

HEBER DOWN FARM BEFORE AND AFTER

Where the Farm Face Lift is Scheduled for September 8th

Mr. H. Martin, Director of the Crops, Weeds and Seeds Branch of the Department of Agriculture, on one of his trips to United States saw some especially fine work that was being done along the line of soil conservation. Practical man that he is, this immediately aroused in his mind the question, "Why can't we do it in Ontario?"

On his return he called together a group of interested by-standers and proposed that the improvement of a farm be undertaken somewhat along the line followed by the United States specialists. Among others at this meeting were Mr. Heber Down, who lives near Brooklin; Mr. Lynn Fair, Agricultural Representative for Ontario County; and representatives of the Ontario Agricultural College.

The objective was to choose a farm on which at a one-day meeting of ten hours a demonstration might be made of the major improvements which would normally be accomplished in 10 years in bringing back this farm into good production and to improve the general attractiveness and habitability of the farm.

There were five farms offered for treatment. All things considered the group decided that the farm of Heber Down located on an important highway and convenient to Toronto and neighbouring agricultural offices would be most suitable for a start. A full day of face lifting was planned. The thought occurred to us that the public would be interested in a "Before and After" treatment of the subject.

Hence, we visited the farm and herewith record our observations. The farm is located beyond the village of Brougham in one of the glacial valleys of that region. From the road near the farm it is possible to see the lake beyond Whitby. The farm in question consists of about 140 acres most of which is good farming land. This particular farm is a unit of a 500-acre block owned by Mr. Down. On this farm the objective for some years has been to supply pasturage and grain for young growing cattle. Mr. Down maintains his main herd at the headquarters farm which is across the road towards Brooklin.

The demonstration is planned for on the farm of 140 acres, 90 of which are on the north side of the road while 50 are on the south. The farm was purchased by Mr. Down approximately five years ago from a family named Lewis, the survivors of which live in Myrtle. The land had been in their hands for over 100 years. Like many areas in that section it had originally been heavily wooded and through the years had been cleared and the areas given over to the production of export barley which was teamed down to Whitby, the main local harbour of those days.

Naturally, now the crop of major interest is grass or hay.

The grass is of poor quality especially on the higher areas. The ten-acre pasture near the stream which runs along the south western border of the land seemed to be well located, but the stand of grass on this area was anything but promising. From the north about two-thirds of the way down the slope an old fence row hedge very clearly divides the area. This old hedgerow contains a lot of brush, buckthorn, one or two elm trees, white ash and one or two basswood and chokecherries. In the modern lay out of the land this hedge will be taken out, and the land will be leveled.

With reference to the general lay of the land, from the north east corner to the south west there is a decided fall of about 80' in about 80 rods. This means that there has been splendid opportunity for rapid soil erosion throughout the years, and this is exactly what has taken place. The C. Horizon or parent material is fairly clearly shown on the top of the area, and further down the slope, surface soil increases. In the hedge row which is along the edge of the former lane

the soil is 3' to 6' higher that it is on the west side of the hedge row and from 2' to 3' higher than it is on the east side, showing that much top soil has been washed from the higher land and piled along this hedgerow.

There are definite drainage valleys or waterways draining from the hill sides. There are at least three of these in the main field and in accord with good practice these have been fanned out from the centre furrow and green top-covering has been produced on them with the idea of forming what is known as grass waterways. Now, when the water comes down from the high land it is carried over the grass waterways and erosion is reduced to a minimum.

In working out plans which are to be put into operation on September 8th, the Soils Department has taken the basic move of drawing up the plans for the project. These include the diversion channel or terrace along the edge of the higher areas of land. This is followed by a series of strip cropping laid down on the contour in accord with the slope of the field.

The Agricultural Engineering Department is advising and assembling the types and number of machines that will be necessary for the job. The necessary drainage has been blue-printed and the drains are already in the process of being laid down. The strips for fall wheat are already plowed and worked since this was necessary if the crops are to be seeded on the day of the demonstration. Mr. Lynn Fair has been the co-ordinating officer working out the details of the plans. Mr. Walter Reynolds of the Crops, Seeds and Weeds Branch has been delegated by Mr. Martin to supervise the project.

Naturally a lack of proper management in the past has resulted in the soil becoming less and less productive on the higher areas. Certain weeds have become quite well entrenched such as ragweed and bind weed. To cope with this certain areas have been sprayed with sodium chlorate, 2-4-D and other chemicals. These have been

The Stanley Theatre, Stouffville September FILM FESTIVAL

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Mon., Tue., Wed., Thur. Sept. 26, 27, 28, 29 The sunshine show of a life-time! in TECHNICOLOR June HAYER Ray BOLGER in "LOOK FOR THE SILVER LINING"

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EXTRA! EVERY SATURDAY MATINEE ONLY! STARTING SATURDAY MATINEE SEPT. 3rd! 3 fun-filled CARTOONS In Addition to the Regular Screen Program!

