

WOODSTOCK REPORTER GETS DATA ON HALTON FARMS

J. E. W.

On Friday, we accompanied Frank Ellis, a prominent poultryman from near Woodstock, on a little tour of Halton. Mr. Ellis is a side-line writer agricultural stories for the Family Herald and Weekly Star. Incidentally, he is married to a Halton County girl, and at one time farmed near Campbellville. For the past thirty years he has operated a 100 acre poultry farm one mile west of Woodstock, on the Governor's Road. Frank had intimated to us some weeks ago, that he would like to come down and write a story on Halton — providing the writer would pilot him. Inasmuch as we have long felt that Halton does not get a fair share of stories in the agricultural press, we accepted the assignment.

On his arrival around 10 a.m. the next thing was where to take him — everyone was busy at the hay and anyway there were dozens of places worthy of a visit and a story — and we could cover only a few, so we started out the base line towards Hornby.

As we approached the Maiden farm of Dr. Wm. James, it occurred to us that Frank would be interested in the 30 acres of flats which farm manager Jim McKay has renovated. Ruddle Bros. with their custom outfit were there put-

ting in grass silage. Incidentally, Jim was using molasses as a preservative.

The 30 acres of flats when Jim McKay came to Maiden Farm about six years ago, was grown up with scrub and the old blue grass pasture was pretty well worn out. Jim went at it the hard way, and chopped them down — used brush kill to eliminate the new growth and roots — used a Killifer Disc and reseeded it to a mixture of Ladino, Brome, Orchard Grass, Meadow Fescue and some Alfalfa. Today it is a sight to behold and constitutes as valuable an area as there is on the entire farm.

Jim has a crop of Dawson's Golden Chaff wheat which he may well be proud of. True we saw a few heads of loose smut but at the moment it looks like a 50 bushel crop.

Nurseland Farm

We found it difficult to get Frank away from the 150 acre Nurseland Farm, owned and operated by Fred Nurse, president of Halton's Soil and Crop Improvement Association. Fred has his 100 feet pit silo filled with grass silage, and was working at his last field of hay. We learned that this year Fred used whole oats as a preservative with his grass silage, instead of barley corn which he used in 1953. Fred is of

the opinion that it will make better dairy cattle feed and require less concentrate to balance the ration.

Lovely Fred

Frank was also greatly taken with Fred's new pond which cost around \$800, exclusive of their own labour. It is located 25 or 30 rods back of the barn. Fred has filled in the dip in his lane and this constitutes the dam. A cement siphon-way has been constructed under the dam and provision has been made to pipe water to a trough in the pasture field on the opposite or south side of the lane — this of course will be operated with a float.

Here too, we found good crops of hay and pasture, and the promise of excellent wheat and spring grain crops.

Cows, Hogs and Poultry

Around 17 cows are milked — in addition Fred keeps 10 brood sows from which he averaged around 9 pigs per litter in 1953. This means he fed off around 170 hogs to market, and in addition keeps a laying flock of approximately 1100 hens. When Frank and Fred got into a discussion on poultry and the relative merits of H-Lines (which Fred keeps) vs. ordinary Hybrids (kept by F. E. Ellis) — we thought we were there for the rest of the day.

Mulliflora Hedge

Following our bus trip to Ohio in 1950, Fred came back after seeing the Roma Mulliflora hedges at Malabar Farms determined to try them out. He got his stock from the Forestry Branch in the fall of 1950, and today has the best Mulliflora hedge we have seen in Ontario. Fred found it necessary to hoe and cultivate it the first couple of years. Today it is 6 to 7 feet high — covered with bloom as it stretches from the corner of his lawn north some 40 rods to his neighbour's line fence. Last fall he planted another hedge of the same species running south from his lane some 40 rods to his neighbour's line fence on the south.

Rosegate Jersey Farm

In our brief stop at the Rosegate Farm the main item of interest at this going concern was the Approved Pig Hatchery operated by Mac Alexander and family. This was something new to Frank and he wanted all the details. He himself is of course a poultry hatcheryman and sells around 60,000 chicks per year. Mac keeps around 50 brood sows and in 1953 sold in the neighborhood of 900 weaners between 6 and 8 weeks of age. Frank was very much intrigued with the 15 year old house (eight sided) built of brick made on the farm. It was here that the Halton Folk School was held last winter.

