

Talking about... Better Farming

Reports and articles from Halton's Farm and Farm Organizations

Roy Wilson Has Top Halton Herd Under Dairy Improvement Work

A fund of valuable data is contained in the progress report on dairy herd improvement work for 1955, which was recently released. All information in this outstanding report was compiled by the Ontario Agricultural College in co-operation with the livestock and farm economics branches of the Ontario Department of Agriculture.

There are 54 D.H.I. Associations in the province, three of which are in Halton. These 54 associations include 1245 herds with an enrollment of 23,530 cows. All records are based on a 305 day period. The average milk production for 1955 was 6,041 lbs. milk and 313 lbs. of B.F., in contrast to 7,354 lbs. milk and 378 lbs. of B.F. in 1951. Of the 54 groups or associations, Halton West association, supervised by George R. McCormack, was in sixth position, and had 75.4 per cent. of its cows enrolled for certificates with an average production of 9,170 lbs. milk and 348 lbs. B.F.

Halton Centre, supervised by Howard King, was in seventh position, with 71.7 per cent. of the 502 cows qualifying for certificates. Their average production was 9,740 lbs. milk and 348 lbs. B.F. 63 per cent. of the 535 cows in the Halton East association, supervised by Frank W. Chisholm, qualified for certificates. The average production of this group was 8,788 lbs. milk and 323 lbs. B.F.

The top herd in Halton was that of Roy J. Wilson, of Milton R.R. whose herd on a 305 day lactation averaged 12,255 lbs. milk and 429 lbs. butterfat. Other Halton herds in the 400 lb. class were those of Galbraith Bros., Burlington R.R. 1; Walker Gundy, Burlington; Donzil Lawrence of Milton; Alton and Everett, Burlington; Arthur Ruddle and Son of Georgetown; Charles Fatt of Campbellville; Alfred Ford of Milton.

Top Butterfat Cow
The top cow in the province from a butterfat standpoint, was a pure bred Guernsey in the herd of Walker Gundy, of Burlington, with 750 lbs. B.F. and 15,098 lbs. of milk. Another pure bred Guernsey in the same herd stood fourth in the province, with 15,891 lbs. milk and 689 lbs. B.F. The top milk cow was a former Halton cow—she was bred by Tom Giffen of Georgetown and purchased by J. H. Gillespie of Erin at the Giffen dispersal. This cow produced 21,259 lbs. milk and 729 lbs. B.F.

In the three year old class, Harvey Campbell of Milton had the top Halton three year old—she is a pure bred Holstein and placed sixth in the province, with a production of 15,006 lbs. milk and 570 lbs. B.F. Among the two year olds, a pure bred Holstein heifer owned by Galbraith Bros. was sixth in the provincial list, with 12,810 lbs. of milk and 534 lbs. of B.F.

Artificial vs. Natural
Under breed distribution, we note that while all of the dairy breeds are represented, 87.3 per cent. of the 23,530 cows enrolled in D.H.I. work are Holsteins. An analysis of this large group reveals that the cows from artificial service, in the average, have higher production than those from natural service. For example, the 2,229 two-year-olds from artificial insemination have an average production of 8,292 lbs. milk and 290 lbs. B.F.—against an average production of 7,856 lbs. milk and 272 lbs. butterfat in the

Soils, Land Use Group to Visit Farms in Halton

The program for the fourth annual Junior Farmer Soils and Land Use Tour was just released by the extension branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture. The event is scheduled for September 12, 13 and 14, with headquarters at the Ontario Agricultural College.

T. R. Hilliard, associate director of extension, and Dr. Bert Matthews, of the soils department at the O.A.C., were in Halton last week to inspect possible points which would be of interest for this group of young farm operators. Among those selected are the 200 acre farm of Maurice C. Bealy, in Trafalgar township; the 150 acre farm of Fred Nurse in Esquewaug township; the improved pasture on the flats of Madlen Farm owned by Dr. William James, also in Esquewaug township; and the improved wood-land of Duncan Moffat in Nassagaweya township.

Needless to add, many other points of equal interest could have been selected. However, the three day program also includes tours to farms in Peel and York counties as well as an opportunity to see a few of the highlights around the Ontario Agricultural College.

BUILDING BOOM
ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE, Alta. (CP)—A record building season is expected in this town in the Rocky Mountain foothills 150 miles south-west of Edmonton. Included are a new school and medical clinic.

FREE TEXTBOOKS
HAVRE AUBERT, Magdalen Islands (CP)—School commissions on the Magdalen Islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence operate schemes providing free textbooks. The books are returned at the end of each year and parents are assisted for lost or damaged books.

