

# Master Feeds buys Hornby farm for research

Master Feeds, a division of Maple Leaf Mills Limited, has purchased 150 acres of excellent farm land north of Hornby in Keesling Township for a new research farm, company officials announced this week.

The property includes the 100-acre Clayton Dick farm and the back 50 acres of George Currie's adjoining farm, situated on the Seventh Line two miles north of Hornby. Although the company takes possession September 1, construction of several new buildings is not expected to start un-

til the spring of 1968 when a modern, complex research centre will be established. The research farm, according to Dr. W. Douglas Morrison, Director of Nutrition and Research for Master Feeds, will be used by company researchers

for tests in all types of poultry, swine and milk feeding. Master Feeds' present research farm on Highway 7 north-east of Thornhill will be slowly "phased out" when the new farm in Hornby is operational, Dr. Morrison explained. The Thornhill

project was launched in 1937 and the buildings there are considered "out of date" for the firm's 1967 standards. The present farm also has a large acreage (500 acres) which is not all necessary for the research operation.

The research farm will reach half a million dollars within the next few years, officials said. The Master Feeds division of Maple Leaf Mills Limited began in 1937. The original company is about 60 years old, but in 1963 Maple Leaf Milling Co. and Toronto Elevators merged to provide more diversified operations and give birth to the new name, Maple Leaf Mills Limited.

Master Feeds has another research operation at Bassano, Alberta, which is strictly a steer feeding research unit.

Dr. Morrison explains that poultry feed is Master Feeds' largest selling item at the present time, and the firm's research plays a big role in the company's program. As director, he designs feeding experiments which will be carried out by the animal technicians at the farm, who will either live on the property or close by.

Admitting he is quite a flag-waver for research, Dr. Morrison states "agriculture has probably made greater advances in efficiency than any other industry, and research is a vital part of all of this." Citizens of today can thank extensive agricultural research for the better quality food they are eating, he suggests. Planners envision about eight buildings to be erected in 1968 at the Hornby farm—five poultry research buildings, two for

swine, a "fairly extensive" milk research area plus a processing unit for testing egg quality and examining animal carcasses.

The barn at the Dick farm will be used for storage and the present two-storey house with an adjoining apartment will be used for staff, Dr. Morrison said. The farm land, in use at present for some crops and as pasture land for dairy cattle, is described as "some of the best farm land in Halton County". Master Feeds officials said a location close to Highway 401 was necessary and the Dick and Currie farms were ideally suited for their research operation—from the standpoint of both location and quality of the site.

Soil tests and a water well both proved highly satisfactory. Total investment in the re-

The research department of Master Feeds works closely with the University of Guelph staff, both at the research farm and at the university. Dr. Morrison has prepared several papers in conjunction with the university's professors, and the professors frequently visit the research farm to see experiments and swap notes.

Visitors and group tours will be welcomed when the farm is operating. Arrangements for a tour should be made through the company, a local dealer, agricultural representative or 4-H club leader.

The Dick farm has been in the family's name for over 80 years, and Clayton's son Paul, 8, is the fourth generation Dick to live there. Mr. and Mrs. Dick and Paul expect to sell their dairy herd and farm implements and move to a home in Georgetown when they leave the farm in early September.



THE PRESENT RESEARCH FARM operated by Master Feeds near Thornhill is a sprawling complex of buildings — some original farm buildings that stood when the farm was purchased in 1937 and some new units added in more recent years. The

firm is "phasing out" the Thornhill farm and transferring its research operations to the Hornby district farm, beginning next spring. (Photo by W. J. Watson)

## Free Press Farm Page

The Acton Free Press, Wednesday, August 16, 1967 9

### Grooming, showing cattle demonstrated to 4-H club

The fifth meeting of the Acton 4-H Calf Club was held on Monday, August 7 at the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Murray and family on the sixth line of Nassagaweya. President Bill Lasby led the members in the recitation of the 4-H pledge and conducted the business portion. Secretary Catherine Lasby read the minutes of the previous meeting and called the roll.

In his introduction of the hosts, Club Leader Nino Braida referred to the Murrays' "Indian Garden" herd as one of the good home-bred Holstein herds in the province and observed some of the production records and classification grades in their fine herd. He also introduced Arthur Lawson, Milton, agriculture student at B.A.C. and former 4-H member who had charge of the meeting in the absence of Geoffrey Taylor.

Mr. Lawson devoted the first part of the evening to instruction and demonstration of the proper methods for grooming and showing a dairy animal in preparation for their achievement day at Acton Fair on Sept. 16. Arthur was showmanship champion at the recent College Royal.

Senior members Keith Aitkin briefed the group on showing a beef animal. Three 4-Hers in the Murray family gave excellent demonstrations with the project calves and each member took their turns at leading and showing a calf.

& Country Club, hosted by Rockwood International Ltd., who transacted the sale and handled the shipping arrangements.

The traveller was indignant at the slow speed of the train. He appealed to the conductor. Can't you go any faster than this? Yes, was the reply, but I have to stay aboard.

livestock production including feeding, disease control and marketing.

