

In reply to "Concerned"

Farm vehicles have right to use our public highways

By Haridy J. Stanley
Agricultural Representative

Recently in a letter to the editor of this newspaper the hazards of farm vehicles on highways was discussed. The person writing the article apparently wishes to remain hidden, as the letter is signed only with the word "Concerned".

Certainly farm vehicles are a hazard on highways. One of the principle reasons is the fact that urban people do not realize how slow a farm tractor moves. As a result, they are upon the farm machinery before they decide to slow down.

Last year in Ontario there were 286 accidents between farm vehicles and cars or trucks on roads, resulting in 11 deaths of the farm machinery operators. As a result of collisions the chance of survival is 17 to one in favour of the motorist. Thus, farmers have been using the unimproved portion of the highway whenever possible, and are pulling off and allowing other vehicles to pass if they find they are holding up traffic.

"Concerned" feels that farmers should not be on the roads with their machinery. This is an absolute necessity in Halton, a county which is being over-run with rural non-farm houses and 10 acre lots. Over 40,000 acres of farm land is rented. If this were not so, our County would be an unrecognizable mess of weeds. How else can a farmer move between farms without using the roads? The farmer pays taxes on roads, not only on his house as does the urban dweller, but on his barn, implement shed, and all the land he owns. Surely he is entitled to use the roads he is paying for.

It has also been suggested that many of the vehicles are without proper lighting. Very stringent rules are in effect, and are being enforced, on farm vehicle lighting.

From one-half hour after sunset, to one-half hour before sunrise, farm tractors must have two white lights at the front and one red light at the rear, just the same as a motor vehicle. The farm implement must also carry a red light at the rear. If the two vehicles are more than 20 feet long, lights must be carried showing a green or amber light to each side at the front and a red light to each side at the rear.

The red-triangular slow moving vehicle sign, sold throughout Ontario, may be substituted for these red lights. If the implement is more than eight feet wide a red light or reflector must be carried on each side at the extreme rear. Also, two independent means of attachment must be used when a farm implement is being towed along a highway.

Licences or special permits are required only in special circumstances. Single vehicles may be up to 35 feet long, eight feet wide, and 13-1/2 feet high before a permit is required. A combination of vehicles can be up to 60 feet in length. If over these limits, special permits are available from the Ontario Department of Transport. A licence is required for self propelled forage wagons or for farm trucks to be used on the highways.

When "Concerned" states that the farmer remains one of the privileged few, is he really suggesting that the farmer be banned from the roads? This would greatly increase the cost of food products. Is he really willing to pay 35 to 50 per cent of his take home pay on food similar to European countries, rather than the 19 per cent he is now paying?

Or is he willing to appreciate the farmers' point of view and slow up when he sees farm vehicles on roads provided for the use of all citizens.

Free Press Farm Page

Keen competition 'neath sunny skies at Halton Junior Farmer field day

By Jim Jenkins

The attendance at the Halton Junior Farmer Field Day, held at Acton on Saturday, May 25, was more than double that of last year's. There were over 30 participants in the morning track and field events, plus officials and spectators. This was probably partly due to the excellent weather, with temperatures remaining in the mid-70's throughout the day, while the bright, sunny conditions were responsible for many sunburns. Afternoon saw two top-sided baseball games, Palermo defeat-

ing Norval 15 to 1, and Palermo over Acton 15 to 2.

The following are the results of the track and field events: Boy's Running Broad Jump, Burke Harrison; Aldo Norton; Dennis Sinclair; Discus, Larry Bennett; Earl Burt; Bob Rutledge; 440, Burke Harrison; Brent Marshall; Don Griswold; Mile, Murray McGill; Bill Alexander; Don Hamilton; Hop, Skip & Jump, Allan Norton; Murray McGill; 220, Allan Norton; Burke Harrison; Bill Jackson; Shot Put, Jeff Nurse, Larry Bennett; Allan Norton; 100, Burke Harrison; Allan Norton; Jeff

