

Peter Hughes on committee

Peter Hughes, a fruit grower and horseman from Norval, has been appointed to a committee studying farm classification in Ontario by the Provincial Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

Mr. Hughes is presently in partnership with his brother, operating a fruit farm and floral business by the name of Braeside Farms. In addition to cherries and other tender fruits, Mr. Hughes is interested in the production of roses.

He is an active member of the Ontario Horticultural Association and was the motivating force behind the weekly Flower Auction that has been inaugurated so successfully in Brantford. He is also a graduate of the Diploma Course at the Ontario Agricultural College.

legislation affecting farms or farm operations in Ontario.

In announcing the appointment of this Committee the Minister said, "There are many Legislative Acts, programs, and policies administered by a wide number of Ministries which affect or apply to farms and farmers in Ontario. The nature of farming itself has changed considerably over the years and the industry has become so diversified that it becomes difficult to determine what is meant by such commonly used terms as "Farm", "Farmer", or "Farm-land".

Well qualified

The committee is made up of six persons, all with considerable experience in the farm industry. Edward J. Kowal is a barrister from Bolton in Peel County and not only was raised on a farm but has been active in the A.I. and Junior Farmers organization. Dorothy Lichy is also a member of the committee. She is a farmer's wife from Wellesley in Waterloo County and has been active in numerous farm orientated organizations. Bridget Pyke is a Wolfe Island farmer in Frontenac County and also on the committee is Arnold Burnside from Grand Valley in the county of Dufferin. Ronald White is a sixth member and he is also a dairy farmer residing in Denfield which is part of Middlesex County.

Uniformity

"Part-time farming, the acquisition of rural land for recreation and nonfarm uses, and the holding of land in development areas by nonfarm owners has added to the complexities that exist. We believe all references to farmers, farms, and farmlands in our Ontario Statutes, programs, and policies should be uniform and applied with consistency."

"Farm people, individually and through their organizations, have asked that such a review be undertaken in the interest of clarity and we agree with them that such a study should be undertaken."

"Therefore we have appointed six persons to conduct this 'in-depth' study and to make recommendations. The Committee of two women and four men will begin their work as soon as possible and will hold public meetings to hear the opinions of those affected."

"This Committee brings together a group of men and women who understand the complexities that face the agricultural industry and are capable of developing practical and meaningful recommendations."

The terms of reference of the Committee are to study and to make recommendations to the Minister respecting: (a) the feasibility of classifying farms, types of farms, or farm operations in Ontario, and (b) the application of such a system of classification to Ontario

Free Press Farm Page



OTHER DAYS and other ways. Pictures of harvesting in Saskatchewan are owned by Charles Binnie, R.R. 2, Acton. His father Francis Binnie went west in 1882 and helped put up the first dwelling in Regina. He farmed 45 miles north of Regina at Earl Grey and died there in 1950. Son Charlie Binnie came to Acton in 1939. The top picture shows his great-uncle Laughlin Galbraith in the 1880's. Lower picture shows a group of men threshing, with his uncle Charles Binnie (centre) feeding the machine operated by eight horses.

Loses 84 in past year

Sheep farmer fed up dogs ravaging herds

Ken Jensen, owner of two sheep farms in Nainanagawa, says he is being forced out of business by dogs who have repeatedly and savagely attacked his herd of sheep.

Jensen's farms are situated on the Second Line and the Clough Line in the township and are managed by Charlie Nelsen.

The herd that amounted to close to 100 sheep last year has been reduced to 16 now. All but 37 of the sheep were either killed, mangled or chased off the farm last year, according to Jensen.

Jensen said the most recent attacks by dogs have occurred in the past week. He explained Nelsen had watched over the sheep for four nights in a row after the first of a series of recent attacks. On the fifth night Nelsen went to bed and the dogs struck again, Jensen said.

ACC year

According to Jensen the sum isn't enough because it costs \$30 or \$35 to buy a lamb and then it has to be fed all year before it is ready to reproduce.