Two members were commended for outstanding achievement Keith Aitkin for having been selected to attend 4-H leadership week at Guelph and Bill Lasby who will represent Halton County in the Maryland 4-H exchange program. Both events will take place later in August.

At the conclusion of the meeting refreshments were served by the hosts who were thanked on behalf of the membership by Laura Trysenaar.

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## Halton 4-H Club Happenings

### HALTON 4-H CONSERVATION CLUB

The July meeting of the Halton 4-H Conservation Club, held on July 18, took the form of a field trip to an Esqueping woodlot. Guests for the evening, Dave Murray and Stephano Olivino from the Halton Region Conservation Authority, led the members in an identification of the different trees and their leaves found in the area. Associate Agricultural Representative John Cockburn then ended the meeting with a quiz on some of the leaves seen earlier in the evening.

### SOUTH HALTON 4-H HOLSTEIN CALF CLUB

The August meeting of the South Halton 4-H Holstein Calf Club was held at the farm of William Bennett, Burlington, on August 8. The meeting began with the members judging a class of Holstein cows. Club Leader Bill Slesch then gave reasons for the official placing on the class. Following this, a demonstration on clipping a calf for the fair was given by Lowell Lindsay from the local artificial insemination unit.

### Cousins win land judging

Cousins Bill and David Catton, both of R.R. 1, Brampton, took two of the three top honors at the Peel County Land Judging Competition on August 9. Jim Murray, R. R. 2, Brampton was the third winner.

Jointly sponsored by the Credit Valley and Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authorities and the Department of Agriculture, the competition was held at OAC Guelph and the 30 prizes were handed out at the banquet at Terra Cotta Conservation Area.

John Cockburn, assistant agriculture representative, was master of ceremonies for the evening. Head table guests included Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bailey, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Pawley, and Mrs. Joan Rollings of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority; Mr. and Mrs. Bob Nesbitt, Tom Barber and Ken Higgs of Metro Toronto & Region Conservation Authority and Mr. and Mrs. Herb Norry.

Following supper the 30 prizes were given to the winners and Kenneth Higgs presented the Kenneth Higgs Trophy to Bill Catton who was senior winner in the competition.

and the members were told the necessary equipment to bring to the Achievement day. The meeting closed with a quiz, and refreshments were served.

### NORTH HALTON 4-H HOLSTEIN CALF CLUB

The regular meeting of the North Halton 4-H Holstein Calf Club was held at the farm of Howard Tarzwell on August 3, at 8:00 p.m. The meeting opened with the 4-H pledge, followed by the minutes. All the members judged a class of mature cows in milk, and reasons were given by George Henderson and Ted Brown. The members were then shown how to lead and clip their calves.

Ward Brownridge talked on dairy herd health, some of his topics were milk fever, pneumonia, mastitis, and foot rot. The members were quizzed at the end of the meeting and refreshments were served.

### HALTON 4-H HALTON 4-H JERSEY - GUERNSEY - AYRSHIRE CALF CLUB

President Murray McCaig and secretary Liz Norrington opened the meeting of the Halton 4-H Jersey-Guernsey-Ayrshire Calf Club on August 1, at the farm of Mac Alexander and Sons. Other leaders present besides Ernie and Mac Alexander, were John McNabb and Walter Norrington.

The members judged one class of Jerseys with Don McCaig as the official judge. The meeting then moved inside the Alexander house, and Ernie Alexander gave the members a quiz on the work of past meetings. The meeting concluded and refreshments were served by Mrs. Alexander.

### 4-H BEEF CALF CLUB

The fourth meeting of the Halton 4-H Beef Calf Club took place at Merrybrook Farms, R.R. 5, Milton, owned by Mrs. W.H. Mertry. The meeting opened with the 4-H pledge and attendance was taken by the secretary, Doug Gardhouse. John McKinnon gave a demonstration on clipping and preparation of an animal for show, preceding Bob Merry's demonstration on showing an animal.

A class of mature Shorthorn cows was judged by the attending members and oral reasons were given on the class. The official placing was given by John Willmott. The meeting proceeded to the house, where a livestock quiz was answered by the members. It was then orally taken up by John Willmott and Jim McKay.

Refreshments were served and Dave Jackson thanked the hostess Mrs. Merry and host Bob Merry, for the use of the farm and supplying the excellent class of cows that were judged. The meeting was then adjourned.

### Price said highest Holstein to Japan

Roybrook Telstar, one of the highly-rated Holsteins in use today, left Esqueping township recently for his new home in Japan as part of a large agricultural co-operative program in Hokkaido.

He was owned by a syndicate and was bred and raised by Mr. Roy Ormiston, a leading Holstein breeder. His pedigree was exceptional in that his three maternal dams were all Excellent with unusually high production, forming part of the famous White Cow family.

While the price was not disclosed it is reputed to be the highest priced cash sale of a Canadian Holstein bull on record. Telstar was shipped along with another outstanding bull, Seiling Mark (V.G.) and some bred heifers via the USA to San Francisco, and from there by boat to Japan.

The occasion was marked by a gathering at the Georgetown Sales Arena prior to departure of the animals attended by officials of the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada, the Holstein-Friesian journal, and leading Holstein breeders. A luncheon followed at the North Halton Golf

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