POISON SEED
VICTORIA (CP)—Several cases of poisoning of children from chewing seed from the laburnum tree have been cured so far this season by prompt use of the stomach pump. Children are attracted to the toxic seed due to its resemblance to garden peas.

TOPIC OF THE WEEK
WATER—The water supply in the city of Toronto is being conserved by the use of water saving devices in homes and businesses.

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Haying Progress Slow, Crop Good

1956 is a year of surprises. In early June we had prospects for a 60 or 70 per cent. hay crop at best. Today (July 13) we have, pretty close to a normal crop of hay. True, the bulk of it, while cut, is still in the fields. Catchy weather coupled with little or no farm labor has made progress slow.

On May 24, Halton mows were emptier than they had been in years—there had been little growth of grass and prospects pointed to short pastures throughout 1956. Today, the pastures are excellent. On May 24 little of the spring grain crop had been seeded—many of us thought it was too late for spring grain.

Today spring grains, in general, are a good color and look promising. In late April and early May, many fields of fall wheat looked spotty—today the wheat is turning and while some fields are lodged, prospects are for close to a normal crop in Halton.

Yes, the corn crop is backward, but if these surprises continue, the corn crop may look quite different by mid-September. At the moment many are wondering, and worrying, as to whether or not they will ever get the crop off. However, perhaps we will get some more surprises and by the end of September we may be wondering what we had to worry about.

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New Minister Alan Neelands Is Welcomed

A reception was held in Ballinacree church on Tuesday night when the congregations of Melville, Churchill and Ballinacree met to spend an evening with their new minister, his wife and family. Mr. and Mrs. Alan Neelands, Paul and Ruth, Rev. Adams of Acton as chairman called on the following program, a piano duet from Melville; violin duet by Mr. Frank and Ted Freeman; Master Bobbie Deane, a violin solo from Churchill; vocal duet by Mr. and Mrs. Earnie and Mr. Mrs. F. J. Shortill; a piano solo by Marjorie Gibson and a number by Ballinacree choir.

After a hymn and prayer, Mr. Adams gave a splendid address and called on two of his Elders to escort Mr. Neelands to the front where he welcomed him as minister of Ballinacree, Melville and Churchill charge. All retired to the basement and enjoyed a friendly cup of tea and lunch served by the ladies.

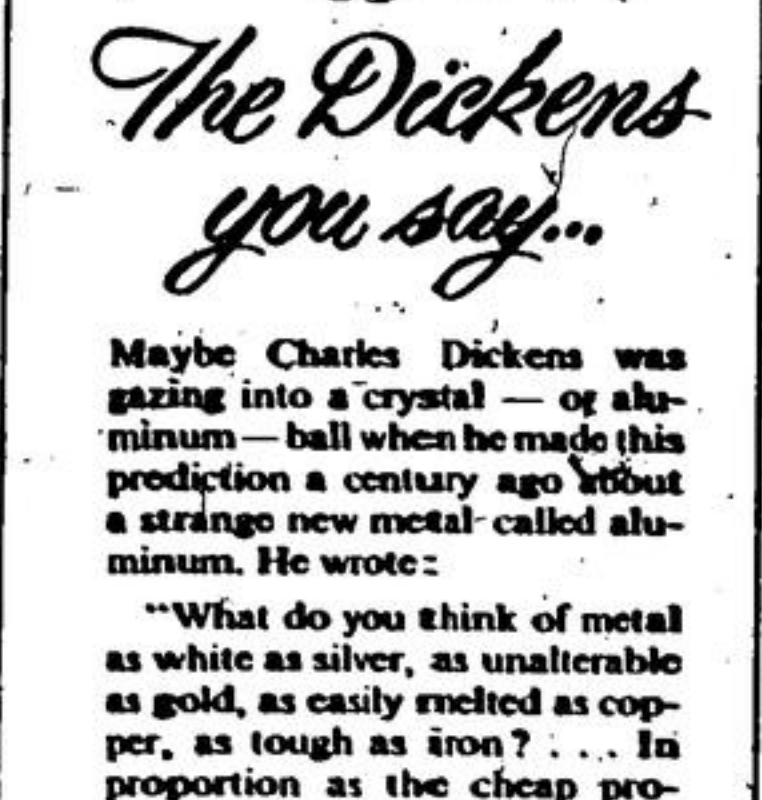
The W.A. met on Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Starrett. The president, Mrs. Robert McEnery, presiding, the meeting opened with the theme song, creed and the Lord's Prayer and hymn. Scripture was taken by Mrs. Starrett from Psalm 103 "The Loving Kindness of the Lord". Minutes were read and approved. Roll call was answered by "A Good Day Memory". Several items of business were discussed. Mrs. Shortill had charge of the program conducting two contests. The meeting closed with the Mizpah Benediction. Lunch was served by Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Given, assisted by the hostesses.

