

# THE SAGA

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MAY '80

## FIGHTING THE CHEMICAL WEED WAR

Zane Lewchuk '67, Agronomist,  
East Central Region



Using herbicides is not the only method of controlling weeds, but it tends to be more timely and specific, than say cultural weed control. Although weed chemicals are often costly, crop losses due to weeds are relatively more so.

Herbicide technology has made great strides in recent years. So much so in fact, that farmers are now faced with a mind-boggling array of various chemicals and combinations that can be used. Some herbicides are applied before crops emerge and are soil incorporated, others are applied in the early stages of crop growth; some are in granular form to be spread on the field, others are in a

wettable powder or liquid form, and are sprayed on the crop, usually with water.

Some chemicals control only certain weeds, can only be used on certain crops, control weeds only in certain leaf stages, and can only be used when the crop is at a certain stage.

Most herbicides are applied at different rates, depending on the crop and the weeds. Certain chemicals require differing amounts of water per acre. Some can't be used in certain types of sprayer tanks, due to chemical reaction or corrosion.

The various herbicides each have their own peculiar restrictions and use (Continued on page 2)

## RANGE RUMORS

**J. Ivan Clark '41** still haunts the ag. rep. office at 'The Crick' upon occasion. The ghostly rustlings of old annual reports, can be heard emerging from the permanent files in the storeroom at the witching hour in the waning of each fiscal year — the grasshopper screens rattle and the tattoo pliers chatter. Ivan's eldest, Hugh, expects to be admitted to the bar — of the court that is. The youngest male offspring, David, is at Princeton — testing Ivan's fiscal stability — tuition fees are \$6500. Trust Ivan — the kid's on a hockey scholarship and hopes to play in Europe. Daughter Ruth now has two — Stacey Lauren on March 23 — a sister for Jeffrey. Laurie has two girls. Carol brings up the rear — she's finishing third year in education, specializing in learning disabilities.

**Allen Kuhlmann '70** is farming up a storm at Vanguard, selling cheap herbicides and wondering why **Doug Winsor '70** is always in small debts court and why he's working for Wascana Institute.

**Lorne Johnstone '49** is the Sherlock Holmes of the Ag. Implements Board and moonlights on the farm at Yellow Grass.

**Calvin Hardy '79** is farming on Grenfell and living off the avails of U.I.C.

**Terry Caderma '72** took Sarah and tads, Larry 7, and Nelson 4, on a month's trip down memory lane in the Phillipines. Sez he visited relatives(?) there. Farming has made great strides since he left there in '69. Back on the assessment trail at Weyburn hereafter.

**R.A. Barton '76** has left Elephant Brand for the fertilizer banding bandwagon — Prasco air seeders rep. for N.E. Sask. and Northern Manitoba — mainly because of the fish.

**Gerry Moore '69** (Man.) stretched his operating budget for a life sentence in S.A.G.A. Didn't leave Saskatoon just because we asked him to. Promoted from the back hopper at Saskatoon to the front leg at Winnipeg. U.G.G. made him manager of elevator operations. Now if we could just get a new scale



and a paint job at Theodore. Threatens to come back for the grad bonspiels.

**Garry Finnell '75** set up his cattle chute at Outlook and hez his vaccination needle at the ready. Bog Spavins, caesarians, pulpy kidney and calf skitters a specialty.

**Jerry Glab '76** admits to the possibility of marriage down Weyburn way cum summer.

**Jack Godwin '50** hez retired himself to Ganges, B.C. as of July last.

**John Hunter '46** still hangs his crown gear and pinion at Brantford as manager of sales accounting for White Farm Equipment.

**Larry Joel '58** is still grain farming at Elbow and working the pants off his three young 'uns.

**John Leader '79** is peddling Avenge wild oat serum outa Calgary for

(Continued on page 3)

## Fighting the Chemical Weed War

(Continued from page 1)

instructions. A farmer must carefully evaluate his weed problems, and which chemicals can best do the job, and finally consider the relative cost of the various chemicals. Coupled with the fact that certain herbicides can be tank mixed together, the farmer is presented with a truly complicated decision in controlling weeds with herbicides.

Herbicides that control grassy weeds, include nine different compounds registered for the control of wild oats in various crops, other than oats. Soil incorporated herbicides include chemicals such as Avadex, Treflan, Cobex and Eptam. Post-emergent sprays are Hoe-Grass, Mataven, Avenge, Asulox F and Carbyne (or Wypout). Hoe-Grass also controls several other grassy weeds, including green foxtail. Treflan, Cobex and Eptam also control green foxtail, as well as a wide range of broadleaf weeds, some in the hard-to-kill category. Asulox F also causes suppression of several broadleaf weeds.

Endaven is no longer being manufactured and will not be available after existing stocks are sold.

Certain other herbicides that are popular for control of green foxtail include TCA and Dowpon (or Basfapon) as well as Stampede CM. Stampede CM also controls a wide range of broadleaf weeds, some in the hard-to-kill category.

In addition to the good old phenoxy herbicides (2, 4-D & MCPA and their derivatives), that kill certain broadleaf weeds, there are presently available a large number of other herbicides for the selective control of other broadleaf weeds in certain crops.

Banvel LH mixed with a phenoxy amine, controls a wide spectrum of broadleaf weeds, including many that are hard-to-kill with a phenoxy alone. Torch or Pardner, (which are bromoxynils), alone, or in combination with phenoxy, also control broadleaf weeds in a variety of crops. Butril M and Brominal M, are examples of mixtures of bromoxynil and MCPA.

