

Ont. County Jr. Farmer Picnic, Fri., July 14

The Executive and Directors of the Ontario County Junior Farmer Association met in the Department of Agriculture Office, on Wednesday evening.

The main purpose of the meeting was to make plans for the Annual Junior Farmer Picnic, the Annual Junior Farmer Church Service, and the Tractor Safe Driving Competitions held in connection with the Fall Fairs.

The president, Ted Croxall, conducted the meeting, and led the discussion.

It was decided to hold the picnic on Friday, July 14th, at Geneva Park, with picnic lunch commencing at 6.30 p.m. followed by games and swimming. Commencing at 9 p.m., a dance will be held. Junior Farmers from each of the four local clubs—namely Brooklin, Port Perry, Beaverton and Uxbridge, are invited to be present.

It was decided to hold the church service at Beaverton this year. The Beaverton Junior Farmers are making the arrangements, and a tentative date of August 13th has been set, with the service to commence at 7.30 p.m. The Port Perry Junior Institute is providing special music. Junior Farmers of all Clubs in the County are invited to attend their annual church service on August 13th.

The finals in the Tractor Driving Competitions will be held on October 5, at the North Ontario

Ploughing Match, to be held at Dunrobin Farms, Beaverton. The Executive decided that the top 3 contestants at each of the local driving competitions to be held in connection with the fall fairs would compete in the finals. The winner of this final County Competition will represent Ontario County at the Provincial Finals held at the Coliseum, Toronto, in January 1951.

Mr. Fair, Agricultural Representative, outlined the rules and regulations concerning the tractor driving competitions at the local fairs. Contestants are required to drive a tractor hitched to a wagon through a series of offset stakes, and back the wagon up to a loading chute. Time, care of operation, safety, and driving ability are all judged and count toward the final score. In addition, each contestant is required to answer a short "true" or "false" examination in connection with care and operation of farm machinery. The various Junior Farmer competitions will be held at Oshawa Fair, Port Perry Fair, Scott Fair and Beaverton Fair, prior to the finals at Dunrobin Farms on October 5th.

The meeting adjourned after a lengthy discussion of each of the questions at hand.

The United States Weather Bureau reported more than 10,000 different local weather observations during 1948.

Blocks of salt are the favourite form of currency among the Bertat tribe of western Asia.

Markham Township Building Permits Over Million Mark

Building permits issued in Markham Township for the first six months of the current year are only \$53,000 short of the total for all 1949, figures released by Ross Norton, township building inspector, indicate.

Total amount of permits issued for the last six months is \$1,315,300. 1949's twelve month total was \$1,368,800.

Issuance of permits for June took another big upswing, value being \$313,550 as compared to \$128,450 in June, 1949.

The increase in issuance of building permits for the township is not of the "flash-in-the-pan" but is being steadily sustained, a month by month comparison indicates.

Local Health Unit Rents Newmarket Site

The new York County Health Unit has accepted an offer from the town of Newmarket for headquarters accommodation in the Webb home. At a meeting last week the health board which includes representatives from Stouffville, Whitchurch and Markham, decided to rent the building at \$150 a month from the town. Although the town council has not purchased the building yet, the health unit has been assured that the building will be purchased. Council decided last week to pay \$16,800 for the building.

The unit has asked each of the 11 member municipalities for three-quarters of a mill on its assessment for 1950. The board hopes to operate on a basis of one mill in the 12 months of 1951.

One of the members of the board said that he hoped the municipalities would understand the pressing need for funds in establishing the unit. The three-quarters of a mill basis for the remaining six months in 1950 is higher than the eventual basis for operating the unit because of the cost of establishing the service, buying new equipment and other initial needs.

