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FARM NEWS

Woodlots Inspected by Agriculture Committee

J. E. W.
It was our privilege to accompany the Agricultural Committee and other members of county council, on their annual tour of Halton woodlots on Tuesday afternoon of last week. The party under the joint leadership of C. E. Groves, zone forester, and Reeve A. R. Service, visited six of the 12 different tracts which go to make up a total acreage of 1242 acres in Halton County forests.

The first area visited was the 110 acre block known as the Guelph Junction Tract. Planting started here in 1946 and the earlier plantings of pine have made excellent growth. This is the tract where a fire broke out earlier this year. Fortunately, the fire did not get into the older plantings. True, it means replanting quite an area and should be a warning to picnickers and berry pickers not to drop lighted matches, cigars or cigarette butts in such areas. Areas which did not receive a recent shower are veritable tinder boxes at the moment.

We also took a brief look at the Lakina tract where planting started 4 or 5 years ago. It takes about this length of time for the trees to get really established. From that time on, growth is rapid.

The next tract visited was the Elliott tract, which again is one of the more recent plantings. Perhaps the highlight of the various tracts visited is the Finney tract, on the sixth line of Nassagaweya, a 50 acre block, planted around ten years ago. According to Mr. Groves, approximately \$1,000 worth of Christmas Trees has already been sold from this forest — the trees have grown to the point where thinning is necessary in order for the remaining trees to develop properly. The final call was at the 400 acre Britton tract — we were there when the thunderstorm hit, and what a drenching rain! In another ten years Halton will be proud of their county forests — which incidentally are a real credit to the foresight of those who have served on the committee on Agriculture and Reforestation for Halton County over the past 16 years.

Beaver Dam Dry

We were surprised to find, when visiting the various woodlots, that the large body of water created by the beaver is all gone. Unfortunately, the rain storm prevented a thorough investigation. It may be the result of the dry season, but we can't help but wonder if some misguided individual has destroyed some of the dams. True, they will be replaced but in the meantime the area looks rather desolate, to say the least — and perchance it may be why some of our Halton wells are getting low.

Order Trees Now

Each year we have quite a number of folk contact us during the winter and early spring, with a view to ordering trees. Unfortunately, many of these folk were unable to secure their requirements this past spring.

If you want trees for planting in the spring of 1966, now is the time to get your applications in to the Dept. of Lands and Forests.

The Agricultural Office in Milton has a supply of application forms on hand.

Tell the Herald about your visits and your visitors this summer. Help us cover this important "personal" news.

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Robert Donat returns to the movies after an absence of several years, in a wonderful picture, *Nearer to Heaven*, which is playing next Monday and Tuesday at the local Roxy. The British colour movie, which also stars Kay Walsh, has a strong religious theme, and its star excels his performance in *Goodby, Mr. Chips* which won him worldwide acclaim.

LEGION NOTES

The picnic, as everyone knows, was held last Sunday, and seemed to be a real success. The weatherman did a little better for us than has been the case for the past few days, and it had cooled down to something reasonable.

The buses and cars started arriving about 1:30 and by 2:30 the races had begun. There was a good program of sports, under the chairmanship of Bud James and Frank Connelly with their usual large group of volunteers. The races were not confined to the youngsters, but also included ones for the adults, and there were novelty races and contests such as throwing the egg, etc.

Each child was given free tickets as he arrived, with Gord Jamieson and helpers in charge of this department. This year as an innovation the children were given tags as a means of identification. There were two ponies in a ring for members' use, and they had a busy day of it. At one time there were seen to be over 50 children waiting to ride.

After a grand program of races, lunch was held under the open pavilion with around 500 we believe, taking part. Everyone agreed that this was a really fine picnic and as usual the kiddies start anticipating the one for next year.

The buses left starting right after supper for the "early birds" until the last ones had left the park.

WE NOTICED . . .

