

HALTON COUNTY

Weed Control News

by V. E. McARTHUR, COUNTY WEED INSPECTOR

2,000 ACRES OF ROADSIDES
Rural municipalities are now spraying weeds on roadsides. If you cover the county, you would find at least five large weed sprayers operating. While they are not using the same herbicide materials, in every case 2,4-D in some form is being used. It has proven to be the most popular and widely used chemical of all weed killers. It is particularly useful on roadsides as it is effective on a wide range of weeds and brush and yet it is selective in so far as the grasses are concerned. Weeds find it much harder to establish themselves in areas covered with a thick grass turf.

Preserve Grass
2,4-D mixtures tend to preserve the grass on the roadsides and do not turn it brown as chemicals like sodium chlorate do. Another advantage is that 2,4-D is the cheapest chemical for roadsides and should be used at not less than 24 oz. active acid of amine or low volatile ester in 75 to 100 gallons of water per acre.

Maybe it sounds strange to talk of acres of roadside, but this is the measurement a road foreman must use to calculate the necessary rate of application. For example, if the average width of roadside on one side is approximately one rod, there will be four acres (both sides of road) per mile to be covered with spray. When we consider that over 500 miles of roadsides are sprayed in this county annually, around 2,000 acres, then must be covered.

Special Precautions
Careless use of weed sprayers and chemicals may result in damage to crops, although no such damage has occurred in this county, to my knowledge, within the past 100 years. The men in charge of weed spraying operations on roadsides do take special precautions.

They cover the area ahead of the machine and spot out fields where 2,4-D susceptible crops are located. They are on the watch for tomatoes, turnips, sugar beets, carrots, cabbage, tobacco, beans, soybeans, tree fruits, grapes, nursery stock, gardens etc.

The operators are always on the lookout for the red and white warning signs and will shut off the sprayer according to directions. A few farmers are taking advantage of these signs which are supplied free of charge by the Ontario Department of Agriculture and may be obtained from the local agricultural representative's office or from the weed inspector. I have noted that several growers of crops like tomatoes keep the roadside mown. This of course is a voluntary practice, but I would like to commend them for their public interest and pride in the appearance of their property.

Notes on Nature

By WES FOUNTAIN

WOODLAND POND

Slithering through the wet leaves and moss bordering the woodland pond is a big, black salamander with good size yellow dots on its head, back and tail. It is called a Spotted Salamander. Nearly eight inches long, it has a moist rubbery skin and bulging eyes that give a pop-eyed expression. Its toes are short and stubby compared to the long scaly claws of the true lizards, members of the reptile family.

One might see a churning mass of salamanders, 20 or 30 of them. Swimming in and out among each other, over and under, they are leading up to the climax of egg laying. The slender males occasionally stop their gyrations, settle over a leaf or twig, and gently wave their long tails. Then they rejoin the weaving procession, each leaving behind a tiny white-capped gelatinous cone, scarcely a third of an inch tall. Its white cap contains sperm cells, the male's contribution to the reproductive process.

Excited by the churning dance,

a female swims over one of these "spermatophores." When she swims away a few seconds later, fertilization of the unlaid eggs has been assured. The reproductive cells unite internally, a highly efficient system not possessed by fish and frogs. Instead of laying tens of thousands of eggs as fish must do, or thousands as frogs and toads do, salamanders of the pond variety may lay less than 150 eggs, some land-dwelling species only three or four.

As they are laid, the individual eggs are only an eighth of an inch in diameter. 50 newly laid ones would fill a thimble. However, their gelatinous coating absorbs water so rapidly that by morning the egg cluster will be two or three inches in diameter. Like frog's eggs, the gelatine may be clear as the finest glass, fully exposing to view the developing egg and eventually the embryo. Left to themselves, the embryonic salamanders are steadily developing in their transparent incubator. Unguarded, they are safe from most enemies at least until they hatch.



SCOTTISH PIPERS and Mexican Dancers got together at the Community Night Saturday in Acton Park and entertained a large crowd. Pictured above are two members of the Acton Junior Pipe Band and two of the Mexican Dance team. Left to right are Laurence Duby, Michael Scholte, Mary Lou Creighton and Jorma Ikavalko.

More Farm People Drown Farm Survey Indicates

Forty-five water accidents were reported during the 1959-60 Farm Accident survey year. It would appear that in water accidents happening to Ontario farm people, the odds are two to one that the victim will be drowned, rather than being merely injured.

Northern and eastern Ontario is a land of lakes and so it is to be expected that these areas would take the greatest toll in drownings. Such, however, is not the case. The relationship of distance to the surrounding lakes has no significant bearing on the number of fatalities, since three two-year-olds and under, drowned in field holes, five persons drowned in local rivers, six persons drowned in farm ponds; and seven persons drowned in farm creeks.

Familiar Waters
The remaining nine fatalities, of a total of 30, occurred at the lakes and beaches. This would indicate that at least two-thirds of all drownings happened in more or less familiar waters.

Apart from the three two-year-old children, only three other drownings were attributed to non-swimmers. It could be assumed, then, that lack of supervision, carelessness in diving, failure to check for underwater posts and holes in the stream or pond bed, all have a considerable bearing on our fatality rate.

