



'Tender Loving Care' For Weeds at Guelph

Without knowing their names, you've probably been fighting them for years. Now you can find out just what they are. Thanks to the university's Department of Botany you can identify that crab grass that's skulking on your lawn, or that bindweed that's relentlessly spreading through your petunias. The department has developed a weed garden so that people can learn the names of those plant pests that gardeners, farmers and tenders of lawns have been labouring against since man's fall from paradise. The garden, which is under the care of plant taxonomist Dr. J. F. Alex, now has about 220 species of common weeds, and has space for some 250 more. Signs to mark each plant are being painted at the university paint shop, and will be complete later this summer.

Therefore, next Saturday morning drive down College Street, turn onto the South Ring Road, and take the first road to the left (the access road to Botany, Zoology and Horticulture parking). Between the single small greenhouse on the left side of the road and the Botany building, is the garden. Just over the small hedge is a collection of monocot weeds, including grasses — such old favorites as quack grass and crab grass. Beside this plot are two beds of lawn weeds. One bed is plant-



Dr. Alex cultivates weeds.

ed in lawn that is kept mowed. The other consists of the same plants allowed to reach their natural height — so you can see what will happen if you stop mowing your lawn for the rest of the summer. A third bed contains "ornamental weeds." These are plants such as the ox-eye daisy that were once planted in flower gardens, but now have "gone wild."

Many of the weeds one recognizes from past experiences are in the beds of annual, biennial and perennial dicot weeds. There they stand, plant on plant of them! Some appear innocuous, like long standing acquaintances with whom one has spent many hours. Others have a malevolent quality to them, as if they were pushed up by demonic spirits from the earth.

Here's burdock, there's prickly lettuce, standing sullenly as if resentful about being in the place they're supposed to be in.

In fact it sometimes is difficult to raise these plants in an organized garden, says Dr. Alex. Many of them have extensive root systems and are difficult to transplant. In addition, he says, they often do better in the messy patches that just grow at the border of a garden. Sure enough, the weeds outside the garden do appear to be lusty specimens compared to their fellows within. For sheer perversity, one cannot match weeds!

Examining the weeds can be a multi-sensory experience. Mint and catnip have their own distinctive odours. So does lemon baum, which has a lemon odour, and absinth, which is used to flavour the liqueur of the same name. Absinth, however, can be a very troublesome weed, he says. If cows are pastured overnight in a field with it, the milk will be flavoured so strongly that it is impossible to drink. What is help to distillers is harm to dairymen.

One plant that is the centre of widespread interest is cannabis — or marijuana. Some was planted in the garden but did not germinate. Perhaps a plant should be obtained so that people know what it looks like, says Dr. Alex.

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Wild mustard



Wild oats



Stinkweed



Canada thistle

WEEDS — continued from page 1.

He cites the case of one mother whose son was growing a plant as part of a "school project." She became suspicious when she saw parts missing from the leaves, and smelled an unusual odour about the house.

In the past cannabis has been a common garden plant. Dr. Alex recalls his mother planting three rows of "hemp" around her garden as a windbreak every year in Saskatchewan. Some 20 years after she'd started growing it, the plant was removed from the seed catalogue's list. Later she found out it was cannabis, and had been taken off the market because people were using it for hallucinogenic properties.

One of the features of the garden that perhaps turns a layman into a "weed freak" is the odd quality of some of the names. Fleabane got its name because it was once used in an attempt to keep fleas out of homes. The origins of other names, such as green smartweed, small bugloss and corn gromwell are perhaps lost in folklore. Students of British history, however, may recall one tongue-twisting rhyme. During the government of landowner Oliver Cromwell, sorehead royalists were said to have written on public walls: "Oliver Cromwell grows corn gromwell." A ruler of state could still be scored for the state of his garden...for negligence in dealing with the world of weeds.

APPOINTMENT



The Department of Political Studies has a new faculty member. David W. Surplis was appointed Assistant Professor in that department effective July 1.

Professor Surplis comes to Guelph from the Department of Political Economy, University of Toronto, where he has been a Canadian government teaching fellow, for the past two years. Previously, he was research assistant to Dalton Camp, president of the Progressive Conservative Association of Canada, and was a Canadian government graduate teaching assistant at the University of Alberta.

In addition to his academic experience, Professor Surplis has been active in the political field. He has been associated with the Progressive Conservative Association of Canada for a number of years and was a member of a number of federal and provincial election campaign committees.

Professor Surplis received his B.A. degree from the University of Alberta and his M.A. from the University of Toronto. The spring of 1971 is the target date for completion of his Ph.D. research on leadership problems in the Progressive Conservative Party from 1963 to 1967.

