

Urges farmers tell government how they want land use planned

If farming is going to continue in the Central Ontario area, farmers are going to have to band together and tell the provincial government how they feel about land use planning.

That warning was sounded Wednesday by Peter Branch, co-ordinator of the regional development branch of the Ministry of Treasury, Economic and Inter-Governmental Affairs when he spoke to about 75 Halton farmers at the annual meeting of Halton Soil and Crop Improvement Association.

Branch owns and operates a farm in Esqueving Township east of Hornby and is familiar with the problems facing Halton farmers

in the field of land use planning. He said that where agriculture exists in Halton, it is "reasonably prosperous" but the farm organizations have to let Queen's Park know what they want for the future, before it is too late.

Anxious to listen
The speaker said there has been a fair amount of input or feedback from Halton on the concepts expressed in the Toronto-Centred Region Design for Development, but farmers will have to make frequent representations to the government if they want farming preserved. The government is anxious and willing to listen to them, he stressed.

"We are living with trends which are blamed on the government, but they are often of our own design" because the government fails to legislate what the people want, he said. Often the reason is that the people did not tell the government their wishes.

Branch reviewed a recent land use planning conference held in Toronto, and highlights of what his ministry reported to delegates. There are presently 10 economic regions in the province and these are being re-arranged into five areas, he said. Halton is right in the centre of the Central Ontario Region. Design for Development was part of the ministry's proposal for the region (not to be confused with regional government) and this report divided the Toronto area into distinct zones, some where development will be allowed, and some where it will be forbidden.

A large portion of Halton is the Zone One area where development is encouraged, while part is Zone Two where no development will be condoned. A parkway corridor through south Halton and a hydro transmission line through North Halton will also affect the future of farming in the county, he predicted.

As questions
Should development be limited, and if so, does this affect the retail value of the land or the financial base of the municipalities, he asked. Should there be compensation for the loss of taxes? Are we, in fact, prepared to pay the costs of economic efficiency? What should be the role of agriculture in developing regional planning objectives?

These are some of the questions the planners at Queen's Park would like to have answered by local input, Branch said.

He noted the Ministry of Agriculture has said there is not enough money in the public treasury to purchase lands which are zoned or restricted out of

private use.

