

Junior Farmer visits Halton

Elaine Hewlett, a 24-year-old Australian junior farmer, stopped in Halton last week on the first lap of a three month Ontario tour. The guest of Ontario Junior Farmers, Miss Hewlett stayed at the homes of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Cordingly in Hornby and Mr. and Mrs. John Bird near Georgetown.

Miss Hewlett lives on a dairy farm in Victoria State and works as a lab technician in a dairy plant. While in Halton she exchanged information on farming practices.

Urban members
A visit with Halton Agricultural Representative Henry Stanley convinced her that problems related to Junior Farmer organizations are similar throughout the world. Fifty per cent of the members in the organization, here and in Australia, are urban dwellers interested in agriculture.

Miss Hewlett said the Australian program is broken into three areas, agriculture, cultural and social. She said the slogan adopted in her country to entice membership is, "You Don't Have to Be One to Be One."

No alcohol
Activities of junior farmers in Australia include competitions, achievement days, judging of stock and fun-related programs.

Alcohol is not permitted at a Junior Farmer function in Australia. It was voted out by the young people themselves.

Miss Hewlett's home in Northern Victoria is a dairy farm with 220 cows. There are no barns and the herd is maintained on permanent pasture.

Water problems
Australian weather permits the cows to be out-of-doors year around, to be brought in to milking parlors only for

milking. Flood irrigation keeps the pasture growing as Australia is a very dry continent. Water supply is a major problem and there are currently many large dams under construction.

Farmers pay for the water used on their land and water rights are purchased with the farm. Dams are opened on a rotation basis with irrigation taking place six months of the year.

Few kangaroos
Asked the inevitable question about the abundance of kangaroos, Miss Hewlett says they are seen as much as deer are seen in Canada. Wallabies are in far greater abundance.

Miss Hewlett plans to be married in October, two months after returning to her home. Her future husband is a sheep and wheat farmer but she will continue to work as a lab technician.

She visited some 4-H groups while in Halton and hopes in the future to work with children in Australia.

Felt at home
"I really feel at home here in Canada," Miss Hewlett said in her broad Australian accent. "We seem to speak the same language and have the same interests."

"I was told not to call a Canadian an American and I used to wonder how I would know the difference. Being here, I can really tell."

Miss Hewlett will also visit Greenville, Wellington, Bruce and Oxford counties and Hamilton-Wentworth Region.



ELAINE HEWLETT, centre, is an Australian guest who addressed the Acton Junior Farmers' Club Wednesday at Ballinafad. For the first week of her stay in Halton Miss Hewlett, 24, was the guest of Edward Bird, R.R. 2, Georgetown. This week Miss Hewlett is staying with Cindy Beck's family at Milton. Miss Hewlett showed colored slides about dairy farming in Victoria State to club members.

Dairy farming subject

Acton Junior Farmers received an insight into dairy farming in Australia when Elaine Hewlett made a half hour slide presentation at the club's meeting in Ballinafad last Wednesday.

Miss Hewlett, 24, is from Lockington, population 200, in Victoria State.

As Miss Hewlett narrated the show, interest in farming in Australia picked up among the 32 members. They heard there was no need for barns and that several services and machines are similar to those available here.

Interests dropped, however, when the Australian

miss explained that dairy farming, at least in Victoria, is irrigation farming. Water, she told the group, must be paid for and that it is very expensive. Water is pumped 160 miles to the Hewlett farm.

Hosts
Miss Hewlett, who is visiting seven Ontario counties in three months, started her stay in Halton with Edward Bird's family, R. R. 2, Georgetown. Cindy Beck of Milton is hosting Miss Hewlett during her second week's stay.

The Hewlett farm has 220 cows on 200 acres. Most of the herd is Jersey, but there are

some Holsteins. Artificial insemination is used 100 percent on the farm.

Most of the dairy products are passed through a milk marketing board. Japan is the main market for butter.

One of the differences between farming here and in Australia is the fencing, Miss Hewlett said. Instead of having all posts dug into the ground, the Australians use one heavy pole to every three "droppers", which just hold the fence down, she said.

Miss Hewlett advised the Junior Farmers to take every opportunity to win an overseas trip.



SILLY GESE! These Canada geese decided to wander away from the lake to see how the rest of Acton was enjoying the warm weather. They feasted on garbage left for Tuesday's pickup and on bread donated by Gwen Price of Main Street. The geese decided to rest on a neighbouring lawn after stopping the traffic to cross the busy highway.

Teacher seminar

Plan involvement

A seminar sponsored by the Halton Elementary Teachers' Association political education committee on municipal politics was held Saturday, April 10 in Burlington.

