

The Acton Free Press.

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Second Section



—Staff Photo

ED SEGSWORTH of Burlington, Halton Junior Farmers' county director on the provincial junior farmer board for the past three years, retired last week and Joy Hayward of Acton was named to replace him on the provincial body. Ed and Joy are shown going over some of the work, at the annual meeting of Halton Junior Farmers held at Boyne Community Centre, Wednesday evening.

Guernsey Club Holds Banquet

On Friday evening, March 4, the Halton-Peel Guernsey Club held their annual banquet in St. Stephen's Anglican church basement, Hornby, under the chairmanship of John McNabb. Over 75 Guernsey breeders and friends attended, along with the 10 4-H club members who are guests of the club.

Following the turkey dinner, John McNabb discussed the highlights of the past year. J. L. Chisholm was complimented on having the All-Canadian four-year-old cow, but the club regretted that this outstanding herd built up by Lloyd had just been dispersed. The Guernsey show at Milton Fair had been well attended with 72 entries despite the great reduction in the number of classes.

Present Trophies

Trophies were presented to the winners at Milton and Brampton Fairs. J. H. Cameron received two Walter Duffray Trophies for Grand Champion Cow at Milton and Brampton the Lazy Pat Farms Special for top breeders herd and the Leonard W. Chisholm Trophy for Premier Exhibitor. Lloyd Chisholm was the recipient of the Master Feeds Trophy for winning progeny of dam and the Milton Motor Sales Special for Premier Breeder. William G. Booth received a new trophy for the top open Get-of-Sire at Milton Fair.

Guest speaker was Ross Segsworth, Burlington, Chairman of the Halton County Milk Committee, and a Past President of the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada. Ross showed slides of his 1964 trip to Australia and New Zealand, commenting on the livestock and agriculture in these countries.

It's Up to Farmer

"How Much Does Farm Labor Earn?"

By Henry Stanley
Agricultural Representative
"How much does farm labor earn?" was the subject under discussion at the University of Guelph in one of the talks given to a gathering of farmers recently. G. I. Trant, of the Department of Agricultural Economics, O.A.C., reported that in 1964 the average earnings per hour of labor worked on the average dairy farm was 65 cents. This survey included all dairy farmers submitting their account books to the College for analysis. The average labor earnings on the general farm were 95 cents per hour and on a cash crop farm were \$1.62 per hour.

The figures quoted for labor earnings per hour are not only for the farm owner and operator but for the hired helpers as well. In most cases the Dairy Farm in particular, labor is not earning nearly as much as it is paid. In other words, the farmer is paying the hired man more than the hired man is actually earning. Where does the extra money come from? It comes from the farmer's own labor. The farmer is in many cases working to support his hired man.

One farmer, after hearing this report, suggested that it be shown to the people who set the minimum wages here in Ontario. This comment met with approval from hundreds of other farmers attending.

The immediate reaction is, of course, if the worker is not earning his present salary, let's pay him less. This won't solve anything in the long run, however. The labourer can probably get a job earning at least as much as he now earns in another industry, and probably the work won't be so demanding. The result — the farmer has no help at all. The other alternative, then, is for the farmer to see that his laborers do earn at least what they are paid and preferably more. This can be done in many ways, such as better organization and management of labor, better working conditions, more labor-saving devices and a host of other ways.

Why, then, do farmers have such a problem with trying to earn a decent wage for themselves and their employees? The main reason, probably, is that most farmers have never been trained in this field of work. They are experts in growing crops, but in many cases are far from being expert in some other fields, such as labor management.

Farmers must not spend their time crying their mistreatment to everyone looking for sympathy. Very few have just cause for this kind of attitude. Instead of this, a progressive farmer will devote his energy to bettering his labor arrangements to become more efficient and get the most out of every man-hour worked on the

farm. The farmer will never increase his labor earning, however, as long as he is satisfied to work for what he now gets.

For farmers who do not want to improve their situation, and make better use of their labor, there is lots of opportunity to do this. A good set of records to show what the present situation is, would be the first step. From there they can look for ways to improve.

Help is readily available to persons who ask. The Ontario Department of Food and Agriculture Extension Offices, located in each county in the province, provide persons who are capable and willing to show farmers ways of improving their labor earnings. The responsibility of initiating such improvements, however, still does and always will rest with the individual farm operator.

