

300,000 bushels apples from county

More than 300,000 bushels of apples of all sizes and many varieties have been grown in Halton County this year, and only 10 to 15 per cent of the total will be sold and used in the county.

The 300,000 bushels of apples which will be picked this year puts it nearly in the middle as far as commercial crops go.

Though apple growing has become more popular during the past few years, the actual county production has dropped off because of the decrease in apple farms in south Burlington.

"Dwarf" trees are becoming much more popular across the province and Halton is a particularly "good" area for growing them, Mr. Warner indicated.

"There's a big swing to dwarf and semi-dwarf trees and Halton is one of the few areas with close to suitable conditions for growing them. These trees are particularly popular because of the smaller labor costs and picking costs involved, and also because they are easier to handle," Mr. Warner said.

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TOM CHUDLEIGH, owner of the Chudleigh Bros. Farm on Highway 25 is one of the many full-time apple growers in the area. Many types of apples are grown on his farm including Russet, Tolman Sweet, Courtland, Greening, Golden Delicious, Macintosh, Spy, and Red Delicious.

Halton apple industry is very big business

Since the days of Adam and Eve, apples have been quite popular — and in this area their popularity is growing every year.

The number of apples currently grown in Halton County is smaller than it was five years ago, but in this vicinity, more trees have been planted and the production is much greater than previously.

An ideal example of the "apple boom" in the area can be found at the Chudleigh Bros. Farm on Highway 25, between Acton and Milton. Owner Tom Chudleigh now has over 8,000 trees in use on 40 of his 72 acres of land. From his land and an additional 10 acres which he rents, more than 12,000 bushels of the juicy fruit will be picked this year.

He estimates production has increased 300 per cent this year and for the next two or three years the boom will continue to be dramatic as more of the currently unused 32 acres begin to yield.

Mr. Chudleigh, a graduate of the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph, qualifies as one of just over 40 full-time commercial apple growers in the county and he specializes in growing dwarf trees as opposed to the much larger standard trees. Dwarf trees, standing about five or six feet tall, yield two or three bushels as compared to 25 bushels from a standard tree.

This has been a little better than average growing year, Mr. Chudleigh suggests. The drought in early summer did cause the apples to be smaller than usual, but they are more juicy and much better for storing.

A shortage of expert apple pickers usually plagues local growers but Mr. Chudleigh found this year, "it wasn't as bad as usual." He pointed out the season begins around July 25 and lasts until the end of October. The peak season however, is from late September until late October. Approximately 30 pickers were busy on the Chudleigh Farm during the peak period. "One of the amazing aspects of growing apples is that every apple in the orchard can be used in some way."

McIntosh apples form about 50 per cent of the yield on his farm, with Spies forming about 25 per cent. Other types grown

include Red Delicious, Golden Delicious, Greening, Tolman Sweet, Russet and Courtland, which he points out don't turn brown when peeled and exposed to air. He suggests Courtlands are ideal for salads.

Few of the apples grown on the farm will be sold in Halton County. Most are handled through chain stores and packers. "The days of deliveries are gone, or going fast," he said.

The thing which buyers are likely to notice most is the increase in price this year. "The price has gone up slightly, but it is almost bound to, everything else has," he said.

With an idea towards storing apples, he pointed out, a small fruit cellar can be built relatively inexpensively. He is working on one now which is five feet by 10 feet in area and expects it won't cost him more than \$25 while using extra lumber. At the most it wouldn't cost more than \$100, he said.

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burning gun powder at Maple Rock

By Art Hawes

This week the Maple Rock trap shooters competed against the Halton Sportsmen's Association. This will be an annual competition for a trophy. The trophy will be awarded to the club with the best score out of 500 for a five man team. Half of the shoot took place at Maple Rock Shooting Range and the other half will be at the Association's club house near Milton on November 27.

Maple Rock shooters had a slight edge at the end of the first half with 212 out of 250. The Halton Sportsmen's Association team had a score of 208 out of 250.

