

# A very unusual fly

By Margo McCallum

"Once Upon A Time" began Mistress Polly Pitcher from her place on the workshop shelf.

Alfred flicked his ears, uncrossed his legs, reached for his pencil, and began to write.

He had been trying for some time to get Miss Polly to tell her story but, when Alfred asked her age she hemmed and hawed and refused to continue.

"Yes" went on Miss Polly with a sly sideways glance at Alfred. "A long time ago in a village quite near here a Queen was coming to tea.

Everyone was in quite a tizzy. It seems that she had heard about our great bakers and delicious tea, and since our rural village was just a nice drive from Capitol City she was coming on Thursday afternoon.

The day dawned bright and clear. Dairy cattle released from their barn after morning milking nodded their heads to each other, swishing their tails as if to say, it's going to be a hot one today.

"And so it was. A real scorcher. By midday everyone was pulling out fans to stir the air. The ladies kept an anxious eye on the jellied fruit salads and the seven minute frosting of the jam filled layer cakes, and continued Miss Polly "even the flies seemed too lazy to buzz around."

Alfred smiled to himself at that last remark. He knew full well that Miss Polly Pitcher had no sympathy for flies, even well behaved and well educated ones like Alfred who could read and write. Being just thirty years old himself, he kept quiet out of deference to Miss Pitcher's seniority.

"Ah, how well I remember. The bunting was everywhere, the town glistened with new paint. Flowerbeds glowed with colour.

The chief magistrate, whose hobby was growing roses, had prepared a lovely bouquet. All was ready." Miss Polly's voice trembled and the crack in her beautiful side grated ever so slightly as she relived again that dear and distant day.

"Everything went along very well" continued Polly. "The Queen approved of everything and everyone, all that is until the time came to gather for tea."

"The ladies dressed in their finest sat behind the gleaming silver tea services.

The Queen graciously accepted the delicate cakes and pastries,— but then the carefully laid plans fell apart!!! When asked how she liked her tea the Queen replied in clear ringing tones that "She would be most pleased to have a glass of iced tea".

"Ice tea" squeaked Mrs. Bumble!

"We don't have any" said tactless Mrs. Doudy.

"We'll get some" said practical Mary Pratt.

"I'll be back in a trice", "and continued Miss Polly; my Mary Pratt went straight to her own kitchen and took me out of her china cabinet. Although I was only used for milk and sometimes cold lemonade on Sundays, I was always kept polished to a high

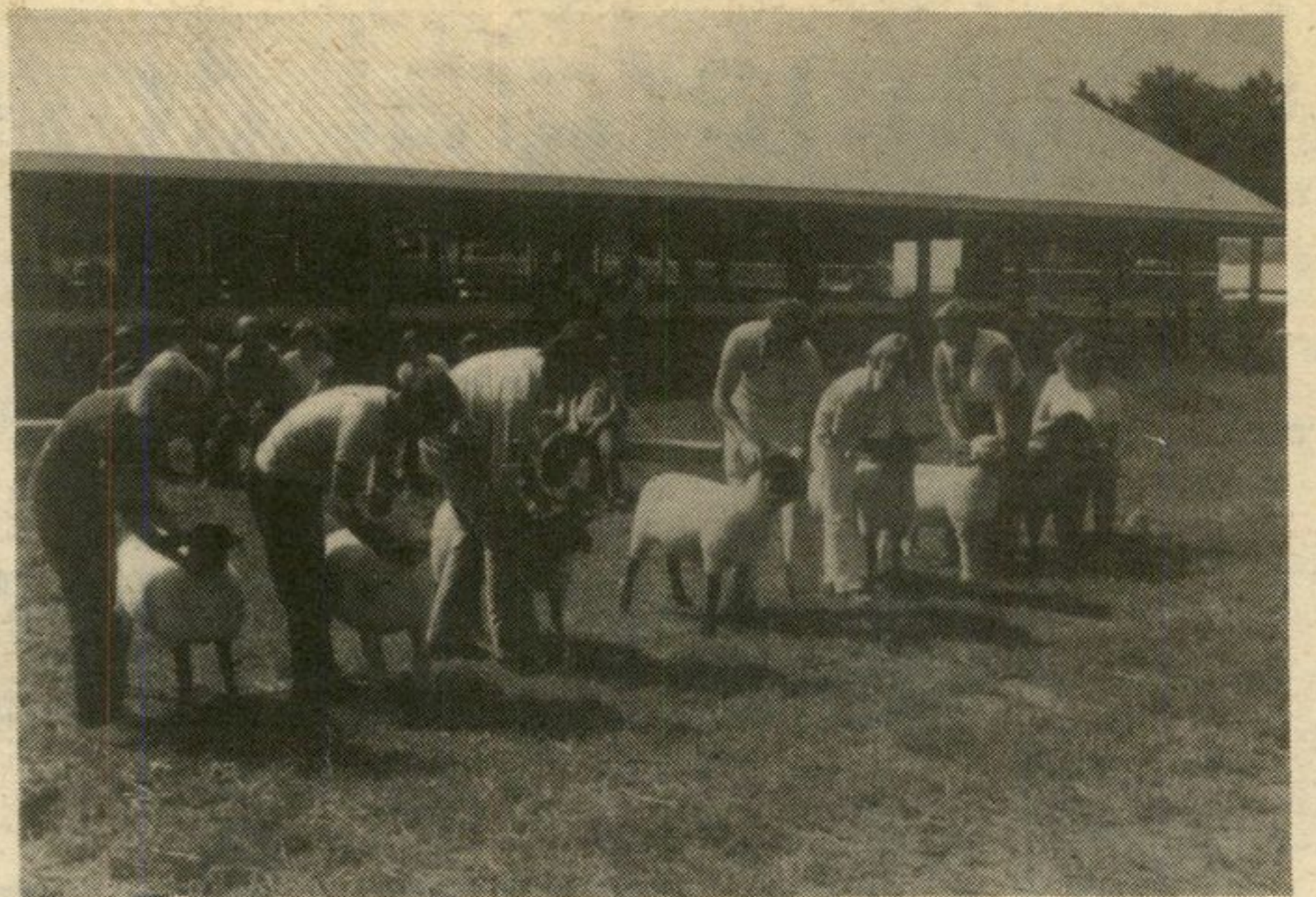
shine with vinegar and water and lots of elbow grease. I was quickly filled with chipped ice and rushed back to the tea table. It wouldn't do to keep a Queen waiting, you know."

