

# New assistants at Halton office

By H. J. Stanley  
Agricultural Representative

John Dunford, Jim Jenkins and Rosemary Hilson have joined the staff of the Agricultural office in Halton County. They are replacing John Cockburn, who has become the Agricultural Representative in Peterborough; Geoff Taylor, now farming at Gorrie; and Mrs. Anne Duffin, who has moved to Calgary.

John Dunford was raised on a farm in Peterborough County. He participated in 14-H Calf, Corn, and Automotive Clubs, and was a member of the third place Pro-

vincial 4-H Inter-Club Beef Team. He graduated from the Ontario Agricultural College in 1968.



JIM JENKINS

New extension assistant for Halton and Peel Counties, Jim joined the Milton office of the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food on Monday.

For the past two years he has been the Assistant Agricultural Representative in Langton County. On April 1, he moved to Brampton to serve as the Assistant Agricultural Representative for Halton and Peel Counties.

Jim Jenkins, the new Extension Assistant for Halton and Peel Counties, works out of the Milton office and commenced his duties on Monday, April 8. Jim was born on a Holstein farm in Elgin County. He has completed 12 4-H Agricultural Clubs and was a member of the winning 4-H Inter-Club Dairy Team in 1965. For the past two years he has attended the Ridgeway Agricultural School, participating in the Royal Winter Fair Judging Competition, and on the speaking team in competition with the Ontario Agricultural College. He is a Junior Farmer member, and in the Christmas holidays attended the effective speaking course at Albion Hills.

Miss Rosemary Hilson, a resident of Milton, assumed the duties of clerical stenographer in Milton on March 18 replacing Mrs. Duffin.

## Tons of gold

Winona Generation 15 R, 340866, Excellent, a Jersey cow in the herd of A. Neilson Stark, Georgetown, has just been issued a Ton of Gold certificate. In 1,461 days she produced 2,015 lbs. fat. She is a daughter of the Senior Superior Sire Brampton Marvel.

Don Clare Hussy Marvel, 334 278, Very Good, a Jersey cow in the herd of D. C. Matthews, Acton, also has been issued a Ton of Gold certificate. In 1,454 days she produced 2,136 lbs. fat. She is a daughter of the Senior Superior Sire Brampton Marvel.

Amalea Sixth Line Della 65, 352115, Very Good, in the herd of William Alexander, Norval, has also been issued a Ton of Gold certificate. In 1,124 days she produced 2,042 lbs. fat. She is a daughter of the Superior & Century Sire Brampton Marvel. To qualify for this award a cow must produce at least 2,000 lbs fat in four consecutive years.

## Federation asks compensation for crop loss from weather

The government should compensate farmers for crops lost from weather, the same way it compensates them for animals killed to stop the spread of disease, says the Ontario Federation of Agriculture.

In a brief to Agriculture Minister W. A. Stewart, the Federation says the grain farmer "has no more control over whether it will rain, than the beef farmer has over whether some can of corned beef coming into the country will bring hoof and mouth disease."

Enrolment in the Mastitis Control Program, sponsored by the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food, provides the farmer with a proven system in controlling the mastitis problem in his herd.

The chief cause of a poorly functioning milking machine has been found to be the vacuum regulator. Thorough cleaning and inspection of the mounting of the regulator and the replacement

of worn parts should be included in the regular servicing of the milking equipment.

The regulator does not function properly if it is not mounted vertically, so check this small point, says Dr. Nooly.

## Control mastitis with good habits, equipment

Now is a good time to take care of a few details in the dairy barn before heavy spring work begins.

Dr. H. J. Nooly, Veterinary Services Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food, says one of the best methods of controlling mastitis problems in a herd is a thorough check of milking equipment and habits.

Besides checking equipment, determining the health status of the herd would be worthwhile. Working with the local veterinarian, a dairyman could have laboratory samples taken to indicate the problem cows which otherwise may not be noticed.

Another detail which helps minimize mastitis problems is taking care of teat cup liners. Two sets alternated weekly will far outlast liners kept in continuous use. While the liners are not in use they should be soaked in lye solution to dissolve milk fat and to keep the liners soft and smooth.

Milkstone remover should also be used regularly to prevent of efficiency-reducing buildup.

## Leader

Starcross Winona Cavalier, a senior yearling Jersey in the herd of A. Neilson Stark, Georgetown, was a Jersey class leader for the month of March reports the Canadian Jersey Cattle Club. Cavalier produced 9,166 pounds of milk, 466 pounds fat, 4.87 per cent in 305 days, at one year and 342 days of age.

