

PROUDFOOT, Frederick Gordon

87, Kentville, passed away peacefully Monday, November 24, 2008, in Camp Hill Veterans' Memorial Building, QEII, Halifax. Born in Salt Springs, Pictou Co., on March 9, 1921, he was a son of the late Gordon Alexander and Margaret (Matheson) Proudfoot. He was a graduate of Nova Scotia Agricultural College and Macdonald College, McGill University, where he served as secretary-treasurer of the student councils at both institutions. He served Canada as a Lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Army during the Second World War and following the war he studied at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, where he was a graduate student in Poultry Science. Following graduation in 1947, he was appointed Head of the Poultry Science Department at Nova Scotia Agricultural College in Truro and Provincial Poultry Husbandman for the Province of Nova Scotia. In 1955, he joined the Research Branch of Agriculture Canada and was in charge of an extensive poultry research program at the Kentville Research Station which entailed the publication of numerous scientific and popular manuscripts which had worldwide circulation. He also personally presented many scientific and practical papers throughout Canada, the United States and Britain. He was best-known for his scientific advances involving the survival of the avian embryo including extended storage times. His scientific advances were recognized in 1986, by being elected a "Fellow of the Agricultural Institute of Canada". In 1977 he was presented with the Silver Medal on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of Her Majesty's succession to the Throne. A Certificate of Merit was presented to him in 1985, by the Canadian Society of Animal Production. He also received special citations from a number of industry organizations, including the Canadian Feed Industry Association of Atlantic Canada Division, the Atlantic Provinces Hatchery Federation and the Nova Scotia Chicken Producers Association and was named to the Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame. He was invited to speak at the World Poultry Congress on two occasions and traveled throughout Canada, the United States and Europe on various speaking engagements. In the early 1970's he was specifically asked by the Minister of Agriculture to travel to Cuba to assist in the early development of Cuba's poultry industry. He and his team at the Kentville Research Station reportedly set the world record for growing the largest chicken in the shortest period of time, an achievement of great importance to the industry. He produced a prolific 135 scientific papers and received the highest rating any scientist could achieve from the Government of Canada. Fred's special innovations in the hatchability of chicken eggs and accelerating the growth of chicken through genetic selection, diets and use of environmental innovations such as day lengthening and accelerating day cycles, are still in use in today's poultry industry worldwide. He was a member of the Glooscap Curling Club, Kentville, and served as secretary for several years. He was also a member of the Royal Canadian Legion, Kings Branch No. 6, Kentville. He was predeceased by his wife, Phyllis Myra (Conrad), and is survived by sister, Mrs. Helen Young, Toronto; brothers, John and Jim, both of New Glasgow; children, Judith (Robert "Bob") Copeland, Wolfville; Brian, Ottawa; Gordon and wife Madine VanderPlaat, Halifax; David and wife Susan Doiron, Kingston; grandchildren, Chris (Erika), Troy, Devon, Benjamin, Lindsay, and Katelyn. There will be no visitation by family request. A Royal Canadian Legion service, followed by a funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, November 27, in

White Family Funeral Home, Kentville, Rev. Dr. Randy Crozsmán officiating. A reception will follow in the reception room of White Family Funeral Home. A private family burial will take place in Elm Grove Cemetery, Steam Mill. Donations in memory may be made to the Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia. The family would like to extend special thanks to the medical team on 6 West, Camp Hill Veterans' Memorial Building. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to White Family Funeral Home. On-line inquiries may be directed to: www.whitefamilyfuneralhome.com