



MILTON PRIZE WINNERS Martino Scisizzi of Holy Rosary school, Jane McEachern of J. M. Denyes and Stuart Thomas are congratulated for their entries in the Halton County Weed Control Essay Contest by Reeve Mary Pettit, V. E. McArthur, weed inspector for Halton County, and H. Henry of the fields crops branch of the Ontario Agricultural Department, Guelph, at the banquet held for the winners on Monday at the Milton Inn.

We Wage War on Weeds Title of Winning Essay

Out of the several thousand essays on weed control submitted by the public school students of Halton county, Eugene Deszca of Central Public School in Burlington won the highest award in the county.

One of the judges, H. Henry, fields crops branch of the Ontario agriculture branch in Guelph, praised Eugene for the genuine feeling placed in his essay. He told the other winners that it was necessary in writing an essay to know their subject and to believe in what they were writing about. The following is the essay that won the highest award in the 1960 County of Halton weed essay competition.

WE WAGE WAR ON WEEDS

Weeds, which are described in our dictionary as troublesome, unprofitable growths, are of no use at all, and give us good reason for wanting to wage war on them. They spoil the appearance of lawns, fields and roadsides. They are injurious to health and they are destructive.

Are these the plants we want to beautify our surroundings? I think not! But I also think some people do not care how much grief they cause those who try to keep beautiful gardens and lawns! Such careless people

could almost be considered a menace to the public, because literally speaking, they breed these plants. Besides ruining the appearance of their own property, the seeds scattered from these weeds infest other peoples' lawns and gardens. If no one tries to fight them, the weeds would soon be in possession of our fields, lawns and gardens.

Some weeds are injurious to health. Between mid July and October is hay fever season. Do we realize how serious this allergy is? If you became a victim, your eyes would puff up and run water, your nose would run and you could even become nauseated. Do we fully realize that the hay fever count has gone up 25 per cent. just in Hamilton and vicinity? It will probably continue to rise if we do not do something to control ragweed. Anyone who has this allergy will agree with me that it would be an excellent place to start our war.

Anyone who has ever had poison ivy knows how much discomfort this weed can cause if your skin comes in contact with its leaves. Blisters will appear, causing your flesh to itch and swell. If not treated, it may spread over the body. These are just two examples of health problems caused by weeds.

Perhaps farmers really work the hardest in our war on weeds. They know that weeds in their fields steal food and space from their crops, so they are always at work in an effort to destroy them by cultivating, using new chemical weed killers, or by cutting, digging them out, and burning them.

You may think, because we live in a town, that our part in weed control is not important, but I disagree. I think we should all enlist in the fight. I am sure

Wrong Title

Incorrectly designated as Milton District Hospital W.A. secretary in a cutline appearing in last week's issue was Mrs. Charles Anderson. Mrs. Anderson is the treasurer of the organization and Mrs. G. G. Hamilton is secretary.

—A "Sandy" Heppburn of Campbellville was the winner of a Robert A. Stewart bursary at the O.A.C., Guelph last week.

Wild Carrot "Halton's Weed"

Fete 28 Winners of Weed Essay Contest

A. Martin, director of the field crops branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, spoke to the prize winners of the 1960 Halton weed control essay contest at the Milton Inn at a luncheon held for them on Monday. He noted that several of the prize winners present were born in countries other than Canada and wryly commented that other countries at the moment have better weed control systems than Canada.

Speaking to the students rather than the officials present, he asked for a definition of a weed and received the answer, "A weed is a plant growing out of place." He then referred to the common weed Queen Ann's Lace, more commonly known as wild carrot, calling it Halton County's national weed.

Hosts for Diseases
In a more serious vein, he said that weeds in Canada cause some \$40 million damage and crop loss each year. "Many weeds," he said, "are hosts for diseases such as rust." He pointed out that a few weeds are directly dangerous to human beings such as the Water Hemlock.

He described the water hemlock as looking like an oversized wild carrot with a deadly poisonous root. "When working on one of the artificial lakes around Guelph, one of the inmates of the Guelph reformatory mistook the hemlock for a wild carrot. Within 15 minutes he was dead."

Mr. Martin pointed out, however, that most weeds are not poisonous but a large number cause irritation and discomfort to human beings. He revealed that some 600,000 people in Ontario alone suffer as a result of weed irritation. Out of this number, 90 to 95 per cent. are affected by ragweed. In the middle states just south of Ontario, millions of people suffer as a result of the weed.

Worst in Dominion
"We are not boasting," he said, "but this section of Ontario is the worst ragweed pollen area in the Dominion of Canada. Hamilton and Toronto record the greatest concentration of pollen, according to tests, of any place in Ontario."

The branch director of the Ontario Department of Agriculture said that they now are able to control almost all the weeds in Canada but the cost to the department for their control of ragweed to ease the effects of the plant on everybody would be almost prohibitive.

