

Saskatchewan  
Agricultural  
Graduates Association



Newsletter



No. 119

May 1969



Walter Brice '40 (seated left), incoming SAGA President, with Herb Clark '45 (standing left) outgoing President, Jim Webster '49 and Roy Crawford '55 (seated right).

THE 1969 EXECUTIVE

Honorary President - Gus Bell  
 Past President - Herb Clark  
 President - Walter Brice  
 Vice President - Oral Young  
 Secretary Treasurer - Roy Crawford  
 Registrar - Art Wenhardt  
 News Editor - Dave Christensen  
 Representative to  
 Advisory Council - Earl Rouatt

Executive Members,  
2 year term

Art Delahey  
 Brian Harvey  
 Grev Jones  
 Grant Milne  
 Dave Woof

Executive Members,  
1 year term

Joe Clausen  
 Bob Dodds  
 Keith Downey  
 Ed Halstead  
 Keith Vick

Executive  
Members-at-Large

Ken Bowren  
 Don Bowie  
 Al McLeod  
 Al Martin

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1969 promises to be another active year for the Agro grads and I look forward to the opportunity of meeting many of you during the coming months and at Farm and Home Week next January.

Last year two "get togethers" were held for Agros and their families during the summer. These were at Shellbrook and Melfort. The executive would like to continue to hold these informal reunions and it is our hope to be able to hold several this year in Saskatchewan and maybe even in other provinces.

Farm and Home Week has always been successful and plans for 1970 have already begun, and while there may be a slight change in the format, the general pattern will continue with the Agro grads as usual leading off the activities.

We are looking forward to a great reunion of the classes of 1950 which will be the Honor Year.

Effective in July, the annual membership fee will go up to \$2.00. This is the first raise since the organization started. You can no doubt appreciate the reasons for this with all costs such as mailing, etc. increasing. If you want to get in on the old \$1.00 rate, send it in before July 1.

We are aiming for a big year and we can do it with your cooperation. Don't forget to support the Van Vliet Scholarship Fund.

Best of luck to all.

Walter Brice '40

FARM AND HOME WEEK REPORTBonspiel 1969

The order of events for the 25th annual SAGA spiel was Kirk, Graham, Rutherford, Skelly and the senior or Hutcheon event.



Kirk event winner John Petruic '59 (right) with Jim and Myrle Byrnes '60. The other member of the rink was George O'Bertos '59. Runners-up in this event were Pete Kirychuck '62 and his rink of Bill Bradley '58, Lorne Sparling '58 and Doug England '63.

The Graham event trophy is being presented by Dean Bill White '32 to repeat winners Jim Murray '47 and his rink of Denis Ladouceur '56, Norm Flaten and Marvin Henderson '58. Bill Copeland '60 on the right is keeping track of the proceedings. Second place in this event went to Glen Padbury '66, Roy Button '67, Jim Hammond and Dale Sudom '67.



The Rutherford trophy was presented to Frank Bond '49, John Bond '43, Rod Stevenson and Don Jackson who beat out Keith Ayres '66 and his rink of Jim Ellis '57, Keith Head '67 and Mel Woods.

Herb Clark '45 presented the Skelly trophy to Ron Morningstar, Bill Mountford '60, Ed Bowler '68 and Gerry Vogt '60. Runners-up were John Stephenson '49, Bob Saunders, Bill Dale '49 and Murray Riddell '49.

The Hutcheon trophy in the Senior event went to Gib Wesson '49, Howard Rice '50, Gordon Baker '49 and Fred Snell '43. Second place was taken by Bill Ewert '43 and his rink of Bill White '32, Ernie Silzer '50 and Art Wenhardt '44.

The bonspiel was entered by 72 rinks this year and the organizers led by Bill Copeland '60, included Eldon Norum '48, Ad Anderson '34, Jock Blacklock '43, Ernie Silzer '50, Bill Ewert '43, Dave Woof, Al Short '58, Rus Campbell '50, Morris Sebulski '61, Bob Blakely '51, Bill Cooper '51 and many others.

The Ag. Grad Smoker, held in the Exhibition Stadium Lounge, was attended by close to record numbers, and by a large number of '49 grads who seemed to be under the impression that their class was not only the largest, but also the best. Any arguments? Joe Clausen '48 was in charge of this year's bash.



'49ers

Jock Campbell, Ozzie Lakness, Steve Burkell  
Norm Fitl, Walter Card, Jack Rennie



Bill Wilson '40 paying  
tribute to the memory  
of Hadley Van Vliet.



