

THOMPSON'S FARM SERVICE

AND 'PAT' PATTERSON

take this opportunity of wishing each and every one of you the compliments of this Yuletide Season.



May this joyous Christmas light your way to a happy prosperous year ahead.

WILLIAM BRACKEN



Our wish to you on this Christmas Day. The merriest of merry Christmases to you and to all those you hold most dear.

BENTON'S MEAT MARKET

ACTON

W. Coles, Church Street, was the lucky winner of the turkey and George Howman won the chicken in our draw last week.

'Tis an old holiday custom we follow each year and that's to wish every one of you Yuletide Happiness.

BALLENTINE MOTORS



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FARM NEWS



HAY DRIER ENTHUSIASTS

Last Friday we accompanied two car loads of Haltonites up to Woodstock where we were privileged to join a tour sponsored by the Oxford Soil and Crop Improvement Association. Hay no longer is just hay to the dairyman. However, those boys up in Oxford are really pioneering the field when it comes to producing quality hay. They are real enthusiasts of hay driers as a means to accomplishing that objective. True they differ in their ideas on many points such as the length of time which should elapse between cutting the grass or hay and placing it in the drier—the amount of power required—the size of fan—the relative economy of gas vs. kerosene, diesel engines and electric motors, and so we might go on. Frankly, their vocabulary at times got so technical, that it was far over our head. No doubt Fred Nurse and John Riddell (both from Esqueping Township) who were two members of our Halton party, understood their language since they have had experience with driers for the past two years. What we could appreciate was that the system installed, varied with the type of barn the size and height of the mow, etc. Another factor which really registered was that at every farm a visited they reported either increased milk production or less concentrate being fed as a result of the mow dried hay.

At the W. Alex Muir farm near Woodstock, the owner reported that his herd went up a can of milk when he swung from feeding the field cured hay to the mow dried. Other points of interest at the Muir farm was his stable ventilating system, his electrically equipped litter carrier and his milk can carrier. Then away we went to the farm of G. A. Hogg and Son, near Thamesford. Here they reported that their mow dried hay had practically eliminated a \$250.00 monthly concentrate feed bill. A year ago, stated Mr. Hogg, "it cost us \$750 for concentrate feed in three months. This year to their oats and corn cobs meal they are adding only a little molasses, and the important point is they are getting as much milk as a year ago."

The next call was at the farm of Charles Nancekivell, south of Ingersoll then on to Fred Colborn near Burgoyneville and finally to G. R. Row and Sons at Curries. At every point they are sold on mow driers as a means of securing hay of higher feeding value. All of them had encountered problems and all of them feel they can do a better job in 1953 as a result of their experiences in 1952. Finally we saw some lovely hay, beautiful color, with the leaves and blossoms still intact and soft to handle. Oh yes, all five of them are using the forage harvester, both in hay making and for grass silage. In short, the Halton group of 11 came home feeling that it was a day well spent.

JANUARY THE MONTH OF ANNUAL MEETINGS

Local organizations have their plans well under way for their respective annual meetings to be held during the first two weeks in January. First and foremost comes that of the Halton and Peel Guyer's club, scheduled for the Trafalgar Memorial Hall on Tuesday, January 6 when Dr. G. E. Roeman of the Ontario Agricultural College is to be the guest speaker. The following day, Wednesday, January 7, Halton "Black" and "White" meet at the same centre and on the occasion Prof. George Ritchie, who spent some time in Great Britain and Europe this past summer, will present some of the highlights of his trip. The following Tuesday, January 13, the Halton Jersey club will have J. A. Carroll, assistant deputy minister of agriculture, as their guest speaker and they too, are meeting at the Trafalgar township hall. All three breed organizations are staging their usual noonday banquets and what banquets. In between times, the County Crop Improvement Association will hold their annual meeting in the Milton town hall on Friday, January 9. Here C. D. Graham,

deputy minister of agriculture for Ontario, is to be the guest speaker. Of equal interest will be the short, snappy reports by some eight local co-operators, plus a panel discussion by some six local experts on hay making, grass silage, etc. In so far as we can determine, everything points to the best yettings ever staged by the respective organizations. Certainly they have been successful in lining up four top guest speakers—then the program by local talent all adds in zest and punch. Every progressive farmer should mark his calendar for the Soil and Crop meeting at Milton on January 9—in addition, if you are a dairyman, be sure and take in at least that of the breed organization in which you are most interested.

MULCHING VS. CULTIVATION

During the past summer an interesting test was conducted by George S. Atkins, Woodlands Orchards, Bronte. This test was on a crop of corn and involved checking the effect of mulching versus cultivation. In brief, no cultivation resulted in a yield of 5.83 tons per acre; the area cultivated twice yielded 10.09 tons per acre; mulched with no cultivation yielded 12.40 tons, and three times cultivated area 13.03 tons per acre. Further details of this test will be presented at the Annual Halton Crop Improvement meeting on January 9.

AMMONIUM NITRATE PRODUCES GRASS

Another interesting test conducted by the Halton Crop Improvement Association on some 15 Halton farms this year, was to determine the effect of early spring application of Ammonium Nitrate (NH₄) on meadows and pastures. On the average 200 lb. application of this 32 per cent nitrogen fertilizer per acre resulted in 1295 pounds more barn dried hay per acre. Tests were also made at the 200 lbs rate of application. While still higher yields were obtained, the 100 pound application would appear to be the more economical rate to follow. Further details concerning the respective response of legumes and grasses the best time to apply the material, etc will also be presented at the Annual Crop meeting.

OBITUARY

Veteran Preacher Dies in Hospital

Rev. W. G. Charlton, veteran preacher of Ontario and prominent in evangelical circles, died at the Guelph General Hospital on Wednesday, December 17, in his 85th year. His wife, the former Martha Black, predeceased him some time ago. Remains rested at the Waddell Funeral Home, Erin. Funeral service was held at the Church of Christ (Disciples) on Saturday and interment was in Everton cemetery.

Most people weigh more in the winter than in the summer, says a doctor. Maybe it's due to heavy coats.

Prizes and Candy Given at Concert

The concert of St. Alban's Church school was held in the Parish hall on Friday evening, December 19. The evening began with the singing of carols, everyone joining in lustily. The beginners' class began the program with "The Santa Claus Parade" and were followed in turn by the primary and junior classes. "Tom Thumb", "Little Red Hen", and "Peter Rabbit" slide films were shown just before Santa Claus arrived. He gave out prizes and candy.

Three prizes were allotted to each class, but the standard was so high, that in many cases, there were three pupils tied for first place. Many pupils also obtained a second year seal for their "Robert Hukkes Diploma" indicating that for the second year in a row they had missed seven Sunday sessions or less.

All in all it was a wonderful evening, with the hall crowded and everyone having a good time.

There are more than 200 establishments in the fruit and vegetable preparations industry in Ontario. The plants are located in 127 cities, towns and villages throughout the province.

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We want to join the chorus. Here's
A MERRY CHRISTMAS
to you and may the New Year
be filled with happiness.

E. T. MARKS
MILL ST. ACTON.

Merry Christmas

Since we cannot shake each one of you by the hand to give you our good wishes personally we want to take this opportunity to express our hopes that this Christmas and the coming New Year be one of joy and goodness for each and every one of you, our friends and patrons.

Lorne Garner Motors
For your convenience we will be open Christmas Day.

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