# Farm Tribune

**Receives provincial honors award**

Mrs. Joan Wilson, of Claremont, was the recipient of a Provincial Honors Certificate at the Ontario South 4-H Homemaking Clubs Achievement Day, held May 9, in Brooklyn. Joan, a member of the Mount Zion Club, is the wife of Mr. John Wilson, Brock Street. —Peter Harris.

## Wet fields are delaying growth

By A.A. Wall
Agricultural Representative for York County.

The weather has been catchy and a little too slow, but seeding has gone fairly well this spring. The wet fields are the only real problems, with rain coming just often enough to prevent them being worked.

Early growth of oats, barley, and hay is remarkably good. The warm spell two weeks ago got things started, and growth continues even through more backward weather of last week.

Many corn growers deliberately delayed planting, to get the best soil and early growing conditions. The risk of planting too early is overdone I think. It's true that there have been a few April failures, but just a few, and often the problem has been planting too deep, rather than too early. Still, from our research, May 10th to 20th is ideal for planting with our climate here in York.

It's worth noting that our corn growers here have pretty well given up on narrow row widths of around 18 inches. Experience has been that almost equal yields can be obtained by increasing the number of plants up to 23 or 25 thousand per acre, with a big advantage that harvesting equipment works better in rows of 30 inches or more.

Atrazine is still the basic weapon for weeds in corn, but a lot of Sutan is going on this year with it, on fields with serious annual grass problems. Lasso is a newer product, for annual grasses and we are putting it in field trials this year, at Grant Burroughes at Nobleton and at John Nicoll's in King.

Hay fields have wintered well, and alfalfa is off to a good start. It looks like hay very early in June for farms geared up to chopping the crop and using silo storage.

A final point on growing crops is that we have a new weather reporting service for farmers. It's by telephone and any farmer can get an up-to-date forecast by dialing 895-6117. It's set up mainly for vegetable growers but will be useful for any farmer.

## Farmers asked to withhold school tax

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture is asking farmers in the province to withhold education taxes in the coming year as a protest against inequitable tax rates.

The OFA sent a telegram to Roy Atkinson, president of the rival National Farmers' Union, asking for support in the campaign.

"Farmers pay almost four times in education tax what some people in higher income brackets are required to pay," OFA president Gordon Hill states. He said that the incomes of farmers would be less than a quarter of those in some professional groups.

"Education is not a service to land," Mr. Hill said. "The land doesn't produce children and it doesn't matter to the land if people are educated.

"Education is a service to people and people should pay for it. The money should come out of income and corporation taxes."

Mr. Hill said the farmers have been seeking redress from the Ontario Government since 1950. "We've tried quiet, reasonable negotiating and it just doesn't work."

He said that farm representatives from across the province who will be meeting in Toronto on Thursday "seem pretty determined and I think they will withhold taxes this year."

The OFA emphasized that farmers must pay the portion of their taxes used for the support of township and county services. It claimed that the responsibility for the unfair taxation lay with the province and that local municipalities shouldn't be made to suffer.

### Former minister Claremont speaker

CLAREMONT — A distinguished visitor to Ontario County next week will be the Honorable Alvin Hamilton, former Federal Minister of Agriculture. He will be guest speaker at the Ontario Riding Federal Conservative Association's annual meeting, and election of officers, in Claremont on Wednesday, May 27.

The annual meeting will be held at 8 p.m. in the Claremont Legion Hall.

Late Ed. McCowan

## Farmed near Cedar Grove

By Pat McClennan

CEDAR GROVE — We are sorry to report the death Sunday, May 10 of a highly respected member of the Cedar Grove community. Ed McCowan, although a resident for several years in Markham, has alway belonged to this community. He farmed most of his life on property that is now the Cedar Brae Golf Course. He was an active and sincere member of Zion United Church where he served as a Sunday School teacher, Sunday School Superintendent and Session Clerk. Sympathy is extended to members of his family, daughter Marion and sons George and Jim.

While passing a lonely corner on a dark night, a pedestrian was stopped by a voice coming from out of the shadows. "Would a gentleman be so kind as to help a poor, hungry fellow who is out of a job? Except for this revolver, I haven't a thing in the world."


NOTICE TO DESTROY WEEDS

Notice is hereby given to all persons in possession of land, that in accordance with the Weed Control Act, 1969, Ontario, Sections 3, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 19, unless weeds growing on their lands within the Township of Markham are cut or destroyed by

MONDAY, JUNE 1st, 1970

and throughout the season, the Weed Inspector of the Township of Markham may enter upon said lands and have the weeds cut, charging the cost against the lands, as set out in the Act. The co-operation of all concerned is earnestly requested. Please note that dandelion and goldenrod are not considered to be noxious weeds under the terms of the Weed Act.

G. M. Clayton,
Weed Inspector,
Township of Markham.

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