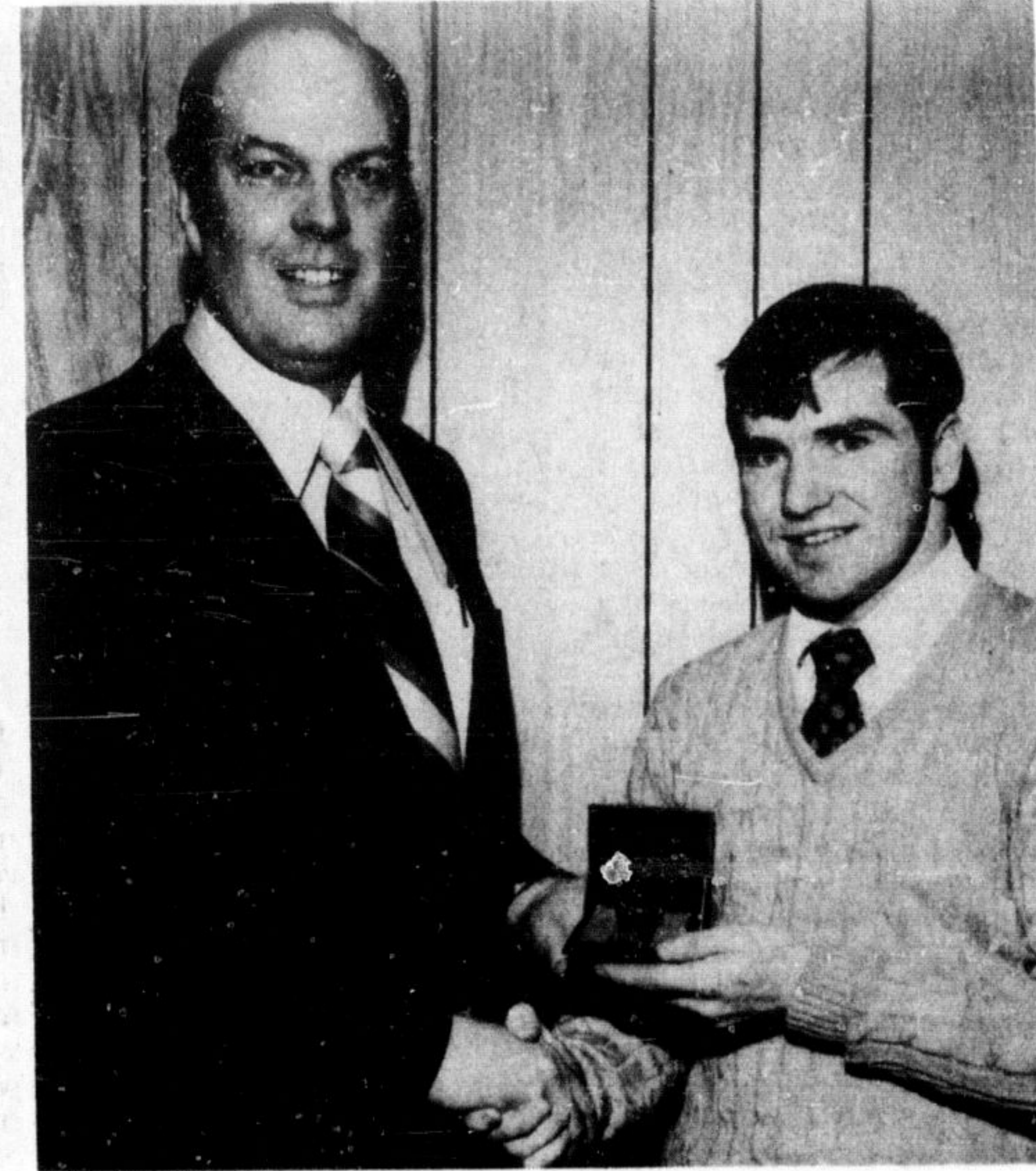
This statement was challenged by the second speaker of the day, Guelph area cash crop farmer Peter Hannan. "I don't think the government can bring in that kind of legislation and not consider adequate compensation too," he told the audience.

Zoning farm lands for development is "irreversible," he noted. "Once you cover that land with concrete, you can't turn it back into agriculture. We have to take a serious look at preserving this land."

Out of "corridor"?
Hannan warned that this area of Ontario is part of the "Grand Trunk Corridor," an east-west corridor across central and eastern Canada which contains 60 per cent of the country's population, 80 per cent of its industry, and supplies 40 per cent of Canada's agricultural production too. Yet the land is only one per cent of Canada's land mass.

"All farming could be pushed out of that corridor," he warned. Hannan agreed local input to government planning is necessary. "We have to organize ourselves, find out what kind of policies we want and tell Queen's Park," he said. "The key thing is farmers getting involved."

Craig Reid of Milton told the meeting there is plenty of money in the provincial coffers to compensate farmers for land zoned into development areas. He cited a conservation authority recently paying \$2,100 an acre for a 100-acre parcel that is mainly swamp and stone, as an example. "Food is our main concern in the next 20 years," he claimed, "where is the food going to come from?" He added food cannot be imported as cheaply as it can be produced locally.



TOM FOSTER OF BURLINGTON won the gold watch donated by UCO in the Halton Soil and Crop Association's 1972 high yield corn competition. Harvey Nurse had the top yield at 124 bushels per acre, followed by Fred Nurse at 123, but both are previous winners. Foster's corn yield, third at 114 bushels, earned him the watch. UCO fieldman Graham McGuire, right, presents the watch.

