

# FARM NEWS

## From Halton's Farm Lands

By J. E. W.

### O.A.C. Cancels Farmers' Week and Breed Field Days

C. D. Graham, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, when addressing Agricultural Representatives in Conference at the Ontario Agricultural College on Thursday of last week, stated, "Owing to the outbreak of hog cholera in some 8 different counties in central and western Ontario, Farmers' Week at the O.A.C. will not be held this year—nor will any breed field days be held at that institution."

In clarification, Mr. Graham pointed out that recently a new herd of imported Large English Whites had been established at that institution, and further, that plans and buildings had been completed for the carrying on of important nutritional studies and consequently in the interest of Ontario Agriculture, every precaution would be taken to prevent an outbreak of hog cholera in the College herd. This, therefore, means that the Halton and Peel Holstein, Jersey and Guernsey Field Day previously announced for Saturday, June 6th is cancelled.

### W. P. Watson Reviews Livestock Situation

One of the highlights of the recent Agricultural Representative Conference held at Guelph was an

address by W. P. Watson, Livestock Commissioner for Ontario. Mr. Watson pointed out that the value of agricultural products produced in Ontario in 1952 was 714 million dollars, a decline of 75 million dollars from 1951. Livestock and livestock products marketed in 1952 represented over 68% of the total farm revenue of Ontario.

### Artificial Insemination

In 1945, stated Mr. Watson, less than 2000 cows were bred artificially in Ontario. In 1952 over 225,000 cows or about 20% of the total were bred artificially. Some criticism of artificial breeding, he admitted was being offered by some breeders and breed organizations. It was Mr. Watson's opinion, that much of this was not "just" criticism, but rather alarm due to the curtailment in sales of bulls. In support of his statement, Mr. Watson pointed out that only 4% of the total registrations in Holsteins last year were bulls. True, stated Mr. Watson, artificial breeding has revealed certain abnormalities which previously was not general knowledge. Reference was made by Mr. Watson to the red and white factor and dwarfism in beef bulls. In short, the use of unit bulls on thousands of cows which was either hidden from the public or not generally realized owing to the limited number of females bred by privately owned sires.

This should indicate the heavy responsibility resting on those charged with the task of selecting bulls for use in artificial units. We are past the glamor days, stated Mr. Watson and many have learned through bitter experience that improvement does not necessarily go with high priced bulls. Dairyman, he added, are becoming increasingly conscious that they must have both type and production in their herds.

### Freezing of Semen

It was also announced by Mr. Watson that investigational work is being carried on at the Ontario Veterinary College in the freezing of semen at temperatures down to 79 degrees below zero. To date semen has been stored up to three months with a conception rate practically or almost as good as from fresh semen. This practice

offers tremendous possibilities and may permit breeders to use selective breeding.

### Calfhood Vaccination

Since this policy was introduced a few years ago 177,000 calves have been vaccinated as a control measure against Brucellosis Abortus (Bangs Disease). The Conference was advised by Mr. Watson that at the last session of the Ontario Legislature, legislation had been enacted whereby Township Councils may pass a by-law making calfhood vaccination compulsory. Before Township Councils would pass such a by-law, it is expected that at least two thirds of the cattle owners must petition for such action.

### Outstanding Records by Rockella Herd

Recently it was our privilege to look over Record of Performance Certificates issued in 1953 for cows in the well known Jersey herd of Ken Ella & Sons of Hornby. Seldom if ever, has it been our privilege to see such an outstanding lot of records in the herd of a small breeder. This is all the more noteworthy when one realizes that the owner, Ken Ella, has been operating his own herd for 10 years or less. As a matter of fact, we will recall when Ken as a six year old, showed his first Jersey Calf at a School Fair, and that doesn't seem so long ago.

In all, the certificates refer to 14 animals, two of which are two year olds; two are three year olds; two are four year olds; and eight are mature cows. All records were made on twice a day milking and all with the exception of one, were made in 305 days. The average production of the fourteen is 10,363 lbs. milk and 570 lbs. B.F.

No less than five of them are Gold Medal records; three of them Silver Medal records; and five also received Ton of Gold Certificates; and another is only 42 lbs. short of receiving the Ton of Gold.

Frankly, we can't help but wonder if such an achievement has ever been duplicated by a small breeder—just take a look: Rockwood Glance (Mature) 13,687 lbs. M. 705 lbs. B.F.  
Rock Ella W. R. Lady (4 years) 10,240 lbs. W. 617 lbs. B.F.  
Sunnycrest Favorite Sylvia (Mature) 10,461 lbs. M. 612 lbs. B.F.  
Sporting Standard Star (Mature) 11,183 lbs. M. 613 lbs. B.F.  
Sunnycrest Prudent Roseland (Mature) 11,985 lbs. M. 679 lbs. B.F.  
Grove Farm Theresa Donet (Mature) 13,023 lbs. M. 601 lbs. B.F.  
Rockwood B. Freemonts Lady (Mature) 9,918 lbs. M. 557 lbs. B.F.  
Rock Ella Fremonts Lady (3 yrs.) 8784 lbs. M. 505 lbs. B.F.  
Rock Ella Volunteer Clara (3 yrs.) 9,551 lbs. M. 503 lbs. B.F.  
Rock Ella Volunteer Clara (3 yrs.) 9,100 lbs. M. 495 lbs. B.F.  
Sunnycrest Lorna (Mature) 10,720 lbs. M. 588 lbs. B.F.  
Annesi Basils Snowflake (Mature) 11,205 lbs. M. 641 lbs. B.F.

