

FARM NEWS

From Halton's Farm Lands

Keen Interest in County Council Committee's Weed Conference

Keen interest was evident in the weed conference sponsored by the Agricultural Committee of the Halton County Council on Tuesday last week in the Farmers' Building, Milton. The meeting was chaired by Reeve A. R. Service, chairman of the Halton Agricultural Committee.

"Co-ordinated co-operation necessary in the control of weeds" was the subject of the address by Stanley Young of the Field Crops Branch, Ridgetown.

The part played by common barberry and buckthorn as hosts plants in life cycles of stem and crown rusts of oats was ably handled by Douglas Kerr of Brantford. Other weeds which came in for special attention in his discussion were poison ivy, leafy spurge, yellow rocket and wild carrot.

Participate in Talks

Others participating in the discussion were County Weed Inspector, Thomas Bradley, John Kimmel of the Dept. of Highways; Messrs. Menary and Morgan, representing the Canadian National Railways; Mr. Cain of the Canadian Pacific;

Township Road Superintendents William Townsend of Esquesing, Harris Bell of Nelson, and Stanley Fulton of Nassagaweya; Reeves, A. R. Service, Robert Marshall, Wilfred Bird and Deputy-reeve Fred Walker of Nelson; Weed Inspectors C. Livingstone of Bronte and L. E. McManus of Burlington; County Engineer Roy Smith; Geo. Currie, chairman of the Halton Agricultural Committee and Agricultural Representative J. E. White-lock.

The program of the day included an inspection of the wild carrot control plots laid down on the 4th line of Trafalgar by the Halton Crop Improvement Association. At the conclusion of the day's program all were agreed that it was only by co-ordinated effort that satisfactory results can be secured.

In our opinion the effort of the members of the Agricultural Committee and County Weed Inspector Thomas Bradley in initiating the conference is a step in the right direction and should result in a marked improvement in the weed control program of Halton county.

Farm Pond Policy in Halton Will Continue, Said to be Paying Off

Farm ponds and dug-outs are definitely paying off in the County of Halton. Water from two such ponds is credited with saving two buildings which were on fire.

Aside from this, other constructed under the Halton policy are providing water for livestock and domestic purposes. Consequently the members of the Halton County Council did not hesitate in approving the recommendation of the Halton Conservation Committee that the Farm Pond Policy be continued in 1955.

Under the policy the Ontario Department of Agriculture contributes dollar for dollar with the county, up to a maximum of \$2,000, for approved ponds in 1955. Before constructing a pond, farm owners must first make application to the secretary of the Halton Conservation Committee, namely J. E. White-lock of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, Milton.

Once the proposed site has been approved by an Agricultural Engineering fieldman, the farm owner may secure whom he wishes to construct the pond. Once constructed and properly fenced to keep out livestock, providing the pond qualifies under the Halton policy, the owner is then eligible to receive a grant equal to one-

half of the cost but not to exceed \$100 on any one pond.

When discussing the matter with George Currie, chairman of the County Conservation Committee, we learned that they have sufficient money to assist with the construction of approximately 30 ponds in 1955. Those who wish to take advantage of the policy in question would be well advised to contact the Agricultural Office in Milton, where they can secure a copy of the policy and at the same time file their request for a farm pond survey.

Failure to make application prior to commencing construction of a pond nullifies any possibility of securing a grant or subsidy on the money already expended.

Money Talks in Britain

To further encourage quality production a bonus of 10 shillings (\$1.37 in Canadian money) was instituted on all "Super Quality" baconers by the Fatstock Marketing Corporation last month. Recently published U.K. pig census figures indicate that a decline is in prospect. Some predictions indicate that within a year pig numbers may drop to four and a half million head from the five and a half million counted last December.

1954 World Meat Output High

Meat output of the world during 1954 reached a new record, according to estimates of the U. S. Foreign Agricultural Service. With the exception of the Far East, production is estimated at 83 billion pounds and exceeds pre-war production by 20 per cent. and last year by 3 per cent.

U.K. Hog Quality Improves

In the past 10 months the percentage of Grade A bacon pigs produced in the United Kingdom increased from 35 to 67 per cent. of the total. At the same time, Grade C pigs dropped from 25 per cent. to less than 10 per cent. and the percentage of undesirable pigs dropped from 30 per cent. to 10 per cent.

Chicago Hogs Top \$20

A recent opinion poll around the Chicago Stockyards, conducted by the Chicago Daily Drovers Journal, indicates a consensus that top hogs may bring \$21 (live basis) before the end of June and by late summer, may hit a \$23 peak. The week of June 6 saw hogs hit \$20.25 which incidentally is the best price on the Chicago market since the end of September, 1954.

Dairy Products' Disappearance

During the first quarter of the year, domestic disappearance of most dairy products rose. Leading the list were dried skim milk and ice cream which rose above last year by 27 per cent. and 10 per cent. respectively. Evaporated milk, butter, fluid milk and cheddar cheese also showed gains.

Dried whole milk disappearance dropped 49 per cent. while only slight drops were noted for process cheese and condensed milk. Margarine rose by 11 per cent. Cheese exports for the quarter, although 20 per cent. below the 1949-53 average, are more than three times as heavy as last year. Butter exports, also below the long time average, are 30 per cent. above a year ago.

Building Permits At All-Time High

Trafalgar Township Building Inspector Angus Gregg said that there have been more than 100 building permits issued in May of this year than the same month last year.

"We've had 148 permits taken out for May, as compared to 41. It was the highest figure we've ever had and will mean an estimated building value of \$1,514,468. Included in the 148 permits are 132 residential permits, two school permits, one garage permit and 13 miscellaneous permits."