Lorox (or Afolan) mixed with MCPA, controls many broadleaf weeds, including wild buckwheat. Blagal also controls these weeds.

Benazolin controls wild mustard in rapeseed.

Mecoprop is effective against a few hard-to-kill broadleaf weeds, including cleavers and chickweed.

Basagran and Premerge 360 control certain broadleaf weeds in special crops.

There are of course other herbicides on the market, but those mentioned are the ones most commonly used in Saskatchewan.

Certain herbicides may be tank-mixed to provide control of a broader spectrum of weeds with one pass of the sprayer. The most recent registration in this area, is a mixture Mataven and MCPA ester.

Several other wild oat chemicals can be mixed with other herbicides to also provide broadleaf weed control. These include Avenge with 2, 4-D or MCPA esters, or with bromoxynil products (Torch, Pardner, Butril M, Brominal M); Hoe Grass with Torch (or Pardner) and Asulox F with Butril M.

Avadex and Treflan can be tank-mixed and soil-incorporated, for the control of wild oats and green foxtail in wheat and barley.

TCA or Dowpon, can be mixed with several other herbicides to control

green foxtail and broadleaf weeds in specific crops.

Sencor (or Lexone) can be tank-mixed with Banvel to control a broad range of hard-to-kill broadleaf weeds.

Butril M can be mixed with MCPA to control hemp nettle in wheat, barley, oats and flax.

Many herbicides cannot be mixed, and when split applications are made, a waiting period of several days may be required before applying another compound.

A complete guide "Chemical Weed Control in Cereal, Oilseed and Pulse Crops" is available from the Sask. Dept. of Agriculture. Another valuable booklet is also available — "Weed Seedling Identification", depicting 52 different weeds in the seedling stage in full color.

## THE SECOND MILE

**Archie Campbell '35**, Saskatoon is still farming the ears off sweet corn, and doing a bit of consulting with fellas taking the plunge into the fox and mink business. Things have changed some since Archie wielded a skin stretcher, especially fur prices. Now it's the fox that gets skinned.

Vivian and Clara squandered the corn money last fall on a pilgrimage to the Middle East — Egypt, Israel, Jordan and then on to Moscow. Rumor has it Archie was made an honorary member of the Politburo.

He reports **Audrey and Howard MacDonald '35** parked their trailer at Archie's ranch last summer and he served them with an eviction notice at a picnic breakfast.

**Clarence Elliott '35** has retired as treasurer of Great West Life but does assignments for them from time to time. Archie sez he runs into **Adam S. '35**

counting his money down at Canada Permanent Trust. Sorry Archie, could not figure out Adam's last name — maybe he's a silent partner in the firm.

**Ernie Booth '21** has his own migratory route. He spends May to October in his nesting ground in St. Paul and winters in Boca Raton, Florida. He does some appraisals on Indian land claims for Uncle Sam as a hobby. Ernie is a prolific historian. He's published "The Booths of Semans"; "The Methers of Moose Jaw" — history of his wife's family, and "Last Mountain Valley" a biography of his father.

**Joe Campbell '41**, Winnipeg is teaching the Indians to grow greenhouse cucumbers through CESO. He's also heavy into promoting natural foods. He's also developed "Campbells Mix" — a sorta elixir of youth. He doesn't admit to raising 'grass' in his backyard.

## Yea verily, I say unto you . . .





# The moving finger writes . . .

Ralph James Christenson '49 the vicar of the Kerrobert extension diocese is turning in his surplice come July — no more grasshoppers, no more beef assistance, no more quackgrass, no more dugout pumping.

Ralph broke water at Craik back in August 1919. He survived Russian thistle, salt cod, rhubarb and saskatoon jam, salt pork, wheat grits, dust storms and fleece-lined long johns until 1941, when he traded in his bib overalls for serge blue, airmen for the use of. Sez it was his first paying job — \$1.30 a day.

A long history of trying to put the finger on somebody, suited him admirably for a four year stint as a radar technician attached to #51 R.A.F. Bomber Squadron in the U.K. His official task was to put the finger on Jerry Kites, but he excelled mainly at homing in on the mess, pubs and the W.A.A.F. compound. Having been decorated with the Order of Crumpled Beer Mug, he returned to the Land of the Maple Leaf and enrolled in the College of Agriculture in 1945 and emerged at the fourth instar in 1949 and his B.S.A.

Having managed to pass Bill White's '32 mid-term tests in forage crops, he was allowed to sign up as a grazing land appraiser with the Lands Branch, where he specialized in the psychonalysis of fence jumpbers until November, 1952. He then remustered to assistant ag. rep. and apprenticed with the late Pat Coolican at Swift Current. By June 1953 he had mastered the intricacies of the S-4 and became the resident deacon for the Assiniboia parish of the Ag. Rep. Service, and the most eligible bachelor from Killdeer to Bateman. Doris Bishop took command of the situation, got herself a job as Ralph's steno, and although all the other girls cried, "Foul", she pressed her advantage and anchored him to her cookstove forever after in the year 1968. They were without issue but Ralph became a grandfather by osmosis — Doris had children by a previous marriage.

After 20 years of bred sow, bull grading, shelterbelt, forage seed and farmstead modernization policies, and

preaching the gospel according to three or four different ministers of agriculture he answered the call to relace Andy Sereda '60 in the Kerrobert presbytery in July, 1973.