Conversation about the old and the new.  
Oscar Anderson '39, Jack McCallum '39  
Don Bowie '39

The Ag Grad wives held their second annual social as their counterpart to the smoker. Close to 50 wives turned out for whist, etc.



Mesdames Brice, White, Clausen, Rouatt and Clark were in charge or the wives social.

Cards and conversation



The Reunion Tea was co-convened by Marge and Del Blewett '56 and Trudi and Dave Woof. The tea, held in the Upper MUB, was attended by 230 Agro faculty graduates and their wives. Floral decorations provided by Dieter Martin were much admired again this year.

Many thanks from the conveners and those attending to: Mrs. Frank Sosulski for assistance given to the conveners; Mrs. J.W.T. Spinks and Mrs. R.W. Begg who represented the University; Mrs. J.N. Campbell and Mrs. M. Riddell representing wives of the '49 College grads; Mrs. G. Graham and Mrs. John Reid representing wives of the '49 School grads; Mr. H. Gerrie and Mr. Jack McFaulk who were in charge of registration.

Thanks are expressed also to the following for serving: Mesdames F. Sosulski, R.Y. Byrnes, R.I. Bowman, B. Goplen, M. Henderson, D. Acton, C. Piercy, A.G. Smith, R. C. Strayer and H. Gullett.

## 1949 DEGREE CLASS REUNION

by Murray Riddell

Under the able chairmanship of J.R. (Jock) Campbell, also known to his old cronies as "Scotty", the 49'ers had themselves a great reunion in which they reminded all that they are, in fact, the fabulous 49'ers, the finest in the land.

There were 168 invited to attend, and 72 of them arrived for one or more events, most of them complete with wives and all the ingredients necessary for a great reunion. They were prominent in the bonspiel, as evidenced by their number, and the fact that two of their rinks ended up in the finals. Forty-niners were in abundance at the Smoker on Saturday night and at the tea on Sunday.

On Sunday evening they held their special class reunion at Harvey's Cumberland House. There were 108 in attendance and many a yarn was spun with former classmates. Some Professors and instructors of student days were also present and added a great deal to the success of the evening. This was the opportunity for the first rehearsal of the "Class of 49 Song", which was to be sung at the banquet on Tuesday evening. The quartet performing on Sunday evening lost two of its members by Tuesday (no, they were not completely incapacitated by Tuesday and unable to perform - they were called back out of the city before the banquet on Tuesday due to the pressure of business).

At the banquet on Tuesday evening, the 49'er song was presented by a fivesome whose ability to perform for such a large audience could be questioned. Had it not been for the excellent accompaniment they received from Mrs. Bill Howell, they could have been in great difficulty. Following this, Al McLeod presented a book to Dean White. This book consisted of a recent picture and resume of the activities of the members of the class of '49 since graduation.

The 49'ers had themselves a reunion to be remembered. They will be back for more of the same.

## 1919 DEGREE CLASS REUNION

by Wallace Thomson

The class of '19 was small in number, but their combined contribution to Agriculture has been of considerable importance. There were only four of us; namely, W.E. Lake, J.F. Booth, G.B. Bodman and W.A. Thomson. Among these four graduates we find an enthusiastic horticulturist, a renowned soil scientist, a highly honoured agricultural economist, and a practical farmer who claims he has spent a more rewarding 50 years than any of the other three. We all have had a great deal to be thankful for. During our undergraduate years at this University, enrollment was small, and we in the College of Agriculture had a very enjoyable and very close association with members of the staff and students in other colleges which is no longer possible. It is also worth mentioning that during our four years as students, the College of Agriculture was supreme in Track and Field and Hockey. Not even the Engineers could take these trophies from us.

Bert Lake specialized in Horticulture at the Morden Experimental Farm. Later he farmed between Mervin and Turtleford but continued his horticultural interests by growing special garden plants - roses and various perennials - crabapples, plums, etc. He did a lot of crossing with native fruits, also specialized in hardy lilies. During this time he did horticulture extension for the University of Saskatchewan, lecturing and judging.

He left Turtleford in the late 1940's and started a bulb farm 10 miles north of

Victoria. He grew tulips, daffodils, narcissi as well as his famous lilies. Bert Lake died six or seven years ago in Victoria.

