

## Federation Panel Topic Is "Farming in Future"

Halton Federation of Agriculture participated in a Zone Four meeting of the O.F.A. March 31 at Stewarttown Hall, when 42 representatives of Halton, Peel, York, Ontario, Dufferin and Simcoe counties attended.

Zone governor Donald McCutcheon of Dufferin conducted the meeting, highlight of which was a panel discussion on "Farming in the Future". Participating were Benzil Lawrence, Halton member of O.F.A., governor Don McCutcheon, Jim Darling of York and George Jackson of Simcoe, with O.F.A. Zone Four fieldman Ken Graham as moderator.

A summary of the panelists' opinions showed:

- Farmers in multiple lines of business will narrow it down and expand in one line, such as hog or beef or egg production.

● Company farms will be born to pool machinery, operate more farms, or house cattle from several farms in one large barn.

● The labor shortage and lack of experienced help was seen driving some farmers out of business and increasing prices because of food shortages.

● They saw crop production increasing through higher producing breed lines and better ways of improving land.

● The government will take over planning of urban areas and designate certain areas for agriculture to save some of the best farm land.

● Farmers may have to deliver products more directly to the consumer and get into the handling of their own products. Closer relationships with the consumer public will have to be made, and farmers will have to understand the problems on both sides of the fence.

● Central farm management centres may be needed so experts can help farmers with their problems.

● Two of the panelists felt there would still be a place for the smaller family unit farm. They said larger enterprises would find hiring help a big problem, as hired laborers do not supervise the job closely enough and are frequently careless.

● Panelists said building different family units together does not always work, as there can be conflicts between the partners or the wives.

● Larger units take more money to begin, and this brings credit problems. Large units will need an expert farm manager, specially trained for the work as good farm management will be the key to successful larger units.

● Experiments are being done to cull poor animals by L.B.M. machines now, and farmers were urged to consider this for the future.

● The family corporation is apt to be more successful than others who may unite to farm. The original business is there and can be expanded.

● One man said that perhaps when the small farmer gets out of farming, prices will go up. He said this was true of potatoes in the Shelburne area, as when potatoes were a side crop the price was poor and there was no market. Today many have potatoes as their chief line of business and were making good money selling to the potato chip people.

● Discussing the type of organization needed for the future, panelists said the organizational farms can look after themselves but the smaller farmer needs help. Farmers should have the most say in their destiny. The Federation will have to speak with authority to the government.

● The new marketing boards are negotiating, not with producers but with the government, and politicians are involved in the high cost of living. They said the Federation should work more as a negotiating board between farmers and government, and between producers and marketing boards. A stronger organization was urged.

● They complained the Department of Agriculture makes surveys but often the farmer cannot get the information compiled.

Panelists also noted better public relations and communications are needed through the organization, between producer and consumer, and suggested the Federation should be the co-ordinator between commodity groups and farmers.

And where will the next farmers come from? Farmers in most instances cannot afford to give their farms to their sons, so the sons find other lines of business rather than raise the money to start farming on their own.

Many Halton farmers hold their farms until they are ready to retire, then sell to the ever-present land profiteer. As a result there are fewer farmers owning their own lands, and no new generation is coming along to take over.

Average age of Halton farmers is presently between 50 and 60.

It was pointed out junior farmers can make loans to pay off their fathers, but they are only a certain percentage and fall far below their worth. It was agreed the women's committee of the Federation needs to be given more work to do and someone suggested the O.F.A. could supply a fieldman to help give guidance in setting up larger unit farms.

Regional planning can also be adopted to the farm organization, and perhaps one general county meeting could replace the almost non-existent and inactive township groups in some areas such as Halton.

Publicity is important, and it was suggested a "county agricultural showcase" could be a house commodity group displays and factory displays of agricultural products and be a good booster for producer-consumer relations. Such a showcase could also bring the commodity groups together under the Federation.

The meeting sponsored one resolution to be forwarded to the Ontario Federation, urging that farm land be exempt from tax for urban services and education. New Brunswick is in the process of passing a similar law and the group at the Zone Four meeting heartily endorsed the resolution.