Responding to comments made by such speakers as Judy Alexander, Chairman of the Halton Board of Education and Mary Munro (Burlington and Region Councillor), the teachers considered their role in the upcoming local and regional election in December. Most of the participants felt that

teachers should be made more aware and become more actively involved in local elections and government.

"We—teachers and trustees—need each other," emphasized Mrs. Alexander, explaining that a balance between the professional and lay opinions on educational decisions is in the best interest of the children.

Mrs. Munro pointed out that teachers should display a higher profile in local politics by letting their views be

known on such issues as child abuse and traffic safety.

Harrop of Milton

The charm of one of Milton's fine old homes where you may expect carefully prepared continental cuisine in an atmosphere of charm and grace.

The graciousness of the three dining rooms is enhanced by Queen Anne chairs, and tables set with matching crystal, silver and the beauty of bone china.

Harrop of Milton... for true elegance in lunching and dining.

Fully Licenced
Ties Gentlemen Please
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

RESERVATIONS ONLY

878-8161
345 STEELES AVENUE
MILTON

Term appointments for board

In the future all Halton Board of Education consultants will only work on their project until it is finished and then return to the classroom.

The board decided Thursday that all appointments for consultants beginning in September of 1977 will be term appointments only.

Recently, the board sent four of its 28 consultants back to the classroom and Superintendent of Program John Boich said it was a traumatic experience for everyone on the consultative staff since everyone was wondering which four people would be chopped.

Boich said the board will choose a specific job to be done by a consultant, determine how long it should take and then hire the appropriate person.

Board hires values education consultant

Halton Board of Education found a way Thursday to keep a consultant working on the values education program.

When the Primary Task Force dies this summer the values education program and the people working on it were slated to return either to their duties at the Ministry of Education or else Halton classrooms.

Thursday the board decided it could pay Herb Pilles, a former Pineview School teacher, to continue serving as a consultant for

values education curriculum implementation by loaning an art consultant, John Martin, for a year to the Hastings County Board of Education.

While the board will continue to pay, Martin Hastings will reimburse Halton.

Boich told the board that the size of the consultative staff has grown considerably in recent years because of the demands for more work to be done by consultants in the area of development and implementation of core curriculum.

"It is now time for us to slow things down and focus on specific areas," he said.

He said in the years to come some consultants will be needed to stay in their present roles while others will have to be retrained or returned to the classroom.

He said with this new system everyone on the consultative staff will know exactly where they stand and how long it will be before they are moved on to another job.

Boich thought if a term appointment was for two years it might lead to a lack of enthusiasm in the last year since the person would know no matter what happened the job would be over after two years.

Boich said there are consultants working in that situation already and he has noticed "no slacking off."

Trustee Ernie Bodnar was concerned about term appointments because he said it leads to people trying to take

Cut annoys staff spouse

The husband of a Halton supply teacher told the Halton Board of Education Thursday that it has not given supply teachers proper notification of reduction in their pay.

Robert Hilton, Burlington, informed the board an official of the Ministry of Labor, Employment Standards Branch, told him that "Where records show that a rate of pay is established by any procedure, we would expect that rate to be paid until which time the employer personally notifies the employee of the revised rate."

Hilton said many supply teachers have reported for work this month without being notified their pay has been cut.

He told the board the labor official said a notice on the bulletin board at a school at the pay cut was not satisfactory notice.

"An employer should notify each person of any wage reduction by registered letter a reasonable length of time before it takes effect," Hilton reported the provincial employee as saying.

Hilton said that as of last Thursday the board had failed to comply with the Labor Ministry official's opinion and urged the board rectify this problem.

He questioned the propriety of separate school trustees Bill Priestner and Len Auger being allowed to vote on the portion of the supply teacher's wage cut motion which dealt with those who teach elementary school.

Hilton claimed that when the board was given information about supply teacher rates at other boards last month, before deciding to cut Halton supply teacher's pay, trustees didn't receive enough facts to make a proper decision.

While the board was given information about supply teacher pay rates in Peel Halton trustees were only given the reduced rates which are still higher than those in Halton.

Hilton went on to point out the rates in Hamilton may change because of an expected Anti-Inflation Board ruling and noted some of the rates quoted for Halton Separate School Board and Peel were for people not entitled to teach classes.

He said figures not provided to the board show Etobicoke and Toronto supply teachers can make as much as \$55.43 a day and as much as \$69.03 a day with the Lincoln board.

His figures pointed out that no other qualified teachers were making as little as Halton supply teachers do now.

Halton supply teachers at the elementary level make \$31.20 a day and \$41.60 a day at the high school level since the pay cuts became effective at the start of April. Previously elementary school supply teachers made \$38.53 a day and high school supply teachers made \$55.03 a day.

