

# Jones 'devoted all of his extra time to the welfare and betterment of agriculture'

by MURRAY MOORE  
Ron Jones, a Tay Township farmer who was a very strong supporter of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, at both the county and at the provincial level, died Saturday in Huronia District Hospital. His funeral was held yesterday afternoon. Jones, a pork producer and a past director of the North Simcoe Pork Producers, was the second vice-

president of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture until two weeks before his death, when he resigned because of his poor health. Allan Johnson, the RR1, Hawkstone farmer who succeeded Jones as provincial director for North Simcoe, and who knew him for 15 years, says that Ron Jones was "an individual who stood up for the rights of the agricultural community. He stood for

what he believed in. He was an individual who devoted all of his extra time to the welfare and betterment of agriculture." Jones was a past director of the North Simcoe Soil and Crop Improvement Association, as well as a past director of the county Pork Producers and a member of the executive of the province-wide OFA. The member of

Ebenezer United Church was a member of the old St. Andrew's Hospital Board of Midland. In 1971 and 1972 Ron Jones was a Tay Township councillor. Clint Nesbitt, the provincial agricultural representative for Simcoe County, says of Ron Jones, "He was a great practitioner of our democratic freedoms. He really believed in, and practiced, the rules of democracy. He was a great debater and participant in public meetings." Jones was in



one way like a lawyer, in that he could think on his feet, Nesbitt said.

Ron Jones was part of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture committee which successfully lobbied the provincial government for changes in the provincial Petty Trespass Act and the Line Fence Act. Before the changes in the Petty Trespass Act, farmers were responsible for injuries to persons on their property, Johnson said. The current Act requires any person, hunter, fisherman or otherwise, to obtain permission from a property owner before

entering a property, he said. Don Woodrow of RR4, Coldwater, a Simcoe County director of the Federation of Agriculture, and Ron Jones' best man at his wedding and a friend for over 25 years, echoed the comments of others who knew him. "He seemed to have a feeling for the needs of the farmer in the area. He would get to the basis of what their needs were. (Ron) always seemed to be concerned about the farm community as a whole.

## Wise and otherwise

You can't avoid the hazard you can't see. In winter drivers are faced with special visibility problems that require some advance work before getting on the road. So plan ahead for the drive ahead, urges the Ontario Safety League. Allow at least 10 to 15 minutes before every trip for snow removal and general cold weather conditioning of your car to meet prevailing weather conditions. For a systematic check, the League recommends these winter sight-saving tips:

- 1) Remove snow, frost, or ice glaze from the entire windshield and all windows.
- 2) Clean off headlights and taillights so that other drivers can see them clearly.
- 3) Turn on your heater for a minute or two before using the defroster so humidity won't fog the windshield when it hits the cold glass.
- 4) Use your wipers and washer as often as required to prevent road spatter build-up.
- 5) Stop and wipe outside lights and mirrors from time to time to control spatter, snow, or moisture build-up.
- 6) Keep lights on low beam when driving in fog or heavy snowfall.

## Simcoe East MPP seeks more action

Al McLean, MPP Simcoe East, has contacted the Minister of Government Services, the Hon. Doug Wiseman; the Minister of Industry and Trade, the Hon. Gord Walker; and the Minister of Tourism and Recreation, the Hon. Reuben Baetz to encourage the siting of more Provincial facilities in Orillia. "Many of the leases the Ontario Government holds on office space in the Toronto area are

coming up for re-negotiation," McLean wrote his colleagues. "Because of its low business rents and motivated workforce, Orillia is a prime area for the Province to relocate the offices of its Ministries and Commissions." McLean supports the cabinet's proposal to disperse the functions of the Provincial Government throughout Ontario, including the relocation of entire Ministries out of the downtown of

Metropolitan Toronto.

"It makes sense for the Ontario Government to decentralize its operations. The Government will save on rental fees charged for the leasing of office space and bring the operations of its ministries closer to the people it serves."

In response to McLean's letter, Tourism and Recreation Minister Reuben Baetz said the size of his ministry's Orillia office may be increased following a reorganization of his ministry.

Minister of Government Service Doug Wiseman, told McLean he was forwarding a copy of his letter to the ministry's leasing branch for information and future involvement.

Industry and Trade Minister Gord Walker conceded that at present no facilities of his Ministry will be established in Orillia. The Ministry's offices serving Simcoe County are currently located in Willowdale.

"I am pleased with the prompt response from cabinet Ministers to my request. Although there are no promises for the creation of new facilities in Orillia in the near future, I will continue to encourage consideration of our area as a prime for relocation of Provincial Government offices," McLean concluded.

## Christmas Blessings



May the joy and peace of His birth be with you today and always. God bless you!

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life": John 3:16.



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MPP McLean