

### News and Views For Halton Farmers

#### HALTON FARMERS VISIT OHIO STRIP COAL MINES

As a side issue to the conservation and crop tour made by the joint group of Halton and Haldimand farmers to Ohio recently, they were taken to the strip coal mining area near Cadiz. Here the seams of soft coal approximately four feet in depth are some sixty to seventy feet below surface. This proximity to ground surface makes mining below ground too dangerous. Consequently they use huge electrically driven shovels to clean the top of the coal. One of these huge shovels 117 feet from the base to the top of the crane was inspected with keen interest by the group. Reported to be the largest in the world, and costing over one million dollars, it moves 30 cubic yards at once. It operates 24 hours per day and each delay of one minute means a loss of 7 to 8 dollars to the owners. Once the 60 or 70 feet of earth is removed another huge shovel fills the waiting trucks. The one machine can keep trucks rolling out with 8 to 10 tons of coal every three-quarters of a minute. Strip coal mining does result in a desolate looking countryside but the conservation people level off the area where mining operations are completed and grass and trees will once again soon cover the countryside.

As a final feature of the first day's programme, the group of 77 were the guests of the New Philadelphia Rotary Club at dinner.

#### VISIT BLUBAUGH AND MALABAR FARMS

The second day's programme included a brief stop at the Mohawk dam, lunch at the Mohican State Forest, and visits to the famous Blubaugh and Malabar farms, and in the evening three hours were spent at the Northern Ohio Artificial Breeding Unit at Tiffin. At this latter point they have a stud which includes batteries of Holsteins, Jerseys, Guernseys, Brown Swiss, Ayrshires, Shorthorns, Angus and Hereford sires. In 1949 they bred 68,000 cows, and recently initiated shipping semen out by plane to branch units two to three hundred miles from headquarters.

However, the visits to Blubaugh and Malabar farms were the highlights of a splendid programme. The group was particularly impressed at the first point where the owner, Cosmos Blubaugh, the "grand old man" of Ohio agriculture told his story to the group. Mr. Blubaugh bought the badly run-down 140 acre farm in 1924 for \$4400. His total capital was \$6200, which indicates that he started from scratch. His livestock the first year consisted of three cows, three horses, and some thirty-odd sheep. That the fertility level was very low is substantiated by the fact that despite the fact that he and his two sons cut and hauled in all available hay off the surrounding 1200 acres he still had to buy three loads of hay to carry his livestock over winter. The farm is very rolling, shaped more or less like a bowl, and here contour plowing and cultivation and strip cropping is a must. Mr. Blubaugh gives a good deal of credit to his county agent, soils specialist, and officials of the experimental station for his success. Strawberries and raspberries helped to tide him over the earlier years while he undertook to build up his land field by field. That he has succeeded will be realized when we tell you that he had just completed filling a ten by twenty-five foot silo with grass silage off three and a half acres. Today he and his two sons own and operate over 300 acres, of which some 40 acres is in orchard. A visit to his black raspberry plantation amazed everyone. Never had anyone in the seventy-five seen bushes so heavily laden. Needless to add, nothing in the way of organic matter is wasted on this farm. Even the old canes, grass and weeds, are disced back into the ground between the rows

and heavy mulching with straw is practiced. Contour cultivation and strip cropping holds the moisture in the land. Now instead of torrents rushing away at the time of spring freshets, a five inch overflow pipe from his farm pond carries off the excess water. In short, Cosmos Blubaugh has converted the badly run-down desert into a very productive farm unit. True, in that part of Ohio they receive 35 to 40 inches of precipitation annually. This is about ten inches more than we get here in Halton. Nevertheless, he has done a great job and the members of the party will not forget the lessons to be learned at Blubaugh farm.

