



FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE executive members are shown during their first meeting of 1971. The officers were elected in December. From the left are president Bruce McClure, first vice-president William Mahon, second vice-president Merle Gunby, director Harold Middlebrook and secretary-treasurer Mrs. Edrie (staff Photo)

Federation explains function to council

Following a suggestion by Deputy-Reeve Russ Miller that a representative of the Federation of Agriculture be invited to a meeting of the Esquering Council, a delegation of three appeared to give the background of the Federation and grants which council has been approving since 1941.

John Bird gave a brief history of the Federation on the theme that "A farm is not just a business — it's a home."

Improve living
"The Federation improves living in the community. Many changes in the townships have

been brought about by its members, sincere and dedicated citizens." Changes mentioned, included phones, roads which were put down and maintained by voluntary efforts on the part of farmers, lights, sidewalks, high schools, picture shows. It established Co-operatives, Halton County Medical Services, and Co-operative Insurance Association.

Mr. Bird concluded, "Anything we do inevitably helps all home owners in the municipality."

Bruce McClure explained that grants like that from Esquering

Council (since 1941) keep the Federation alive, since all financing comes from this level. Halton County then has a representative in the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, which in turn, has a rep on the federal level.

Over 6,000 members
Denzil Lawrence read a brief on farming, stating there are over 6,000 members in the O.F.A., which is pressing for taxation reform, capital grant program, reduced rate on truck licensing, and assistance for farmers who find it necessary to seek work off the farm.

The brief also pointed out that since agriculture is 42 per cent of Canada's economy, if agriculture is depressed, it follows that there will be depression in other areas.

Closer to home, the financial support given to the F. of A. resulted in the development of a 30 acre park which was later sold to Burlington because of vandalism and lack of funds for maintenance. Halton's share of the returns went into purchase and development of Hornby Park.

Councillor Wilfrid Leslie commented that the Federation is a great organization to give leadership to farmers left in the township.

Esquering council

Told improperly treated sewage being dumped on township land

Improper working of a digester in the Georgetown sewage plant has resulted in three years of improperly digested sludge being dumped on Esquering property. The machinery has not been fixed so far, because they have been unable to get the level down to make necessary repairs.

James Powell of the County Health Unit attended Monday's Esquering Council Meeting to explain the difficulties at the plant, and the methods of dumping and control. In the warm weather, the sludge is spread on fields and plowed under immediately, and is a useful agricultural product. When ground is frozen, sludge is spread and covered with lime. If there is any odor, he said, they'll move to a more remote area or use other methods of controlling odors.

Sludge spreads
Deputy-reeve Miller pointed out sludge dumped at the top of the escarpment in winter was carried down into streams and ponds with the spring thaw. He also mentioned that, while every eye is on the pig farmer, and they have to put in large tanks for winter storage, "here's all this indiscriminate sludge-dumping. Some was dumped in a field by (Councillor) Cox and it was pretty well raw sewage."

When asked if tightening of by-laws would control where it was being dumped and how, Mr. Powell replied all contractors for

sludge-haulage must have a licence which is subject to cancellation for any cause.

He also said that Air Control and Waste Management have come into the picture and is keeping an eye on the situation, anxious to get it under control. "Their controls will probably be far stricter than your by-law, when drawn up."

Overloaded
Len Cox said that he understood from Water Resources that more was going into the plant than the digester could handle, and they were pulling it out too soon. Mr. Powell admitted this could be so. The digester hadn't been working properly for three years, but stated firmly the Health Unit would call a stop if anything untoward occurred.

According to Russ Miller, there have been many complaints. He was told it was difficult to get an area so remote that it wouldn't bother anyone, because the odor is wide-spread.

To this, Councillor Cox pointed out wryly "Yes — a little goes a long way."

When Mr. Powell repeated that, when properly treated, sludge produced is quite objectionable and easily handled, Councillor Dick Howitt asked if dumping would continue although machinery is not working properly.

The reply was that the machine can't be repaired until provisions

have been made to move the product completely. No mention was made of how close they are to a solution.

ONTARIO'S FORESTS
Ontario's productive forests cover 154,471 square miles, 48 per cent of the land area; 148,230 square miles are on Crown lands and 16,191 are privately owned.

FATAL TO FISH
The loss of forest cover on the land causes drainage streams to fill with sediment and run warm in summer. Since this spoils the fishing, the responsible angler is careful to prevent forest fire.

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(3 LB. AVERAGE)

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TENDERLOIN PORTION

45¢ LB.

55¢ LB.

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HAMS

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Crop insurance won't cover snowmobile damage

If adjusters for the Crop Insurance Commission see snowmobile tracks on wheatland, they probably will refuse a claim for winter-kill, says F. E. Goodyer, Supervisor of Claims for the commission.

Goodyer says snowmobile damage to winter wheat is "definitely not covered and the commission will not be liable for the same."

When running over snowcovered fields, snowmobiles compact the snow. This causes icing in the spring and chokes off the wheat. The damage often resembles winterkill, which is covered by crop insurance.

However if adjusters see track patterns in the growing wheat

they will not accept a claim for winterkill.

Goodyer advises farmers to do what they can to keep snowmobiles off their seeded acreage. Posting the land is not sufficient protection in itself, he says.

Arthur McLaughlin, a Napanee adjuster for the commission, says he has seen similar damage to alfalfa.