Guelph girl wins Stephen Leacock Award



A science student at the University of Guelph has won second prize in the Stephen Leacock Humorous Writing contest for University students.

Penny Downing, a 4th semester student in marine biology, Department of Zoology, was presented with \$500 at the recent Award Banquet held in Toronto.

Entitled A Summer Re-run, Penny's essay is a nostalgic account of a summer evening at home with her parents, her brother Nicky and her dog Tick.

Penny says she is a bit young to be nostalgic "but the young are getting into everything now."

This is not the first time Penny had entered an essay competition and won. While in grade 13 at Oakwood Collegiate in Toronto, she entered a contest sponsored by the Toronto Telegram. The topic of the essay was A Prominent Canadian of the 20th Century. Penny chose to write about Honest Ed and as a prize worked as a reporter for the summer.

Also while in grade 13 she won an honorable mention in a contest sponsored by the Canada Permanent Trust Company. The topic was "write about anything that makes you want to talk on paper."

During Centennial Year, while Penny was in Grade 12, she entered a competition sponsored by Dominion Stores and Expo and won a trip to Expo. The topic of the Essay — Why I Want to Go To Expo. She was one of the 400 students across Canada to win.

Here are a few paragraphs from Penny's Stephen Leacock Essay competition:

"Tick gets up with a great scratching of claws on the floor, and clatters down the hall. Father speaks to her, and she answers like the ghost of Cock Lane, who scratched the woodwork in code.

Father: Why should I take you for a walk?

Tick: (Sound of furious scratching).

Father: Give me one good reason.

Tick: (Noise of dog landing on floor).

Father: Oh, because you're a dog. Don't

you know I hate dogs? I got up half an hour early this morning just so I could have more time to hate dogs.

Dogs make perfect straight men.

Father and Nicky and Tick and I set out on our walk. We go to the Peterborough Avenue end of the street. (At its other end, it's just Peterboro Avenue).

"Beep."

"Listen. I heard a beep."

"I didn't."

"Beep."

"Wait, I heard it that time. A night hawk."

"Beep."

Father has told us that a beep is a night-hawk, but he hadn't told us a nighthawk isn't a hawk at all but only a goatsucker. We have reached a happy equilibrium of knowledge and ignorance.

"Beep."

The talk turns to worms.

Father picked worms as a boy during the Depression, and made observations which he later presented to a club of scientists at the museum. It is one of my favorite stories. I always took forward to the First Worm of Spring.

Father tells us about the giant worms of the Andes, which you can wear as belts.

Our father is the only person who can lead a nature walk in the heart of Toronto.

I bet he could lead one in the auditorium on Academy Awards night:

"Zsa-vsa's mink has fluffier fur with fewer guard hairs than Raquel's beaver stole because the beaver is an aquatic mammal."