Ralph's retirement plans at the moment, consist mainly of trying to correct his slice and to become the squire of the 19th hole at the Kerrobert Country Club.

He always had a distinctive sense of humor. He signalled his flashes of wit with a wide grin and a Trudeauian shrug of the shoulder.

Well done, oldtimer, we wish you well, and hope Doris can manage to keep you out of her hair and the cookie jar.

Robert Gordon Knowles '42, the Almighty Voice of CBC Radio Noon, filed his last smoke signal on Friday, May 9. His listeners paid homage to his mastery of the communications craft on a phone-in show to round out his last day.

Bob's vocal propensities first became evident on February 5, 1920 on a farm at Rutland in the Unity area. In 1939 he took the egg money and entered the College of Agriculture from where he was asked to leave in 1942. Fortunately they let him take his B.S.A. with him — a combined option in soils and farm management. The mythology of supply and demand had gotten to him by this time, so he enrolled in a master's program in ag. economics from which he emerged in 1944 completely disillusioned.

Having conned his way through two degrees, convincing the CBC into taking him on as an assistant farm commentator in Winnipeg was a real cinch. By 1950 they were fed up with him in Winnipeg and shipped him out to Edmonton. Unfortunately they had given him a return ticket and he was back a few months later as regional supervisor for western farm broadcasts. In 1954 they bought him a ticket, one-way, to Toronto and made him assistant network supervisor. This failed to discourage him. In 1955 he promoted himself to network supervisor for the CBC farm and fisheries broadcasts. While he was there he bullied the staff into staging some pretty successful programs — Country Calendar, Country Magazine, National Farm Radio Forum, and a subversive program called 'Summerfallow'.

By 1967, TV was making itself felt.

-(continued on page 5)

## RANGE RUMORS ③

(Continued from page 1)

southern Alberta — marketing rep to some.

R.E. Laurin '54 is living off the avails of teaching at Lakeland College, Vermillion — useta be the School of Agriculture once upon a time.

Valerie Matschke-Muller '77 is working on a requisition for a four-wheel drive outa the ag. rep. hierarchy, so's she can get back and forth to the farm at Turtleford.

Dick Morken '78 hez bin workin' on the oil rigs out at Dawson Crick during January and February, while Mavis and wee Blair held down the mortgage at Sturgis.

Dale Norheim '72 is raising Charolais bluebloods and rides the range for the 'Canadian Charolais Banner' in Manitoba and Sask. — fieldman, that is.

Joe Remai '76 is carrying the hose for Elanco outa Melfort. Papa to a wee daughter.

Sterling McIvor '74 is farming against the wind at La Fleche. Is close enough to breaking even to build a house for his four exemptions.

Gwen Sheppard '79 is cookin' the books for a new long green line dealership in Outlook.

Mark Teulon '79 is giving Riley a run for his money — farming only in the warm weather at Waldeck.

Lorne Ball '77 Sturgis, finds farming with father is like living in a rose (Continued on page 4)

## 1980 S.A.G.A. EXECUTIVE

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### EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

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### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

|                                |    |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Lyle Darwent, North Battleford | NW |
| Doug Winsor, Kincaid           | SW |
| Larry Lee, Nipawain            | NE |
| Lorne Hextall, Grenfell        | SE |

garden — bought a life membership no less.

**Graham Dorn '76** is commuting from the 'Head to Regina — agrologist with the administrator of estates. Has a list of rich young widows to share with deserving grads.

**Doug England '64** has a good wheat crop coming along at Mbala, Zambia — six months gone out of a 24 months stint.

**Gordon Larson '78** musta struck a good soil profile — coughed up \$50 to put his name on the permanent mailing list for S.A.G.A. Guessitating for the assessment commission outa Speedy Crick.

**Jim Spiers '71** is chief grocery clerk for the roughnecks on the oil rigs in the skeikdom of Alberta. Left Labatt's at Halifax to become distribution manager for Fortier and Associates, Edmonton, industrial caterers — traded beer for groceries.

**Ken Pedersen '70** has forsaken the Battlefords to reign as ag. rep at Shaunavon. Spent a year seconded to the Extension Division at the University.

**John Chuey '61** is filling the late **John Zadd '50** shoes as land resource specialist at North Battleford — moved back from Swift. Shouldna done it John. It took S.A.G.A. two years to find you when you moved the last time.

**Ralph Howes '66** is acting FarmStart agrologist at Moose Jaw. **Don McCrae '50** and **Laverne Frisk '71** are pleased to share Shylock duties with him in the Great SouthWest.

**Lorne Hovdestad '65**, Rouleau has moved to the Senate — of the University, that is. Beat a C.A. at the ballot box.

**Vern Houston '48**, Lacadena, reports **Jim Wright, Ted Turner and Cliff Murch**, all '48 school types, showed up for a Sask. Pool Crow's Nest Ceilagh in January. Sez his nephew **Russ Houston '69** is heavy into porkers and dogies at Lacadena, has two wee daughters and still finds time to puck chase for the Eston Ramblers.

**Rene Shewkenek '78** has left the beakers and the burners of the Sask. Soil Test Lab and the asphalt alley for the olde sod at Kamsack, and **Gilbert Stremick '80** has bellied up to the fume cabinet in his stead.

**Vern TDN Racz '68** the chief fence rider for the East Central Region for the past seven years, man and boy, has plumped for the swine extension specialist spot at Saskatoon. The new university swine research centre has drawn him like the poultrice on a boil.

