

Halton Farmer Acclaimed World Wheat King



FARM NEWS

From Halton's Farm Lands

Haldimand County Farmer is Winner

Forty-six farmers from 17 different counties competed in the inter-county Sixty Bushel Winter Wheat Competition at the Royal Winter Fair. The awards are based on Appearance of Seed; Weight per Bushel; Weight per 1000 kernels; Disease; Protein Test and Time Test.

The first award went to L. B. Mahlenbacher, of Cayuga, with M. E. Hooper of Perth County in second.

Fred Nurse Third
The entry of Fred Nurse of Ashgrove, got third and with it goes a \$50 cash award. Each county was eligible to send three entries; their selection being based on the combined score for field and yield. The other two Halton exhibitors were Calvin Aitken of Acton and Ernest Pell of Omagh, who placed 12th and 14th respectively—certainly an excellent standing in this strong competition.

Industry Stymied by Market Trends

The trend of hog supplies and prices in October and to date in November, has almost everyone in the industry stymied.

The experience over a period of years has been that October marketings show a sharp seasonal advance over September—an average increase of over 20 percent in the East, and 40 percent in the West. But in the first three weeks of October this year, marketings averaged only 11 percent higher than September in the West, and only 7 percent higher in the East.

Whether this situation is due to exceptionally early marketing of spring pigs this year; to errors in previous surveys of hogs on farms; or to the concentration of farmers on crop activities—is still not clear.

In any event a seasonal hog price advance in late October is a rather unusual occurrence. Coming at a time when it earlier seemed a touch and go proposition whether prices might be headed toward the 23c floor, it is an encouraging start for the 1954/55 hog marketing year.

Durham Jrs. Again Win Royal Judging

For the third consecutive year a team of three Durham County Junior Farmers won the Inter-County Livestock Judging Competition at the Royal Winter Fair, on Thursday last. A total of 24 teams competed.

Halton County was represented by Clarence Ford, Colin Marshall, and Bill Kelly, who along with the 99 other competitors placed three classes of dairy cattle, three classes of beef cattle, three classes of Swine, one class of sheep, and presented oral reasons for their placings on all ten classes.

Competition was keen, with Durham obtaining 2,658 points or 86% of the possible score of 3,000, to win the B.H. Bull Trophy. Halton's team made a creditable showing, obtaining a score of 2,461 or 82% of a perfect score. Peel's team of Ted Fraser, Harold McKeown and Murray Stewart was a close 2nd in the competition obtaining a score of 2,641.

Three New Trophies
Three new trophies were up for competition this year, the Ontario Veterinary Association Challenge Trophies for the high teams in Dairy Cattle, Beef Cattle and Swine Judging. These were won by Durham, North Simcoe and Lambton respectively.

Winners of the gold medals awarded to the high individual judges were: Dairy Cattle—Keith VanCamp, Durham; Beef Cattle—Murray Stewart, Peel; Swine—Ted Fraser, Peel; Sheep—Walter Kerry, Ontario.

All contestants, coaches and officials were guests of the Ontario Dept. of Agriculture for a banquet to conclude the day. Hon. F. S. Thomas, Minister of Agriculture, in the capacity of guest speaker, was

HALTON SOCIETIES WELL REPRESENTED AT DISTRICT FAIR BOARDS MEETING

Thirteen Fair boards answered the roll call at district five meeting which was held in the new Legion Hall at Elmvale on October 28. District five includes the counties of Dufferin, Simcoe, York, and Peel as well as Halton.

Director Hamill of Beeton opened the morning joint session. Due to the resignation of the secretary-treasurer of the board, Vic Ellis of Markham was chosen as secretary for the day. The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read, also reports were given by the 13 board representatives present. At the Presbyterian church a newly formed Women's Institute, the Central Bloss, served a delicious dinner.

The afternoon session of the Women's Division was opened by the director, Miss Charlotte McCullough of Georgetown, with every-one repeating the Lord's Prayer. The minutes and treasurer's report were read by Mrs. Watson of Beeton, the secretary. Following the reports there were discussions regarding exhibits at the fairs. Especially interesting was the different ways boards handled the Women's Institute exhibits.

