

**Mainstream**

# Sticking it out

By Tony Carlson

Make no mistake about it, farming is a business and a tough one at that.

Like any Main Street merchant or Bay Street tycoon the farmer of the 1980s is bombarded with things new: new technologies, new consumer tastes, new management strategies.

Even the most concrete-headed city slicker can see that all these things have

left an indelible stamp on the old family homestead. The farm operator today has no choice but to meet the changing world head on.

Yet for all their expertise, for all their ability to juggle a huge range of chores - from complex planning and investment right down to mucking out stalls - farmers still stand vulnerable before the elements.

For most of us, prolonged days of sun and heat mean great beach weather. A hailstorm is a brief diversion, the only significant detail the size of the stones. A horde of grasshoppers? Well, for some urban kids it became an opportunity in Regina this summer.

When Dad put a one-

cent bounty on each hopper they could take from the back yard, the kids responded with entrepreneurial glee, combing the neighbourhood for the pests and fattening their bankrolls.

But for the farmers confronted by these natural phenomena, as hundreds were on the Prairies this year and last, drought, hail and insect plagues have an impact the city cousins can only guess at.

This summer, driest since records were started 83 years ago, is taking its toll not only on the crops but also on the people closest to them who must face the massive stress of an uncertain future every day. For dry lands today

can too easily be deeply eroded by an unremitting wind.

Insurance covers much of the financial loss, of course, and government aid has further softened the blow in many cases. But the hard fact remains that work is being destroyed by capricious nature.

It can happen in the few seconds of a hailstorm or tornado, or over a parching summer. But it always tests the resiliency of this tough breed of people we too often take for granted.

"I farmed for 14 years and never got a crop," wrote one Alberta farmer of his Depression experience, a saga that comes

fearfully close to the reality of today.

"It started in with the dust storms, about three or four years of dust storms; then it started in with the grasshoppers; then after the grasshoppers were through, it started in with the rust. We were hailed out two years in a row, never had a chance of getting ahead. We stuck it out because the times would break if we stuck it out long enough; but it went 14 years and it never did break."

In circumstances that would test the patience of Job, farmers still stick it out.

And for that, we have much to be thankful.

## Check jeans for quality

Shopping for bluejeans? "Considering the price of a pair today, some attention to quality of fabric and construction is in order," says Clothing and Textiles Specialist Margaret Loewen of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food's rural organizations and services branch. First, check the fabric weight.

A heavy denim is more durable and even though a pre-washed pair of jeans may feel lighter, don't confuse pre-washed softness with lightweight fabric.

Seams should be double stitched to prevent ravelling, especially in stress areas such as the seat and pockets.

A well-made waistband has several rows of stitching and at least five belt loops, two of them positioned over the back pockets for support.

Strong zippers are made of metal - not nylon. And stops should be located at the top and bottom of the zipper so the slide doesn't pull off. Of course the zipper should be straight and flat.

Try on the jeans and remember that unwashed jeans will shrink two per cent to four per cent after washing.

To preserve your jeans' good looks, wash in warm water for no more than 10 minutes. Dry at medium heat in the dryer or on the clothesline outdoors.

**TESTORI** — Mr. Peter Testori, age 90 years, of Rosspoint, passed away peacefully on Saturday, August 24, 1985 in the McCausland Hospital, Terrace Bay. Born in Falamenta, Italy, January 8, 1985. He moved to Canada in 1912. He worked in the United States and in Canada. Retired from the CPR in 1960 and made his home in Rosspoint for the past 54 years. Married in 1926 to the former Angela Zanni, who predeceased him in 1972. His home and his family were his main interests. Survived by his daughter, Prina, son-in-law, Eugene Gerow, grandson, Peter Gerow, and granddaughter, Catherine Gerow, all of Rosspoint. Also survived by sisters-in-law, Lucy Testori, of Thunder Bay and Angela Testori, in Italy, also nieces and nephews in Thunder Bay, California, Italy and Owen Sound. Predeceased by his son, John, in infancy, his parents, three sisters and three brothers. He rested at the Kings Funeral Home, Schreiber. Funeral Mass was on Tuesday, Aug. 27 at 19:30 a.m. at St. John Berchmans Catholic Church, Rosspoint. Interment in adjoining cemetery. If friends so desire, donations to the charity of their choice would be appreciated. Prayers were held at 8 p.m. Monday evening.

