

FARM NEWS

From Halton's Farm Lands

Good Entry of Dairy Cattle For Milton Fair

All that is needed to ensure another great show at the Halton County Fair in Milton is favorable weather conditions on Saturday, September 25th. A total of some 250 head of Halton cattle have been entered for the Holstein, Jersey, and Guernsey rings, where B. S. Beer, Brampton; Norman Baggs, Edgely; and Harold Clapp, of Fraserdale Farm, will be the officiating judges.

4-H Calf Club Show
In the Calf Club ring, some 75 Halton 4-H Calf Club members will parade their calves for Fred Campbell, Manager of the Toronto Stock Yards, who will be the official judge for this section of the show, which along with the Holstein show, will commence sharp at 11:00 a.m.

New Hall For Junior Farmer Section

The Junior Farmer section which includes separate classes for educational displays for Junior Farmer Clubs, Junior Institutes, 4-H Home Garden Clubs, and 4-H Agricultural Clubs, will this year be housed in a new hall recently erected on the ground by the Agricultural Society. In all some 27 different Junior organizations will be represented in this section.

C. D. Graham To Open Fair

Halton farm folk will be delighted to learn that an old friend in the person of C. D. Graham, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, will officially open the fair on Saturday afternoon. Frankly we think Mr. Graham is going to be surprised to note the progress which has been made by the County Agricultural Society since his last visit here nearly ten years ago. It goes without saying that the main hall will be filled with attractive Women's Institute displays; fragrant flowers; appetizing baking; not forgetting the arts, crafts, etc. For many the highlight is always the horse show and the races and we have been assured by President Roy Currie that this end of the programme will keep not only the grandstand but the fences along the track packed throughout the afternoon.

Brucellosis Programme Making Satisfactory Progress

Dr. Harold Worton, Provincial Veterinarian who attended meetings at Trafalgar, Nelson, Esquimaux and Nassagaweya Township Halls on Tuesday and Wednesday of last week, where he met the respective township inspectors appointed under the Brucellosis programme, expressed himself as well pleased with the way the programme in Halton is going along. True some problems have been encountered by the township inspectors and also by the practicing veterinarians who do the actual vaccinating or inoculating of the calves. In general any difficulties encountered are largely due to misunderstanding on the part of a few cattle owners. In order to clarify the situation we would make the following observations:

1. As a result of the petitions signed by 90% of Halton's cattle owners all four township Councils passed by-laws making calfhood vaccination obligatory.
2. By calfhood vaccination is meant inoculation of all heifer calves between 6 and 9 months of age. The only exception under the Act is in the case of "Herds Listed under the Federal Government's policy of Brucellosis Free Herds". In short, in the latter case calfhood vaccination is optional.
3. The fee of \$1.00 for each calf vaccinated was set by Halton veterinarians.
4. A township inspector is paid on the basis of 20 cents for each calf vaccinated in his territory. This money is paid out of the provincial treasury and in the majority of cases the inspector does not receive more than enough to reimburse him for gasoline used on his inspection trips.
5. While it is estimated that 80 to 85% of Halton's calves were being vaccinated prior to the passing of the township by-laws, it should be realized that the remaining 15 or 15% which are not being vaccinated constitute a menace in the various communities hence the reason those responsible for the enforcement of the township by-laws are determined that 100% must be vaccinated.
6. The township inspector will take place in the fall or early winter after the cattle are housed. At this time a complete check of all calves born in 1953 will be made.
7. The Brucellosis Act provides severe penalties for those found guilty of evading the township Brucellosis by-law or failing to cooperate with an inspector appointed under a township by-law. It is not the desire of those responsible for the enforcement of the Act to prosecute offenders nor is it anticipated that this will be necessary once any misunderstanding which may exist is eliminated. However, a word to the wise should be sufficient.

Additional Awards Won By Halton Livestock Men At C.N.E.

When writing up the C.N.E. Shorthorn show a week ago, we inadvertently overlooked the prizes won by the Rexo Valley Dual Purpose Shorthorn herd of W. H. Stanton, of Milton. Here are a few of the more prominent awards won by the Rexo Valley herd:

1st prize aged bull, and reserve

senior championship; 1st prize mature dry cow; 1st prize 3 yr. old in milk; 2nd prize 4 yr. old cow; 2nd and 3rd prize senior yearlings.

Halton was also well and worthily represented in the Hereford Show by the herd of C. F. Patterson of Norval. According to our informant "Pat" got blue ribbons on both his aged herd sire and mature cow, with fifth on both his junior bull calf and junior heifer calf.

Our congratulations are extended to both breeders on their outstanding achievements, which are all the more noteworthy when it is realized that both are comparatively new exhibitors in the show ring.

Runs Streetcar For 10 Years

Winnipeg, (CP) — Mrs. Helen McKinnon hopes she will be given a chance to operate one of Winnipeg's big trolley buses when the street cars become obsolete on city runs.

At present, Mrs. McKinnon is one of three women operators left from the 83 employed during the Second World War by the Greater Transit Commission, then known as the Winnipeg Electric Company.

Her steady route is along Portage avenue and Main street. Winnipeg's two main thoroughfares and one of the few runs where streetcars haven't given way to the modern trolley bus.

A strapping six-footer, Mrs. McKinnon, who didn't reveal her age but admits she supports an 18-year-old son, is a familiar figure to thousands of downtown workers and shoppers.