Dr. McConkey dies

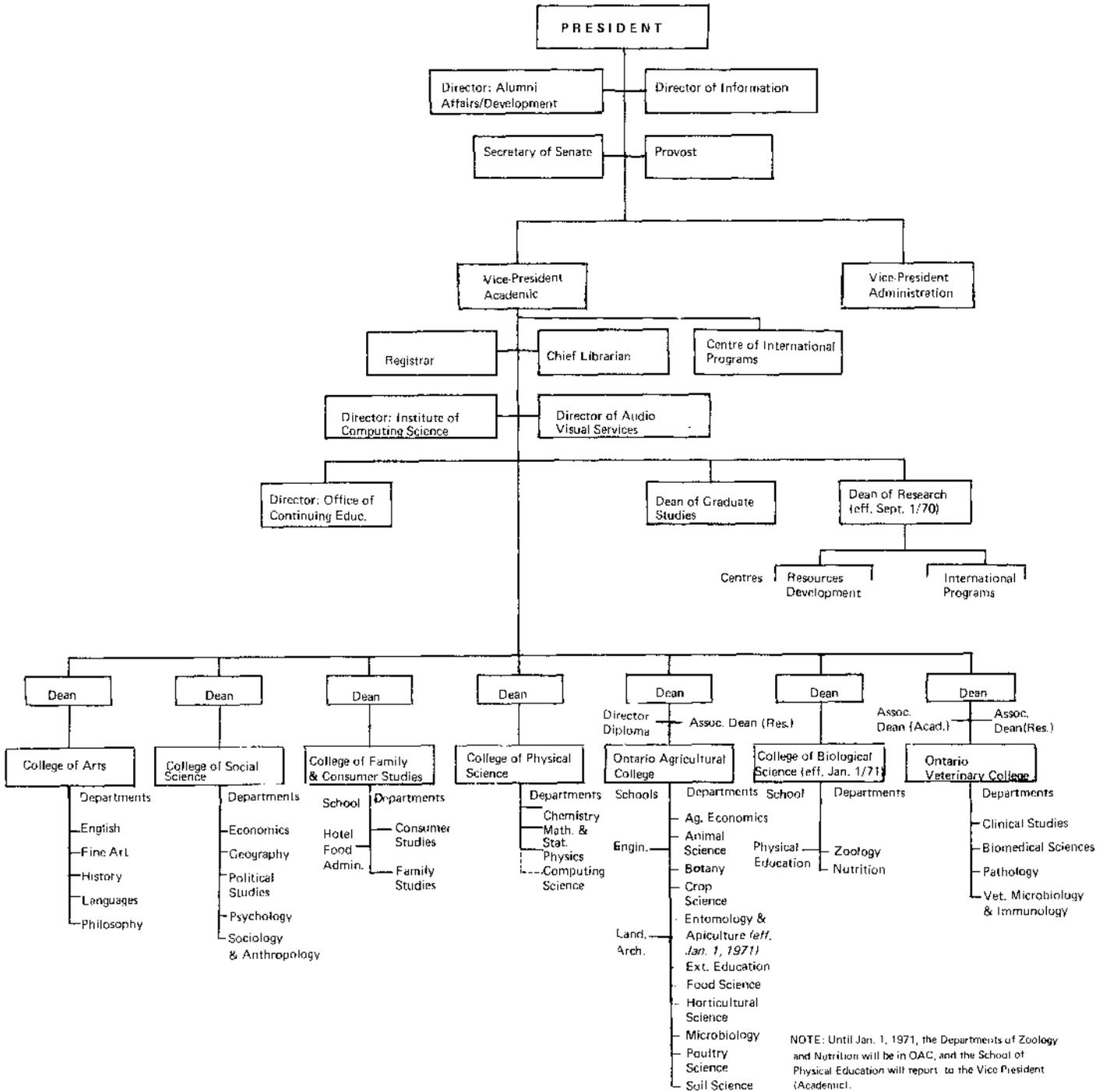
Dr. O. M. McConkey, for many years professor in the Ontario Agricultural College's Field Husbandry Department, died July 6th. Dr. McConkey was recently awarded the Julian T. Crandall Conservation Award for a valuable lifetime spent in research, teaching, and creativity in the fields of plant breeding and natural resources' conservation. He combined a career at Guelph, which began with his engagement as a lecturer in 1923, with studies in the United States and Britain, military service in the Second World War, and service with the United Nations' Food and Agricultural Organization in China. He retired from the OAC in 1957.

VISITORS

More than 100 librarians, representing libraries from coast to coast in Canada at the Canadian Library Associations' annual convention, visited the Library recently. All were impressed by the appearance and functionalism of the McLaughlin Library.

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

(effective July 1, 1970, except where noted otherwise)



NEXT WEEK AT GUELPH

THURSDAY, JULY 9

- Art STUDENT PRINT SALE, Zavitz Hall. 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Prints selling from \$5 to \$30. Proceeds will be used to purchase Old Master prints.
- Art GEORGE WALLACE — WELDED STEEL SCULPTURE. Continues on display on the main floor of McLaughlin Library.

FRIDAY, JULY 10

- Drama DON JUAN IN HELL, appears in the Drama Workshop at 8:30 p.m. Presented by Theatre 5 from Kingston, this brilliant work of G. B. Shaw is the third act of Man and Superman. Tickets at \$1.50 are available at the Box Office.

SATURDAY, JULY 11

- Drama SECOND PERFORMANCE OF DON JUAN IN HELL by Theatre 5 of Kingston. (See above).

SUNDAY, JULY 12

- Art THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH PERMANENT COLLECTION opens.
- Worship R. C. FOLK MASSES. 10:30 a.m. War Memorial Hall. 7:30 p.m. 9th floor lounge, Arts.

MONDAY, JULY 13

- Clinic ONTARIO ABERDEEN ANGUS ASSOCIATION ANIMAL EVALUATION CLINIC. Contact: Dr. T. B. Burgess, Animal Science. Continues July 14.

