

FARM NEWS

From Halton's Farm Lands

Fall Wheat Harvesting Under Way
 Monday, July 12 saw a few fields of winter wheat cut in south Halton. By the time this appears in print we would anticipate that with the exception of fields being left for combining, most of the wheat will be in the stack. During the past week we have been in a dozen fields, and in general, winter wheat is a pretty good crop.

However, in our opinion, the crop while good, is hardly up to last year's standard. True, five of the 12 fields look like 45 to 50 bushel crops, but it will keep a couple of other fields busy to make 30 bushels. We note that the Hessian Fly has been busy in a few of the fields and in one field the damage was quite severe.

Halton Needs a Rain
 Pastures, spring grain, in fact all crops, were badly in need of a good rain the week of July 12. Spring grains in the north half of the county are excellent—in south Halton they are a bit spotty. While they are for the most part of good color, they do need some moisture if they are to fill properly.

New seeds at the moment do not look very promising. Corn on the other hand looks exceptionally good but even here some moisture would help. The intense heat on Tuesday and Wednesday last was shrivelling up some of the corn fields. Pastures in general, are getting very short.

Rotational Grazing Pays
 Certainly, the dairymen who are practicing rotational grazing this year are way ahead of the game. There appears to be quite a difference in the pasture situation between those farms which are practicing rotational grazing, and those which are not—a difference in both quantity and quality.

Eastern Ontario Dairymen Supplementing Pasture
 With hay
 The week of July 5 was spent in Eastern Ontario, where we attended the annual "Agricultural Representatives' Conference." In the far east haying appeared to be just getting under way—spring grain crops looked fair—not as far advanced as here in Halton. On the other hand they appeared to be getting plenty of moisture, perhaps too much to get off good quality hay.

On our way down we passed through Prince Edward County where we called on some old friends namely Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Webster, who operate a 170-acre farm near Picton. Fred Webster was in the Agricultural Representative service for many years but owing to ill health found it necessary to retire some seven years ago. Fred was always a keen livestock man and he has built up a nice Holstein herd—most of them sired by "Precedence" his 8-year-old son of Marksmen.

His milking herd of 17 cows were in an excellent pasture but he informed us they were handling two bales of hay per day in addition. This was being fed in a rack, where they helped themselves when they felt so inclined. Frankly we were a bit surprised to find that cows on luscious pasture would be interested in dry hay.

Down at the Kempsville Agricultural School farm we learned from J. A. Dalrymple of the K.A.S. staff, that they too, follow the same practice. Later, Prof. Geo. E. Rathby of the Ontario Agricultural College, informed us that there also, they find it a good practice. Aside from the fact that cows like the hay, it

apparently helps to prevent bloat.

New Fly Killer
 Here in Halton, we are running across a lot of cattlemen who are very enthusiastic about a new fly killer. This is a dry insecticide which is dusted on the stable floors—on the window sills, etc., and judging by what we have seen, it really does a job. According to our understanding the killing ingredients are Malathion and Trilure. Down at the Kempsville School, they are using a Malthion Barnfly spray and there too, they are getting excellent results. If any of our readers are having trouble controlling barn flies, we would suggest trying out one of these materials.

Fat Hogs—Economic Waste
 Overfat hogs are an economic waste, stated R. K. Bennett, Chief Livestock Marketing, Canada Department of Agriculture, when addressing the Ontario Agricultural Representatives in conference at the Kempsville Agricultural School the week of July 5.

With Grade A hogs at \$33.50 per cwt, and B-1's a dollar less, the fat which has to be trimmed off the bottom half of the B's and the C's is not worth over seven cents a pound. One hundred pounds of pork fat makes roughly 65 lbs. of lard—so we have no hesitation in agreeing with Mr. Bennett that over-fatted hogs constitute not only an economic waste, but a threat to the future of Canada's hog industry.

Just why Ontario and Canadian swine producers are not prepared to do something to save their own industry we find it difficult to understand. If Halton and Ontario hog producers would do nothing more than market their hogs at the proper weight, they would increase the percentage of A hogs being marketed from less than 30 per cent. to at least 60 per cent.

The market in the U.S. for some of our choicer cuts—loins, back bacon and hams—has been a real factor in maintaining a profitable hog industry. Apparently the average hog producer puts more confidence in the Ontario Hog Marketing Scheme than in producing a quality product.

