

# FARM NEWS

## From Halton's Farm Lands

**RECORD COMPLETION BY JUNIOR HOME-MAKERS**  
The largest number of girls to participate in Junior Club work, completed their fall project, "Sleeping Garments," by attending the Halton County Achievement Day on Saturday, February 14, in Milton town hall.

One hundred girls displayed the colorful pyjamas and housecoats they had made. For many of these young girls this was their first attempt at sewing. These girls proudly displayed their pyjamas during the afternoon program.

Well over two hundred were in attendance for the afternoon program, which also included comments on club exhibits, set up by the following girls commented for their club: Betty Price, Brookville; Alice Wilkinson, Acton; Marion Bird, Ashgrove; Jean Ridler, Ballinfad; Jean Ayres, Hornby; Kathleen Kirkpatrick, Limehouse; Ann Cox, Nelson; Jean Rae, Omagh; Marilyn Heslop, Palermo.

Demonstrations on "Sleeping Garments" and buying material for the following girls were presented by the following clubs: Lowville, Scotch Block, Norval and Ash. Mrs. E. G. Clarke, the Home Economist for Halton County, announced that the Spring Project—a foods unit, entitled "The Milky Way," would commence in March.

The Homemaking Club unit chosen by the girls for next fall was, "Being Well Dressed and Well Groomed."

Spoons were presented to all girls who have completed their projects. "Sleeping Garments," by the Halton County Junior Farmers Association.

County Honors Certificates were presented to Jean McLaughlin, Norval; and Margaret Bird, Ashgrove, on completion of their sixth Home-making Club unit.

### GARDEN CLUBS

Application forms are now ready for membership in the Girls' Home Garden Club for 1953. Girls between the ages of 12 and 28, who have a plot large enough to plant a family garden 40x40 feet, or 36x75 feet, may join a Garden Club. One girl may participate in Garden Club work for a maximum of three years. Members will obtain their seeds through the Department of Agriculture, and will receive instruction in garden culture, landscaping and the growing of flowers from a local leader. Their vegetables and flowers will be displayed at an Achievement Day in August. For further information get in touch with Mr. J. E. Whitehead, Department of Agriculture, Milton, or with the Home Economist, Mrs. E. G. Clarke, Newmarket, Ont.

### THE HOG SITUATION

In attempting to discuss the hog situation one must of necessity review the marketings of the past year. Our hog marketings in 1952 showed an increase of 36.8% over 1951—being the third highest in the history of Canada. In round figures our marketings in 1952 totalled nearly 6,700,000 hogs in comparison to approximately 7,150,000 in 1943 and 8,863,000 in 1944. In short, the marketings of hogs in 1943 and 1944 were the highest in the history of Canada.

It should be recalled, however, that in 1943 we exported nearly 500 million lbs. of bacon, ham and pork products, practically all to Great Britain. In 1944 our bacon exports were something over 718 million lbs. last year we exported no pork products to Great Britain and our total exports of the commodity were less than 26½ million lbs., chiefly canned ham and almost entirely to U.S.

These figures reveal the reason why our markets and storages have for the most part been filled to capacity during the past 12 months.

Our marketings in 1952 showed an increase in every part of Canada from a 14% increase in the Maritimes to nearly 49% increase in Western Canada. Ontario hog marketings reached an all time high of some 2,587,000 hogs, or an increase of 26.8% over 1951, which marks the sharpest variation for any year in the past ten. The percentage increase was greater in the West than in the East, being 48.7% in the former area as compared with 31.3% in the latter. Even so, Eastern Canada produced 64.3% of the total marketings.

To present the picture in another way, our marketings averaged 128,820 hogs per week, a figure which exceeds our domestic requirements by approximately 35,000 hogs per week.

On the other hand our exports of pork products were the lowest for any year in the past 20 years and provided an outlet for a very small percentage of surplus. This resulted in the excess over domestic requirements being stored in cans.

Our big surplus in 1952 was only made possible by the big frozen wheat crop of 1952. In other words, we diverted a large volume of grain normally grown and sold for human food into livestock production and came up with a 27% surplus of hogs. Needless to add, the outbreak of foot and mouth disease made this really serious.

Along with the sharp increase in our marketings in 1952 has gone a decrease in the quality of our hogs right across Canada. Here in Halton our percentage of A's has dropped from 41% in 1951 to 36.7% in 1952; in Ontario from 35.3% in 1951 to 33.2% in 1952; and in Canada from 31.3% in 1951 to 28.51%. As a matter of fact, it would seem that ever since we dropped out of the British market, our producers have lost interest in quality.

In our opinion this is bad reasoning on the part of our producers. Since the domestic market has become the most important if not the only outlet, quality should be stressed if pork is to hold its position in competition with other classes of meat.

