

NEWS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST TO HALTON FARMERS

MILLER BROS. TOP WINTER WHEAT COMPETITION

The results of the Halton Fifty Bushel Winter Wheat Competition have just been released by Agric. Rep. J. E. Whitlock. The fields were recently scored by Alex. W. Davidson, prominent farmer and director of the Ontario Crop Improvement Association.

The top eight fields were as follows:

1st, Miller Bros., Georgetown	82
2nd, Wm. Booth, Milton	80 1/2
3rd, W. E. Breckon, Freeman	80
4th, J. H. Willmott, Milton	80
5th, Robt. Alexander, Guelph	87 1/2
6th, Ross Segsworth, Freeman	84 1/2
7th, Barbara Royce, Oakville	84
8th, C. L. S. Palmer, Freeman	83 1/2

The first three fields were of the Cornell 595 variety. Incidentally small plots were cut in all 15 fields as a basis for determining comparative yields. The samples are being threshed at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph.

CROP CONDITIONS IN HALTON

During the past two weeks we have had an opportunity of visiting quite a large number of Halton farms. It is one thing to drive along the roads and note the crops as you pass by, but to get an accurate picture you've got to get out into the fields. We still say, that Halton has been hard hit by last spring's late frosts, and the drought. However, we have been agreeably surprised, yes, a bit amazed, that the wheat and spring grain are as good as they are. Yes, we are definitely short on hay, but the big majority of those contacted felt they can "wiggle" through on what they have. Reports are now com-

encing to come in which indicate that most sections of Ontario are not too badly off. The counties of Grey, Lennox, and Addington, have already advised that they have hay for sale. We also understand that Oxford, Perth, Huron, Bruce and parts of Wellington, Dufferin, as well as east of Belleville are taking off a good crop. Personally we wouldn't be in too much of a hurry in buying hay at \$30.00 a ton. Reports would indicate that hay can be brought in from Quebec at considerably under that figure.

During the past few days in company with N. J. Thomas, of the Soil Dept. at the OAC, we have been privileged to visit a number of Halton farmers who have entered their respective farm programs in the Halton Soil Building Competitions. Despite the poor crops of 1949, it has been a bit of an inspiration to visit these men. Some people talk about government demonstration farms in every County. If such individuals could have been with us the past few days, we think they would have to agree that already in Halton we have a goodly number of excellent demonstration farms. No they are not Government farms, they're privately owned and operated by real honest to goodness dirt farmers, and they aren't only making a good living, but paying income tax too, and in some cases a sizeable amount. It is too early yet to draw any conclusions about the Soil Building Competitions, but the weakest link noted to date is the "seed mixtures", according to Mr. Thomas, who incidentally himself operates a 100 acre farm near Guelph. We were intrigued on Thursday last to visit one man who seeds down all his spring grain every year—true, he'll probably miss his catches this year but here is

his seed mixture per acre: Alfalfa 15 lbs., red clover 4 lbs., bromegrass 2 or 3 lbs., and Timothy 4 lbs. When we expressed surprise at the 15 lbs. of alfalfa, he replied, "I wouldn't sow any less if it cost \$60 a bushel." When we learned that, in contrast to some of his neighbours who are short on hay and pasture, he had ample requirements for his dairy herd from which he ships 6 to 7 cans daily, and when we noted the best field of corn we have seen this year—a 30 to 35 bushel crop of wheat, etc.—we couldn't help but conclude that it is certainly better to sow a little more than necessary, than not enough. A Red Clover and Timothy mixture has its place, but not when it is going to be left down three or four years.

SECOND REUNION OF MACDONALD CLAN AT TERRA COTTA FARM

The second reunion of the Macdonald clan was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Macdonald, Terra Cotta, Ontario, on Friday, July 1st. After a picnic lunch, the guests assembled on the lawn.

Mr. T. F. Macdonald, chairman, opened the program with the singing of "O Canada" He then welcomed the guests, after which a piano selection by Miss Isabel Macdonald was enjoyed. Mrs. Leslie Dunlop gave a reading, and Miss Betty Jean Anderson favoured with a solo, followed by a recitation by Kenneth Thornton. Mr. Andrew Macdonald was called on for a few words, and the program was concluded with a recitation by Miss Marion Downey.

A vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Macdonald was given by Mr. Gordon Thornton. After a short business meeting, the afternoon was turned over to the sports committee, with each and everyone taking part in a variety of races, contests, and a baseball game.

Much can be learned from others, but nothing equals experience.

OFFICIAL RETURNS ON HALTON COUNTY ELECTION RESULTS

Receiving of the soldier's vote and official county of election returns by Returning Officer Cooke, disclosed that Hughes Cleaver, of Burlington, the sitting member for the past 14-years was returned as Halton's representative to Ottawa for another four years by a majority of 1447.

A few slight errors on reports turned in on election night along with the soldier's vote increased Mr. Cleaver's majority as formerly reported from 1426 to 1447.