(Photo by R. Downs)

Soil and crop

Tom Foster wins gold watch award

Some 85 members of the Halton Soil and Crop Improvement Association met on Wednesday, Jan. 17 at the Master Feeds Research Farm, R.R. 2, Georgetown.

Their morning program featured a discussion of the several projects undertaken in 1972.

Winners in the high yield corn competition were as follows: First Harvey Nurse, 124 bushels; Second Fred Nurse, 123 bushels; Third Tom Foster, 114 bushels; Fourth tie Bob Merry and Limestone Hall Farms, 104 bushels; Sixth tie Claude Inglis and Gordon Hurren, 103 bushels; Eighth, Dave Lawson, 102 bushels; Ninth Jim Reid, 95 bushels; Tenth Locust Lane, 92 bushels; and Eleventh was Colin Marshall with 86 bushels.

Gold watch
The gold watch, presented by the U.C.O., Halton Branch, was won by Tom Foster as the top two members had previously won this award.

In the high yield soybean competition the winner was Bill Speck with a yield of 27 bushels per acre with the runner-up Bob Merry.

Officers and Directors chosen for 1973 are past president, Colin Marshall, Milton 4, President, Earl Wilson, Norval 1, vice-president, Harold Biggar, Oakville 1, and secretary treasurer, Henry Stanley, O.M.A.F.

Directors from Oakville include Arnold Fish, 1053 Burnhamthorpe Rd., Oakville 1, Lloyd Pickering, 273 Burnhamthorpe Rd., Oakville 1 and Lee Wilkinson, Milton 1.

Esqueving directors are Bob Merry, Milton 5, Harvey Nurse, Georgetown 2 and Jeff Nurse, Georgetown 2.

Burlington directors are Fred

Bell, Burlington 1, Tom Foster, Campbellville 3 and Richard Sovereign, Milton 2.

Nassagaweya directors are Russell Hurren, Campbellville 2, Claude Inglis, Campbellville 2 and John Kitching, Moffat 1.

Acton director is Bob Kerr. Safety Council representative is Claude Inglis of Campbellville. Federation of Agriculture representative is Bob Merry of Milton.

Provincial Delegate is George Gardhouse of Mono Road. Soil and Crops Specialist representative is Paul Fish, O.M.A.F., Newmarket.

Land use planning
Following lunch, served by the Hillcrest U.C.W., a discussion was held on land use planning, under the chairmanship of Tom Foster. Speakers were Peter Branch, Co-ordinator, Regional Development, Department of Treasury and Economics discussing land use planning at the provincial level and Peter Hannan, R.R. 2 Guelph discussing land use planning at the local level. It was agreed that farm people must become more involved in land use planning if agriculture is to receive much attention in the land use planning process.

The Halton Soil and Crop Improvement Association is to work with the Halton Federation of Agriculture in organizing another meeting for farm people on Land use planning in late February.

—Accident Prevention Officer Const. Jim Redpath of Milton OPP spoke on hydro safety at two schools in Waterdown last week.

Elect Stanley brothers to head up sheep club

By Alice Summerfield

On Jan. 17, the Halton 4-H Sheep Club held their first meeting in the Agricultural office in Milton. Three first year members were present among the very good turnout, and one of the leaders, Mr. Hunter.

M. Armstrong introduced "4-H" to the members and then asked for topics that members wished to see incorporated into the monthly meetings. Popular topics were diseases (worms, vitamin deficiencies), history of sheep breeds, and feeding show and market lambs and the breeding flock. The project will be wrapped up in September with quiz night and achievement day and finally awards night in October.

Following enrolment, election of officers was held. The results were: president Stephen Stanley, vice-president David Stanley,

secretary Valerie Knight, and news reporter Alice Summerfield.

A feed
Mr. Armstrong took up the topic of "What is a Feed", explaining first that a feed ration is defined as, what is fed in a 24-hour period to an animal. In an easily understood manner, he discussed the elements of feed, namely protein, fibre, fat, carbohydrates, ash and water. The talk was worthwhile and informative.

