

**Catherine Sharp Ivens  
Was Native of Limehouse**

Catherine (Katie) Sharp, 76, wife of the late Thomas Arthur Ivens, died February 19th at Toronto Western Hospital after an illness of two weeks.

Mrs. Ivens was born in Equestrian Township at Limehouse, eldest daughter of the late James and Margaret Sharp and had lived in Toronto since her marriage in 1901. Her husband died in 1934 and since that time she had lived with her

children, Marguerite (Mrs. Ernest E. Russell), Thomas E. Ivens, both of Toronto and Mary Mrs. Jerome Lowden of Windsor. She also leaves a sister Colena, two brothers, William and Duncan Sharp, and seven grandchildren, Catherine and John Russell, Helen, Marion, and Joan Ivens, Joyce and Jean Lowden. She was predeceased by a sister Mary.

The funeral service was held on February 22nd at York Bros. Funeral Chapel, with interment in Prospect Cemetery, Toronto.

**WINS FURTHER HONOURS  
AT KIWANIS FESTIVAL**

Alan Emerson, a Milton district boy who recently won the bronze medal in his vocal class at the Toronto East Music Festival, placed well also at the Kiwanis Music Festival.

Alan, who is a pupil of Kenneth R. Harrison, won silver medals in two classes there, the open solo and oratorio solo groups.

**Three-D Farming**

**Tobacco Growers and Orchardists  
Convinced Deep Soil Tillage Will  
Pay Off**

by Ron Abbott  
Bowmanville

With the advent of three dimensional movies and three dimensional homes it was perhaps inevitable that "three dimensional" farming would also come along in time.

In several sections of Ontario, particularly Durham County and the areas around Simcoe and Delhi where most of this province's flue-cured tobacco is grown, three-dimensional farming is now being carried on. Formerly farmers in these areas were concerned mainly with length and breadth, and did not bother with depth of soil tillage below the top six inches of the soil. Now they are becoming more concerned with the third dimension—depth.

Deep soil tillage was begun in Durham County last fall when several tobacco growers and orchardists tried it for the first time. While this method of deep pre-working of the soil is still in the experimental stage, those farmers who are trying it are very optimistic that it will prove successful.

The object of this new three-dimensional tillage is to get below the topsoil and break up the hardpan which is found on most Durham County farms at a depth of from 8 to 20 inches below the surface of the ground. With the disappearance of the horse tractor cultivation has tended to further pack the land and increase this hardpan.

Ordinary plowing and cultivation does not get at this hardpan, and as a result it remains undisturbed year after year, preventing moisture from penetrating deep into the soil and keeping the roots of plants from going as deep as they might for nourishment.

When this hardpan is left undisturbed there is a danger of surface erosion, since water runoff is similar to that from a tin roof, and little or none soaks in. Deep soil tillage creates an underground reservoir for catching and holding rainfall. It also allows sub-surface moisture to rise, preventing the top soil from becoming unduly dry and suffering from wind erosion.

Similarly on land which does not have good surface drainage, the opposite condition of waterlogged fields may result. Melting snow and heavy rain in the spring cannot penetrate through the hardpan, the topsoil becomes too wet, and is slow to dry out and warm up in the spring. The soil is poorly aerated, is in poor physical condition, and is incapable of supporting good crops.

The new method of deep soil tillage relieves both these conditions. It is carried out by the use of one or more subsoiler shanks shaped like large chisels which are capable of penetrating to a depth of 24 inches into the ground. Attached to a track-type Caterpillar tractor, or pulled by two ordinary rubber-tired tractors, the subsoiler is hauled across the field. It penetrates into the hardpan, breaking it up, and making it loose and porous. These cuts are made about 30 inches apart and the work is usually done in the fall.

Since the hardpan has been broken up and the cracks have been made deep into the soil, the fall rains can penetrate deep so that the freezing and thawing process during the winter and spring further assist in breaking up the ground and making it more porous. In the spring the normal plowing and cultivation is carried out before the crop is planted.

W. E. Adams, Simcoe tobacco grower who also has eight tobacco farms in Durham County stretching from west of Orono to a point north of Port Hope has carried out this deep soil tillage on about 400 acres.

P. G. Newell of Newcastle has also had it done on his 40-acre tobacco farm at Kendal. These two growers did most of their plowing at a depth of 22 inches. Other tobacco and corn growers who carried out deep soil tillage last fall were Vance Allin of Orono, who did his subsoiling with a Graham plow; John Bailey, Ned Foster and Bill Mercer of Kendal.