Marketing schemes have a real place in our economy but no marketing scheme can save an industry if the product is produced in excess of our domestic requirements and if, as a result of a poor quality product, we lose our export markets.

MUST SUPPLY WANTS
 Eliminating the hit-and-miss type of livestock raiser, and the placing of emphasis on the type of meat which the world markets want, will go far towards making Canada the No. 1 supplier of the world's meat.—Kipling (Sask.) Citizen.

Old Cooking Hints Told To Busy Bees

The Busy Bees met at the home of Mrs. J. Dredge, R.R. 2 Rockwood, with a good attendance. Roll call was a "A cooking failure."

The thought for the day was given by Mrs. S. Cox and Mrs. A. Allen gave current events. Mrs. Peter McLean, as convener of home economics, gave a paper on old fashioned recipes and suggestions for improving modern cooking.

Mrs. S. Robinson had charge of the program with readings and a contest. With the business short this month, members enjoyed a chat over cups of tea and lunch provided by the hostess, Mrs. J. Dredge, and her helpers.

Sees Bright Future For Yukon Territory

Whitehorse, Y.T. (CP)—George Black, former member of parliament, says the future holds bright promise for the Yukon with new discoveries of tungsten and other precious materials.

Now 81 and retired from active politics, he is engaged in a busy law practice here. In August he and his 88-year-old wife, Martha, will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary.

Mr. Black was member for the Yukon from 1921 to 1935 and again from 1940 to 1949. He was speaker in the house of commons for five years. During the five years when her husband was ill, Martha Black was elected and served at Ottawa in his stead.

Mr. Black says he is opposed to a proposal that the Yukon be united with the southern provinces. "British Columbia is loaded with a public debt, while the Yukon has none," he said. "Union with southern provinces would bring a flood of office-seekers that the people of the Yukon would have to pay for."

"Ottawa runs the show here now and the administration is quite satisfactory."

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Forestry Workers Travel 900 Miles For Poplar Seeds

Longlac, Ont. (CP)—At certain times of the year scientists may be seen in the woods around this northern Ontario town chasing tiny windblown pieces of fluff.

They drive 900 miles from the Lands and Forests research station at Maple, north of Toronto, to take part in this unusual, but extremely important job.

The fluff they seek contains the seed of the poplar, the fast-growing aspen whose soft white wood was once despised by paper-maker and carpenter but which now draws an ever-increasing demand.

Ontario's pulp and paper industry mixes 33 per cent poplar with black spruce and other tree varieties. Concerned over the possibility of declining poplar supplies, the industry has requested the Ontario government to make seeds available for reforestation projects.

A furniture manufacturer has become so enthusiastic about poplar potentialities that he is asking the government to provide trees for nursery purposes.

Faced by this demand, it is up to Dr. Carl Heimburger, tree breeder in the lands and forests department, and his team of "fluff-chasers" to produce the supply.

And Dr. Heimburger says "We'll be able to meet all the demands from industry for reforestation in poplar in two years."

Refrigerated Seeds
 This is how they are setting about it.

Seed is obtained from the richly-endowed Longlac district 150 miles

northeast of Port Arthur, and elsewhere.

Seeds last only two weeks under natural conditions before losing fertility. But Dr. Heimburger beats nature by refrigerating them until planting-time.

At the Maple station, a mixture of earth and water is sterilized by boiling, cooled and placed in seed flats. Into this, the tiny seeds are hand-planted.

When they reach the outdoor, screened sand beds they are placed in the previously sterilized soil beneath a plastic covering. Additional protection is given by constantly circulating fumigating gas. Seedlings are crossed and re-crossed to produce hardy strains.

From seed they grow a foot tall in one season.

In nursery soil, sapling growth has reached as much as 10 feet in a single year. It won't do that in the bush, says Dr. Heimburger, but it will grow six feet taller each year ever against this kind of competition.

Although the Maple researchers do not make the claim, scientists have said that poplar of "sawlog size" can be produced from seed in 16 years.

Seeds in this illustration are being set about it.