Evenings—Adults 40c Children 20c including gov't hospital tax Matinee—Adults 30c Children 15c

FARM AUCTION

FARM STOCK & IMPLEMENTS 40 HEAD OF REGISTERED AND GRADE AYRSHIRE CATTLE 60 Hogs, Poultry, Tractor on rubber, Threshing Machine, Buck Rake, Tractor Machinery and Hay & Grain

LOTS 29 - 30, CON. 9 PICKERING TOWNSHIP Wednesday, Sept. 14th

The Property of SAM FRETZ

HORSES

Bay Gelding, 5 years old G.P. Gray Gelding, aged, G.P.

REGISTERED AYRSHIRE COWS

- 1—No. 305620, Pal-O'Myne Fairy 2nd, born July 17, 1946, fresh, calf by side. 2—No. 234235, Donallan Pauline, born Mar. 14, 1940, full flow, not bred. 3—No. 260250, Donvale Queen's Edith, born Oct. 14, 1942, bred July 2nd, milking good. 4—No. 267076, Gladden Hill Queenie 15th, born May 1, 1942, bred July 22nd, milking good. 5—No. 302934, Dolly Rosemary, born July 23, 1945, bred May 21, milking good. 6—No. 234237, Donallan Mary, born April 6, 1940, bred May 30, milking. 7—No. 302931, Pauline Lucky Tillie, born Feb. 25, 1945, bred Jan. 26, due about Nov. 3. 8—No. 302933, Brown Mary, born Feb. 8, 1945, bred Mar. 16. 9—No. 302932, Pauline Dewdrop, born Mar. 5, 1946, bred Mar. 25, Heifer. 10—No. 337334, Pauline Dona May, born April 5, 1947, bred May 8. 11—No. 337333, Princess Queenie, born Mar. 15, 1947, open. 12—No. 337996, Rosemary Lilly, born Nov. 15, 1947, open. 13—No. 325679, Pal-O'Myne Elsie, born Mar. 8, 1948, open. 14—No. 337336, Tillie Rosebud, born Sept. 17, 1948, open. 15—No. 337337, Brown Mary 2nd, born Nov. 30, 1948, open. 16—No. 339219, Mary Jean, born Feb. 3, 1949, open. 17—Queenie-Ann, born April 13, 1949.

GRADE AYRSHIRE CATTLE

- 18—Ayrshire Cow, bred July 2 19—Ayrshire Cow, bred June 11 20—Ayrshire Cow, milking, bred May 9 21—Ayrshire Cow, milking, bred June 20 22—Ayrshire Cow, not milking, due Nov. 3 23—Ayrshire Heifer, bred Mar. 31 24—Ayrshire Heifer, bred April 3 25—Ayrshire Heifer, bred April 4 26—Ayrshire Heifer, bred April 14 27—Ayrshire Heifer, bred May 9 28—Ayrshire Heifer, bred April 18 29—Ayrshire Heifer, bred April 26 30—Ayrshire Heifer, bred May 20 31—Ayrshire Heifer, open, 2 years 32—Ayrshire Heifer, open, 2 years 33—Ayrshire Heifer, open, 2 years 34—Ayrshire Heifer Calf, 1 year 35—Ayrshire Heifer Calf, about 6 months 36—Ayrshire Heifer Calf, about 6 months 37—Ayrshire Heifer Calf, about 6 months 38—Ayrshire Heifer Calf, about 6 months 39—Ayrshire Heifer Calf, about 6 months.

39—Veal Calf. All cattle artificially bred to Maple Bulls. All cattle vaccinated.

SWINE

- Sow with 10 Pigs, 9 weeks old Sow with 12 Pigs, 8 weeks old Sow with 9 Pigs, 8 weeks old Sow with 7 Pigs, 8 weeks old Sow with 13 Pigs, 4 weeks old Sow, due time of sale Sow, bred June 21, due about Oct. 10 Sow, bred June 28, due about Oct. 17 Red Hog, 1 1/2 years old 3 Shoats

POULTRY

130 N.H. x L.S. Pullets, ready to lay 100 Capons Muscovia Drake, 2 Ducks, and 10 small ones.

IMPLEMENTS

- W-6 M.D. Tractor, good shape Combination No. 5, White Thresher with Grain Thrower and Straw Shredder, good, all roller bearings M.H. 7-ft. Grain Binder, on rubber, near new M.D. 100-bus. Manure Spreader, with Power Take-off, new M.H. 17 Spring Tooth Cultivator, Power Lift, good M.H. 5-ft. Mower, oil bath, good, tractor or horse Cocksfoot 3-furrow Tractor Plow, No. 3.A. M.D. 13-disc Drill, grain and fertilizer Cocksfoot No. 5 Hammer Mill, near new M.D. 3-sect. Spring-Tooth Harrow Waterloo Tandem Disc, new 7 1/2 ft. Tudhope Anderson 9-tooth Stiff-tooth Cultivator 1937 Ford 2-ton Stake Body Truck, with Buckrake attachment, new motor. M.D. 3-drum Roller M.H. 2-row Corn Cultivator M.H. Hay Tedder M.H. 2-furrow Plow Cocksfoot No. 17 Single Plow Wilkinson No. 21 Single Plow Wilkinson Double Mould Plow Turnip Drill 2-row Corn Planter M.H. Hay Rake 2 Democrats M.D. Inthrow Horse Disc Peter Hamilton Scuffer Set 6-sect. Diamond Harrows Set 5-sect. Diamond Harrows Set 4-sect. Diamond Harrows Rubber Tired Wagon, 6 x 600 tires Rubber Tired Wagon, car chassis 14-ft. Hay Rack Wagon Box 14-ft. Stock Rack Chatham Fanning Mill Fleury Cutting Box Cutter 2 Sets Sloop Sleighs

