

## Minister asks municipalities prevent land exploitation

The Minister of Municipal Affairs has called on rural municipalities for co-operation in planning to prevent exploitation by private developers.

The Hon. J. W. Spooner made the remark during an address to an Ontario Federation of Agriculture conference on Assessment, Taxation and Land Use.

Departing from his prepared text, he said his job "is to prevent this kind of thing happening. But I will be depending on the rural municipalities for co-operation."

In his speech, Mr. Spooner said the question "is not whether to have more urban development but, rather, what kind of urban development... where... and under what conditions."

He said he favors changing the assessment period—from one year to the life of the municipal council, in the cases where this has been increased to two or three years.

Referring to the guidelines set down by the Planning Board, the Minister said the government does not demand "inflexible adherence." He said if a community produces "a reasonable scheme for... urban development not provided for in the general policy... I will give the proposal sympathetic consideration."

More than 140 people took part in the conference, held in the Canadiana Motor Hotel in Toronto. They represented agricultural producers from the length and breadth of the province.

In his keynote address, Roy Coulter, second vice-president of the Federation, said the purpose of the conference was to identify problems in assessment, taxation and land use, study solutions to them and suggest programs and policies.

"This is not a policy-making meeting," he told the delegation, "but an attempt to solve problems we are facing."

He pointed out that it was 1951 when the Federation first formed a rural assessment committee to push for fairer assessment and taxation.

Summing up at the end of the one-day conference, Jack Ferguson saw a pronounced change in attitudes and topics of discussion from earlier meetings on assessment.

Mr. Ferguson, a former president of the Federation and a former chairman of the assessment committee.

Among the themes he noted in the meeting were:

- A capital gains tax should be considered.
- Planning should be on a province-wide basis.
- Some compensation is required so that those who stay in agriculture are not second-class citizens.
- More emphasis is needed in planning on the individual's ideas and less on professionalism.

## Farmers face problem of farm management

By Henry J. Stanley

Close to 100 farm people from Halton and the surrounding area attended a Farm Management meeting at Ligny School on March 1. Each year, meetings on farm management topics are co-sponsored by the Halton Federation of Agriculture and the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food, Income Tax and Canada Pension Plan were discussed in the morning, by Gord Walker and Dave McFarlane of the Department of National Revenue, Hamilton.

It was stated that basic herds may still be established for farmers with dairy, beef or swine herds. However, since farmers receive their basic herd on the number of livestock on hand on January 1, 1947, it is important that the farmer can provide suitable records for that date. The longer he waits to have his basic herd established, the more difficult it is to determine.

Lunch was served by the Scotch Block Women's Institute.

Frank Furlong and Walter Blackman, of the Workmen's Compensation Board, Toronto, discussed the accident rate, among farmers for the past year. They suggested the possibility of an increase in rates for Workmen's Compensation due to the high accident rate among farmers.

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## Junior Farmers prepare plays for annual drama festival

By Geoff Taylor

Each of three local Junior Farmer Clubs in Halton County will be presenting a one-act play at their annual drama festival, to be held at St. Paul's United Church, Milton, on Saturday, March 11 at 8:00 p.m.

Norval Junior Farmers are scheduled to present their play first, entitled, "The Bathroom Door", by Gertrude Jennings;

followed by the Palermo Junior Farmers in "The Patchwork Quilt", by Rachel Field. Final presentation will be the Acton Junior Farmers' play, "If Men Played Cards as Women Do."

The adjudicator for the event will be Vern Shaw, Director of the Guelph Little Theatre.

Each year three trophies are presented, for achievements during the festival—the W.I. Dick Trophy is presented for the best play; the Margaret Alice Elliott Trophy for the

best actress, and the J. E. Whitelock Trophy for the best actor.

The Halton Junior Farmers extend a cordial welcome to any of those interested, to attend on March 11.

### School addition ups permit total

Building permits totalling \$277,600 dollars were issued in the Township of Nassagaweya during February, Township clerk Cal MacIntyre reports.

