



RETURNING TO HOLLAND. Ted Dauma, 24-year-old Dutch youth has been working on the farm of Mel McCullough near Acton for the past year. Mr. Dauma became accustomed to the Canadian methods of farming quickly after his arrival and will take back a world of farming knowledge to his homeland. Working on a visitor's visa the youth intends returning to Canada at a later date. In Canada he worked 200 acres on the McCullough farm while in his homeland he worked about 50 acres.

Down to Earth

Dutch Farmer Returns Home After Canadian Experience

Ted Dauma, 24-year-old Dutch farmer, is returning to his homeland and with him he is taking a full year's knowledge of Canadian farming, gained during his stay in Canada with Mel McCullough, Acton area farmer.

Mr. Dauma, who came to Canada one year ago last May and arrived at the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. McCullough May 8, has fitted into the pattern set by Canadian farmers since the first day he arrived. Leaving his parents, one brother and a sister, Ted Dauma set sail for the Canadian shore to gain worthwhile knowledge of modern mechanical methods of tilling the soil in order that his future in farming would be guaranteed by producing good crops in a fast but economical method.

First Surprise

Perhaps the first real surprise for the young Dutch visitor was the expensive acreage entailed in the average Canadian farm and the modern mechanical equipment used in doing the daily chores.

These up-to-date means of combating daily labor problems on the farm came as a surprise to young Ted because when he left his homeland in Friesland, Holland, he left a 40-acre farm, equipped only with a team of horses and only bare necessities as far as machinery was concerned.

Heavy Toll

In his homeland, manpower was the dominant feature of farming. The 40-acre farm to which his family devoted their time, weighing out a living by growing sugar beets, potatoes, some grain and milking a small herd of cows, had wrestled all pleasures from the small family and implanted a heavy schedule of daily toil.

Surprise first, then amazement, struck the young farmer as he gazed across the 200-acre farm of Mr. McCullough, his employer for months ahead. Surprise perhaps at the vastness of the area to be farmed — and then amazement at the modern equipment supplied to cope with the chores of farming.

Here at his new home, he found not horses but three tractors, threshing equipment and every possible piece of equipment found on the modernized farm in Canada today.

Adapted Quickly

Willing to learn and a hard worker, the new arrival soon proved to his employer that the problems encountered on a large modern farm could be overcome and solved by determination and a willingness to learn.

One year later as the young farmer prepares to return to his homeland, he will carry with him scores of valuable ideas gained working with the Acton farmer.

In comparing farming conditions in Canada with his native land

Mr. Dauma stressed the advantages of mechanical farming in Canada but noted that it would be impractical for his parents to mechanize because of the small area to be farmed.

In the district in Holland where he lived, Mr. Dauma noted the farms averaged about 50-60 acres and the big percentage of work was done by hand.

Working Conditions Harder

"The soil in Holland is wetter and heavier, making working conditions more difficult," stated the young Dutch farmer as he compared the soil texture in both countries.

Looking forward to a lifetime of farming, young Ted Dauma is returning to his homeland next month, partly because his visitor's visa is slowly running out and partly because back in Holland wants a young Dutch girl, whom he hasn't seen for nearly a year.

Although many attractions are facing the 24-year-old farmer in his homeland, his mind is set on returning to Canada some day to set himself up on a farm and work the Canadian soil he has come to love so much.

Mr. McCullough, his employer, has nothing but praise for the young man who came to him ignorant of Canadian farming methods and who next month returns to Holland with a complete knowledge of working a 200-acre farm soundly, economically and practically.

Will Important Circle Learns

Aldo Braida was the guest speaker at the meeting of the Friendly Circle held Wednesday of last week in the Sunday school room of the United church. Mr. Braida spoke on the importance of having a will and told of the complicating situations that arise when the deceased has failed to make a will.

He said that no matter how little worldly goods you may possess, it is very important to have a will. Many interesting questions followed Mr. Braida's talk, which he answered and discussed with the ladies.

Mrs. E. Jennings presided for the business and plans were made to cater to a W.I. banquet on May 26 and Teachers' Federation banquet on April 28. Plans were discussed for the catering to three weddings this summer.

Mrs. W. Waterhouse read the scripture and Mrs. C. Rogvaldson read the story of Matthew and led in prayer. A lovely vocal solo was sung by Miss Dorothy Simmons accompanied at the piano by Miss Jean McLean.

C. Landsborough Again Heads Home and School

The new slate of officers was unanimously approved when the Acton Home and School Association held its final general meeting for this term. President Charlie Landsborough was in the chair at the Robert Little school auditorium on Monday evening.

