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 more and I spent in the big hog barn.  
**KINDNESS HELPS**  
 And kindness makes a difference, even to pigs. "I never enter the barn without speaking to them as I come through the door," he said. "If he didn't, he explained, the pigs would be scared and mill around in an excited manner. But they know my voice and behave in completely normal fashion."  
 John who was with his dad during our visit moved among the pigs and the nine-year-old son seemed just as much at home with them as his father. He did as he liked the pigs. A younger son, Roy, who is eight was at the house during our visit.

Manure from the big hog barn top dresses 100 acres of grain each year. It adds phosphate fertilizer to balance the plant food - after content soil testing and 100 acres of grain are grown last year cost very little. There was \$800 worth of fertilizer and the fuel his big diesel tractor burned cultivating the land. The return was an average of \$100 per acre crop worth \$5,000, an average of \$500 per acre. It is necessary to concentrate added until 1953-54. And there was still some grain in the big storage bins when we visited the establishment.

He grew a mixture of oats, barley and wheat last year on 124 acres. The other 16 acres were sown to Herta barley, a heavy producing variety which was encouraged here last year in an experimental plot by Canada Packers, and produced just under an average of 60 bushels per acre. Mr. Fraser hopes to sow about 100 acres of the Herta barley this year, he said. He has 60 acres at home and grows the rest on other farms. Production of so much feed at home is a major factor in his operation.

It's amazing to see how much manual labor modern developments have taken out of the large operation. Mr. Fraser has one man working with him and it takes them less than two hours - they have done in one - twice a week to fill the large feed hoppers that distribute the mixture to the stock and feed hoppers on the floor below. The pigs feed from automatic water bowls.

The feed is hoisted to the second floor by an electrically-driven elevator which automatically dumps the bags into the nearest feed hoppers as he receives the bags. The rest is done by later feeding. There's no waste motion in the Fraser hog barn. The hogs were given dry feed because of the labor it saves. Mr. Fraser said he believes wet feed may bring a better price, but "it would take a tremendous amount of labor to chop 600 hogs" - that's the number in the barn now - and that would add greatly to expenses which have to be watched closely in an operation of this kind.

Mr. Fraser buys his weaning pigs at 40 pounds for \$15 and finishes them off in approximately four and one-half months. When he started back around 1951 or 1952 he could clear \$14 on a hog. "The week before I visited him he barely broke even, but next week," he explained, "things may be much better" and added "last year was one of my best years."  
 Hogs reached a top price of \$40 per 100 pounds in the early '50s but that was before the Fraser hog development started in 1954. Asked "How did you get into the hog business?" the reply was straightforward and interesting.  
 "I was in the feed business from 1953 to '54 and was trying to talk farmers into feeding more hogs. Why not build a small hog barn and try to do it, instead of five or six. I asked them? One farmer told me, 'If I lose my shirt, finally I got mad and went into it myself.'"

**ACCURATE RECORDS**  
 Mr. Fraser knew exactly what the feed was costing the farmers who were his customers, for he has always kept accurate records as he does now in his own hog business.  
 A glance at his books will bring the answer to just about any question one could ask.  
 The Montague man started modestly in 1954 with a building 50 feet by 30. He built shed-roof

extensions on the sides in 1957 to make it 54 feet in width and next year he extended the entire building to a length of 100 feet.  
 The barn has a top capacity of 700 hogs and he can turn out a maximum of 2,000 each year, though he normally runs about 650 at a time and production to date has run 1,500 to 1,700, a year, though that may be stepped up, he cautioned, in 1958.

**HAVE MORE VIGOR**  
 Mr. Fraser likes the Landrace, Yorkshire cross hogs. They have more vigor, better growth and better health, he said. Asked if the Landrace cross grades stood up to be said, "There are more of those crosses in the barn now than anything else, and the grades are holding up."  
 Incidentally the 75.6 per cent top grades he has achieved to date compare with a sharply declining percentage of top grades in the province generally.

Nelson Ball, Canada department of agriculture livestock fieldman, reveals that grades fell off sharply in the five-month period from December 1957 to February, though he came back fairly well in February.  
 Here are the percentages of Grade A crops as reported from registered killing plants in the period referred to, with the percentages for the previous year in brackets:  
 October 1952 52.6 (49.4); November 1952 52.5 (50); December 49.9 (50); January 1953 49.9 (50). In February of this year the percentage improved to 54.5, which compares with 61.5 a year previously.

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**Mr. Farmer**  
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**TOP CONDITION.**  
 He bought in 1958 a 10-foot, self-propelled combine and the big machine purrs like a happy kitten, because he always keeps it in top running condition.  
 Mr. Fraser bought a Jeep in 1955, put an 85 gallon acrole tank on the back of it and rigged it out as a grain sprayer. Twin jets throw the spray over a 50-foot width - there is no boom - and it has the advantage of speedy movement. "You can head for a brook at 20 miles per hour, for example, when the spray runs out, instead of lumbering along at 10 M.P.H. on a tractor," he said.  
 He had been using the Jeep several years for his own grain and custom spraying when he read in a national farm magazine about a retired army officer "who had thought up the new idea" of using a Jeep for spraying, which gave the Montague man a quiet laugh.

The Jeep also pulls a manure spreader which spreads the manure from the big hog barn. All land used is soil tested - he has 60 acres of his own and grows the rest on other farms - and applies the manure and fertilizer mixture recommended by the

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BIG FRASER BARN CAN HANDLE 700 HOGS AT A TIME

sol laboratory.  
 Mr. Fraser was first in area to operate modern grain cleaning equipment which he does on custom basis.  
 Normally repair bills are heavy but Charlie does all his own normal repairs.  
 Has a 1927 Model A Ford which garageman told him ran only about 2,000 miles which he intends to restore this year. It was owned by Janie A. Cora, Hermitage.  
 All farmers should visit the Canada Packers plant to see their hogs graded, said Mr. Fraser. "I used to fight over grades until I talked with the grad-

er, H. C. Hearty, and saw for myself just what is required," Mr. Fraser explained.  
 Previously he shipped hogs at 170 pounds liveweight because he believes that the greatest profit is available from the hogs before they reach greater weight. But he changed to 190 pounds alive when new grading stations a few years ago made it easier to get A grades on carcasses over 150 pounds.  
 From 135 to 150 pounds, for example, only one and one-quarter inches of fat is allowed on the loin. Over that amount, though, one and one-half inches is allowed.

Jim Oudmore tells me that Mr. Fraser plays a valuable part in worthwhile community activity. He was a town councillor for two terms, among other things, and is one of the leading workers in his church. It was told.  
**NEW TRIVIES**  
 The American bison dropped from 60,000 million in the early 19th century to only 20 in 1900 but now thrives on protected pastures.

# North Wiltshire man starts early now produces 600 hogs per year

A 24-year old North Wiltshire farmer, Cecil Godfrey, produces approximately 600 pigs a year with his 38 sow battery in the modern hog barn he built a year ago.  
 He started when he was 17 with a pure bred Yorkshire sow given to him by his uncle, Almon Boswell, Dunstons, one of the most successful swine breeders in recent years, and has developed from that small start.

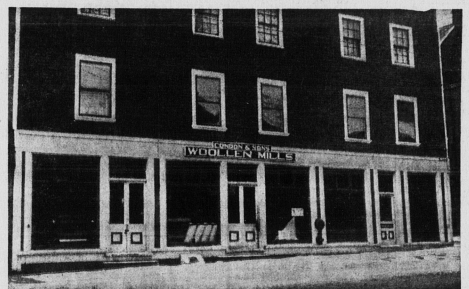
Mr. Godfrey uses a dozen pens and three farrowing crates to handle the mothers when they are farrowing and nursing their litters. He leaves the sow in the farrowing crate for a week on an average, though sometimes a bit longer.  
 The litters are creep fed to supplement the mother's milk, and the creeps are heated by ultra-violet and infra-red heat lamps.

The North Wiltshire man sells most of his pigs as weanlings at six to eight weeks of age when they run 30 to 35 pounds, though he keeps some of the best sills for breeding stock, and usually sells eight to 10 hogs each year for breeding purposes.  
 Mr. Godfrey feeds his own grain with grain concentrates to the sows for the most part as he grew some 40 acres of grain last year. He has been growing mixed grain but intends to grow oats and barley separately in future. He believes that is best, because he can then mix the grain in the desired proportion. When it is grown as mixed grain, there is no clear indication what the proportion is, he explains.  
 He grew two acres of Herta barley last year and expects to grow about 10 acres of the new-type heavy production variety that Canada Packers encouraged in a planned experiment in 1952.  
 The sows run outside all

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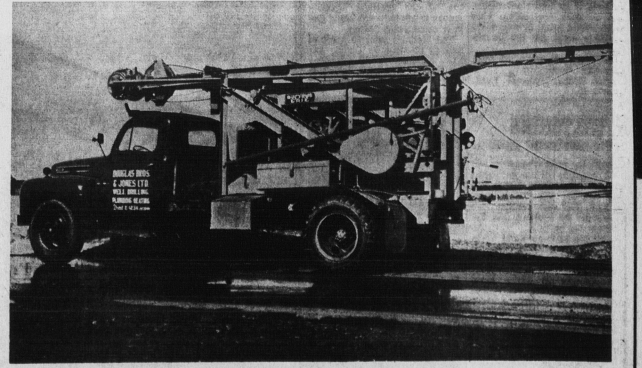
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