Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Vessey, York are shown with some of the championship trophies they have accumulated since they started to show potatoes in both seed and tablestock classifications at provincial, Maritime, Atlantic and Royal Winter Fairs. These are only a few of the many trophies as the Vesseys have won more than two dozen grand championship and reserve grand champion ribbons since they won their first at Amherst in 1957. A story in the Guardian's farm column next week will tell the interesting story about the Vessey accomplishments.

THIS FARMING INDUSTRY

Launch All-Out Campaign Against The Warble Fly

By NEIL A. MATHESON

Livestock Director Dave Peacock tells me they really hope to stamp out the warble fly completely in this province. And that reminds me that the material for application for warble fly control is now in the hands of a key man in every district on the Island. In some cases two school districts are joined together for purpose of handling this campaign. In the others there is a man in every district.

The application is a simple matter. You just mix the material with water, according to the simple instructions the key men will give, and pour the mixture along the backs of the animals.

The cost is nominal. It works out to approximately seven cents per one hundred pounds liveweight of the animal. But in any case the cost per animal does not require any more than do animals of that weight.

Last year a campaign treated every available animal in the area west of Portage, and the results were said to be most satisfactory. This year the goal is to cover every district in the province that is East of the Portage area.

Knowing something of the damage that the warble fly can do, I suggest this is an excellent idea. The hope is that the Island can be made an area that is completely free of those pests, and that is certainly a most desirable objective.

TWO SUCCESSES

A former Island man, George Darrach — he was born in Milo, Prince County — has had two most successful performances at as many top Canadian livestock exhibitions. George is herdsman for the Oak Ridges Holstein herd of R.R. Dennis, Oak Ridge, Ontario.

Mr. Darrach who started as herdsman at Falconwood Farm here, came out of the Royal Winter Fair last week with the Premier exhibiter's shield and was runner-up for the breeder's shield for his employer. At the Canadian National Exhibition in August he showed the Oak Ridge herd of Holsteins to both breeder and exhibitor awards.

At the Royal, too, he showed the reserve senior and reserve grand champion bull; the reserve senior and reserve grand champion cow. Oak Ridge also had the champion junior female and the reserve junior champion male.

They had the top aged cow and she combined with two others to take the Henry trophy for the three best-uddered cows in the show. They also won the Holtby shield for the best two animals shown by one breeder.

The Oak Ridge farm showed six females and they had three firsts, one second, a third and a fourth. And this adds up to an outstanding performance for George Darrach, farm manager and showman for the big herd of Holsteins.

Here's a note that ties the Ontario herd in with the Island. The reserve grand champion cow is a three-year old heifer, Oak Ridge Maria and she was named after Maria Costache (Mrs. Zamfir) of York, a lady George met during one of his trips to visit a sister-in-law who is a neighbour. Mrs. Darrach is the former Olive Thompson of Cornwall.

The grand champion Holstein bull was shown by Romandale Farms. The grand champion cow was "an almost faultless cow", Judge D.S. Dutton said, from the herd of Houlihan and Heffering, Tara Hill farms, Millbrook, N.Y.

MET WITH MISHAP

A really good Jersey cow that was entered in the sale of stars at the Royal by Jim Vickerson and Son, North River met with a mishap. She freshened in a railway car on the way to Toronto, and her udder was so full, it was partly ruptured, or broken away. It meant Jim couldn't show her, and she couldn't go in the sale of stars. However an Ontario breeder bought her because of her excellent bloodlines. There were two "Excellent" cows and a former Royal Grand Champion bull in her immediate family bloodlines.

A young Jersey bull shown by Albert J. Boswall, Marshfield and George MacMillan, Cornwall placed eighth in his class.

Elsewhere in this paper are pictures of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Vessey, perennial winners of championships in table stock potatoes — they have two dozen rosettes from the Royal in other years, and their son Allison who is 11, won the reserve grand championship in tablestock this year.

I sought the reason for this consistent victory string by the Vesseys and the story will be carried in next week's farm column.