May's permits swell the total number of permits issued to date this year to 432, only 137 permits short of the total number issued during 1954.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Truth About 'Busy Little Beavers' In Nassagaweya Has Second Side

About the year 1949 a colony of beavers in a municipality to the north of us were causing damage to roads and bridges. We understand these same animals were moved to Nassagaweya township and dumped on our lap with no questions being asked of the Township officials.

People buy the Champion to read and read the Champion to buy.

In short order they were up to their old tricks of building dams and flooding roads. So the people of our township, after having suffered many privations and much personal fatigue from driving all through water several feet deep, demanded that some action be taken, with the result that the Council spent the sum of \$945 to try and correct the situation, which only lasted over winter, and another portion of the same road was flooded.

This time, through some of the efforts of the writer, this portion of the road was paid for by County Council to the amount of around \$1,200 of which Nassagaweya paid its share.

In 1954 the trouble again arose several miles from the first dam, and County Council spent the sum of nearly five thousand dollars "to build a trail through this water, which will need another five thousand dollars spent on it to make a safe road for people to travel. This time the money did not come from County Council as before, each municipality paid its own share. The cost to Nassagaweya this time was about eleven hundred and eighty-eight dollars \$1,188.00 out of our own road budget.

Now if these animals are going to increase at the rate of 100% in a few short years, as stated in last week's press, by the year 1960 the people in a small township like Nassagaweya will not have enough money to build roads for our busy Little Beavers.

One more expense: In 1954 county council paid out \$80 to one of its members for beaver traps lost in the pond.

Conservation and reforestation is a very worthwhile project, but if only a part of this seven to eight thousand dollars had been spent on planting more trees on some of our less productive land areas we would conserve much more water and at the same time beautify our country at much less expense to our people.

Nassagaweya Resident

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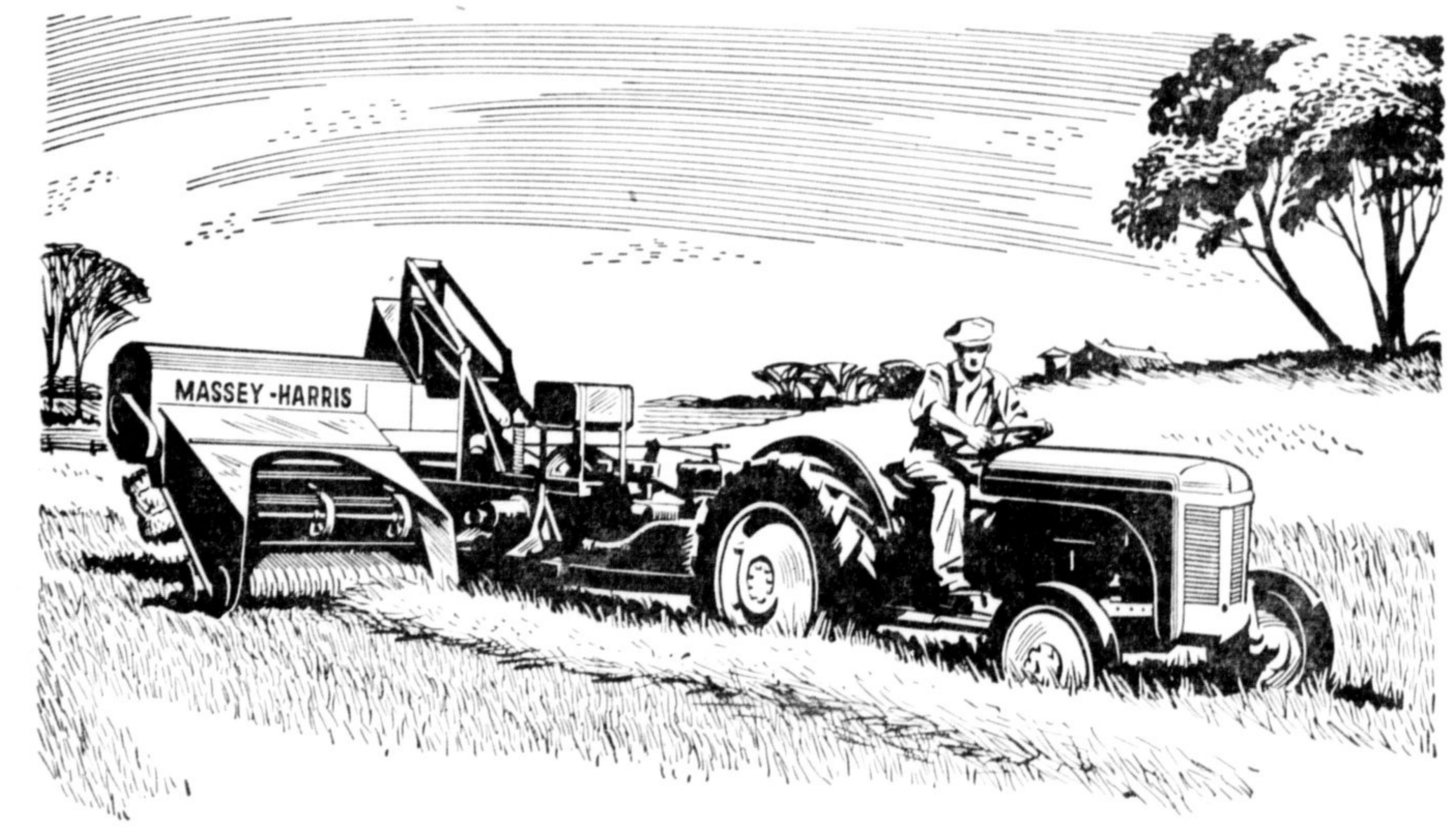
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of farming and has given agriculture the greatest lift in years. And mechanization has contributed greatly to the more wide-spread sharing in higher standards of living.

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