



THE NEW hay barn at Valentina Farm, 15 Sideroad. Another barn similar to this one will be built later this year for housing cattle. New construction at the cattle exporting farm became necessary after a \$150,000 fire razed the barn last May.

Livestock boarded out after spectacular fire

Bruno Rossetti, owner of Valentina Farm, 15 Sideroad wants to get a new home built for his cattle so they can come home.

The barn at Valentina Farm, near Stewarttown, was completely destroyed in a spectacular fire on May 1 forcing Mr. Rossetti to board his cattle out at Rockwood International, Seventh Line.

Champion Farm Page

In addition to razing the barn the early morning fire also destroyed 5,000 bales of hay, 1,200 bushels of grain, 200 bales of straw, farm machinery and milking equipment.

Mr. Rossetti said fire damage amounted to \$150,000 and the rebuilding job will cost \$235,000.

He described the new barns as being more modern in design and stated they are splitting operations up by having a barn just for hay and a loading barn for the cattle. In addition a new silo was also built.

Some of the work, which was started on June 1, has been completed and the owner of the farm hopes everything will be finished by September so he can bring his cattle home. Delays in getting the work done might push the completion day back Mr. Rossetti said forcing him to continue to board his livestock out longer than expected.

The new farm buildings are designed with fire safety in mind. All the floors are concrete and steel siding is being used.

The barns and silo are all being painted red, white and green, the colors of the Italian flag.

Mr. Rossetti bought the farm in 1972 from Vern Pickett and divides his time between Canada and Italy, where he owns three farms.

The farm specializes in exporting prize cattle and at the time of the fire about 30 head of pure-bred Holstein heifers were in the barn. None of the cattle were lost in the blaze since Mr. Rossetti and Mr. Pickett chased them out of the barn when they first spotted the flames.

Soil, Crops Assoc. has sunrise tour

By Henry Stanley
Some 40 members of the Halton Soil and Crop Improvement Association went on their annual Sunrise Tour on Wednesday, August 6. The first stop was at the farm of Lloyd Pickering, 273 Burnhamthorpe Rd., Oakville to see the new steel grain stor-

age building which can hold up to 40,000 bushels of grain. Lloyd and his son Harley also discussed their experiments with broadcast seeding of winter wheat and spring grain. The use of a broadcaster rather than a seed drill to apply the fertilizer and seed can greatly speed up the

seeding operation. The results with winter wheat were somewhat disappointing with a yield of about 40 bushels per acre from the broadcasting method compared to the 60 bushels per acre for the normal seed drill. The Pickering's attribute this to lack of compaction at time of seeding and slow germination of the wheat that was broadcasted. Results with spring grain looked much more encouraging for the broadcast method. The cyclone seeder for the grain is mounted on the front of the tractor and the spreader for the fertilizer on the rear of the tractor just over the 35 foot harrows. One farmer in the Peel area harvested over 80 bushels of barley per acre in 1973 and 1974 using this broadcast seeding method.

The Pickering's have planted five acres of flax to try this crop out as a cash crop in Halton. It appears to be developing very well.

View corn
The next stop was to look at corn experiments carried out by Ed Segsworth and Richard Sovereign. A new form of Su-

tan herbicide which does not have to be incorporated into the soil until up to 24 hours after application appears to be giving just as good results as the normal Sutan which has to be worked in as soon as it has been applied to the soil. Root worms in corn were discussed by Paul Fish, Soil and Crop Specialist for Halton, and all farmers were told to keep checking their fields each year for this pest. If it becomes a real problem in fields of continuous corn, an insecticide should be applied at planting time or the field taken out of corn for a year or two. Henry Stanley showed everyone a stalk of Sweet corn which was badly eaten by armyworms. This insect has appeared throughout Ontario this year but has not caused much damage in Halton.

The final stop was at Maple Leaf Mills Research Centre, R.R. 2, Georgetown. Of special interest there was the plots of alfalfa and grain corn and a discussion of the research work conducted at the farm on laying hens, broilers and turkeys.

Halton 4-H News

DEMONSTRATIONS
For the first time, the Halton 4-H Demonstration Night was held on a separate evening on Tuesday, August 5 at the Maple Leaf Mills Research Centre. Many 4-H'ers and parents were present.

Each 4-H club was allowed 5-10 minutes to set up and put on a demonstration. The demonstration was to have a particular point emphasized, related to the work of the particular club.

Cathy Lasby and Bob Merry, acting as official judges, reached a decision after deliberation. The Halton 4-H Livestock Judging Club was announced the winners with the Acton 4-H Calf Club coming second. All clubs were commended for their efforts. The winners will go on to the C.N.E.

Demonstrations were followed by a social period consisting of a number of games under the guidance of Cecil Patterson and Jane Nixon. Doughnuts and chocolate milk were served.

CONSERVATION CLUB
By David Stanley
Another interesting meeting of the Halton 4-H Conservation Club was held on Monday, July 21 at the Kelso and Mountsberg Conservation Areas. At Kelso, Craig Switzer told of the importance of Kelso's dam. We were then taken across the road to a newer dam at Hilton Falls and shown the new instruments and their use.

After that interesting talk we were taken to the Mountsberg Conservation Area where we saw a film entitled "One Day in May". This film was on the flooding along the Grand River and the destruction which occurred because of it. The meeting was then dismissed and we all left knowing a little more than we did before we came.