A good many unfamiliar faces up there as usual — by unfamiliar we mean that we don't often see them around the Legion. Glad to see you out, fellows . . . and we knew it! The ball team arrived to play, but between the arduous journey and the heat of the day decided that it was too much for their weary old bones, and didn't play. Just as well, too, because those poor weary old chaps would not have had much chance against Bryce Smith and his youngsters from Streetsville . . . who was that fellow in the "high yellow" shirt that seemed to be doing all the "directing" while holding onto the baseball backstop for support . . . Most disappointing man there, Charlie Boyle, who specifically went up there to play ball, only to have it cancelled. Says he would have thought most of them could have tried to play, even if they are out of condition, fat and well past forty (please note, Messrs. Stapleton and Patterson.) Meanest man at the picnic — the chap who swipes a bottle of soft drink from Murph and the boys, and then takes it around to the front of the booth and exchanges it for his own brand . . . How cheap can you get? . . . Bruce McCartney had an unfortunate accident when hit in the eye with a sharp branch. He was fortunate not to lose an eye. That was the only accident that we know of that happened at the picnic and we are glad that it was no worse. Darts and horseshoes went over well with a goodly number taking part in both events . . . A list of all the prizewinners is printed elsewhere in the paper . . . Did you hear about the fellow who had his name mentioned quite extensively in *Legion Notes* a few weeks ago and bought five copies to send to relatives and friends . . . My, my, and then he pretends he's embarrassed by it all . . . That was quite a story some of the ball team gave us when they arrived and explained that they were late, because they had been golfing, yes, and what else had you been doing, chappies? . . . There has been a request to write this column while we're away on holidays, but after careful consideration and talking it over with some of the others we've decided it against it. The volunteer editor? none other than friend John . . . but as we pointed

out to the editor, you can't tell, he might put something in there we wouldn't want (how do you like them apples, boy?) . . . The golf tournament is coming along soon and we believe it is in charge of Ken Nash, who will be glad to receive names of those wishing to enter . . . There's a list beside the bulletin board for this purpose, so all you embryo Hogs had better get your names on it . . . and see if you can't do better than last year, boys. Better put 'em in training, Ken, especially the night before. It might even be wise to put a curfew on them . . . the last dart final at the picnic developed into something of an endurance contest before we left, with Henry Shepherd and Pat Chamberlain battling it out with Alva Grieve and George Sargent . . . Wonder by actual count how many were there? . . . Port Credit Legion also had a picnic there that day and to live things up a bit, had brought up their own bugle band . . . Added a bit of life and colour to the party, too . . . The best rumour we have heard in a long time — Saturday afternoon we were sitting quietly with the president minding our own business (that goes without saying) when one of our members (slightly in arrears) comes over and says "I handed in my size for that sweater, and so has Gordie, and the rest of the boys." Nick gets a rather bewildered look in his eyes, and asks what for. "Oh, haven't you heard? the Legion's buying sweaters for everyone who ever played any sport for the Legion." So after we all pitched and revived the president and treasurer from the shock, we enquired where this one had started. Rocky, we're surprised at you, why the presidents and officers might have had a heart attack thinking of all the money involved . . . We understand it's now in the mill to have plans given for a new stage, and a few other minor improvements (made, and not before time, either . . . Glad to see former vice president Jim Bell home last week-end and able to be at the picnic . . . he tells us he is hoping to be home for good in about a month's time. Jim looks very fit and says he feels the same way . . .

WANTED . . . How about letting us know where you are on your vacations — the members would be interested and we think maybe we could use it in the column nicely. With the exception of those two publicity hounds, Scotty and Gord King, the rest of the branch don't keep us up too well with their activities. In fact, it was only last Sunday at the picnic, that one of the lads who used to supply us with a lot of good copy (BIGO) was complaining bitterly about not getting his name in the paper enough, and how come the other two made the headlines so often . . . so we explained about how they arrange to have one of their secretaries at work make up a mimeographed copy each week of the more colourful events in their busy lives, and send them to the Herald . . . Chub says, now he understands and he often wondered what kept them so busy on company time. BIGO? Oh yes, that means "Before He Got Old!" . . .

THIS HAIL STORM WASN'T REPORTED

Friends are chuckling about the remarks of a young district lad who joined a conversation his parents were having about the weather. "May get some rain today," said mother, "the weather reports says scattered showers." "Maybe hail too," contributed junior. "I didn't see that in the paper," said father. "Oh yes, it said isolated thunder storms," replied the young man of the house.

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