—Staff Photo

SUCCESS OF NIGHT SCHOOL classes in Halton, at the completion of the fourth year, was attributed in large degree at the Open Night in Milton High School last week to the work of agricultural representative J. E. Whitelock. Here Mr. Whitelock is presented with a smoking stand, desk set and floor lamp by Miss Jean Peterson, Brock Harris, Frank Chisholm and Cedric Harrop, in appreciation of his efforts. Night school classes were also held in Georgetown and Acton this year with the open night held in Georgetown on Tuesday of this week. Work shown was highly praised.

Halton Junior Farmer Choristers Are Involved in Stand Collapse at London

Halton junior farmers rehearsing a massed choir selection in London Thursday evening of last week, were among over 100 young men who fell in a tangled heap when two bleachers collapsed.

Although the choristers were cut and shaken, only one was unable to continue with the evening's program of music. A young farmer from Middlesex county, he suffered a broken ankle.

None of the Halton men was seriously injured. Rev. Young, padre at the Ontario Agricultural College, was among those who declared the accident to be "one of the luckiest" he had ever seen.

After ushers, attendants and St. John's ambulance corps members rushed to the collapsed stands and ascertained injuries were almost unbelievably slight, Dr. Roy Fenwick, who had been leading the massed choir at the time of the accident, was able to smile and declared it was the first time he had ever seen a section of a choir suddenly disappear.

Acton Man Cut

In the practice about an hour before the evening's performance in the Manufacturers' Life Building, London, four county choirs from Perth, Middlesex, Elgin and Halton were singing "Canada" by Dr. Fenwick. The girls were standing on the regular tiered platform, but about 10 rows of young men had mounted the wooden bleachers brought in from the fair grounds, which had been placed behind the girls to give height to the men's sections.

Hearing the noise of the rending wood, the girls turned and frightened moved from the collapsing stands.

Although naturally upset the group was able to continue with the evening's program. The event was referred to jokingly by them.

Over 40 from Area

In the Halton choir were over 40 county junior farmers from the Acton, Milton, Norval and Palermo clubs. They sang first on the program which ran according to schedule. Under their choir leader Thomas Allen of Waterdown, they sang Dry Bones, Oklahoma and Kentucky Babe. The group has been practicing during the winter. This is Mr. Allen's third year conducting the Halton choir. Accompanist is Mrs. George Newell.

The event was non-competitive.

The collapse of the stands was not the only unforeseen incident of the evening. Driving to London in a bus in very stormy weather, the Halton group was late to begin with. There, they learned that the building in which the concert was to be given had caught fire that afternoon and damage to the heating plant made heating the building impossible.

As the group left the bus at the agricultural office in Milton, late in the evening, someone still in good spirits let off a firecracker.

Immediately the Milton fire alarm sounded and the fire engine headed north up the highway.

Some of the junior farmers who had escaped tragedy themselves in the collapse of the stands ended the night watching a farm home burn to the ground in Nassagaweya.

The Ontario junior farmers' annual choir festival was held in conjunction with the Middlesex county seed fair.

Mac Sprowl, Acton choir member who suffered a cut head, explained that "the stands seemed to suddenly move to one side and within seconds were down." One Halton man, Frank Wilson of Norval, exhibited remarkable quick thinking and caught hold of an overhead steel girder. Another clutched at a pipe. After their fellow singers were thrown down, they were left dangling and had to be helped down with ladders.

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From Halton's Farm Lands

Halton Boys Outstanding At College Royal

The annual College Royal staged by students at the Ontario Agricultural College, was held on Wednesday of last week. Bob Broughton of Palermo, won his class in Swine showmanship, and later, was declared Champion Swine Showman. In Dairy Cattle Don Lawson of Stewarttown, placed first in a class of Jerseys; and Don Johnson, of Milton took second in an Ayrshire class. Both, however, were eliminated when it came to the Dairy Cattle championship. John C. Willmott, of Milton, got the red ribbon in a class of Angus heifers — later took the championship in beef cattle. Consequently when it came to selecting the Grand Champion Showman, of the five contestants in the running two Halton boys namely Bob Broughton, and John C. Willmott, were still in there. Bertram Stewart, of Bolton, got the Grand Champion award with John C. Willmott getting the Reserve.

Auction Sale of Seed

The concluding feature of the 1954 annual Halton Seed Fair at the Milton town hall on Saturday, March 13 will be the auction sale of the ten bushel lots of Oats and Barley. J. A. Elliott, well known auctioneer of Milton, will be in charge of the sale. Only lots which are Grade No. 1 for quality will be sold in this auction.

Junior Farmer Choir Competes in Choir Festival

Halton Junior Farmer Choir, 35 strong, journeyed to London on Thursday of last week, where they participated in the annual Junior Farmer Choir Festival. Trained by Thos. Allen of Waterdown, they received words of commendation from the Festival critic, Dr. G. Roy Fenwick of Toronto. In their first number, "Dry Bones", Dr. Fenwick commenderd the boys for their good rhythm, and the choir as a whole for the "good shading" and the excellence of their words. Other selections by the Halton Chair were "Oklahoma" and "Kentucky Babe."

Other choirs participating were from the counties of Perth, Oxford, Elgin and Middlesex. The massed choirs conducted by Dr. Fenwick sang "With Jockey to the Fair." The members of the Halton choir, under the supervision of Art Bennett, Associate Agricultural Representative, returned to their respective homes in the early hours of Friday morning, a tired but happy group. The choir members together with their director Thos. Allen and their accompanist, Mrs. George Newell are to be congratulated on their very excellent effort.