Mac Alexander is the 1954 president of the Halton Jersey Club and in addition to his herd of Jerseys and his hogs, the Alexanders have a herd of milk goats, and five yards of bees. In addition they operate 250 acres and all the crops looked excellent or very promising for the time of year.

End Drive Barns

Halton is of course noted for its

end drive barns, and according to Frank a trip to Halton would not be complete without the picture of at least one such barn. So on our way back to Milton we stopped to get a picture of the big end drive barn of Edwin Harrop & Son, Sam and his dad were busy baling and as it was around 2.30 and we were hungry we didn't disturb them — although Frank was interested in Sam's loafing stable.

(continued on page 5)

ASHGROVE

CAMPBELLVILLE MAN WAS INDIAN TEACHER

On Sunday morning the WMS had charge of the service with the president, Mrs. Frank Wilson, presiding. Responsive reading was led by Mrs. Vern Pickett. Sandra Tindale sang so sweetly "In The Garden." Prayer by Mrs. John Beliboddy after which Mrs. Leslie Giffen introduced the guest speaker, Mr. Harold Speers of Campbellville who spoke on his work among the Indians on Moose Island during the two years he was teaching there. He told of the wonderful church services, they hold, how they honour their dead and even had flowers on their graves from Dales in Brampton. They love poetry and when he was leaving they presented him with a lovely poem entitled "Myself," which he treasures. He closed by saying everyone has time for the best things in life.

Mrs. William Giffen of Brampton and Miss Florence Milgate, R.N., of Toronto spent the holiday and week end with Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Giffen and David.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Wilson were guests at the Burns-Palmer wedding on Saturday afternoon in Knox Presbyterian Church, Georgetown.

There will be no service in our Church until the 25th of July when the Young People will have charge. School is out and no need to ask the kiddies if they are glad. On the last day the teacher Mrs. Cromar treated them to a trip to Toronto where they went to the museum and Riverdale Park. Mrs. Frank Wilson, Mrs. Fred Nurse and Mrs. Gerald Graham provided cars to take the children.

Nancy Hunter is visiting her cousin Dianne Golden in town for a few days.

One reason for discrepancies in Canada and U.S. prices is that Canada has a 10 per cent sales tax.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Estate of FRANCES E. COOKE, Widow, Deceased. All persons having claims against the estate of Frances E. Cooke, late of the Town of Georgetown, who died on or about the 23rd day of May, A.D. 1954, are hereby notified to send particulars of same to the undersigned on or before the 31st day of July, A.D. 1954, after which date the estate will be distributed with regards only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice, and the undersigned will not be liable to any person of whose claims they shall not then have notice.

DATED at Georgetown this 28th day of June, A.D. 1954.

Stuart Jamieson,
William Deans,

Executors of the estate, by their Solicitors, Dale & Bennett, Georgetown, Ont. 7-14

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Estate of JOHN BIRD, retired farmer, deceased. All persons having claims against the estate of John Bird, late of the Township of Esqueping, Retired Farmer, who died on or about the 8th day of May, A.D. 1954, are hereby notified to send particulars of same to the undersigned on or before the 31st day of July A.D. 1954, after which date the estate will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice, and the undersigned will not be liable to any person of whose claim he shall not then have notice.

DATED at Georgetown, this 28th day of June, A.D. 1954.

James Milton Foster Bird,
Executor of the Estate by his Solicitors, Dale and Bennett,
7-14 Georgetown, Ont.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the Estate of CHARLOTTE E. SHAIN, Widow, Deceased. All persons having claims against the estate of Charlotte E. Shain, late of the Township of Esqueping, Widow, who died on or about the 8th day of May A.D. 1954, are hereby notified to send particulars of same to the undersigned on or before the 31st day of July AD 1954, after which date the estate will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice, and the undersigned will not be liable to any person of whose claim they shall not then have notice.

DATED at Georgetown, this 28th day of June, A.D. 1954.

Kathleen Shain,
John Edward Shain,
Executors of the Estate by their Solicitors, Dale & Bennett, Georgetown, Ont. 7-14

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