



FARM NEWS

From Halton's Farm Lands

Elect H. Armstrong Halton Agricultural Society President

The 10th Annual Meeting of the Halton Agricultural Society was held in the Coliseum at Milton on Friday afternoon of last week. It seemed to be the general consensus at this well attended meeting that the 1954 Fair was the best all round fair ever held by the Halton Agricultural Society.

President Ray W. Morris, Secretary Mrs. G. S. Southard, three lecture Committees headed by Mr. F. W. Chisholm and general manager J. Allan Dixon, and Hall Superintendent Tom Roushfield all came in for special mention. Notwithstanding the fact that recent rains have shown a tremendous number of improvements made at the County Show Grounds plans are under way to make 1955 a "jamboree" year and also provide still better accommodation for spectators and exhibitors.

As in former years the Milton Fair will be held on the last Friday and Saturday in September.

The now elected officers and directors are as follows: President Howard Armstrong; 1st vice president Tom Roushfield; 2nd vice-president Frank W. Chisholm; secretary Mrs. G. S. Southard; General Manager J. Allan Dixon; Directors — Trifoliate, Elmer Douglas, W. N. Scott, Requiring, Ben Currie, Edwin Harvey, Neighbors, J. L. Chisholm, Harvey Blacklock and J. E. McPhail; Neilson, A. R. Coulter, A. C. Hadfield, Arthur McKinnon, and W. R. Sheldan; Milton, W. G. Crozier, J. S. Brownbridge and Dr. C. H. Roden.

Latin Section president Mrs. F. W. Chisholm; Art Dept. Mrs. Alfred Ford; Committee Chairmen: Domestic Mrs. Bay Currie; Ladies' Work Mrs. J. T. Bawlf; Women's Institute Mrs. E. E. Yates; Flowers Mrs. Wm. G. Smith; Arts and Crafts Miss Vera Mary; Children's Work Mrs. J. E. Brownbridge.

Soil, Crop Annual Is Largely Attended

Perhaps the most popular farm convention held in Toronto at this season of the year is by the Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association held in conjunction with the "Orfeida" Show in the Coliseum, Toronto, from Tuesday to Friday inclusive, of last week.

It would be impossible to reproduce or even touch on the highlights of this outstanding program. We were particularly impressed with the practical address of Dr. W. E. Tossell of Guelph on "Grass & Legume Combinations To Meet The Needs of the Ontario Farmer". Prior to 1955 most farmers depended almost entirely on a mixture of Red Clover and Timothy; or Alfalfa, Red Clover and Timothy. However, in recent years the trend has been to the inclusion of more grasses. This procedure has resulted in increased yields of hay and pasture per acre.

Alfalfa Pays Off

Now that we have had more ex-

perience with these mixtures and especially, with the various grasses under different conditions and in various combinations, the tendency is to simplify the various seed mixtures. While the additional grasses do improve the mixtures from a pasture standpoint, on the other hand they do in many cases lower the percentage of legumes in the mix. Personally, we feel that it would be wise to step up a bit the amount of Alfalfa seed we have been sowing in our mixtures.

It was evident last summer in the drought period that Alfalfa really pays off. In so far as we could determine, the only farmers who had green pastures were those who had been sowing a fair percentage of Alfalfa. We were therefore glad to note that Dr. Tossell and other farmers, crop workers, have stepped up the amount of Alfalfa in their hay and pasture mixtures.

Alfalfa, Red Clover Scarce and Costly

Perhaps this is a bad year to talk about increasing the amount of Alfalfa seed in your seed mixtures next spring. Certainly, with money in shorter supply and with Alfalfa and Red Clover selling at greatly increased prices a lot of farmers will be doing a bit of thinking.

This may be a good time to remember that old proverb, "A penny wise and a pound foolish". We should not forget that hay and pasture are our most valuable crops in this area. The quality and quantity of our hay and pasture crops

play an important part in whether or not dairy cattle pay off.

In short, they are important factors in the cost of producing milk. For those reasons we would definitely go along with Dr. Tossell on where storage conditions are satisfactory, recommend full hay and pasture mixtures the following fall and spring the following spring.

Alfalfa, 3 lbs. Red Clover 3 lbs. Frame 3 lbs. and Timothy 2 lbs.

Whether or not 2 lbs. of Alfalfa mixture would depend on whether or not the farm operator is using very stage Orchard Grass in our most productive grass but if done take a good deal more management in my opinion. Farm operators who include Orchard Grass in his mixtures must be prepared to practice clipping his pastures. In fact if the orchard grass is allowed to get out two or three inches our dairy cattle are not very fond of it.

By the way a new circular on Hay & Pasture Mixtures is just off the press and can be secured at the Agricultural Office in Milton.

News Sources

There's the case of an Ottawa reporter who has been told by Supreme Court he must name his sources of information or suffer the consequences of a defencless position when his libel case is heard. If legal precedent says that newspapers must break agreement with their sources of news, then the law should be changed by parliament.

— St. Croix (N.B.) Courier.

Marketing Program For Farmers' Good

An industry marketing program for livestock under production, feedlot, marketing boards would benefit farmers, as more stabilized prices would be maintained if farm rules, which heeded support and regulations were strictly enforced. This was the opinion expressed by the majority of Halton county farm leaders, whose report on the topic, "Producer Marketing

Holsteins to Spain Not Toreador-Feed

A shipment of eight cattle left Canada for Spain on January 10th. These were mid-lactating bulls for breeding, and slightly bred Holstein bulls, designed to improve the quality of Spanish dairy cows. It was the first shipment of Holstein from Canada to Spain. The bulls were purchased by the Ministry of Agriculture at Madrid for use in the official breeding centre at the country. Breeding bulls of this kind are amongst the top stars in breeding cattle.

