

talking about *Better Farming*

Reports and articles from Halton's Farmlands and Farm Organizations

Halton's Debaters Move to Final Round In Inter-County Series

Halton Junior Farmers' debaters advanced to the final round in the inter-county debating series by reason of their win over Lambton County debaters on Wednesday evening of last week. The subject under debate was "Resolved that school boards should be granted more power to be granted to school boards over the affairs of elementary and secondary education in Ontario."

Halton's affirmative team of Mac Sprowl and George Greenlees met the Lambton negative team in Watford. At the same time the Lambton affirmative team of Ross Smith and Carl Whiting met Halton's negative team of Roy Ford and Lloyd Vivian at Trafalgar.

At both points the negative teams won the judges' awards by split decisions. In such cases, the winner is selected on the basis of the total of the judges' scores at both centres. The judges at Trafalgar were Everett Biggs, Dairy Commissioner for Ontario, Clayton Frey of Sarnia, and Edwin Harrop of Milton. At Watford, the members of the judges' panel were Dr. Chapwing of Petrolia, Reeve Dick of Wyoming

and George E. Elliott, Q.C., of Milton.

In the finals, which will be held at the Ontario Agricultural College on Friday, March 16, Halton debaters will be pitted against Carleton County. The subject on this occasion will be "Resolved that the problem of low incomes in Agriculture can be better met by government research and extension aimed at lowering costs of production than by a policy of price support."

When the debating series commenced last fall, 16 counties with a total of 64 rural young people participating, were in action. In advancing to the final round, Halton's debating quartet has won over Watford, Lincoln and Lambton. The big battle is still ahead and the Carleton teams have won quite a reputation for themselves by the ease with which they have won over their opponents to date. However, Halton's quartet of Roy Ford, George Greenlees, Mac Sprowl and Lloyd Vivian will take a lot of beating, and win or lose, Halton will well be proud of these young men.

Halton's Hog Producers Up Grade 'A' Percentage

In 1955, Halton Hog Producers marketed a total of 19,131 hogs. This is an increase of 17 per cent over their 1954 marketings. This is very close to the percentage increase across Canada of 16.4 per cent. Hog marketings in 1955 showed an increase of 12.8 per cent in Eastern Canada and 21 per cent increase in Western Canada. The province of Saskatchewan came up with the biggest increase, 33.5 per cent. Ontario is still the heaviest hog producer with nearly two million hogs; in second position is the Province of Alberta with 1,685,887. Western Canada accounted for 46 per cent of Canada's hog marketing of 1955.

From the standpoint of quality, Halton producers registered the largest increase in percentage of Grade A's marketed by any Ontario county in the past year. Recent figures released by the Ontario Livestock Branch shows that the percentage of Grade A's marketed in 1955 by Halton hog producers was 35.3 per cent, or an increase of 5.4 per cent over the 1954 figure.

Perhaps the easiest cutting demonstration at Halton's 1955 Seed fair and Bacon Show can take some of the credit. In any event, there was plenty of room for improvement—it is only a few years ago since 42 per cent of Halton's hogs graded A's. Actually, Waterloo was the top county with 37.3 per cent. Grade A's, with Halton in fourth position.

Instead of asking for a higher support price on hogs, we think Canadian farm organizations and hog producers generally would do well to "seriously" consider doing a job on quality. When one realizes that 73.6 per cent of the hogs in our advanced registry test stations made Grade A, and further, when we know positively that here and there, are hog producers who consistently get 70 to 80 per cent. Grade A's, is there any rhyme or reason for only 32 per cent of our Ontario hogs making Grade A's?

Someday Canadian hog producers will wake up to the fact, as the Danish producers did many years ago, that they will have to do something to help themselves. Perhaps "Bill" Watson, Ontario's Livestock Commissioner, was not far wrong when he recently suggested, "Let's make 1956 a do-it-yourself year."

Hog Producers To Hear Address By Clayton Frey

Halton hog producers, drovers, and others interested in hog production, would do well to mark their calendars for Milton on February 23. It is the occasion of the annual meeting of the Halton Hog Producers, and president Clayton Frey will advise that they have been successful in securing Clayton Frey of R.R. 1, Sarnia, vice-president of the Ontario Hog Producers' Association, as their guest speaker.

We have known Mr. Frey personally for over 30 years, and unless he has changed materially in recent years, we venture to suggest that he will present the facts as he sees them, and let the chips fall where they will. What his subject will be we are not sure, but we think one can safely assume that it will hinge around the controversial topic of Ontario's hog marketing scheme.

So, irrespective of your views on the subject, we think this is an opportunity you can't afford to miss. "Clay" used to enjoy an argument and in our opinion, a good argument, if done in the proper frame of mind, always adds to a meeting. So watch your local press for a further announcement by secretary A. R. Service, re time, place, etcetera.

Export 56 Million Pounds

Nearly 32 per cent of Ontario's hogs made the A grade and the percentage for all of Canada was 27 per cent. The province of Alberta, the second heaviest hog producer in Canada, had only 19.9 per cent. Grade A's, so it is to be hoped that the new Lacombe breed, originated at the Lacombe Experimental Station by the Canada Department of Agriculture, is as good as news as publicity would lead one to believe.