## RANGE RUMORS

(Continued from Page 3)

**Len Cameron '68**, chief well witcher for FFIB at Yorkton, has left us to clean up the messes he created as a civil servant. Has his own well maintenance business at Saltcoats.

**Brian Stasiuk '75** has vacated the Great Southwest to take over where Len left off at Yorkton.

Looks as though we've seen the last of **Ed Knash '71**? He manouvered outa his spot at Canora, as resident country squire for the Land Bank, to move closer to the seat of power at Regina.

**Phyllis Kondratoff '78** has come into our midst at Yorkton, as gardener in residence for the Indian Agricultural program — Seneca root yields have shot up from one gunnysack-full, to three per squaw. Even the bucks have taken out digging licenses. Her presence has had a calutory effect on the regional office types — four haircuts and five clean shirts the first week.

**Lewis Reeve '72** the curate of the Kelvington parish is promoting honey

wagons for fighting prairie fires. The aroma ain't all that great but the squelch is tremenjus.

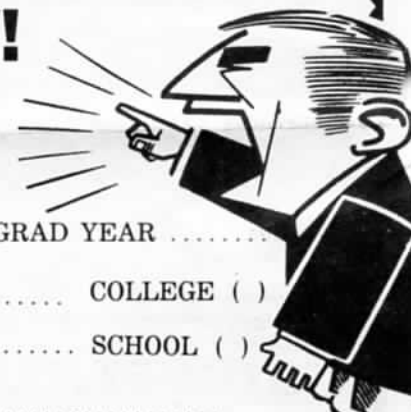
**Bob Klemmer '77** the livestock rep. for the SouthEast angle has lost that long distance feeling. He's sparking a popsy from Sask. Tel who parks her lipstick right in Weyburn.

The lost is found - **Stirling McLeod '68** is alive and well at Olds, Alberta — thanks to **Al [Little Bo Peep] Toews '69**. When he wasn't receiving his copies of 'The Saga', Stirling suspected **Roy Crawford '55** had been using the membership lists to paper train his St. Bernards. Stirling and Donna moved to Olds in 1978 along with their grain handling and feedmill systems business — Stirdon Systems Inc. That and their cattle beasts keep them close to home most of the time, except for a trip to Israel a couple of years ago and to China this year.

**Lyle Darwent '67**, the John Kenneth Galbraith of the Northwest, is alive and figgerin' machinery lease contracts. He let drop that **Ken Sten '80** is the new  
(Continued on page 6)

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About yourself, other grads, the drought, fishing stories, close calls such as weddings, pregnancies and foreclosures, and just plain gossip.

**Mail Immediately to:**

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# THE TEETHING RING

**Colin Henry John Miedema** arrived at Meadow Lake on the afternoon train. **Yvette and Gerald '77** were there to meet him when he arrived at 5:00 P.M. on April 17 — 7 lbs. 11 oz. and 21". His dad is the resident 'farmers friend' for the extension branch.

**Paul Alexander** was an early bird 5:12 A.M. at Vermillion 7 lbs. 4 oz. on February 29. Poor kid sure it's gonna miss out on a lotta birthday parties. Almost forgot, Mom and Dad are **Doreen and Peter Ignatiuk '73**.

**Leonard Sean Bater** made it to Kindersley on December 21 last — his first Christmas was milk with all the trimmings. Saved **Keith '74** about \$120 on his 1979 return. A second son. His mom remains incognito.

**David '75 and Vicki B. [Ed '75] Storey** have been keeping **Elissa Lynn** from us since February 9, 1979. She arrived at 7 lbs. 6 ounces. Guess they were gonna wait to see if she'd grow.

**Nicole Ann** is a first for **Vicky and Lyle Stavness '74** Tuesday March 11 at 7 lbs. 11 3/4 oz. Just in time for the annual report for the farm management section.

**Ash 'Bud' Smith '48 and Jo-Anne [B.Ed. '49]** — a four wheeler — **Big Roy**

on April 1 — 23 lbs. 15 oz. This has not been confirmed.

**Ryan George** assumed command of the **Carlson** household on May 5. He arrived in Swift Current with the other young robins at 4:25 A.M., just a-puffin and a-blowin' — 9 lbs. 5 oz. **Anne [H. Ed. '71] and Murray '64**, and brothers **Brett, 4 1/2 years** and **Darwin, 2 1/2 years**, answer all summons for service.

the moving finger write . . .

Bob wasn't very tall and couldn't sing, so he left the CBC to Tommy Hunter and took on a job with FAO in Rome. It took them 3 years to find out he couldn't speak Italian worth a hoot, so they recalled his visa. Back to Canada.

In the meantime the CBC had been completely re-organized. Back tot he boondocks — the CBC farm broadcast at Regina — the best thing that ever happened to the program. Bob turned friendly to farmers and made himself and the CBC Farm Broadcast very popular.

Bob was very active in the S.I.A. as well as other aspects of community endeavour.

Pat Apted of Saskatoon threw her lot in with Bob, a number of years ago, and has been eminently successful in keeping him reasonably law abiding and presentable in appearance. She also managed to raise four children and to prevent them from following Bob's errant ways.

By special dispensation, Premier Bill Bennett is allowing Pat and Bob to retire in Vernon, B.C. on five years probation.

Well done, good and faithful servant.

**Ralph Miner '42** hez returned after 36 years of crusading for the co-op movement, to retire to the old farm at Speers to squander his life savings in fighting the battle of the cost-price squeeze.

