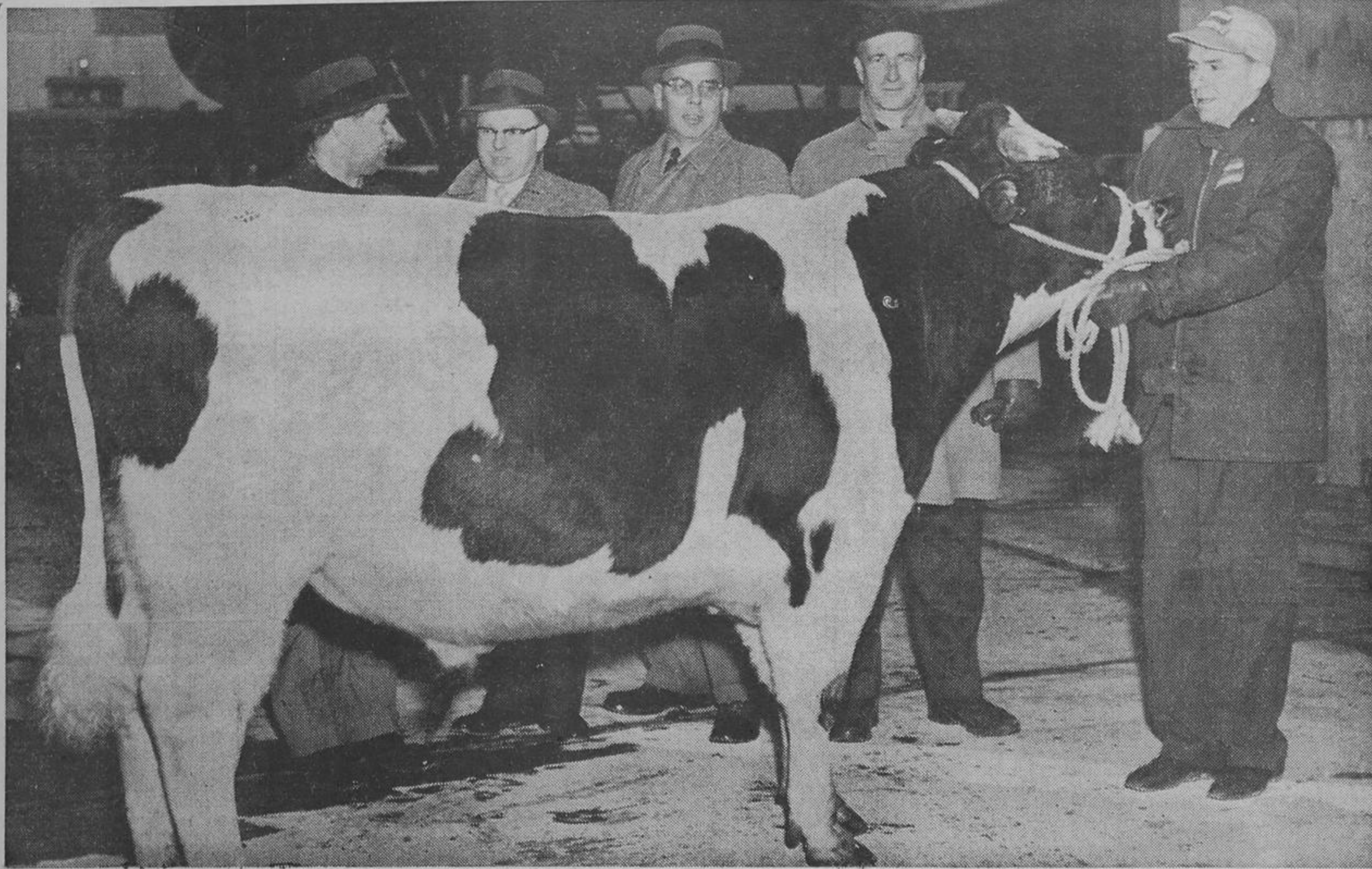


# George Robson, Maple, Reports Czechoslovakian Techniques



George Robson, manager of the Shur-Gain Farm, Maple, is shown above, third from the left, watching while Herdsman Lorne Langley steadies prize bull Glenafton Revelation for a picture prior to taking it and 26 Holstein heifers to Czechoslovakia aboard a converted Super-Constellation in mid-December. The shipment represented the first such Holstein breed imported to Czech state farms

