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Annual Theatre Night Sponsored by Halton Holstein and Milk Producers

The annual Theatre Night sponsored by Halton Holstein Breeders and Halton Milk Producers was voted the best yet by the record audience which packed the Princess Theatre, Milton, on Wednesday evening last. Captain the Rev. Norman Rawson of Centenary Church, Hamilton, was the guest speaker, well lived up to his reputation as one of the outstanding speakers on the North American continent. F. O. Hunter, President of both the Holstein breeders and the Milk Producers, was chairman for the excellent program which included such outstanding artists as Jimmie Shields, noted tenor of radio fame; Mary Morrison, a delightful soprano from Winnipeg; Doug Romaine who is recognized as Canada's most outstanding attraction of any program; and Ron Leonard, a clever magician. All three male artists were members of the Canadian Army Show in Great Britain and Europe. Another feature was the presentation of Certificates of Long Distance Production, by Harry Hays, of Oakville, a director of the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada. The recipients were: M. T. Watson, Freeman, and Methuen Dearing, of Palermo. J. M. Fraser, past president of the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada made the presentation of the lucky door prize, the draw for which was made by Miss Thelma Hunter, of Norval, to the winner Wm. Bentley, of Trafalgar.

are a part of the program but are not as immediately important to most farmers as are some practices that can be carried out on their farms without very much change in their system of farming. We have been more or less following some of these on our own farm for the past ten years or more and can recommend them as being very practical and, incidentally, profitable to practice also. We will mention a few of these that we have found very easy to practise and which certainly bring results.

We see'd down all grain crops to a clover or a grassland clover mixture. We have used some sweet clover in these mixtures as we find it is the clover that leaves the soil in the nicest condition after it is ploughed down. We use the sweet clover for pasture, grass silage and last year we made hay of it satisfactorily by having it cut early by one of these haymakers that crush the stalks and so promote even drying. The cows have liked this hay a lot better than timothy that was cut a little later but they do leave some of the coarse stalks which we have used for bedding. However, we think sweet clover is not as good a hay crop as it is for grass silage and pasture. It usually leaves a heavy aftermath to plow down, too, which further helps build the soil.

Then we use commercial fertilizers on our pastures and hay fields crops. This gives us greater yields, in the fall as well as on the grain which means more crops to feed the livestock, more manure and also more crop residue to plow down.

We also apply most of our manure to the hay and pasture fields rather than putting it all on the corn, roots and wheat as we used to do years ago. This has built up our level of fertility very much higher so that our corn crops do not need the manure as they did twenty years ago.

We plow across the slopes instead of up and down as we used to when we plowed with horses. Suppose plowing with a tractor with an adjustable hitch makes this very much easier than it used to be when we had great difficulty turning a furrow up the hill. This has cut down washing some but also, when we leave a field that is at all hilly for fall plowing, we always try to plant a cover crop on it to hold the soil in the spring wash. We use wheat and rye for this purpose. The wheat is usually harvested as a grain crop but the rye is pastured off in the spring and plowed down. This has cut the wash of our hilly fields far more than 100 per cent as well as improving the fertility of these fields.

Lastly we leave the furrows where the water runs in sod as far as possible. It means pulling the plow out when we cross them but that is better than having a big gully washed that has to be filled in with good earth which will be washed out again the next time the field is fall plowed.

We think these practices are very much more important so far as our own farm is concerned than all the dams that will ever be built. We have reforested a few acres of land that was not suitable for cropping and we suppose on some farms this might be more important than it is on ours.

We would like to hear farmers talking about conservation on their own farms rather than getting mad about what some authority is going to do in building dams.

Average profit of Canadian manufacturing companies is six and two-fifths cents per dollar of sales.

Another of Halton's Big Producers Hits the Head Lines

Popular Row Chieftain Maid, a Holstein matron in the herd of Ross Segsworth of Freeman, is now the Canadian Champion for lifetime production of fat in 305 days on two times milking. Her 8 lactation total is 109,904 lbs. of milk, 4621 lbs. of fat, with a 4.2% test. This great cow is rated "Very Good" under Selective Registration and a few years ago was shown by Mr. Segsworth at the Halton Black and White Show. Her offspring have also made the headlines for the Segsworth herd, both in Record of Performance work and in the show ring. Her eldest daughter, Spruceleigh Annabelle, was the grand champion female at both the 1947 and 1948 Halton Black and White Shows. Annabelle, along with one of her sisters and brothers have constituted the winning progeny of a dam at Milton for the past several years. Even more noteworthy, Annabelle with her sister, Betty, were the winning progeny at the Championship Show at Brantford in 1948, and the second prize progeny at the same show in 1947. Betty, or to give her her full name, Spruceleigh Chieftain Betty, is also in the head lines—she was second prize senior yearling and second prize two-year-old at the last two District Black and White Championship Shows. Still more noteworthy, Betty tops the 2-year 2X producers for April with 14,816 lbs. milk, 712 lbs. fat and a 4.38% test. The next in line is the Patterson heifer, from Puslinch, a senior 2-year-old with 40 lbs. less fat, who was recently declared World Champion 305 day milk producer. Betty missed the 305 day section by two days. A brother of Betty and Annabelle also bred by Mr. Segsworth is in the big artificial unit in the State of Pennsylvania, as is also his sire, formerly senior sire at Spruceleigh Farm. Great indeed is Chieftain Maid and her offspring.

Halton Juniors Make Plans For Annual "At Home"

The fourth annual "At Home" of the Halton Junior Farmers is scheduled for the Brant Inn, Burlington, on Thursday evening, April 21st, states Stanley Jay, Secretary of the Halton Juniors. We understand that the young people have again engaged Mervyn Himes and his orchestra of Galt, to provide the music. Numbered among the patrons and patronesses for the event are to be Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Garner, the former being Director of Extension for the Ontario Department of Agriculture at Toronto; Dr. and Mrs. C. A. Martin, of Milton; and Mr. and Mrs. W. S. VanSickle of Campbellville. Mr. VanSickle is the chairman of the Committee on Agriculture and Reforestation for the Halton County Council.

Soil Conservation Much More Than Contour Plowing and Reforestation
An Oxford County Dairyman, whom we know very well, and whose opinion on farming topics is always worth listening to, recently stated as follows:
"When soil conservation is mentioned in this district, the farmers immediately think about dams that are to be built along our rivers and creeks, about contour plowing and reforestation. These steps, of course,

ACTON
Robert Perry Watson, one of the best-known businessmen of Acton and a life-long resident here passed away early Friday morning at his home in Acton. He was in his fifty-sixth year. Mr. Watson has been in failing health for several months.
"Eskimo Summer" was the title of a very interesting film shown at the weekly luncheon of Acton Rotary Club. Visitors included Alex Rocher, and Bill Cassel of Toronto.
—Free Press.

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