High Voltage

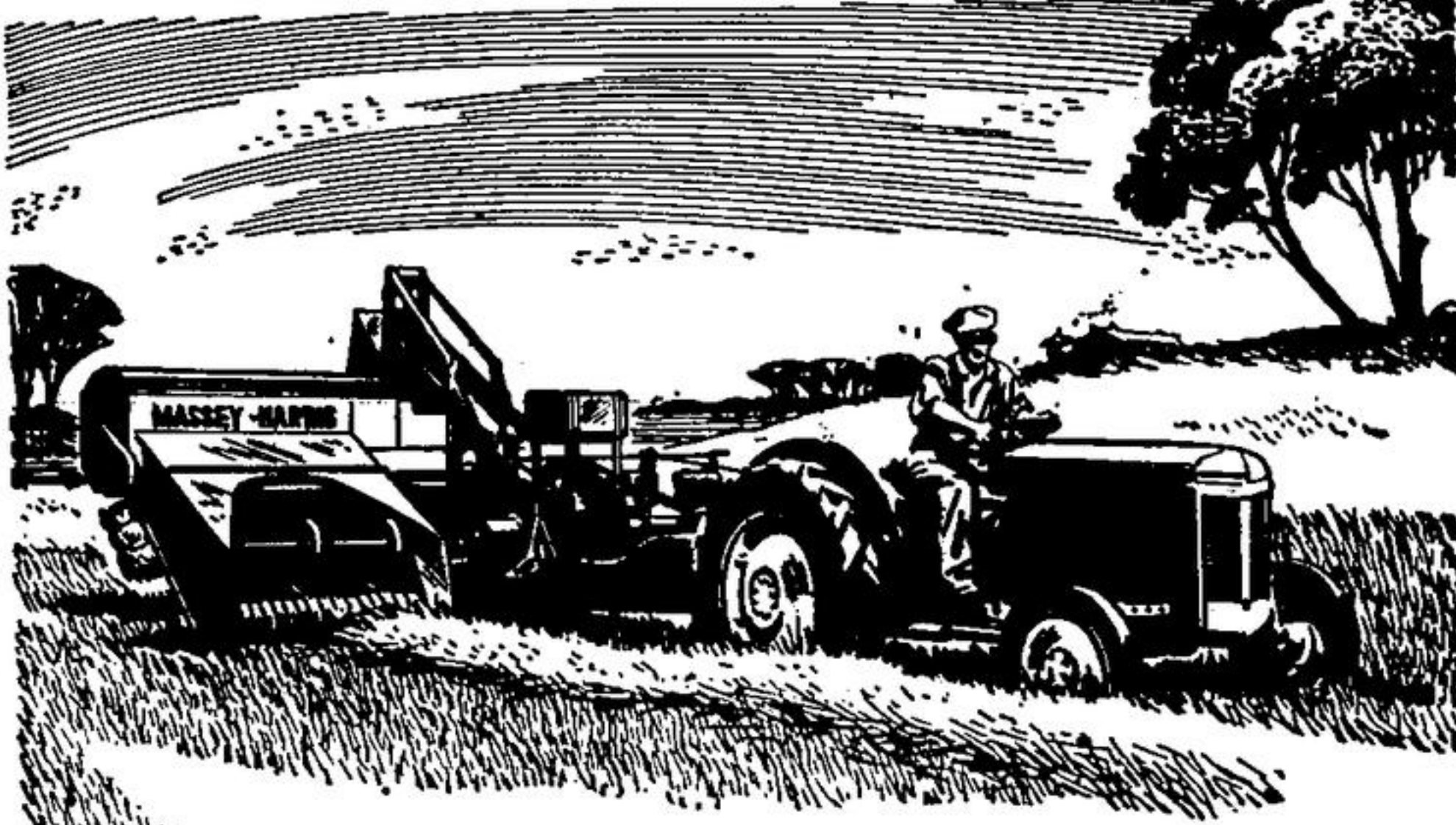
ALUMINUM CABLE from Canada was used in a Peruvian high-voltage power line, installed at altitudes of from 13,000 to 15,000 feet—the world's highest. Canada supplied not only the cable but also the technical assistance required on this record job. We imagine that aluminum's light weight was particularly appreciated by the llamas or whatever other beasts of burden were used to get the cable to the top.

In the rugged mountain country of British Columbia where Alcan's own huge Kitimat development is going on, the aluminum transmission lines used represent another record: they are the largest-diameter overhead power lines in the world. Aluminum Company of Canada, Ltd. (Alcan).

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