A mission from the Czechoslovakian Government to Shur-Gain Experimental Farm, Maple, last October resulted, two months later, in Manager George Robson accompanying 27,000 lbs. of choice Shur-Gain Holstein breeding stock (26 heifers and the senior bull calf, Glenafton Revelation) airlifted at a cost of \$11,500.00, to Czechoslovakia. The 20-hour flight was made from Malton via Newfoundland, Scotland, Holland and thence to Prague in a Super Constellation remodelled to hold the cattle. In Czechoslovakia, Mr. Robson had an opportunity to look into agricultural matters in general and despite the inevitable passport difficulties synonymous with visits to Iron Curtain countries, found the trip an interesting experience. For the benefit of district farmers, "The Liberal" tells about that trip as reported by Mr. Robson.

By George Robson  
On the Saturday of my arrival at Prague, Karl Dedic, assistant director of public relations for the department of agriculture arranged to pick me up on Sunday and on that day, riding in a chauffeur-driven car, we proceeded to a State Farm, 50 miles from the city. He explained the land set-up by saying there were some 13,000 collective farms averaging in size about 1,000 acres; some 250 state farms, so organized as to give leadership in crop raising, livestock breeding and mechanization and less than 10 Giant Farms which are mass production units.

Our drive through the countryside brought to light several facts. No land is wasted because

the same is worked within four feet of the concrete highways; sugar beets and potatoes are two of the main crops and no land is designated for grazing because of damage caused to it by cattle. Feed is drawn to these cattle. The climate is similar to our own but doesn't get as cold. Sixteen degrees above in Czechoslovakia is considered severe. Fall wheat can be planted until November, and oat seeding starts in March. And while the country is quickly becoming mechanized, the equipment is not treated, on the whole, with the same respect as it is in Canada. I never saw so many plows left sitting outside. All machinery was native to the Communist countries.

**Dual-Purpose**  
At the state farm's cattle barn I learned there was only one breed, the Red and White Spotted cattle. This is a dual-purpose breed, of medium size which, while not a heavy milk producer is the source of beef production. I would assume that a record of 7,000 lbs. would be rather good. Nor are these cattle high testers. An average sized unit is 100 milking at all times and any new buildings are constructed to accommodate that number. Milk is handled in many cases in bulk and there is no problem in arriving at prices to the producer. Quotas, 2 per cent milk, Jersey and Guernsey milk versus Holstein milk because this is one product in short supply.

The state farm cattle are not as well fed as ours because there just isn't available an abundance of different feeds in Czechoslovakia. However, they feed the same grains as we do, and at the time I was there a great deal of beet pulp was being fed. This of course was soaking wet and fresh from the sugar beet factories.

On this farm they had a large potato cooking and drying operation. Potato meal is used for livestock food. All in all I would say the cattle operation was good but the housekeeping left a lot to be desired.

**Giant Farm**  
Monday was spent with interviews at the Parliament Buildings with heads of several departments and on Tuesday I was taken through Bohemia to Moravia where we visited a giant farm, specializing in the growing and finishing of market pigs. Around this enterprise was a barbed wire fence with a guard at the gate. Our automobile had to drive through a trough 10 feet wide and 20 feet long filled with a strong disinfectant. In the manager's office near the gate we were given white coats and white pullover rubbers.

The building consisted of 10 buildings constructed of brick and concrete, each 50 by 500 feet, in two rows of five with a concrete road running between them, and as a disease barrier spaced at least 200 feet apart. Each building held 2,500 pigs of uniform size and weight. There were 25,000 pigs on feed. The plan is this: On a separate farm over 400 sows are bred in a very short time, artificially, to produce pigs enough to fill a barn. At five weeks of age they are weaned and moved to another farm where they are grown out to 80 lbs. Then 2,500 are moved into a barn on the giant farm, where they remain until they reach a weight of 350-400 lbs. They are then marketed. One might wonder why they are allowed to get so heavy. Czechoslovakia is famous for the production of large hams, one of their major export items. Then there is a tremendous shortage of lard. **Fine Enterprise**

This enterprise is no doubt one of the finest in the world. The buildings were constructed by voluntary labour free. Every building is fully automated. Feed is brought by a conveyor system to bulk bins in each barn. From these bins the feed passes through large glass pipes to the self-feeders. Automatic stable cleaners and waterers are in-

stalled. The manure passes into a huge tank at the end of the barn where it is pumped into tanks and spread on the land.

