holstein Breeders Raffle - Outstanding Heifer - Spruceleigh Monogram Doreen, a November born heifer calf, is the animal selected from the herd of Ross Segsworth, Burlington, for the Halton Holstein Club Lucky Draw. We had an opportunity of seeing the heifer last week and frankly she is quite a heifer. In our humble opinion she should give an outstanding account of herself at the Milton show. She is a beautifully balanced heifer with a good dairy rib and plenty of dairy temperament. And well she should be a good heifer, because she comes by it honestly.

Her sire, dam was Spruceleigh Annabelle, that great show cow in the Segsworth herd. Nearly every Halton black and white enthusiast remembers Annabelle, the grand champion female at the Halton show of 1947 and 1948. Annabelle has two records between 18,000 and 20,000 lbs. on two times, and altogether has produced well over 100,000 lbs. and is still going strong.

Doreen's own mother is on her first lactation and is making a nice record. Her grand-dam has a number of splendid records including one as a 3 year old on 2X, of 13,779 lbs. of milk and 574 lbs. of fat. Back of that is another 100,000 lb. cow so all in all Doreen is bred in the purple.

We understand it took all of Lloyd Pickard's persuasive powers to pry Doreen out of the Segsworth herd and had it not been for Ross's interest in the Halton Club and Holsteins generally this outstanding heifer would never have been secured for the purpose. Needless to add if the lucky winner at 3:00 p.m. on September 27th at the Milton Fair prefers cash, Ross will be on deck with the "long green" to buy her back.

When cork was scarce, fishermen on the Great Lakes used to use the thick outer bark of the base of old balsam poplars as floats for their nets.

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Calf Club Members Stage Meetings - During the past week two excellent Calf Club meetings were held in Halton under the leadership of Art Bennett, assistant Agricultural Representative for Halton and Peel counties. The first of these was held at Twin Elms Farm of Joyce Bros. near Milton. Here the sixty-odd dairy calf club members had two splendid classes of Guernseys from this outstanding herd.

Prominent visitors included Harold Clapp, Farm Manager from the noted Fraserdale Farm in York County; J. Lloyd Chisholm, president of the Ontario Guernsey Club; and Wm. G. Booth, president of the Halton and Peel Guernsey Club.

The members of the Beef and Dual Purpose Club met at Campbell Farms, near Moffat. The group had an opportunity here of inspecting some outstanding pastures as well as seeing and judging some top Scotch Shorthorns, many of them imported.

Among the many visitors was Gordon Aiken, for many years head shepherd of the famous Collyer Herd in Scotland. Mr. Aiken is at present assisting Mr. Campbell in getting ready for his annual sale which every year attracts leading Shorthorn enthusiasts from all parts of the Province.

Halton is indeed fortunate in having so many outstanding farms and herds. It is indeed always a privilege and inspiration to visit such herds at Twin Elms and that at Campbell Farms.

(Intended for Last Week)
German Combine Impressive in Canadian Debut - Halton farmers who took advantage of the opportunity of seeing the Claas Super Combine in action at the demonstration held on the Charles Austin farm, near Hornby on Thursday of last week were astounded with the all round efficiency of the German built machine. It would seem as though the engineers who designed and built this combine had thought of everything.

The Claas Super Combine is a huge machine—appears to be sturdily built and yet gets around the field at an amazing speed. Hauled by a jeep it appeared to almost float around the field on its huge aeroplane tires. It takes a nine foot swath and does a perfect job of threshing with little or no loss of grain. Along with the threshing it cleans and makes four different quality separations and at the same time bales the straw.

We had the opportunity of seeing the machine in action on two different farms and in neither case could the fields be considered level yet it did a beautiful job. It was the first opportunity which

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