

Among The Farmers

Federation of Agriculture Newsletter

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

The last week of September represents an in-between period. Harvesting still goes on, potato digging has not become general, corn growers are harvesting the crop before the first early frost gets in its work and here and there the red plowed fields are beginning to appear. At this time of the year with the sun setting at 6 o'clock the evening comes rapidly and barn work must be done by artificial light.

Little more than a month remains before November which weatherwise is a notoriously treacherous month capable of producing very fine weather or snow and temperatures well below freezing. October is a busy one as much of the fall's work must be cleared up in order to put a workman-like finish on the cropping year.

Recently we received a letter from a believer in the Federation; a letter which deplored our use of agreements which authorize a variety of firms to deduct membership fees from their clients and remit to the Federation. The person in question felt that farmers should be sufficiently interested to make payment each year and were not using their initiative in a system which is more or less automatic.

In replying to the letter we pointed out that whatever system was used should be economical and that no undue portion of the money collected should be used in the making of the collection. We pointed out that unless the Federation had funds it would soon cease to exist whether it was good or bad.

Therefore, its Directors and Officers were under the necessity of providing adequate finances. These would certainly not be available unless some system is devised each and every year.

Many farm organizations are financed in a hidden way, often by contributions from large trading organizations. This simplifies the financing problem but lacks the advantage of being the member closely to the Organization through direct payment of dues into the Federation treasury.

Nearly all farmers realize that there is a great variation in the ability of livestock to efficiently convert feed into livestock products. In no class of livestock is the variation in efficiency perhaps more marked than in cattle and this applies both in production and in milk, particularly the latter.

There may not be the same range in beef cattle but it is still quite marked. In the light of these facts it is more than a little puzzling as to why greater attention has not been paid to the breeding of cattle in this Province. Cattle can be graded up quite rapidly through the use of improved sires and there has been no scarcity of these for many years. In spite of this situation scrub sires and those of inferior breeding have enjoyed greater popularity than have their higher toned colleagues in the upper register of the livestock world.

It is always cheaper to raise a good animal and in both dairy and beef a good calf is the one that can make good use of its feed. There is a great deal of room for improvement in the cattle in this Province. This improvement does not require an outlay of a great deal of money as the means to effect it is to be had close at hand and at a reasonable figure.

Before the days of freight assistance on feed grains the farmers of Eastern Canada were puzzled and annoyed by a system which charged a great deal more to move a bushel of grain from Port Arthur to the west than for the same quantity to come from European country. This variation still exists but has been compensated for by the freight assistance policy. At the present time the export rate on grain from the Lakehead to Halifax is 47 cents per cwt., while the domestic rate is 89 cents. However, under the assistance policy there is paid approximately 60 cents per cwt. to Maritime users.

Dr. Dion, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, McGill University is credited by the Press with the statement that practical farming is ten years behind the scientist, that the only major change in methods is the increase in horsepower used by most farmers, and that farming practice must be raised to the level of efficient operation if the Canadian economy is to be healthy. As a practising member of an occupation which is charged with being 10 years behind the times, we are not complimented, in fact, we are hurt and all the more so because we feel the charges of the learned doctor, to be unjustified. We fully realize the great contribution made by science to agriculture but we believe that much of the progress made by farmers has been due to their own

ingenuity, resourcefulness and the necessity of operating more efficiently with less and less manpower.

Here is an industry that during the past few years has greatly increased output per man and per acre which has put into effect numerous innovations, has used a whole host of new varieties, new equipment, new fertilizers, new insect and disease controls, and has in addition done a great deal of constructive work in improving marketing methods. If agriculture as an industry is the soft underbelly of the Canadian economy, we feel that the rest of it must be fairly solid. The statement that Canadian agriculture is inefficient is uncalled for and unjustified and indicates that Dr. Dion is actually not as closely in touch with actual farming practice as he might be.

If farmers are lagging by a decade behind scientific knowledge then it can only be due to the withholding of information from them or to the failure of scientists to perfect the extension services necessary in the spreading of information.

In our book greater farm efficiency means greater output per man, per animal, per acre and per machine. This all adds up to greater production, greater surpluses, lower returns, and exploitation. Increased farm efficiency does not depend to as great an extent upon the use of scientific knowledge as it depends upon the solution of the economic problems facing Canadian agriculture today.

Since the first marketing board was set up in British Columbia over 20 years ago, such Boards have run into a variety of difficulties in financing their operations. Levies on the product have been levied upon by Board opponents and used as a basis of legal action. The solution has not yet been arrived at and the present approach is to have the Federal Marketing Bill amended in such a manner as to make it possible to have levies legally imposed at the Provincial level.

Murray Harbor
MURRAY HARBOUR NORTH. Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Irving, Murray Harbor were recent Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Millar.

Mr. Merrill Henderson, Halifax, N. S., spent the September 17th weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Seymour Henderson.

The friends of Mrs. Melinda Henderson, formerly of Murray Harbor, are sorry to hear she is a patient in the Kings County Hospital and wish her a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Jardine have returned to their home in Toronto after spending their holidays with Mrs. Jardine's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Millar.

