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VOL. LVIV.

RICHMOND HILL, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29th, 1940.

No. 35.

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FORTY YEARS AGO

From our Issue of March 1st, 1900
The thermometer Monday morning
registered 20 below zero in Rich-
mond Hill.

The annual meeting of the R. H. and Y. S. Agricultural Society was held Wednesday afternoon. The auditors' report showed the net receipts of the last fair to be \$100. The following officers were elected: President, Thos. Lloyd; 1st Vice-President, W. H. Pugsley; 2nd Vice-President, D. Lynett; Sec.-Treas., H. A. Nicholls; Directors, Wm. Thompson, L. L. Hartman, C. Norman, W. Wells, T. H. Legge, J. Slater, W. Ormerod, George Leek, G. Padget, D. C. Steele, George Gormley, R. Elliott, J. N. Boyle, W. H. Clubine, F. J. Gallanough, George Dibb, T. F. McMahon, I. Crosby, J. H. Sanderson, J. Palmer, W. Eyer, P. G. Savage.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Skeel had a birthday gathering of relatives on Saturday evening, it being the 81st birthday of the former.
There was a very fair attendance

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Chick'n Chats

(By E. W. Anstey)

at the carnival Tuesday evening. Special cars from Toronto and Newmarket brought a large number of visitors all along the line. The ice was good, but the number of masqueraders was small. The principal feature of the evening was a hockey match between the home team and Newmarket. The visitors proved too fast for the Hill team, the latter being defeated by a score of 7 to 1. The proceeds amounted to \$26.68.

THIRTY YEARS AGO

From our Issue of Feb. 24th, 1910
Mr. H. A. Nicholls, Real Estate agent, reports this week the sale of Mr. Wm. Washington's farm on the 2nd concession of Vaughan to Mr. Robert B. McNair. Mr. Washington intends moving to West Toronto in the early spring.

Mr. Joseph Cober, lot 27, con. 3, Markham, is preparing to build a new bank barn this spring. He intends to engage a portable sawmill to rip the logs in the old barn into square timber. His old barn is built of flatted pine logs and contains some of the finest timber this township ever produced. Mr. Asa Winger is also preparing to raise his barn and to put a stone basement under it with all the modern improvements in stabling etc.

Two curling rinks of the Newmarket Office Specialty Works came down Thursday evening and played a friendly game with the rinks here. The home rinks won by 7 shots. Mr. Lamont and Mr. J. P. Glass skipped for Richmond Hill, and Mr. Morgan and Mr. A. Peppiatt for Newmarket.

Marriage

McMAHON-WILEY—At the residence of the bride's sister, Mrs. C. G. Derry, 41 Woodlawn Avenue, Toronto, by Rev. A. P. Brace, B.D., on Thursday, February 17th, 1910, Helena H. Wiley, daughter of Mr. Gerrard Wiley, to T. F. McMahon of Richmond Hill.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

From our Issue, of Feb. 26th, 1925
Mr. Stanley Woodhead has resigned his position in the bank and has accepted a permanent engagement with the George Vivian Musical Comedy Stock Company, now playing in Toronto at the Regent Theatre.

Tuesday's papers record the death of Mr. George Keith, seed merchant, Toronto, in his 87th year. For many years Mr. Keith was an honored judge on seeds, roots, etc., at the Richmond Hill Spring Fair.

The annual commencement exercises held by the Richmond Hill High School Literary Society took place on Thursday and Friday evenings, February 19 and 20. The past president, Ernest Dickenson, presided. A splendid program was given; the first number of which was a short address by the chairman, in which he outlined the work of the Literary Society and the advantages of the new High School. This was followed by two piano solos that were beautifully rendered by Bernard Dudley. The recitations of Miss Jean McDonald received great praise. Then followed the Tatler, the school paper read by Ralph Johns on Thursday evening, and by Miss Marion Forester on Friday evening, in which the editor emphasized the need of an auditorium for the school. The duet sung by Miss Phyllis Glass and Miss Edna Wiltshire was very much enjoyed. David Stirling's rendering of "Cavatina" was perfectly delightful. One of the most interesting numbers of the programme was the folk dancing by the junior and senior girls under the direction of Mr. Coles. On Thursday evening the Athletic Prizes were presented to the successful pupils. Mr. Rupert Jackson won the senior boys' championship and Mr. Howard Atkinson the junior for boys, Miss Isobel Cowie, the senior championship girls for fourth year, and Miss Irene Smith, the junior girls' championship. Fifth form won the shield, emblematic of the form winning the highest number of average points. The main feature of the evening was a comedy entitled "My Lord in Livery". All the numbers were excellent and well rendered. They all showed hard practice and clever talent. The whole commencement was carried out in such a way to be a credit to the training and management of the teachers.

During the past few years poultry breeding has been done on a more scientific basis than ever before, and it has become more and more involved; not only has a breeder got to work hard and pay careful attention to a great many factors in order to get good stock but he has to continue his breeding program and in no case must he relax his vigilance, in order to keep that stock up to a high standard.

Early breeders were much interested in show qualities and in emphasizing those points that were of importance when breeding purely for exhibition purposes. A few breeders through the use of trap-nests focused attention on breeding for egg production and in a short time had developed birds of fairly high egg production, but little or no attention was paid to egg size or color.

