

Halton Farmers Supported General Farm Organization

Halton farmers posted a strong 74 per cent yes vote in favour of the General Farm Organization in last week's Ontario farm plebiscite and ranked sixth among the counties favouring the new organization.

Neighbouring counties of Peel and Westworth also strongly favoured the G.F.O. recording 72 and 61 per cent yes votes respectively.

But they were among the minority of 18 out of 54 counties favouring the G.F.O. as the proposed province wide farm organization was defeated. "Not as Smart"

Tom Foster, chairman of the Halton County G.F.O. campaign committee, said today:

"I guess the rest of the province isn't as smart as we are in Halton."

"We've seen here in Halton the problems farmers will face in the future—problems of taxation and Halton farmers have realized the need for a good farm organization to combat them."

Foster said taxation is one of Halton farmers' biggest problems.

Because of reassessment last year taxes on the average Halton farm have risen from \$800 to \$1,200.

"Now with the defeat of the G.F.O. we are left to fight this taxation problem by ourselves," Foster said.

A committee of 100 farmers has been formed to fight high taxes, he said. The committee had hired a lawyer but had hoped for help from the G.F.O. in its fight.

Confusion

He said there was a poor turnout at the meetings set up to explain G.F.O. and added many farmers voted no rather than approve something they didn't understand.

He said the Ontario Farmers Union didn't help settle this confusion when it suggested G.F.O. stood for governmental control.

"They had signs up all over the place saying vote no for governmental control" said Foster.

Nothing is further from the truth, Foster said.

The G.F.O. would have been under no more government control than the existing farm organizations, he added.

Foster was pessimistic about chances of a nationwide farmers' union being set up next month at the Winnipeg farmer convention.

"I've heard that the other provincial unions have no intention of going national."

"I don't know who will be going to the convention besides Walter Miller and his gang from Ontario" he said.

He added he doesn't see much sense in Ontario farmers getting into a national organization when they haven't got a provincial organization.

"You have to start these things on a provincial basis" he said.

He said there are about 450 working farms in the area and allowing for two votes per farm there would be about 900 eligible voters in Halton.

"We had slightly better than a 79 per cent turnout with 461 voting" he said.

Foster noted provincial legis-

lation allows for another plebiscite in two years' time.

"After two more years of putting up with Farmers Union-Federation of Agriculture wrangling, Ontario farmers should be more ready to vote for the G.F.O." he said.

Apathy Reason Why G.F.O. Defeated Says Coulter

North Halton farm leader Roy Coulter, vice president of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture blamed apathy as the major reason the General Farm Organization was defeated in last week's plebiscite.

Some 90,000 Ontario farmers voted out of a possible 200,000 so apathy has to be the major reason for the defeat, he said.

He explained that right from the beginning of time farmers have been independent businessmen and the feeling of "I can make it alone" is still prevalent among farmers.

Doesn't Work

"That's not how our society is run any more" he said. "Going it alone just doesn't work at the present time."

Coulter said the Federation of Agriculture backed the G.F.O. for this reason.

"We realized that the Ontario farmer needs a good, strong, and well-financed farm organization," he added.

He said the defeat of the G.F.O. has left the Ontario Federation pretty much up in the air.

"It was in the back of our minds that the G.F.O. could be defeated but we were banking pretty heavily on the formation of the new organization," he said.

Trust Firm Official Was Prominent in Education

L. L. Skuce, active in education in Halton County from 1938 until his retirement, died suddenly at his Sunningdale cottage Monday evening, June 23rd.



L. L. SKUCE

Following his retirement from education work he was with the Halton and Peel Trust and Savings Company and was manager of the Milton Branch from 1964 until 1968 when he was appointed a special representative.

Mr. Skuce came to Halton County and worked from Milton as Inspector of Public Schools from September, 1938 until 1958 when he was appointed Superintendent of Trafalgar Township Public Schools. When Oakville and Trafalgar merged in 1962 he was named superintendent and continued in that position until his retirement in December, 1963. The Lorne Skuce Public School in Oakville was named in his honor.

In the fall of 1964 he was named manager of the newly opened branch of Halton and Peel Trust in Milton and continued until 1968 when he was appointed special representative and business development officer.

Mrs. Skuce predeceased Mr. Skuce in 1967.

Well known throughout the county, Mr. Skuce was also active in the Oakville branch of the Victorian Order of Nurses. He was also a member of Knox Presbyterian Church, Oakville, and the Masonic lodge.

A private funeral service was held at Lindsay with interment at Riverside Cemetery, Lindsay.

Short Circuit, Warning Siren Sounds in Error

Residents in Howard Wrigglesworth Public School area were startled last week when the air attack warning siren situated on the school grounds moaned low for about five minutes steady, Tuesday morning. However it was a short circuit and not a national emergency which touched it off.

People within listening distance were puzzled as the big grey signal high atop its tower started wailing at about 9 a.m.

W. Bruce McGregor, Halton's Emergency Measures Co-ordinator said it was likely a short circuit in the wires that touched off the siren. He telephoned the Canadian Army base in Toronto which controls the siren and had them pull the switch until repairs could be made.

"The army is completely in charge. The EMO office has no control over the siren," Mr. McGregor explained.