Halton Junior Farmers Give Annual Report, Year's Activities

The annual meeting of Halton Junior Farmers, held at Boyne Community Centre last week, heard reports on the past year's junior farmer activities from secretaries and presidents of the three member organizations. Halton's Junior Farmer secretary Jean Hunter read the following report on the county activities during 1965:

The Halton Junior Farmers were presented with a gavel at the Guelph Conference in April. The annual Church Service was held on May 9 at Knox Presbyterian Church in Milton with Alex Connell as the guest speaker.

The Zone Drama Festival was held at Paris on April 10 with Palermo representing Halton County.

Halton Junior Farmers have greatly supported the Farm Safety program this year by selling fire extinguishers and slow moving vehicle signs.

Harold Thompson and Joe Love represented the County this year at the public speaking courses held at Albion Hills.

The Junior Farmers held their formal dance at Paradise Gardens in Guelph and hope to have an added attraction of choosing the Queen of Halton Junior Farmers, this coming spring.

The Dairy Princess Contest was held at the Hornby Garden Party on July 17 with Margaret Hunter chosen as the winner of Halton.

The County Field Day held on June 26 at the Nelson High School in Burlington was a great success. Fire extinguishers and aluminum canes were sold by the members at the Steam Reunion.

This year we are fortunate to have a member of our county, Ed Segsworth chosen as the United Nations Delegate.

Something new and different this year was the Car Rally which was enjoyed greatly by everyone. The County Plowing Match was held in October this past year with Mrs. Ria Wilson winning the title of Queen of the Furrow Contest. We were also fortunate enough to have Verna Thompson the winner of the Ontario Queen of the Furrow Contest.

Halton Junior Farmers celebrated their 50th Anniversary at the Hornby Towers Golf Club in November.

At the Toronto conference in January, the Ladies' Trio placed first. It is comprised of Ruth and Wilma Mason and Joy Hayward.

I personally feel that the Halton Junior Farmers for this past year have been a very active group and also a successful one.



—Staff Photo

HALTON JUNIOR FARMERS named their new executive for 1966 at the annual meeting at Boyne Community Centre last week. Shown seated are new president Harold Thompson and secretary Carol Freeman. Standing are county director Joy Hayward, vice-president Ruth Mason, press reporter and past president Joe Love, and treasurer Lois Hunter.

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Sell Four Bulls In Brandon Sale
Three bulls owned by Scotsdale Farms, Georgetown and one owned by R. W. Gardhouse of Aberfeldy Farms, R.R. 5 Milton, were among the 46 bulls sold at the Canadian International Shorthorn Bull Sale held at Brandon, Manitoba recently.
The three Scotsdale bulls sold were Scotsdale Vendome, Scotsdale Utopia and Scotsdale Valhalla. Aberfeldy Footprint was the bull sold by Mr. Gardhouse. Average price of the purchased bulls was \$388.11 while the top five averaged \$2,375.00.

Invite You to Join

Junior Farmers List Assets

The Halton County Junior Farmers' Association is made up of three local Junior Farmer and Junior Institute Clubs, each of which meets once a month, to plan and discuss their activities.

A well-rounded program falls under four broad headings: Agriculture: Judging competitions, farm visits, speakers, panel discussions, films, safety exhibits; Travel: exchange visits with Manitoba, Prince Edward Island, Alberta, Great Britain, U.S.A., and tours of Eastern Ontario and Quebec; United Nations, Soils and Land use, local and county bus trips; Personal Development: leadership schools, drama and music, debating and public speaking, church services, conferences, variety shows, leadership camp; Recreation: baseball, hockey, field days, curling, dancing, picnics, barbecues.

All these activities and many more are built around their motto

"Self Help and Community Betterment"

Easy to Join
If you would like to join a Junior Farmer or Junior Institute Club, here's what to do: contact any member of the nearest Junior Farmer Club and tell him you would like to join, or have a talk with your Agricultural Representative and ask him for the name, address, and phone number of the president and secretary of the local club nearest your home.

Membership in the Junior Farmers organization is open to all rural young people 16 years of age and over. By joining the Junior Farmers' Association you will find wider opportunity for education, self-expression, fun, and fellowship. You will also strengthen the influence of the organization in the affairs of the community and province, and make your community a better place in which to live.

Perhaps YOU are interested in joining one of the Junior Farmer clubs in Halton County. There are clubs at Acton, Norval, and Palermo. If so, contact one of the following for further information: Acton — Don Swackhammer or Judy Britton; Norval — Eric Alexander or Gail McCallum; Palermo — Don Heatherington or Marg Hunter; Department of Agriculture — Milton.

