

Reports and articles from Halton's Farmlands and Farm Organizations

Large Entry in Halton's Grade 'A' Hog Marketing Competition for '56

Halton's grade 'A' hog marketing competition has created keen interest, states Ed Davenport, president of the Halton Hog Producers' Association. No less than 106 entries had been received on May 1.

Careless grading certificates for hogs marketed during the period from January 1, 1956 to date, are now coming forward and are being tabulated at the Agricultural office in Milton, Halton's seat.

Charles Newton Tophay in 1955 has apparently stimulated interest in the marketing of better quality hogs. And well it may be, if we wish to retain the market in the United States for some of our better quality cuts.

This market took over 50 million pounds in 1955, and had this amount been left on the Canadian market, it would seem logical to assume that hog prices in this country would have hit the 23c floor long before they did.

U.S. Quality Program

It has been long acknowledged that the Canadian market hog is of better quality than his U.S. counterpart. Canadian producers may well ask themselves—how long will this superiority continue?

The swing back from the fat hog was underway in the U.S. before the start of the Second World War. However, due to the wartime shortage of fats, coupled with a strong demand for all qualities of meat, a temporary reversal in the trend

resulted. Since 1948 however, more and more emphasis has been and is being placed on the leaner meat-type hog. All sections of the trade, including the packer and producer, are behind the program. Last year U.S. pork packers adopted a new leaner trim for pork cuts. Loin, Boston butts and hams are now trimmed to a minimum of one-quarter inch which, we understand, is about the same standard our Canadian processors have followed for some years.

Hogs at Lighter Weights

We also note the U.S. producer is marketing his hogs at lighter weights. As a matter of fact, the difference between the average carcass weight of barrows and gilts at the eight principal U.S. markets and the average carcass weight of Canadian barrows and gilts, has decreased from 32 pounds in 1945 to 15 lbs in 1955. It is also interesting to note that in the first 11 weeks of 1956, hogs of various live weights at Chicago were discounted under the 200 lb. hog price as follows: dressed weights—225 lb. \$0.29; 200 lb. \$0.24; 275 lbs. \$1.12; and 300 lb. \$1.64.

As the quality of U.S. pork increases, so must the quality of the Canadian product—that is, if we want our U.S. exports to continue. The lead we now enjoy can be lost easier than it was gained. Quality is the key to good pork sales.

4-H Maintenance Club Sees Safety Films

The second meeting of the West Halton 4-H Tractor Maintenance Club was held in Campbellville public school last week. The president, George Hume, was in the chair.

After the business meeting, Art Bennett introduced leaders Brock Harris, Buck Galloway and Fieldman Ross. Ross stated the objectives of the club and the awards available. Manuals and service records were issued. Ross showed two fine films on tractor safety and petroleum safety.

There were 19 members present. You must file your income tax return, but you must not cheat it.

Agricultural Data from '56 Census Important to Farmers and Groups

Canada's first nation-wide quinquennial census, which will be taken on June 1, will include both a census of population and a census of agriculture. Previous mid-decade censuses covered the Prairie Provinces only, having been started when the West was in its early stages of development.

Canada's recent record population growth, together with shifts of population between and within provinces, the rapidly changing conditions in agriculture, and the difficulty of providing accurate estimates over a ten year span have led to the decision to extend the regular quinquennial census of the Prairie Provinces to take in the whole of Canada.

Canada's industries are becoming more and more diversified. Other primary industries such as mining have increased in relative importance; and the secondary industries, including a great variety of manufacturing activities, surpass agriculture in the net value of products. Nevertheless, agriculture is still the greatest of our primary industries by a very wide margin. In 1951, one-fifth of all gainfully occupied males in Canada were engaged primarily in agricultural pursuits and 55 per cent of the net value of all primary production was from agriculture.

It is only through the census that a complete inventory of this great basic industry can be obtained with sufficient detail to appraise its progress in all parts of Canada and to serve as a benchmark for the annual estimates which are essential for a great variety of purposes.

Basic Inquiries
The agriculture census is a census of an industry and must include questions on the numbers or area of everything produced on the farm, besides other questions relating to the structure of the industry. The development of agricultural research, of marketing plans and of various controls for the farmer's

Elect Officers For Halton C.C.F.

At the annual meeting of the Halton Riding Association C.C.F. held Saturday in Georgetown, the following were elected to office:

President, Joan McIntosh, Port Nelson; vice-president, Fred Hae, Georgetown; secretary, Graham Porter, Georgetown; treasurer, Marjorie Finney, Burlington; public relations officer, Fred Hae, Georgetown; provincial council delegate, Dave Slubias, Georgetown; regional representative, Stan Allen, Georgetown; publicity, Ed A. Peters, Georgetown.

The meeting also endorsed the following amendment to be submitted to the 22nd annual convention: "See to it that the Minister of Reform Institutions carries out in his department the policies of Graham Porter, publicly, Ed A. Peters, Georgetown."