President Stephen Stanley adjourned the meeting. The next meeting will likely be Feb. 14. There is still room in the club for approximately five more members. If you would like to join this club, are between the ages of 10-21, please do so before Feb. 1. For further information, contact the agricultural office in Milton.

Obituary

George H. Michie

George Harold Michie, husband of Margaret McMillan of R.R. 1, Schomberg, Tecumseh Township, died on Jan. 1, 1973 at York County Memorial Hospital at Newmarket.

Son of the late Harold Cation Michie and Margaret Anne Michie (nee Bailey) and born in the Scotch Block (R.R. 5, Milton) March 20, 1925, he began his education at S.S. No. 5 Waterloo Public School and attended Boston Presbyterian Church.

In his early years he was active in the projects of Waterloo School, Church Sunday School, Young People's club, and became extremely appreciative of the close-knit fellowship of the Scotch Block, a blessing he was to enjoy throughout his life.

He continued his studies at Milton High School where he began to develop a keen appreciation of world geography, and the part man should be playing in his communion with his natural environment.

During the war years he managed the family farm and took correspondence courses in radio and electronics. He was an enthusiastic member of the Halton Male Choir and enjoyed singing in many of the surrounding churches.

He accepted positions from 1946 through 1950 as a public school teacher at Mississauga, White River and Campbellville, during which time he completed high school by correspondence.

He entered University of Toronto in 1950 to begin his career as a geographer, and in 1954 received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Geography. During this period he completed five four-month periods with Fenmore Iron Mines Ltd. and the Ungava Corporation as field geologist and later in 1955 through 58 as graduate assistant and weather observer with the McGill Sub Arctic Research Laboratory at Knob Lake (Schefferville), Quebec.

He received his Master of Arts degree in Geography at McGill University where he continued as assistant professor in the Department of Geography, (where he was a member of the Committee of Higher Learning), and with additional lecturing schedules in the Institute of Education, MacDonald College until 1964.

He received an appointment as research director and secretary to the Spinks Commission in the Ontario Department of University Affairs, to study the development of graduate programs in Ontario Universities. On completion of his commission two years later he travelled to Edinburgh University for doctoral studies in the field of geography and completed these within the following two years.

In 1968 he accepted a position

with York University as Associate Professor, lecturing at Atkinson College.

He supported his studies with extensive field trips - in 1959 he travelled to Finland and Lapland for comparison studies with settlement practice in the Ontario-Quebec clay belt, and south to Denmark and Sweden for land use studies. From 1957 through 1966 he travelled through Western Europe on land use studies, collecting first hand teaching material. In the early 1960's he was engaged in land use studies in South Central Ontario and later in the Sudbury-Sault Ste. Marie areas.

His nine more notable publications beginning in 1955 have appeared in reports from the McGill Sub Arctic Laboratories and the Quebec Department of Mines, The Canadian Geographer, the proceedings of the Canadian Association of Geographers, and two encyclopedias.

In his personal life he was a staunch supporter of the Presbyterian church and frequently acted as lay minister in the different communities he found himself in where a regular ministry was not available, (drawing upon a background of courses taken at Knox College and the Presbyterian College during 1956-57-58.) He was an elder in the Fraser Presbyterian Church at Tottenham.

He energetically pursued the family genealogy of the Michie and Bailey families and produced several sets of books containing the family tree and pertinent history gleaned from the archives of Scotland and Ireland and interviews with the surviving generation. He was beginning to collect data on the Cation connection in the family.

He fulfilled his love of the land by buying Dixon Place (a farm at R.R. 1 Schomberg) where he devoted many hours restoring and remodelling the house, and producing many oil paintings depicting scenes of his trips and impressions.

He is survived by his wife Margaret, his daughters Ann and Alison, his brothers Kenneth and John and step-sister Dianne, also nine nieces and nephews.