In case of an emergency the siren's wall would alert residents to tune in their radio or TV for instruction. In case of an accidental alarm, like last week's the EMO, police and fire departments have instructions to call the Toronto base to report the malfunction.

The air attack siren has a funnel shaped trumpet on top which revolves. When its whine reaches full volume it can be heard all over town and in surrounding rural areas.

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Halton County G.F.O. Vote Results

Halton farmers were decidedly in favor of one General Farm Organization; however, this was by no means true for the majority of the Province. Of a total of 679 polls, including advance polls, the number favoring a General Farm Organization was 39,708 while 50,622 were opposed, giving a percentage in favor of only 43.3%. The minimum percentage required to make the G.F.O. a reality was 60%.

Following is the breakdown of how voting went in the four polls in Halton:

Question 1: Are you in favour of a General Farm Organization with compulsory checkoff?	Yes	No	Spoiled	Total
Oakville Township	77	31	0	108
Boyer Community Centre	57	14	0	71
Nassagaweya Township	103	50	2	155
Brookville Hall	105	22	0	127
Esquesing Township	342	117	2	461
Stewarttown Hall				
Burlington Township				
Lowville United Church				

Question 2 — Should each Marketing Board have a vote on the Provincial Council of the G.F.O.?

Those who answered Yes to question 1 voted as follows:	Yes	No
Boyer Community Centre	61	5
Brookville Hall	47	4
Lowville United Church	63	8
Stewarttown Hall	78	8
Totals	249	36

Those who answered No to question 1 voted as follows:	Yes	No
Boyer Community Centre	12	10
Brookville Hall	3	10
Lowville United Church	5	9
Stewarttown Hall	9	26
Totals	29	55

Question 3 — If a G.F.O. is established —
A — Should membership require a voluntary payment in addition to any check off?
B — Should membership be automatic when a farmer pays a compulsory checkoff?
C — Should membership require a minimum amount from a combination of a voluntary payment and a compulsory checkoff?

Those who voted Yes to question 1 voted as follows:	A	B	C
Boyer Community Centre	6	33	22
Brookville Hall	8	35	13
Lowville United Church	8	40	26
Stewarttown Hall	4	53	22
Totals	26	161	83

Those who voted No to question 1 voted as follows:	A	B	C
Boyer Community Centre	0	18	2
Brookville Hall	1	8	1
Lowville United Church	1	5	3
Stewarttown Hall	6	13	1
Totals	8	44	7

Of the 461 people who turned out to vote in Halton County 74.2 per cent favored a General Farm Organization. Of the 369 voters that answered question 2, 75.3 per cent voted yes to the fact that each Marketing Board have a vote on the Provincial Council if the G.F.O. was established. Of the 329 voters who answered question 3 — 62.3 per cent wanted membership in the G.F.O. to be automatic when a farmer pays a compulsory checkoff.

Form Executive, Georgetown Campers Now CFCF Affiliate

Georgetown has a new camping club — the camping club has a new executive — and the new executive has an old problem — strengthening the membership.

A Georgetown branch of the Canadian Family Camping Federation became a fact Thursday when interested persons, most of them already holding CFCF membership, voted unanimously to add Georgetown's name to the rapidly lengthening list of branches. The organizational meeting was at the home of Gil and Audrey Ruston, 8 Stevens Cres. The Georgetown club, named for the time being, is a spinoff from the Brampton Ramblers who up until now have been the "local club" for Georgetown CFCF families affiliated with a branch.

In CFCF clubs, offices are held jointly by husband and wife. Accepting office Thursday were presidents Ted and Marg Hewitt, vice presidents Tom and Mia Van Alpen, secretaries Ken and Hazel Gorin, treasurers Beverley and Read Whatmough, publicity chairmen Terry and Marlene Harley, campsites chairmen Henry and Ellen Rasmussen, and program chairmen John and Eileen Booth will serve in this capacity temporarily.

Twenty-six people attended the meeting including provincial board chairmen Bruce and Alice Bartleman, and Jack and Eleanor Morrish, who explained the Canadian

Family Camping Federation, what it is and how it operates to the non-members. Active year round, the family camp clubs, host and visit group campouts during the camping season and meet monthly through the winter. The "off-season" enables them to hear experts speak on topics of interest to campers such as care and repair of equipment, first aid, tourism, and driving safely and to make plans for the following summer.

The new Georgetown executive will meet twice during the summer and consider such essentials as a club name, a regular meeting place and time a club crest, theme — and recruiting.

Membership is open to all individuals and families interested in the sports of trawling, camping and hiking. — When driving on freeways, know your exit ramp and the one before it. If you make a mistake, keep going. Don't stop or back up. "Bring 'Em Back Alive!"

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School Sketch Plans Approved
Approval of sketch plans was given Thursday by the Halton Board of Education for an addition to Centennial Public School in Georgetown estimated at \$170,000, and a new public school in Moore Park subdivision in Georgetown estimated at \$643,000.

Other sketch plans for schools approved at the same meeting were those for Ryeon Public school, Burlington estimated at \$200,000 and a new public school on Prospect Street in Burlington estimated at \$588,000.

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