## Safety film and quiz studied by calf club

The Halton 4-H Jersey-Guernsey-Ayrshire Calf Club met for its first meeting at the Agricultural Office, Milton, President Bruce Pickering, opened the meeting and introduced Halton's new Assistant Agricultural Representative, John Dunford.

John showed a thought provoking film, "The Incredible Journey," which discussed safety and the six causes of accidents. A quiz tested the members' knowledge of general farm and highway safety.

Special information on fallout, poison control centres, and the safety equipment available from the Halton County Farm Safety Council was distributed. The members received information on the special 4-H projects sponsored each year by the Kingsway Kiwanis Club.

The meeting divided and the Juniors with leader Ernie Alexander discussed care of the dairy calf. The seniors, under John Dunford, discussed the senior 4-H project.

## Shoot pests the safe way

Now that Spring is here the groundhogs are out and they can be a real nuisance with the piles of earth from their burrows. If your farm menfolk are planning to take the gun after these pests make sure they follow the safety practices.

Insist on having the gun unloaded before coming into the house, and make sure that they know the safety rules. Hunting can be good sport if you keep it safe.

## Jersey Club holds annual euchre party

The Halton and Peel Jersey Club held their annual euchre party at Stewarttown Hall on April 5.

There were 24 tables playing and the prize winners were: Half-way, Mrs. W. Brittain; ladies' first, Miss N. Kranitz; ladies' second, Mrs. Mary Matthews; ladies' travelling, Mrs. Eva Harper; gent's first, Bob Mohr; gent's second, W. Springer; gent's travelling, Bob Pearson.

## Prophesizes county will be all urban unless government buys up farms

A local agricultural representative has suggested that Halton County will eventually be covered in housing and paved roads if present trends continue.

Henry Stanley of the Halton Agricultural Dept. office said this is inevitable "unless government can find some cash to buy up large tracts of Halton County and rezoned it as agricultural land."

"At present, 85 per cent of the county is farm land," Stanley was commenting on the

large number of farm sales in the area. He said Halton, Peel and York counties are having valuable farm land siphoned away by speculators, investors, and gentleman farmers.

He said the federation of agriculture is concerned but it also believes the farmer should have the right to decide for himself what he wants to do with his land.

Ward Brownridge, a Georgetown farm auctioneer, blamed the large number of sales on a cost squeeze on the farmer.

"Farmers are getting a good price for their land and are letting it go because they just can't make a decent living," said Brownridge.

"Increased costs of labor and machinery are just about putting the farmers out of business," according to Brownridge, who is a farmer himself.

He said the cost of equipment has increased about 60 per cent and the cost of labour has gone up about 19 per cent in the same period," he said.

Brownridge said 1968 and 1967 were two of the roughest years he had put in as a farmer. "I'd like to be trying to pay for a farm today," he said.

He also told of examples of young men who had given up their farms to go into business for themselves or to work for someone else. "One man has lost \$10,000 in his last two years of operation," said Brownridge.

Halton East MPP Jim Snow said in his maiden speech to the provincial legislature that "the farmers in our country are not sharing in the improving living standards to the same extent as other sectors of our community."

Snow said: "We must come up with an improved agricultural policy for Canada."

## McKane quits breeder post

A. H. McKane, of Georgetown has given up the presidency of the Central Ontario Cattle Breeders' Association and Harry Kennedy, Peterborough County representative, has been named 1968 president.

The C.O.C.B.A. is soon to merge with Waterloo and Lambton Breeding Units to form one organization, United Breeders Inc.

## Garden tips

Spring raking should be done very lightly, warn horticulturists with the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food. Only dead leaves, twigs and other heavy debris should be removed from the lawn at this time. Always use a leaf broom or wooden rake rather than a heavy steel type. Never attempt to take all the dead grass out of the lawn as it will soon rot and disappear, at the same time adding humus to the soil. A heavy raking at this time of year tends to dislodge or rip out many of the new shoots that have just started to grow. This often delays greening of the lawn.

Each spring iris beds and individual iris plants should be carefully inspected and cleared of debris or dead leaves. Horticulturists with the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food recommend a dressing of a complete fertilizer such as 8-20-20. Iris plants make a great deal of growth during the next six to eight weeks and thus require a considerable supply of plant food during this period. Two pounds per 100 square feet should be adequate to supply their needs.

Spring is the ideal time to fertilize those sluggish shade trees that failed to grow well last year. Horticulturists with the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food recommend the use of a high analysis fertilizer such as 10-10-10 or 12-12-12. Use approximately one pound for each three inches of diameter measured at breast height. Apply this through a series of holes made over the feeder root system which extends to the outer limits of the branches. The holes can be made with a crowbar and should be about two feet apart.

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