Canada exported nearly 56 million pounds of pork products in 1955 and practically all of it went to the United States. Needless to point out, the U.S. has a surplus of pork products and the only reason why Canada was able to export pork products to that country was due to lack of quality in the U.S. product. Had this 56 million pounds remained on the Canadian market, Canadian hog prices would have hit the floor of 23 cents long before they did.

Furthermore, as pointed out recently by L. W. Pearsall, Director of Marketing for the Canada Department of Agriculture, Canadian producers are living in a sense of false security because of Health regulations which at present serve as an embargo on American pork. Currently the Chicago price for hogs is the equivalent to about \$16. per cwt., compared with the \$33. per cwt. on the Toronto market. "When the disease problem is cleared up," stated Mr. Pearsall, "the embargo will be removed."

Do Job on Quality

We do not pose as an economist, but should the embargo be removed, we fail to see how it would be possible for the Canadian government to maintain the 23c floor. So in-

Once Farmer Is Busy Writer Although Blind

FERINTOSH, Alta. (CP)—An Alberta farmer turned writer, editor and poet because of blindness, faces his handicap in what he says is "the only way."

"When in darkness, make light of it," he puns with a smile.

Gordon Neilson, 33, taught himself to type after he became blind two years ago. Now he edits the Ferintosh News, a twice-monthly paper, is a correspondent for the Camrose Canadian, one of Alberta's large weeklies, and has published many of the 70 poems he has written.

Gordon grew up in this rural village, 75 miles south of Edmonton. In November, 1947, he married his childhood sweetheart, Eileen Vera Krinke, who lived two miles away. They settled down on a portion of his father's farm where they raised a son, Darryl, now nine. Gordon decided farming would be his livelihood.

Until two years ago, it was. Then, suddenly, Gordon went blind in one eye. Two weeks later, he was milking when the sight in his other eye began to fade. His wife had to lead him back to their home.

Sixty of Gordon's neighbors turned out that summer and the following two years to do his hay and summer fallowing. However, by now, Gordon had reduced his crops and livestock.

Faced with the problem of what to do to support his family, Gordon learned braille from the Canadian National Institute for the Blind and learned how to type on a typewriter borrowed from the CNIB.

He began to write poetry and with the help of his physician, Dr. H. F. MacInnis, sold many of his 70 poems to Alberta papers.

The Ferintosh Board of Trade and Women's Institute asked him to edit their weekly Ferintosh News, and he became district correspondent for the Camrose Canadian.

Now he is working full stride again.

WATER CONSUMPTION

ST. HYACINTHE, Que. (CP)—The 30,000 people in St. Hyacinthe and district used an average of about 127 gallons of water daily during 1955. Jean Blanchard, superintendent of the filtration plant, reported total daily consumption was 3,817,811 gallons.

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THE ACTON FREE PRESS, ACTON, ONTARIO

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9th, 1956

Blue Valley Ranch To Promote Country Music Nite

(ADVERTISEMENT)

A country music nite is scheduled to start in the Acton Town Hall every Saturday night starting February 11. This nite will be called Blue Valley country music nite. People have asked for a nite such as this and in answer to many requests, we have decided to try it.

If the people respond to what they say they will do and the evening proves to be a success, then we will import talent in from around the country like we have been doing at Blue Valley Ranch, Limehouse, to bring to you the kind of music to make this a lively and entertaining evening for the people in this district.

There will be two shows each Saturday nite. First show starts at 8:30 p.m. and second one at 10:30 p.m.

This evening will be entertaining for young and old alike and we would appreciate your comments on any way to make it one of the best in the country. There will be audience participation.

Country music entertainers such as soloists, groups, quartets or comedians who would be interested in appearing on the show are requested to please get in touch with Earl Scott, Blue Valley Ranch, Limehouse, or phone Georgetown TR 7-2144. (See Coming Events in this paper.)

COME LONG WAY

(ADVERTISEMENT)

WOSS LAKE, B.C. (CP)—Five of 10 senior students in the high school at this Vancouver Island logging town travel 40 miles daily to and from classes.

CUBS' NEW HOME

(ADVERTISEMENT)

HALIFAX (CP)—Two frisky bear cubs are new residents on the game reserve at Shubenacadie. They were orphaned when a 300-pound bear was shot by two Bedford men, who brought the cubs home.

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It's a better life for Norman Tyndall

To learn how farming has been revolutionized in modern times, listen to Norman Tyndall, of Richmond Hill, Ontario.

"Nowadays, one man can produce as much food as eight men could — less than a generation ago," says Mr. Tyndall. "Machines like the newest tractors, balers and combines have lightened our job tremendously. And of course, agricultural science is adding to our know-how with results that can be seen in fields all over the country."

As Mr. Tyndall knows, there have also been important developments in life insurance — which help him as a family man.

Today, for instance, there is a wider choice of life insurance plans than ever before. So men like Mr. Tyndall have a more flexible way of meeting their own families' special needs — needs that keep changing over the years. The life underwriter who serves people today is a key man in this planning. And he, too, has changed. Modern training methods have made him a more efficient counsellor on the many different uses of life insurance.

In these and other ways, the life insurance companies in Canada have progressed to meet the changing needs of people in all walks of life!

THE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES IN CANADA

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