Miss McCullough introduced the speaker, Mrs. Norman Nixon of Erin, and a member of district seven. Mrs. Nixon spoke on the duties of a director and why each individual was chosen for the position. Mrs. McKinney of Brampton told of different types and ideas by fair boards she visited. She also answered numerous questions put to her by the meeting.

Mrs. McCullough of Brampton told of the work of their group.

Mrs. Norman Nixon took the chair for the election of officers. Director, Mrs. Watson, Beeton; assistant director, Mrs. Frank Chisholm, Milton; secretary, Mrs. J. R. Smith, Collingwood.

At the men's section there were high in his praise of the calibre of the young men participating in the competition. He further maintained that good livestock would continue to be extremely important in Ontario Agriculture, and predicted that the trend would be back to Livestock farming rather than toward straight cash cropping.

Others who spoke briefly were C. D. Graham, Deputy Minister of Agriculture; W. R. Watson, Livestock Commissioner; J. A. Garner, and R. G. Bennett, of the Extension Branch, Ontario Dept. of Agriculture; Col. Bartley Bull; and Col. McKee, Manager of the Royal Winter Fair.

Nelson's W. E. Breckon Brings RWF Honors to Halton County

Another great achievement has been won by a Halton County farmer, W. E. Breckon, of Nelson Township, Burlington R. R. No. 2. In short, Bill Breckon has been announced as the 1954 World King at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair.

This achievement is one of international scope since it is open to residents of any country. For 25 years this world championship has been won by hard red spring wheat, almost without exception, by exhibitors from Western Canada. In short, it has just about been taken for granted that the championship would go to the winning entry of hard red spring wheat.

Seven Wheat Classes
In all there are seven classes of wheat at the Royal, namely Hard Red Spring; White Spring; Hard Red Winter; Soft Red Winter; Soft White Winter; Durum; 4-H Spring Wheat. For eight years in succession, W. E. Breckon has exhibited in the Soft White Winter Wheat class. During that period of time, the entries of "Bill" Breckon as he is known to his legion of friends, have won seven firsts and one second.

The classes in Hard Red Winter wheat and Soft Red Winter Wheat were both won this year by the entries of English Exhibitors—Bill Breckon's entry in the Soft White Winter class in competition with 52 other entries again won first and went on to take the winter wheat championship.

The four classes in spring wheat were all won by entries from Western Canada, and the Championship in spring wheats again went to the 1952 and 1953 Wheat King, Ronald R. Leonhardt of Drumheller, Alta. This brought the Leonhardt and Breckon entries together in competition for the world championship title which takes with it the Canadian National Railways Challenge trophy plus a cheque for \$100 and a silver tray.

Entry in Genesee
The judges, Carl Borgerson of St. Paul, Minnesota; J. D. Johnson of Saskatoon, Sask.; Dr. D. N. Huntley of Guelph; and D. L. Parks of Kemptville, as intimated above gave the world championship award to the entry of W. E. Breckon.

The Breckon entry was of the Genesee variety. It will be of interest to our readers to learn that W. E. Breckon operates 350 acres along the Queen Elizabeth, in Nelson Township. In 1954 he

harvested 120 acres of winter wheat most of which was sold as registered seed.

This achievement won by W. E. Breckon brings with it not only honor to Mr. and Mrs. Breckon, but also to the Province of Ontario, and to the little county of Halton. Over the years many agricultural honors have been won by Halton farm folk but this one, which certainly ranks with anything of the past—and perhaps surpasses them—is one which the writer never expected to see won by a Halton exhibitor.