Ralph spent the last 17 years with Co-op Atlantic in Moncton, New Brunswick as manager of merchandizing and long range planning, but the organization seems to have survived the test.

Co-op Implements had the benefit of his experience for six months back in 1978 when it sort of sprung a fiscal leak. The co-ops banded together to fix the roof and Ralph went back to his lobster traps.

Sixteen years on the board of Co-operative Insurance (now 'The Co-operators'), and as president for the last four, sort of makes him out to be a bit friendly to the Co-op movement.

Farming has changed a wee bit since Ralph left the farm — from six or eight horse outfits to six and eight wheels — from the balling gun to the grease gun.

Clara presented him with four offspring — a real reservoir of grandchildren.

Welcome back Ralph, and may the gold watch never make you late for lunch. Well done.

**Sam Beaton '48** has thrown in his pointer after 26 years of pedagogy — on a learners license at that.

Sam, along with a litter of pigs, a brockle faced calf and a pup with a wry tail, were born one frosty morning somewhere around 1920 in the district of Paynton.

While in high school Sam discovered the possibilities of crib notes and managed to earn a scholarship to the School of Agriculture. While there he met a sprightly young school marm, from out Esterhazy way, who proposed to him on the condition that he mend his spendthrift ways. He then entered normal school (teachers college to the younger sprouts) at Regina. Just at the beginning of World War II there was a great shortage of teachers. Sam along with a number of others were given temporary teaching permits, almost as soon as they'd been assigned their lockers. Sam and Iris took off for a rural school near Radville for a few months.

Since the avails of teaching were piddling and small, Sam heeded the call to arms and enlisted in the R.C.A.F., where he served valiantly until the cessation of mess hall rations. He then enrolled in the first class of war vets at the university and was drummed out with a B.S.A. in 1948.

He had kept the farm going at Paynton during his college days, but then sold it up and moved to Churchbridge to farm. In about 1953 the odor of chalk-dust got to him and he went back to teaching at Bredenburg and then at Churchbridge. Iris had also continued teaching, and when the minister of education personally objected to Sam's learner's license, he and Iris both went to summer school — Iris for some refresher classes and Sam for his B.Ed. He also taught in Yorkton for a couple of years.

All in all he's been a busy fellow — teaching, farming, hunting, fishing and some left-handed carpentry work.

Sam and Iris have retired to live in Yorkton after they'd found a place big enough to park a boat, a cabin trailer, a four-wheel drive and a radial arm saw.

They've raised four children — one son and three daughters. All hunters and fishermen.

## LITTLE BO PEEP IS STILL LOOKIN'

Our registrar, **Richard Belamy '66** reports that some of our S.A.G.A. flock have strayed. He'd like to know the whereabouts of:

- Robert H. Cooper 43C
- Robert A. Fleming 39S
- James A. McGillivray 70C
- Ronald G. Dalglish 65C

Well, if you really want to know where Ronnie is, his old secretary says he's at:

- P.O. Box 10
- General Delivery
- Mohales Hoek,
- LESOTHO
- Africa

## RANGE RUMORS

(Continued from page 4)

wampum advisor for the Indian ag. program, rep in that corner. **Ross Kingdon '55**, the regional ayatollah, is the president-elect for S.I.A. for 1980-81.

**Don Fontaine '79** has transferred to the Lands Branch, after a stint as agrologist-in-training. Swift Current may be in the cards. **Jim Schmidt '68** moved from the land rep spot to land resource specialist.

**Ken Mitchal '70**, director of the feeding testing lab has had a bout of colitis, but is on the mend — too much TDN and not enough wheat straw in his rations.

**Bill Howell '49**, we're sorry to report is also on the ailing list. Hope the tumor on the liver diagnosis report, that we heard, isn't so.

**Art Sawatsky '47**, dairy technician at Saskatoon, is in his 15th year as secretary for Sask. Holstein Friesen Association — man and boy. Tells us **Dale Strudwick '65** is president and director for the association — the third generation of the Strudwicks no less, to hold that position.

**Lyle Stavness '74** is the new chief of the farm management section for Sask. Agriculture in Regina — an old F.C.C. credit advisor. **Gary Cooper '71** is the new farm cost analyst in the section and is overseeing some on-farm production cost studies — dairy, hogs and more recently grain crops. Gary returned home in January 1979 with a P.E.I. wife and a Business Admin. degree.

**Tom Janzen '77** left the assessment branch a year ago in April to work as a petroleum landman outa Edmonton — buying easements for pipelines, well sites, and working on an appraisal course.

**Gerry Miller '69**, Grandora and **John Blacklock '70** were elected as vice-president and executive member in that order, to Canadian Western Agribition.

**Dave Sloan '75**, Richardson, has a foot on the first rung of the political ladder — mainly grid roads to start with — a councillor for the R.M. of Edenvold. Usually comes in outa the cold to a job in Regina in the winter, but this year he took advantage of our banana weather and some odd jobs on the farm.

**Frank Miller '39** writes from Mbala, Zambia where he and **Doug England '64** are involved in a conspiracy to get the locals to grow wheat — 6500 acres, give or take a hectare. The stuff really grows — almost comes up in the press wheel tracks while you're coming back on the round. Doug has become a great snake hunter — the Black Mumba. The bag

limit is one per day.

**Bill Aulakh '72**, from India, who took his degree in Sask., works with them.

**Hal Wright '77**, Warman, was a member of the runner-up rink in the 'A' event. His name got missed in the write-up. Hal farmed for a while but is now elevator manager for CSP Foods. His wife **Michelle B.Ed '78** is teaching in Saskatoon.