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Tests necessary for young hunters

When you did your Christmas gift shopping were you one of those who purchased an air rifle or a pellet gun for a boy under 15 years of age to use?

If so, did you warn him that he must not take it outside for hunting purposes because he would be breaking the law?

No one under the age of 15 years can own or possess a gun of any type and this includes a pellet gun, BB gun or air rifle. It is a criminal act to do so.

At the age of 15 years, with special authority from the Ontario Provincial Police a gun may be owned. However, it may not be used for hunting before attending a hunter safety training course and successfully passing the Department of Lands and Forests hunter examination tests. After passing the examination there is one further requirement to make it legal — the signature of parents or guardian to assume responsibility.

If you are starting a boy out to become a hunter, coach him to be a true sportsman; make certain he complies with the law and understands fully the responsibility of having and using a gun.

How well you do this could mean the difference between life or death for someone.

Severe drop in egg price

By Henry J. Stanley

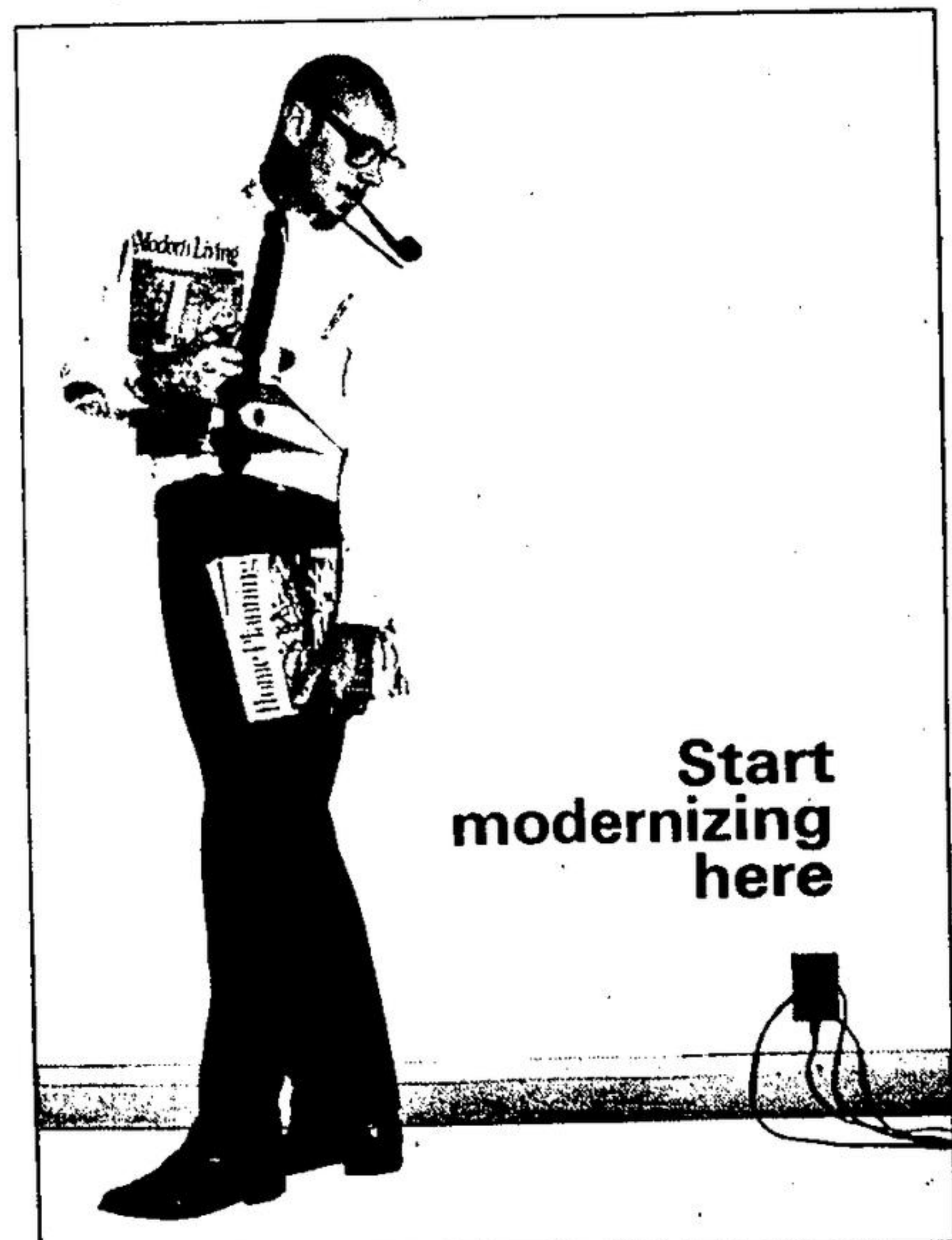
Eggs certainly are a good buy this year for the housewife. On the other hand, the profitability of the laying hen business is very shaky. A comparison of the January prices received from a Halton poultry farmer selling to the retailers as compared to last year is as follows: Grade A large — 39.4 cents per dozen compared to 57.7 cents; Grade A medium 31.3 cents vs. 54.2; and Grade A small — 20.8 cents vs. 45.7.

Egg Revenue Down
At the same time the costs of producing these eggs has risen. Laying mash which sold a year ago at \$101 per ton is now selling for \$107.

According to the Canada Department of Agriculture, the average price received by producers for all grades of eggs in 1970 was 27 cents per dozen. This compares very unfavorably with 38.2 cents per dozen in 1969.

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