**Big Brother**  
To further emphasize the degree of automation, a closed TV circuit was being installed, and in the manager's office was a TV set with 10 channels. By switching a button he can have a picture flashed on the screen, thus letting him know what is taking place in any one of the 10 buildings. This could be pretty rough on the hired help. However, I never saw as healthy a group of pigs. There were no visible signs of disease. No bedding was used and the pigs were very white and clean. They lie on 1 1/2 inch of blacktop covering the cement. The mortality rate, after the pigs weigh 80 lbs. and until market time, is 25 per cent. Feed efficiency was five lbs. to one lb. of live weight gain.

It might be well to mention that at the beginning of each year this farm is committed to deliver to the state so many pounds of live pigs. If the amount is delivered in excess the management and staff are handsomely bonus-ed. Labour requirements were 2 1/2 men to 2,500 pigs. This giant farm finishes annually 60,000 pigs. The breed used is the Czech. White, which is much like the English Large White, only they are much shorter, have heavier hams and excellent feet and legs. **6,500 Acres**

Our next stop was at the Zidlochovic State Farm which is the

pride and joy of the republic. It consists of approximately 6,500 acres and all but about 500 acres is arable. This farm was put together from land acquired from imperial estates and church properties. What used to be a castle occupied by Archduke Frederick is now a beautiful hunting lodge. There we stayed overnight, and next day visited the various farming and livestock enterprises.

On all these farms, whether collective or state, the success of agriculture is evaluated by the amount of milk produced on a hectare or 2 1/2 acres of land. Management is proud when they say they have produced as much as 194,000 lbs. of milk off 250 acres of land in one year. To Holstein breeders this is not much of a record, and regardless of the quality of the cattle from Shur-Gain Farm they are bound to increase production.

On this particular farm the main crops were grain, sugar beets, corn and grapes. Livestock holdings consisted of their native cattle and 200 were milked at all times.

Also there was under experiment a group of Danish Red Cattle. A very fine breeding herd of Czech White hogs also was maintained. The manager of this farm is rated as the top farm manager in the republic, and the "powers that be" are happy to tell you so. It is to this farm that the Holstein cattle were to go, after completing a quarantine of 30 days near Prague.

## Vocations In Handwriting

# Man's Bugaboo - Envy Reveals Inferiority

BY ALEX SJOBERG (C.G.A. - I.G.A.S.)

There's more to a career than aptitude potential. Your outlook on life is just as important as technical or creative ability. Today we want you to study the first letter M with the small squared loop, on the bottom line. This means jealousy, which is fear of competition. Now, jealousy combined with acquisitiveness spells out to ENVY which, when excessive, is a poisonous weed in the garden of life. Envy is as common as the common cold and just as we dread this disease so do we seek by any number of guileful methods to dispel envy.

Envy is a measure of one's lack of self-confidence which in turn reflects a lack of self-understanding, and distorted social concepts. Excessive envy, like alcoholism and other forms of neuroticism is largely a social disease but we cannot go into this profound subject here. However, a little understanding of the trait will go a long way toward making life somewhat easier.

We know a well-to-do engineer, now retired, who was driven by envy. While his financial rewards were great the net result of his ambition and creativeness, happiness, eluded him for 50 years. He was 60 before he conquered envy and he told us that he considered those 50 years a complete waste.

Envy is as insatiable as it is wasteful. It feeds upon itself, interferes with true efficiency, impedes or blocks proper potential, discolours the emotional tone. It sours. Being anti-social it attracts hostility. It smiles at the boss's jokes, however inane they may be, barely tolerates the equal and is contemptuous of others. It

is distorted thinking. One mark of culture is the lack of envy; a proof of intellectual progress the outgrowing of this trait. Envy is immaturity. It never fails to be recognized, is an embarrassment to one's company and gives no peace to the possessor.

Our engineer told us: "In my case envy was the terrible gift of my frustrated father. Unwittingly he sacrificed me to a large measure of unfulfillment. In turn, my envy poisoned my children. Now that I understand it I know that a child who is well loved and wisely taught, encouraged to look into matters, to analyze and compare, to understand himself in relation to life, is not envious. He has confidence in himself. He has a workable philosophy. In trying to set an example for my grandchildren now to make some amends to my own children."

Now study the first capital M on the top line and take note of the enlarged closed loop. Our engineer now makes his capital M's in this fashion and which, in conjunction with other traits as revealed by other strokes, show that he has outgrown jealousy. He is still quite acquisitive, but this trait now works hand in glove with a broadened and sharpened interest in philosophical matters.

