

FARM NEWS

Debaters Advance
To Semi-Finals

Halton Junior Farmer Debating team of Eleanor McKeown and Earl Snow, journeyed to Bondhead on Wednesday evening where they met the South Simcoe team of Earl Gilroy, Cookstown, and Jim Henry of Thornton.

"Resolved that a reduction in the number of farm organizations in Ontario would be in the best interests of the Ontario farmer" was the subject under discussion, with the Halton debaters upholding the affirmative. The judges were Norm Garrick, CBL farm commentator; Mr. C. Nicholas of the Alliston High School staff; and W. E. Breckon, well known Halton farmer. Their decision went to the Halton debaters, who will now meet Hastings County in the semi-finals for the provincial championship.

Local Masons Entertain
Brethren from Kitchener

Last Friday evening was the occasion of a visit to Credit Lodge, No. 219, AF&AM, by officers and members of Grand River Lodge, Kitchener.

Wor. Master Bill Robertson and officers conferred the degree on one of the local candidates in a very impressive manner.

The occasion also marked the installation of two Credit Lodge officers for 1953, who had been ill at the time of the regular installation, Senior Warden Bro. Leslie M. Clark, and chaplain V. Wor. Bro. W. G. O. Thompson.

The evening was concluded by a banquet, prepared under the supervision of Junior Warden Walter Fidler, followed by a sing-song led by Bro. John T. Armstrong.

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"Spirit Filled Men"
St. John's Sermon Topic

Sunday at St. John's United Church was the tenth of the window series, and so at the morning service, the Emblem of the window for the day was "The Descending Dove" and the scripture verse "The Spirit of the Lord is Upon Me." The subject was "Spirit filled men."

Rev. John M. Smith chose for his text, part of Luke 4.18 where Jesus, having returned to Nazareth, went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day as His custom was, and when He stood up to read, He was given the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. He read "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor" and when He had sat down, the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on Him. Why?

Well, this was something different. This Jesus was one of their own townsmen, who had been away a short while, had been baptized by John in the Jordan, after which the Holy Spirit had descended on Him in the form of a dove, and a voice from heaven had proclaimed: "This is my beloved Son." And now He had returned, full of the Holy Spirit and had spoken to them graciously, and with an authority about the scriptures which they were not accustomed to, even from their highest religious leaders.

Some would be thinking that He should have stayed at home, and followed his carpenter trade and done well taking up Joseph's carpentry business. Others would be skeptical, thinking, why this is just the young man who worked with Joseph . . . how can He know so much? And the leaders would look with envy, and possibly hate, that this young man dared speak out with more authority and influence than they were able to. And a few, His mother and close friends, would probably look with some feeling of pride and happiness, that He was different. Yes, this was different, this young man was a spirit filled man of God, speaking out the truth as God revealed it to Him, the truth that reached down into their hearts. A few became His followers, drawn to Him by His teachings and the

