

NEWS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST TO HALTON FARMERS

DOES HYBRID CORN MAKE GOOD SILAGE?

Seeding of cereal grains in Halton is pretty well completed. In an interview with Agricultural Representative J. E. Wastlock on Friday last, Mr. Wastlock estimated that from 90 to 95 per cent of the cereal grain crop in Halton has been sown. He further stated that a fair percentage had already started to prepare their corn-ground. A sizable acreage of husking corn will be sown in Halton, according to Mr. Wastlock, providing weather and soil conditions are favorable around the middle of the month.

For this early sowing of grain corn he suggested such varieties as Canada 531, Funk G 174, or DeKalb 65, but added that if it was not possible to get it sown before the later part of the month it would be advisable to turn to such earlier maturing varieties as Canada 335 or 365, DeKalb 54, or Funks G34, etc.

In answer to our inquiry concerning silage corn, he stated that the bulk of crop is grown from hybrid strains but admitted that some Halton livestock men still favour open pollinated strains for silage purposes. It was Mr. Wastlock's opinion that this was largely due to the tendency on the part of some to let their hybrid corn get too mature before ensilaging. Hybrid corn, he pointed out, remains green considerably longer than open pollinated strains and consequently when ensilaged at the more mature stage contained a lower percentage of sugar. According to experimental work conducted by the Dominion Experimental Farm at Ottawa, all varieties of corn whether hybrid or open pollinated strains contain the same percentage of sugar at the same stage of maturity. Consequently if ensiled at a similar stage of maturity there should be no difference from a silage standpoint when one takes into consideration the ability of hybrid strains to withstand windstorms and greater resistance against corn borer damage, he questions the wisdom of reverting to open pollinated strains.

We were informed that a percentage of Halton farmers are sowing around 4 or 5 lbs. of sorghum per acre with their silage corn in order to step up the sugar content. Another group in the County mix 10 or 12 lbs. of soybeans with the usual amount of corn, which is approximately 12 to 14 lbs. per acre. The addition of soybeans steps up the protein content and according to those following this procedure improves palatability. Late maturing varieties of soybeans such as A.K. or Manchu should be selected for this purpose as they are taller growing and will hold their leaves until the corn is ready to go in the silo. Incidentally, Mr. Wastlock advocates a mixture of the Canada

strains 604, 645, and 694 for silage purposes, if sown the last week in May. Such a combination will give more tonnage than 604 alone and also the inclusion of a late variety such as 694 will ensure more sugar and consequently better silage.

HAY-PASTURE MIXTURES vs. LONG TERM PASTURES

Experience would indicate, states N. J. Thomas, Soil and Pasture Specialist at the Ontario Agricultural College, that for the average 100 acre farmer a good hay-pasture mixture is a better proposition than a straight long term pasture mixture. Mr. Thomas pointed out however there may be areas on many 100 acre farms which do not lend themselves to inclusion in the regular farm rotation and consequently could well be seeded to a long term mixture. However, keeping in mind the limited acreage on the 100 acre farm unit a good hay-pasture works in better with the regular rotation and will give more economic returns. The Agricultural Office at Milton suggests 7 lbs. of Alfalfa, 4 lbs. of Red Clover, 3 lbs. of Timothy and 5 lbs. of Broome as a good mixture per acre for a hay-pasture combination. The above comments should not be interpreted as a condemnation of long term pastures. As previously pointed out there are frequently areas on the smaller farms such as paddocks or rough areas, which do not lend themselves to inclusion in the regular rotation which might well be seeded down to a long term pasture. In addition on the larger farm unit a field can be much more easily set aside for a long term pasture without upsetting the regular rotation.

During the past 3 or 4 years the Halton Crop Improvement Association had conducted Long Term Pasture Competitions which have revealed a good deal of worthwhile information. A few of the conclusions arrived at by officials of this organization are as follows: First, there is no crop on a mixed farm in Halton which will give as large returns per acre as long term pasture, providing (a) a proper seed mixture is used, (b) the soil fertility level of the field is high, (c) that the correct seeding technique is followed, (d) that proper management methods are followed; and second, that Ladino, an outstanding pasture legume, does much better on loamy moist soils than on the heavy clays which tend to dry out; third, that the O.A.C. mixtures are not only the equal but superior to certain more highly advertised and more expensive mixtures which have been sold throughout the County. The O.A.C. mixtures are superior from the standpoint of carrying capacity or productivity and consequently will give greater economic returns. These statements are not only substantiated by the results secured in recent years in the Halton Long Term Pasture Competitions but also by experimental work conducted at the Ontario Agricultural College.

Dr. Archer Wallace Preaches at Norval

Rev. Dr. Archer Wallace, editor of "The Onward" and an outstanding author and lecturer preached on "Right and Wrong Ideas About Religion" on Sunday evening in Norval United Church. It was the annual church service of the Norval Junior Farmers and Junior Institute and the church was well filled for the occasion. The minister, Rev. F. J. Dunlop, assisted with the service. The scripture reading was taken by William Alexander, Junior Farmer President, and Marion Currie, Junior Institute president, offered the prayer. A selection by the Norval Quartette, Clark Lyons, Bill, Lloyd and Garnet Laidlaw, was included in the musical part of the service.

The offering was donated to the Crippled Children's Fund.



ADAPTS RICHARD II
Lester Binclair, distinguished Canadian playwright whose radio adaptation of Shakespeare's play King Richard II was presented on OBO on the Trans-Canada network.



Modern roofing has been given a new twist, which harks back to the days of the thatched roof, in this Vancouver home. Here the householder has taken advantage of the pliability of asphalt shingles to carry his roof beyond the walls of the house to give the thatched appearance. Seldom seen in Eastern Canada, this treatment is becoming popular through the west, due possibly to the western type of architecture and a ready supply of pliable shingles.

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Vic and Jo
We again inform our devoted readers that it is fast approaching judgment day for Fifth Formers — exams that is. By using the unparalleled logic of higher mathematics we have come to the brilliant conclusion that the May 19th exams are only a week away. By this time next week our masterminds will be over our heads in decimal points, fractions, Newton's Laws, Charles' Laws, Outlaws, and In-laws. Besides all this sort of rot there will be jolly old English and Francais (mais oui, et laissez vos pieds). On account of these exams and the dismal Departmentals in June, we cannot guarantee a column every week (studying you know). We expect the circulation of the Herald to jump in the next few weeks.

To fill up space we again tell

you that the Glee Club is going to sing in the Halton Music Festival at the end of this week. A great deal of thanks should go to Mr. Capps for his fine leadership and tireless effort.

The summer holidays are fast approaching and all the kiddies are impatiently waiting. After a grueling semester at old G.H.S. the forms will be free again with the exception of the slaves in fifth form. We might add that it is one big holiday in first form all the time.

Advertising gives the public a great deal of useful information about the prices of things and about what is being generally used, and a constant study of these notices is very useful.

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125,000 APPLICATIONS were on file in Ontario House, London, when Ontario began its immigration plan. It has been estimated that at least 80% of the displaced persons in Germany want to emigrate to Canada.

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