

"Master Seed Potato Grower" title given Smith Griffin Sr.

Smith Edward Griffin Sr. of Acton, in Wellington County, has been named "Master Seed Potato Grower".

As such, Mr. Griffin was presented with an engraved pin and certificate, signed by top officials of the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association and the Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association at a banquet in the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, January 18.

Born April 13, 1876, Mr. Griffin is now 90 years of age. His potato fields were one of the first to be selected as seed when the official system got underway during the years of the First Great War. Certified seed potatoes of the Irish Cobbler variety have been grown on the Griffin farm each year for the last 50 years. The same strain, roguing and selection continued to improve in productivity on the same farm for over 25 years. Seed from the farm has been widely distributed for many years.

In the early 20's a barrel of certified Dooley potatoes was sent to Russia. Mr. Griffin has won many major prizes, including the first International Award for Seed Potatoes.

He has attended the Royal Winter Fair each year since it first began in 1922. Every year exhibits have been shown from the Griffin farm. He has never missed the Erin Fall Fair, having attended the first as an infant in arms, and exhibited continuously since 1912.

As a member of the Canadian Seed Growers Association since organization in 1914, Smith Griffin was made a Robertson Associate in 1937. Registered seed grain has been grown continuously on the farm, and similarly to the potatoes, has been widely distributed in various parts of Canada and the U.S.A.

Smith Griffin Sr. closely followed the work of the Ontario Agricultural College and has been a keen co-operator especially in his earlier years. He was an original member of the Experimental Union, established by the late Prof. Zavitz.

Locally, he has served as president, Erin Agricultural Society, member of School Board, and Elder of the Church United Church. His son Harold and grandson Smith Griffin Jr., who are on the farm, are also active in community affairs.

Harold continues as an elected member of Township Council after 21 years' service; Smith Jr. as a "chip off the old block" has been active in 4-H work, Junior Farmer Assoc., Soil and Crop Improvement Association, Director - Ontario Shorthorn Club and

District Holsteins in all-Canada list

Holsteins from three district herds were mentioned in the annual selection of Holsteins for all-Canadian awards by the Holstein - Friesian Association of Canada.

Hunterholm Princess Joanne, owned by Albert G. Hunter of Burlington was named reserve all-Canadian junior yearling heifer. Honorable mention was received by M. D. Wingrove of Campbellville on his Ellecta Rockette Rebel; while a two-year-old heifer, Maylee Flossie, exhibited by Donald Watson of Dandak and bred by Clayton May of Milton, was given honorable mention in her class.

Chairman - Turnip Section, O.F.V.G.A.

Smith Griffin Sr. purchased his first car in 1917, his first tractor in 1940. He has driven from his farm to Oakville and returned, a distance of 60 miles, in one day with horse and buggy.

He recalls when the trip from Erin to Guelph of 20 miles was first made in an hour and the price of a return ticket by rail from Acton to Toronto was \$1.00. He recalls when the dog tread was used for churning butter on farms, and when home-made butter was made in one pound prints and sold for 16 cents - eggs at 9 cents per dozen and potatoes as low as 12 cents per 90 lb. bag.

He recalls making two trips per day drawing wood to Erin, a distance of five miles by team and sleigh, with wood selling \$2.00 per double cord. The old lantern was used for barn chores, or to attach to the

