

# FARM NEWS

From Halton's Farm Lands

## PLAN AMBITIOUS PROGRAM FOR 4-H CLUBS IN HALTON IN 1955 SEASON

"I am sold on 4-H Clubs", stated H. R. Baker, Associate Agricultural Representative for Halton County in his opening remarks at the annual meeting of the Halton 4-H Club Leaders' Association in the Farmers' Building, Milton.

The speaker went on to say that the 4-H organization gives young people the advantages of urban living right in the country. Stressing the important part that local Club Leaders play in the expanding 4-H program right across Ontario, Mr. Baker congratulated Halton leaders who were present, namely Add Woodley, Mac Alexander, Maurice Beatty, Blair Armstrong, Angus McNabb, Cecil Lawrence, and Earl Wilson, on the job they were doing for 4-H Club Members in Halton.

**Publicity Needed**

"If this 4-H program is as good as we think it is, it should be publicized more. We should never miss an opportunity to place the name 4-H before the public. The adoption of the 4-H name has done much to publicize this organization and increase membership," were other interesting statements made by the guest speaker.

Discussion led by Chairman Add Woodley centred around plans for the 1955 4-H program. All leaders are enthusiastic, and hope to make this a bigger and better year for 4-H Club Members in Halton.

Plans were made to offer three Calf Clubs—the 4-H Holstein Calf Club; the 4-H Beef and Dual Purpose Calf Club; and the 4-H Jersey Guernsey Calf Club; as well as a 4-H Grain Club; a 4-H Potato Club; a 4-H Swine Club; and a 4-H Tractor Maintenance Club. It was also reported by Blair Armstrong that a 4-H Forestry Club is already under way at Georgetown High School.

**4-H Grain Club**

Twenty bushels of Rodney Oats have been obtained from the Experimental Farm, Ottawa. Since this variety of oats is very scarce it was agreed that they should be tried out, on as many farms as possible, as 4-H Grain Club Members may have only one bushel per member. Furthermore, this means that the Club is limited to 20 members. Those who apply first will get priority.

Some interest is evident this year in a 4-H Potato Club. Certainly if such a Club is formed, it will give boys and girls who reside on farms where no livestock is kept an opportunity to join the 4-H program. Of course it is open to boys and girls who may also be in a Calf or Swine Club.

The project consists of planting one bag of potatoes, and caring for the plot. We expect Foundation Katahdin potatoes will be used. Incidentally, the Halton Soil and Crop Improvement Association has announced that it will supply one bag of commercial fertilizer to each Potato Club Member.

**Swine, Tractor Club**

It is hoped to revive the 4-H Swine Club, after a lapse of three or four years. Halton Agricultural Society and Halton Hog Producers have offered financial assistance to help 4-H Swine Club Members procure good pure bred Yorkshires. It is expected that members will be provided with a pure bred gilt and a barrow. The gilt will be raised for breeding purposes and the barrow sold on reaching mar-

ket weight—the money received to be used to pay back the sponsoring organizations.

More details will be available at the organization meeting.

The 4-H Tractor Maintenance Club this year is slated for the area served by Norval Junior Farmers. It is open to any boy between the ages of 14 and 20. Earl Wilson, immediate past president of Norval Juniors, has consented to act as Club Leader, and interested members should contact him.

**Special Features**

It was unanimously agreed by 4-H leaders, that the annual 4-H Bus Trip, and Annual 4-H Awards Night, were very worth while and interesting. It is planned to carry on with these activities again this year. In addition, a number of trophies are up for competition; the Kingsway Kiwanis Club will continue to give their Special awards; and new members will receive a 4-H Pin or Crest, when completing a project.

All in all, 1955 promises to be a good year for 4-H members.

No advance applications are necessary this year, except for those who want to be sure of joining the Grain Club. Consequently, it is essential that all prospective members attend the organization meeting for all the above mentioned Clubs.

This meeting is scheduled for the Court House, Milton, on Wednesday evening, April 13. A good program is planned, and parents are encouraged to attend. It is hoped that this 4-H message will reach every rural boy and girl between the ages of 12 and 20 inclusive, so that the 4-H membership in Halton will reach a new high in 1955.

## Old Cheese Plant For Exotic Fish

Glanworth, Ont. (CP)—A former cheese factory in this little village nine miles north of St. Thomas has become the distributing point for countless numbers of rare aquarium fish.

Fifteen years ago Alan G. Cliffe started a pet supply business in one room in Montreal. Today the outfit has blossomed into a country-wide concern for the wholesaling of ornamental fish and aquarium supplies.

The idle cheese factory proved ideal for the uses of its new owners. The insulated curing room is used for tropical fish which can only survive at a high and steady temperature. The larger working area of the plant is used to house the hardier goldfish.

Supplies are maintained by a fortnightly run by special tank-truck from New Jersey often carrying 100,000 fish and by a fortnight from Tampa, Florida.

The fish are handled with great care throughout their journey. The part of the tank-truck which carries the tropical fish is insulated and heated to 80 degrees Fahrenheit. The fish from Florida travel in corrugated cardboard boxes with plastic liners, each aerated by hoses fed by a compressor. The temperature change during flight is less than one degree.