Mastitis Subject For Fri. Workshop

On Friday, March 11, a Mastitis Workshop is planned for all Halton County milk producers, in the Masonic Hall, Milton. Drs. H. J. Neely and F. C. Nelson, Veterinary Services Branch, Guelph, will conduct this workshop from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. During the past three years, some 6,000 Ontario dairymen have attended this one-day session.

Mastitis as any dairymen knows is a very complex and often somewhat mysterious disease. A recent survey in Ontario has revealed that over 50 per cent of the cows have mastitis in some form. In a 30 cow herd the loss in production per lactation year is estimated at 16,000 lb. At \$4.00 per cwt, this is a loss of \$640. Other hidden losses can add considerably to this.

The purpose of the Workshop is to illustrate the step-by-step procedures that are practical and effective in controlling mastitis.

Soil, Crop Improvement Group Plans Busy Year of Programs

On Thursday, March 3, the directors of the Halton Soil and Crop Improvement Association met in the Agricultural Office, Milton, to plan the projects for the coming year.

A regional corn day for Halton and Peel and York Counties is being planned for Peel County, with demonstrations on weed control, plant population, row width and fertilizer application on corn.

A high yield corn competition is planned for Halton farmers, with a minimum plot of five acres. Prize money is to be supplied by the Plant and Food Council of Ontario and the County Association. The county winner will compete in a zone competition under the Plant Food Council of Ontario.

A new high yield hay competition is to be offered. The yield of the hay field will be computed for the year on a dry matter basis. Last year just over five tons of dry matter were obtained per acre in this competition.

Those who attend the Workshop will be shown by demonstrations, films, and other means just what is involved in controlling this very costly disease.

This is a meeting that all dairymen in the county should attend.

Betty Allison Heads 4-H Club Nymphs

The Nassagaweya Nymphs 4-H Club held their first meeting on February 12 at the home of Mrs. Norris. The election of officers was held. The results are as follows: president, Betty Allison; vice-president, Elizabeth Norrington; secretary, Winifred Dunbar; treasurer, Sue Ward, press reporter, Winifred Dunbar.

Winifred Dunbar read the requirements of a club member. Mrs. Norris read pages 5, 6 and 7 in the members' pamphlet and discussed flower-arranging. Each girl took part in demonstrating measuring. Mrs. Norris dictated notes on "Entertaining at Home".

Each girl took part in serving the delicious tea which Mrs. Norris had prepared. The second meeting of the Nassagaweya Nymphs was held at the home of Mrs. Henry on Saturday, February 19. After the Pledge, roll call and minutes, Mrs. Henry led a discussion and dictated notes on being a gracious hostess and pleasant guest, to the club girls. Mrs. Norris demonstrated the packing of a suitcase.

The third meeting is to be held at the home of Mrs. Norris on Saturday, February 26. A few girls served the delicious tea prepared by Mrs. Henry.

Two acre plots of Merit soybean are to be grown again to determine whether this cash crop can be successfully grown in Halton. A high yield barley competition is to be promoted. Barley is consistently outyielding oats in the county with more farmers encouraged to replace their oat acreage with barley each year. Any variety of barley may be planted with a minimum of five years. In addition to the regular prizes in this competition, an additional \$25 will be given to anyone producing 100 bushels or more barley per acre.

Additional tile drainage demonstrations are to be carried out in Halton to show the benefits and economies of tile drainage. Chuck Warner, Fruit and Vegetable Specialist discussed vegetable spray trials to attempt to control root magot. The Halton Soil and Crop Improvement Association is to support these trials.

This variety of soil and crop projects will provide a fund of information on crop production for the Halton county farmers.

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Supper Precedes Manor Meeting

Halton Centennial Manor Women's Auxiliary meeting was held on March 2. It was preceded by a pot luck luncheon which was enjoyed by all. Mrs. S. Allen, the president, opened the business meeting by having the auxiliary prayer said in unison.

Reports were given and Mrs. Allen informed the auxiliary that a Regional Rally would be held March 10 in the auditorium.

A letter was read announcing the convention for Homes for the Aged in September at London. After discussions, it was decided to have a party for the residents on March 23 in the afternoon. Mrs. S. Childs and Mrs. Lockie offered to be lunch hostesses for the next meeting.