



Ontario Federation Seeks Amalgamation Of FAME and Copaco

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture held a meeting of Provincial members at the Royal York Hotel on Wednesday, March 10. The member for Halton, Denis Lawrence attended.

Of importance to FAME members and farming as a whole in Ontario was a resolution passed recommending the amalgamation of FAME with Copaco. Definite support by the Federation and the farmers of Ontario was voiced at the meeting.

A resolution was passed that the Federation of Agriculture request better handling and supervision of care given to livestock in railway transit.

One member reported that a friend of his from whom he had signed statements had bought a carload of cattle out West and on checking them at Winnipeg found railroad helpers unloading the cattle without benefit of a chute. Many of the cattle sustained injury. One had a broken leg and had to be shot. It was also stated that there had been neglect in watering and feeding.

A resolution was passed to give freight assistance on grain moving north the same as what we have on grain moving east now. This was felt to be important to farmers on Manitoulin Island.

A resolution was passed on property tax reform, to the effect that in the determination of a lotment of public costs to be borne by taxation, the dual principle of services to people be carried on taxes on people, and services to property by taxes on property.

REPORT FROM

QUEEN'S PARK

— BY —

GEORGE A. KERR
HALTON M.L.A.

The Ontario Medical Services Insurance Committee, commonly known as the Hagey Commission, has submitted its report to the Legislature. This is the committee set up by Premier Robarts to bring in recommendations for a Provincial Health Insurance Plan.

The Hagey proposal, like the Alberta Plan but unlike the Saskatchewan Plan, is that there should be non-compulsory enrolment. The proposal envisions higher premiums than Saskatchewan charges, since in the Saskatchewan program, the individual's premium is substantially supported from general tax revenues.

For example, in that province, there is a six per cent surcharge on personal income, a one per cent corporation tax and a sales tax which was increased from three to five per cent to help pay for Medicare.

The Hagey plan proposes more generous subsidization of premium for lower income groups in Ontario than is available in Alberta or will be in British Columbia.

Commission Recommendations
Some of the recommendations of the commission are as follows:

(1) A Medical Services Insurance Plan to be made available to every resident of the province, regardless of age, condition of health or financial means and upon the application of the resident.

(2) Benefits provided by such Plan shall be the payment for necessary personal, professional services of a physician wherever rendered or in the performance of such services, as the case may be. This excludes services that a covered person is entitled to receive under the Workmen's Compensation Act or similar legislation in any other jurisdiction. It does not include dental care and anaesthetic services, nursing services, ambulance services, dressings and cast materials, use of operating, plaster or fracture rooms, drugs, vaccines, biological sera or extracts or their synthetic substitutes, eye glasses, special appliances, oxygen, physical therapy and other similar treatments.

Many of the above mentioned services are provided under the Provincial Hospital Plan.

Can Have Other Insurance
(3) There is nothing to prevent residents having other types of insurance including the benefits which are excluded under the Hagey recommendations.

(4) There is nothing to interfere with the right of an insured person to have freedom of choice in the selection of a physician or impose an obligation upon a

Rev. R. Legge Accepts Everton, Guelph Charge

Rev. Elmer Stalton, Toronto, All-Canada secretary for Leadership Development, was guest speaker at the local Christian Church on Sunday morning. His sermon, "Spirit of God, as the Breath of God", based on the text from Genesis 1, verse 2, was informative and challenging.

The speaker announced that official word had been received from Rev. Russell Legge, presently studying at Harvard University, in Boston, Mass., of his acceptance to become minister of the Everton and Guelph congregation starting June 27.

It is estimated that more than 100,000 women knit and sew for the Canadian Red Cross as members of the Women's Work Committee.

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FAME Officials Welcome Inquiry

Officials of the seriously in debt Farmer's Allied Meat Enterprises Cooperative Ltd. (FAME) have greeted warmly the announcement that Ontario Premier John Robarts plans a complete investigation into the organization's activities. According to reports FAME stands to lose \$1,500,000 following a business transaction last year.

