

FARMING REPORT

By AL WALL

A. A. Wall, Agricultural Representative for York County, Newmarket.

There have been so many changes in the milk situation in the last month that it's a job to keep up. They are crucially important to our farm industry in York so here is an attempt to summarize them.

The Ontario Milk Marketing Board set new prices to take effect on May 15th, as follows, dairy requirements, \$6.10 for 3.5 milk; secondary milk, \$5.54 for 3.5 milk; and excess milk \$3.54 subject to a 10 cent charge for handling. As usual, transportation will be deducted from all prices, as well as fees and levies totalling 8 1/2 cents per hundred.

The new Canadian Dairy Commission also made changes effective April 1. A subsidy will be paid this year on industrial milk, amounting to \$1.21 per hundred, less 10 cents for an export fund.

Prices of butter, powder and cheese will be supported at a level that will enable processors to pay about \$3.54 per hundred. Farmers who sell any portion of their milk for fluid use, will not be paid any subsidy.

All producers of manu-

facturing milk and cream will have quotas set for them this year. It is expected that these quotas will be the quantity on which each producer received subsidy last year.

Producers can sell milk in excess of their quotas but no subsidy will be paid on it. Those who sold less than 50,000 pounds last year will have their quotas increased to this amount this year. However, if they do not sell 50,000 lbs. this year, they will not receive a quota at all, for 1968-69.

Quotas cannot be sold or transferred, except by the Commission. Generally, transfers will be allowed from father to son, and where one quota holder purchases a farm or herd from another. A new producer may be given a quota if he buys a farm with a quota on it.

These quota regulations are for producers of manufacturing milk only. Control of fluid milk quotas remains with our own Marketing Board. Again, this is just a brief report on the changes. They will have an important effect on the dairy industry, and our farm organizations are very busy these days studying the new policies to assess their implications.

Expert Advice For A Lawn

August is the best time to start a new lawn, but horticulturists with the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food suggest that excellent lawns can be obtained, too, by spring seeding as soon as the ground can be worked.

A well drained and well aerated soil is necessary for the growth of lawn grasses. Surface drainage is provided by proper grading. Ensure that no low areas remain on the site, since grass seed is likely to be washed into these depressions by rain or during watering.

A permanent lawn should have at least five to six inches of topsoil. If the topsoil is heavy clay or very sandy, it is desirable to add some organic matter, such as well rotted manure. Apply at the rate of one half a ton (one or two cubic yards) to 1000 square feet, and work well into the soil. Peat moss or leaf mold may be added if manure is unavailable.

A complete fertilizer applied at the rate of 25 to 30 pounds per 1000 square feet will give the grass a good start. For light sandy soil use a 1:4:4 ratio fertilizer such as 5-20-20, and for heavier loams or clay a 1:4:2 ratio such as 5-20-10.