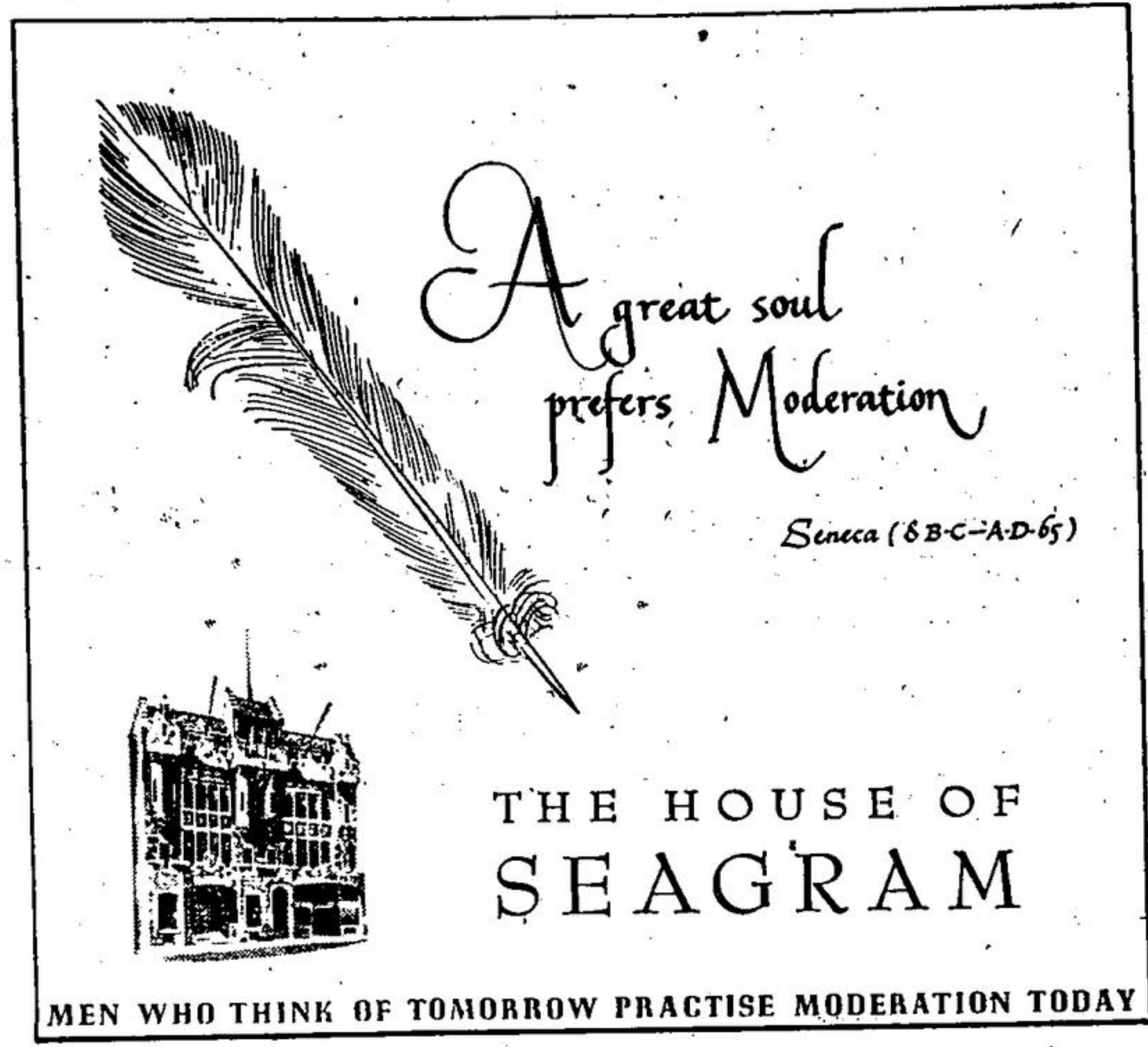
example of His life, sensing something greater in the power and the hope of what He said much greater than any they had hitherto known. And then the envy and hate of those whose authority He was interrupting, had planned His death, all hope seemed lost, they were beaten for three sad days.

Then a ray of light, a spark of hope shone through their defeat, the great Commission was given them, they were told to "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." Bewildered and confused how could they, a mere handful, do this? And then, gathered together with one accord, in one place to worship and pray and wonder, the Spirit of the Lord descended on them, they became Spirit filled men, and women, full of courage, the church was founded, and from then on, there was no holding them back; they knew this was the Spirit in which they could eventually conquer, and have their great commission fulfilled. Down through the years we keep looking back thinking other days were the Spirit filled times, those of Moses, David, Jesus Himself, Luther, St. Francis, etc., forgetting that in our present time there are many spirit-filled men and women, who have given up self, for the teaching of the Gospel to others in nearly all parts of the world. They are in our churches too, only we need more and more of them. Are they any different, can we tell which they are? There are two differences. They are receptive to the Spirit. When the Spirit knocks, they open the door of their hearts. Secondly, they are obedient to the Spirit. When they hear what is to be done, they do it. You know whether you are receptive or not, and if receptive, whether you are obedient or not. The church, the nations, the world cry out for Spirit-filled men and women; only through them can all nations be taught the true way of life, and that greatest of all events come to pass, the Brotherhood of man, under the Fatherhood of God. Mr. Smith closed his meditation with the solemn words of the second part of his text: "If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His."

The choir anthem was "Hear my Prayer." Sandra Scott sang "Now another day is gone."

At the evening service, Rev. John M. Smith gave a broad outline of the work of the church, along Home Mission lines, in a trip across Canada, from coast to coast. He gave an idea of the work in the Maritimes, with five boats doing a help-time work there; of the 36 All-Nation churches in Quebec, of the work among young girls helping them to rehabilitate themselves; of the Homes for the Aged; the work among the Indians, in 55 Mission Centres; 17 Hospitals; the shortage of Ministers in the West, where the shortage is probably felt most. There are 16 Chinese and 6 Japanese missionaries in Ontario.

Miss Sally McDonald sang a solo and Mrs. H. C. Wrigglesworth led in the service of praise.



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who has been appointed vice-president of Canadian National Railways central region at Toronto. A native of Montreal and a B.Sc. graduate of McGill University, Mr. Kyle was assistant vice-president of operation, Montreal, prior to his new appointment.

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