

Farm

Tribune

York — Ontario

# 4-H Achievement Days

**YORK-ONTARIO** Members of 4-H Homemaking Clubs in both York and Ontario Counties will display their accomplishments of the past several months at Achievement Days in four centres.

For the area of York North, the program will be held April 25 in Trinity United Church Hall, Newmarket; York South, May 2 in the Victoria Square Community Centre; Ontario South, May 9, Brooklin United Church; Ontario Centre, May 23 in Trinity United Church, Uxbridge and Ontario North, May 30 in Brock Dist. High School, Cannington.

The Home Economist in charge of projects in both Counties is Mrs. J.B. Gatenby, Newmarket.

In both York North and York South, the subject is The Third Meal.

In Ontario South, Ontario Centre and Ontario

## Beef prices firm pork drops slightly

Beef prices are expected to remain firm in April reports the Canada Department of Agriculture in its monthly Food Outlook. Pork supplies are increasing with prices slightly lower. Broiler and roaster chicken will be in ample supply at lower prices. BEEF: Prices can be expected to remain firm.

**PORK:** Supplies are increasing with prices North, the subject is Focus on Fitness.

A highlight of each afternoon will be the presentation of individual awards including Provincial and County honors.

slightly lower.

**EGGS:** Plentiful supplies at lower prices.

**POULTRY MEAT:** Broiler and roaster chicken will be in plentiful supply at lower prices. Turkey supplies will be adequate at firm prices.

**APPLES:** Stocks well above last year. Little change in prices. U.S. stocks exceptionally high.

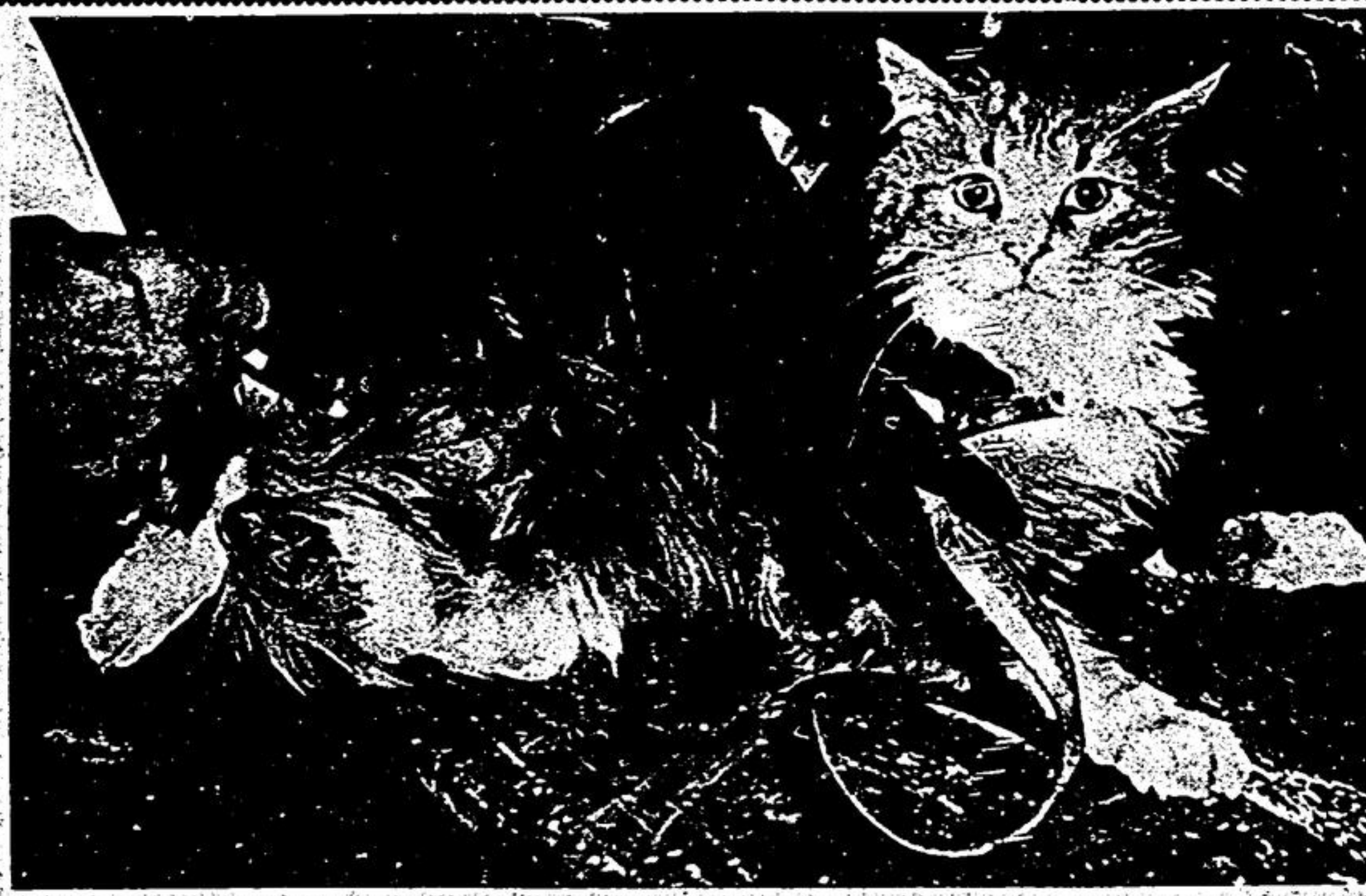
**POTATOES:** Canadian stocks lower than last year. Slight increase in prices. Eastern U.S. stocks below last year and up in the west. Supplies of new U.S. crops increasing.

