

CANADIAN PLOWMEN ABROAD

By ROY SHAVER Past President ONTARIO PLOWMEN'S ASSOCIATION



Editor's Note:

Roy Shaver of Finch, Ont., past president of Ontario Plowmen's Association, accompanied Douglas S. Reid of Brampton, Ont., and Algie Wallace of North Gower, Ont. Canada's champion plowmen, on their trip to the British Isles, Eire and France. This is the first of a series of five weekly articles he has written as team manager about their experiences and impressions.

It hardly seems possible that this in 1953 and it is two months since the three of us took off by air to start another Canadian plowmen's tour of the British Isles and to compete against European plowmen.

By the time we returned we had experienced our first "pea soup" ... the worst fog in London's recent history ... visited Canadian war graves in France, seen some of the finest agricultural land in the world, and rubbed shoulders with and spoken to representatives of almost every nationality you can think of.

However, before I tell you more about the trip, I had better tell you something about us, and how we came to make the journey.

For the past seven years the grand prize of Ontario Plowmen's Association annual International Plowing Match has been a gold medal and a trip to Europe for the champion horse and tractor plowmen, with all expenses paid by the Imperial Oil Company. The prizes are offered for the winners of a special class known as the Esso Trans-Atlantic class.

The winners at last October's match held at Carp, near Ottawa, were 25-year old Douglas S. Reid, of Brampton, Ont., in the tractor class, and 35 year-old Algie Wallace, of North Gower, Ont. in the horse class.

Algie's win was a matter of great pride in eastern Ontario. He was the first plowman to bring a championship to the eastern counties in the 39-year history of the OPA.

Each year it is the custom of the OPA to select a team-manager to accompany the plowmen. In addition to acting as manager, he also is the group's official chronicler and reporter. I consider it a great honour to have been chosen. I am a director and past president of the OPA, and have been a lifelong dairy farmer at Finch in Ontario's Stormont County.

You are probably wondering why we did not write while we were overseas. There are two reasons.

It has been the practice in past years for the winning plowmen to make their overseas visit in January and February, in time to participate in the Northern Ireland International Match at Belfast. This time the OPA directors decided we should make our trip almost immediately after the International match and compete instead in the British National Ploughing match at Falkirk, Scotland. During the match there was to be a trial of a set of rules that had been proposed for international plowing competitions. The OPA was anxious for Canadian plowmen to take part in

ASHGROVE

Mrs. Hector Bird Tells Institute of Trip West

The Women's Institute meeting was held on Tuesday afternoon, January 20th at the home of Mrs. C. B. Dick with a large turnout of ladies. President Mrs. Leslie Giffen opened with all singing the Ode; Secretary Mrs. Vern Archer called the roll which was answered by "My Favourite Selection of Music and Composer." Leaders for the girls club on The Milky Way appointed are Mrs. Wilfrid Bird and Mrs. Clayton Wilson; for the garden club, Mrs. Bob Alexander. It was decided to send small articles to the Countrywomen of the World, also ladies were in favour of sending another parcel to Britain. Mrs. Cliff Hunter took over the program. Current events were given by Mrs. James Carney. The motto "Homes are the green houses where plants of citizenship grow, was well taken by Mrs. John McNabb after which Mrs. Hector Bird told of the trip she and her husband and her sister and husband took last summer to the West Coast. They left on August 20th, did their own cooking along the way and had trouble only once in the 22 days they were travelling. They left Port Huron and travelled to Mackinac, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Duluth, Minnesota, N. Dakota. They saw the Grand Coulee Dam (8th wonder of the world); Lake Louise, and Old Faithful Geyser which was discovered in 1870 and is shooting water everyday since, an average of 53 minutes between. They went on to the State of Washington, and west to the Pacific Ocean, Vancouver and Stanley Park, Kootenay Lakes, Banff, Calgary, Edmonton, Lethbridge, through the States to Winnipeg and home through Port Huron. She passed around pictures they had taken, also folders of the different places they visited and said they all had memories they'll never forget. We all thoroughly enjoyed listening to her and only hope we can all make the trip ourselves some day. Meeting closed with a social hour over the tea cups. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wrigglesworth who celebrated their forty eighth wedding anniversary last Sunday at the home of their son, Mr. Clifford Wrigglesworth at Hornby with other members of their family.

Birthdays were celebrated by Mrs. McNabb who will be one year old on Thursday, January 29th.

The Young People held their Christian Fellowship meeting on Sunday evening at the home of Norman and Gordon Bird with Bernice Wilson and Gordon Wingfield in charge.

In 1941 a population check showed the average number of children per family in Canada by racial origin as: British 2.87; French 5.35 and all others comprised 3.23.

Another thing that made a strong impression was the breathtaking beauty of the war graves I visited during a two day trip we made to France. The cemeteries and graveyards of our soldiers who fell in the two world wars would stand comparison with the finest parks in the world. No monument could better show our gratitude than these acres of green grass, beautiful flowers and simple white crosses, that reveal the most loving and tender care.

I am afraid I have rambled a little in this first letter, but in those that follow I will trace our path through the British Isles and hope that you will get as much enjoyment from the telling as we did from the doing.

When we remembered some of the complaining and growling that goes on over here, I think we all felt a little ashamed.

Together with this wonderful spirit was an extreme politeness on the part of the English. We met it through England. After the racing, tearing "let's get there in a hurry" rudeness, that, it seems to me is so general here.

It was as refreshing as a summer rain. On the platform of London's St. Pancras station, decorated with a maple leaf, revealed us as strangers. Within a few minutes six people approached us, smilingly said "Hallo," and asked if there was anything they could do for us. That sort of thing happened to us wherever we went.



Algie Wallace

Lawn Bowlers Plan Inter-Club Visits

A series of friendly visits with neighbouring clubs are being planned by Georgetown Lawn Bowlers next season.

Representatives of ten of the 13 clubs in District 9 of the Provincial Lawn Bowling Association met recently at Streetsville to plan inter-club games this summer, with Harold Hutchinson, Ern Thompson and Jack Williamson speaking for Georgetown.

The plan which evolved calls for each of the 13 clubs, in turn, to act as host on one Tuesday night to a Men's Triple entry from each of the other twelve clubs. A schedule is being drawn up in time for distribution at the annual spring meeting in February.

Under this plan, members of the Georgetown club will visit every other club in the district once during the season, while playing host each Tuesday to visitors. Where possible, a beginner or a junior is to be included in each entry so that as many members as possible may visit, and foster more and better competitive bowlers.

With the experience which will be gleaned from this year's schedule, it may be possible in 1954 to organize a district league. If such happens a trophy has already been offered by Alex Halliwell.

Clubs represented at the meeting were Canadian Kodak, Central Park, Lakeshore - Mimico, Milton, New Toronto, Oakville, Port Credit, Streetsville and Georgetown.

FARM NEWS

Seed Fair, Bacon Show Planned for Next March

Halton's annual Seed Fair and Bacon Show is scheduled for the Milton Town Hall on March 20th and 21st. This was the decision of a meeting of the joint boards of the Halton Soil and Crop Improvement Association and the Halton Hog Producers Association held in Milton on Friday.

Fred Nurse, president of the Soil and Crop Association, was in charge of the meeting. W. S. McMullen, of the Livestock Production Service of the Canada Department of Agriculture, Toronto was in attendance and offered the cooperation of his staff with the event. The president Mac Sprowl of the Halton Junior Farmers, together with Harold Tyrrell and Howson Rud-dell, represented the Juniors and recommended that special classes be continued for the Juniors; also for the inter-club educational displays, and the annual seed judging competition.

