

FARMERS, TOWNSPEOPLE ENJOY FINE UNDERSTANDING, FORUMS AGREE

On Monday evening, February 2, a varied panel was heard on the weekly farm forums radio broadcast on the topic "farm versus urban relations." The panel consisted of Kingsley Brown, editor of the St. John Telegraph-Journal and also former editor of the Rural Co-operator; O. J. W. Shiga, publicity director of the Dairy Farmers of Canada; Mrs. W. R. Walton, Oakville, president of the Canadian Association of Consumers, with chairman Ralph Marven, agricultural

writer and commentator. He proved a very capable chairman, keeping his panel on the subject and summing up the conclusion of the facts very concisely. Reports from Halton Forums claim this to have been one of the best broadcasts of the season. Forums were asked, "Do you think there is good understanding between the farmers and the people of your neighboring towns and villages?" Some thought this should read, "people of your neighboring cities," rather than towns and villages. The latter are made up mostly of retired farmers who have experienced farm life, its pleasures and trials, whereas the city dwellers are inclined to underestimate the farmers' difficulties and the cost of producing farm crops. Most reports claimed there was a good understanding between farmers and the town and village folk.

The second question dealt with six different methods which would tend to improve this understanding between the farmers and the townspeople. However, Pinegrove suggested a method of their own: the country dweller to choose the partner for life from the city, while the city dweller choose his from the country.

Practically all groups agree that farm women should become more active members of the Canadian Association of Consumers. It is suggested that a public relations representative be maintained by the Ontario Federation of Agriculture to present the farmers' case through publications that may be available and by means of public speeches. Regular contact by local forums with newspaper and radio stations was suggested.

Ligny Forums suggested a chart at the C.N.E. showing what share the farmer gets and the price the consumer pays for the food might prove beneficial towards a better understanding.

To Sell Properties With Taxes Owing

Daniel Gray, Erin township treasurer, was instructed to proceed at once with the collection of all arrears of taxes when Erin council met at Hillsburgh on February 2. A. J. Lindsay has resigned as tax collector.

Mr. Gray was authorized by council to sell by auction properties or portions of properties which are three years in arrears of taxes, unless a satisfactory settlement is made by April 1, 1953. Copies of the resolution were to be sent to the Royal Bank at Erin, Bank of Nova Scotia at Acton and the Royal Bank at Hillsburgh.

The Department of Highways was to be petitioned for the statutory grant on the amount of \$54,635.40, expenditures on township roads during the present year.

Gordon Marshall was refunded \$6.65 and Mrs. Almira Berry \$3.00, errors in taxes.

The Road Superintendent was granted leave of absence from the municipality for a short time and Albert Wheeler appointed to act as his assistant during his absence.

Accounts as follows were examined and ordered to be paid—general accounts \$68.30, live stock, \$73.00, road \$8,145.10.

The experts say, three out of five drivers in fatal accidents were violating a traffic law at the time the accident happened.

FARM NEWS

HALTON JUNIORS TO DEBATE WITH HALDIMAND

"Resolved that our present educational system fails to meet the needs of young farm people" is the subject scheduled for the second round of the Junior Farmers Inter-County Debating Competition. Halton debaters, namely Eleanor McKewen and Earl Snow eliminated Wentworth Juniors in the first round, and will now meet Haldimand Juniors, at the Kohler Youth Centre near Cayuga, on Thursday evening of this week. The Halton team has the negative side of the above topic, in short, will have the task of proving that our present educational system does not meet the needs of our farm young people.

COMPENSATION FOR FARM WORKERS

Farm operators and other farm workers have long felt the lack of a policy which provided for compensation for farm workers. Urban workers have for a great many years had this protection and it is only recently that legislation has been enacted which provides for similar protection for farm workers. In order that Halton farm people may have an opportunity of familiarizing themselves with the policy, the Halton Co-operative Medical Services has arranged to have G. J. Beach of the Workmen's Compensation Board address a meeting in Milton. The meeting is scheduled for the Court House, in Milton. We are informed by R. S. Featherington, secretary of the Halton Co-operative Medical Services, that this meeting is open to everyone. Needless to add, rural people would be well advised to become familiar with the policy, since annually someone in nearly every community receives injuries which result in heavy expenditures to cover hospital and doctor bills.

HOG PRODUCTION COSTS

During the four year period 1947 to 1951 some 50 commercial hog producers kept detailed cost figures on their enterprise in co-operation with the Ontario Department of Agriculture. In this study, feed, labour, interest, depreciation, insurance and other current expenditures were taken into consideration. These figures indicate that on the average during this four year period it cost \$8.02 to raise a pig to weaning age. From weaning to market weight of 200 lbs. another \$27.12 is involved, which brings a total cost of raising a hog up to market weight to \$35.14. A two hundred pound market hog on the average dresses out around 75 per cent or 150 lbs. When the announcement was made a few months ago, that the

floor price would be reduced on January 1st from 26¢ to 23¢, it can be readily understood why such a large percentage of Ontario hog producers lost interest in the swine industry. One does not need to be much of a mathematician to figure out that a 200 lb. hog with a dressing percentage of 75 per cent would bring the producer at the 23 cent price, approximately \$34.50.

One may like swine but after all the pig's company isn't going to contribute anything towards meeting the taxes and other current expenditures.

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"Having completed our first year in business, and one which we feel has been most successful, we would like to advise you of the splendid co-operation we have received from the officials of your branch. We have consulted your local manager many times, not only regarding financial problems but business problems in general, and his advice has been very beneficial to our firm."

Such service is part of the job of every manager of Canada's 3700 branch banks. He must know the problems of the people he serves—whether business men or primary producers, wage earners or salaried workers. He welcomes every opportunity to make his bank useful to them—and to you.

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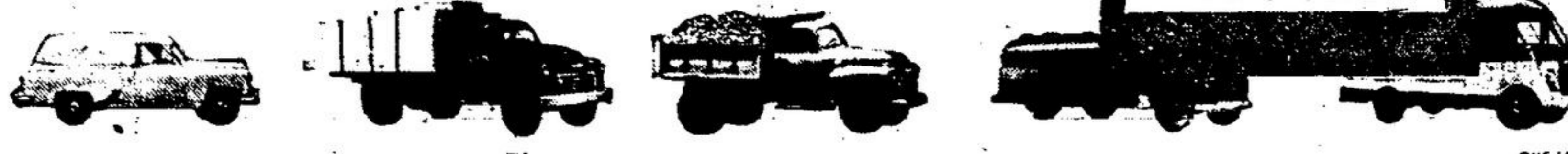
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