Plowmen prep for 1974 match

by George Swan

The Halton Plowmen's Association held their annual meeting and election of officers for 1973 on Saturday, Jan. 20, at St. Stephen's Anglican Church following a dinner catered by the women of the church.

The results were as follows: past president Frank Peacock, president William Raynor, first vice-president Spencer Wilson, second vice president Lloyd Stokes, and secretary-treasurer Jack Taylor.

Honorary directors are Stan May, C.F. Pickett, Ross Segsworth, Lloyd May, George Readhead, J.C. Cunningham, Roy Currie, J.C. Marshall, Henry Stanley, and Mrs. Anne MacArthur, Warden of Halton County.

Directors from Esqueving are Fred Nurse, Bert Robertson, W.E. Wilkinson, and C. Wigglesworth, from Oakville, H. Biggar, J. Marchmont, L. Pickering, K. Merry, from Burlington, J. Breckon, S. Hume, D. Sherwood, H. Warrington, and from Nassagaweya H. Blyth, Claude Inglis, Wilson Snyder and G. Swan.

Associate Directors are John Kitching, Rick Rittin, Larry Pickett, Bryan Marshall, Robert Rutledge, Lee Wilkinson, Alan Parsons, Andy Shea, Lyle Stokes, Barry Mahon, Murray Breckon, and Lloyd Chisholm.

The director to the Ontario Plowmen's Association is Jack Taylor.

Plowmen's Convention
The annual convention of the Ontario Plowmen's Association will be held at the King Edward Hotel on Tuesday, Feb. 20. A bus will be leaving Milton Fair Grounds at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 20, to take a delegation from Halton to this convention. Contact Henry Stanley at the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, 181 Main St., Milton before or on Friday, Feb. 16 if you want to use this mode of transportation.

Andy Frank, Bands Chairman of the Local Committee, will be in

Expect about 225 4-H members

charge of Milton Senior Citizens' Band "The Halton Sobusters" who will be helping present the delegation of Halton '74 Match to the convention along with County Warden Mrs. MacArthur, G. Kerr MPP, Jim Snow MPP, host farmer Mr. and Mrs. Craig Reid, Halton Furrow Queen Miss Heather Hyatt, and other guests.

The publicity committee, G. Swan and R. Downs will be in charge of arrangements. They will provide a courtesy room at the King Edward Hotel for the convenience of all Halton supporters.

