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News and Items of Interest for Halton Farmers

D.P.'S PLACED AS FARM LABOUR ON HALTON FARMS

During recent months the Halton Agricultural Office has placed approximately 125 men on Halton farms. Included in this number were British immigrants, Polish veterans, Hollanders, Western Farm hands, Toronto holiday workers, and a few displaced persons from Europe. Only 9 or 10 of the latter have been placed in Halton but to date, reports Agric. Representative J. E. Whitlock, there have been no complaints about these men. As a matter of fact, he states, farmers contacted who secured D.P.'s report favourably, both in respect of their type, willingness and ability to work.

Another group of D.P.'s will be available the week of August 2nd, and Halton farmers who are in a position to employ year round labour are requested to contact the Agricultural Office at Milton.

FIELD CROP MEETING WELL ATTENDED

Ninety farmers from all sections of Halton attended the field meeting staged by the Halton Crop Improvement Association on Monday evening last. The programme included a visit to the farm of W. D. Cowan, Lot 5, 6th Line, Esquesing, where the group had an opportunity of seeing the results of spraying a field of corn with 2-4-D for control of weeds. 2-4-D being a selective weed killer, had demonstrated its ability to kill lamb quarters, pigweed, docks and retard Canada thistle but had not controlled grasses or wild buckwheat. Over at the farm of Geo. Currie and Sons on the 7th line of Esquesing, the crowd inspected the 18 varieties of oats and barley. The 10 plots were in excellent condition. Here Dr. G. P. McKelvie, head of the Field Husbandry Dept., O.A.C., led a most informative discussion on the various varieties. Prof. Gammon of the Dept. of Biology at Guelph, and Ken McNaught of Green Cross Laboratories, also presented a fund of information pertaining to the control of weeds - 2-4-D's in particular.

R. S. Heatherington, National Film Board operator for Halton, presented two excellent films, one on control of weeds, prepared by the Nalgatuck firm of Elmira, and the other of the 1947 Royal Winter Fair. C. P. S. Palmer, president of the Halton Crop Association, was chairman for this very excellent evening's programme.

HALTON CROPS NOT SERIOUSLY INJURED

Wind, rain, and hail slashed at Halton crops on Tuesday afternoon of last week. While a few fields were flattened, in general, the storms did little damage. Excellent progress has been made with the harvest and the bulk of the grain crop is now in stock. Yields of wheat upwards of 50 bus. have been reported. The spring grain crop while not heavy, taking the County as a whole, is nevertheless a good crop. Corn is a little backward but has come on rapidly of late. All in all, Halton has better than average crop of fruit, vegetables, hay and grain, in all sections of the county.

LOOK OUT FOR 'LATE BLIGHT'

Late Blight is known to have broken out on Potatoes in Dufferin County, and on Tomatoes in the Niagara District, states Dr. J. D. MacLachlan of Guelph, who is heading up the warning service in this section of Ontario. Under date of July 28th, Dr. MacLachlan strongly advises growers to spray or dust immediately unless an application has been made during the past few days. Bordeaux or one of the fixed coppers may be used on potatoes, but fixed coppers only should be used on tomatoes. All above ground parts of the plants must be thoroughly covered for protection against Late Blight.

If the weather is wet or there are heavy dew, repeat applications every week, but if the weather turns hot and dry the time between applications may be lengthened. The weather, at the time this was being prepared, was ideal for the spread of Late Blight.

The following description will help growers to recognize late blight on tomatoes - "The blight first appears as irregular, blackish green water-soaked blotches on the leaves. These blotches enlarge rapidly and under moist conditions a whitish mildew growth may appear around the spot especially on the underside of the leaf. The blight may spread very rapidly under moist conditions, the leaves being destroyed within a few days time.

The tomato fruit may become infected at any stage of growth. Diseased areas on the fruit first appear water-soaked, later becoming dark green, blotched with brown. A whitish mildew growth may develop under moist conditions. Diseased fruit rot rapidly.

SHORT STORY

3-Minute Fiction

Birthday Gift

By MAUDE NORMAN

THE sound of a ragman's horn came in the open window of the room, where, with housewifely zeal, Nancy Winters was busy with spring house-cleaning.

A gleam came into her eyes. She thought, "I'll give him that pile of magazines Ted has in the garage and all those pop bottles he is always promising to take away, but never does. I'm tired of having them around."

The ragman looked around hopefully as he loaded the bottles and magazines on his rickety old truck.

"Any odds, rubber or iron?" he asked. "No, that's all - wait a minute." She darted into the garage, returning with a pair of old grey trousers. "Here, you may as well take these, too."

She gave her husband a particularly warm kiss when he came home that evening. "I'm almost dead," she sighed as they were eating dinner. "At first I thought I would open a can of soup or something easy to prepare, but then I remembered how nice you were, so I made you this meat pie and upside-down cake." Thus she tried to pave the way to tell him what she had done.

"It beats me why you have to kill yourself, trying to do everything in one day," Ted answered. "The house always looks all right to me without you having to tear it apart every so often. Thanks for the swell dinner. Honey, guess I'll work on this car for awhile."

"That's good," she interrupted. "A ragman came by today and I let him take the pop bottles and magazines out in the car."

"You what?"

"Yes, I let a ragman take those bottles and magazines out there."

"You mean you gave those pants away?"

"Yes, those pants had tiny holes in them."

"What?"

"Yes, those pants you took it out of."

"You mean you gave those pants away?"

"Yes, Ted. What have I done?"

"Give away your birthday gift?"

"I have been saving all year and that's what I was waiting for. I thought I was found a safe hiding place for my pants. Perhaps you'll get it back. Did you notice a rag on the truck?"

"NANCY shook her head despairingly. "There wasn't any name on there was a plain number. I tried that because it was the same number as our house. Mar 322."

"That's a lot of help. We can't get through the whole block."

"We could look under 'Junk Dealer' or 'Rags'," she cried.

"Here it is," she exclaimed, after a few minutes' search. "Tony Rozalle, 1346 Clark street."

1346 Clark street was a shabby little house, whose back yard gave ample proof of its owner's occupation.

3-Minute Fiction

"You mean you gave those pants away!" Ted shouted.

"An ancient, bent old lady answered their knock. She shook her head in response to their request to speak to Mr. Rozalle.

"The old lady doesn't speak or understand English." A dark-eyed boy came from the back of the house. "You wanta buy soething, Mister, or have you got something you wanta sell?"

"Are you Mr. Rozalle's son?" Ted asked.

"Now, I live next door, but I told Tony I'd take care of things till I came back."

"When will he be back?"

"Not for a couple of days, mister. My boy, who's in the air corps, was all busted up in an airplane crash. Tony and his wife wanted to go see him but they didn't have the money. Then today a rich lady came Tony fifty bucks and they lit out as soon as he came home. That's what I call luck."

"Yes; it was fortunate," Ted avoided Nancy's eyes as he spoke. "I'm glad Mr. Rozalle and his wife were able to visit their son."

"Sure I can't do anything for you, mister?"

"Nothing, thank you. What we wanted to see about wasn't very important."

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