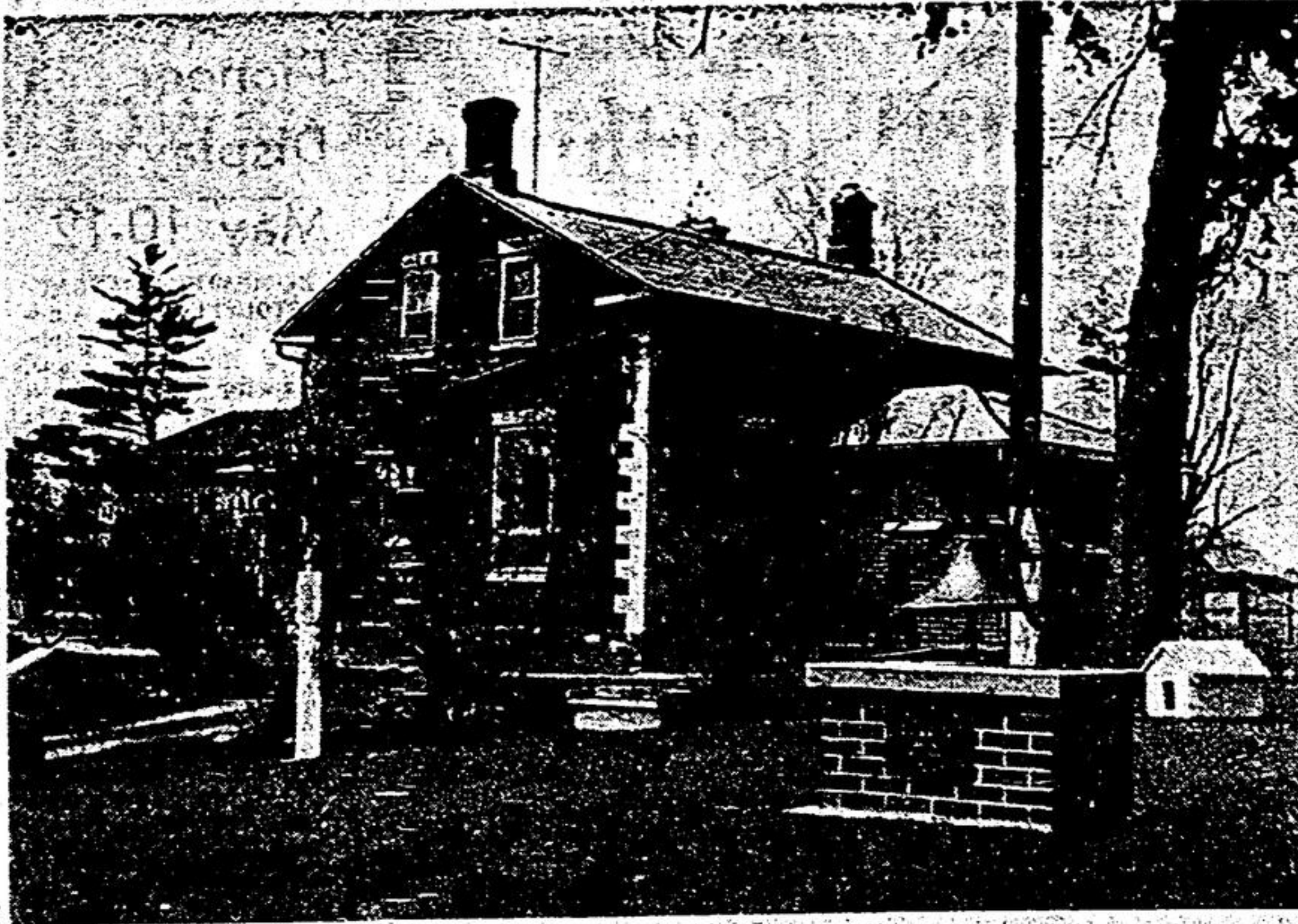
The area should be raked to remove stones and other debris so that a fine seed bed is prepared.

It is poor economy after all the preliminary work has been done to sow cheap seed mixtures. Buy the best seed available. Most mixtures contain Kentucky bluegrass, and creeping red fescue in varying proportions. Perennial rye grass is usually added to give quick germination and provide a cover-crop to protect seedlings from the scorching sun.

The average sowing rate is three to five pounds per 1000 square feet. To apply evenly, use a seeder; divide the seed and sow half in one direction and then sow the other half at right angles to it. This will ensure even coverage. Lightly cover the seed by gently raking the surface in one direction only, not with a back and forward motion.

After the seed is covered the area should be rolled lightly to firm the soil around the seed and then press the seed into the ground to eliminate air pockets. It is important to keep the seed bed moist until the seeds germinate and the seedlings are well established. Use a fine spray when watering to avoid uncovering and washing out seed.

A book entitled "Thank You Canada" will be featured at the Netherlands pavilion at Expo 67. It contains articles written by Dutch people in tribute to Canadians for liberating Holland.



A Centennial Farm In Whitchurch

BLOOMINGTON — Many properties in both York and Ontario have been handed down through several generations, spanning a period of more than 100 years. As a Junior Farmer's centennial project, each has been designated as century farms and appropriate plaques have been presented to the owners.

Such a plaque is located at the farm residence of Otto and Ken Tranmer, lot 13, concession 9, Whitchurch Township.

Robert Tranmer purchased the property in 1840, one hundred and twenty-seven years ago. A native of Yorkshire, England, he came first to Markham where, in 1839, he married Elizabeth Hemmingway. They had two sons, William and Edwin.

William Homer Tranmer (1844-1918) was born on the farm and married Sarah Watson. He took over the property in 1877. They had one son, Otto.

Otto Roy Hemmingway Tranmer was born in 1888. In 1909, he married Emily Mahon and took over the farm on his father's death in 1918. They had three sons, Walter, William, John Kenneth and one daughter, Gwen.

John Kenneth Tranmer was married to Norma Valcau in 1946 and operates the farm with his father, marking the fifth family generation that has resided there. They have two sons, Gerald and Ronald and one daughter, Sharon.

GARDEN GUIDE

By JOHN BRADSHAW
Grow A Gourmet Vegetable Garden

For the past four years, vegetable seed sales to home gardeners have been on the increase, reversing a downward trend that began right after World War II.

There are two reasons for this increase in interest in growing a home vegetable garden. The increase in the cost of living makes savings most attractive. A dollar spent for seed, fertilizer, water and other costs will bring back many times that amount.

Even those who don't have to count their pennies are again taking up vegetable gardening with enthusiasm, but for another reason. They've discovered the striking difference in quality between commercially grown produce and that which they can grow at home in the garden.