Nurse; High Jump, Jeff Nurse; Murray McGill; Allen Norton; Girls' Softball Throw, Wilma Ella; Thelma Kirkwood; Jean Wilson; High Jump, Rosemar Skonhoske; Maggie Givon; Mary Williams; Wilma Ella; Discus, Maggie Givon; Gwen Billidge; Jean Wilson; 440 Relay, Acton; Norval; 440 Dash, Maggie Givon; Mary Williams; 75 Dash, Maggie Givon; Lois Kirkwood; Mary Williams; Running Broad Jump, Maggie Givon; Lois Kirkwood; Thelma Kirkwood; Shot Put, Jean Wilson; Lois Kirkwood; Maggie Givon; 220, Maggie Givon; Mary Williams; Wilma Ella.



SCOTTISH YOUNG FARMER DELEGATE Janette Wilson, is the guest of Junior Farmer Linda Linham, R.R. 1 Limehouse, to observe Canadian farm methods. (Staff Photo)

Scottish Jr. Farmer at Linhams says "Halton looks like home"

"Halton county is not so vastly different from Scotland," according to Miss Janette Wilson. As a delegate for the Scottish Association of Young Farmer's Clubs, she is spending two weeks of an exchange visit with Ontario Junior Farmer Linda Linham of Southbrae Farm on the Fifth Line near Acton.

Janet comes from Neilston in Renfrewshire County, Scotland, where her family own a 353-acre farm, with 50 Ayrshire milkers and 150 sheep. At 21 years old she is finished school and works in a bank.

She has been involved with Young Farmers for close to five years, and this is her first exchange trip abroad.

Since she arrived in Canada at the beginning of April she has visited farms in Simcoe and Lambton counties. "Every county has something special to show," says Janette. "I'm having a high old time."

"There is a similarity to home here, in general habits and landscape," she says. "I'm going to visit an Ayrshire farm so I can make a comparison."

While she is in Halton, the Linhams plan to drive Janette around and show her the points of interest.

"On Friday night they are going to have a party for her in Stewarttown Hall and then she is going to do the work," says Linda. Janette is to show her slides of farming in Scotland to the Halton Junior Farmers.

She is one of 10 delegates from the United Kingdom enjoying exchange visits with Junior Farmers in various parts of the province.

They were brought over in a week-long cruise by boat. "We were all sick," admits Janette. She leaves June 14.

Safety Council plugs theme "Man, Machinery and Fire"

"Man, Machinery and Fire" -- the three main causes of injuries and accidental deaths on the farm -- are the theme words for the Halton Safety Council's 1968 campaign.

In a letter to Halton's farm organizations this week, Safety Council president Gerald Carton and secretary Mrs. William Webb outline their plans to make the county a safer place in which to live and work.

A list of publications, first aid tools and films available to Halton farmers is included in the letter.

The Safety Council safety line-up for '68 includes dozens of pamphlets on safety, some safety

serviettes and a set of five large posters for displaying around the home and barn.

Members are also selling, at cost, the slow moving vehicle signs, first aid kits, two sizes of fire extinguishers, plastic goggles for protection of eyes when spraying or grinding, respirators, hard safety hats and reflector tags which show up at night. The prices range from 10 cents per reflector tag to \$11.25 for the larger of the extinguishers.

The Safety Council pays freight charges and a projector rental fee for safety films for any farm group in the county. There are 10 films available, ranging from

nine to 33 minutes in length, some in color and some in black and white, which are available for showings. They deal with auto safety, hazards on the farm, machinery safety, swimming, artificial respiration and fire prevention.

Pollock and Campbell

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Plans exchange trip with Wisconsin 4-H'ers

By Jim Jenkins

Halton County Agricultural Representative Henry Stanley reported to a meeting of the Halton 4-H Club leaders, held at the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food May 30, that five Halton 4-H members will be selected to visit Kanosha County, Wisconsin, for two weeks in 1968. In return, the same number of Wisconsin 4-H'ers will visit Halton County in 1970, living with 4-H families for two weeks.