**CARROTS:** Stocks much below last year in east and about the same in west. Prices will continue strong. U.S. supplies of winter and spring crops will increase.

**ONIONS:** Stocks across Canada are lower than last year. Prices will increase slightly. New U.S. crop will appear end of month.

**HOTHOUSE CUCUMBERS:** Supplies increasing with prices weakening.

**HOTHOUSE TOMATOES:** Larger supplies available in eastern Canada with prices strong till mid-month.



## Stouffville rabies clinic well patronized

They came in all shapes and sizes to the rabies clinic in the Stouffville firehall - dogs and cats, numbering 632 in total. This pussy, 'Toody' by name, took more exception to the click of the

cameraman's shutter than the jab of the needle. Owner, Mrs. Myrna Curran, Bloomington, keeps a tight hold on her pet.

—Peter Harris.

## Milk cows respond to tender care

A.A. Wall

**YORK CTY.** — Very little study has been given so far to animal behaviour. But I'll bet that most good livestock men do a lot of speculating on the mental processes of the animals they work with.

David Hopkins had some good points on this in a recent article in Good Farming magazine.

### Re-organize beef club

**SCOTT TWP.** — The Scott 4-H Beef Club held its re-organization meeting, March 31 in the office of the Ontario Dept. of Agriculture, Uxbridge. The program for the year was explained by Assistant Ag. Rep., Ken Wilson. The president for 1970 is Brian Beath, vice-president, Don Duthrie, secretary, Nancy Richardson and press reporter, John Chomisky. The club leaders are Allan Ball and Neil McLeod.

He reported on an experiment at Beltsville where dairy cows were kept over a period of time in ultra-comfortable and relaxed conditions. Perfect feed, tender care, no loud noises, all added up to utopia.

Then some barn flies were put in. The cows were a little upset, kicked some, swished their tails, got more interested in life, ate more and the big surprise, they gave more milk.

Before dairymen here in York follow that lead, the other side has to be looked at. A test in New Zealand put several kinds of livestock under emotional stress. A complex system of barriers, blind alleys and short turns was built and animals run through it. Leucocyte numbers (our Gel Test) in cows'

milk shot away up, and milk production fell sharply.

Normal healthy sheep died in the same test, from frustration. Pigs on the other hand, took it right in stride with no effect at all (they are either extremely brilliant or just the opposite).

The Hopkins' article also described work on new dairy set-ups in Sweden. One system has the cow in a box which is moved from feeding to milking on a regular schedule. It's apparently a traumatic experience for the cow because after spending one lactation in the box, she simply can't be forced into it a second time. (Hens in cages take note).

This kind of research has great possibilities. It may slow up the tendency to put animals in the same

category as machines. And it may well provide some answers on the reasons for some animals doing so much better than others.

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