HORSE'S PRAYER

The Horse's Prayer is addressed "to all who love horses" and that should include just about everyone who knows a horse. Here it is:

"To thee, my Master, I offer my prayer.

"Feed me, water and care for me, and when the day's work is done, provide me with a shelter and a clean dry bed, and a stall wide enough for me to lie down in comfort. Be always gentle with me and talk to me. Your voice often means as much to me as the reins.

"Pet me sometimes so that I may serve you the more gladly and learn to love you. Do not jerk the reins and do not whip me when going up hill. Never strike, or beat or kick me when I do not understand what you mean, but give me a chance to understand you."

If I may insert a comment here, it is why does any man ever kick a horse? It produces nothing except a show of bad temper on the part of the man who does it.

Back to the prayer — the copy was loaned to me by my friend, Byron Burns, Charlottetown jeweller:

"Watch me, and if I fail to do your bidding, see if something is wrong with the harness or my feet. Don't draw the straps too tight. Give me freedom to move my head. If you insist on my wearing blinkers to keep me from looking around, at least see to it that they do not press against my eyes.

"Don't make my load too heavy and don't leave me tied up in the rain. Have me well shod, and examine my teeth when I do not eat. I may have an ulcerated tooth, and that, you know, is very painful.

Do not tie my head in an unnatural position or take away my best defence against flies and mosquitoes by cutting off my tail. I cannot tell you when I am thirsty, so give me pure cold water frequently. Do all you can to protect me against the sun, and throw a cover over me, not when I am working, but when I am standing out in the cold.

"Don't force an ice-cold bit into my mouth, but warm it first in some water, or by your hand. I always try to do cheerfully the work you require of me, day and night. I stand for hours patiently waiting for you. And finally, oh my master, when my useful strength is gone, do not turn me out to starve and freeze, or sell m to some cross owner to be slowly tortured to death, but do then take my life in the kindest way and one will reward you here and in the hereafter.

"You may not consider me irreverent, I hope, if I ask this in the name of Him who was born in a stable."

Horses are few now compared to the time this prayer was written, but there are people who still own and like horses. Byron tells me that many of his friends have asked him for a copy of this prayer, so here is a chance to clip this out and obtain a copy.

TEA CAME LATE

Tea was not introduced to Japan, home of the formal tea ceremony, until the 15th century.

Honored On Retirement

A number of friends and co-workers gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William A. Bernard of Hunter River recently to honor Mr. Bernard on the occasion of his retirement from the Canadian National Railway after 41 years of service.

Mr. Bernard entered the service on Dec. 12, 1924, in the track department and stayed with that department until his retirement.

Mrs. Bernard was presented with a bouquet of roses by Norman MacKay. Mr. Bernard was presented with a purse by Russell Vessey.

A sing song and music for dancing followed the presentations.

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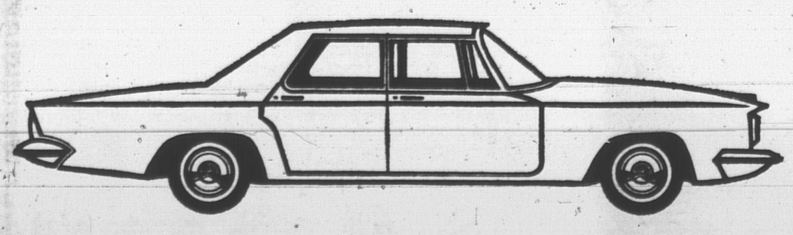