While the soldiers' vote favoured the Progressive Conservative candidate the result was slight. They gave Miss Bennett 31 votes, Mr. Cleaver 26 and Shane the CCF candidate, 1.

The following is the official tabulation as reported by Returning Officer Mr. Cooke:

MILTON		
Bennett Cleaver Shane		
Total	428	706
ACTON		
Total	590	806
NASSAGAVEYA		
Total	339	476
GEORGETOWN		
Total	767	857
NELSON		
Total	1329	1355
TRAFALGAR		
Total	1212	1544
ESQUESING		
Total	848	983
OAKVILLE		
Total	1303	1462
BURLINGTON		
Total	1282	1331
Soldiers' Vote	31	26
Grand Total	8099	9546
Majority for Cleaver	over Bennett 1,477.	

Scientists Seek Traces Of Agriculture's Start

Scientists who will sail from this country shortly expect to find in the Near East traces of the earliest civilization. They are going to dig in a mound which already has yielded, at successively lower levels, traces of several ancient races and they hope to find at the very bottom signs of a very ancient village dating back to the time when man first scratched the earth and planted a handful of seeds, an estimated 6,000 years ago.

If these scientists succeed, they will have uncovered traces of the first and greatest of all the economic and social revolutions which have resulted in our present civilization. The discovery of agriculture—the discovery that seed could be planted and made to grow in an orderly fashion and yield a greater return than any wild plants—was the greatest economic or industrial discovery ever made by man.

Agriculture did these things for primitive man: It simultaneously made him a villager instead of a nomadic wanderer and for the first time enabled him to produce more than he himself could eat. Men who planted grain and waited for the harvest built shelters, settled in villages and banded together to protect their produce and their rich lands. Government had its beginning. As the farmers of those early days produced more and more it was possible for other men to develop the arts of shoemaking, weaving and building and to trade their produce for that of the farmers who were producing enough food for several men. Commerce and industry thus had their beginnings.

Thermostat Tricks Cows Into Producing More Milk

Cows are being fooled into drinking more water during winter months with highly profitable results for farmers.

It is all based on the fact that milk production bears a direct relationship to water consumption. Hence if a cow can be induced to drink more water, she will give more milk.

For each 100 pounds of milk, a cow must drink 300 pounds of water. Her body is about 60 per cent water; milk is 88 per cent water. A special thermostat, devised by Minneapolis-Honeywell company, that regulates temperatures of outside watering troughs does the trick.

If drinking water is held at 45 degrees or above, a cow will drink more than if the temperature is just above freezing, and at milk-time she will give from 10 to 20 per cent more milk. The thermostat is used to operate an electric heater and can maintain any selected water temperature between 32 and 70 degrees.

Some Illinois History

Did you know that Illinois was the scene of the world's first automobile race? The contest was held on a road between Chicago and Waukegan in 1893. Did you know that the first coal discovered in the United States was found in Illinois? Father Hennepin, French missionary and explorer, discovered the black gold along the Illinois river in 1679. Or, did you know that the first ferris wheel was used at the World's Columbian exposition in Chicago, in 1893? These are facts on the colorful history of Illinois told by Dr. Paul M. Angle, of Chicago Historical Society in World Book encyclopedia.

Harmful Anti-Freezes

Petroleum base anti-freezes are classed in general as harmful because such materials attack radiator hose made from natural or reclaimed rubber and because of the effects which result from this attack. However, if the anti-freeze material is properly and highly refined and is used with a radiator hose of suitably selected synthetic rubber, the hose is not attacked. Properly and highly refined materials are those which are composed primarily of aliphatic and naphthenic hydrocarbons and which contain no aromatics or olefins, according to the national bureau of standards.

Fish War on Mosquito

The people of Yamba on the north coast of New South Wales are determined to get rid of that formidable Australian mosquito known as "Scots Greys"—a tribute to the fighting qualities of a famous British regiment—by feeding them to a species of fish, the gambusia asinus. These fish, which are four inches long and look like minnows, rise to the surface of the water and snap up mosquitoes as they hover to lay their eggs. They breed quickly. Experts forecast that in two years the mosquitoes will disturb the Yamba townsfolk no more.

Phone as You Tour

Three chains of radio-telephone service for automobiles are now operating on American highways. The links serve roads between Boston and Washington, D. C.; St. Louis and Chicago, and New York City and Albany, N. Y. Transmitters located at frequent intervals make it possible for motorists whose cars are equipped with phones to use them anywhere en route. Eventually a nationwide network is planned for major highways.



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SO MANY OPPORTUNITIES

"A sound idea and the determination to carry it through—these are sure passports to success in Canada today where there are so many interesting opportunities in so many different kinds of activities," says Mr. Leslie Borczus, of Windsor, Ont.

Mr. Borczus, member of Canada's 1936 Olympic basketball team—after returning from college in the U.S. and being manager of a local insurance office, started his own Butcher Enterprises. Their development provides many examples of this young Canadian's energy and enterprise. They include a unique and successful service in the wrapping of products for shipping; and the modernization of the Windsor Arena to present outstanding sports and entertainment events with great success.

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