ELECTRIC MOTORS & POULTRY EQUIPMENT

- Woods Electric Grinder, 1 1/2 h.p. General Electric Motor, 1/2 h.p. General Electric Motor, 1/4 h.p. Compressor, with 1/4 h.p. Motor, complete with spray gun & 50 ft. hose Jamesway Oil Brooder, large size, new

Coal Brooder, large size

- Buckeye Oil Brooder 2 Large Dry Feeders 5 Range Shelters Number Fountains and Feeders Roll 1-inch Mesh Mink Wire Roll Heavy Chicken Wire, 50" high 11' x 11' Colony House, good.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Set Inside Silo Pipes 2 Oil Drums, 90 gal. 14 ft. of 3/4 Shafting 1-ton Chain Hoist Watering Trough 50 ft. of 3/8 Steel Cable & Pulley 2 8-ft. M.H. Binder Knives Adjustable Bench with 2 Blades DeLaval Magnetic Milker, with outlets and pump DeLaval Utility No. 16 Cream Separator Set Electric Clippers 100 bus. Boxes Set Scales, 2000 lbs. Thresher Belt, 100 ft. by 7", 4 ply Hammermill Belt, 50 ft. by 7", 4 ply Quantity of light Belting Number of Pulleys Feed Box Log Chain Water Trough Number of Sacks Water Trough 24 Cotton Grain Bags Feed Barrel Steel Hog Trough 2 Light Chains

HAY & GRAIN

About 12 tons Mixed Alfalfa & Timothy Hay About 15 tons of Baled Wheat Straw to be sold by the ball About 1400 bus. Oats, suitable for seed

HARNESSES

- Set Backhand Harness Set Team Harness Set Single Harness Number of Collars

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE

- 2 Coalman Space Heaters, oil Acme Cook Stove, coal or wood, with water front General Electric 4-burner Range and Back Oven General Electric Annex, coal or wood Jacket Heater Heater, Oak Treasure, coal Kitchen Cabinet Glass Cupboard 6 Kitchen Chairs Settee National Electric Stove, 4-burner & Oven Bedroom Suite, complete Power Churn 2 Butter Workers Electric Washing Machine, Easy Iron Bed Stead, 1/2 size 2 Single Bed Steads, Iron Folding Ironing Board Hoes, Rakes, Forks, and other articles too numerous to mention.

The Altona Women's Institute will operate a booth. Terms cash. No reserve, giving up farming. Sale starts at 12.00 noon sharp. This is a large sale and must start on time.

LLOYD TURNER, Clerk A. S. Farmer, auctioneer.

applied to kill weeds and ordinary fence row brush. Strips which have been treated will be placarded for the demonstration day.

In setting up the diversion or terrace, heavy power machinery will be used as it will also be used in clearing the hedge row and clearing rocks and trash. The outlets for the channel were constructed in May, 1949, and are now covered with grass.

The farm barn is being repaired by the reconstruction of the north foundation wall and by laying a modern floor in the stables. Other Departments of the Ontario Agricultural College and the Department of Agriculture are sharing in

the improvement scheme. e.g. the Department of Poultry will remodel the poultry house making it suitable for the needs of a family unit farm. The Women's Institute Department is undertaking to remodel the home kitchen entirely and a paint company is going to paint the barn and sheds.

The Department of Forestry is undertaking to clean up a forest block in the north-west corner of the farm. They will remove buckthorn and other useless trees and encourage the growth of white ash. The Forestry Department will also demonstrate the planting of trees by machinery on the area south of the road where much

reforestation is necessary. In the present cropping system there is no attempt made at laying out of fields so that erosion will be either slowed down or prevented. With the new plan this control of water movement will be major importance. Definite steps to this end will be taken by adopting certain rotations, and by strip cropping.

Canadian oil production in 1948 showed an increase of some 60 per cent over 1947 and 63 per cent over 1946. This gain was mainly due to the discovery and development of the Leduc and Woodbend fields.



Before you ever cross the road—"PAUSE-LOOK both ways" is your safety code.

Wise persons, young and old, use extra care when crossing roadways. They look both LEFT and RIGHT to see that the way is clear. It takes but a second... but it spells S-A-F-E-T-Y.

GEO. H. DOUCETT, Minister ONTARIO DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS