

Hall of Fame nominee

Laura Rose Stephen

Laura Rose Stephen, FWIO's nominee to the Ontario Agricultural Hall of Fame, will be among 10 other outstanding agriculturalists to be honoured at the Ontario Agricultural Museum, Milton, on June 12, 1983 at 2 p.m.

Hall of Fame Association president Ross Farr, when announcing the 11 inductees, said, "These people, all deceased, have done much to build the foundations for our agricultural industry, and they richly deserve this recognition." They represent a wide range of agricultural interests, but their involvement carries the same stamp of dedication and foresight.

The candidates for this year's Hall of Fame unveiling are:

SIR ADAM BECK (1857-1925)

Founder of Ontario Hydro, whose vision was a comprehensive grid of hydro service to all farmers in the province.

STEWART G. BENNETT (1892-1982)

Shorthorn breeder and exhibitor, past president of the Royal Winter Fair, agri-business executive and philanthropist.

MICHAEL P. COOK (1824-1910)

One of the founders and first president of the Holstein-Freisian Association of Canada. Pioneered in importing quality Holsteins from Holland and U.S.A.

JAMES R. HENDERSON (1896-1968)

Breeder of champion Holsteins, active in many farm societies and organizations.

T.R. "Dick" HILLIARD (1916-1980)

Leader in Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario, he served in a number

of senior positions, in the province, including deputy minister of agriculture and food.

DR. C. C. JAMES (1863-1916)

From 1891 to 1912 he served as deputy minister of agriculture in Ontario. He initiated the agricultural extension service in 1907, and appointed the first six agricultural representatives.

DR. JOSEPH EDWARD JOHNSON (1891-1960)

He was the pioneer in developing Ontario's Artificial Insemination Program for cattle, and spent his lifetime perfecting these techniques.

NORMAN McCULLY (1899-1978)

This St. Mary's sheep breeder made an outstanding contribution to the development of new breeds of sheep and the promotion of sound management of Ontario farms.



"Laura Rose"

LAURA ROSE STEPHEN (1866-1963)

Dairy instructor and agricultural journalist, she was one of the first organizers of the Women's Institute movement in Ontario, later moving to other provinces for the same purpose. (For more details on her life, read the story on this page.)

ALEX M. STEWART (1890-1963)

Grower, exhibitor and marketer of the finest pedigreed seeds, Mr. Stewart's influence on the industry was monumental.

CLARK YOUNG (1893-1982)

A good farmer, a top plowman, he served 41 years as treasurer of the Ontario Plowmen's Association and was one of the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association.

About her life...

The following was excerpted from the book Fifty Years of Achievement, by Annie Walker, Edith M. Collins and M. McIntyre Hood.

This chapter would not be complete without a reference to one who was so closely associated with the development of the Women's Institutes of Ontario that her name has become known to practically every Institute member, not only in this province, but across the dominion. Mrs. W.F. Stephen, of Ottawa, familiarly known to Women's Institute members as Laura Rose, was born in Georgetown, On-

tario. In her late teens, she went to North Dakota to keep house for an older brother on a homestead farm.

Laura Rose thoroughly enjoyed pioneer life, although her duties were arduous — attending to the household work, cooking for hired men, making butter, caring for the chickens and the whole gamut of home duties on a farm. In addition to all that, she assumed the responsibility of teaching the rural school, some miles from her home. For three years she travelled daily to and from her school; on horseback in summer, and in winter,

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