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The Ottawa Spotlight
 By Wilfrid Eggleston

The Spotlight turns this week upon the MILK INQUIRY where it is being shown without question that the dairy farmer is getting a raw deal. Under the chairmanship of Mark C. Senn, sitting member for Haldimand, some startling figures have been brought out.

Many farmers in the Montreal area have recently averaged less than two cents a quart for milk which ultimately reaches the consumer for nine, ten and eleven cents. According to the evidence of an expert of Oka agricultural institute, a farmer can't produce milk for two cents a quart: it costs him from 3.3 to 4 cents. At two cents a quart the dairy farmer is either working for nothing, or at most a few cents a day.

Exact evidence on this point was supplied by a Huntingdon farmer named Gilbert McMillan, who used for his illustration a typical 100 acre dairy farm with 18 to 20 cows milking, the investment being about \$8,000.

Such a farm would yield about 100,000 lbs. of milk a year, which, at current prices, would mean a gross revenue of \$700 a year. From this would come \$275 for such inescapable expenses as taxes, seed, repairs, insurance, leaving the farmer \$425.

The farmer could allow himself \$1.25 per day for the 365 long days milking night and morning, hauling milk to the station, ploughing, planting and harvesting feed, etc. If he did, however, nothing was left as return on the \$8,000 investment. Or, allowing 5% per cent on the investment, a very reasonable return, not a cent was left for the man's labor.

"We can't continue in business and sell milk for 75 cents a hundred. We couldn't continue for any length of time at \$1.35 per hundred. It is impossible to produce milk at that price. We do not know what the future has for us." So testified the chairman of the Montreal Milk Producers' Co-operative Association.

A more prosperous state of affairs was discovered when the committee requested the secretary-treasurer of a Montreal dairy company to file annual statements for 1931 and 1932.

This company, on a capital structure set at \$153,100 earned 10.8 per cent profit in 1931 and 13.04 per cent profit (net) in 1932. In addition it was able to pay its president \$10,000 a year, and its secretary-treasurer \$5,000. It set aside in 1932 \$35,004 for depreciation, and \$22,322 for bad and doubtful debts.

As contrasted with the \$425 net earning of the typical dairy farmer, making no allowance for investment, or nil when allowing for any return, the average wage of the employee distributing the farmer's product was \$1,310.

The company's price to the farmer at the farm was a little over 2 cents a quart average last year. It averaged 8 cents a quart on what it sold, 88 per cent of which was retail.

What remedy will the committee suggest? Price fixing by a commission is one suggestion. A 100 per cent organization of milk producers is another. A written contract between farmers and distributors is a third. Winnipeg has been successful in fixing a fair price to the consumer, according to evidence submitted to the inquiry.

WATER IN PLACE OF MEAL HELPS STOMACH

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NEWTONBROOK

A real enjoyable evening is in store for those who come to the entertainment in the S.S. room of the United Church next Tuesday evening, March 28th. Mr. C. R. Conquergood of Toronto will give an address illustrated by a number of lantern slides. His subject will be "How to study Religious Art." There will be a silver collection taken at the door.

Although last Monday evening was wet and disagreeable there was a large attendance at the Young People's meeting. After the regular meeting, a social hour was enjoyed by all which was in charge of the Social Committee. The meeting next Monday evening will be in charge of the Literary Convenor, Miss Doris Soden.

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Wiltshire entertained the United Church choir at their home last Friday evening, March 17th. After a short practice, the remainder of the evening was spent in playing games and contests. Mr. George Street and Miss Marjorie Johnson won first place in the Irish contest. Dainty refreshments were served after which all took part in a sing song. "Auld Lang Syne" brought a very happy evening to a close.

Mrs. Halbert entertained a number of the church ladies last Thursday afternoon in honor of Mrs. Adams, who is leaving this week to make her home near Kingston.

March 19th, was "David Livingstone Sunday" in the United Church Sunday School, when his 120th birthday was observed. Mr. A. W. Galbraith, S.S. Superintendent, gave a very interesting and instructive address on his life which was illustrated by 43 beautiful lantern slides. The pictures showed David Livingstone's home in Blantyre, Scotland, also the cotton mill on the River Clyde where he worked from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., when he was only 10 years old. Tired as he was he attended night school from 8 to 10 p.m. When 27 years of age he left for Africa as a missionary where he labored for 33 years. No missionary has achieved wider or more lasting fame.

The W.M.S. met last Tuesday at the church for the regular monthly meeting. Mrs. J. Soden presided. The sixth chapter of the Study Book "His Dominion of Canada" was reviewed by Miss E. Hope.

We extend hearty congratulations to Mr. Clarence O. Bales, one of the United Church officials, whose marriage took place last Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Carson of King visited Mr. and Mrs. Harry Smith last Wednesday. Mr. Smith is still confined to his home through illness.

A number of folks from King City and Teston attended the St. Patrick Lecture and Tea which was given in the United Church last week.

The North York Citizens intend holding a banquet at the Earl Haig Collegiate Institute on Friday, March 31st, at 7:30 p.m., in honor of the Hon. Dr. H. A. Bruce, Lieut. Governor.

Hon. G. S. Henry, Premier and Mr. Geo. B. Elliot, Warden, Sir William Mulock will be the chief speaker of the evening.