He will again be president. Other officers are: first vice-president, Mrs. W. Wolfe; second vice-president, Mrs. R. Buckner; third vice-president, Mrs. D. Turrant; recording secretary, Mrs. R. Hurst; corresponding secretary, Mrs. G. Grant; treasurer, Mrs. H. Wilson; program convener, Mrs. W. Sproun; special projects convener, Mrs. J. E. Dowling; lunch convener, Mrs. E. Fleming; publications convener, Mrs. H. Foxe; publicity convener, Peter Dunham.

Officers Installed
Mrs. C. Leathbridge, chairman of the nominating committee, presented the list of candidates. At the conclusion of the evening, the new officers were installed by H. R. Parker.

The president-elect thanked members of the retiring executive for their support and untiring efforts during the past year.

A motion was adopted giving All Duty authorization to proceed with the erection of a cairn, on which will be mounted the old school bell and the cornerstone of the original school. It was reported that the Acton Guide and Brownie packs had planned to beautify the site with daffodils to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Guide movement.

Film "Shyness"
Dr. A. L. McKinnon, medical superintendent of the Homewood Sanatorium, Guelph, presented a film of great interest entitled "Shyness." The film illustrated dramatically the careful handling needed in dealing with the sensitive child.

Dr. McKinnon in a short address expressed his sorrow for the first or only child in a family, who comes in for a lot more attention and criticism than his brothers and sisters and is thus apt to be over-cautious and fussy.

He stressed the importance of parents devoting a lot of study to the sensitive child and to afford him their moral support. Without it his childhood is fraught with difficulties.

Explains Council

H. E. Orr of the Guelph Home and School council extended the greetings of his council to the Acton association and explained that the purpose of his council is to give assistance, guidance and inspiration to the local associations within the group. He gave the notice of the annual meeting of the council to be held in Guelph May 6 and expressed the hope that Acton would be well represented.

Keith Black of the Robert Little school staff thanked both speakers.

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Parks Board Outnumbered By Delegates

With more delegates attending the regular meeting of the Board of Parks management than members of the board Tuesday evening, the outnumbered members were forced to abandon it because of a lack of a quorum in favor of a later meeting.

Sickness and other urgent business left the only two board members present without their colleagues but secretary Mrs. G. Fryer and member G. V. Barbeau heard delegates from the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the Acton Intermediate Baseball team.

Ask Swimming Hours

Representing the St. John Ambulance Brigade, Superintendent R. S. Hart and an accompanying officer J. Denny wished to clarify the board's intentions regarding swimming hours in the park in order to formulate their plans for first aid service.

C.G.I.T. NEWS

On April 20, the C.G.I.T. girls of Knox Presbyterian Church met at the Sunday School room and sang their hymns and repeated their purpose. Cheryl Price and Gertrude Kahn conducted the business.

The worship service was led by Pat Stevenson, Geraldine Calder and Linda Barker. Mrs. Buchanan spoke on the word "church".

Hold Euchre Party In Station Hotel

The Acton W.I. entertained at an afternoon euchre party on Monday afternoon. Through the kindness of Mrs. Osborne the event was held in the spacious dining room of the Station Hotel.

Prizes were awarded as follows for high scores, Mrs. W. Footitt, Mrs. Campbell-Simlar, Mrs. Betty Young and Mrs. F. McCutcheon, lone hands, Mrs. Joseph St. Travelling prizes, Mrs. Bert Jordan and Mrs. H. L. Davidson.

The door prize was won by Mrs. J. Loutit and a draw for a lace tablecloth by Mrs. W. Chisholm. Lunch was served by the committee assisted by Mrs. S. Brunelle and Mrs. Osborne.

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Two Tulips?

There is one tulip in town which was so enthusiastic about spring finally arriving that it flipped. The plant was so anxious to get up and see the light that, somewhere along the line, it developed two bulbs for itself.

The original bulb was located about six inches under the ground. The pale stem extended to the surface where a second and much smaller bulb was plainly visible. From there, a normal leaf reached up above the chilly earth.

Ray Arnold dug up the odd plant when he was digging in his flower beds on Peel St. this week. Mr. Arnold put the plant in a jar of water and brought it to the Free Press Monday, and it is in the window now. Mr. Arnold recalls having a strangely shaped carrot in the display window several years ago.

Spring

Signs of spring are plentiful now as one reader reports seeing geese on April 14, and one farmer plans a start on cultivating this week.

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