Ontario Agriculture Mini-William Newman predicted that about 500,000 acres will be needed by the end of the century to house and service some 12 million

The minister's statement came during a meeting to discuss the Green Paper on Planning for Agriculture: Food Land Guidelines, at Georgetown Monday.

Given we'll have just less than 12 million people by the year 2,000 Newman said, with services highways and corridors, we'll need between 400,000 and 500,000 acres.

Full-time and part-time farmers from Brampton, Erin, Georgetown, Milton and area, numbering about 80, turned out to give the agricul ture minister their views on the proposed legislation and other points bothering them.

By the applause at the end of the two and a half hour meeting, the audience appeared pleased with the minister's performance.

Agriculture minister Newman said he wants people with ideas and concerns about the green paper, which is proposed legislation, to write them down and mail them to him.

Newman stated he hoped there would be co-operation in the working out of the guidelines. "We're counting on common sense, not confrontation, to make the best

use of guidelines," he said. One purpose of the guidelines, contained in the eight page green paper, is to try and show local governments the high priority of agriculture lands in their official

"We have enough land designated in official plans to last us to the year 2,000". Newman said.

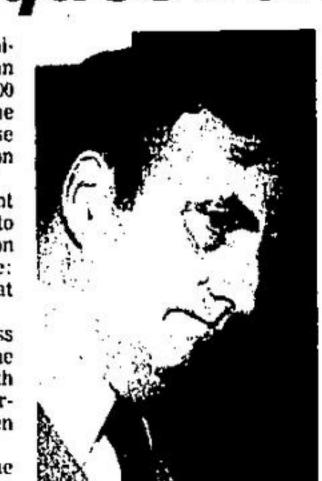
One lady took issue with the green paper's suggestion that a long-time farmer, about to retire, consider a mobile home or moving to a nearby village instead of severing his farm for a retirement lot. Retiring to a mobile home,

I find that hard to take, Eleanor Branch, R.R. 2. Norval, said to a ripple of applause. "You wouldn't suggest that to any other businessman", she Newman.

The reason for the suggestion, said the agriculture minister, is that a mobile home would not require a severence. If a home built by a retiring farmer, is eventually bought by a nonfarmer, the severance could cause problems to the adjacent farmer, Newman said. Countering criticism from

Erin area part-time farmer Jack Martin, that the farmer can't be helped because he can't muster enough voting the agriculture minister said his ministry got the second highest budget increase, in the recent budget.

Martin said the first paragraph of the green paper is suspect. "It's bunk", he told Newman. The paragraph states the government is committed "to maintain a permanent, secure and economically viable agricul-



AGRICULTURE MIN William ISTER Newman spoke on the paper at green Georgetown Monday.

you're ever going to have viable agriculture here, Martin said.

Newman simply replied with his beliefs in the free enterprise system and that politicians are in their profession to serve the community.

the agriculture minister said he does not believe in. However, land banking for agriculture is a policy of the Ontario government. He cited the example of 17,000 acres in a bank near Pickering. He said the government is buying land elsewhere, but he could not disclose the

In response to a question about shortages of land, food and oil, Newman agreed there is no shortage of food. He added that the green paper should be used to plan. What we are saying in Ontario, that we should be planning ahead so we don't have to rely on other countries" for food supply" Newman said. He told the audience that he wants food self sufficiency for the province, though fruits can be imported cheaper than growing them on the Niagara

# Bousfield heads 4-H

By John H. Reid The first meeting of the Halton 4-H Field Crop Club was held at the Agricultural Office, Milton on April 18.

Election of officers was held with these results, president, Bill Bousfield; vice-president, Doug McPhail; secretary, Marilyn McNabb; and press reporter, John H.

Members judged two classes, one of hay and one of oats. A few members gave reasons. Plans for future meetings were discussed.

The president, William closed

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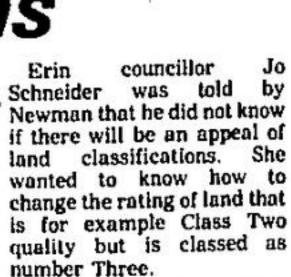
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Halton-Burlington MPP Julian Reed told Newman he supports the green paper's intent on preserving farm land. However the MPP said he thought agriculture land will be used to ease the energy problems by the end of the century. He also said he was pleased to hear Newman come out against being in favor of land freeze.

Phyllis Ferrier, R.R. 1, Milton, turned the meeting's attention from the green paper to the Agricultural Code of Practice. Newman denied her assertion that the booklet favors non-farmers in farming areas over farmers.

Now, new people must stay ture industry". I'm not sure x-number of feet away from farm operations, said the agriculture minister.

Concern over the largeness of government was voiced by Dr. Richard Kunica, R.R. 2, Georgetown. He said there are too many committees which are a waste of time and inefficient. Farmers and Land freezing is something planners he suggested are growing farther apart, because there are fewer planners who know the lands of farmers.

Dr. Kunica later proposed a motion, that was adopted by the meeting, calling for the return to local municipalities of planning functions carried on by the regional.

Agriculture minister Newman was also pressed unsuccessfully by Tom Jackson of Tullanore, north of Brampton, on the point of assessment. He asked why farm land is not assessed for taxation as farm land, instead of as something else. If agriculture land was assessed as such, farmers would not have 90 per cent of taxes paid by government, Jackson said.