The W.M.S. of Newtonbrook United Church presented a successful St. Patrick's program last Wednesday afternoon, the main feature being an address on "Ireland" by Rev. W. J. Johnson of Eglinton United Church, which was much appreciated by a large audience. Afternoon tea was served in the Sunday School room, where St. Patrick decorations were carried out effectively. Mrs. E. R. Young, president of the Toronto Conference Branch and Mrs. T. R. White of Schomberg, first vice-president of Toronto Centre Presbyterial, presided at the tea table. Mrs. Roger Self, second vice-president of Toronto Centre Presbyterial, was also present. Greetings were briefly expressed by Rev. A. C. MacCollum of St. John's Anglican Church, York Mills; Rev. J. C. Davies, Westminster Presbyterial Church, Willowdale; Rev. T. G. McAteer of Lansing United Church and Rev. T. R. White of Schomberg.

Rev. A. H. Halbert sang a solo. Mrs. J. T. Soden, W.M.S. president, was assisted by Mrs. A. H. Halbert and Mrs. J. C. Bales in receiving the visitors who were present from Toronto, Weston, York Mills, Richmond Hill, King City, Teston, Thornhill, Willowdale and Lansing.

The Home and School Association will meet on Wednesday evening in the Newtonbrook Public School. A special feature of the meeting will be a play presented by twenty school girls.

A St. Patrick Social was held last Friday evening under the auspices of the Home and School Association and was very well attended considering that there were so many other social functions held that evening.

The lectures on Social Hygiene arranged under the auspices of North York Red Cross Society held in Earl Haig Collegiate Institute on Monday and Tuesday of last week were a decided success and both meetings were largely attended. On Monday evening Dr. Bruce Macdonald, Headmaster of St. Andrew's College, addressed the fathers and sons. Dr. C. E. Hill, M.O.H., was chairman of the evening. Mrs. Dan Ross, president of the Red Cross Society, presided at the meeting on Tuesday night, which was attended by mothers and daughters from all parts of the Township who filled the Assembly Hall to overflowing. The talk given by Mrs. A. Haygarth of the Provincial Department of Health was illustrated and the interest shown has made it possible to have the lecture repeated and it is hoped arrangements will be made for others. Mrs. Earl Bales and Miss Jocelyn Berry contributed solos and were accompanied at the piano by Mrs. C. W. Soules. Misses Eileen Kirby and Eleanor Innes contributed a piano duet.

Arrangements are now under way for the Ninth Annual Good Friday Union Service to be held in Newton-

brook United Church on Friday, April 14th, at 11 a.m.

Rev. A. H. Halbert will continue his Lenten sermons. His subject for next Sunday morning will be "Who Crucified Jesus?"

Mr. J. M. Doherty of Toronto was special soloist last Sunday evening at the United Church. He sang two solos very acceptably. The choir is rendering appropriate anthems for the Lenten Season. Next Sunday evening there will be a soloist from Toronto.

The Girl's Mission Circle is having an evening on "Pictures" shown by Mr. C. R. Conquergood next Tuesday evening, March 28th, in the S.S. room, to commence at 8 o'clock. Some of the world's greatest masterpieces will be shown on the screen and Mr. Conquergood will explain the significance of each picture. Parents and children are cordially invited. Everybody will be welcome.

KING CITY

The banquet of the King Horticultural Society, to be held in the McDonald and Wells Hall, King City, on March 29, at 7 p.m., can be confidently expected to be as great a success as in former years. The ladies in charge are planning an excellent menu, and as for quality of the baking, anyone who has attended before can testify to its high excellence.

Mr. J. A. Carroll, successor to Mr. J. Lockie Wilson, as head of the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies, will be present as the main speaker of the evening. J. Lockie Wilson, A. J. Eckhardt, Lionel Gibson, director of this Horticultural district and Mr. Percy Bone, president of Thornhill Horticultural Society have promised to attend.

Anyone can enjoy this splendid banquet, secure a valuable premium, obtain free entry to flower shows and enjoy all the privileges for 1933 for a small sum.

The Anglican W.A. was held at the home of Mrs. M. S. Benson on Thursday afternoon. Miss Newbury was the guest speaker.

The ladies of the United Church held a quilting bee on Thursday afternoon and finished eight quilts for the sale and to sell.

The Mission Band regular meeting will be held on Saturday afternoon in the Sunday School room. The study is on Canada and at the close of the meeting there will be Indian games and pop corn.

Miss Vera McCallu of Toronto spent a few days with her aunt, Mrs. M. Winter, the past week.

Mrs. J. Dew, Mrs. J. Patton, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Winter, Mrs. Stone, Mrs. Carson and Misses Florence Stewart and Dorothy Dew attended the meeting in Newtonbrook United Church on Wednesday afternoon, when Rev. Johnston of Eglinton United Church was the guest speaker.

A number from here have been attending the hockey games in Toronto of the Junior O.H.A. finals.

A great number attended the St. Patrick's Dance in McDonald and Wells Hall on Friday evening. Max Cameron's orchestra was in attendance with Farmer Ball floor amager.

And still the attendance of the Y. P.S. of United Church increases with 94 on Tuesday evening last. An excellent program was put on by the Hustlers with Miss Mabel Rumble and Eva Dennis in charge. The worship period was conducted by Mabel Rumble and Alfred Barker sang a beautiful solo. Other musical numbers were given by the Kitchen Orchestra, violin solo, Arleane Carson; vocal solos, Mrs. Butler, Irish. Readings and recitations were given by Hilda Patton, Helen Campbell and Kenneth Richards. Irish games and contests were enjoyed and a very tasty lunch was served by the Irish waitresses.

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