The best relief from the plant now, he pointed out, was a two hour drive to the Muskoka district. In this area it is possible to gain complete relief. "It is cheaper to do this than use all the medicines that they sell at the stores," he said.

War Progresses
In the chemical war against weeds, he said that they have progressed rapidly from the use of salt and crude oil and the destructive sodium chlorate which followed shortly afterward, to the use of selective weed control chemicals such as 2, 4-D widely used today. He said they expected to have a chemical shortly that would be selective enough to leave unharmed the most susceptible of plants, the potatoes and tomatoes.

Member of the field crops

branch of the Ontario agriculture branch in Guelph, H. Henry, in closing remarks congratulated the students on their essays and suggested that a number of them may be used in the newspapers during the summer to keep fresh in people's minds the necessity of weed control. The purpose of the essays, he pointed out, was to cause the children to do research and learn more about weed control.

Warden W. D. Sargent chaired the program for the prize winners, which was arranged by V. E. McArthur, weed inspector for the county of Halton. Entertainment was provided by Jack Bennett and introductions were performed by G. D. Brown, clerk of Halton county and A. Francis, agricultural representative.

Presents Award
James Neil of the Niagara Brand Chemicals presented the winner of the essay contest, Eugene Deszca of Central Public School in Burlington with his award. Mr. Sargent presented Mrs. Y. Shepperd, Eugene's composition teacher, with an award.

Other presentations were made by Reeve J. Greer of Acton, Reeve F. I. Ryckman of Burlington, Reeve C. Sinclair of Esquesing, Reeve Mrs. Mary Pettit of Milton, Deputy Reeve A. R. Service of Nassagaweya, Deputy Reeve H. C. Merry of Oakville and Deputy Reeve F. J. Near of Trafalgar.

List Winners
Award winners were: Acton, Mary Grischow and Margaret

Lindsay of Robert Little; Burlington E. John Cockburn of Lawrie Smith, Valerie Eggertson of Fairview, Heidi Gonsen of Clarksdale; Burlington W. Eugene Deszca and Donald MacDougall of Central, Guy Giannini of Glen view; Esquesing, Paul Fisher of Speyside, Martin Wheeler of Glen Williams, Roy Foster of Stewarttown; Georgetown, Joan Harris of H. Wigglesworth, Larry Stref of H. Wigglesworth, Pauline Armitage of Chapel; Milton, Martino Scisizzi of Holy Rosary, Jane McEachern of J. M. Denyes, Stuart Thomas of Bruce St.; Nassagaweya, Gail Smith and Elizabeth Robinson of Brookville; Oakville, Robert McConachie and Donald Hayman of Oakwood, Sandy Stock of Westwood; Trafalgar, Lynda Lynch of St. Vincent's, Larry Ross of Maple Grove, Paula Young of E. J. James; Trafalgar W. Stephen Clarkson of Westbrooke, Annette Tuddenham of Pinegrove, Don Kilgor of Woodside.

Burlington Man In Hall of Fame

A well-known Halton resident was named recently to the Canadian Hall of Fame by the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada.

M. M. Robinson, Burlington, originator of the British Empire Games in 1930, was one of three executives across Canada chosen for the honor at the annual AAU meeting in Halifax.

Mr. Robinson received the award for his "long-standing contribution to amateur sports and outstanding leadership in connection with the British Empire Games," said Miss Margaret Lord, of Burlington, secretary of the AAU and delegate from the southwestern Ontario branch at the meeting.

Hangs in Hall

She said Mr. Robinson would receive the scroll officially in the near future and his picture would be hung with others in the special amateur athletic section of the hockey Hall of Fame at the CNE.

Mr. Robinson, who works in Toronto with the Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association, organized and managed the first British Empire Games in Hamilton. He was manager of the Canadian British Empire Games team in London in 1934 and of the British Empire teams in Australia in 1938.

In addition he was manager of the Canadian track team to the Olympic games held in Amsterdam in 1928, of the Canadian Olympic team in 1932 in Los Angeles and he was founder of the Hamilton Olympic Club.

Secretary Too
Mr. Robinson was also secretary of both the British Empire Games committee and the Canadian Olympic committee for about 10 years.

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VOTE

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ON

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POLLS OPEN 9 A.M. TO 7 P.M.

Voting this year will be to choose Six Members for the 1961 Council

VOTING WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE FOLLOWING PLACES:

NORTH WARD—At the town hall, Wilfred Crozier and Mrs. M. Cullion, Deputy Returning Officers.

EAST WARD—At the Union Hall, Pine St., Frank Crawford, Deputy Returning Officer.

SOUTH WARD—At the Agricultural Hall, Fair Grounds, Charles Laundon and R. M. Clements, Deputy Returning Officers.

--E. J. Costigan, Returning Officer