

LET'S TALK CARS

How Often Should You Buy A New Car?

Every year? Every two or three years? Or just when your old car is worn out?

I'm convinced there isn't a red-blooded driver living who doesn't have an opinion on this controversy. So I'm passing along the verdict of a group of auto industry statisticians who've made a study of it.

After a cost accounting of depreciation and wear in today's market they have concluded that the best time of all is every three years. They base this conclusion on the declining rate of depreciation as a car ages, weighed against the mounting cost of upkeep. The depreciation factor is the most notable important in the first three years.

Depreciation is highest starting with the first year though it is compensated to some extent by service costs being almost nil. The second year depreciation rate decreases but service costs go up. Third year depreciation continues to decline normally but service costs jump sharply, to which additional cost of new tires and battery must usually be added. Style changes and engineering features of a three-year-old car become noticeably out of date, and this affects its trade-in value as a used car. If one human point might be mentioned — and that is the simple, pleasurable pride in owning a NEW car every year — then there is much to be said for the economics of trading yearly. It is a well known fact that in today's competitive market that dealer over-allowance or discount takes much of the sting out of the first year's depreciation.

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The Stouffville Tribune

Federation of Agriculture Says Taxes Acute Problem to York County Farmers

Presenting the annual report of the York County Federation of Agriculture before county council on Wednesday, President Francis Redemeler covered the farm problems of county agriculturalists and told the acute problem which taxes had become to farm land.

Mr. Redemeler said: "The York County Federation is associated with other Federations, co-operatives, commodity groups, Junior Farmers and Women's Institutes, and so provides a channel of communication between these groups in other counties, provinces, and 26 countries of the free world.

The Federation of Agriculture has no political affiliations, but works with all governments for the improvement of Agriculture and the economic and social life of farm families.

This county is among the most densely populated in the province, but there are still approximately 2,500 farms, chiefly operated by owners and their families. While there are some part-time farmers, in most cases the farmer's income is limited to what he can produce on his land.

It must be recognized that about one third of the county's population is rural, and while urban population increases steadily, farm land should not be taxed for urban development or above its ability to pay.

We would also stress the fact that the agricultural production of the county plays a very important part in its economic life. It is not only in the interest of the farmers themselves, but of importance to the other businessmen who provide goods and services to the farmer.

It would appear desirable for this council to make a sincere effort to maintain the agricultural area of the county as long as possible in a profitable and productive manner. We would therefore urge the council to do all within its power to prevent uncontrolled urban development — avoid excessive speculation and premature expansion.

We hope that the York County Council will recognize this principle and be guided by it in its long range planning. York County has always been one of the good agricultural areas of the province, and it would be a severe loss if taxes and other matters would interfere with the farmers' ability to produce quantity and quality farm products.

Municipal taxes on farm land have become an acute problem; urban development, the proximity to a large city and an attractive summer resort, tend to aggravate the situation.

The recent experiences of farmers in Scarborough have terrified farmers in York lest they find themselves in the same position, whereby their land is assessed at a supposedly future development value. This is in direct conflict with the Assessment Act.

We were pleased that Judge McDonagh, in his decision for Scarborough farmers, upheld the validity of the assessment act and clearly stated that farm land must be assessed at its agricultural value, and that consideration must be given to factors affecting the productive capacity of the land. We have placed copies of Judge McDonagh's decision on your desks.

We would request the county council to review the assessment procedures of its township assessors to make sure that due consideration is given to the aforementioned points.

Together with several officials of the Federation, our secretary, fieldman, Mr. Fred Wicks, closely followed the Scarborough assessment appeals, and he performed especially valuable service in the legal re-assessment of the farms involved. At that occasion our attention was drawn to the judicial system in the County. It is apparent that the load on the courts in the County, including as it does the City of Toronto, is increasing rapidly. The Federation of Agriculture therefore would like to request County Council to investigate this situation. In the interest of more rapid handling of cases, and possibly at lower cost to the County, it might prove advantageous if the County were separated from Metropolitan Toronto for this purpose.

It has become very apparent that the assessment of land for educational purposes is outdated, and we would ask this council to meet with other governing bodies and discuss revision of the taxing structure.

In this connection we quote from a submission by the B.C. Federation of Agriculture: "1. That provision must be made for all children to have like facilities for a high standard of education."