The large figure is due in part to the \$265,000 addition to Brookview Public School. Other structures permitted include a \$1,000 workshop, a small \$600 barn and a residence valued at \$11,000.

### Berry club

By Rick Brown

The first regular meeting of the Halton County 4-H Strawberry Club was held on Wednesday, February 22, in the Agricultural Office, Milton. At the meeting the club officers were elected, as follows: president, Doug Stokes; vice-president, Donald McClure; secretary-treasurer, Verna Thompson; press reporter, Rick Brown.

New 4-H members were given a brief outline of the procedure that the club will follow this year. They were told by club leaders Bill Wilson and Chuck Warner, that each first year member would be required to grow 200 strawberry plants. Second year members were given a choice of options. They could plant an additional 200 plants, or just continue to cultivate their original 200 plants.

### Lincoln debaters winners at Boyne

By Geoff Taylor

The semi-final debate between Ontario and Lincoln County Junior Farmers was held at Boyne Community Centre, on Friday, February 24. The topic for the debate was "Resolved that majority government is more efficient and advantageous for Canada."

Judges for the evening were Mrs. Anne Dusan, Milton; Ed. Segsworth, Burlington; and Bill Robinson, Milton High School.

Lincoln County was declared the winner, and will proceed to the final debate against Elgin County at the Provincial Junior Farmer Conference, Guelph, on Friday, March 17.



### HOUSEHOLD

### Visits, retirement in news of district

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. John Favro on the arrival of a little daughter, Nancy, a couple of weeks ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Gifford of Newcastle, N.B., have been with Mrs. Gordon Thompson and daughters for a couple of weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Hachey spent the weekend at Gananoque.

Mrs. Fitzgerald and children of Guelph and Miss Margaret McQuellan, R.N., of Stratford, were recent visitors with Mrs. Glendon Scott.

Mr. Ronald Moore flew to Kenora last week to attend the retirement party for his father from the pulp and paper mill there.

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## Talking Turkey

Remark that Canadians ate at least 10 pounds of turkey meat each in 1966—almost twice as much as ten years ago, and a world record—Mervin S. Mitchell told turkey producers recently they still must study the consumer's needs to keep up this rate of consumption.

The chief of CDA's production section, Poultry Division, said the lighter weight turkey is apparently widely accepted in Ontario and Quebec, and the public seems to like its size (approximately 8-12 lbs.), convenience and price. But greater care must be taken with processing and packaging generally if the bird is to remain a favorite dish. For instance, the housewife doesn't like to find ice in the frozen carcass!

The heavier turkeys, 20 pounds and more, which are preferred by institutions, restaurants, etc. Should be as juicy and palatable as the smaller hen. The problem is to give the fast early growth with adequate fat and fleshing without letting them get overly flabby and fat in the crop area at front which is waste, said Mr. Mitchell.

**THE NEW EXECUTIVE** of Halton Junior Farmers, chosen recently at the annual meeting include President Ruth Mason, front; and in the rear, Brian Bessey, press reporter; Lois Hunter, secretary; Ernie Alexander, treasurer; Joy Hayward, provincial director; and Don Swackhamer, vice-president. Past president is Harold Thompson with Wilma Mason as joint Institute convener. Mr. Thompson was chosen to attend the Eastern Ontario and Quebec Bus Tour this year.

(Staff Photo)

The reduction in quality, and in the amount of fleshing, cost some producers a decrease in the number of A gradings last year. The need is for continued care in approved stock for hatchery supply flocks and better management by growers.

Up until recently, said Mr. Mitchell, the percentage of heavy turkey hatchings eggs that produced poult was 57 per cent, only one per cent better than 20 years ago. Including breakages prior to setting, this would mean that even today practically half of all eggs produced fail to hatch for one reason or another. Many other improvements had been made in the turkey industry but practically nothing had improved hatching potential.

The white feathered turkey had not gained popularity as quickly as was predicted some 10 years ago. Processors may one day want only white birds but, as yet, many of the bronze strains give greater yield than the large whites.

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