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Georgetown Hospital Association GALA DAY — MAY 21st

Booths! Games! Something For Everyone!

PROGRAM

STARTS at 1:30 p.m. with a parade starting at Chapel Street School and will consist of bands, school children, cadet corps, regimental troops, firemen, girl guides, civil defense personnel, Legion members, St. John's Ambulance representatives, members of Georgetown Municipal Council, other dignitaries and the press.

Mayor Jack Armstrong of Georgetown will officially open the program at Georgetown Park and it is hoped to have the local members of Parliament, the Warden of Halton County and others.

The program will consist of a procession led by the cadet corps of Georgetown, a teenage fashion show contributed to by three schools.

A highlight will be the old-time fiddlers contest with exceptionally high prizes. In the evening a square dance at 7:30 p.m., a community sing song followed by a magnificent display of fireworks.

Worthwhile prizes will be awarded to many of the entertainers and this should be an enjoyable day for young and old.

Vance Mountford of Brampton will be on hand to help keep the ball rolling and it is hoped that everyone who can possibly be there will come out and support the Georgetown Hospital Association in its effort to raise funds for the projected hospital.

Come Out! Join the Fun! Have a Good Time!

BOOST THE HOSPITAL PROGRAM

Why the Farm Bill Veto in U.S. Was President Eisenhower Right?

Why the Vet? This is the heading of the following paragraph taken from the May 1 issue of *Doones Agricultural Digest*. "The President vetoed the farm bill because he felt he was acting in the best interests of American agriculture. He could not go along with the idea of putting in a soil bank to reduce production and then adding on rigid supports and old parity which tend to boost output. The two don't belong in the same bill. To quote Mr. Eisenhower: 'The bill is contrary to the self-defeating. It would lead to even bigger farm surpluses, tighter production controls and further threaten slumping farm income.'"

Was He Right?
We again quote from the same source: "On the basis of pure simple economics, many economists say he was. They point out that no matter what the government does, the real basis for setting prices still gets back to supply and demand. If you want to raise prices realistically,

you have to reduce supply or increase the demand. High rigid supports work against farmers on both counts. Experience since the war points this out."

A recent report released through the National Farming Association has the following to say: "It should be clear that holding price supports at high levels works in exactly the opposite direction from that needed. It induces a further increase in acres and head of livestock, of fertilizers, feed, etc. Such high-fixed price supports are a strong positive subsidy to an over-expansion of production which is already over-expanded."

According to Doones: Signs still point to overproduction of turkeys this year in the U.S. Heavy breed poult production is up 50 per cent during the first quarter, with the total crop likely to run well above 1955. They (Doones) say: "Better get slow on expanding unless you have a good retail market."

Fall Wheat Looks Spotty in Halton

Stands of fall wheat in Halton, as we see them, do not promise normal yields. While there are some excellent stands, a large percentage of the more level fields in the heavy clay loam areas, look very patchy and in some cases very thin.

In short, the very wet fall, coupled with the late, cold, wet spring has worked havoc. Our memory may be faulty, but we do not recall any time in the past 21 years when prospects for wheat looked so poor.

NO SHELTER

EAST RIVER, N.S. (CP) — The combination railway waiting-room and freight shed at this south shore whistle-stop was destroyed by fire for the second time in 25 years.

Home Economics Career for Girls

"When this year's high school graduates are considering vocations, it is to be hoped that a good number of girls will give some thought to a career in Home Economics," says Miss Helen McKereher, director of home economics service in the Extension Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture.

"For a girl with an interest in things relating to the home and family living, home economics offers a broad field with a rapidly expanding demand for trained personnel," says Miss McKereher. "As teachers, dietitians in hospitals and restaurants, as authorities on food, textiles and home furnishings, in home service departments and as home economics extension workers, there are never enough graduates to go round."

In Home Economics Extension Service, Miss McKereher adds, "we believe there is a special opportunity for the girl who feels the significance of good homes and a sound family life, who has a flair for the arts and crafts of homemaking and who likes working with people. Salaries compare favorably with those in other fields and the girl with creative ability has scope for advancement and for the development of her own special gifts."

Ford Addition Contract Given

Contract for the construction of an addition to the Trafalgar assembly plant of the Ford Motor Co. of Canada Ltd., was awarded to the Frid Construction Co. Ltd. of Hamilton.

The extension, which will provide an additional four acres of floor space for enlargement of vehicle assembly lines, should be completed by the end of this year, Ford president Rhyss M. Sale said.

Ford's factory in Trafalgar township already has a larger area of floor space under a single roof than any other industrial building in Canada. With the new addition, it will have 36 acres of floor space.

PERSONAL CALLS

PICTOU, N.S. (CP) — Firemen had to be summoned by telephone when a chimney fire broke out here. Heavy draft snow in the air at the fire station kept it silent.

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QUEBEC (CP) — Quebec City, with about 1,700 employees on the municipal payroll, paid out more than \$5,000,000 in wages during 1955, reports city personnel manager Paul Simard.