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## CANADIAN PLOWMEN ABROAD

by W. L. CLARK \* President ONTARIO PLOWMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Workington — Now that the Empire Plowing Match is over, I would like to tell you something about the contest itself. The big news is that John Capton, the Salada silver medalist, came second in the general purpose horse plowing match. We are all very proud of John. He is the idol of the people here and wherever we go he is the centre of attraction. During the contest, which was held at Stainburn Hall Farm, Workington, crowds followed him up and down the field. The officials offered to hold them back but John said no—it didn't bother him. Afterwards, the school children vied with one another to get his autograph.

Alf Brunton, Russ Hare and Glen McFadden also plowed exceptionally well. If judged by Canadian rules we might have had two or three firsts but the British have their own plowing methods that differ from ours. This is not meant to be an excuse. We realized all along that British standards and equipments would be different and everything considered the boys did very well. They took hold of strange equipment (the plowmen here still favour the High Cut plow for match work although they use very little of it on their farms) and tried to adjust it to Canadian techniques. They did not attempt to copy the British methods since that would have been impossible in such a short time.

**Empire Plowing Match**  
The day of the match dawned blustery and unpromising. Light rain fell at intervals but fortunately not enough to cause any serious inconvenience. Last year, as you will remember, plowing matches in England and Ireland had to be called off due to the unusually severe weather.

Some 50 contestants took part in the Workington match and in spite of the weather, a large crowd of spectators gathered. The scene was much the same as one of our best branch matches. The tractors slight-ly outnumbered the horses. The land was of a gravelly nature but in good shape to plow as far as moisture was concerned.

All the events were well contested and in most of them the winners were from the northern counties in England. John came second in his class to a chap from Carlisle. After the match, we were guests of the Workington Agricultural Society at a dinner held in our honour. We heard a number of interesting speeches including an address by Canon Croft, on the history of the Workington Agricultural Society. Prefacing his remarks with an anecdote, the Canon, who is a vice-president of the Society, told us that the experiments in tilling the soil had not been too successful — little more so in fact than the man who when asked how his potatoes grew said: "Well, there are some as big as pmanbles, and some as big as peas—and of course, a lot of little

uns." Canon Croft then compared the present period in England with the year 1808 when the Workington Agricultural Society came into being. Then, as today, there was a shortage of food. The population had increased from 7,000,000 to 14,000,000 and England had to improve her agriculture or starve.

"British farmers met the challenge in 1808, they can do it again," said the Canon. He concluded his talk with a tribute to the Canadian people, touching briefly on the part they played in the Boer war, World War I and World War II and emphasizing the contributions they are making in agriculture in the post-war period.

Russell Hare moved a vote of thanks to the Agricultural Society. He expressed the sentiments of all of us when he spoke of the pride felt by himself and the other plowmen at being the first representatives of Canada to compete in plowing matches in Britain and our appreciation of the warm welcome received on every hand.

Musical entertainment was provided during the evening and our own Alf Brunton sang amidst great applause. To quote from the Cumberland Evening Star, Alf "created a furore with Apple Blossom Wedding".

You will probably be interested to know that the plowing match, in addition to being filmed by newsreel cameras and made the subject of a broadcast commentary, was also televised. The boys were featured in a broadcast for the North American Radio and will be featured again in a ten minute program which will be transmitted during "Farmers' Half Hour" in the North of England and North of Ireland Home Service on Sunday, February 15th.

**Exhibition of Sheep Herding**  
Relaxing after the strain of yesterday's contest, we were taken today on one of the most enjoyable excursions of our entire tour so far—a motor bus trip through the Lake District. On Helvellyn Mountain we watched a splendid exhibition of sheep herding by border collies. The dogs are directed by their master's whistle, each by a note of its own. The intelligence and skill of the dogs in rounding up the sheep is truly remarkable.

Tomorrow we leave for Scotland where our first stop will be Edinburgh. The itinerary planned for us includes St. Cuthbert's Co-operative Association Farm at Bonnington, the Perth Aberdeen Angus Cattle Sale, Glasgow and Loch Lomond.

## BUTTONVILLE

A houseful of neighbours and friends gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. Gohn on Saturday evening to wish them good luck in their new home and to express regret at their departure. Mr. Gohn, and his father before him, had resided on the farm on the third concession of Markham all his life and he and his wife as neighbours were two of the best.

Mr. and Mrs. Gohn were presented with a lovely floor lamp and coffee table. Miss Ruth Gohn received a fine table lamp.

The evening was a pleasant one, a sing-song, speeches, a solo, recitations and finally a dance, followed by lunch, brought the evening to a close. The Gohn family will reside in Unionville and we are pleased to think they will often be back with us in our community activities.

World Day of Prayer met this year on February 13 at the home of Mrs. W. Craig, with a very good attendance. Key lady for the day next year is Mrs. Russell Boyington.

Mr. Nelson Boyington is leaving the garage at the corner where he has been in business for many years but we are pleased to report that he and his family are not departing from the community, but are going across the corner to the old Brook farm which they have bought. Mr. John Johnston (Johnny) has bought the garage and will carry on as usual.

Members of the Women's Institute, members of their families, former members and their husbands are looking forward to Thursday evening, February 26th for a real get-together. It is the occasion of the Institute annual social evening and we know a good time will be spent by all.

Remember the ecure in the hall on Monday, February 23.

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by PREMIER GEORGE DREW

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York County Council agreed to pay grants totalling \$150,000 to hospitals within the county and City of Toronto during 1948. Amount in 1947 was \$100,000.

Constable Charles McGlade of York County police was elected president of York County Police Association at the annual meeting. The retiring secretary-treasurer Ex-chief Ronald Watt of Newmarket, was elected to life membership, while former Sgt. Kenneth Mount was elected to honorary membership.

Officers elected were: Vice-presidents, William R. Hill, sr., Wm. R. Hill, jr. of Newmarket; secretary-treasurer, Chief Karl Morton, North Gwillimbury township; provincial representatives, C. Wideman, Markham township, A. Wallace, York County; convention delegates, W. W. Martindale, York County, and past-president W. R. Hill, sr.

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# ALLOCATION OF HYDRO POWER SOUTHERN ONTARIO SYSTEM

It has become necessary, due to a reduction in the amount of purchased power available, to issue the following notice to municipalities and direct customers of the Commission in the Southern Ontario System.

"Effective February 18, 1948, and continuing until further notice, the daily consumption of kilowatthours shall be restricted to a maximum of 90% of the average daily consumption of kilowatthours in the month of October, 1947. This reduction shall not apply to customers whose power supply was interrupted by the Commission in October, 1947 to the extent of 10% or more of normal delivery."

This is a temporary emergency arising from sub-normal rain fall last Autumn which has forced two of the Quebec power companies to drastically reduce their deliveries of power to The Commission.

This restriction will be lifted just as soon as circumstances permit and in the meantime, all consumers must play their full part by saving electricity at all times.

If the specified reduction in consumption of electricity is not obtained, it will be necessary to cut off the supply of electricity entirely for definite intervals of time each day, wherever the specified consumption is being exceeded.

THE HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER COMMISSION OF ONTARIO

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