The varieties the commercial grower of vegetables uses have been specially bred to stand shipping, long distances and still have a fresh look. This means that they contain a great deal of fibre and are chosen for their appearance rather than flavour. Fortunately for the home gardeners, there are still varieties available that were grown before World War II and have much more flavour than many of the new vegetables.

Anyone who has a clear area in their garden, about 10' by 20' that enjoys six full hours of sunshine daily, should be able to produce all the vegetables his family can possibly eat all summer long, with a surplus for freezing and canning.

Three years ago I helped a friend lay out such a garden. His two daughters did all the work. From seed that cost them \$1.65 they produced more than \$30 worth of beans, tomatoes, squash, lettuce and the delicate richly flavoured home garden varieties such as Buttercrunch and Matchless.

The following varieties are my own choice as far as flavour is concerned but I'm certain they'll satisfy anyone with an appreciation of high flavour and tenderness.

SNAP BEANS: Your first sowings of snap beans should be made with Streamliner because its seeds resist rotting in the cold soil. It will produce an early crop when the less hardy varieties fail to survive. The pods of Streamliner should be picked young and they have high flavour far superior to any from the vegetable counter of the grocery store. Its pods are the flat Italian type which are easy to cut in the French style.

The familiar Pencil Pod yellow wax variety is still the best in the cold soil. For eating fresh or freezing, it's the best. Its flavour is almost the same as that of freshly picked beans.

When it comes to the main crop there's no doubt that Topcrop is the most tasty with its meaty flavour and appetizing appearance. It's unavailable. Tenderlong makes an excellent substitute.

In at least one garden store in the Toronto area you can now buy a bush scarlet runner bean that makes a very attractive plant with brilliant red flowers. It's called Hammond's Dwarf Scarlet Runner and produces pods measuring as much as 12 inches in length. It would be hard to find a bean with better flavour.

BEEFS: For eating Beets for early planting, Ruby Queen is an All America winner of a few years ago, has very high quality and flavour. Detroit Dark Red has been improved lately and is the standard of excellence for main crop planting. Not many people realize that beets freeze extremely well and make a most tasty vegetable at any time but particularly at midwinter.

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Time Extended For Crop Insurance

The Crop Insurance Commission of the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food, has advised growers that the insurance plan offered for spring grain will provide insurance for oats, barley and mixed grain seeded up to May 31 in the Counties and up to June 15 in the Northern Districts and the Provisional County of Haliburton.

To be eligible for coverage applications must be made not later than May 10.

Further information may be obtained from the local agents of the Commission, the Agricultural Representative or by writing the Crop Insurance Commission, 500 University Avenue, Toronto.

Puddles Are A Warning In Tile Drained Fields

If your fields are tile drained, spring is the time to check for stoppage, advises Professor R. W. Irwin, Ontario Agricultural College School of Agricultural Engineering.

"Wherever tile has been plugged up, water will come to the soil surface. These puddles can be seen particularly in the spring and should be marked for repair before the summer sun dries them up. The more stoppage, the more crops you'll lose," he warns.

It is best to repair the

tile before the growing season begins. Tile outlets usually require the most attention, however. To prevent burrowing animals such as muskrats and rabbits from entering the tile, a vertical grill or flap gate should be hung over the end drain.

For those desiring more information, the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food has printed Publication 290, "Care and Maintenance of the Drainage System." It is available at county agricultural representatives' offices.

Prune Raspberries Now

Spring is the time of year to prune your raspberry patch, advise horticulturists with the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food.

When pruning, first remove canes showing signs of disease or winter kill. Try to keep the rows fifteen to eighteen inches apart. Crowding will tend to give small fruit, weak spindly canes for next year, and will increase the likelihood of disease.

A mulch of straw or sawdust will help conserve moisture, keep down the weeds, and prevent mud splashing on the fruit during a heavy rain.

Anthracnose (grey spots on the new canes) and spur blight (purplish area on canes about buds) often cause problems with raspberries, which should be sprayed as follows:

Spray 1. When the buds burst quarter to half open—Lime sulphur, 2 cups, add water to make 1 gallon.

Spray 2. Just before blossoms open—Ferbam.

Spray 3. Immediately after harvest—Ferbam.

If you have missed the first spray be sure to apply the second, before blossoms open. As formulations of Ferbam may vary, be sure to follow manufacturer's instructions as to their use.

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Family Sunday Service

By ISABEL ANNIS

BROUGHAM — Fourteen members of Brougham United Church Women's Group met at the home of Mrs. Harold Blackman May 3. Mrs. Norma Johnston was in charge of the worship and Mrs. Peggy Ellicott presented a program on Canada.

A family service will be held next Sunday at 10 a.m.

Best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Al Pilkey who have started a glass shop in Markham. Al has been working with the glass trade for a number of

years and has now decided to go into business for himself.

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