Some Durham county apple growers have also become interested in this type of soil preparation. Irwin Colwill and Lou-Clarke of Newcastle have done some deep soil tillage in their orchards.

While several of these farmers had been interested in the method for some time, they were first prompted to put it into practice following the International and World Plowing Matches at Cobourg last October. The Caterpillar Tractor Co. had a display there showing different types of subsoiling chisel shanks and equipment which stimulated their interest.

Mr. Newell, who is one of the pioneers in deep soil tillage in Durham County, believes that a track-type tractor is the best for this type of work, since the broad treads do not tend to pack down the soil. However, he says, two of the more common type of rubber-tired tractors can be hitched together to haul the deep-cutting subsoiler shanks. Quite a bit of power is needed, since the chisels are cutting into hardpan 22 or more inches beneath the surface of the ground.

It is still a bit early to assess the

**FARM NEWS**

**J. A. Carroll Commends  
Seed Fair Program**

The prize list for the annual Halton Seed Fair which was recently distributed is apparently sheeting with favour wherever copies were sent outside the county of Halton. Here is the comment of J. A. Carroll, assistant deputy minister of agriculture for Ontario: "This is to congratulate your Board on the attractive and informative seed fair program. This might more probably be called a handbook as it contains so much useful information, most of it based on work in the county. The association is congratulated on the achievements of the past and I extend best wishes for continuing success."

The fact that the auditorium of the Milton Town Hall is being used as an emergency class room for the Milton Public School, necessitates some change in the normal program. We understand from Fred Nurse, president of the Halton association, that all exhibits must be placed between the hours of 7 and 11 p.m. on the evening preceding the Seed Fair.

One of the outstanding features of Halton Seed Fairs for some years has been the inter-club educational displays. To those responsible for the planning and erection of the first three prize-winning exhibits (not more than five from each Junior Farmer Club) an invitation is extended by the Ford Motor Co., of Canada, for a tour of their assembly plant at Oakville, on Tuesday, March 16th, to be followed by lunch at their guests.

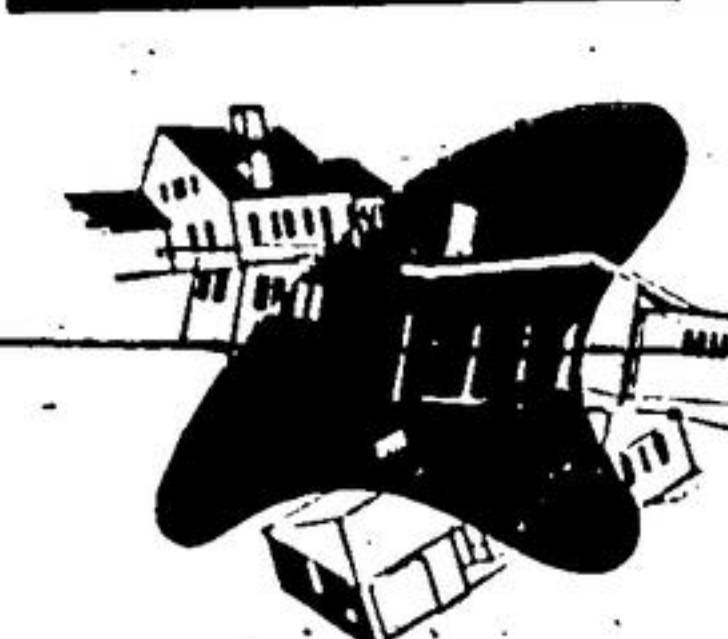
President Harold Tyrrell of the Halton Junior Farmers informed us that an increased number of Halton Juniors will be out to compete in the annual Junior Farmer Judging Competition in Grain, Seeds, etc. In order to provide more encouragement for the younger contestants, the prize list has been divided into three sections (1) those 16 years and under; (2) those 17 to 21 years and (3) contestants 21 to 25 years inclusive. This year, for the first time there is a \$14 special to the contestant with the highest aggregate score of the day.

In order to focus attention on the values of good quality hay, the Halton association has provided two additional classes, the first for one-half bale of hay, and the second for a bushel of field chopped hay. For further details concerning the various classes, prize lists may be secured on request at the Agricultural Office in Milton.



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benefits which will result from deep soil tillage in Durham, but those farmers who have carried it out feel that their optimism will be justified when the soil is worked this spring and the crops are harvested next fall.