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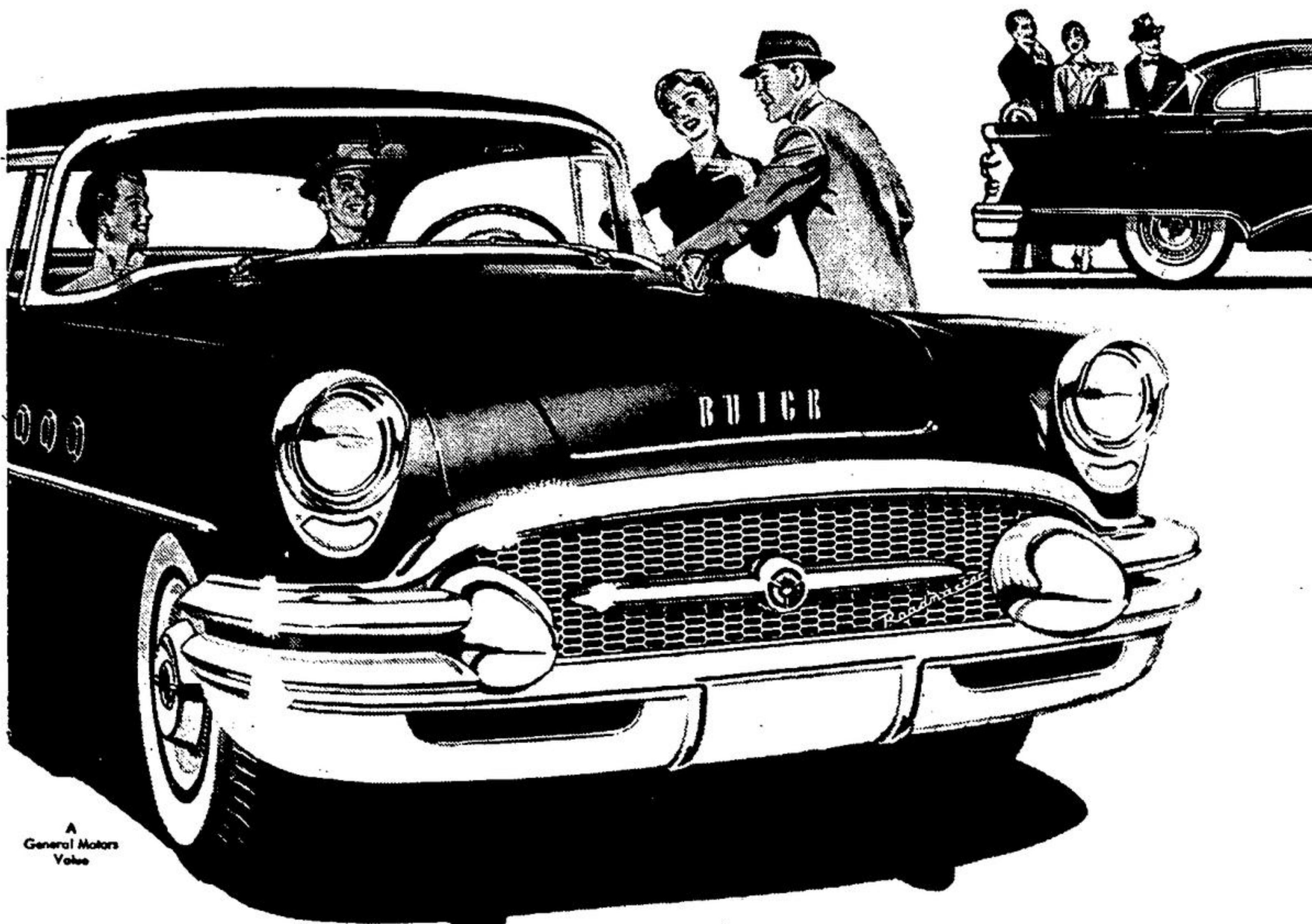
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Veterans' Land Act

Recent changes to the Veterans' Land Act now make it possible to build on ordinary lots within the corporate limits of towns or cities. If there are sufficient veterans interested in acquiring more information, a meeting will be arranged with the V. L. A. supervisor in this district. Please

contact either

W. E. Mattocks or G. McCutcheon

BRANCH 197, CANADIAN LEGION