J. F. Booth received his M.Sc. and Ph.D. at Cornell in the mid-twenties and in 1926 moved to Washington as senior economist with The Bureau of Agricultural Economics. He returned to Canada in 1929 to join the Canadian Department of Agriculture and organized the first economics division to be established in a federal government department. During the Second World War he served with the Agricultural Food Board and was awarded the O.B.E. for his role in assuring effective distribution of foodstuffs. Dr. Booth has represented Canada at many international conferences. In 1954 he visited Malaya as a member of an economic mission of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Dr. Booth served a term as President of the Agricultural Institute of Canada and was awarded a fellowship in that organization for his contribution to Agriculture. He was also awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree by this University.

Dr. Booth now resides in Ottawa where in his post retirement years he has remained active in a consultant capacity. Just three months ago he was elected a Fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association, and is the first Canadian to be so honoured.

Geoffrey Bodman obtained his M.Sc. and Ph.D. at Minnesota in the Department of Soils in 1927 and joined the Department of Soils and Plant Nutrition at the University of California at Berkeley where he has remained since that time. He rose rapidly in the department to become the department head, and later the Dean of the College of Agriculture. Dr. Bodman spent a year during the war in the Engineering Intelligence Office of the Chief Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army, serving in the South Pacific. He spent one summer as visiting professor at the National Taiwan University in Formosa and another summer in that capacity at the University of Alexandria, Egypt, and as consultant, Ford Foundation in Cairo. Dr. Bodman is retired and living in Berkeley. He has just returned from a trip by freighter around South America and sends his regrets at not being able to be present and his best wishes to all the graduates.

As the fourth member of this '19 graduating class you will see that I have had the road to success pointed out to me all along the way. I can say only that since I have been trying for 55 years to make a living growing wheat in Saskatchewan I have had a lot more to worry about than any of the others. At the same time, I would not go back and change places with any of them. It has been said that the Saskatchewan farmer lives poor and dies rich, so perhaps I still have something to look forward to. I did spend 10 years as a Lecturer in Physics at the University of Manitoba, enough to find out that the farm was very attractive.

The Professional Agriculturists in Canada must have felt that I made a contribution to Agriculture in my own way, for they allowed me to serve a term as President of the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists, and another term as President of the Agricultural Institute of Canada, and followed this with a Fellowship in the A.I. C. of which I am very proud. I am also very proud of the Honorary Life Membership awarded to me by this organization (S.A.G.A.) a few years ago. Perhaps I did help at times to bridge the gap between the professional agriculturist and the man on the land.

I am still farming in Saskatchewan, and yes, I did get my crop harvested dry in 1968 before leaving for California where we have our own home which we enjoy very much for six months each year. My remaining activity off the farm in Saskatchewan is to serve as a Past President and Director of the Regina Exhibition Association.

The 37th Farm and Home Week Program under general Chairman Herb Clark '45 was highly successful. Topics covered included the National Grains Council, a Grain Marketing Symposium, and Legal Aspects of Farm Life.



Grain Marketing Symposium  
Convocation Hall

Left to right: Jake Brown '51, Department of Ag. Economics, Otto Lang, M.P. for Saskatoon-Humboldt (former University of Saskatchewan Law Dean), Roy Atkinson, NFU President, and Mr. G. Heffelfinger, National Grain President, and Mr. M. Runciman, United Grain Growers President.

#### School of Agriculture News

At the School of Agriculture Graduation held in Saskatoon on March 28, 88 Diplomas awarded. Stanley Michael Kosolofski of Prelate won the Scott prize as the most distinguished student. Alexander Herbert Wilson of Kenaston was awarded the University of Saskatchewan silver medal for highest standing in the second year class. The Smith-Roles prize for high standing in the Rural Electrification course went to James Vernon Finley of Luseland. Others among those graduating include: Eldon MacKay, Aberdeen, son of Donald MacKay '47; Duncan McVicar, Colonsay, son of Lorne McVicar '36; Wayne Peterson, Regina, son of Clayton Peterson '49; and Brian Wiley, Topley, B.C., son of Wilford Wiley '47; John Wilson '32 would be pleased with the excellent showing made by son Alex.

#### SAGA Life Memberships

Stu Harrison '32, Saskatoon, and Gordon Loveridge '23 of Grenfell were awarded life membership in the Saskatchewan Agricultural Graduates' Association at the recent annual banquet.

"Are you middle aged? That's when you divide your time between wondering how your kids will turn out and wondering when they will turn in."