## Set New Minimum Fines For Courts in Halton

April 1, the Halton justices of the peace received a revised list of minimum traffic fines for Halton motorists which will cut down the number of time-consuming court appearances made to pay fines.

Under the new ruling, those motorists who plead guilty to most violations will be able to pay their fine out of court.

There was also a standardizing of the fines imposed and this resulted in some increases and decreases in amounts.

All fines for "rules of the road" infractions will carry a minimum charge of \$23 as opposed to the \$10 or \$15 previously imposed.

Speeding in a school zone will result in an automatic fine of \$10 plus one dollar-per-mile for excess speed.

For those who fail to stop at the light, the cost will be \$23.

The list will do much to lighten the burden on the courts and will be a great help to justices of the peace who previously did not have a complete list of minimum fines and bail costs available to them.

Common drunks will be fined only \$25, then released if it is a first offence; but this applies only to those who do not give the arresting officer any trouble.

Those who speed 20 mph or less over the limit will be fined a minimum of \$10 plus one dollar-per-mile for the excess.

Court appearances will be retained for those more than 20 miles per hour over. Unnecessary slow driving and unlawful "U" turns will have a set fine of \$23.

Unsafe automobiles will now result in a court appearance, rather than the impoundment and fine previously issued.

There will be a \$5 decrease in fines to \$18 for truck drivers who

## Compensation Covers Farm Help Plenty of Summer Student Jobs

This year for the first time, farmers can offer their employees some of the security offered by other industries. All farm workers are covered by Workmen's Compensation. This covers all persons, regardless of age, who are working for a wage. Workmen's Compensation covers all medical expenses resulting from an accident on the job, and provides a pension if you are forced to lose days of work due to this injury. There is no cost to the employee.

As well, the farm employee can now pay into a pension fund to provide for old age. This is a good step as well since no employee will ever lose anything paid into this pension fund. Benefits far outweigh the cost.

Farm wages are also becoming right in line. This year a good worker will have a trouble earning \$1.25 per hour and before the summer is over could be making considerably more. Students generally start at a lower rate (about 75¢ per hour) but will be paid

equal to any other man or woman if their work is satisfactory.

**Jobs for Students**

There will be a large demand for reliable labor on area farms this summer. This is an opportunity for students, especially, to make a bit of money.

Generally students don't have a very good name among the farm employers. This is due to bad experience in the past. A farmer is, however, looking for good help, and will pay a wage according to the work he receives. There is no place on a farm for a holiday during the summer months.

## Herd Association Has Three Speakers

Twenty Five Dairy Herd Improvement Association members met in the Agricultural Office, Milton, on Thursday, March 24. Henry Stanley suggested that more importance should be placed on increasing the production per cow, rather than increasing the number of head of cattle on a farm. It could be much more profitable to have 20 cows producing 12,000 lbs. of milk per cow per year rather than 30 cows at the 10,000 lb. level, he said. More dairy cattle in Ontario must be tested for milk production in the future. With only 8.5 per cent of the cattle in this country tested, we are considerably behind the United States where some 18 per cent of the cattle are tested.

Frank Barnes, Farm Economics, Co-operatives and Statistics Branch, Toronto, stated that farmers do not have to accept the present income from the dairy herd if they want to do something about it. With the use of their D.H.I.A. summaries, they can correct the weak factors in their dairy enterprises. The farm since the average cost of producing 100 lbs of milk last year was \$3.60. Mr. Barnes suggested that D.H.I.A. records should be used as barometers of the farm business.

Barley is the best small grain crop in Ontario. Even though farming is now mechanized and the barbs have been removed from the awns, many think barley is too itchy a problem. So, they plant low-yielding oats or oat-barley mixtures. That's ridiculous! Farmers should be growing for yield. Barley also has an added advantage over oats; oats grow in spite of the farmer; barley grows because of him. Barley responds to management.

While corn boasts the best yields under favorable conditions, barley is more reliable in the colder and wetter regions of Ontario.

Barley should be the first crop sown. If barley is planted early and properly managed, 60 to 80 or more bushels isn't unreasonable to expect. Some farmers are even experimenting with barley sown on frost.

In conjunction with early planting, nitrogen is being badly abused. Fifty pounds of nitrogen should be used for early planting. However, if 50 pounds is applied in late planting, serious lodging will occur.