Record of Performance work started originally in Canada. A few years later Michigan and other American states organized their first R.O.P. associations. Because of the rigid requirements of R.O.P. work it was necessary for most breeders to eliminate at once many families because of the small egg size factor. It was no effort to produce birds that would lay 200 or more eggs per year but to produce birds that would lay that number of eggs averaging 24 ounces or more to the dozen was something quite different. It was found that those birds that came through and met the R.O.P. requirements were somewhat larger individuals, and good breeders were immediately impressed with the fact that body size must be kept constantly in mind in all future breeding work.

About this time people became egg-quality conscious, and once more breeders realized that, along with the number of eggs and egg size—egg shape, color and shell texture were important factors to consider in their breeding programs.

It should be the aim of any good breeder to produce stock of high quality for his future use and for the use of his customers, and in so doing he knows that his customers will be satisfied with the results obtained from this stock, and his efforts year after year must be along the lines of improvement. This means that he must make the best possible use of all the known factors that are desirable and must keep in mind these qualities and make every effort to make them dominant in his strain of birds.

Most of the better poultry breeders and the number of "good breeders" is limited, have a definite breeding program that is kept always before them. Egg production, egg size, and egg quality; hatchability and livability; reasonable body type, bird size and freedom from standard defects; or various combinations of these factors.

We know that certain families and strains inherit a certain definite resistance to most diseases, and any sensible program must be based on the assumption that birds to be kept at a profit, under ordinary management and under ordinary conditions must be able to live well and lay well.

In our opinion lifetime performance and production of a bird is very important in a good breeding program. A breeding program in which all females are trap-nested as long as they remain on the breeder's premises means considerable added expense, but in the long run through the proper use of these individuals it will more than pay.

The real poultry breeders must, through careful and patient application of genetic principles, develop families and strains that have enough stamina and disease resistance to survive and lay profitably under ordinary farm conditions even when exposed to the many diseases which are found on almost every farm.

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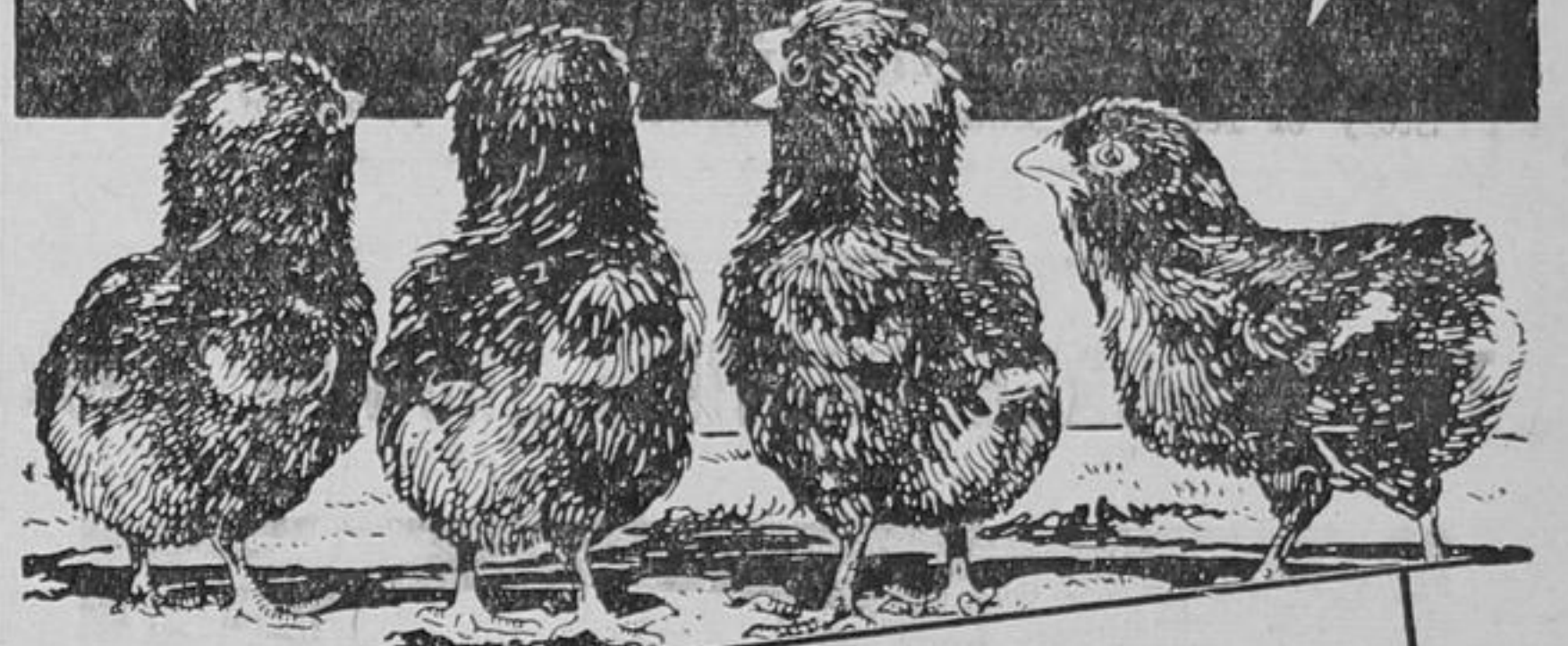
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