"One of the 4th year Agros told us about the girl in Arts and Science who went to the doctor. She thought she had Asian flu, but it turned out to be Egyptian flu. She was going to be a mummy."



## Agros Here and There

Bob Middleton '57 former Ag. Rep. at Weyburn has been transferred to North Battleford as the Regional Co-ordinator of Ag. Reps in North West Saskatchewan. Phil England '68 replaces Bob as Ag. Rep. at Weyburn. Lyle Darwent '67 has been transferred from Hudson Bay to Wakaw while Jim Holm '67, Ag. Rep. at Wynyard, has moved to Hudson Bay. Murdock MacKay '49 formerly at Prince Albert is now Special Projects Ag. Rep. working chiefly with Metis and Indians. Doug England '63 is replacing Murdock at P.A.

Murray Riddell '49 and wife Betty spent their third in a row holiday in Hawaii.

It seems the Ag. Reps are taking to the air. Ed Gosselin '67, Kindersley, has his wings up and is a part owner of the club plane. Ed is one of the mainstays of the Kindersley Klippers baseball team. Harold Amudson '67 after receiving his wings has invested in a private plane. Bruce McDonald '47 the former bomber pilot and Ag. Rep at North Battleford has taken a refresher course and has also received his wings.

John Stoyko '49, Land Branch Supervisor, has resigned to go with A.R.D.A.

Doug Wilkinson '41 of Aberdeen has purchased a house in Saskatoon. Seems Doug has ideas of taking up permanent residence in the city.

Phil Thair '42 has been appointed Head of the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Saskatchewan. J.A. Brown '51 has accepted a full-time appointment as Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics at the University of Saskatchewan. His former position was a joint appointment in Extension and Agricultural Economics.

George Sephton '67 formerly with the P.F.R.A. Water Development Service was transferred from Swift Current to Moose Jaw in May, 1968.

Omar Bilokury '55 was recently reappointed vice president of Pioneer Grain.

Frank Warder '40 from the C.D.A. Research Station at Swift Current visited India recently to investigate proposed Aid-to-India Projects. The trip was sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency under Canada's policy to aid developing nations.

Tom Hampson '15 who passed away in August 1968 was one of the first certificate graduates of the University of Saskatchewan. He served during the First World War and was decorated with two medals. He represented Canada at the 50th Anniversary of Vimy Ridge.

Don Ibbatson '49 has been promoted to Branch Manager, Farm Credit Corporation for the Province of Manitoba. Don is now headquartered at Winnipeg.

Ole Stangeland '49 is now Maintenance and Construction Supervisor at the Vermilion Agricultural College. He has 6 children but still has room for anyone who cares to drop in.

Lyle Degerness '61 is employed by Alwinal Potash at Lanigan.

Marvin Nyborg '55 has accepted a position of Assistant Professor of Soil, University of Alberta. Marvin was formerly with the C.D.A., Beaverlodge.

John Leask '36 moved in 1968 from Calgary to Regina as District Supervisor, Livestock Division, C.D.A.

Bill Hurd '63 returned home in June from Tanzania via Egypt, Russia, France, Germany, Denmark and England. Bill is presently teaching Voc. Ag. at Moosomin.

Norm Langhorne '34 writes that he now has his own Export business at Brantford, Ontario. He mentions Roy Blake '34 is now Canadian Consul General, Milan, Italy and

that Dixon Moore '34 is teaching in Brantford.

Ray Gross '43 is engaged in farming and Consultation work in Nicaragua. Some of the Panchito bananas you eat may be from Ray's establishment.

Bill McLaughlin '62 and wife Marie are enjoying their stay in Australia. Bill is with the State Government Public Service which is similar to our Ag. Rep service.

Howard Fredeen '43 has been awarded a \$2,500 prize by the public service commission. Howard's contributions in improvements in breeding and selection of swine and beef cattle are recognized internationally.

Ted Hurd '50 will join the research group at the Swift Current Research Station late in 1969. He and Fred Townley-Smith '64 will be working on cereal research.

Bob Soper '53 has recently been on a lecture tour of Kenya. He visited East African universities and agricultural research stations.

Ervyn Griffin '52 has been appointed farm mechanics technician with the Family Farm Improvement Branch at Regina. Dave Domes '68 has left the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture in Regina where he was a dairy inspector to join the Alberta Department of Agriculture in Calgary. Reports have it that Dave finds Calgary especially appealing. What is her name, Dave?