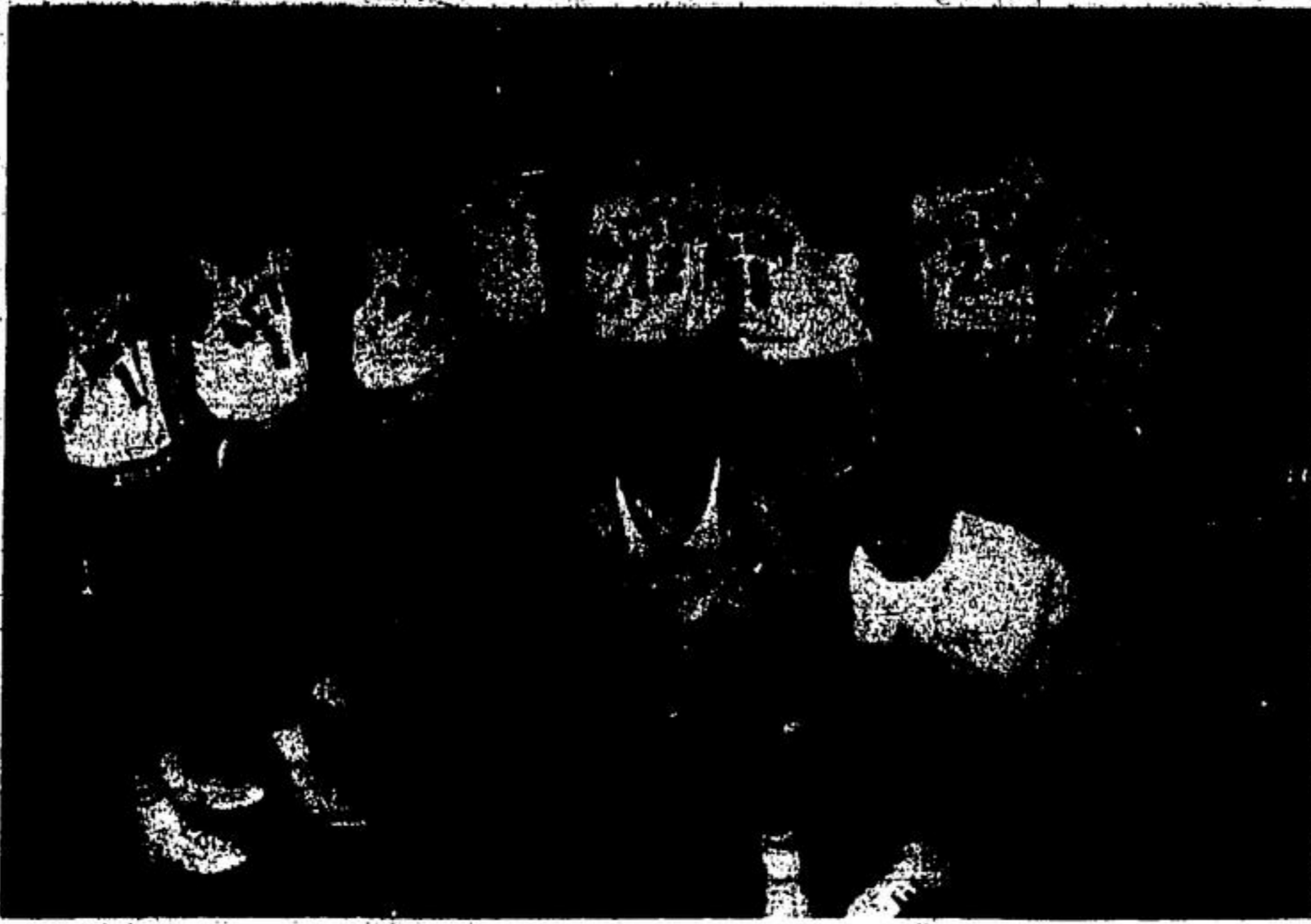
buggy dashboard. When his barn was built, he scored the beams, 10 of which were each 32 feet long, and he could keep well ahead of the man with the adz.

Smith Griffin Sr. is hale and hearty. He continues to attend community gatherings.

He is active every day, and spends considerable time hoeing turnips in summer, trimming turnips for market in winter and doing other daily chores on the farm.

He is richly deserving of being named "A Master Seed Potato Grower". In these changing times of big operations, it is well for us to recognize the big contribution - made - by Smith Griffin Sr., on the basis of the family farm.

At the annual meeting, his grandson, Smith Griffin Jr., Acton, was named chairman of the turnip section of the Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association.



SENIOR BASKETBALL CAGERS at Acton high school are holding on to top spot in the school league after defeating all comers to date. Kneeling front row left to right are manager George Baisherl, captain Danny Arbic and teacher-coach Ron McCallum. Back row left to right are Allen McNeib, Bob Turkosz, Dick Barclay, John McGeachie, Gerald Dick, Harry Oehrich, Fred Flisnik, George Wallis and Terry Churchill.

Nassagaweya topic

Story of pioneers in agriculture

The Nassagaweya Women's Institute held the first meeting of the new year at the home of Mrs. J. Roberts on Wednesday, January 18 at 2.30 p.m. There were 12 members and two visitors present.

In the absence of the president, the meeting was conducted by the vice-president, Mrs. David DeBlauw, who opened

80 attending soils course

By Charles Warner, Fruit and Vegetable Extension Specialist

The Soils and Fertilizer Short Course being offered by the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food got underway on January 16. Sessions at Milton and Brampton proceeded with full houses, including almost 80 farm people.

Several persons applying just before the first session were turned away due to lack of space. This was unfortunate, however, it was much too late to seek additional accommodations.

The first session was directed by Herb Norry, Agricultural Representative from Peel County. Mr. Norry discussed the world wide importance of soils, emphasizing their use for agriculture.

