Farm factions can't agree on develpoment rights

Committee Saturday morning failed to close the gap between two opposing factions in the farming com-

traditionally favored the freezing of prime foodlands in the region, providing that farmers are compensated for of development

But a position voiced by the South Esquesing Ratepayers' Association opposed any control or restriction that could prohibit them from selling bidder.

meetings wasn't prevalent Saturday, it appeared that the positions couldn't be reconciled.

The meeting held in Milton was instigated by the Regional Planning Committee in the hope that by bringing the two factions together, one clear position for farmers. could be taken.

Halton region is currently in the process of developing an official plan and one of the most controversial areas of that plan deals with a foodland designation.

The draft official plan contains a clause that would freeze farmlands but makes no provision for compensation of lost development

Ed Segsworth, Chairman of the Federation's Land Use Committee, said, Halton Federation of Agriculture feels that rural lands should retain the present agricultural zoning for the duration of the plan, unless full and adequate compensation is offered to farmers that will be locked into the 'food-

land' designation.' Rod Pinkney, a member of

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A meeting convened by the the South Esquesing group said the plan should be more flexible. He claimed there was no shortage of food or

> "I don't want the clamps put on people who have the initiative and who can make through tough times."

He said there were a lot of people living in cities and towns who would like to live on five or 10 acres in the country. "Let them have a chance to enjoy life while they are

Reford Gardhouse said he opposed any restriction on the sale of his land unless there is land to the highest compensation. "I have five hydro towers coming through my farm. I want to be free to move. If you have to sell, you don't want to sell for less than market value," he said.

Mrs. Sally Young made it clear that she opposed government intervention that would save foodlands for

want to go into debt for 20 or and work on a method to help for the previous year. The

30 years to have the privilege of working seven days a week for half the salary he could earn in five days in the

town?" she asked. Mrs. Phylis Ferrier said she wanted no planning in the rural area at all. "If someone this country work and get us wants to work his guts out for the rest of his life, that's up to him-but if I want to sell,

that's up to me." Halton Hills Councillor Roy Booth said he agreed with Mrs. Ferrier. "You're absolutely right. The references to the green paper and code of practice have to come out of

there (the plan)." Jack Martin, a lawyer and farmer, said he didn't trust government at any level "Farmers survive in spite of government, not because of it. They'll freeze your land at \$300 an acre and then buy it up. You have to protect your backside. If you don't, no one

Dr. Carl Martin of Milton society at the expense of the said the government doesn't have the right to control the "Why would a young man land. "Let the land be free

the farmer make a living." Murray Harris said that planning had to take place in the rural areas to protect farmers. "If you don't plan it

now, it won't be here later." builders had acquired all the land they need for some time and he indicated the bottom had fallen out of the specula-

tive market. He reminded farmers in the Esquesing area that Federation had fought to keep

Region levy-\$7,161,098

about compensation.

the four area municipalities. Administration Committee is recommending that half of the levy come due

Feb. 28 and half April 28. The region will collect \$3,334,610 from Burlington, \$2,588,858 from Oakville,

\$607,716 from Milton and \$629,814 from Halton Hills. The interim levy is based on 50 per cent of the final levy

NTRODUCING

The NEW way to save time

Halton Region will raise levy is used to reduce the \$7,161,098 in interim taxes to amount of borrowing that is

a theatre, a landfill site and a

dragstrip out of that area.

"We fought to preserve green

space. These developments

wouldn't have been conducive

Milton Mayor Don Farmer

said farmers didn't want

compensation from govern-

ment-but freedom to do

what they want in the market

Tom Foster said it was a

waste of time to even think

to your way of life."

In the case of Milton, the first instalment for ratepayers to the town is Feb. 20 and the second is April 17. In the other three areas' interim levies are due Feb. 28 and April 28.

-Scout and Guide groups are parading to Holy Rosary Church from the Legion Hall Sunday at 2, for their annual church parade.





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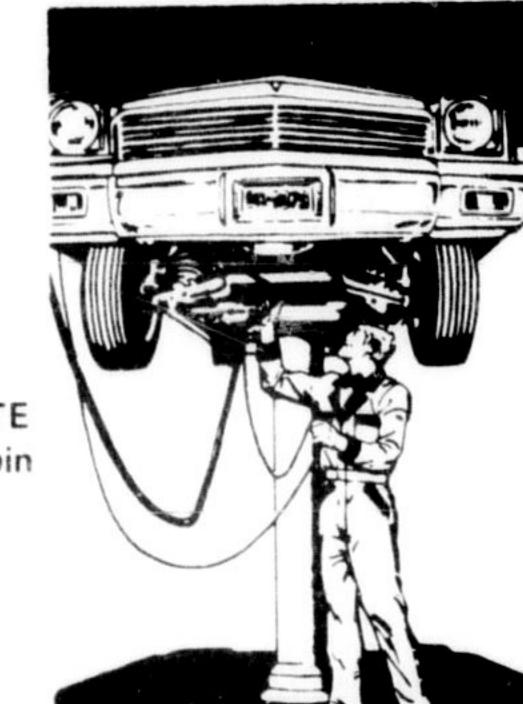
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