Congratulations are extended to Mr. and Mrs. William Millar (nee Lulu Graham) whose marriage took place in the Murray Harbor North Presbyterian Church on Thursday afternoon September 8. Rev. M. C. Currie performed the ceremony. Mrs. Annie Kennedy was organist. Mrs. Ahearn, Summerside, sang "The Lord's Prayer" previous to the ceremony and "I'll Walk Beside You" during the signing of the register. Miss Evelyn MacLure cousin of the bride, was maid of honor. Mr. Wilmot Millar was best man and the ushers were Messrs. Hazen MacLure and Bryer Llewellyn. Following the ceremony a reception for approximately sixty-five guests was held at the Riverview Tourist Home Lower Montague. Mr. and Mrs. Millar will reside in Toronto, Ontario.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard MacLeod and family, Oshawa, Ontario, spent a holiday with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert MacLeod, Cambridge.

Mr. and Mrs. William Millar were guests of honor on Tuesday evening September 13 when their many friends and relatives gathered to shower them with gifts and good wishes at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. William C.

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Georgetown Track, Field Day Results

The Annual Track and Field Day for the pupils of Georgetown High School was held on the School Grounds on the afternoon of Tuesday, Sept. 27th.

50 yard dash—boys 7 yrs and under: 1. Terry Walker, 2. Gordon Batchelder, 3. Eldon Batchelder.

50 yard dash—girls 7 yrs. and under: 1. Dianne Gallant, 2. LaVerne Martell, 3. Marie MacDonell.

50 yard dash—boys 8 and 9 years: 1. Kenny Batchelder, 2. Donnie Wight, 3. Ronnie MacLean.

50 yard dash, girls 8 and 9 yrs: 1. Retha David, 2. Juanita Gotell, 3. Dianne Solomon.

50 yard dash, boys 10 and 11 yrs: 1. Joey Martell, 2. Kenny Batchelder, 3. David Hartman.

50 yard dash, girls 10 and 11 yrs: 1. Mary Kay LeLacheur, 2. Doreen Gallant, 3. Barbara Llewellyn.

50 yard dash, boys 11 yrs. 1. Danny MacLean, 2. Walter Solomon, 3. Lloyd Solomon.

50 yard dash, girls 11 yrs: 1. Barbara Simpson, 2. Marie MacLean, 3. Bonnie Morrison.

Tricycle Race, girls 7 and under: 1. Kathleen Scully, 2. Marie MacLean, 3. Marie MacLean.

Tricycle Race, Boys 7 and under: 1. Elton Batchelder, 2. Louis MacDonald, 3. Mary Burke.

Tricycle Race, Girls 7 and under: 1. Rhipil Boudreau and 2. Nancy MacDonald.

75 yard dash, boys 1 and 13 yrs: 1. Mark Murphy, 2. Lawrence Murphy, 3. Charlie Fitzgerlad.

Georgetown

Mrs. J. J. Fitzgerald, Jr. and family will be vacationing for the summer at their cottage in Georgetown, left on Tuesday, Sept. 27th, by car for their home in Roslindale, Mass.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Morrison left recently on return to their home in Seattle, Washington, following a visit to Georgetown, where they were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Felix Morrison.

Mr. L. DesRoche and Mr. H. E. Clary of Moncton, N. B., were 3. Roger Solomon and Jordan Stewart.

Sack race, girls 13 yrs. and over: 1. Elaine Roche, 2. Ella David, 3. Annie David.

Running High jump, boys 12 yrs. and under: 1. Charlie Fitzgerlad, 2. Herbie Murphy, 3. Walter Arsenault.

Running high jump, boys 13 yrs. and over: 1. Chester David (4 ft. 3 ins.), 2. Allen MacPhee, 3. Paul MacLean.

Running high jump, girls open: 1. Nellie King and Ella David, 2. Elaine Roche and Annie David.

Wheelbarrow race, boys open: 1. Allen MacPhee and Roger Solomon, 2. Stephen Arsenault and Terry Solomon, 3. Ray Murphy and Paul MacLean.

Wheelbarrow race, girls open: 1. Elaine Roche and Ella David, 2. Aldene MacCormack and Katherine McCullough, 3. Annie David and Gloria Myers.

Three-Legged race, boys 9 yrs and under: 1. Larry Henry and Donnie Wight.

Three-legged race, girls 8 yrs and under: 1. Gloria Simpson and Linda Lavondier, 2. Gail Martell and Dianne Gallant, 3. Koren Landier and Lueretta Lavandier, 3. Phyllis Boudreau and LaVerne Jenkins.

Three-legged race, boys 9 to 12 yrs: 1. Herbie Murphy and Charlie Fitzgerlad, 2. Barry Morrison and Walter Arsenault, 3. Danny MacLean and Walter Solomon.

Three-legged race, girls 9 to 12 yrs: 1. Doreen Gallant and Claire Blackett, 2. Paulette Burke and Helene Baker, 3. Betty-Anne Stevens and Vera Walker.