GRANTS

Operating Grants totalling \$25,000 have been awarded to faculty members in the Department of Food Science. National Research Council Awards have been made to **Dr. J. M. deMan**, Department Chairman, in the amount of \$4,000 for studies in Food Chemistry. **Dr. D. M. Irvine**, received \$1,500 for research on "Quantitation and characterization of the degradation products of milk phospholipids"

and **Dr. D. W. Stanley**, \$11,000 over three years to study "Texture — structure relationships in meat." Grants from the Canada Department of Agriculture have been awarded to **Dr. J. M. deMan**, \$4,500 for research into the "Effect of processing on pesticide residues" and \$4,000 to **Dr. D. M. Irvine**, to carry out studies on "The use of reverse osmosis for concentrating cheese whey."

An Orgy of Film for Everdale

An Orgy of Film is being held in the Physical Sciences building, Room 105 on Friday, July 17. The orgy, which has been organized by Guelph's Committee in Support of Everdale Place, begins at 8 p.m. and runs all night; admission is \$3.00 with all proceeds going to Everdale Place.

A large number of films have been donated by private collectors, commercial distributors, filmmakers, embassies, the National Film Board, the Canadian Federation of Film Societies and the Canadian Film Institute. Some of the films are *The Cure* (Chaplin), *Step Lively* (Harold Lloyd), *Les carabiniers* (Godard) *Their First Mistake* (Laurel and Hardy), *Poem* (Leonard Cohen), *The Golden Coach* (Jean Renoir), *Tumbleweeds* (William S. Hart), *A Corner in Wheat* (D. W. Griffith), *The Phantom of the Opera* (Lon Chaney), *Redpath 25* (Hofsess), *Dr. Mabuse der Spieler* (Fritz Lang), *The Music Room* (Satyajit Ray), *Westfront 1918* (G. W. Pabst), *Colour Me Shameless* (Kuchar), and *The Playhouse*, (Buster Keaton).

Everdale Place is an experimental school

community loosely modelled on Summerhill. It is located approximately twenty miles from Guelph in Hillsburgh, Ontario. In 1970-1971, the community will consist of thirty students ranging in age from ten to eighteen, and four full-time staff members. The school's operating expenses exclusive of staff salaries are raised through student fees and the sale of toys designed and made by members of the community. Until recently subsistence salaries for the staff have been provided by the Company of Young Canadians. CYC is permitted to support a project for three years and then must withdraw; unfortunately, their three years at Everdale ended on June 30.

Tickets for *An Orgy of Film* are available at the University's box office; Ext. 3940.

Even if you cannot attend *An Orgy of Film* it is possible to support this project. Cheques made out to Everdale Place may be sent to Morris Wolfe, c/o Box 411, Department of English, Wellington College, University of Guelph. For further information, please call Mr. Wolfe at 824-4120, Extension 3247 or at 824-8802.

Don Juan in Hell

Theatre 5 from Kingston, is coming to Guelph for two performances of Shaw's "Don Juan in Hell," on Friday and Saturday evenings, July 10 and 11. They will perform in the Drama Workshop and the time is 8:30 p.m.

This professional theatre group has played to sold out houses at Queen's University and had to return a third time to accommodate the numbers wishing to see this particular production. The Players:

Dan Buccos plays Don Juan and has played for Domino Theatre, Queen's University and St. Lawrence Summer Playhouse.

Valerie Robertson plays Dona Ana and is a graduate of the Bradford Civic Theatre School in England. She spent five years in professional repertory and has played for two years with the International Players.

Gordon Robertson plays the Statue. He studied acting at the Webber Douglas School of Music and Drama in London, England, and has been in professional repertory in London, England, International Players and won the best actor award, Dominion Drama Finals, 1958.

David Switzer, plays the Devil. He teaches drama and won best supporting actor award in the Eastern Ontario Drama League Festival at Lindsay.

This group comes very well recommended. Tickets are available at Central Box Office, 824-4120, Ext. 3940. Admission, \$1.50.

Travel Grant Awarded

Dr. D. A. Barnum of the Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Immunology, has been awarded a Nu field Foundation Travel Grant.

Funds for these grants which are designed for established scholars who wish to undertake advanced research, which can be carried on only in the United Kingdom, are made available by the Foundation established by Lord Nuffield. The funds are available for research and education in a variety of fields of interest related to the advancement of social well being.

Dr. Barnum will be studying the strict anaerobic bacteria associated with the diseases of animals.

The study will take place at the Welcome Research Laboratories in Kent with Dr. H. B. G. Epps, and at the Food Research Institute, Agricultural Research Council, Norwich, with Dr. E. M. Barnes.

The study will be taken from January 1 to June 30, 1971.

The News Bulletin is published by the Department of Information and edited by Mrs. Betty Keeling. Copy for the next edition must reach the editor, Room 361 McLaughlin Library, not later than Friday, July 10, 1970.