Mrs. McKinnon said: "I certainly hope they'll give me a chance to wheel one of those big buses when they get rid of all the streetcars. I definitely think I could handle them as well as men."

Being a woman, she doesn't get any special favours. She belongs to the union and does shift work the same as the men. Her son is old enough to get his own meals when she's not home.

Operator 10 Years

How did she get started in this unusual occupation?

"Well, it was about 10 years ago last April. I had been driving a gas truck, but was laid off. I went to the selective service office and asked if they were any openings on the streetcars. Two or three days later I was at work," said Mrs. McKinnon.

During her service with the company, she has naturally run across many problems—drunks and other obnoxious characters.

"But my other fares generally take care of them... on the whole, most of them are pretty reasonable," she said.

Mrs. McKinnon also was well known in the sports field, being a softball pitcher with the Ramblers and Dan Davidson's of the women's senior league. She also played for the Winnipeg Electric team in the commercial league.

Her playing days ended when she broke her left arm—her pitching arm—in an exhibition contest at Sioux Lookout, Ont., in 1944.

Horse Disease

Pincher Creek, Alta. (CP) — Three cases of sleeping sickness among horses have occurred in this district of southwestern Alta.

Blacksmith is 89 And Going Strong

Stonewall, Man. (CP) — They're as durable as any anvil, these village blacksmiths.

Steve Fell of Stonewall has been blacksmithing for 74 of his 89 years. But ask him about retiring and he says: "Not for me. I may be a little tired but I like to work."

Fifty-eight years ago, when he started his business in this village 20 miles north of Winnipeg, there was competition to worry about, but not any more.

"The machinery fellows tried to put us out of business," he says. "There were six blacksmiths in town when I started. Somehow I managed to last out."

Since he settled in Stonewall the only time Mr. Fell has been away from his anvil was a brief spell in 1934 when he got kicked while shoeing a horse.

"I was only in hospital three weeks," he says. "I have wonderful vitality."

Mr. Fell in his youth did plenty of travelling in following his trade. "Now I never even go to Winnipeg. There are too many cars. I'm liable to get run over. I used to walk to the city often during the horse and buggy days."

Salesman Has Way With Fish, Animals

Montreal (CP) — Howard Lees, an insurance salesman, had collected 2,500 tropical fish before his doctor decided the hobby was getting out of hand.

Following doctor's orders, Lees sold the fish last year—but he plotted a sly comeback. Now he's collected 250 budgie birds, two monkeys, a macaw, a mina bird and a chow dog.

"I have a way with animals," he admits. There is no word about what the doctor thinks of the new hobby, but with good reason. The last time he gave an opinion, Lees paid him with a sooty Mangabeve, or white-eyed monkey.

Chronicles of Ginger Farm

Written Specially for the Acton Free Press by Gwendolyn F. Clarke

If we watched the birds more closely we might get a little warning of a weather-wise nature. Two weeks ago our clothes-line was just alive with twittering barn swallows. The young birds perched in a row while Mother Swallow flew back and forth with choice morsels to feed them. Never a day passed that these pretty little birds were there, and then suddenly—they were gone. Almost immediately came that long spell of cold, wet weather we have just experienced. Had the swallows sensed its coming? And do they sense the coming of spring in just the same way? One day next April or early May the swallows will appear again as suddenly as they left, and we shall know it's spring.

The canaries have vanished too, so now, instead of swallows and canaries in the nest, I have some bluejays—his plumage so out of keeping with his untidy voice. And oh my, are the squirrels ever busy! It is fun to watch them. Perhaps you may have noticed the grey squirrels definitely boss it over the black and the brown. At least it is always the grey squirrel that does the chasing. I have never yet seen a black squirrel turn around and chase his aggressive grey cousin.

Besides squirrels, up in the barn we have bats, quite a few of them, so Partner says. But I'm not going up to see for the very sight of a bat gives me the jitters. Horrible things! Last night a hoot-owl, which I like, was in a tree outside our bedroom window, and the first mouse of the season has invaded the pantry. So, one way and another it looks as if summer may be on the wane and the birds and beasts preparing for this winter, either by migration or by gathering in a harvest of nuts—and it takes an awful lot of nuts to keep the squirrels satisfied. One farmer we know has quite a big woodlot on his farm. One year he was asked by the Department of Lands and Forests to save acorns for them that fall. He agreed but he was unable to fulfil his promise. It was not too good a year for nuts and seeds anyway but there still would have been plenty had it not been for the squirrels. They stripped every tree in the woodlot. In fact it was three years before the acorn harvest was more than enough to satisfy the squirrels.

Another friend of mine has had a mud turtle for a pet for the last three years. He lives in a glass tank with a mound of flat stones, the top of which is above the water. All summer the turtle enjoys his food, swimming around in the water and slithering over the stones. Now he has stopped eating, has climbed on top of the biggest flattest stone, and there he will stay until spring, his life in a state of suspended animation.

To our pullet pen we have just imported sixty good, strong hybrid pullets—Plymouth and New Hampshire crossed. They are laying well.

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On show at the Flamboro and Waterdown Fair Sept. 21-22 and Milton Fair Sept. 24-25

OFFICIAL OPENING

The official opening of the new Nassagaweya Township Garage at Brookville will be held on

FRIDAY EVENING SEPT. 24th

at 8 p.m.

Ratepayers and municipal officials from adjoining municipalities are cordially invited to participate and attend this opening.

Ladies are asked to provide lunch and dancing will take place during the evening.

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