The present staff consists of Dr. R. M. King, the unit medical health officer, Mrs. Jean Rhoten, Aurora, superintendent of nurses, R. A. Craig, chief sanitary inspector, and four nurses, Barbara Willis, Toronto, Betty Topper, Richmond Hill, Ann Marie Quigley, Toronto, and Miss G. Walker. Six nurses will eventually be required, also another sanitary inspector. There are to be seven branch offices throughout the municipalities in the north end of the county.

Two Newmarket girls, Barbara Pritchard and Mary Bothwell, make up the clerical staff at the health unit headquarters there.

Dr. King comes from Orillia where he was with the Simcoe County Health Unit. He graduated from the University of Toronto in medicine in 1944.

York County Soil Survey

The Department of Agriculture has announced that a general soil survey is being conducted in York County at the present time. Two men from the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, are now working in Vaughan Township and it is expected they will be in York for the remainder of the summer.

Since their work is a survey of the various soil types and not a fertility analysis they operate from the roadsides and will not be calling in at the farm houses. Thus the farmers of York County are asked to co-operate with these men and to not be alarmed when the soil survey party climbs over the fence on their routine work.

It has been almost ten years since a similar survey has been conducted in the county and the ultimate result will be the publication of a report on the "Soil Survey of York County" including a new soil map and recommendations on the most suitable use for the soils of the district.

Going into Pig Business

Alarmed by the number of pigs being lost throughout the province the Ontario Government has decided to go into the pig raising business.

Agriculture Minister Kennedy said last week he was seeking a site for the erection of a modern piggery for experimental and educational purposes. It will likely be located in Western Ontario.

"The demonstration farm will be operated by a farmer and the government will subsidize it," he said. "I am certain that the plan will save the province large sums annually."

Improvement of pasture lands will also be the subject of a study by the department. The number of demonstration pasture farms in the province is going to be increased to six.



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Record Entry Expected For Plow Match

Prospects of phenomenal entry list in this year's International Plowing Match, have made it necessary to restrict competitors, Roy Shaver of Finch, president of the Ontario Plowmen's Association announced.

Only plowmen who have won a prize at a local or county match at some time, will be eligible to compete in the event, Mr. Shaver discloses. It may be necessary in future years, to have been a winner at a county match immediately preceding the International event.

The decision to restrict entries in this way was reached at a meeting of the prize-list committee the other day. It was stipulated that the restrictions apply only to Ontario plowmen, however. The match is open to the world. Any competitor outside of the province is eligible to enter.

Mr. Shaver explains that the

chief aim of the match is to raise standards of plowing. This, along with an unprecedented entry list, has made the change necessary, he explained. County and local plowing matches are planned for all parts of the province and those who have not yet won a prize and who are desirous of competing in the big international event next October, are urged to enter their local match. Local competitions open in September.

This year's International Plowing Match, which will be staged on the beautiful Nottawasaga Valley plantations in Simcoe County, has every indication of outclassing any previous event. It opens on October 10 and continues to October 13. Scene of the event is just three miles south of Highway 89 near Alliston. Its location is in Tecumseh Township.

Opening day—Tuesday, October 10—will be open to the counties of Simcoe, Ontario and York. Total prize money of nearly \$1,800 will be offered and Mr. Shaver says that "as some of Ontario's best plowmen come from these counties, competition should be

keen and well up to international standards even on the first day."

It has been decided that competitors from Simcoe, York, Ontario, Peel, Halton, Wellington, Dufferin and Grey Counties must provide their own tractors or teams for plowing. The local committee will provide tractors and teams for those residing outside these counties, at a nominal fee of \$5.00. Application for tractors and teams must be made on or before October 1 for the big match.

A valuable prize-list is being arranged for the various events. Total prize money will exceed \$14,000, the president says.

The Nottawasaga Plantations, scene of the match this year, offers an abundance of room and spectators are assured that not only will they be able to enjoy a worthwhile outing, but they will also be able to switch actual plowing competitions without walking a long distance from the exhibits.

Plan of the match area is being arranged so that machinery and implement display in the "Tented City" will be quite close to the actual scene of competition.



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