At Malabar Farm we were greeted by Louis Bromfield in person. The famous Louis was at lunch but he called out "I'll be with you in 10 or 15 minutes," so we took a look around his barn including the loafing stable and milking parlour. Frankly there was nothing fancy about his barn or stables — in fact they were very ordinary. Grass was being ensiled — they use a forage crop harvester and it follows immediately after the mower and rake. Before being blown into the silo whole oats and wheat were scattered over each truck load of cut grass and clover (alfalfa, brome and ladino) at the rate of 100 lbs. per ton. Louis, with a pair of his famous Boxer dogs, soon appeared in person clad in an old pair of trousers and a blue shirt, a huge rip in which revealed a brawny shoulder. When he saw the size of our group he had one of his men rig up a public address system on the station wagon. Soon the entire group were seated on the lawn in front of his huge, rambling yet beautiful white frame house. In an informal 30 to 40 minutes talk he sketched his program at Malabar, outlining scientific facts to back up his "new agriculture." He pointed out that when he took over the farms at Malabar they were deserted and run down. The people who had owned them could not make a living and had left. One hundred acres would not feed five cows for four months, he said. Today Malabar feeds scores of cattle and the hay crop is so heavy some of it is used for bedding. "What we have done here is not an operation which any farmer could not do," stated Mr. Bromfield. He further stated that "ignorant, traditional and greedy agriculture" had reduced the productivity of many farms to a low level. The form of agriculture carried out at Malabar and which he recommended to farmers, not only remedied that condition but had built up the soil to such a high degree in minerals and plant food that concentrates and mineral boxes in the cattle pens were not needed. He said that mineral boxes were there but the cattle rarely touched them, deriving all the trace minerals necessary for production and health from the hay, grass silage and pastures. He further stated that, for several years a veterinarian had not been required at the farm except in the case of accident or for testing. The health of the cattle at Malabar, as the soil's fertility was built up, likewise increased until both were now at maximum.

**Green Gold**  
"We have lots of grass at Malabar and it is grass which makes our money. We buy no supplements, and no cows, with the exception of those milking, receive grain, other than that mixed into the silage at time of filling."

Mr. Bromfield stated that with the grasses and legumes grown at Malabar, milk production differed very little from summer through fall, winter, and spring. He is a great booster for alfalfa. He said it opened up the soil, added fertility and was considered the leading legume at Malabar.

In next week's column we shall try to present some of the highlights of soil building at Malabar.

#### HALTON JUNIORS STAGE FIELD DAY AT COMMUNITY PARK

The Halton Community Park at Lowville was the mecca for Halton Juniors from all sections of the County last Saturday. Softball tournaments were perhaps the highlight of the afternoon program supervised by president Stan Jay. In the first round Milton boys eliminated Brookville Juniors, while Acton boys defeated Palermo. In the finals, Milton Junior Farmers triumphed over Acton. The young ladies also staged a series of thrilling games — Milton girls defeating Brookville and Palermo eliminating Acton. The Palermo girls in the finals with Milton won the right to represent Halton at the Western Ontario Junior-Farmer Field Day to be held at Guelph.

A tug of war tournament was a new feature and created a lot of fun and enthusiasm. Acton, Brookville, Milton, Norval and Palermo Clubs were each represented by a team of eight stalwarts. Milton Club not only won the right to represent Halton at Guelph, but for good measure took on a team representing the Kingsway-Kiwanis

### Scouts Sponsor Recital by Harrison Pupils

Under the sponsorship of the Boy Scouts, the piano and voice pupils of Kenneth R. Harrison appeared in their annual recital last Tuesday in St. John's Church Auditorium. Miss June Clarke of Brampton, a former Georgetown girl, was soloist and sang "Hills of Georgia", and "O Lord, Correct Me" with Mr. Harrison providing piano accompaniment. She was presented with a bouquet of flowers by Paulene Watson. Rev. John M. Smith was chairman for the evening and the \$50 proceeds from the evening will be used for the boy scout funds.

Joy Barber and Gloria Schultz were presented with merit awards by their teacher and Lillian Shepherd was awarded the proficiency award. A duet was played by Barbara Lindsay and Teresa Beene and another by Bobby Tracey and Mr. Harrison. After the recital, refreshments were served by the ladies of the Boy Scouts Auxiliary. Those playing the piano were: Joy Barber, Billy Sanford, Virginia Barber, Paulene Watson, Allan Beene, Ann Hyde, Ross Shortill, Carol Seddon, Gloria Schultz, Arlene Hill, Joan Schultz, Ruth Ismond, Irene Fogg, Arlene Reeve, Barbara Lindsay, Pat Richardson, Mary Beckett, Sylvia Diggins, and Richard Sienko.

Vocal students who contributed to the program were: Aileen Harrop, John Wilson, Terry Ritchie, Paddy Lucas, Paul Cunningham, Bobby Caray, Bob Hill, Ralph Laidlaw and Nancy White. Those who played and sang were — Muriel Appleyard, Teresa Beene, Douglas Wigglesworth, Helen Chaplin, Anna Spitzer, Lillian Shepherd, Billy Farmer and Bobby Tracey.