In 1952, pork sold at a much lower price than beef. Now that the price of these two meats bears a closer relationship to one another, it should be obvious that if our domestic market is to continue to absorb 90,000 hogs or more per week, quality must not only be maintained but improved. Too much emphasis is largely responsible for the drop in quality. Ontario and Canadian swine producers as a whole apparently fail to realize that while the last 10 or 15 lbs can be put on very rapidly it nevertheless costs

more per pound to put on, than at any other time in the feeding period.

This summary would not be complete without some reference to our stocks of meat and poultry in storage. According to the monthly report of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, here is the picture at the beginning of the year:

The heavy into storage movement of pork during December was, of course, associated with the speed-up in marketings to meet the support price change.

The substantial reduction in poultry stocks over a year ago reflects the brisk trade in poultry, particularly turkeys, which moved at lower prices this year.

Were it not for the substantial quantity (75 to 80 million lbs.) of canned pork still on hand, the year end stock position could be considered relatively satisfactory.

In U.S. on January 1, the U.S.D.A. report shows the number of cattle as 16% higher than a year ago and the largest on record—5.8 million head compared to 5.0 million last year, and 1947-51 average of 4.3 million.

Their pork stocks at Jan. 1, 1953, totalled 568 million lbs.—up 188 million over December but down 40 million lbs. from last year.

### Eastern Hog Markets Above the Support Level

Although the support price for hogs was lowered by \$3.00 per cwt., on January 1st, hog prices have in the main remained well above the support price. When one studies the marketings in recent weeks, the evidence would indicate that supply and demand are still the basic factors influencing any market price.

Our marketings here in Ontario from Jan. 1st to Feb. 7 totalled 172,863 against 244,902 for the same period in 1952. In Quebec the comparative figures are 89,049 hogs in 1953 against 172,178 in 1952.

The estimate of the Federal Department of Agriculture for the first three months of 1953, represents an increase of approximately 5% for the West and a decrease of 3.6% in the East. For all of Canada, the estimate forecasts a decrease of 6% in hog marketings for this three month period. Certainly if their estimates are anywhere near correct that would indicate heavy marketings during the month of March.

### Notice to Creditors AND OTHERS

In the Estate of Robert Vyse

All persons having claims against the Estate of Robert Vyse, late of the Township of Esquesing, in the County of Halton, farmer, deceased, who died on or about the twenty-third day of December, 1952, are required to send particulars and proofs thereof to the undersigned before the seventh day of March, 1953, when the assets will be distributed among the parties legally entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims which shall have been filed.

Dated at Acton, Ontario, this Twelfth day of February, 1953.  
C. F. Leatherland, Acton, Ont., Solicitor for the Executors.

## Case For Farmers Stated by Member

Following is the text of an address delivered in the Ontario legislature recently by the member from Halton county Stanley L. Hall.

"Mr. Speaker—In rising in this Assembly to speak on this budget debate and, in my humble way, to try and contribute something to the welfare of my fellow men and also to this wonderful country that it is my privilege to live in, first I would like to say that I am Canadian born, a citizenship that I am proud of, and I would say that I have a right to be but with that I have a great responsibility as a citizen.

"Mr. Speaker—The subject that I wish to speak on is the greatest way of life and the greatest basic industry of our country—Agriculture. My ancestry helped grow the first agricultural products of this great country, and we have farmed in this country for six generations. My people came to this country because they had faith in it, faith in what this new country held in store for them, and also faith in what they could bring with them to a new land and they, with other pioneers of this land, established those things that they had faith in—those British institutions of Freedom that have laid the foundations of our Western Christian civilization—our Christian homes and churches, where everyone can worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience; our schools, and the right of the use of a free franchise, where the people have the right elect whatever form of government they so desire.

"Mr. Speaker—Today one branch of Agriculture is asking some form of protection from foreign materials that are coming on our markets in competition to certain animal products produced by that line of Agriculture. I expect that during this Session we will hear from many other Honorable Members on this subject.

"Mr. Speaker—We Farmers believe in private enterprise. We believe in a free market where quantity and quality should determine the price we should pay for those articles that are necessary in our way of making a living for ourselves and our families.

"Mr. Speaker—Have we a competitive market? Does quality and service govern the price of the necessities we have to buy today?

"Agricultural products are practically the only products that are sold on a competitive market in Canada. Agriculture has contrib-

uted much to the economy of this country, but Agriculture has never been to blame for the collapse of our economy.

"Whenever a depression comes, factories must close. Labour has no work. People in the towns and cities go on relief. But how about the farmer? Did you ever hear of a farmer going on relief? Did you ever hear of a farmer standing in the bread line?

"The farmers of this country have always fed the nation in good times and in bad, but thousands of these farmers have lost their farms through depressions which were no fault of their own. Every necessity that the farmer buys today enjoys a protective tariff that has to be paid by the farmer; every motor

car or truck, and all farm machinery, has a protective tariff.