Hilton noted the region pays up to \$30 a day for private home care for four children and suggested this was simply private home babysitting.

"The supply teacher is expected to teach, not just care for up to 30 odd students. A comparison would seem to indicate you were not over-paying the supply teachers at \$38.53 and \$55.03 per day," he declared.

Hilton claimed it was unfair of the board to single out the supply teachers as the one group which must take a pay cut.

Trustee Dr. Helen Howard-Locke said she agreed fully with Mr. Hilton's views and urged the board rescind the pay cut motion.

Jr. agriculturalists 'get back to land'

To most 16 and 17-year-olds, farming is getting back to the land and the fresh, clean air of the countryside. But those taking part in the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food's Junior Agriculturalist program discover, first hand, that's not all it takes to run a successful farm operation.

Host farmers for the Junior Agriculturalists accept the responsibility of helping these inexperienced young people over a nine-week period during the summer. They're interested in young people and interested in teaching them the basics of agriculture—from livestock production to machinery maintenance.

This summer, the Junior Agriculturalist program will be operating for the fourth season. Young people will be placed on selected commercial operations throughout the province, where they will live with, and participate in, the regular activities of the family. The young people will receive a training allowance of \$16 a day, of which the Ministry will pay \$6 and the host farmer will provide \$5 cash, in addition to room and board worth \$5 a day.

Details of the program and applications for host farmers and interested young people are available from county and district offices of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

Federation says land-use planning chaotic

"The Ontario Government's policy on land-use planning is chaotic at present," said Gordon Hill, president of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture. The federation claims to represent 95 per cent of Ontario's farmers through its 23,500 individual farmer-members and its 19 commodity group members, three provincial co-operatives and educational associations.

Mr. Hill, presenting the annual OFA brief to Cabinet, explained farmers may comply with suggested Code of Practices for livestock operations and yet find they are harassed or forbidden to expand due to the sensitivities of their new neighbours. Farmers are often zoned into agriculture by municipal by-laws while in adjacent jurisdictions councils allow severances from farms and subdivisions on top farmland.

Farmers see the provincial government failing to end this chaos of speculation and land dealing. It appears to farmers that the Ontario Government places higher priority on environmental and recreational uses than on food production.

And, under the Niagara Escarpment Act and the Parkway Belt Act, the Minister has been given such wide authority that he may override any municipal zoning by-laws or local plans. There is no appeal in court to decisions of the Minister.

Even more frightening is the unplanned way in which Hydro is expanding, Hill said. He explained: "At the moment, Hydro has identified 22 study areas for generating plants—four of these are in Northern Ontario and the other 18 are in Southern Ontario, surrounding our prime

agricultural land. If all these generating plants are built, Southern Ontario will be ringed with these plants, along the shores of the Great Lakes. The amount of land involved in these plants is approximately 500,000 acres, the size of Oxford County, and that just represents the direct development. Industrial and urban development will occur in the vicinity of each of these plants, taking much more than 500,000 acres."

It is, of course, protested that to compensate farmers for the loss of value of their farms through freezing land into agriculture would be prohibitive. But, Mr. Hill pointed out, OFA has suggested a scheme by which either a private market for development rights or the public holding of development rights be created. Either of these could be done at an insignificant cost to the public treasury.

Choose it
from Canada's largest rental fleet of GM cars and GMC trucks.

& Charge it
Tilden honours most credit cards.

TILDEN

ANDREW MURRAY MOTORS
45 Mountainview Road N.
877-4744
GEORGETOWN

GIANT 26" COLOR CONSOLE

\$509⁵⁰

(FULL MANUFACTURER'S WARRANTY)

NEW IN BOXES

20" COLOR PORTABLE

100% SOLID STATE

\$429⁵⁰

FULL MANUFACTURER'S WARRANTY

FARMER JACKS

878-2373
826-5371

NO MONEY DOWN

No Payments till June '76

OPEN NIGHTLY TILL 9

SATURDAYS 9 - 6

On Hwy. 25 1/4 Mile North of Hwy. 401

Guard Your Family's Health and Budget!

BROMO SELTZER
FAMILY SIZE
150 gm.

\$1.39

GILLETTE the dry look
"30% More"
11.7 ounce

\$1.43

Schick II Your Choice

Twin Blade INJECTOR - 5's

\$1.09

Twin Blades 5's - fit all double edge razors

Prices Effective 'Til May 1st.

Neo Citran

10's

\$1.49

Easter Bunny Winner*
Joan Ford - Crescent St., Acton

GUARDIAN A.S.A. TABLETS

300 mg. (5 gr.)
500's
Our Low Everyday Price!

\$1.89

Acton Pharmacy LTD.

DOWNTOWN ACTON • 853-1620