#### BIRTHDAY PARTY

Kent Riddall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Riddall, celebrated his eighth birthday on June 21st with a party at his home. His little guests were: Margaret Eason, Carole Greensward, Jill and Ricky Chapman, Lynda Arthurs, Jan Riddall, David Hall, Paulene Watson, Sharin Harley, Agnes Nelson, Paul Graham, Freddie Harrison, Normie Lockhurst, Terry Ritchie, Jimmy Lindsay and his little brother Wayne.

Club. Although outweighed by a good margin the Milton Juniors took the Kiwanians two straight.

During the afternoon the young ladies coached by Miss Joan Somerville of Acton, selecting a volleyball team to represent the County at Guelph.

#### KINGSWAY KIWANIANS GUESTS OF HALTON

For the past three years the members of the Kingsway Kiwanis Club have annually donated several Short Course Scholarships to Halton Juniors. As a result of an invitation extended, some 25 or 30 members of the Club and their families were guests of the Halton Federation of Agriculture and Halton Junior Farmers, for a picnic supper.

Warden W. VanSickle, and Paul A. Fisher extended a welcome on behalf of the County. The highlight of the programme following the picnic supper was a softball game between the Kiwanians and the Federation "All-Stars." What some of the players lacked in skill and ability was more than made up by the clowning. In short, this get-together between the ruralites of Halton and the "city slickers" from Toronto was a huge success.

### TRAVEL NOTES



Does a 100 mile cruise through the beautiful Muskoka Lakes appeal to you? The S.S. SAGAMO leaves each morning from Muskoka Wharf at Gravenhurst and you are on the water until the next evening. Cruise includes a reserved deck chair, stateroom and three meals, and all for \$10.25 each double accommodation or \$11.25 single. A three day cruise costs \$26.25. We can arrange the whole cruise for you.

#### John R. Barber

Travel Advisor  
ELMER C. THOMPSON  
INSURANCE SERVICE  
Phone 119 Mill Street

# NOW OPEN GUELPH

DRIVE-IN THEATRE

Speedvale Avenue East  
NORTHEAST LIMITS OF GUELPH

SEE A LARGER, BRIGHTER PICTURE  
IN THE OPEN AIR  
HEAR THE MATCHLESS TONE OF THE  
IN-A-CAR SPEAKER

SHOWING THIS WEEK  
WEDNESDAY - THURSDAY — JUNE 28 - 29  
"SORRY, WRONG NUMBER"  
Barbara Stanwyck - Burt Lancaster

FRIDAY - SATURDAY — JUNE 30 - JULY 1  
"A KISS IN THE DARK"  
Jane Wyman - David Niven - Broderick Crawford

## Mid-nite Show

SUNDAY, JULY 2

## "Manhandled"

Dorothy Lamour — Dan Duray

MONDAY, TUESDAY, — JULY 3 - 4  
"THE GALLANT BLADE"  
Larry Parks — Marguerite Chapman

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, JULY 5 - 6  
DOUBLE FEATURE  
"MR. RECKLESS" and "CAGED FURY"

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, JULY 7 - 8  
"WHIPLASH"  
Dane Clark — Alexis Smith