Master Bobbie Wilkins of Toronto is holidaying with his aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Robert McEnery.

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Dr. and Mrs. Clifford Reid have returned from holidaying at Bala. The Evening Auxillary met on Thursday night at the home of Mrs. Elwood Snow.

Visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse McEnery and Beth during the past week, Rev. and Mrs. Ross Dangler, Nancy and David of McKeesport, Pa., Mrs. Pearl Fato and Mrs. Beatrice Tannwitz, Johnson City, Tenn.; Miss Lois Campbell, Guelph; Miss Jeanette Hindley of Orton; Miss Ella Williams, Mrs. Clara Blacklock, Toronto; Mr. Roy Hindley, Everton; Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Sinclair and family and Mrs. Ella McEnery of Guelph.



The Dickens you say...
Maybe Charles Dickens was gazing into a crystal—of aluminum—ball when he made this prediction a century ago about a strange new metal—called aluminum. He wrote:
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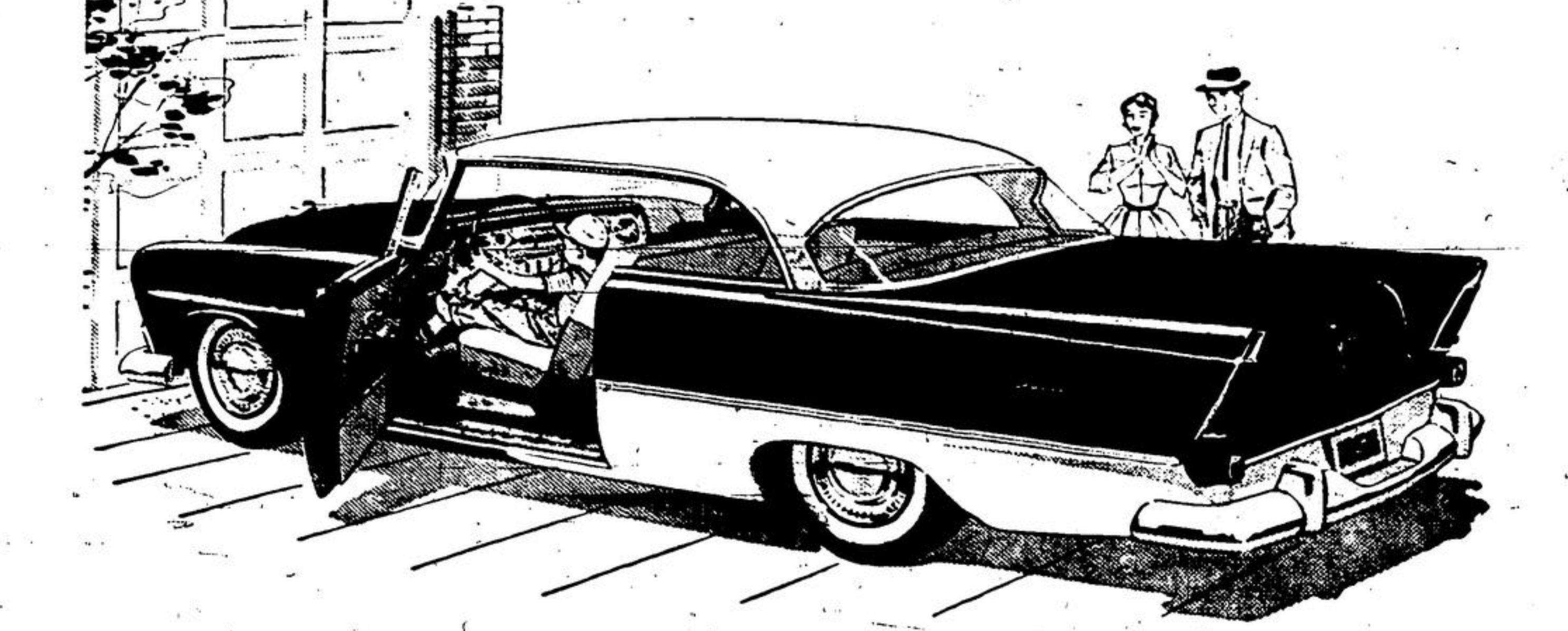
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