"I can feel it yet! The cold ice chilling me all over. The strong hot tea pouring in an amber stream, crackling — melting, then oh horrors, I was cracking!!— Oh, this would never do; what a disgrace, my moment of glory to be thus shattered.

"No" "I said to myself, I will not have it. I am determined not to leak one drop. And I didn't. I held together. Beautifully straight and proud as glass after glass was filled with iced tea. For after all, if the Queen chose iced tea her loyal subjects would no less."

"Oh yes" concluded Miss Polly Pitcher, "that was my brief fling at greatness. My Mary Pratt is long since dead and gone and I by virtue of my years am called antique, — and that Mr. Smarty Alfred is as close as I will come to admitting my age."

Alfred thanked her politely for her story, all the while smiling secretly to himself, for he knew that Miss Pitcher was to be repaired and placed in the township museum as a prized momento of the day the Queen came to tea.



EWE WHO

Not since World War II has the Russell Fair had a Commercial Sheep Show. This year with the efforts of Jack and Lois James and Bob and Nancy Matthew, all of Russell, it was re-instated with the purpose of introducing novice exhibitors to the show ring. Three of the five exhibitors attended a Show Preparation Clinic held in June. The exhibitors were Bob and Jean Bellingham of Baa-B Suffolks, Kemptville, Ken and Sharon Bogden of Evergreen Acres, Russell, Bob and Nancy Matthew, Russell, Dean McKeown, Kenmore and Jean Rivers of Riverslea Suffolks, Russell. Judge Ernie Burton awarded Grand Champion Ewe to the Bellinghams and Bogdens came away with Grand Champion Ram and Grand Champion Flock. (Nancy Matthew photo)

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## Township of Russell Planning Board Commission d'Urbanisme de la Municipalité de Russell

### NOTICE OF HEARING

### AVIS D'AUDIENCE

Public meetings will be held by the Planning Board of the Township of Russell to present the secondary plan for the village of Embrun and Russell.

September 17th, 10:00 hrs — Russell arena

September 18th, 20:00 hrs — Centre Recreatif d'Embrun

Soyez avisé(e) que la commission d'urbanisme de la municipalité de Russell présentera au public le plan secondaire pour le village d'Embrun et de Russell.

17 septembre à 20:00 heures à l'aréna de Russell

18 septembre à 20:00 heures au centre récréatif d'Embrun

### EXPLANATION

The Secondary Plan for the Village Embrun and the Village of Russell was prepared to guide growth and development within the Villages. Detailed servicing and development policies, the land use maps constitute the Secondary Plan which should be regarded as supplementary to, and in conformity with, the new Official Plan for the township of Russell.

### EXPLICATION

Le plan secondaire a été préparé pour guider la croissance et le développement à l'intérieur des villages. Des politiques détaillées de développement et de services publics ainsi que des cartes pour déterminer l'usage de terrains constituent le plan secondaire qui devrait être considéré supplémentaire à, et en conformité avec le nouveau plan directeur pour la municipalité de Russell.