

# Elect Mac Sprowl President of Halton Federation Agriculture

"Move now to organize along commodity, federation and co-operative lines," was the timely subject of the thought-provoking address delivered by A. H. Musgrave of Clarksonburg at the annual meeting of the Halton Federation of Agriculture, held at Hornby on Tuesday of last week.

"Our organization is not as effective as it ought to be," stated Mr. Musgrave, who is vice-president of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture.

The election of officers resulted as follows: president, Mac Sprowl, Acton R. R. 4, first vice-president, Brock Harris, Milton R. R. 6, second vice-president, George Collins, Acton R. R. 1, third vice-president, John W. Peck, Hornby R. R. 1, fourth vice-president, Clifford Brown, Milton R. R. 3.

# Department Representative Reports on Elm Tree Disease

A recent meeting of the Halton Conservation Committee was convened by Reeve George Currie of Esquesing township, on the subject of Dutch Elm Tree Disease, and possible control measures which might be taken in Halton.

Despite treacherous driving conditions, representatives were present from the municipalities of Esquesing, Nassagaweya, Milton, Burlington, Trafalgar and the Credit, Twelve and Sixteen Mile Conservation Authorities.

E. W. Steele of the Department of Lands and Forests, presented a very clear cut picture of the disease, how it is spread, and the method of control.

It was the opinion of Mr. Steele that the disease, while firmly established in this province, was not likely to eliminate all of our elm trees in the county by any means.

On the other hand, Mr. Steele commended the local conservation committee of taking action, and supported any program which they might undertake to protect healthy Elm trees in certain strategic areas in the county.

They state further that a sampling program of this sort would add unnecessarily to the costs of a control program without providing a commensurate return. This opinion is supported by a survey made by the Metropolitan and District Conservation Authority in cooperation with the laboratory at Maple during the past year.

Not all suspect trees in the area were examined but only a percentage of the trees showing symptoms that occurred on county and township road allowances.

In all, 801 trees were sampled and 300 of them produced positive evidence. They also point out that the European bark beetle, which is responsible in this area for the spreading of the disease, came in from the U.S. on the Niagara Peninsula and in Essex County.

Consequently Halton county is located between the points of entrance and York and Peel counties, where the survey referred to was made.

Furthermore, they have definite records in the office at Maple of Elm trees infected with Dutch Elm Disease in Halton which lead them to believe that a large number of diseased trees exist in the county.

Their recommendation is therefore, that a spray and sanitation program be carried out in those park and municipal areas where we feel Elm trees should be preserved. Dying trees should be removed at once, regardless of the reason for their condition since any weakened tree may become a broad tree for the beetles which distribute the disease.

Such trees release, they state, millions of spore carrying beetles and pose as a serious threat to neighboring healthy trees. Consequently, they believe that the only survey required is one to determine the location of Elm trees which should be preserved and follow up by a spraying program.

However, since the meeting in question, we have been advised by the laboratory officials at Maple, that in their opinion, a widespread and intensive sampling of Elm trees in Halton would not be advisable.

Well Established  
This view is not based on a lack of staff at the laboratory, but rather on a conviction that the

# President Plans Program For Halton Crop Annual

"We have, I think, the best program lined up for the annual meeting of the Halton Soil and Crop Improvement Association that we have had in some years," stated Maurice C. Beatty, president of the Association.

We learned from Mr. Beatty that this popular annual meeting is scheduled for the Milton Fair building on Tuesday, December 30. As in former years, the meeting will get under way at 10:30 a.m. with timely brief reports by a number of local farm co-operators.

One of these reports will be by Johnson Neelands of Hornby, on a pasture fertilization test he conducted this past summer in cooperation with Cyanamid of Canada Limited.

This past summer was far from favorable to producing good pasture in the first place, we received only two-thirds as much precipitation as we do normally, along with that, frosty nights and low temperatures generally, in May and June were not conducive to pasture growth.

And yet Mr. Neelands will present definite data which proves that one dollar worth of commercial fertilizer in the form of Urea, which contains 45 per cent nitrogen returned \$3.29 worth of milk in 1958, not to mention or include the value of pasture consumed by 15 head of dry stock.

This is only a small part of the amazing story which Johnson Neelands will tell on the morning of Tuesday, December 30.

The afternoon session will feature an address by Charles Munroe of Enniskillen. Mr. Munroe is a past president of the Oxford County Soil and Crop Improvement Association, and also of the Oxford Federation of Agriculture, and along with that, is recognized as one of Oxford County's top farm operators.

Another highlight of this outstanding program is to be a panel discussion on the topic, "The Status of the Family Farm in Halton in 1958."

Here the panel members will be Dr. Harvey Caldwell of the Department of Farm Economics at the O.A.C., A. R. Coulter, Campbellville; Ruford Gardhouse, Milton; W. E. Breckon, Burlington and J. E. Whitelock as panel moderator.

And the astonishing fact is that, we understand from president Beatty, you can get all of this program, along with your lunch, plus your membership for 1959 in the Halton Soil and Crop Association, for the sum of \$1.00 not to mention a chance at the lucky draw prizes for those in the hall by 10:30 a.m.

# Bannockburn W.I. Sponsors Euchre Christmas Draw

The Bannockburn Women's Institute held their Christmas euchre party and lucky draw at Bannockburn school on Saturday, December 13. A very good crowd attended with 15 euchre tables being occupied.

The euchre prizes were as follows: ladies first Mrs. R. L. Day, second Mrs. Clara Wilson, third Mrs. M. E. Evers, fourth Mrs. Stan Matthews.

The lucky draw for two geese and a Christmas cake, was held Mrs. W. Wilson of Georgetown and Jack Fox of R. R. 2, Acton, won the geese and Mrs. Alex Mann of Acton won the Christmas cake. The goose prize was won by Jim Van Fleet, Acton.

Following the presentation of the prizes, everyone enjoyed a social time when sandwiches and tea were served.

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# Limehouse Group Given Charter

The first Limehouse Scout group received its charter from the Boy Scouts Association on Wednesday of last week at a brief formal ceremony in Limehouse community hall.

The charter was read by Bob Gardner the Field Commissioner. The District Commissioner, Dave Dills, made the presentation to the president of Gibraltar School Association, Charlie James.

The girls put on a camp fire with songs, games and a display of some of the things they had learned. The boys roiled the camp fire with Christmas carols.

The Limehouse group committee expressed their appreciation to the Acton Branch Scout, for his work with the boys.

The delegation stated that it was not the distance from school that prevented their action but the fact that during the winter months the child could not walk home a dark night through areas which are not well lit up. The recent cold fox was added to their concern for the young air particularly those of kindergarten and primary grade age.

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# United Church Choir Has Social Evening

Thursday evening of last week after choir practice, the members of the United Church choir went to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harold West for a social evening during the Christmas season. Special guests were Rev. and Mrs. Gordon Adams.

A buffet lunch was served. Men who are industrious, sincere and honest will have easy sliding on their way to success.

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Deputy Reeve Campbell Sinclair

Councillors Walter Linham  
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