Future sessions will be running every Monday for 10 weeks. By the end of this time, it is hoped that the recipient of this course will have a much better understanding of how his soil functions, and how it, along with fertilizer, provides for plant growth.

with a poem, Happy New Year. The roll call was answered by naming a garden pest and its control.

The meeting was handed over to the program conveners, Mrs. Lucas opened with an inspirational - and - interesting address. The guest speaker was Mrs. Murray Mahon and since the theme of the meeting was Agriculture and Industry, she took as her subject, "Nassagaweya Township - Agriculture and Industry, Past and Present." Beginning away back when the first pioneer walked from Toronto to a location on the Guelph Line to start a farm, the speaker told of the activities in the many small villages which today present a

LIMEHOUSE

Illness, visitors in news of week

Mrs. Mitchell and Mrs. Sanford were hostesses for a well attended Turnipware party last Wednesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. P. Nunes Vas and children spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Poot near Moorefield.

We extend sympathy to Mr. Thomas Aldwell on the death of his father at Milton the end of last week.

We are pleased that Mrs. Newton Rudwell was home from hospital a week ago.

We are pleased that little Margaret Homan is home after a few days in hospital with a digestive infection.

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Patterson visited in Toronto during the weekend.

very different picture if they are still on the map at all.

A listing of the many varied industries and different branches of agriculture carried on in the township at the present time, shows what wonderful progress has been made in the township in the last century.

Mrs. DeBlauw read a closing article and all joined in the singing of the National Anthem. The lunch committee, Mrs. D. Young and Mrs. W. Freeman served a very delectable salad plate as refreshments and all enjoyed a social time. Mrs. M. Moffatt thanked the hostess, those who took part in the program and the ladies who provided the lunch.

We are pleased to hear that Mr. Howard Price is well enough to be home after several weeks in hospital.

The W.I. met at the home of Mrs. Ralph Turner on Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Sanderson and family of Aurora and Dr. W. Cohoon of Toronto visited their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cohoon on Sunday.

Never wait until the hole has worn through to darn socks. Darn when the sock has begun to wear thin.

Nassagaweya Council Briefs



At a meeting of Nassagaweya Township Council on January 16, Township councillors:

- Renewed a wrecking yard licence to J. and N. Newman.

- Received an O.W.R.C. report on the Campbellville Gravel Supply Co. Ltd. property on the Campbellville Sideroad. The report recommended the maintenance of all retaining walls of ponds on the property, the repairing of the wall of one pond and the elimination of pumping water from one small pit to a pond. Council agreed to acknowledge receipt of the letter and ask the O.W.R.C. to see that the recom-

mendations are carried out.

- Referred to the finance committee requests for grants to organizations who aid the handicapped or diseased.

- Purchased the deed for the Eden Mills Park from Pussinch Township for \$1.

- Congratulated Reeve William Coulter on his election as Warden of the County. A motion moved by Deputy Reeve Hoey and seconded by councillors, MacArthur, Gordon and Mahon offered the congratulations of council and said council would try to assist Warden Coulter as much as possible. He thanked council for its support.



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OBITUARY

B. Drew dies in 40th year

After a lingering illness of 10 years' duration, George Bernard Shaw Drew of 27 Brock St., Acton, passed away in Guelph General Hospital on January 20 in his 40th year. He had been in hospital less than two days and had been at work at Beardmore and Co., Acton, in the carpenter maintenance department the week before.

Rev. V. J. Morgan officiated at the funeral in St. Joseph's church, Acton, Monday morning, January 23. A Legion service was held at the Rumley-Shoemaker funeral home Sunday afternoon and members of the Holy Name Society said the rosary Sunday evening.

Palbearers were Keith Duran and Dennis Rowley, Milton; Ron Brush, Brampton; Jack Denny, Rinus Schuts and Bob Angell of Acton. Interment was in St. Joseph's cemetery, Acton.

Mr. Drew was born at Cooksville, May 14, 1927, son of the

late John and Mary Drew, and attended Milton public and high schools.

In 1946, he married the former Shirley Marchmont in St. Joseph's church and his wife survives him at their home, 27 Brock St., Acton, with three daughters, Bernice, Janice and Donna. Another daughter, Mrs. Madeline Harding, lives at 102 Poplar Ave., Acton.

Also surviving are two brothers, Joe Drew, Martin St. Milton, and Johnny Drew, Acton.

He had lived in Acton since his marriage.

During World War II, he served in the armed services, and he was a member of the Legion. He was also a member of the Independent Order of Foresters.

Mr. Drew was always interested in sports activities, playing minor hockey in Milton. He had a warm personality which made him popular with all who knew him. Despite frequent trips to hospital for treatment, he remained cheerful and bore his illness with resignation.

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