

THE STOUFFVILLE TRIBUNE

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NOTES and COMMENTS

Fire Prevention and Housing

The winter season annually brings a rash of fires, and this district is having its share of these costly and often grief-laden occurrences. In most cases the fires which occurred in dwellings revealed the overcrowded and substandard housing conditions to which families are being subjected. The fires revealed also the absence of facilities and measures to prevent fires. Heavy stoking of fires against the current cold waves can be blamed for numerous outbreaks.

An estimated 20,000 fires a year occur in Canada, involving considerable loss of life and property. In the last 10-year period, Canada lost more than 1,500 children through fires, and such loss cannot be measured in monetary terms alone. Property losses caused by fire run into millions of dollars annually. Analysis of the causes of all fires shows that most of them could have been prevented. The 12 leading causes, as listed by the dominion fire commissioner, are:

1. Smokers' carelessness.
2. Stoves, furnaces and other heating equipment.
3. Defective electrical wiring and appliances.
4. Carelessness with matches.
5. Defective chimneys.
6. Hot ashes, coals, open fires.
7. Carelessness with petroleum products.
8. Lights other than electric.
9. Lightning.
10. Sparks on roof.
11. Spontaneous ignition.
12. Incendiarism (person setting fire to the house).

The records indicate that more than half the fires in any year are caused by smokers' carelessness and the careless use of matches. It is important, therefore, to make sure each cigarette is out before discarding it, and to keep matches out of children's reach.

Busiest in Evenings

One of Canada's largest magazines recently made a study of the habits of shoppers in this nation's self-serve food stores. The results may be as surprising to you as they were to us. In the first place, more than one-third of the total number of shoppers are men. The busiest period of the week is between 7 and 8 p.m. in the evening on which the stores are open. The average shopper visits the self-serve food store about twice a week. And last, but by no means the least important from the merchant's point of view, just about half of the decisions as to what brands of food the shopper is going to buy are made before she or he enters the store. In other words nearly half these decisions are made by advance advertising.

Advantages of Small Community

Those who were born in the large cities in which they always continued to live, have missed many sensations which fall to the lot of those who have at one time or another called a small community their "home town."

There is something impersonal about most large cities. This is particularly so with respect to the cities of the new world, which are not old enough to have corporate personalities mellowed by the passing of time and the making of much history within their borders. One who lives in them feels a very small unit in a tremendous machine. He knows only a few, comparatively speaking, of the vast total population. His neighbors come and go. Often he does not know them by sight. People are not particularly interested in other people. The whole atmosphere is one of intense pre-occupation with self.

In the small town, life is radically different. People have not so many mechanical amusements. They must turn to those around them to retain their interests. The pace is not so swift. The inhabitants do not come and go with the same rapidity. Houses become inseparably identified with families, the generations of which have lived in them. Without good neighbors who become in time almost members of one's larger family, existence would seem barren indeed. Joys and sorrows are shared by the many rather than by the few, and become correspondingly magnified or minimized. There is no such thing as loneliness.

When the small town boy leaves the old home town to seek wider horizons, often he is glad to get away from it all for a while, from its narrowness, from its restrictions, and from its smugness. The different circumstances of his new existence he welcomes with almost a fiery joy. When the newness wears off, however, for the first time the youth begins to realize what virtues were possessed by the people he left behind him.

While the greater opportunities of the city may make him content to remain within its boundaries, nevertheless he is able to see that he takes them only at a sacrifice of things that in themselves are fine.
—Oshawa Times.

For Parents Only

"BROTHERS. ALL"

By Nancy Cleaver



An unknown writer has voiced his conviction in these lines:

"All men are my kin
Since every man has been,
Blood of my blood;
I glory in the grace
And strength of every race
And joy in every trace
Of Brotherhood."

In the last of February in many lands Brotherhood Week is celebrated. The common bond, not only of people of different races, but also of different faiths, is emphasized.

Behind the Iron Curtain, religion is scorned as "the opiate of the people." It is well for Jews and Protestants and Catholics to be reminded that theirs is One God, the Creator of all men! "One God, The Ways We Worship Him," by F.M. Fitch, published by Macmillan, is an excellent book for any home library. It shows

the helpful ceremonies in the major denominations on this continent.

When a donor turns up at a Red Cross Blood Bank clinic, the nurse is not interested in his racial background. Not the color of the skin, but the type of blood is the important question! Scientists have discovered that the blood of all the members of the human family falls into four predominant blood types. A knowledge of these groups is essential in blood transfusions and in research.

Adults are far more conscious of contrasting skin colors than children. In crowded downtown areas of large cities, in the Nursery School play groups, there are often children whose parents come from many lands. Some of them are New Canadians of Oriental, Negro and European

extraction. John may notice that Sam is yellow skinned and Tom is black, but they play together on an equal footing.

Racial prejudice is not inherited, it is "caught" from grownups. Children are very quick to accept the snobbish attitude of parents who consider the Anglo-Saxon race superior. The unfair practice of judging an individual because he belongs to a class and not on his merits as a person, cuts across the ideal of brotherhood.

A small pair of wood shoes were left outside the door of a Canadian rural school by a little Dutch child who had recently arrived from Holland. The other scholars thought this a great joke. The little newcomer didn't know much English, but he soon caught on that he was being laughed at. Who would wonder at his tears from a hurt and homesick heart?