Despite the lack of export market for hogs, Erwin Gunby, president of the Halton Hog Producers and his fellow officers were of the opinion that quality hogs should still be stressed from the standpoint of the domestic market. To this end the township directors expressed their willingness to select the hogs to represent their respective townships. These hogs will be marketed in Toronto, on March 10 and 11. Those who expect to have hogs up to market weight by this time should contact one of the following:

Esqueness: T. J. Brownridge or Ed Davenport; Nassagaweya, A. R. Service or W. L. Ferguson; Trafalgar: Clayton May or Allan Clements; Nelson: Roy Ellenton or Erwin Gunby.

W. P. Watson, Live Stock Commissioner for Ontario, is to be the guest speaker for this popular annual farm gathering which year in and year out, packs the Milton Town Hall.

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J. G. Kertcher Had Greenhouse Here

A resident of Georgetown for several years, where he operated a greenhouse, John G. Kertcher, 87, died at Hailton Centennial Manor, Milton on January 14th.

At one time Mr. Kertcher was employed at the Barber Floral Company. Later he established his own greenhouse on Maple Avenue, on the Watson property where Mr. and Mrs. John Inglis live. After Mrs. Watson's death he moved to a property on John Street opposite Clarence Walter's home and continued in the greenhouse business until an illness two years ago.

Mr. Kertcher was a native of Milverton and for a quarter century was a conductor on the Ottawa Street Railway. He is survived by his wife and one daughter in Toronto, and a son Sgt. Melvin Kertcher, Oakville.

Accounts Collected

Accounts are pouring in these days as business men realize this is the time to collect those slow accounts. Tomorrow may be too late.

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RURAL TELEPHONE SUBSCRIBERS

Pro-rata credits will be allowed on a future bill to all those whose service was out of order beyond 48 hours due to sleet storm.

BELL TELEPHONE CO.

Ontario Hydro will provide improved service with the construction of a new 60-cycle transformer station and associated distribution facilities just outside Brampton, at an estimated cost of \$1,582,000, chairman Robert H. Saunders announced today.

To more than double the service in the area, the new equipment will supply 60-cycle power to the towns of Acton, Brampton, Georgetown, Streetsville, the surrounding rural district known as Brampton-Rural Operating Area, and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's transmitter at Hornby.

Construction is scheduled to start in late spring this year. Completion will be timed to coincide with Hydro's frequency standardization of the area from 25 to 60-cycle operation, tentatively scheduled to start August, 1954.

The new station will be known as Pleasant Transformer Station, taking its name from the neighboring hamlet of Mount Pleasant, and will be located near No. 7 Highway, three miles west of Brampton.

"The station is part of a long-term expansion program to provide improved electrical service to Hydro users," the Hydro chairman stated. "Our customers in both urban and rural areas are depending more and more on electricity for a wide range of conveniences, and it is our aim to give them the best type of service possible."

Mr. Saunders said the new facilities will have an initial capacity more than double those serving the section at present.

He pointed out that the use of power by Hydro customers, who will be served by the new station, has more than doubled between 1945 and 1951. In 1945, the actual average load was 9,344 horsepower. In 1951, it was 20,432 horsepower.

The upward trend continued in 1952, with the actual average load for the first 11 months being 21,625 horsepower.

"By more than doubling the present capacity of power facilities serving the area, and by the enlargement and rearrangement of the distribution system, the area will be provided with greater service security and adequate power distribution equipment to keep pace with continued load growth," Mr. Saunders said.

At present, Hydro's A. W. Manby Transformer Station, on the western outskirts of Toronto, serves Georgetown, Streetsville, the major portion of Brampton Rural Operating Area, and the CBC transmitting station.

Action is supplied from Guelph Transformer Station, while the town of Brampton receives its power via Cooksville Transformer Station, which will be dismantled after Pleasant Transformer Station is placed in service.



HOCKEY FANS! IS THIS GOAL LEGAL?

Two attacking players are at centre ice. One is suddenly grabbed by a spectator, but he manages to pass to his teammate ... who goes on to score while the spectator still holds on to the other. Is the goal a legal goal?

Yes, play continues to completion and the goal is allowed. Play is immediately called only when the team of the player not in possession of the puck is interfered with.



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