If there is jealousy in your handwriting, don't jump to conclusions. It must be carefully evaluated and, since only a professional grapho analyst can do this, jealousy sometimes is a needed trait. And you can be acquisitive for affection, greater knowledge, for travel and so forth. But where jealousy and acquisitiveness exist, it is time for a close look at self. Then it will pay big dividends to have your writing analyzed. Remember too that there are degrees of envy and that in some cases a sharp, probing, analytical intelligence will qualify the trait, as could signs of generosity, and so forth. Trait combinations and specific meanings thereof are numberless.

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## Front End Parts

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>COIL SPRINGS</b>   | <b>TIE ROD ENDS</b>  |
| Chevrolet, 1955-57 10.10<br>Pair                                      | Chevrolet, 1949-57 3.80<br>(most). Pair  |
| Dodge, Ford, Meteor and Plymouth (most to '56)<br>Pair 11.50 to 13.96 | Dodge and Plymouth, 1946-56. Pair 4.85<br>Ford and Meteor, 1942-58 (most). Pair 3.80 |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>KING BOLT SETS</b>  | <b>BALL JOINTS</b>   |
| Includes everything that is needed for both wheels.<br>Ford and Meteor, 1947-54. Set 5.60<br>Chevrolet, 1942-54. Set 4.25<br>Dodge and Plymouth, 1946-56. Set 5.20 | Reduces front wheel sway, improves steering.<br>Chev. Pontiac, 1955-59, Upper 8.70<br>Lower 6.20 to 8.50<br>Ford and Meteor, 1955-58 9.35<br>Upper 14.90<br>Lower 11.60 to 13.20<br>if flattened out cause rear end dragging... check regularly! |

|  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| <b>LEAF SPRINGS</b>  |                       |
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|---|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Chev., 1949-53 (most)                     | 4.70                        | 6.95                         | 11.05                            |
| Chev., 1954-59, 6-cyl. (most)             | 6.40                        | 8.65                         | 12.95                            |
| Pontiac, 1951-54, 6-cyl. (most)           | 4.70                        | 6.95                         | 11.10                            |
| Pontiac, 1955-59, 6-cyl. (most)           | 6.40                        | 8.65                         | 13.00                            |
| Dodge and Plymouth 1949-59, 6-cyl. (most) | 6.90                        | 9.15                         | 13.25                            |
| Ford, 1949-54 (most)                      | 4.70                        | 6.95                         | 10.85                            |
| Ford, 1955-56 (most)                      | 6.60                        | 8.85                         | 12.95                            |
| Ford, 1957-59 (8-cyl.)                    | 7.65                        | 9.90                         | 14.25                            |
| Studebaker Champ, 1947-54 6-cyl. (most)   | 6.35                        | 8.60                         | 12.95                            |
| Studebaker Champ, 1955-60 6-cyl. (most)   | 6.70                        | 8.95                         | 13.20                            |

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**Birthday Greetings**  
Belated birthday greetings to Gerald Charles who celebrated his 16th birthday in January.

**Young Women's Institute**  
The next meeting of the Young Women's Institute will be held at the home of Mrs. Kay Morris on Feb. 8th.

**Prize Winners**  
Mrs. R. Curtis, Mrs. Kir-Ky - Mr. S. Pattison, Mrs. R. Manol - Mrs. Mary C. Brian, and Mrs. N. Hicks.

**Mark-Vaun Womens' Institute**  
The February meeting of the Mark-Vaun Womens' Institute will be held on February 2nd at the home of Mrs. Stella Wilkins, No. 7 Highway E.

**The Roll Call**  
The Roll Call will be "A Service I can render my community." The programme is to be in charge of Mrs. M. Holt - Public Relations Convener. Members are reminded to bring their donations for the Cancer Cupboard.

**Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. Drew and Mrs. Hobbs**  
Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. Drew and Mrs. Hobbs are in charge of the refreshments.

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**Obituary**  
We are sorry to have to commence our column by reporting the passing of Mrs. E. Brooks, No. 7 Highway on Monday, January 23rd at the Toronto General Hospital. Mrs. Brooks had been in failing health for some time but was hospitalized shortly after Christmas with Bronchial Pneumonia.  
Funeral services were held at Holy Trinity Church, Thornhill, where Mrs. Brooks was a member, with Rev. L. Varey officiating. Cremation followed the service.  
Our deepest sympathy is extended to Mr. Brooks, Mrs. Erjon, and Mrs. R. Elliott and family.