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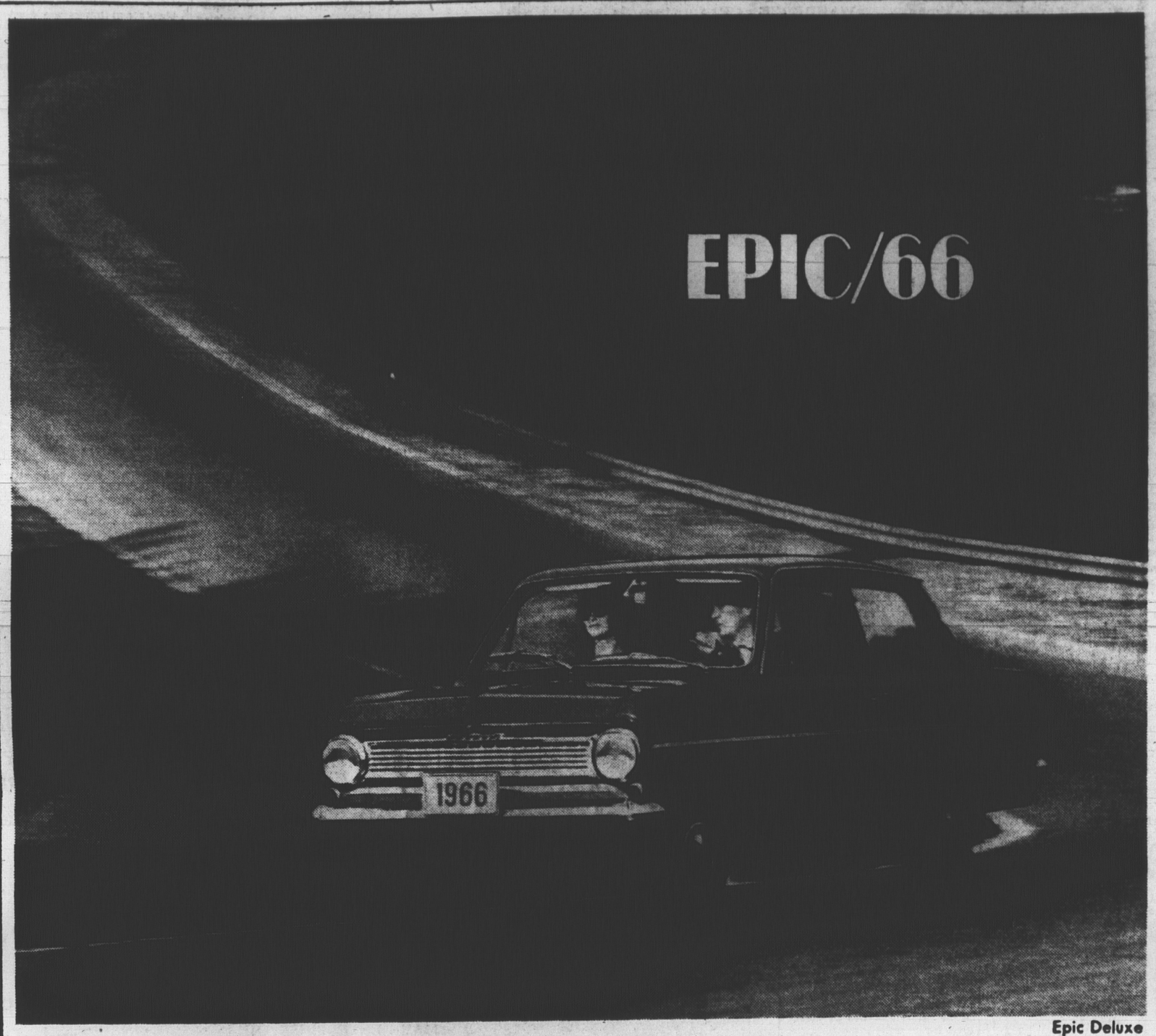

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Very pleasant motoring, with Epic's four-passenger room, big trunk, easy parkability, sports-car handling. Very pleasant, indeed—and you can thank Epic/66's surprising clean-heels pick-up in traffic and effortless cruising on the highway for that (plus a top-notch heater for winter!). Your wife will love to drive Epic too, if she can ever persuade you to get out from behind the wheel.

What more should you know about Epic for '66? Your Chevrolet-Envoy dealer's got all the information you want. And he's got Epic/66 too—waiting for you to come in and drive it. See him—and Epic/66—today!

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