Also included in the plane load of Holstein were four bulls and a heifer-calf for the herd of Count Marzolla, near Valencia, Spain. Such if they were satisfied, it would benefit them materially. An extensive educational program would be necessary to acquaint them with all the facts.

Other groups thought farmers' are difficult to organize and would not stay together and agree among themselves.

4,000 Pound Cow Given Certificate

Head and owned by Maurice C. Head of Milton, the Jersey cow, Linda Draconia Countess has just been awarded a 4,000 lb. certificate by the Royal. In fact, she has produced 42,265 lbs. of milk, and 4,187 lbs. of fat. "Countess" is a daughter of the superior sire Brampton-Draconia Royal.

Accompanying the cattle on the round trip was Michael Moton of Oakville, although his father was a former Squadron Leader in the R.A.F., this was Mike's first flight. The round trip would cover some 25,000 miles. The plane would go on from Spain and Italy to India to pick up a load of monkeys to be brought back to the U.S.A.

"If you are in doubt," says Talleyrand, "whether to write a letter or not, don't!" And the advice applies to many doubts in life besides that of letter writing. — Bulwer.

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6.30 p.m.

Y.M.C.A., ACTON

Guest Speaker:

Canon F. J. Nicholson

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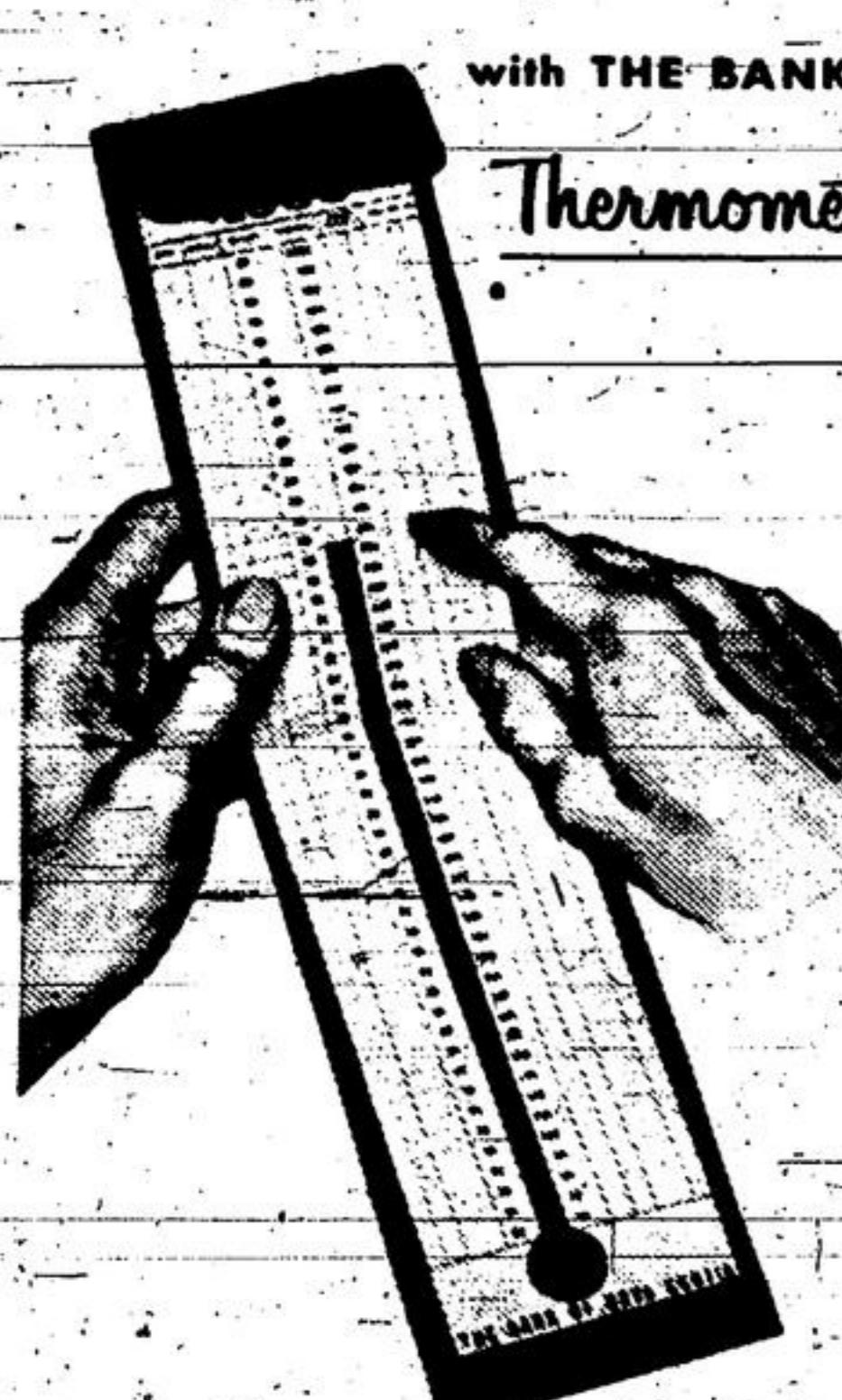


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