

NEWS

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leukemia and was initially denied treatment for the same reasons.

"We alone have almost 70 animals, none of which will ever be food," he said.

Though Esther's oncology team has determined Esther will not require chemotherapy or radiation, Jenkins said this fight is not over and he and Walter will be pursuing changes to the regulations.

"We won't let up," he said. "The regulations are ridiculous. Ours are the worst among G8 countries, by the way. We should be ashamed."

On September 11, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) issued a public statement that indirectly refers to the concerns raised by Jenkins and Walter, whose chicken, Anne, was diagnosed with leukemia.

"The CFIA would not prevent chemotherapy to be administered to any farm animals, including pigs and chickens," the statement says. "A licensed veterinarian can use human and veterinary drugs on animals as they see fit."

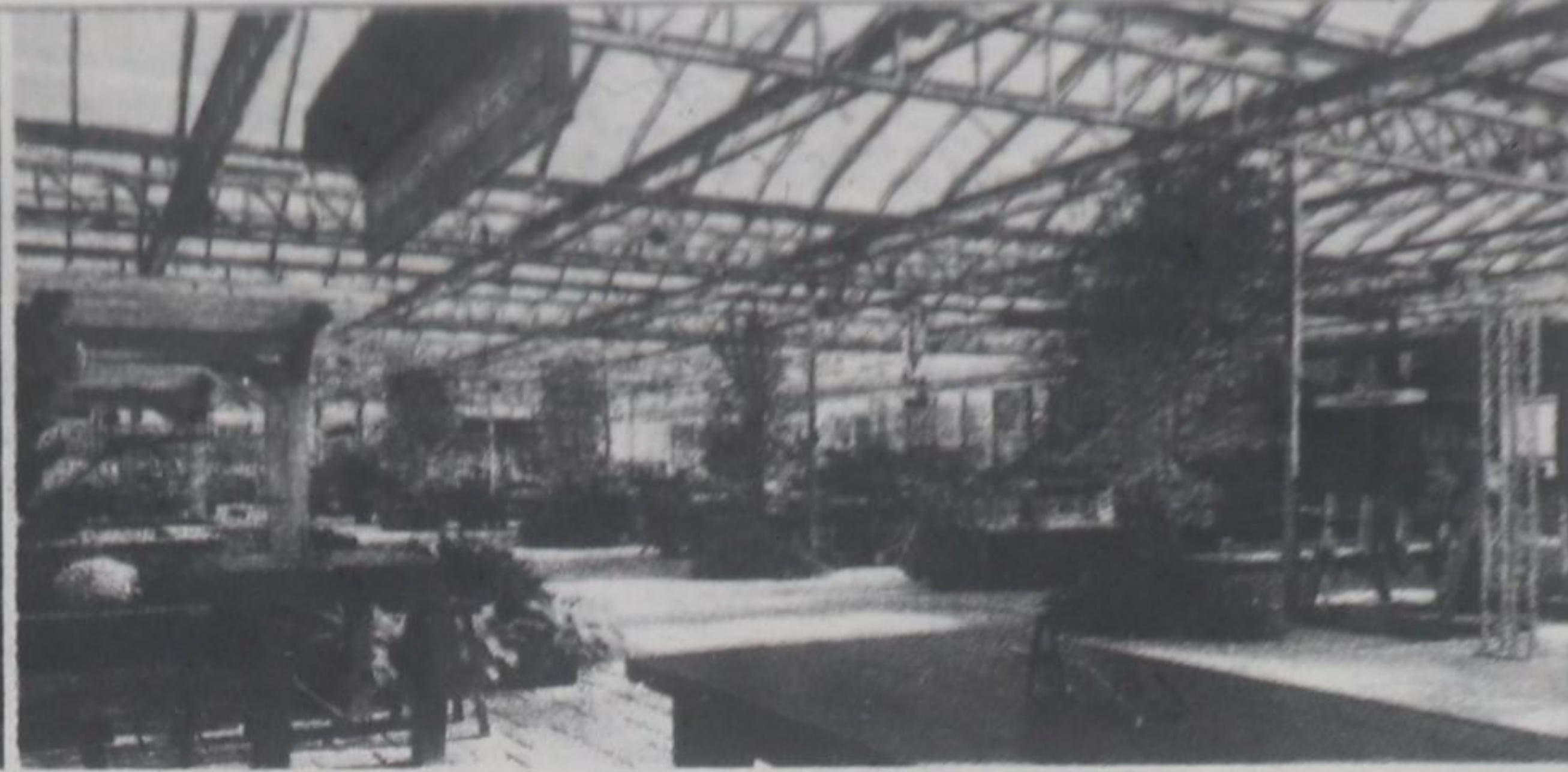
Jenkins has since been able to get Anne chemotherapy. He did so by attaining a legal waiver from Health Canada, but adds that her treatment process, combined with the statement released by the CFIA, sheds light on the inconsistencies when it comes to treating companion animals - an issue he hopes to be able to work with the CFIA to rectify.

Jenkins said once Anne received treatment, he was surprised to see that there was no tag or number issued to her for the purpose of tracking.

"It's just bringing flaw after flaw to the surface," he said. "It seems more like an oversight in regulations than anything else."

Jenkins said though he has reached out to the CFIA regarding this matter, he has not personally received a response.

"We want to keep the pressure on and keep lines of communication open," Jenkins said. "I would love to work with them on this. We know something is happening, but they are not communicating with us."



Milton Canadian Champion | Thursday, September 20, 2018



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