FIRST SHOW AT DUSK

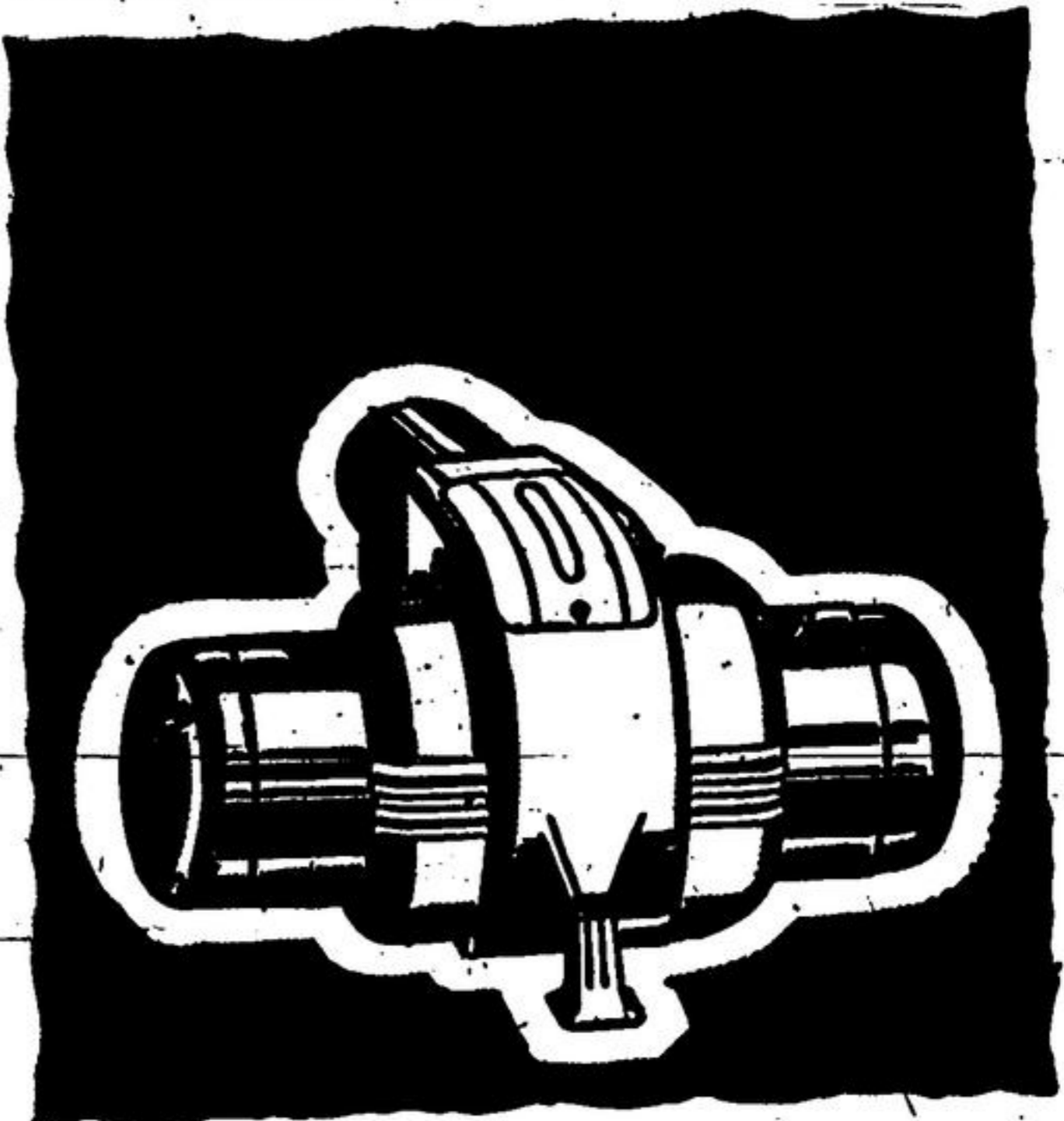
## 2 Shows Nightly 2

RAIN OR CLEAR

Adults 50c

Children under 12 free

KIDS: Come early and enjoy the children's playground



SILENT ECONOMICAL OPERATION  
combined with reliability and beauty

The new streamlined Howard Oil-O-Miser is the best investment your money can buy.

## GEORGETOWN PLUMBING AND HEATING

JOE PRUCYK — PHONE 192M  
"Joe, the Man You Know"

## Heat Wave

THE LATEST IN QUALITY RANGES

\$169.50 up

- Extra large oven
- New 5-heat switches
- Tubular high speed elements
- Porcelain tops and panels
- Automatic oven control
- Lamp and oven timers

COME IN AND SEE THEM

## Clark & Whitmee Electric

2888 St. — Telephone: 647, 734, 815

## You can't prevent POLIO

But you can protect your family and yourself with

## POLIO

INSURANCE  
FAMILY PREMIUM  
2 YEARS — \$10.00

Ask us to arrange your coverage for you.

## WALTER T. EVANS & CO.

Mill Street, Phone 183W

Highest cash prices

## Dead Stock

Horses \$5.00 ea.

Cattle \$5.00 ea.

Hogs 50c cwt.

according to size and condition

PHONE FRIGUS 15

(COLLECT)

DARLING & COMPANY  
OF CANADA, LIMITED

## NATURE UNSPOILED



## YOURS TO PROTECT

The BROWN THRASHER is a large, reddish-brown bird with a long tail and a long, yellow bill. His breast is white, heavily marked with black. He hides in dense, tangled thickets and scrubby bushes. Feeding mostly on insects and worms, he deserves protection.

## YOURS TO ENJOY

## CARLING'S

THE CARLING BREWERY LIMITED

WATERLOO, ONTARIO

© 1950 CARLING

## CHARTERED BUS

TO ERIN  
EVERY FRIDAY

Leave Steamer's Inn  
at 9 p.m. Returning  
after the dance.

FRED LAWRENCE  
PHONE 161