Hank Friesen '43 of the Lacombe Research Station has been presented with an honorary membership in the North Central Weed Control Committee. Vic Beck '50, Weed Control Specialist with the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, has recently been elected president of the North Central Weed Control Conference.

Don Kirk '48 is now studying at Ohio State University at Columbus towards a Ph.D. in Social Sciences. Art Edwards '42 has moved from Iowa State University at Ames to T.V.A. at Muscle Shoals, Alabama. Ron Howarth '62 is Assistant Professor of Biochemistry at U of S, having completed his Ph.D. studies in Animal Nutrition at Davis, California.

Alvin Hassett '37 writes from Burnaby, B.C. where he is in the real estate business. Dave Johnson '55 is now manager of the Western Branch, Chemical Department of Shell Canada Ltd., Winnipeg. John Swaan '33 has been appointed District Supervisor for Alberta of the C.D.A. Poultry Division. His new post moves him from Kitchener to Edmonton.

E.E. Brockelbank '22 is keeping well and wishes to be remembered to his many friends. He often sees a number of grads who are now living in Victoria.

Born to:

Wayne Clews '61 and Wyn, a son, Kevin Harold, on June 18, 1968.

Ron McKinnon '63 and Betty, a daughter, Tracy Lynn, on January 15, 1969.

Doug Dale '54 and Hilda, a son, David Andrew, on July 19, 1968.

Bill McLaughlin '62 and Marie, a son by adoption, Daniel John, on April 13, 1968.

Norm Ballagh '67 and Marlene, a son, Travis Lee, on January 3, 1969.

Roy Button '67 and Marion, a daughter, Cynthia Lynn, on March 22, 1969.

Jack Shields '61 and Betty, a daughter, Jennifer Allison, on March 27, 1969.

Ellwood Fleming '62 and Marion, a son, in April, 1969.

Bix Biederbeck '69 and Frances, a daughter, on April 4, 1969.

Bill Hunt '64 and Carol, a daughter, Stacy Erin, on November 2, 1968.

Andy Schmit '63 and wife, a son, November, 1968.

Gary Carlson '61 and Jessie, a daughter, Chandra Leanne, on February 2, 1969.

Married:

Brian McIntyre '64 to Donna Gail Castellan on June 10, 1967.

Ed Daubenfeld '67 to Bev Crocker on July 24, 1968.  
Terry Arn '68 to Brenda Freeman on June 8, 1968.  
Jules Larochella '67 to Paulette Stringer on July 20, 1968.  
Gary Coulman '67 in Winnipeg on December 28, 1968. Wife's name is Daphne.  
Jim Braaten '66 to Joan Cherewyk on December 30, 1968.  
Vernon Racz '68 to Charlene Susanne Simpson in Regina on July 13, 1968.

Died:

Hon. John Bracken (HLM), March 11, 1969.  
John Allan '29 at North Battleford in September, 1968.  
Tom Hampson '15 at Birch Hills, August 24, 1968.  
Leonard Kusch '39 at London, Ontario, April 16, 1968.  
Hadley Van Vliet '34 at Quinton, December 8, 1968.

The Agricultural Institute of Canada Annual Meeting will be held in Saskatoon from August 24-28. Recent information, some in extension form, and some of a research nature will be reported, in the areas of pesticides, economics, Agric. engineering, crop science, soil science, animal science, horticulture, and rural extension. You will be able to register for the whole session or on a daily basis.

Hadley Van Vliet Memorial Fund

Enclosed is a brochure describing the Hadley Van Vliet Memorial Fund, summarizing the many contributions of Hadley Van Vliet to Canadian Agriculture. If you have not already contributed, we urge you to do so now.

Your 1969 S.A.G.A. membership fee was due on January 1. Unless payment is received by July 1 you will not receive the next newsletter. Annual membership for 1969 is still \$1.00. However, inflation and increased postal rates have caught up to us and the 1970 fee will be \$2.00. Life Memberships are \$30 less 50 cents for each year you have paid dues since 1947, and less 25 cents for each year paid before 1947. Mail to Box 500, Sub. P. O. No. 6, Saskatoon, Sask.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Diploma \_\_\_\_\_ or Degree \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Life Membership \_\_\_\_\_ (See above)

Please send us news about yourself or other grads. Job changes, births, deaths, marriages. Life histories, such as the one sent in by Wallace Thomson '19, are particularly valuable as permanent records.

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Return to:  
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