This is all the more amazing when we learn that under Herd Classification for type in March of this year, of the eleven classified (9 as two year olds and two as three year olds)—five were classified "Very Good"—three as "Good Plus"; and three as "Good." Who says Jerseys won't milk; or that type and production don't go together—our hat is off to Ken Ella and family on their great achievement.

Ten miles of driving on dirt road or loose gravel is likely to wear your tires more (and takes more gasoline) than 15 miles of driving on good hard surfaced roads.

## FASHION HINT



Here comes the bride... as radiant as can be in her shimmering gown of ivory tinted silk satin, moulded to the waist and elegantly trained. The June bride pictured above has chosen a matching tiara of ruffled satin, with a fingertip veil of tulle illusion. Tiaras and headdresses like crowns are very much in fashion this month—the influence of the Coronation, of course. Evening dresses as well as wedding gowns are showing the influence of this week's events in London. The Queen's coronation gown was as secret as a bride's wedding gown.

## Tips on Touring

By Carol Lane  
Women's Travel Authority

Next to wrinkles in clothes, the summer car traveller probably worries more about the dust problem than anything else. And, though you never can beat it completely, you can do a lot to hold the problem to a minimum.

Start, first of all, with a clean car interior. Beat or vacuum the seats well and get into those deep recesses beneath the seats where dust collects in large rolls. A whisk broom and a piece of cheesecloth, used daily, will keep the steering wheel, dash and floor clean.

Hang suits and dresses in the back protected with a cleaner's bag or better yet, with a zipper-closing plastic bag. Use the bottom of the bag for small items like handkerchiefs, tissues, a hat, light sweater, clean gloves, etc.

Give the car trunk a once-a-year soap and water scrubbing, and you'll be amazed how little of that finely powdered dust works its way into your luggage. And a good practical tip is to put your finest piece or two of luggage into a surplus army barracks bag or a navy sea bag. They'll do a lot to keep your luggage free of scratches, your clothes free of dust—and your trip a clean one.

## "Old at 40, 50, 60?" — Man, You're Crazy

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## Horizontal Silo Economic Storing

A horizontal silo is an economical way of storing silage. It is cheaper to build, easier to fill and if the silage is stored under proper conditions it produces as satisfactory a product as other methods of storage. In addition, the horizontal silo provides a means of self-feeding for cattle.

D. J. Cooper of the Division of Field Husbandry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa, advises the location chosen for the building of a horizontal silo should be well drained to avoid bog holes caused by seepage and spring runoff.

The size of the silo should be determined by the amount of material to be stored. One cubic foot of silage weighs between 40-50 pounds so that a silo 48 x 12 x 6 feet would hold approximately 115 tons. The silo should be at least 12 feet wide in order to provide width for tractor packing.

The side walls of the silo should be sloped and made with 2-inch lumber, tightly fitted to avoid spillage. The boarding may be either vertical or horizontal with supporting posts 4 to 6 feet apart. Side-walls should be banked halfway up with earth.

There are several ways of filling a silo. The loads of chopped material can be unloaded by hand or can be pulled off by rope sling or a self-unloading wagon may be used. However, as each load is put in the silo it should be levelled off.

Packing must be carried out while the silo is being filled. The amount of packing will be governed by the moisture content and maturity of the material. Early cut grass silage with high moisture will not require as much packing as more mature material with a lower moisture content. The longer the cut of the material the more packing it will require. The packing of the silo by tractor should continue for some time after the silo has been filled.

When the packing is completed the silage should be covered with from six to 12 inches of shavings. Then, to lessen the risk of freezing, just before freeze-up the top and sides should be covered with a layer of loose hay or straw.

## Culture Not All Found In Books

It's a pleasing comment on this country's talent that 37 of the 46 winning products selected by the National Industrial Design Committee were created by Canadians, although the competition did not limit the origin of the designs so long as the products were manufactured here, says The Financial Post.

An electric iron designed in Hamilton, a telephone stand from Toronto, fabrics and furniture from Vancouver, a new ironing board from St. Jerome, Quebec—these were among the winners.

Canadians will always use a lot of American and British design. But in many instances our own would suit better. As our domestic market develops we will have more "homegrown" products.

Culture is often thought of as books and music and art. But it's more than that. There's no sharp line between the materials and non-material things in this old world. After all, every car, every kitebox gadget, every bigger and better mousetrap was in somebody's mind long before they were in anybody's hands.

And in this twentieth century the machines, the gadgets, and the comforts we enjoy from the things we live with are almost as important to our cultural life as the things we live by.

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