**Ray Riviere '70**, from out Radville way, and **Noreen** stirred up all the Cubans in February. Now **Jimmy Carter** isn't speaking to him anymore.

**Ben Blacklock '46** caused an earthquake out there at Grandora. The geology dept. figgers it's because he dropped his wallet. Bert's been waiting for that to happen for months — needs new drapes, hasn't got a thing to wear, etc.

**Roy Crawford '55** accidentally bumped into **Doris and Ken Melsted '53**, Wynyard in Melbourne airport. They were enroute to the casino in Hobart and Wynard, Tasmania. Didn't find any Icelanders in Wynard, Tasmania but Ken dropped a three-bushel rye quota in Hobart. Roy is on a U of S sabbatical and was heading the same way looking for rare chicks. Some of the chicks in Melbourne were kinda rare too.

**Lloyd Putnam '37** let it drop that he ran into **Walter Burns '36** and **John Leask '36** at the B.C.I.A. annual meeting in Richmond, B.C. in February. Walt is retired. Both were doing well and were acting as though they were a long way from home and might not get back.

**Ed Docking '48** is still instructing ag. mech. at the U of S. Hasn't been too chipper this past year — mainly due to a faulty coil and a plugged fuel filter. Had a mild heart attack last July, and his gall bladder turned a bearing in November. You might say he failed his highway safety check. He was given 3months down time and was back in February. He and someone's wife spent 6 weeks in the valley of the Rio Grande — Pine to Palm Park in Weslaco, Texas — full of Sask. and Manitoba types — over 200 families including **Bill Dickie**, Melfort, and others from Kindersley, Rosetown, Loreburn, Nipawin and wherever.

**Joe Rakochy '68** and **Don McLaren '53** have had their positions changed from farm development specialist to Farm-Start agrologists. FCC had better look to their laurels.

**Charlie Gibbings '42** had a full head of steam at the C.W.B. district meeting at Yorkton. On hand to buck straw were **George '45** and **Tom Cooper '48**, **Mike**

**Pylychuk '74**, **Phil England '68**, **Baz Fritz '73**, **Orest Mysak '48** and **Pete Petersen '52**.

**Doug McRorie '56** is all set to wind down his year as chief guru for A.I.C. in a blaze of fiscal policy — a fee increase.

**Cecilia Kohlmann Mulhern '75** has taken out an intermediate term loan on a pair of rubber boots. She's busy learning a few angles on irrigation from **George Hart '49** who is retiring as irrigation specialist at Speedy Crick. If it doesn't rain soon the sprinkler heads will become nothing more than mechanical dust devils.

**Cliff Hayes '55** has left Federated Co-ops farm cupply to get closer to the source. He's now with Potash Corp. of Sask. sales. Sez some friends in Vancouver were kind enough to send him a picture of some rain. It was old hat to Cliff, but his kids found it exciting. Cliff is treasurer for Sask. Agricultural Hall of Fame, replacing **Bob Knowles '42** who's emigrating to the Okanagan.

**Bob Cuthbert '76** has deserted the cooking pots at CSP Foods to try his luck on a master's program in ag. econ. at U.B.C. Planning on being on hand for the '76 class reunion in '81. Sez he doesn't miss the Sask. winters. Hasn't heard about our last one, I guess. Puts the west coast to shame.

**Al Hingston '69**, Keeper of the Oat Box for the West Central Region relates the disturbing news that **Keith Bater's '74** farmstead near North Battleford was completely wiped out — house, barns, shed, bins, the whole works. They managed to save all the livestock except a few weanling pigs — anything that was making any money became burnt offerings. Al sez it's reputed to have started in the TV set — probably an X-rated movie.

**Archie 'Big Sky' Colton '50** has just got back from two weeks in Florida. Most guys go in the winter but Archie had forecast a cold spring. Arch & Marie have a daughter down there somewhere — married to an astronaut.

**Hank Nickel?** the indefatigable ag. rep. from Biggar, for lo these many years, has an in with **McKee Moving and Storage**. He's moving up to North Battleford to replace **Ken Pedersen '70**, who as previously mentioned, has left for Shaunavon.

**Sid Blair '61**, after revelling in the joys of private enterprise at Simplot in Brandon, is headed this way — Saskatoon and the Potash Corp. of The Peoples Republic of Sask. **Lin Blair '25**, Lanigan, has been tryna tell him for years that Sask. is where it's at. Takes a little time for these young 'uns to catch on.

(Continued on page 7)

## RANGE RUMORS

(Continued from Page 6)

**Mike Oxman '50** has hit the jackpot — two new cars in one year. No energy crisis. Son, Bob has oil rights — a lawyer at Lethbridge.

Now that **Garth Larson '72**, Semans has been appointed to the Sask. Hog Commission board and now that Pierre says: he can pay the wife a salary, he's lobbying to have pigs made personal exemptions.

**Harry Lang '53**, Watson, has been appointed Rear Admiral of the Precambrian Fishing Fleet. The announcement was made this past week by Co-ordinator of Fishing and Card Sharking, **Orest Mysak '48**, Canora. The pennant will be officially flown on June 4 at Miron Lake. With the forest fire situation up there being what it is, Harry has been practising smoke jumping. Everytime anyone asks him for a cigarette, he jumps. At \$1.25 a pack who wouldn't.