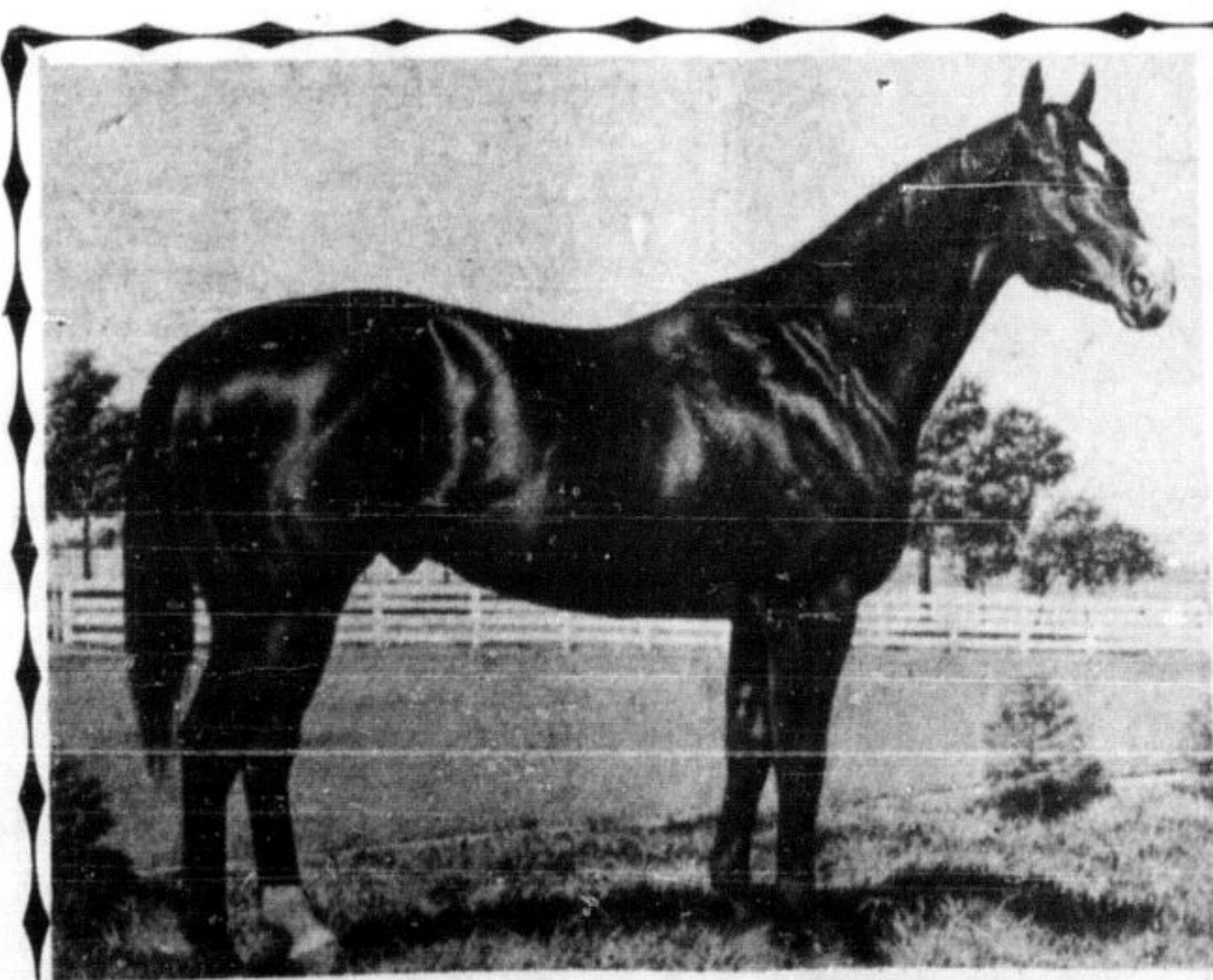
Expect about 225 4-H members

By Mrs Doreen Bannister

4-H Homemaking Club Leaders in Halton County met for two days last week to prepare for the next club unit, "Sportswear from Knits". Thirty-two leaders attended the sessions at Ligny Hall, which were conducted by Home Economists, Mrs. Doreen Bannister of Halton and Mrs. Patricia Reid of Dufferin.

Mrs. Bannister welcomed one new club to the group. The leaders anticipate a total enrolment of 225 in the 17 clubs. Members are required to make one or more pieces of coordinating sportswear from a knitted fabric.

Any girl of club age (12-26) years who wishes to join should contact her local club leaders now. Further information may be obtained by calling the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food in Milton.



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Obituary

Prof. M.W. Staples

Professor M. W. Staples, internationally known as a livestock judge, died recently. He retired in 1965 to his farm outside Guelph after 37 years on the faculty of Ontario Agricultural College, where he was known to two generations of students as a coach and instructor in judging and for his keen knowledge of breed history.

Born at Orno, in Durham County, he graduated from OAC in 1924, and joined the extension staff of the Ontario Department of Agriculture. In 1928 he joined the faculty of the Animal Husbandry Department of OAC, following his graduation with an MSA from Iowa State College.

He was farm superintendent for the College for about 15 years, as well as having charge of the horse production program. Professor Staples was active in many extension activities with breed associations and 4-H groups. He was the author of many pamphlets and bulletins on livestock associations.

—Milton OPP investigated nine collisions in the North Halton area last week. Ten people were injured and property damage to 15 vehicles totalled \$6,705. Nine charges were laid.



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