2. That an alternative be found to land or property taxation as a means of paying for education, in that it imposes an unfair load on farmers as compared with their fellow citizens in other fields of endeavour. Even for urban dwellers, land and property tax creates injustice by the fact that there is little incentive for them to develop their homes and properties, as it automatically increases their contribution towards the cost of education and other kindred services.

If the County Council sees fit to give further study to this vital problem, we would be grateful for an opportunity to present our case in more detail.

The Federation is pleased to note the establishment of the York County Hospital Commission. We recognize the great need for adequate hospital facilities in the county. We realize that this need can only be provided at the cost of increased taxes, but would none the less urge this council to proceed with this study as quickly as possible.

The Federation has a continuing program of education and information so that farmers may be better informed on marketing plans, farm legislation, organization, and ways to increase the economic and social returns to those engaged in agriculture.

Our biweekly newspaper, Rural Co-operator, is sent to 3200 farm and rural homes in the county.

In order that you may have a better understanding of the Federation work, we have placed on your desks a copy of the last annual meeting of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture.

Last year we requested that our grant be restored to \$1,000, as it had previously been for a number of years. At that time we received \$500 and were informed that the matter of increase would be referred to this year's Agricultural Committee.

The Federation was forced to severely curtail its organizational fieldwork and its service to farmers in the county in order to balance its budget and maintain a reasonable reserve.

This year we would repeat our request for the restoration of the grant to the earlier figure of \$1,000. This year there may be marketing plan votes for one or more of four commodities, each of which will require a great deal of field work and other expenses. Also, the Minister of Agriculture has suggested the unification of farm organization. The Federation will have to take the lead in this program, on county as well as provincial levels. This will undoubtedly require extra clerical and organizational work. The Federation is moving toward the establishment of a full-time field service.

Executive and Directors, 1961: Past President, Harry Ferguson; Pres., Francis Redemeler; Vice Pres., Oliver Bales, James Darlington; O.F.A. Member, F. Brumwell.

Township Directors — Dalton Runney, Donald Hunter, Donald Brodie, Miss Cora Brodie, Carl Boynton, Mrs. Geo. Foster, John Naylor, John Maginn, Henry Gellatly, John Fawcett, Henry VanDerpost, Bruce Clarke, Reg. Gibbons, Mike VanNosttrand, Mrs. Ross Armitage, Herb Wright, Murray Crone, Mrs. Sidney Jones, Frank Marritt, E. J. Norris.

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Dairy Products — James Faris, Gordon Forgy, Clare Eves.

Beef Producers — Allan Hopkins; Hog Producers — Oliver Bales; York Medical — Paul Snider; Plowmen — Art Mitchell; Co-ops — Robert Lewis, Harry Warriner; Crop Improvement — Clifford Winger; Members at Large — Chas Grubbe, Mrs. Jas. Faris;

Junior Farmers — To be named Secretary - Treasurer, Fieldman, Fred Wicks.

BELL DIAL EXCHANGE FOR CLAREMONT

The Bell Telephone Company received a consent from the Pickering Twp. Planning Board to purchase a parcel of land in Claremont at the regular meeting on Friday, Feb. 3. The Company stated that they wish to purchase a lot 100' x 152', comprising the rear halves of the lots owned by Mary Taylor and Edward Lewis.

The Bell Telephone Company plan to construct a new automatic exchange building on this property. It is hoped that the Claremont District will be converted from the manual type telephone exchange to the dial system by the end of the year.

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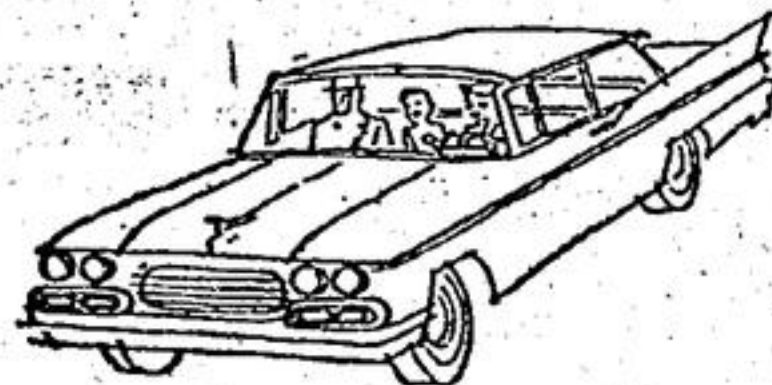
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