HORSE CLUB
By Martha Corker
The fifth meeting of the Halton 4-H Horse Club was held on Thursday, July 31st at the agricultural office. There were 25 members present. Diana Royce opened the

meeting with the 4-H pledge. The annual trail ride will start at Cathy McDougall's farm. Members are to arrive there between 10 and 10.30 a.m.

Dr. Luellan, a visitor from the University of Guelph, brought slides of hoof problems.

After the interesting slides were over, there was a question and answer period on general horse health.

Dr. Luellan was thanked for his informative talk in the usual manner. The next meeting will be held at the University of Guelph.

GARDEN CLUB
By Lorraine Holding
Preservation of Fruits and Vegetables—Thursday, August 14 at Maple Leaf Mills Research Centre, Trafalgar Road, 2 1/2 miles north of Hornby. Visitors are welcome at 2.15 p.m.

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Leadership camp for Ken McNabb

By Mark Lindy
From Monday, August 4 to Saturday, August 16, Ken McNabb of R.R. 2, Georgetown is attending the American Youth Foundation Leadership Training Camp in Muskegan. One of six Canadians attending, Ken was selected from over 100 delegates at the Provincial 4-H Leadership Conference at Guelph in 1974 as the participant from Ontario.

This year Ken has been active as a club leader for the Halton 4-H Dairy Calf Club. We wish Ken all the best at the camp, meeting new friends and learning new skills.

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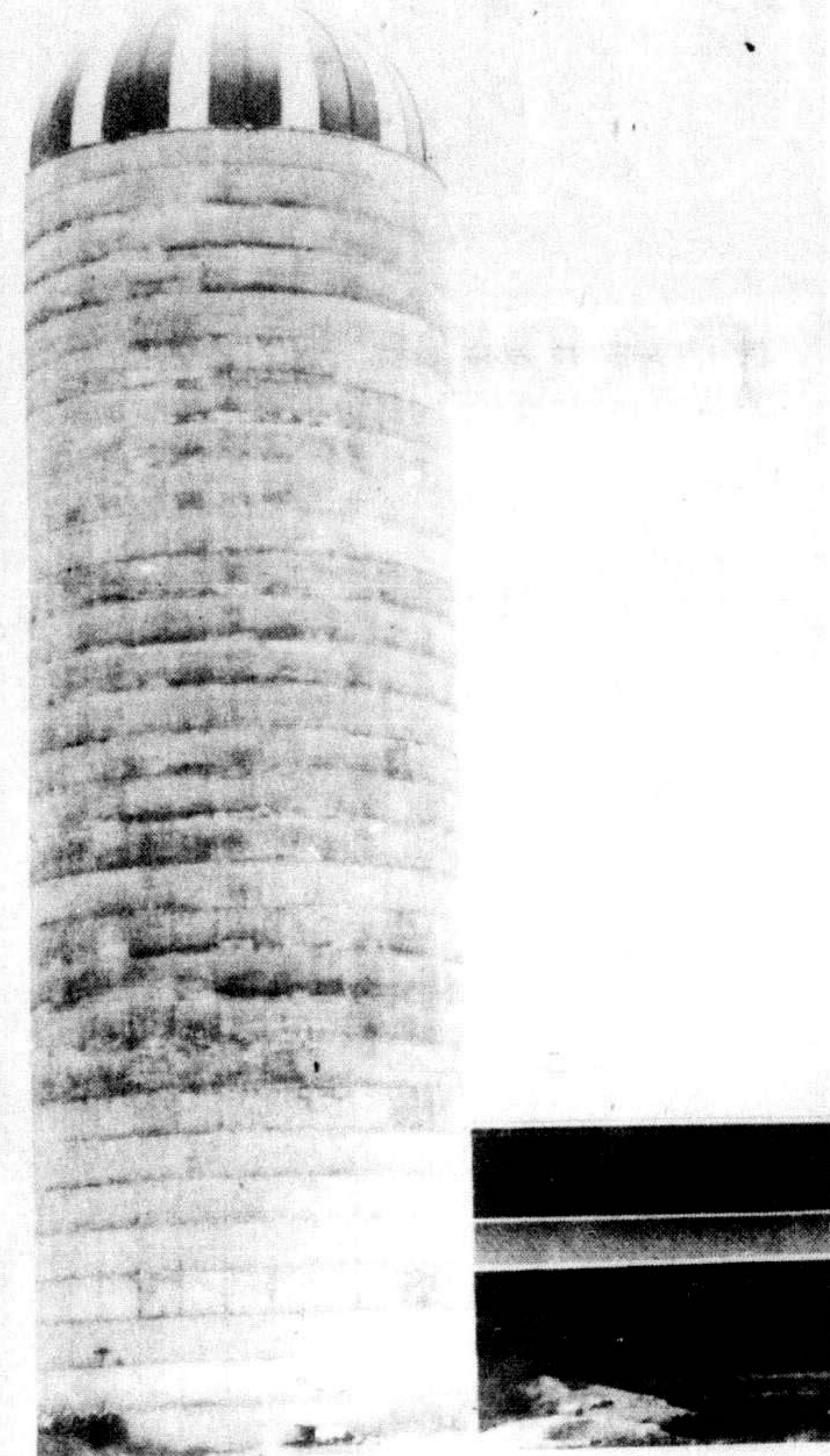
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THIS NEW silo at Valentina Farm, near Stewarttown, is painted red, white and green, the colors of Italy. The new silo and new barns have been built to replace the barn which was destroyed in May in a spectacular fire.

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