**Garth Smith '76**, Captain of M.S. Treflan will be in charge of all shore-based transportation.

**Carman Berg '64**, is back working on the mortgage at Tyner but is still beating the drum for Niagara Brand. The missus sez she doesn't know if it's farming that's on the side or the chemical business. He's drifted into few grads and sent us some gen on them.

**Eric '66 and Doris Holt** are all mixed up at Bengough — grain, livestock, two boys and a girl.

**Garry '64 and Charlene Holt** are managing the Cabri Co-op, are being managed by a boy and a girl

**Gordon 'Sheepherder' Wells '66 and Mary Ellen** are holding down the shearing shed for Sask. Ag. in Regina.

**Neil '67 and Lillian McConnachie**, The Duke and Duchess of Duneside, have found the only thing growing in the duchy of Fairlight are the capital gains. They're raising two boys and a girl as candidates for the rollover provision.

**Sinc '67 and Gail Harrison** of Moosomin have a sure crop — four girls and a boy.

**Bob '66 and Sharon Clay** are farming the heck out of crop insurance at Landis this year. They've had two inches of rain — two drops two inches apart.

**Dale Domries '76** joined the Boat People and came home to the agrologist-in-training spot at Kindersley in the West Central Region. Did a two-year trick in Thailand with CUSO. Also 6 months on a woolie farm in New Zealand.

**Paul Schmidt '80** has moved into the Yorkton regional office as a Friday-in-training. He's been on the trail around the region so much since he arrived that the warranty on his saddle has expired.

## LEAVIN' TOWN ?

We won't tell, but let us know where so we can direct jilted lovers, the sheriff, bill collectors etc., in the opposite direction.

Our Registrar loves getting mail.

Send the address label from your latest copy of 'The Saga' and your new roosting spot to:

**Richard Bellamy '66**  
Registrar, S.A.G.A.  
Box 320, Sub. P.O. #6  
Saskatoon, Sask.  
S7N 0W0



NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

News: About your new job, anything else you dare tell us.

## The Leather Medal

It seems we boobed — badly. Our execution has been slatted for high noon on Simple Simon's birthday. St. Peter and a couple of other fellas, **John Keay '31**, White Rock and **Norm Longhorne '34**, Brantford attest to the fact that **Mervyn A. 'Mac' Collins '28** is very much alive. He did not pass away on January 10, 1980. We don't know where our informer picked up the info. Mac may have been a little late for lunch

that day but that's all. (We are very sorry for any inconvenience or embarrassment the erroneous report may have caused him.) Maybe Mac has a friend somewhere who is a practical joker. He didn't get out of bed in the morning for a month, before checking the obituary columns to see if he was legally entitled to breakfast.

Thanks for correcting the error.

## It's the lead rocks that count . . .





8  
Hello Ag. Grads! The editor's deadline for mid-May was hard to meet. It's so dry on the farm that I had to send out for a pen with enough moisture to write!

First, I would like to express our appreciation to **Dr. Ross Greenshields '49** for his candidacy for University Chancellor. The S.A.G.A. is fortunate to find a candidate with such qualifications and enthusiasm. Wait 'til next time Ross!

Speaking of next time, we have initiated discussions with the University regarding the lack of franchise for school grads on votes of this kind. It seems that school grads are not counted as "members of convocation". This is not a useful limitation on the rights of S.A.G.A. members, and we have officially informed the University of this view. We should have some action to report on this for the next annual meeting.

Second, here is a request to all S.A.G.A. members. The association has representatives on the advisory council to the College and School [**Irene Ahner '65**] and on the University Farm Week Planning Committee (S.A.G.A. president). If any ag. grads have comments regarding the business of these committees, please send to S.A.G.A., Box 320, Sub. P.O. No. 6, Saskatoon. If you have any suggestions about the reunion weekend (about the way the 'spiel is run for example?), please drop a note in the mail.

Further on these points, I have had discussions recently with some ag. grads, who are concerned about the longterm prospects for the School and College in Saskatoon. The S.A.G.A. rep on the Advisory Council does not receive any direction at all from the association. The energy of the executive is directed almost exclusively to the newsletter, and to organizing the reunion weekend. Perhaps it is time for a more serious approach to our input on the Advisory Council. The S.A.G.A. has a unique membership in that almost 50% of the members are school grads, and the majority of the total membership are farmers. I know they are capable ag. grads who could, and would, put some time into this task. Let's think about it. At present, the S.A.G.A. Advisory Council rep. reports to the S.A.G.A. on the business of the Advisory Council. I know that our

representative **Irene Ahner '65** would appreciate having S.A.G.A. activities, concerns, questions, etc. to report to the Council.

As a former faculty member, and now a full-time farmer, I am acutely aware of the problem the University has in terms of credibility in the farm community. I know that many ag. grad farmers have valid concerns, and I think this is a good time to think about reporting these concerns and suggestions. More about these thoughts in the fall newsletter.

Finally, there has been a suggestion by Sask. Wheat Pool, that the format of the University Farm & Home Week should be overhauled. The Pool has questioned the rationale behind providing time for individual groups like the Seed Growers, Rapeseed Growers and Pulse Growers, on a University sponsored program. It's a good question, and I'm sure the logic extends to the S.A.G.A. as well. The S.A.G.A. has

officially notified Dean J. Brown and Prof. Herb Clark that we appreciate the opportunity to have our lecture series and annual meeting at U. of S. during farm week. We have also pointed out that a significant percentage of the seed growers, pulse growers and rapeseed growers associations are ag. grads, and therefore the S.A.G.A. has a stake in having these groups continue to be part of Farm Week.