Jensen feared he would have to go out of the sheep business. Relating his own plight with the high price of wool and the

scarcity of it, Jensen said it was a shame sheep farmers weren't able to operate without fear of dogs.

"There is a lot of land suitable for raising sheep in Nainanagawa," according to Jensen, but he predicts he and others will give it up unless something is done to control the dogs.

Soil is important for trees, shrubs

By Burke McNeill

Trees and shrubs are extremely rugged plants and can survive in almost any type of soil. However, if they are to produce strong, vigorous growth, they require a rich soil around the roots at planting time.

In good soil, dig a hole large enough to allow the roots to spread out naturally. If some of the roots are extremely long, they can be cut back without damaging the plant. If the soil is poor and needs to be replaced, dig the hole larger than is needed. For most plants, 18 inches both ways is sufficient, but larger roots will require a larger hole.

Apply it instead in a band around the plant after planting and water it in.


Careful attention to these details during planting gives trees and shrubs a head start and helps to ensure healthy vigorous growth.

Irish farmer visits soon

A young farmer from Northern Ireland will be spending 12 days in Halton County in the near future, as part of an exchange program involving Junior Farmers from Canada and Great Britain.

Bertha Simms Harkness, 22, of Ulster is slated to visit Halton County from May 28 to June 8. Halton Junior Farmers and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food will be her hosts. Miss Harkness is an accounting machine operator who lives on a 95 acre beef farm. She's a member of the Young Farmers' Club in Crumlin.

Let's talk about HORSES with Jennifer Barr



Endurance ride enthusiasts thoroughly enjoyed the OCTRA (Ontario Competitive Trail Ride Association) clinic held April 28 at the University of Guelph. The program was engineered by Rockwood's Jean Pettit and proved to be excellent.

Competitive trail riding is much more complicated than just getting on a horse and traveling 25 or 30 miles.

First of all, the terrain selected for competition is usually as tough and interesting as possible with many natural obstacles thrown in the horses' path. Judging is a long and difficult task involving such tangibles as time, recorded pulse and respiration rate and recovery ratio, plus the intangibles like manners, way of going and general condition. The well-trained athletic horse is usually the successful one.

Nancy Beaton from Flesherton brought her two horses for a marvellous rap session on selecting an endurance horse. The Morgan Henry, and the Anglo-Arab, Nugget, provided an interesting example of the two extremes of horse types. Both geldings were most amusing gentlemen and suffered the makings of hands feeding legs, feet, pulse, respiration, etc.

Jean Milner of Toronto delved into the technicalities of the pulse and respiration measurement and read some interesting results of experiments done at race-tracks on the subject.

After lunch, Dr. David Harris of Hastings showed how a vet judged the 50 to 100 horses that came through his hands on a ride.

Di Lindblad of Rockwood and Jean Pettit concluded the afternoon by giving us all some hints on running a ride, an event which takes many months of planning.

The informal atmosphere and friendly arguments only increased the power of the teaching situation. And a great deal of learnin' you got for a dollar, too!

Georgetown Horsemen's Association held their first show on April 29 at Springfield Farms in Limehouse. It was a cold windy day and the well-groomed hunters I saw in the morning were feeding their oats with several irresponsible bucks.

I had to leave before lunch but the turnout up until then was very poor, probably due to the early date. Most people just didn't have their horses in good enough shape for showing by the end of April, it seemed.

However, I heard that the junior and western classes in the afternoon were well filled. The club sported some magnificent jumps made by Colin Vernon, and we hope they have more jumpers to soar over them next month.

Esqueing Pony Club's first auction, also held on April 29, was declared to be a resounding success. A large crowd attended buying everything from horses, saddles, bridles, dropped, nosebands, and whiffle trees to corncob feed and apple pie.

Subscribers reported a recent Free Press took a week and a half to be delivered in Toronto.

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