Of the 45 accidents, 25 were in the 10 to 20 age group. However, the fatality rating was less than 50 per cent, with 12 deaths. In every other age group, but one, each accident was fatal.

Time Not Significant

Almost every accident occurring during the evening was a result of diving and striking an underwater object. Other than this, feature, time of day does not appear to be significant.

June, July, August and September—account for 37 of the 45 water accidents, with the peak of 14 in July. June and July each claimed eight fatalities and August and September each accounted for four.

Cramps were blamed for only two deaths. However, it is reasonable to suppose that this feature may have been the major contributing factor in the 10 drownings, whose cause was reported as unknown.

I.O.D.E. Draw

On Friday evening in the lobby of the Y. M. C. A. the Duke of Devonshire chapter of the I.O.D.E. draw was held for the chaise longue. The ticket was drawn by Secretary Sid Saitz and the lucky holder was Mrs. Gordon Rogvaldson, R. R. 4, Acton.

At the time of the draw Mrs. Rogvaldson was attending a banquet at the Y. M. C. A. and was very surprised and delighted when told later.

OBITUARY

Service in Rockwood Church For John Edward Pearen, 90

A farmer actively interested in community affairs, John Edward Pearen of R. R. 3, Acton, died at his home on Monday, June 19. He was 90 years of age. Mr. Pearen was a director of the Halton Mutual Fire Insurance Company was 30 years on the Erin school board, was an elder of Rockwood Presbyterian church since 1925, a life-member

of Acton Agricultural Society and Erin Agricultural Society and a member of Walker Lodge, Acton.

Jack Birch was assisted by the Rev. C. G. Harris of the United church in Dixie in conducting services Thursday, June 22, at Rockwood Presbyterian church and Rockwood cemetery.

He is survived by his wife, the former Alice Leslie, three daughters, Elva at home, Beatrice (Mrs. Ross Allan), Toronto and Evelyn (Mrs. Calvin Aitken), R. R. 3, Acton; seven grandchildren; sisters Mrs. E. D. McPherson, Rockwood and Mrs. A. F. Johns, Newmarket. One brother George and one sister Emily (Mrs. Charles Harris) predeceased him.

Mr. Pearen was born in 1870 and married in 1899 in Erin township.

Mutual Aid Radios Soon to be Tendered

Halton Mutual Aid Fire Services co-ordinator Doug Wilson announced that the tenders for the fire department radios have been prepared but have not yet been let out.

Chief Wilson announced at Wednesday's Mutual Aid meeting that it was hoped the radios would be installed in the trucks by the fall. The trucks would use two frequencies, a private frequency for the trucks and fire halls, and a frequency that would hook them up with emergency measures co-ordinating office.

All of the trucks in Halton would be equipped with the radios.

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THIS SUNDAY'S

Church Calendar



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA

KNOX CHURCH, ACTON
Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie, B.A., B.D., Minister
Mr. E. A. Hansen, B.A., Organist and Choir Master

SUNDAY, JULY 2nd, 1961
9:45 a.m.—Church School.
10:00 a.m.—Minister's Bible Class.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
Theme: "A Theology for Freedom."
Junior Congregation (ages 3-7) meets during sermon.

ACTON PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE

33 Church St. Road P.A.O.C.
Rev. Kenneth J. Reid, Pastor
75 Cook St., phone 640-W

SUNDAY, JULY 2nd, 1961
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7:00 p.m.—Evangelistic.
Tuesday, 8 p.m.—Prayer and Bible Study.
Thursday, 8 p.m.—Christ Ambassadors.
You Are Always Welcome

BAPTIST CHURCH

ACTON
Pastor: James M. Rudd
30 Nelson Court, phone 206

SUNDAY, JULY 2nd, 1961
9:45 a.m.—Sunday School.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
Mr. Ashton Turner.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Worship.
Mr. Ashton Turner.
Wednesday, 7:30—Prayer, Praise and Bible Study.
All Are Welcome

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

Acton, Ontario
Rev. Dwight Engel, B.A., Minister
Mr. George Elliott Organist and Choir Master

SUNDAY, JULY 2nd, 1961
10:00 a.m.—Divine Service. (Nursery facilities will be provided.) The service will be in charge of three men of the congregation who attended the Keswick Conference for United Church Men. Mr. Bernard Veldhuis and Mr. W. J. Beatty will conduct worship while Mr. Allan Lauder will give the message.

11:15 a.m.—The Church School will be held for the Senior section only.
Special Announcement
The Service of Ordination of Ministers will be telecast on July 1 from 3-4 p.m. over the CBC network.

CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

Rev. J. Nutma, B.A., B.D., Minister
301 Queen St., Box 46, Phone 698

SUNDAY, JULY 2nd, 1961
10:00 a.m.—English.
2:30 p.m.—Dutch.
The Church of the Back to God Hour

THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN

THE MARTYR ANGLICAN
Rector: The Rev. H. B. Stokreef, L.Th., S.T.B.
185 Jeffrey St., phone 285

The Fifth Sunday after Trinity
SUNDAY, JULY 2nd, 1961
8:30 a.m.—Holy Eucharist.
10:00 a.m.—Matins; Mr. D. Dittrich, B.A., DIVINITY student.
All Are Welcome!

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