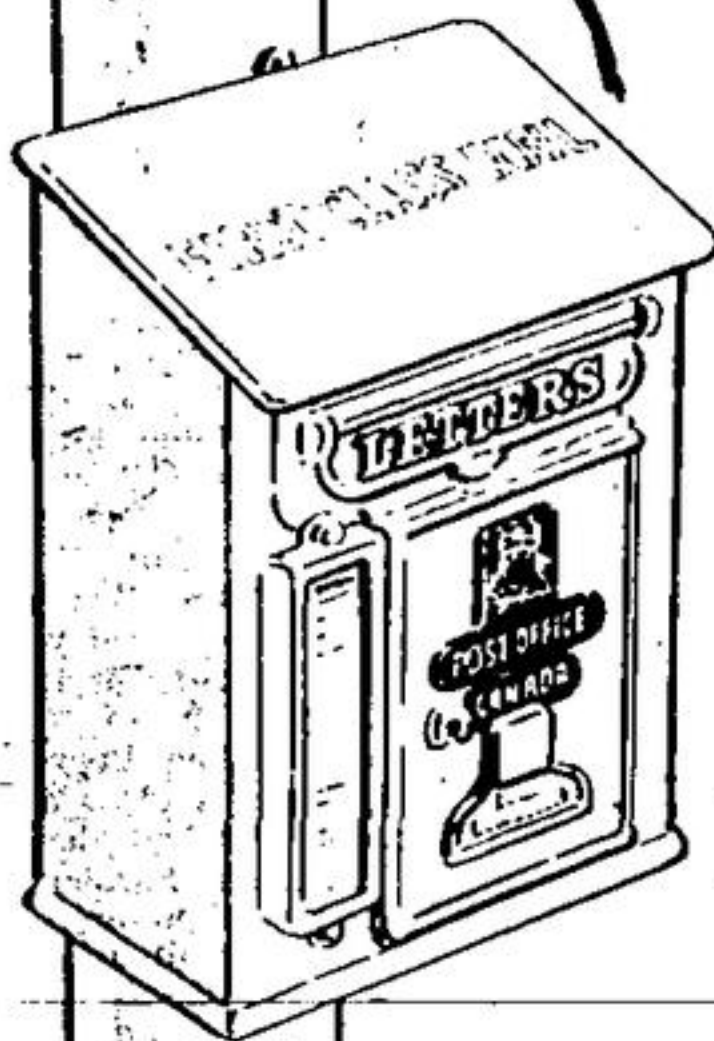
"Agricultural products have to be sold on a competitive market, subject to the effect of supply and demand.

"Mr. Speaker—Is it fair to the farmers of this province that foreign vegetable oil, or any other material, should be allowed to come into this country free of duty, in competition to any agricultural product, and especially if they are to displace any product that is produced from animal products?

"Mr. Speaker—When you allow anything to happen that upsets the balance of Nature, then you are causing a very great injustice to our country. Our forests, the wild life that live in the forests, the fish in

our streams and lakes, domestic animals, and the soil of our country, all exist on the balance of Nature that was so arranged by the Great Creator of all things.

"It is the top six inches of the soil that any country exists on, and if there is not a balance of live stock to return to the soil those things necessary to keep that soil in a fertile condition, then it will soon become useless and will develop into a desert; if we want an example go to Egypt, once the granary of the then known world. Mr. Speaker—I would urge that the farmers of Canada be given the same protection that is given all other producers, and especially on those products that are necessary for the production of food."



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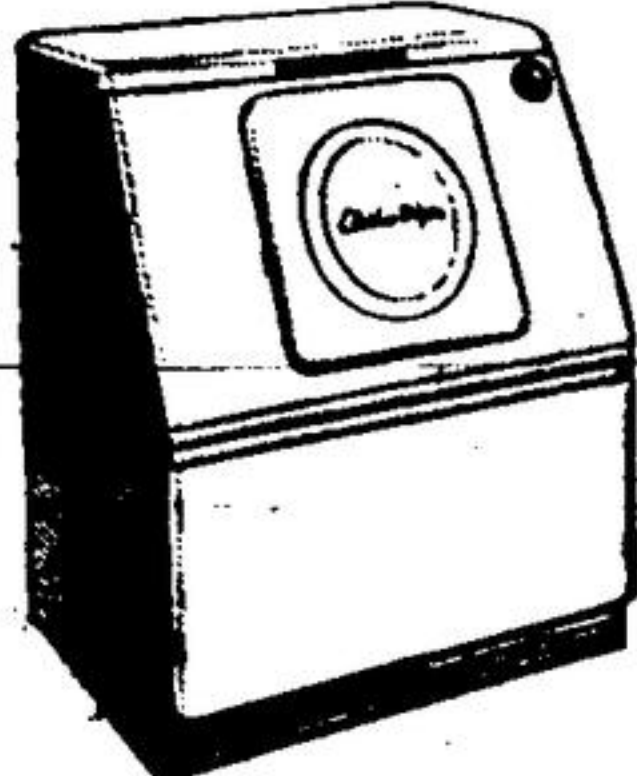
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