Three-legged race, boys 13 yrs and over: 1. Ray Murphy and Paul MacLean, 2. Allen MacPhee and Roger Solomon, 3. Jordan Stewart and Chester David.

Three-legged race, girls 13 yrs and over: 1. Elaine Roche and Ella David, 2. Doreen Scully and Bertha Blackett, 3. Aldene MacCormack and Katherine McCullough.

Running broad jump, boys 12 yrs. and under: 1. Mark Murphy (14 ft. 2 in.), 2. Charlie Fitzgerlad—13 ft. 8 ins., 3. Herbie Murphy and Walter Arsenault—12 ft. 8 ins.

Running Broad jump, boys, 13 yrs. and over: 1. Allen MacPhee—16 ft. 7 ins., 2. Ray Murphy—16 ft. 1 in., 3. Roger Solomon—15 ft. 9 ins.

Boys relay: 1. Grades 9 and 10 and Grades 7 and 8 (tie).

Girls relay: 1. Grades 9 and 10, 2. Grades 7 and 8.

Officials: D. A. MacCormack, Joan Murphy, Cecil LeLacheur, Arnold Murphy, Student Judges: Virginia Walker, Virginia Roche, and Lorraine Fay. A.C.

Mrs. Wilbert Sencabough has returned to her home following a visit with relatives and friends in Maine.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Higginbotham, Halifax, N. S. were recent weekend visitors to Murray Harbor North, the guests of Mrs. Higginbotham's sister, Mrs. Seymour Henderson and Mr. Henderson.

Mr. and Mrs. John T. Landrigan, Lower Montague, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Everett Condon, left recently for Attleboro, Mass., where they will spend a brief holiday with relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Henderson, Brewer, Maine, are vacationing in Murray Harbor North, the guests of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Henderson.

Mr. and Mrs. William Millar have returned to Toronto after spending their holidays with their parents in Murray Harbor North and Gaspareaux.

Mr. Horace Hewitt was a business visitor to Georgetown on Tuesday.

Mr. Basil Roy MacLeod of Cambridge was a recent business visitor to Georgetown.

Mr. William DeCoste and family of Charlottetown were guests on Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Burke Jr. Accompanying them from Charlottetown was Mrs. Rufus Clary, who has been a patient in the Charlottetown Hospital for the past three weeks.

The September meeting of the York Point Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Stanley Murchison with an attendance of nine members and two visitors. The meeting opened by singing the Institute Ode and repeating the creed in unison.

Roll call was responded to by a "pickle recipe." The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The school committee had no report; Sick committee reported visiting one new baby and one sick member. Correspondence consisted of "Your First Boy" Friend. All are pleased to hear of Mrs. Clary's return home.

Two THANK-YOU NOTES: It was decided to share with Meadow Bank and Cornwall Women's Institutes in the purchasing of a wreath for Soldiers Memorial service at Cornwall.

Mrs. Reg. MacEwen and Mrs. Stanley Murchison were appointed to teach sewing to the children of the community.

The next meeting is to be held at the home of Mrs. Ray Large, Charlottetown. Mrs. Aubrey MacPhail will be in charge of the programme; lunch committee Mrs. Stanley Murchison, Mrs. John MacEachern and Mrs. Wendell Dockendorff. Roll call will be answered with "Your First Boy" Friend. Called upon to give.

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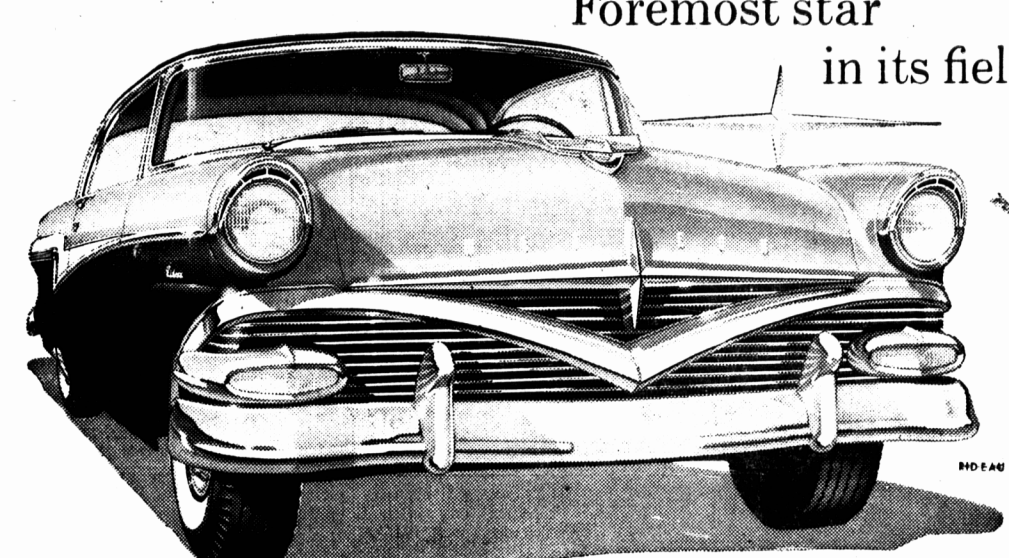
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