

President explains Federation workings

by Marion McArthur

In this, my first report to the farmers of Simcoe County, I wish to make each one aware of the workings of the Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture.

Our Board is made up of representatives from each Township in the County, Commodity Group representatives as well as representatives from the Junior Farmers and the Women's Institutes. The meetings are held the first Thursday of each month in the co-

operator's Board Room, Essa Road, Barrie.

Why do these men and women give of their time to hold meetings on your behalf? In this ever-changing world the number of farmers is becoming smaller, therefore, this small percentage of the population has more difficulty being heard by big business and government. Urban sprawl is creating many difficulties and aggravations in conducting day to day

farming operations.

Only by working together can we keep some measure of control on our farms.

At the recent Ontario Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting resolutions were presented from many Counties on such topics as the Metric System, Tile Drain Loans, Ontario Hydro, Acid Rain, Revised Seed Act and Crop Insurance. These resolutions were debated by the whole convention and most will be forwarded on to the proper channels of Government for consideration.

The resulting changes in legislation brought about by these resolutions assist everyone in the farming community, not just Federation Members.

Paper Prepared

An Agriculture and Food Strategy for Ontario paper has been prepared for presentation to the Ontario Government.

Ontario is Canada's premier agricultural province, producing 29 per cent of the Canadian total of agricultural products in 1979.

Ontario is also the premier food processing province, making up 40 per cent of the total food and beverage industry in 1977. Despite this position in the food system, Ontario accounts for 35 to 40 per cent of Canada's imports in agriculture products.

Of the \$4013 million worth of agricultural imports in 1978, at least

two billion dollars worth was for food that could easily have been grown and processed in Canada but was not.

Impending shortages of oil and its cost and supply implications is basically caused because we are not self-sufficient from our resources. A very similar situation will

develop with respect to the supply and cost of our food if our governments do not make rational, well-defined policy decisions immediately.

A committed strategy for agriculture and food would mean a billion dollar plus boost to the provincial economy, greater employment,

stable food supply and prices to consumers and enhanced revenues to the provincial treasury.

CFA recommends a special strategy fund of an additional \$150 million per year for the next ten years be established to support the programs required by this strategy. The increase in economic

activity in the province, loan repayments and increased returns from sales and income taxes will more than cover government "costs."

In conclusion, on behalf of the Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture, I wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Tips of the trade

Snow and ice pose unique driving hazards to motorists. Slippery road surfaces can throw a car into a skid without warning, and icy grades can become insurmountable obstacles.

In the latter instance, some motorists believe they can "burn" their way out. While this has been known to work on occasion, it can more often worsen the problem and can be dangerous!

Fast spinning tires create centrifugal forces that can tear a tire apart. "It can literally explode," says Jack Cape, manager customer services for BF Goodrich.

On a slippery surface, a car's differential housing will usually cause one rear tire to spin while the other remains stationary. "The spinning tire therefore, can be spinning at twice the speed indicated on the speedometer," Cape explains.

This is a result of the differential housing registering midway between the rotating speeds of the two side gears, which are attached to the rear wheels through the axle shafts.

All three components normally turn at the same speed. But when a car turns a corner, the outside wheel has to travel further than the inside wheel. This causes it to turn faster than the inside wheel, and the differential

housing to turn at a speed midway between the two.

Since the car's speedometer is connected to the housing through the drive shaft, the spinning wheel would be turning twice the speed shown on the instrument.

Doubling the spin on a tire while the other is stationary multiplies the centrifugal force four times.

"These forces act on the whole tire structure, from beads to the tread. An eight cylinder engine has the power to bring a tire to its centrifugal force failing point in three to five seconds. A six-cylinder car may take between eight to 12 seconds," says Cape.

As most Canadian passenger tires are designed for speeds up to 180 km per hour, it doesn't take much free-spinning to increase centrifugal forces far beyond the safety point.



New-look council

This is Tay Township council for the coming two-year term. They were sworn in recently during inaugural ceremonies in the township office. From left to right: Councillor Kay Chambers,

Reeve Charlie Rawson, Deputy-reeve David Walker and Councillor Bill Gibson. Seat is long-time councillor Tom O'Hara.

DECK YOUR HALLS... FOR THE SENIOR CITIZEN BUS TOUR Tues., Dec. 23/80, 7 p.m.

HOME OWNERS

Decorate the exterior of your home for the senior citizens Christmas lights bus tour.

You could win-

First Prize: Dinner for 4 at CN Tower

Second Prize: Dinner for 4 at Bavarian House

Third Prize: Dinner for 2 at Bavarian House

Please call: **526-2268** if you would like your home to be judged in the contest.

SENIOR CITIZENS

You are invited to go on a **FREE** bus tour of the area to see all the Christmas lights, courtesy of A.E. LePage Real Estate.

Please call **526-2268** to make reservations.

Pick up is at PMCL terminal, Bay St., Midland.

If you cannot make it to the terminal, let us know when you make your reservations and alternate arrangements will be made.

There will be coffee compliments of McDonald's to wind up the tour.



THE WORLD IS YOURS...IF YOU KNOW THE RIGHT PEOPLE...

Wherever you move the Welcome Wagon hostess is the right person to help you find a place in your new community.

Call 526-8574