Children can be quite calous if they are not encouraged by their parents and teachers to be considerate. Thousands of New Canadian youngsters have been making their own way in a strange land. Many of them have excelled at

school. Their parents are working on our farms, in our industries and institutions. Many of them have brought skill in handicrafts, appreciations of music and art and the culture of the Old World with them. Brotherhood week would be a very good time for our families to extend hospitality to a new-Canadian household. Do try to make plans for this in your Family Council.

The vast Missionary Enterprise of the church is based on the belief of one God who is Father of all men. The greatest Teacher of all time taught that all men were brothers bound by love. In little Mission Band groups in countless churches large and small, boys and girls learn of the healing and educational work of missionaries in distant lands and in remote districts in the far North.

A lasting faith in the Brotherhood Code is firmly based on the Golden Rule. Only as more and more people think, feel and act in a brotherly fashion is there any hope of building a "Brave New World." Let us and our children make this ideal come true in so far as we are able to be neighbourly to those around us. They may

York Holstein Club Annual Meeting

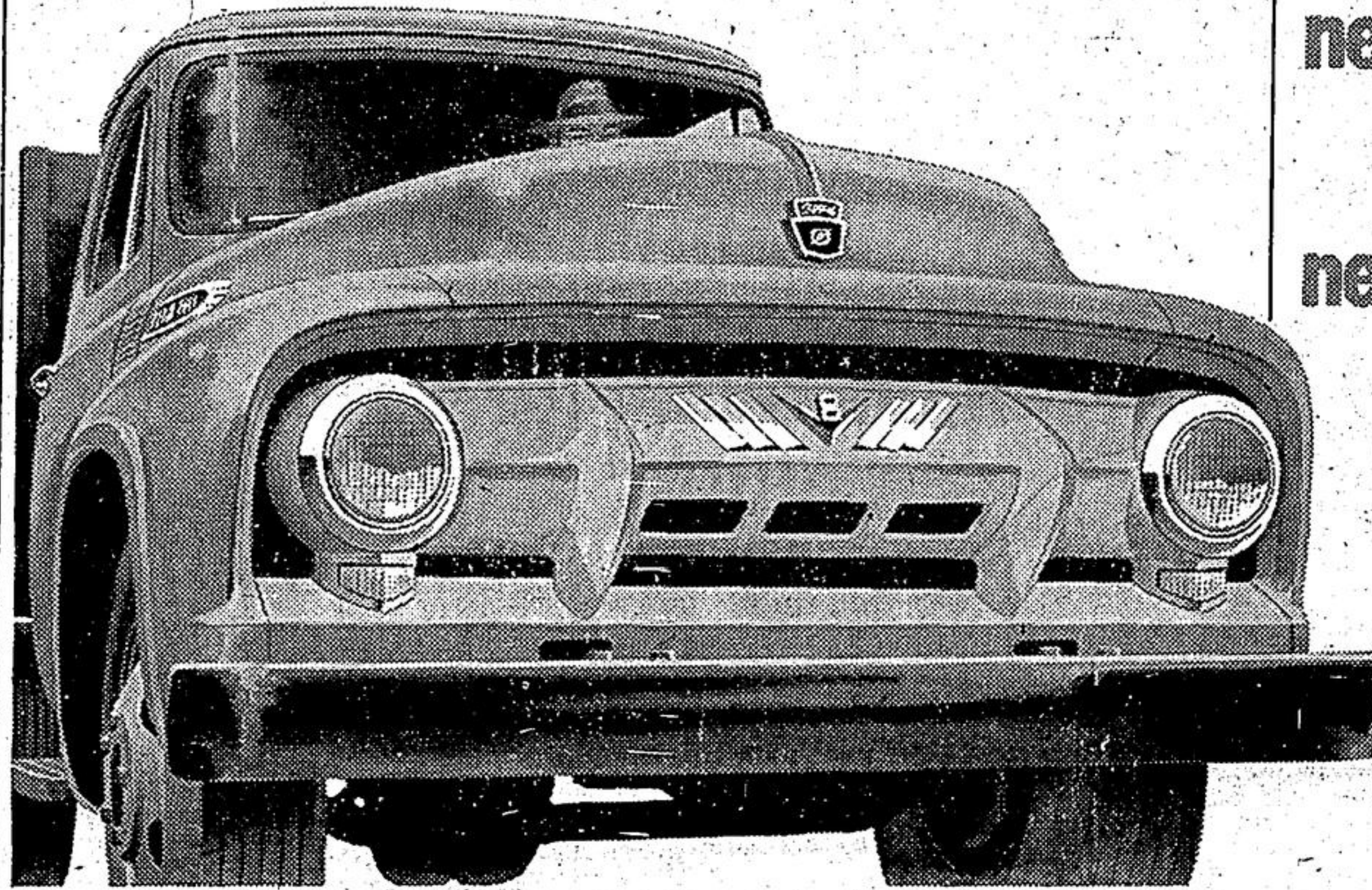
The annual meeting of the York County Holstein Club will be held on Thurs., Jan. 21st at 10:30 in the Masonic Hall in Richmond Hill.

The supporters of this very active club will be favoured to hear Dr. J.C. Rennie of the Animal Husbandry Dept., Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. Dr. Rennie has been in charge of a very excellent research program involving sire indexing through herd classification and R.O.P. records. This is the most extensive work yet undertaken in breeding research in Ontario and Dr. Rennie's talk will be most enlightening.

Also included in the program will be the election of officers for 1954, the presentation of awards to the owners of record cows and the usual free noon lunch. All Holstein breeders and associates are invited to be on hand for the whole programme.

differ in creed or race, but they are like us in so many ways.

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