Acton's top scores this week were Dave Johnson 25 and 21, Paul Waddell 23 and 23, Jim Coulson 23 and 20, Art Hawes 20 and 19 and Keith Andrews 20 and 18. This is also the team that competed against Milton.

The Halton Sportsmen's Association's team scores were as follows: Ron Marshall 23 and 21, John Marshall, 23 and 18, Ted Bluhm 22 and 20, Don Kearney 22 and 20 and Ken Lewis 21 and 18.

Special note should be paid to the score of Dave Johnson who reached a much sought-after point of success of trap shooting — 25 straight. This is the first time Dave has accomplished the feat. Congratulations Dave!

We were surprised and disappointed to see that Halton County Council voted down a deer hunting season.

We take exception to some of the statements made by the councillors.

Reeve Merry opposed the hunt on the grounds of damage caused by hunters. If Mr. Merry would care to get the facts straight he might look in the November 11, 1965 issue of the Free Press. The game warden is quoted as saying the hunt last year was "quite orderly". If some farmers have since complained to the reeve about damage, how on earth do they expect to control the damage if they do not report it to the proper officials at the time it happens. From the game warden's report it is obvious that little damage was reported to him at the time of the hunt.

Deputy Reeve W. Hoey suggests the hunters are not proficient enough to deplete the deer population.

Wask Mr. Hoey, how are the hunters supposed to become

proficient if they are not allowed to hunt deer in the area. Last year's season was the first in six years, and it looks like it will be another six years before we have another season. In order to be successful, hunters must be given a chance to become familiar with the deer habits in the area they hunt. This is impossible if the deer hunting seasons are so far apart.

In addition, the deputy reeve will note the success of last year's hunt was limited by two other factors.

First is the fact that the hunt was not announced until five days before the hunt was to begin. How many hunters can arrange time off work and get prepared for the hunt on such short notice. Those who could get off work did not have any time to check out their hunting areas in advance of the open season.

The second factor was the weather. During the three day hunt last year, it must be remembered that it rained most of the time. This greatly limited the number of deer shot.

If the game warden's report is true, we can discount Reeve Merry's statements, and Deputy Reeve Hoey is obviously mistaken in his observations, therefore we have every right to have an open season this year.

We would like to ask also, why does county council have final say in connection with an open deer season. All wildlife is supposedly the property of the public and the Department of Lands and Forests is set up by the government to manage that part of our natural resources which include wildlife and forests. We pay millions of dollars in taxes and licences to finance their work, yet county council apparently has more power over local wildlife than the organization we are paying to do this service.

If county council is to have final say concerning hunting seasons we would suggest they do some research to become acquainted with the situation. If county council does not care to become familiar with the local wildlife situation through research, we would suggest the control over our hunting be given back to the Department of Lands and Forests where it rightfully belongs.

Hunters who have complaints about the loss of the deer season should write their county council representative in hopes of having a season next year.



In any cross country race it is the team with the lowest score that wins, and the Acton High School cross country team has been doing just that all season. Having begun training on September 7, the team worked very dedicatedly toward two goals — to win the C.W.O.S.S.A. cross country championships, and possibly try for an Ontario Scholastic cross country championship.

Last Thursday saw the achievement of their first goal when the team returned from Guelph champions in both the Midget "B" and Junior "B" divisions.

The Midget team had the best record of any team competing. Out of approximately 100 runners from 2 schools, they compiled the low score of 12 points. Bob Andrews was the first to finish, closely followed by Bill Field in Second and Mark Hurst in third. Bill Black rounded out the team by finishing sixth. Their back up men were Jack Irwin in 11th place, Brian Binnie 16th and Bill Nicolak 38th.

The Juniors, running shortly after their team mates had won the Midget division, kept Acton's winning trend alive by winning their race. This time the scores were much closer, but fine running by front men Jim Slavep and Alan McKenzie assured Acton victory. Jim Slavep was the individual winner with Alan McKenzie third, Fred Flisnick 17th, Gary Kelly 19th and Paul Cooper 22nd.

