



One of the fascinating sights for students of the Limehouse public school when they visited the Halton Museum recently were the old iron chases which once held the heavy pages of The Acton Free Press. Brian Ritchie of the Museum staff showed the children the equipment.

Rural Watch program wants involvement

By KAREN SMITH

Members of the Nassagaweya Crime Prevention Committee, which initiated Rural Watch four years ago, are urging more residents to get involved in the program.

Equivalent to Neighborhood Watch, Rural Watch is primarily a telephone pyramid system which alerts residents about crime as well as suspicious incidents in the community.

The program currently has the support of more than 700 homeowners, but Martha Hoey-Weston, chairperson of the committee, hopes more will get involved. "It's something many residents don't get around to doing until they get robbed," she said.

The program was established by the committee following an increase in the number of rural break-ins, Mrs. Hoey-Weston said. Residential break-ins in the community occurred at an average rate

of 27 annually in the early 1980s.

"We had so many robberies. Everybody in the neighborhood had been robbed at least once," said Mrs. Hoey-Weston, who has lived in Nassagaweya for more than 30 years.

Since Rural Watch has been in place, she said, there have been fewer robberies. In fact, the rate of occurrences has been cut in half.

With the support of the Town of Milton, signs have been set up on all major roads leading into the area. Participating members also display signs on their mail boxes and doors.

The program is also funded by local groups such as Nassagaweya Community School Association, Halwell Mutual Insurance Company, Dublin Women's Institute, Nassagaweya Women's Institute and Nassagaweya Estates.

For more information about the Nassagaweya Rural Watch Program, contact Sgt. Frank Phillips at 878-5511, ext.412.

Cormdale Farms leads the dairy industry with top-ranked Holsteins

Ontario dairy farmers must concentrate on feeding and breeding for greater production levels if they wish to lead, or at least remain competitive, in both domestic and international markets.

A good example is Albert Cormier, owner of Cormdale Farms Inc, Georgetown. This herd led the Holstein rankings with an average 209.7 per cent BCA on 17 records, and impressive 10,137 kilograms milk, 3.74 per cent butterfat, 3.08 per cent protein (211-213-205).

The dairy herd has evolved as a result of Cormier's involvement in the cattle export business, dating back to 1971 when he left his dairy farm in Prince Edward Island to come to Ontario. A natural marketing strategy was the establishment of a herd of cattle drawn together specifically to showcase the quality of Holstein available to potential foreign buyers.

Cormdale was formed in 1980, initially in partnership with Bruno Rosetti, and featured cows from prominent families, with deep pedigrees and top conformation to reflect the market trend at that time. Production, however, was not an emphasis.

After working with these cattle for a year, Cormier says it became apparent that there was a massive difference in the genetics between cows with higher and lower production levels. At the same time, the international market began to emphasize greater production to accompany functional type. Cormdale was able to react to both situations by including top production credits in their criteria for purchasing cows, and selecting bulls for their breeding program that could sire such offspring. In this upgrade, American cattle were sought out for their proven will to milk.

The loss of the identity of the Canadian Holstein is no concern to this businessman. He explains that people will not buy Canadian cattle just because they are Canadian. Our cattle, of any breed, must be the best and Canada must be recognized by other countries as leaders in dairy genetics if producers expect markets to remain open.

With evidence of strong com-

petition evolving from a number of European countries, Ontario needs to regain its market edge by boosting production while maintaining the size, longevity and information already established in our genetic base.

To encourage this production, Cormier says that producers must place more emphasis on selecting the top production bulls available, regardless of origin, while keeping functional type in mind. At Cormdale, Canadian sires must

have a minimum +10 for milk, +1000 lbs for U.S. sires, to see any usage. On the female side of the pedigree, size, strength, dairy character, sound udders, and correct feet and legs are emphasized. In addition, Cormier sees the Genetic Index as a helpful management and marketing tool. It is recognized by buyers as an effective measure to identify cattle quality and is helpful for within-herd ranking to compare top to bottom on an equal selection basis.

Cormier challenges all individual cows to give top production and expects them to milk to their capacity. He comments "that there is no such thing as too much milk." Feeding revolves around haylage, hay, and commercial supplement, however, they are replacing the haylage with high moisture corn to boost the energy component of the ration.

The combination of export and herd businesses have complemented one another and have worked very, very well. Cormier states that "it has been more challenging than establishing the more traditional Ontario dairy farm" and he has found tremendous satisfaction in the great cows they have bought and sold and in the Cormdale bulls that have gone to A.I. worldwide.

Traditionally Cormdale has kept two herds because the facilities existed to handle the inevitable overflow. They are now planning an amalgamation of the two units, primarily due to improved labour efficiency. Cormdale hopes that this move will improve the labour situation, as it has been one of their greatest stumbling blocks.

Cormier summarizes by complementing the promotional efforts of the breed associations and the A.I. industry, but warns that marketing alone will not keep Canadian Holsteins in the forefront. Time and time again, he has seen the value, in total efficiency, market value and quality of genetics, of cows combining functional type and top production.

- courtesy of the Ontario Dairy Herd Improvement Corporation



Legion

news

by J.T. HAYES

Members have still time to get their tickets for the New Year's Eve parties being held in the auditorium and lounge on Sunday night.

Friday Night Euchre: high lady - Vi Hewitt; 2nd - Mae Tost; high gent - Bert Porter; 2nd - Flo Carswell.

Car Club Winners, December 21 - 374 Russ Fendley, 115 Carol and Ralph Bosma, 497 Gloria Sargent, 22 Josie Tost, 02 Ron Dorenbach, 173 Max Jack. Yours truly managed to miss one of the \$150 winners last week. Betty Caldwell was the lady in question. Sorry about that.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON MEAT DRAW

This week's winners: Jack Pickett, Harry Allen, Keith Tost, Peg Lewis, Gord King, Ron Stott, Mike Sargent, Dorothy Vinkle, Don Latchford, Frank Nicholson, Herman Nicholson.

The turkey was won by Lottie Bottoms, who drew AB Ford's name out of the drum for the extra turkey, which was donated to the Branch by a guest.

Membership: Don't forget to pay your dues before the year-end. Early Bird draw results will be announced when I get them.

President's Levee: New Year's Day, 2-4 p.m.

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REGULAR
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lb.



2.18 kg

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<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">CATELLI PASTA</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">79¢</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">900 g Box Assorted Varieties</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">McCAIN'S SUPER FRIES</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">99¢</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">1 kg Bag Assorted Varieties</p>

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