**DEATH**

**VIENNEAU:** Mrs. Yvonne Vienneau age 64 years of Schreiber passed away at the Toronto General Hospital on Tuesday, August 27th, 1985. She was a member of the CWL and Women of the Moose and Chimo Club. Survived by her husband Joe, son John of St. Jean, Quebec, daughter Leona (Mrs. R. Peters) of Alberta, also by 6 grandchildren, 1 brother and 3 sisters. Funeral Mass was held on Saturday at 11 a.m. from St. Martins Roman Catholic Church. Interment Terrace Bay Cemetery.

**BIRTH**

David and Sheena (nee Caldwell) of Winnipeg, Manitoba are very happy to announce the safe arrival of their first child.

**JOSHUA WILLIAM DAVID**

Born Friday, Aug. 2 at 16.46 hours, weighing 7 lbs. 10½ oz. and 20 inches long. Proud grandparents are: Douglas and May Caldwell, Terrace Bay and George and Evelyn Allen, Carmen, Manitoba.

**REGISTRATION**

for

**1985-86 Fall/Winter**

and

**1986 Spring/Summer**

**Off-Campus Courses**

in

**Terrace Bay**

will be held on

**Date:** Monday, September 16, 1985

**Time:** 4:00 p.m.

**Place:** St. Martin School

Subject to minimum enrollment and availability of instructors, the following course(s) will be offered this Fall/Winter:

Education 4704 — Computers in the Classroom, Part I

Sociology 2501 — Family Sociology

For further information, please contact our Off-Campus Representative in your area:

**Mrs. Barbara Spadoni**  
824-2761

## Legion raises \$200,000 for tornado victims

Toronto - Royal Canadian Legion branches across Ontario have raised \$200,000 for the victims of the tornado that hit the communities in southern Ontario last May.

The \$200,000 donation, presented August 16 to Ontario Red Cross Society President Sybil Geller by

the Legion's Ontario Command President Bill Smith, was the result of fundraising efforts undertaken by Ontario's 452 branches. "Reaction to the tornado disaster was quick," says Smith. "Within days, a disaster fund was established and branches were sponsoring bazaars,

dances, and barbeques to raise funds. We even received a boost from legionnaires in B.C. who were holding their convention at that time. Minutes after they were alerted to the emergency situation in Ontario, \$4,500 was raised on the convention floor."

"Response from the Legion has been tremendous," says Geller. "This donation which represents the single largest contribution to the fund, will go a long way towards restoring homes and properties in the stricken communities."

The Royal Canadian Legion, currently

celebrating its Diamond Jubilee, has a history of responding with financial assistance to communities in distress including past disasters in Ontario, such as the Cobalt fire in 1977, the Woodstock tornado and the Field/Springer flood in 1982.



Bill Smith, president, Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Command, presents a cheque for \$200,000 raised from Ontario Legion branches for the Barrie Disaster Fund to Sybil Geller, president, Red Cross Society. The monies were raised in ten weeks.

**Prospectors-Exploration Companies:**

**Schreiber-Terrace Bay-Marathon**

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources will provide an Economic Geologist to visit, assay and advise you on the potential of any mineral occurrence you may have staked, or know the location of in the Schreiber-Terrace Bay-Marathon Areas. This service is provided free of charge. The Schreiber-Terrace Bay-Marathon economic Geologist program encompasses an area from Nipigon east to Marathon. This program is funded by the Ministry of Northern Affairs. For Further Information Call (Collect):

**Bernie Schnieders or Allan Speed**  
Resident Geologist's Office  
Ministry of Natural Resources  
Thunder Bay  
(807) 475-1331

**THANK YOU**

On behalf of the Spillane Family, we would like to thank everyone for the many cards, donations to charities, flowers etc. during our recent bereavement. Thank you to the honorary pallbearers. A special thank you to the Handels, who were always there. Our worries about leaving "Johnny" alone were lessened by the wonderful thoughtfulness of his 2000 friends in this very special town. Thank you Schreiber!

**Doug, Ginger, Nancie & Michael**