In 1949 Canadians paid in taxes to all governments a total of \$3,800,000,000. In 1954 the total was \$7,000,000,000.

## JUNIOR FARMER PRESIDENT WINS SEED FAIR JUDGING TROPHY

Despite drifted goods and blocked lanes on Saturday, March 26, the Milton Town Hall was well filled for the excellent program presided over by Ross Segsworth, president of the Halton Soil & Crop Improvement Association.

Art Bennett, Associate Agricultural Representative for Halton and Peel counties, announced the results of the Junior Farmer Judging Competition, for which 20 young men braved the elements and heavy roads.

John W. Pickett, newly elected president of Halton Juniors, was the top judge of the day, and was awarded the Halton Seed Growers' Trophy. Other trophy winners were: Howson Riddell, who won the Halton Cream & Butter Co. Trophy, with the high score in judging Hay and Potatoes; and Earl Wilson, who was the winner of the Strathcona Orchard Trophy, emblematic of the high score in judging Small Seeds and Identification of Weeds and Forage Plants.

The top winners in the various sections were as follows: Juniors: 1st Don Taylor; 2nd Allen Brown; 3rd Bruce Coulson; 4th Tom Austin; 5th Sandy Barnes; Intermediates: 1st Merle Gully; 2nd Harold Brain; 3rd Lynne Coulter; 4th Andy Stull; 5th Doug Starrett; Seniors: 1st John W. Pickett; 2nd Earl Wilson; 3rd Howson Riddell; 4th Sandy Buchanan; 5th Don Johnson.

The inter-township bacon display was briefly but ably commented on by Finlay Stewart, of the Live Stock Production Service of the Canada Department of Agriculture. "Your bacon exhibit is equal to any we have had this year—as a matter of fact, the Halton bacon exhibit is the only one we have had this year, where there were no fourth quality sides," stated Mr. Stewart.

Seventeen of the 20 carcasses on display made a grade—however, only three of the 20 made first quality. "The main criticism we have is that some of these hogs have too much finish. Use your scales," added Mr. Stewart.

**W. P. Watson Speaks**

W. P. Watson, Ontario Livestock Commissioner, an old favorite with Halton farm audiences, was the special speaker of the afternoon. In his usual clear, logical style, Mr. Watson reviewed the farm outlook for 1955. "Some of you are going to make money in 1955, and some of you are going to lose money," stated Mr. Watson. "It is the man who can grow good crops at a minimum of cost, who is going to make money out of his livestock," he added.

**Demonstrate Carcass Cutting**

A. L. Currie, of the Livestock Marketing Service, Canada Department of Agriculture, with the assistance of Albert Gray, of Canada Packers Limited, staged a Carcass

Cutting Demonstration, a new feature for a Halton Bacon Show. In this demonstration an A side and a C side, were both cut into the usual wholesale cuts for the domestic market. Certainly at the conclusion of this able demonstration, when the audience saw the difference in the amount of fat which had to be trimmed off the two sides (7½ lbs. in case of the A side, and 10½ lbs. in the case of the C side, and with this fat worth only 7¢ per lb.), and as they looked at the identical cuts from the two sides after trimming (in some cuts a difference in value of 20 cents a pound) everyone had to admit that the hog producer who over-finishes his hogs is doing much to depress the market price of hogs and to destroy his own market.

We were both startled and impressed when we overheard one Halton farmer say to his neighbor, "Well, it certainly looks as if the two factions of the hog producers who are fighting and arguing over the Sales Agency and Marketing Scheme, might better devote their time to doing something about the quality of our hogs."

The thanks of the audience to those contributing to the outstanding program, was ably expressed by Reeves A. R. Service, Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture and Reformation of the Halton County Council.

**Champion Oats Sold**

The auction of the ten bushel lots of oats and barley as ably handled by auctioneer J. A. Elliott, of Milton. Here the six bushel lots of registered oats sold at prices ranging from \$1.25 to \$2.10, with an av-

erage of \$1.75. In the commercial No. 1 oats, the price range was \$1.25 to \$1.62, with an average of \$1.47.

The one 10 bushel lot of Commercial No. 1 barley sold at \$2.20 per bushel.

**POTATO DEMAND**

Toronto (CP)—The Ontario department says there is a strong demand for better quality potatoes, especially the Sebago variety.

**RELIABLE PRODUCERS**

Kitchener, Ont. (CP)—Farmer Lloyd Hagey of nearby Breslau thinks he has just about the most reliable maple trees in Ontario. For 30 years, he says his 400 maples have been tapped and have always given a good supply. He gets about 100 gallons of syrup.