Jackson also hit responsive note in the crowd when he said, though he voted for the government all his life, he wouldn't vote for it

The meeting also passed a motion calling for three members of the South Landowners Esquesing Association to negotiate with the town, region and province a reasonable land use policy.

CAMED YOUR FAMILY'S



FRAMED BY SHOP EQUIPMENT, Campbellville's Andrew King puts the finishing touches on part of his latest project, while Mr. and Mrs. Lehrer and son, of Moffat examine the room. Brookville School held its open house April 20.

# G. McLure heads calf club

By Heidi Stadler The first meeting of the Halton 4-H Dairy Calf Club was held at the Boyne Community Centre on Monday,

faces were among the 25 Wingrove secretary-treasmembers present. Members urer and Heidi Stadler press elected club officers for the reporter. The club leaders year. Glenn McClure was are Ken McNabb, Doug Winchosen as president, David grove and Jeff Nurse. Robinson vice president, Kim April 11. A number of new

Teachers say

### Install seat belts on school buses

School buses should have seat belts and other safety improvements, the Halton Teachers' . Elementary Association (HETA) says. A number of the recom-

mendations the HETA com-

mittee has come up with are the same as ideas proposed by the Pineview Concerned Parents' Committee which has also been examining school bus operations in Halton. The Pineview parents' report will be presented to Halton Board of Education this Thursday and the HETA report later this

Both groups looking at of all buses.

school bus safety suggest drivers be trained in first aid and two-way radios be installed in buses.

HETA urges seat belts and other passive restraints be installed in school buses. In addition, the committee would like to see bus floors improved structurally so seats and belts can be fastened to the floor and not rip out if the bus is in an accident.

A roof hatch should be mandatory equipment the teachers' report says and non-flamable materials should be used in the interior

#### HRCA to distribute birds

The Halton Region Conservation Authority is again looking for possible sites to distribute pheasants as part of an experimental breeding program according to Bob Edmundson, a biologist for the HRCA.

Edmundson said in past years they have released 300-400 ring-necked pheasants along the watershed but haven't had much success in recording the survival or breeding rate.

The problem he said revolved around finding a

suitable band and tag for the birds. The current band they use has a habit of falling off. Despite these problems the

HRCA has been encouraged by sightings' of hens with young chicks in the following springs and summers. The program is aimed more at increasing the phea-

sant population in Halton rather than providing game for hunters.

The birds are distributed in groups of 25 to farmers whose land has been found suitable for breeding pheasants.

## **Junior Farmers urge** non-farmers to join

"You don't have to be one, community the organization, Halton Junior Farmer president week "you don't have to be a farmer or live on a farm to belong."

currently running a membership campaign and Miss 5474 or 833-2464 or contact Halton's Assistant Agricultural Representative communications retreat

everyone is invited to a Junior Farmer Rally this Saturday, April 16 at St. Paul's United Church in Milton, starting at 8 p.m. Under the motto "Self Help

and Community Betterment' the Junior Farmer Program provides opportunities for young people to develop themselves personally and to help better their community, she said. "This is achieved through social and educational activities which satisfy the personal needs and interests of the individuals involved, and through service projects which meet the needs of their community,"

The 4-H signs for posting at

the end of each member's

lane and over the project

calf's pen were handed out,

along with record books. The

record books will be used to

record the calf's feed intake,

growth and costs for the

will count for 50 points.

Office by May 1.

project year.

At present there is only one club in Halton which meets once each month to plan activities such as sports events, social events and

to be one" is the new slogan projects, but it's not all adopted by Junior Farmers business. Social recreation across Ontario. Clearing up a plays a large part at some popular misconception about meetings, as do guest speakers and films.

"Jr. Farmers provides the Frances McLean said this opportunity for you to explore your individual talents and potential in almost every area you could mention; are whether it is sports, music, square dancing, photography or public speaking. The McLean invites prospective program helps guys and girls members to obtain more meet and get to know each information from her at 451- other while participating in some of the events or at Leadership Training Camp, Mark Leahy at 878-2314. Or Provincial Conference," she explained.

exchange; everyone has a chance to meet new friends, broaden their "horizons", and have a good time. Dances and booths at the Steam-Era and fall fairs raise funds to help finance activities and projects. It is also a tremendous opportunity to practice your organizational

Travel plays a large port in

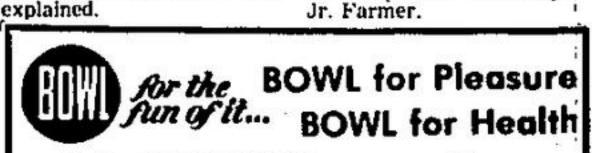
the Jr. Farmer program. Whether it's travel to Drumquin to play baseball; North

Simcoe County to curl; Nova Scotia on the Inter Provincial

Exchange or to the United

Kingdon for six weeks on an

and public relations skills, she added. A total of 7,388 young people from all across Ontario found out in 1976 that there is plenty to do and a lot to learn and experience in Junior Farmers. The easiest thing about Jr. Farmers is becoming a



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