At present it looks like the universe is unfolding as it should and the S.A.G.A. will be back at Farm & Home Week in 1981. The seed growers, pulse growers and rapeseed growers have made big contributions to the success of Farm & Home Week in recent years, and I am sure they will continue to do so in the future too.

Well even this pen has gone dry.

Have a good summer!

**Bob Bens '64**

## THEY ALL COUNT 3 & 3 & 2 = 8





## FROM THE EDYTURS TREE



We fought the good fight but weren't able to put **Ross Greenshields '49** into the chancellor's chair. Guess he isn't old enough yet. That much he can be pleased about. Thanks for letting us try anyway, Ross.

Some of us grad types have just had a very harrowing experience. We were expelled from the civil service union. Here I had posted up my notice of suspension from membership in the S.G.E.A. on my bulletin board, and Judge Johnson of the Queen's Bench Court goes and rules that the union had no business suspending us in the first place.

Just one of life's sorrows.

Unions have their place I guess, but some of them have to be put in their place.

If we think we had a battle on our hand with the Quebec referendum, now we've won we're really going to have our hands full. Getting the provincial premiers, plus the prime minister, to agree would have been bad enough without Rene Levesque. I guess it's just some of the growing pains of nationhood.

The dry years of the Thirsty Thirties brought out a lot of dry humor. There is a wry side to ag. grads so we should get some tall tales for our next newsletter. How about it, grads? Keep those letters and newsy notes coming.

Our registrar, **Richard Bellamy** says we need 1800 copies of this issue of 'The Saga' so we're growing slowly. Maybe the S.A.G.A. should conduct a plebiscite on the Crow's Nest rates. That should spark some increased interest.

**Lin Boyes '48**



## The Song of the Farmer



It came to pass that in the Land where the Maple Tree flourisheth and its leaf was much revered, that the members of the tribe who dwelleth in the west of the land by the River of the Swift Waters and who were called Farmers, groweth much wheat and barley and many grains of mustard seed. And they didst journey with their crops to the market place and the Merchants of Grain spurneth their offerings saying, Yea verily, our granaries floweth over and the great chariots who are called railways, carrieth not the grain to the Great Blue Water.

And the members of the tribe who were called Farmers, didst cry out in one voice to the Great Chieftain who dwelleth in the Great Hall of all the People on the banks of the Great Canal which lyeth to the East in the Land where the Maple Tree Flourisheth and its leaf is much revered. And the Great Chieftain giveth them not succor but admonisheth them saying, Cometh not again to me but returneth from whence you came and casteth your barley and your wheat before swine and fatteneth your kine. And members of the tribe who were called Farmers didst take heed to the words of the Great Chieftain. And lo they didst toil mightily and long and their swine didst multiply manifold and their kine didst wax fat. And the Farmers didst journey again to the market place and the Merchants of Meat didst pay them but a pittance and they didst return to their houses and the wives didst chastize them for their penury saying, We are without raiment and our cooking pots are empty. Get ye gone from our beds and returneth not till you crosseth our palms with specie. And the members of the tribe didst turn away from their houses and didst clothe themselves in sackcloth and did heap ashes upon their heads, and there was much gnashing of teeth and weeping and wailing. And Lo, in the Season of the Flowers the rains cometh not and a great drought didst settle upon the land by the River of the Swift Waters, and the wheat and the barley and mustard seed didst wither, the leaves of the Maple Tree parcheth and the grasshopper hatcheth in great hordes and didst devour the grass and the wheat and the barley and the mustard seed. And the Money Lenders didst ask of the Farmers much usury, and the ironmongers and the merchants didst levy a great price for their wares.

And the members of the tribe who were called Farmers were much cast down and didst rend their garments and cry out in sorrow to the Great Chieftain, who dwelleth in the Great Hall of all the People but he heareth them not for Lo, he was deafened by the singing and the music of the great feast, that the makers of the chariots who dwelleth in the Land of the Great Eagle didst render unto him. And he didst smile with a great sweetness upon them and didst fill their purses with much gold and specie, saying unto them, In thee I am much pleased. Go ye forth, therefore and multiply and maketh me many fine chariots.

And the members of the Tribe who were called Farmers and who didst toil mightily in their fields by the River of the Swift Waters which lyeth to the west of the Land where the Maple Tree flourisheth, didst ponder their lot and shake their heads in much wonderment at the ways of men.

## THE LAST WINDROW

**Richard S. 'Dick' Armstrong '48** of Nipawin was killed accidentally by the levelling auger of his combine in late October. Dick was a graduate of the School of Agriculture. **Andy Severson** and **Vern Houston** classmates of Dick's attended the funeral. Around the School they were known as the "Three Musketeers".

He leaves to mourn his loving wife, Audrey and five children.

## Moonshots



**Bev Mortenson '80** has gotten herself two diplomas. She inveigled **Jim Pratt '67** ye olde ag. rep. at Swift Current into becoming her personal exemption. Rumor has it they spent their honeymoon dispensing trees for the P.F.R.A. nursery.

This is the only wedding we have to report this month — all the other grads are waiting to see if there's gonna be a crop — of one sort or another.



NAME .....

ADDRESSS .....

GRAD YEAR ..... YOUR JOB .....

Who pays your wages: .....

Your own doings: .....

Doings of other grads (give thier grad years if possible):

**ADD MORE PAPER!** If you're bustin' with news and ideas don't stop now. This moment in history won't come again.

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