FAME officials, representing 13,000 shareholders, purchased the F. W. Fearman Co. Ltd. meat packing plant at Burlington for \$1,500,000. A down payment of \$1,500,000 was made but the organization was unable to make the second payment of \$1,000,000. The plant has now been returned to the original owner E. R. Gunner of Great Britain.

Many farmers in Milton and district are shareholders in FAME and at present stand to lose money. Shareholders have invested \$2,800,000 into the organization which planned to build a chain of Ontario meat packing plants, "so the farmer could get a better deal."

The announcement by Premier Robarts that an investigation would be made, came following the request for an investigation by FAME Shareholders. The cooperative's president, Melvin Becker of Ayr, has stated that a lot of false accusations have been made about FAME and "this investigation should clear things up."

Our Readers Write

RED CROSS
"Service is the biggest 'spender' let us not forget that the other essential services such as Outpost Hospitals, Lodges at Veterans Homes, Homemaker Services, Loan Boards, Water Safety Instructions, Disaster Relief and a number of others require money also."

So much for money needed to maintain very necessary services for Canadians. But can we forget the important role played by the Canadian Red Cross in International relief? We should be proud of this and willing to give it support.

It is well known that the Canadian Red Cross operates and sponsors a wide variety of Welfare, Health and Disaster Services right across the Dominion. While this is done with a maximum of Volunteer Workers, it is essential that a corps of full time employees be maintained for efficient management and continuity. Further, most of these services demand expensive equipment and supplies.

As an example, let us look at the Canadian Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service. Do you realize that in every minute of every hour of every day an ailing Canadian receives a blood transfusion. This requires a minimum of 20,000 bottles of blood each year. This is provided by Volunteer Donors, but it costs the Red Cross approximately two and a half million dollars to collect, process and distribute the blood to every hospital in Canada. Two and a half million which must be donated by Canadians if this necessary service is to operate.

While the Blood Transfusion

Need Focal Point In Town Planning

What good are modern improvements if the time saved is not for some purpose of true value? This provocative question was asked of the members and guests of the University Women's Club at their meeting on March 4 at the home of Mrs. D. R. Dill, architect and former lecturer. Mr. Alvin Westwood, began his talk on town planning with a few intriguing remarks on philosophy and history.

He outlined the progress of all things from "openness" to present day diversity. In medieval times a town was simply planned with the cathedral in the centre and the town hall a secondary focal point. Now, both diversity and overwhelming urge for efficiency have created towns and suburbs without a focal point of spiritual value. When we build districts we have only a shopping centre and service stations at the centre, we cannot be surprised at the young people congregating there.

The ideal community, in his opinion, would have a population of about 5,000. In the centre he would like to see the community centre, a pool, the library, and a hall for meetings or concerts. In some new developments the stores are located in a secondary location.

Efficiency should not be the only consideration. He referred during the most interesting talk to the uniform grid plan, which he does not favor. Much importance is given on this continent to speed in building highways and cars. What is the time saved for?

He was introduced by Mrs. H. Powers and thanked by president Mrs. P. Allan. The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. L. C. McQuat, when Dr. Ralph Krueger of the University of Waterloo will be the speaker.

The Red Cross is the greatest positive movement for peace in our time.

Tile Drainage

Fastest Return for Expense

Many Halton county farms could benefit substantially from tile drainage. Tile drainage where needed can provide the fastest return of capital expense on the farm. Here are several reasons why tile is so effective:

- *To remove excess water from the land, thus avoiding crop damage.
- *To make it possible to work land earlier in the spring.
- *To allow soil to warm up faster in the spring, giving better seed germination.
- *To allow better aeration, which is beneficial not only for crop growing, but for promoting bacteria, which breaks down organic matter.
- *To allow better root development and consequently greater drought resistance.
- *To give improved soil structure, which increases return.

Loans Available

Systematic tile drainage where tile are spaced four rods apart, costs about \$100 per acre. Cost of four inch tile laid is about 14 cents per foot. Government loans are available through your town-ship council for installing drains.

Last year tests in Lambton County showed an added profit of \$12 per acre with soybeans. However, in wet years, this profit could be doubled or tripled. Also, usually "problem" areas can become as productive as surrounding well drained land.

This year, Halton county plans to do some drainage testing on their plots in order to have some first hand information.

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