The choice between traditional and early barley planting is a tall, gangly crop or a sturdy, stocky, high-yield one. Many farmers achieved 75 to 100 bushels last year. In this province, how many more will be wise enough to realize this crop's potential?

For those failing to stay in a crosswalk, the cost will be \$13.

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In Ontario we have been relatively fortunate with regard to human poisoning by pesticides; let us keep it that way. Always use a mask or respirator when recommended by the manufacturer. Some pesticide vapors give no warning of their effect until too late. So read the label and follow the instructions to the last word.

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## Acton Public School Kindergarten Enrolment

Acton public schools will be able to accommodate all pupils of Kindergarten age this year. To enrol, they must be five years old by December 31, 1966. (Birth certificate required). To avoid confusion, please complete the form below before April 22 and send or mail it to your district school in care of GARNET W. MCKENZIE, Principal, Robert Little School, Box 870 or W. D. ELMER SMITH, principal, M. Z. Bennett School, Box 840.

Child's Name Christian Name Surname  
Date of Birth Day Month Year  
Parent's or Guardian's Name in Full  
Address No. Street  
Phone No.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL  
ROBERT LITTLE SCHOOL — 853-2540  
OR  
M. Z. BENNETT SCHOOL — 853-0530  
Birth certificates can be secured from Registrar General Branch, 70 Lombard St., Toronto, Ont.

## Say Mongoloid Births Increase With Maternal Illness and Age

Medical research continues to turn up evidence of the importance of maternal health to the unborn infant according to the education chairman of the North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded.

For some time now, it has been known that Mongolism, a congenital defect complex characterized by certain physical features and mental retardation, is attributed to defective chromosome configurations within the cells of the afflicted child.

Now from Australia comes evidence that hepatitis affecting a woman in the early stages of pregnancy may result in a mongoloid child. This has been correlated with the seven year frequency cycle peculiar to this disease.

Mongoloid children are also more commonly born to older mothers.

Just how all these factors are tied in is not certain, but research may supply the answers before too long.

## Best Grain Crop Don't Underestimate Barley

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## COUNTY OF HALTON WEED CONTROL NEWS

BY V. E. McARTHUR WEED INSPECTOR

### FIELD WEED SPRAYERS

The changes in farming systems are so numerous today that it would be almost impossible to cover them in one article. Weeds, however, remain with us, but no longer can farmers afford to fight them by hand methods as their grandfathers did. They are responsible for large crop losses, even as high as 35 per cent. Fortunately, most of these losses can be completely avoided with the proper use of herbicides.

According to the Ontario Department of Agriculture, the use of chemical weed killers in Ontario has increased 400 per cent in the last six years. No doubt a similar figure applies to Halton farmers and along with this increased use of herbicides, comes the task of choosing a suitable Field Weed Sprayer for the farm operation. In publication 256, the Ontario Department of Agriculture offers the following advice on weed sprayer selection.

Buy a sprayer or any farm machine from the closest good dealer who is equipped to give good service and can supply parts quickly. If the dealer is forced to reduce the price too much, he cannot afford to give the all-important service that every farm machine needs.

**TYPES OF SPRAYERS**  
1. **Trailer mounted** — This type is quickly and easily attached to the tractor. The trailer wheels should be adjusted to track with the tractor wheels. Trailer mounted sprayers usually have a 100 to 300 gal. tank. This type of sprayer should be purchased when large acreages are to be sprayed, the source of water is not close at hand, or the land is too hilly to mount the tank on the tractor.

2. **Semi-mounted** — This type of sprayer is no longer common in the province because it was awkward to attach to the tractor.

3. **Fully mounted** — This type of sprayer is very maneuverable.

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It is extremely useful in small, irregularly shaped fields. For more detailed information, copies of Publication 256 are available at the Ontario Department of Agriculture office in Milton.

**FLUSH THE EYE**  
A foreign body in the eye can be very painful, but a safe measure to take is to flush the eye with tepid water. If the object can be plainly seen, fold a tissue into a point and ask someone to help you lift the speck out. If this isn't successful, go to a doctor, since amateur probing can injure the eye.



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