The active summer season begins for members on Thursday, June 20, with a Careers Seminar at the Ontario School for the Deaf in Milton. Several speakers will outline their occupations, telling how it is related to agriculture, and name the various institutions and universities where one will obtain the necessary education for the various vocations. Everyone is welcome at this Careers Seminar night.

The following Monday evening, June 24, the second annual 4-H Fun Night will be held at Hornby Park commencing at 6:30 p.m. with a pot luck supper. The program includes baseball games and other sports, plus 12 4-H

members competing for \$50 in prize money in a public speaking contest.

On July 17, at the University of Guelph, 4-H livestock members will compete in the annual 4-H Livestock Judging Competition. This year a class of lamb carcasses will replace the live sheep class.

John Dunford, Assistant Agricultural Representative for Halton and Peel, announced that the annual Land and Seed Judging Competition will be held in conjunction with the Peel competition at Terra Cotta on August 8. At present further details are indefinite.

Halton County has 128 4-H agricultural club members working on 225 projects, compared to 124 members working on 207 projects last year. Yet only 31 new members have joined this year, which is 10 less than in 1967. Eight beef calf club members have entered their steers in the Queen's Guineas competition.

That's man

Man is the world's most durable and miraculous machine. His heart beats daily over 100,000 times, he breathes 23,000 times, inhales over 400 cubic feet of air, moves 750 major muscles, and usually speaks about 5,000 words, and yet this marvellous machine can be destroyed in a few seconds by one mistake. It's worth thinking about.

Acton Forage Club meets at G. Leslie's

By George McPhail

On Wednesday May 29, the Acton Forage Club held its second regular meeting at the farm of G. Leslie.

Bill Lasby, the president, opened the meeting by having the members recite the 4-H pledge. The secretary, Norma Leslie then read the minutes of the last meeting which were adopted as read.

Speeches were given on Soybeans in Halton County by Keith Aitken, Why Grow Barley by Bob Leslie, Corn as a Cash Crop by Bob Lasby, and A Place for Oats by George McPhail.

Mr. Braida said that these were all done well. The members judged a class of barley and oats next and gave reasons for their choices then came a quiz on the speeches that were made up by the club leaders.

The meeting was closed and refreshments were served by our hostess.

Missing bike

A man's bicycle, reported missing from the L.G.A. parking lot May 26, was later discovered abandoned in bushes at the Matthews home, Knox Ave.

See film

The new Halton county promotional film, "Man and the Boy" will be shown at the Robert Little school Friday afternoon. Joe Hurst will introduce the film for the students.

Natural gas is exciting



at the Windsor Raceway.

Ever watch the trotters going through their paces down at the Windsor Raceway? What with the speed, the colour, the excitement, you may never have noticed that you stay completely comfortable. But you do. They've gone out of their way to ensure your comfort, winter or summer -- and they've done it with natural gas. From the clean, fresh air you breathe, to the goodies on your dinner table, natural gas behind the scenes is quietly contributing to your comfort. In fact, the things that gas is doing at the Windsor Raceway can be as exciting to a home-owner as the race itself!

Look at the big Grandstand windows: Natural gas keeps the big 6,000 seat grandstand warmed with clean, filtered fresh air. The windows put it to the test: they stay clean and dry whatever the weather, because the gas heating system doesn't allow soot or frost build-up. No condensation can take place -- because gas-heated warm air literally "scrubs" it off!

Peak at the modern Kitchens: They're fully equipped with natural gas appliances. The chefs prefer them for speed, precision, economy. Most chefs do, as a matter of fact. Think of it this way: gourmet meals are easier to make with natural gas for cooking.

Glance at the Taps: From grandstand to stables to paddock natural gas heaters maintain an unlimited supply of piping hot water -- gallon after gallon of it! Your home calls for only a fraction as much, of course -- but gas will give you the same speed and dependability.

Windsor Raceway, like so many big complexes in South-Western Ontario, chose natural gas because only natural gas does so many things so well -- efficiently, economically, dependably. And natural gas can do as much for you. Look into it. Talk to your contractor or United Gas.

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