

Thanks To All

On behalf of the Town of Acton thanks to all the emergency workers who did such a splendid service in collecting tons of clothing and foodstuffs for those who suffered so much from flood conditions throughout the province.

Ten tons have already been sent to Bradford and more is ready for shipment wherever needed. The response was so instantaneous by all groups participating that one was proud to be part of a community with such warm hearts for those in need.

E. TYLER, Mayor

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CANDY KISSES BAG **29c**
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Story of Amoslea Farms Reflects Pioneer Spirit And Descendants' Enterprise in Nassagaweya



PUREBRED SCOTCH SHORTHORNS graze on the rolling pastureland of Amoslea, nephew of the owner, is shown here herding in a group of cows with young calves. Farms in Nassagaweya township where this well-kept farm is representative of the At right, Thomas Amos, present owner of the prize-winning purebreds, poses his several fine locations for purebred herds in Halton county. Sandy Buchanan, valuable herd bull, Hero Pitlorie.

Amoslea Farms, sprawled over 320 Nassagaweya township acres just north of Moffat, is a well-kept place with sturdy barns, a handsome farm home, trimmed shrubbery and colorful flower beds. There's a clear water pond reflecting the graded lawn slopes from the front entrance of the house and a long, level lane points past the pond and angles onto the Town Line.

Certainly there are farms in Halton County, in the same township, as pleasing to the eye as Amoslea and there are other owners as proud and diligent with their property.

What then should make this farm distinctive?

It's pure bred Scotch Shorthorn herd!

Again, there are many other pure bred herds in this county and district, many of enviable record and outstanding value, whose performance in the exhibitors' rings and esteem among breeders are not without plaudits and sincerity.

Story of Enterprise
But few district breeders can compete with the continuous record of exhibition achievement and standards of herd purity retained by the present owner of Amoslea Farms, J. C. Amos, whose father over half a century ago established a herd which to this day has animals direct descendants of the original sire and dams.

The story of the growth and record of this purebred herd is reflective of the settler's enterprise and descendant's progress so characteristic of Nassagaweya township.

In 1841 Robert Amos, a Scottish immigrant, settled in Waterloo county to start a new life and raise his

10 children. As the years passed the children grew until by the 1870's one of them, George Amos, had made his way to Nassagaweya where he bought a farm.

This hard-working son of a Scotch farmer tilled the soil on land now the Old Pleasant Valley Farm. All near the turn of the century when he moved across the road and on the farm that was later to be known as Amoslea.

Bought Imported Shorthorns
During the years before he moved, however, he had been dabbling in the milk selling business. This at a time when milk sold for 80 cents per 100-pound can. But somewhere along the business line, faced with problems, he decided to change his farming to purebred beef cattle and, in 1882, bought a herd of 35 imported Scotch Shorthorns.

It wasn't long until George Amos had groomed his herd for showing, and in 1890 he started the circuit of township and district fairs. It was not an uncommon effort for him to gather his herd in the middle of the night for a journey on foot to Rockwood, Milton or wherever the fair was being held.

After 1900, located on the present farm, the growing herd was entered for exhibition farther away. In 1907 George Amos made his first trip outside Canada to the International Livestock Fair at Chicago where he returned clad with a Grand Champion female reserve honor.

But this was only first of many, many awards and prizes which were to follow in the years to come.

By now George Amos had two sons, Thomas and Robert, and before his retirement in 1926 he was assured of family retention of the quality of stock and standard of showmanship by which his herd was becoming widely known.

Started on Long Circuit
In 1910 the herd was started on the "long circuits". Train rides to Halifax, Vancouver, Kansas City, Seattle, Spokane and Chicago circuits which less assured breeders would hesitate to make for fear of affecting their animals' health or show department proved to be excursions of experience, some were recalled in terms of honors and profit, others in memories of disarrangement or loss.

Around home an enviable record was being firmly established. In the first Royal Winter Fair of 1922 the herd was represented, as it has been every year since. For 50 years, at the Canadian National Exhibition pure bred cattle from Amoslea Farms have been livestock entries.

As Thomas Amos gradually took over the showing and supervision of the herd, to increase in its extent of circulation or record of prize winning marked the transition from one generation to the next.

As years passed the Amoslea herd piled honors upon honor, prize upon prize. Although the herd itself fluctuated in size its quality remained, as continuing awards testified. In 1922 the present owner journeyed to Scotland to replenish his stock with 22 cows, mostly in calf.

Years of Exhibition
Today Thomas Amos looks back on years of exhibition and competition that have netted, in tangible form, 25 to 30 silver cups and trays, over 50 medals, trinkets of ribbons and rosettes and sizeable amounts of cash prizes.

Satisfying as the past performance of the herd have been, he is not complacent in the present, or apprehensive of the future. As a noted showman himself, as well as past officer in provincial and Dominion Shorthorn Associations, he knows the requirements for breed reputation and showmanship facility.

In this regard, his nephew, Alex Buchanan, who was raised on the Amoslea Farm and is a many-times winner in C.N.E. Club contests and other showmanship circles in his own right, has acquired his uncle's pride in the herd and knack in exhibition. Sandy Buchanan has already won a steer Grand Champion at the C.N.E.

With the herd itself, the owner is optimistic about his present herd bull, Pitlorie Hero, whose dam has four bulls at the head of leading herds in Canada, the United States and Scotland. He believes Hero may duplicate the feat of his father's great "Lanaster" which sired seven C.N.E. grand champions.

Has Holstein Herd
"You know," he reflected, "if a herd is good the bull is 90 per cent, the cause; but if a herd is bad the bull is 100 per cent the cause."

Scotch Shorthorns are not the only pure bred stock raised on Amoslea Farms. For the past 20 years Thomas Amos has shipped milk to Toronto dairies regularly, the product of his pure bred Holstein herd which presently numbers about 65.

As he looked out over his two barns and 120 acres of pasture land, Breeder Amos remarked that the time and energy gone into the building of a prize-winning herd has come from the hands of many people.

"Even in my own time," he emphasized, "were it not for support and loyalty of friends, Sandy Buchanan and most of all Mrs. Amos, Amoslea could not continue."

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