Milton High School Packed For Open Night

The fourth annual Night School at Milton is over. As in former years, the high school in Milton was crowded to capacity on Tuesday evening of last week for "Open Night." And what a display they saw. The displays in millinery, weaving, and metalcraft were especially outstanding with those in oil painting and leathercraft not far behind. The display from the classes in electric welding, photography, needlecraft and clothing while perhaps less spectacular were none the less most creditable. The spectators were literally hanging from the rafters when Chairman A. T. Woodley got the fashion parades and other program under way. Mrs. Helen Haight's class in smocking nearly stole the show. Little folk all the way from "toddlers" to five or six years of age modelled the garments made by their mothers during the past winter and what a show these kiddies put on. The classes in children's garments, elementary and advanced clothing, and tailoring with their respective fashion parade kept the feminine part of the audience "oohing and ahhing." All in all it was a great show and real credit to the County of Halton. Six majorettes from the Zimmerman school with their baton drills added variety and interest during the program. Those participating in this were Eila Parssinen, Laila Parssinen, Linda Pelletterio, Nowel Stutt, and Elaine Martin. Mrs. A. R. Elliott accompanied at the piano.

A Visit to Halton's Folk School

For four years we have been wanting to pay a visit to a Folk School. Last Friday night we had the privilege of spending a very pleasant hour at Mr. and Mrs. Mac Alexander's on the tenth concession of Esquesing. Certainly the Alexander home is an ideal spot for a Folk School or as a matter of fact in any event. The Alexander home built 150 years ago from bricks made on the farm ties in with the theme of the folk school "Know Halton County." The Alexander home is always a hospitable spot to visit and certainly Friday evening last was no exception. Mr. Alexander, A. R. Coulter and Roy Ellenton were on deck to extend a welcome to the school. We also had the privilege of once again meeting Miss Eleanor Saracuse, of Norfolk County, a past president of the Junior Farmers of Ontario, who is leader of the school. When we arrived they were in the midst of a discussion on the "Industrial Development in Halton." Reeve Wilfred Bird, of Esquesing, was the leader of the informative discussion. Then followed an impromptu panel discussion on some of the rural organizations in Halton. Here Miss Jean Alexander represented the 4H Club members, Miss Barbara Tasker the Junior Farmers, Mrs. M. J. Brown, the Women's Institutes, and Spencer Wilson the Federation of Agriculture, with J. E. Whitelock as chairman.

Considering the inexperience of the chairman, the panel presented some worthwhile information. Unfortunately we had to leave for another meeting, and therefore missed the remainder of the evening's program. However, we saw sufficient to sell us on Folk Schools. Certainly those responsible are to be congratulated on their initiative and energy which they put into the planning and organization of this annual event.

D.H.I.A. To Visit Dairy Farms

Halton's three D.H.I.A. groups are sponsoring a special program which should be of interest to all dairymen on Monday, March 15th. The event which is open to the public will get under way in the board room of the Agricultural Office, Milton, at 10.30 a.m., when Dr. H. L. Patterson of FARM NEWS Galley Two and the Farm Economics Branch, and Cliff Morrow, of the Ontario Livestock Branch will be the special speakers. Immediately after lunch visits will be made to the farms of Andrew Woodley, and Cliff May and Son, both of Trafalgar township. Time studies have been conducted on these two stables one of which is of the loose housing type with a milking parlour, and the other of the conventional tie-up style. All in all it looks like an interesting type of meeting and tour.

Holstein Club Stages "Ladies Night" at Trafalgar

Despite unfavorable weather conditions slightly over 200 were in attendance for the Halton Holstein Club's Annual Ladies' Night held at Trafalgar on Wednesday evening of last week. Following a delicious turkey dinner the group was entertained by the Lowville Quartette, Jack and Bryan Bennett of Kilbride. A progressive Euchre brought to a conclusion another delightful social evening. President Gordon Sinclair presided over the short program at the banquet table. Among those who spoke briefly were Fred Snyder of Waterloo first vice-president of the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada; D. S. Dunn of Brampton; F. A. Innes of Brantford and Ross Segsworth of Burlington, all of whom are directors of the National Holstein board. Another pleasing feature of the program was the presentation of the F. J. Meagher Memorial Trophy by George F. Drennan of Guelph to Ashville Farms Ltd. represented by Anne George and Joe Pelletterio.

A Cork Irishman named Colin Talbot who is said to have taken Scotchmen and women to have turned teetotallers out of his inn and to have built the very good road in Ontario — founded London.

Merchant Marine Three-Ship Fleet

If all the flag transfer applications now before the Canadian Maritime Commission are approved Canada's merchant marine will be down to three ships not counting the seven government owned Canadian National Steamships, says the Financial Post reports.

The CMC has already approved 11 of the 15 applications while the balance remain under consideration. The ships will be added to the 100 Canadian vessels already flying the British flag, under a contract which would return them to Canadian operation in case of war.

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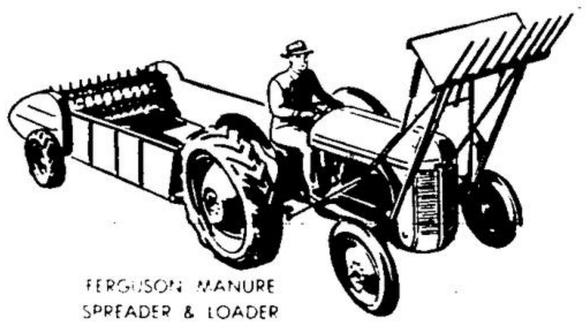

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