Red Devil Harriers opened their season on September 22 with a 15-21 win over Milton, and in a return match on October 5 they were again victorious with an 11-31 win. On October 13 the team journeyed to Orangeville to compete in the Orangeville Invitational Cross Country Championships. There they again compiled the lowest score of the day by winning the Junior Division with 15 points. Orangeville was second with 33 points, Elora with 57 and Ferguson with 82.

These boys are most dedicated in their desire to win. They run five to six miles daily and have not missed a day of practice since school began. Their total mileage so far this season is over 160 miles and should be well over 200 miles before the season ends.

The team has two races remaining in their schedule. This Wednesday they will race Orangeville, Elora, Ferguson and Milton in an invitational meet here in Acton, and on November 5 they will compete in the Ontario Scholastic cross country championships (O.F.S.A.) in the Boyd Conservation area in Woodbridge.

In court

Ten offenders charged by Acton O.P.P. detachment for minor offenses appeared in court in Milton before Judge K. M. Langdon Monday, and paid fines totalling \$165 and court costs amounting to \$22.

An area youth charged with minor consuming was remanded one week in Milton jail for sentence. Eleven other offenders paid a total of \$134 in fines out of court as well as \$25 in court costs.

Lamprey kill trout at Glen Eden Lake

Concern for the future of fish in Kelso Conservation Area's 80-acre Glen Eden Lake was expressed this week by Halton Region Conservation Authority officials, after a four-year-old Rainbow Trout was found dead — obviously killed by a lamprey.

The trout, a record 23 inches and weighing six pounds, is believed to be one of the fish stocked in Kelso four years ago. Two boys found it washed up on shore Friday and called the Conservation Authority to report it, when they noticed the large hole behind the head of the fish.

Sandy Griswold, a graduate biologist presently working with H.R.C.A. as a field officer-in-training, investigated the incident and said he was sure the death was caused by lamprey. Lamprey is a fish, not an eel, although they resemble the eel family. They lie on the bottom of a body of water and wait for a fish to pass by overhead, then dart with lightning-like speed to attack their prey.

Lamprey have a circular mouth and curved teeth. Once attached to their victim, they gnaw a large hole through the flesh to feed.

The wound on the fish indicated a lamprey had attacked it from below. Another similar wound on the side of the trout led Mr. Griswold to believe the trout had been attacked earlier but had managed to fend off the lamprey.

Lamprey exist in Kelso, but to what extent, Mr. Griswold hesitated to say. Three weeks ago a lamprey was trapped in a minnow trap at Glen Eden lake, and it was the first seen there this summer.

"The situation is not serious yet, but it is something we must look into," said Field Officer Dave Murray. A lot of fish could be killed by lampreys without washing into shore, he indicated. Lamprey are believed responsible for killing virtually 99 per cent of the Lake Trout in Lake Ontario in recent years, seriously affecting the lake's commercial fishing enterprises.

Mr. Griswold suggested the lamprey are unable to swim to Glen Eden Lake from Lake Ontario, because they cannot pass over the Kelso dam. "This

is a local population," he said. The lamprey probably go upstream from Kelso to spawn and lay their eggs. If the lamprey continue to be a problem, they could be destroyed by laying poison on the gravel beds upstream from Kelso. Mr. Griswold indicated this would get rid of the lamprey without killing the fish.

Glen Eden Lake has to date been stocked with 13,500 fish. In 1961 the Department of Lands and Forests stocked 3,500 Speckled Trout there, and in 1962 the Authority purchased 1,000 Rainbows for stock. Then last year the University of Guelph provided 500 more yearling Rainbows and the Authority put in another 3,500.

This Spring a further 5,000 Rainbows were purchased locally and placed in the lake.

Jose Arteaga-Gaitia, a truck driver in Bibboa, Spain, is unable to return to work because officially he is dead. He was riding pillion behind a friend on a motorcycle when a crash occurred. The friend was killed, but the police got the identifications mixed. Now Jose can't return to work because he has no papers.

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