

Qualms Soon Quieted

# Reporter Finds Bleat-Burgers Okay

By Staff Reporter

Ever eat of bleat-burger? Ever drink goat's milk? Neither had the writer until Saturday afternoon when he attempted what seemed to be an almost routine assignment by attending a buck show. A buck show is where owners of male goats bring their besties to a designated place to be judged by some person who knows a lot about good goats.

The buck show was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mac Alexander, a few miles south-east of Norval. Mrs. Alexander is the proud owner of 86 Saanen goats. This buck show was sponsored by the Guelph Area Group of the Ontario Dairy Goat Society for the purpose of bringing together (but not too close together) male goats to be judged by an expert on the animals, Mrs. Joan Durrant of Markham.

Altogether about 50 people, both owners and friends of goats and a few just curious to find out what a buck show really was, attended from such distant places as Markham, Greenwood, Guelph, Burlington, Hamilton and Cainsville, as well as a few locals from Horby and Acton.

One of the things that hit the writer's eye as soon as he arrived at the Alexander farm was the booth where meals were being sold by the Guelph Area Group. The main item on the menu was bleat-burgers. Now the writer had a few qualms when he heard one of the ladies behind the counter tell a customer that the meat for these bleat-burgers was made from her wee fellows, slain when they were nine months old.

However, after gentle persuasion, a bleat-burger was ordered, paid for, dosed with the necessary trimmings (relish, garlic powder, catsup, salt and pepper) and again with a few qualms and thoughts of the poor little nine-month-old beastie, eaten.

Surprise Came  
Then came the surprise. For all the writer might have known, it might have been a baas-burger. In other words, a burger made of lamb. It tasted just like lamb would have tasted had it been in the same position, nestled neatly inside that bun and covered with extras.

Whilst the eating was still in progress, another customer (who had apparently eaten the stuff before) remarked that every time she ate bleat-burgers they tasted more and more like lamb.

Now the bleat-burger might have been a little dry if nothing had been provided to wash it down. Tea, coffee and goat's milk was on the menu, so why not go the whole hog? We mean whole goat.

"Could I have a glass of goat's milk, please?" the writer queried. In a minute he was peering at the milky substance in the paper cup in his hand. It looked like ordinary milk, so (without qualms this time), we took a good big mouthful. Nothing seemed unusual. We swallowed it. Nothing unusual yet.

Then the substance had partially made its way to the stomach, a slight strong taste was noticed. So we tried it again. The same result.

We concluded that there was nothing different from this milk than the ordinary milk found in any refrigerator, except for the faint different taste in the throat after it had been swallowed.

To top it off, pie and ice cream (made with cow's milk) rounded out the meal. The pie was for the burger, 5c for the milk and 10c for the pie and cow's milk ice cream. A very inexpensive meal to put down on the expense sheet.

Glancing around whilst we ate, we found more and more people arriving, most of them known to somebody in the place, and most of them enjoying a bleat-burger and a glass of milk or a cup of coffee (with goat's milk in it) while they waited for the show to start.

Soon the show did start and Mrs. Alexander introduced the judge. The judge very carefully inspected and often ran her expert hands over various parts of the bucks being shown, and after announcing her decision, gave the reasons for her choices. Here came another interesting part of the show.

We Were Lost  
Goats are judged on their overall condition, the bloom on the coat, the set and shape of the chin and head, the finish, the conditioning, the heartgirth, the spread of the toes, the straightness of the pasterns, the space between the ribs, and the level of the croup. Still with us? We were lost.

Later, because of the shortage of male goats at the judging show, female goats or does were brought out of Mrs. Alexander's pens. They were judged too, and the only difference in judging was the udder attachment.



STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER had his eyes opened when he attended the buck judging show recently at Mac Alexander's at Norval and was urged to partake of a cool glass of goat's milk from the Alexander goats and a "bleat-burger", the same thing as a hamburger only made out of the meat of goats. However, he tried one of both and enjoyed it. The above pictures taken at the show indicate just part of the goings-on during the afternoon-long show, judged by Mrs. Joan Durrant of Markham. A group of about 50 goat owners attended.



THREE NEW GOATS arrived on the scene while the buck show sponsored by the Guelph area group of the Ontario Dairy Goat Society was being held at the Norval farm home of Mr. and Mrs. Mac Alexander. The goats didn't come in cars, trucks or trailers like the other goats did, either. They were born about midway in the show. The proud momma is shown here in this picture taken 15 minutes after the birth, looking over her three white babies. Momma posed very easily for the picture taken by the staff photographer who attended the event out of curiosity.

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Georgetown was publicized on the national TV network recently, when Graphic took viewers on a tour of Rex Heslop's home, while Joe McCulley interviewed Mr. Heslop.

Described as a "construction millionaire who builds whole cities", Mr. Heslop was first pictured sitting in the living room of his home and answered questions about his career from the time he built his first house in 1913 to his latest 2000 acre Delrex project.

Joined by Mrs. Heslop, he then proceeded to the downstairs recreation room where viewers had a glimpse of the junior soda bar, daughter Marilyn's doll collection, and the swimming pool where three girls were enjoying a swim. Son Rex Jr. was also introduced. People also were shown the terrace overlooking the valley and the scale model of Delrex which has been on view at various home shows and the trade fair.

Asking about the present tightening or mortgage money, Mr. Heslop opined that it is affecting Delrex like all building operations, and if it continues he foresees unemployment this winter.

A crew of 50 C.B.C. technicians turned the Heslop home into a television studio for the show. Three mobile cameras were used.

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