

# World Secretary Sees East-West Relationship Strengthened By Match

Port Hope—Interviewed during the Civic Reception held at the Town Hall last night to welcome visiting foreign plowmen to Port Hope, George T. Weir, of England, secretary of the World Championship Plowing Organization, said that the few drops of rain which fell last night would help the Plowing Match more than they would hinder it.

Mr. Weir intimated that even a few more drops would do little harm and said that the ground at the site of the Match has been very crusty. He said that foreign plowmen have been spending the early part of the week preparing for the Match by plowing a certain amount each day to erase the rust from their equipment and get the feel of the soil.

According to Mr. Weir, yesterday was reserved for local plow competition. Today competitions will be carried out to declare a Canadian champion to take part in the World contest, and International competitions open to plowmen from all countries who wish to enter, will also be held.

But starting tomorrow things will be different. Tomorrow and Friday the first World Plowing Match in the history of plow competition will be carried out and will be open only to the champion plowman from each country. It is expected that at least eleven countries will take part.

Mr. Weir noted that 20-year-old Roman Donndorff who will plow for the German team, is the baby of the squad. Donndorff, who has seen much of Russian rule in his native land of Estonia and in East Germany, is quite reckless and has twice come within range of eliminating himself from the competition before the opening of the Match, according

crushed beneath it.

But maybe such escapades hold little danger for the Estonian who was forced to leave his native land when the Russians took control. From there he fled to East Germany but was chased on by the Russians. He found safety in West Germany since then, and as a result is today in Canada as a member of a team entered in the plowing competition.

At least one other member of the team has experienced an escapade according to Mr. Weir. He feels that the welcome people receive in Canada, the one extended by the mayor of Port Hope last night, is more for relations between Canada and oppressed people of the world than any other public relations yet atten-

to reports.

On the boat trip to Canada Roman threw a scare into his comrades when he climbed high atop the back railing on the ship in his effort to take pictures of the group. He was quickly hauled down from there and the other members of the party feel they saved his life. Since his arrival he is reported to have overturned his tractor during a practice session, narrowly missing being