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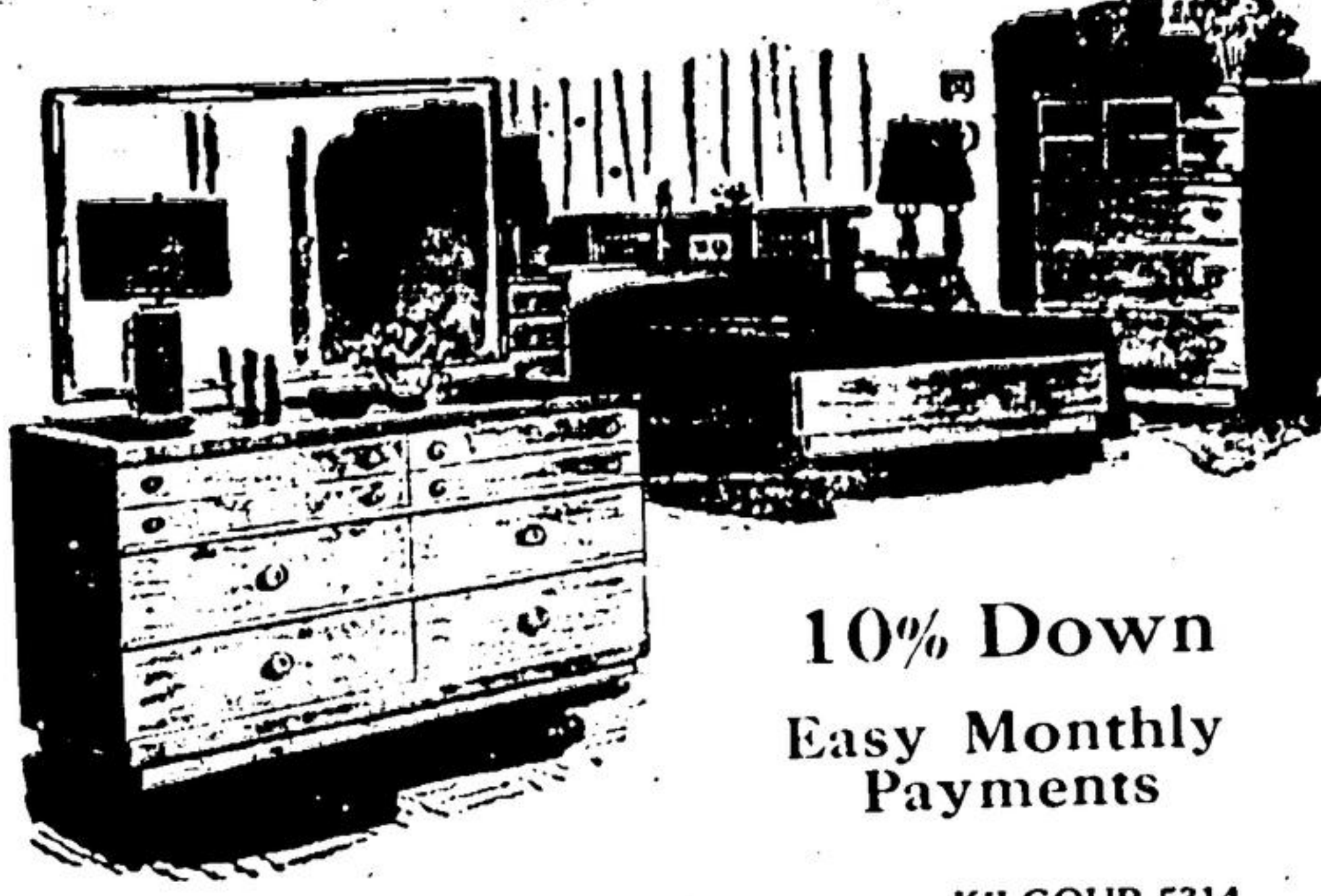
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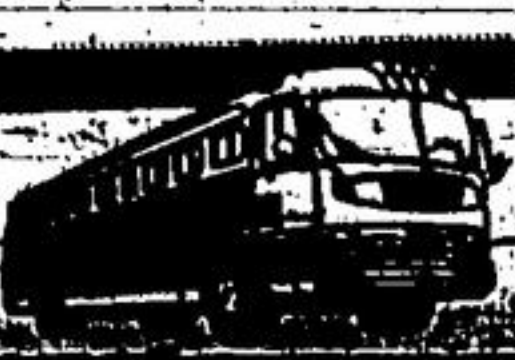
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