

**WOODVILLE COUPLE CELEBRATED FIFTY YEARS OF LIFE TOGETHER**

LINDSAY, Dec. 14—Living for nearly 50 years in their present home, Mr. and Mrs. James Dixon of Woodville, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Dec. 9, with all their family present. The elderly couple are enjoying

good health, and like nothing better than a visit with neighbors. They have five sons and daughters, namely, Harvey of Woodville; Welton of Bowmanville; Mrs. Hooper (Jean) of Toronto; Mrs. Bodendistel (Mary) of Stouffville; Mrs. Fisher (Minnie), Blackstock and eight grandchildren.

Send The Tribune to absent friends.

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**To End Drought, He Claims**



Ready to banish drought with his moon-powered rain-making machine is Donald S. Johnston (above) of Regina, who stated matter-of-factly that it was his rainmaking apparatus that ended 12 years of drought in the southern Saskatchewan dust bowl in 1942. The machine consists of a steel framework to which are attached two horseshoe magnets and a coil. One of these magnets swings in a short arc and, according to Johnston, is synchronized with the movement of the earth and oscillates slow or fast according to the position of the moon. The function of the machine is to create an electro-magnetic field with electricity drawn from the moon which induces rainfalls by lessening evaporation and increasing condensation of raindrops in the atmosphere. Science has not accorded Mr. Johnston any recognition, but now that he is out of the army he'll be giving his machine a thorough try-out—an all-out attack on drought.

**SELDOM SEEN**

Last Friday night the wind was howling around the eaves and we were having our first real touch of or blow of winter. Just the day before it poured rain and soaked away here in the sand like the ground was a sponge, but down in Markham the land would undoubtedly be flooded like a mill pond. The old stove in the front room had a draft that would fairly take your shoes off, if I hadn't them tied on. It was just the kind of night to stay at home, and feel how fortunate you are to have a warm place to be in, while the bitter wind blows outside.

This is the sort of night when something is sure to happen. Only a few years ago at this time and on just such a night Jim Smith's barn caught fire. It was blustering cold, and I had just settled down before the fire on the old sofa when the call came.

I'll never forget the scene as long as I live. The sky was grim and dark blue in color. The wind was whipping the trees back and forth, and would have blown half this

country away only for the fact that the ground was frozen. At that there were skirls of sand heading down Ballantrae way that took off a good many tons. I thought since what a grand thing to have the sturdy Vivian forest growing around us.

Well, back to the fire. The barn was burning, and nothing on earth could have saved it. Fanned by the wind it seethed and roared. One of the neighbors was making a big effort to rush in and out the stables, but every time he backed away with his hand and arm protecting his face. He staggered then gave in. I headed off a couple of stubborn pigs that upset me in the fight to turn down the lane. They're just about as foolish as some people who are bent on going where they ought to keep away from (the beer parlors). Those pigs did everything they could to get back into the fire, but I finally scouted them away. I looked across the fields and the sparks were skidding everywhere. It seemed as though the whole farm was ablaze. Fortunately, the house was protected by the wind blowing

**Lindsay-Palestine Shipment of Cattle to Improve Breed**

The 12 bulls in the shipment of 70 Holstein cattle that left on the first lap of the journey to Palestine from the CNR Yards at Lindsay on Tuesday afternoon are destined for artificial semination stations, L. E. Shmaragd, Tel Yosef, secretary of the Palestine Cattle Breeders' Association, said during a press interview Tuesday.

Some of the bulls were prize winners at the Royal Winter Fair, he said, and the primary consideration in purchasing them was to improve the breed of Holsteins now in Palestine. The females, purchased with the same thought in mind, he added, would be distributed mostly in the Jerusalem area.

At one time, he went on to say, Holsteins were purchased from Holland, but the breed of Canadian Holsteins now is of superior quality and so it was decided to get the needed cattle in Canada.

Speaking of the Holstein and Friesians now in Palestine, the only breeds raised to any extent other than native cattle, he said, they produced an average of 10,000 pounds of milk with a 3.7 per cent butter fat test. He understood the Canadian production to average 6,000 pounds.

When asked the reason for the larger average milk production in Palestine he pointed out farming was carried out on a highly scientific basis there while in Canada many farmers just farmed in the way their forefathers did and they kept the Canadian average milk production down. All cattle breeders were organized in his country, and were continually trying to increase milk production, he added.

He himself had a 2,500 acre farm, he stated, with 350 head of cattle which was operated as part of a cooperative enterprise.

The herd of 70 cattle purchased, Mr. Wm. Murphy pointed out, were gathered from various parts of Ontario and assembled on Mr. Murphy's farms. The whole enterprise was made possible by the Dominion Department of Agriculture, the Department of Trade and Commerce and the Canadian Trade Commissioner at London, England.

It took 35 minutes on the long distance wire with the British Ministry to get a boat to go direct to Hafia, where the cattle will disembark, Mr. L. E. Shmaragd declared.

The insurance on the cattle which covers them for all rail and marine hazards, mortality and even matern-

ity, Mr. Murphy said, was placed by Mr. R. A. Broom, of Frost Insurance Agencies, who managed to divide the insurance between English and Canadian offices of the company he represents. In fact, if a loss occurs, the company will pay in British currency through their own agent in Palestine if desired, he added.

It is understood the insurance premium runs well into four figures.

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