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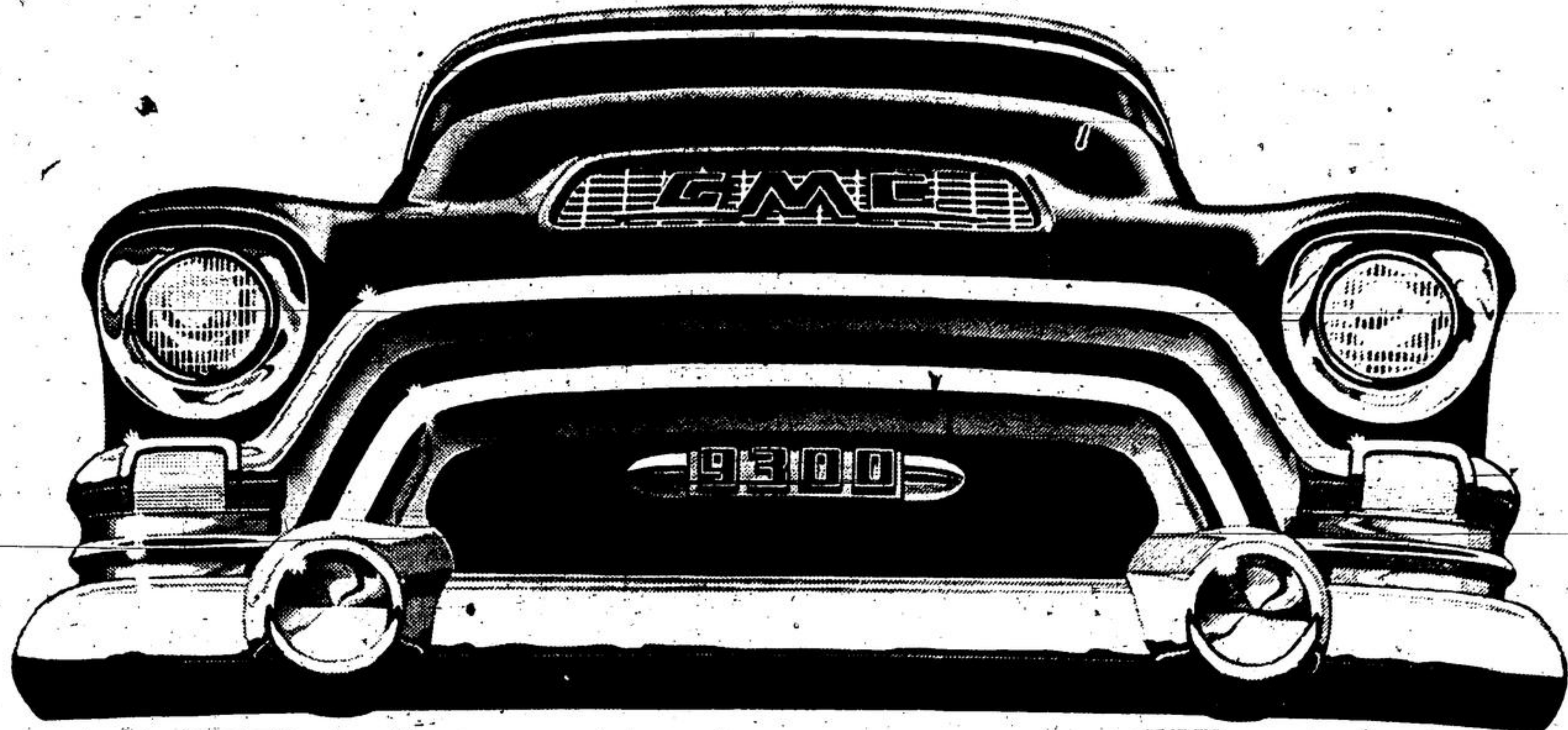
A Brockville district mother of three, widowed by accident, received \$62,306 in damages, after launching a Supreme Court action.

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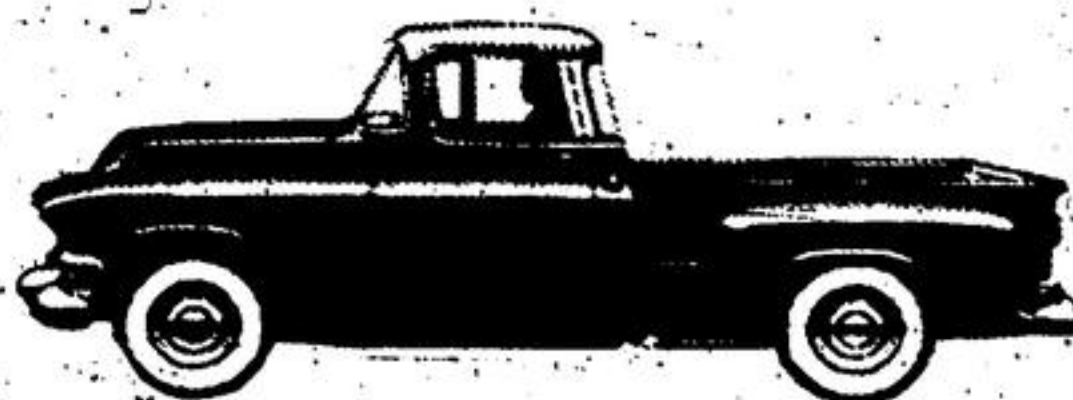
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