

Farming prospects for 1970

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The report one year ago entitled "The Challenge of Abundance" suggested that a farmer today deserves a labour return of \$4,500, a return on invested capital of 7 per cent, and a return to management of \$1,000 per year.

If the average farm, in Canada, has \$35,714 invested, then there is at present enough Agricultural produce sold to give adequate returns to only 154,000 farms. According to the last census, there were 431,000 farms in 1966. Thus for the 1970's we will continue to see more and more young people leaving the farms for jobs in town, as we have seen over the past decade.

Economists are predicting a decrease in cash receipts from Agricultural production in 1970. On the other hand, they are predicting a slight increase in expenses.

Due to these two facts,

we are going to see a breed of farmers developing in the 1970's, who are much more cost conscious than their predecessors. These farmers are going to take a hard look before buying anything, and they will not be buying unless the purchase will increase their own net returns.

Agriculture today is moving much too rapidly for a man to sit down once a year, at income tax time, to figure out whether or not he made anything in the past twelve months. To overcome this, a new farm accounting system, called "Can-Farm", will give a farmer an analysis each month of each enterprise on his farm.

Farming is no longer a job for the son who could not make it through school. Today's farmer has to be a top notch manager. One speaker at a recent meeting suggested that tomorrow's farmer should study for a degree in business administration since these men will be administering thousands of

dollars of capital. How many men with town jobs have more money pass through their hands than today's farmer.

Another trend, that we will see more of in the 1970's especially in this area because of the high price of land, is that more farmers will be renting and leasing land. They will likely own a base unit from which to work, but rather than purchasing a second farm, expansion will be on leased land. This will free the capital for operating expenses that would otherwise be tied up in the purchase of the second farm.

Crop insurance pays

A survey of eight provinces where crop insurance programs are in operation indicates that indemnities for losses will exceed \$13,500,000 during 1969, reports the Canada Department of Agriculture's Crop Insurance Administration.

BUSH HOG

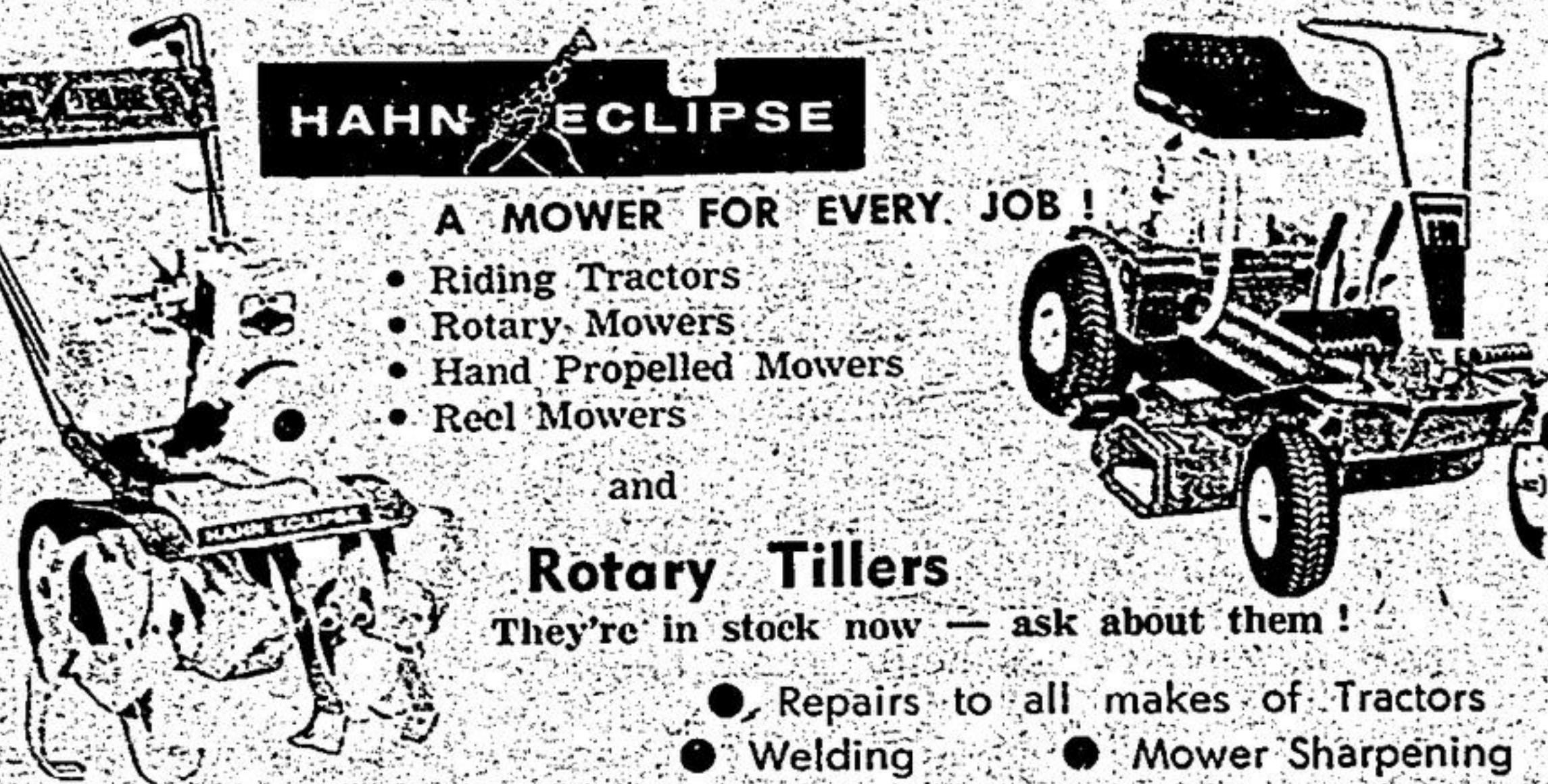
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mandale Farms, Markham, was held in Toronto. Twp., has been named a director of the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada. The annual meet-

ing was held in Toronto.

The president for 1970

is B. M. Trenholm, Grand

Canada. The annual meet-

Pre, Nova Scotia.

FARM SAFETY FIRST... LAST... ALWAYS

1. DO I KEEP FARM MACHINERY IN GOOD REPAIR? Make sure your equipment is in safe working condition and keep all guards and safety devices in position.
2. DO I OPERATE TRACTORS SAFELY? Start tractors smoothly and turn corners slowly. Avoid ditches and soft ground.
3. DO I KNOW AND OBEY ALL TRAFFIC LAWS? Be a safe, alert and courteous driver who drives a safe car.
4. DO I SPEAK TO ANIMALS WHEN APPROACHING THEM? Animals may bolt when excited so reassure them when you approach.
5. AM I "FIRE-SIGHTED"? Don't smoke around the barn. Don't start fires with gasoline and be careful with matches.
6. AM I A GOOD HOUSEKEEPER? Keep things systematic in your home and in your barn.
7. AM I A "FALL" GUY? Keep ladders in good repair. Beware of holes in barn floors, weak or broken steps, cluttered stairways, unguarded feed chutes, and unscreened windows.
8. DO I FOLLOW SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS? Follow printed instructions with all equipment.
9. AM I CAREFUL WITH MACHINERY ON HIGHWAYS? Remember, one third of all fatal farm accidents occur on the highway. Drive on the shoulder.
10. CAN I APPLY FIRST AID EXPERTLY AND PROMPTLY? Keep first aid kits in the home, in the barn, and on the tractor. Seconds count when infection may set in.



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