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Discuss "Beef Business" At Public Meetings

(A. A. Wall, Agricultural Representative, York County.)

Of the different kinds of farming in York County, the beef business has changed less over the years than any other. Most of our beef cattle men have stuck to traditional systems that are well tried and proven.

This may be a good thing because on farms, quick changes often work out badly. I wonder a little though, when I hear about the growth of the beef business in South Western Ontario. The stories about big feedlots, push-button operation, and big silos come along regularly.

It's easy to say these fellows can do whatever they like, and we will go on doing things the way we like doing them. As long as they are not right on our doorstep, it's easy to ignore the unpopular changes.

The danger is that a change in the beef business affects everybody. Beef pretty well all goes to the same market and a feedlot 200 miles away has the same effect on the market as it would if it were owned by a next door neighbour. The result is that we need out as much thought, time and study on the beef business, as we possibly can. The York County Beef Improvement Association has set up a series of meetings to do just this.

The meetings will be held next week. They will be afternoon affairs, starting at 1:30 p.m. On Monday, Feb. 27, the meeting will be held for King Township in the Anglican Hall at Kettleby. On Tuesday, Feb. 28, there will be one at the Township Hall, Belhaven. Pefferlaw Community Hall will be the location on Wednesday, Feb. 29, and there will be one at the Vandorf Hall on Thursday, Feb. 28.

At each meeting, there will be a panel of beef men from the community, to discuss some of the new developments. I'll be talking about making a cow-calf business more profitable, and George Arnold will have information on the economics of the feedlot business.

All farmers are invited to these meetings, and we will try to make the discussions informal, useful and practical.

Ninety-Three Deer Killed by Motor Vehicles in 1963

The observed and recorded deer killed by vehicles in the Lake Simcoe District totalled 93 during the year 1963, according to figures compiled by Wildlife Management Officer J. S. Dorland at Maple. Mr. Dorland stated that this number is approximately the same as totals in each of the 3 preceding years. The estimated damage to 58 of the vehicles involved, in 1963, amounted to \$11,568.00.

The largest number of known kills were reported in Simcoe County, with the Counties of York, Peel and Dufferin following in that order. So far, this year, the number of fatalities is highest in the Townships of Pickering and Reach, in Ontario County, Caledon Township in Peel County and Toronto Township in York. The kills have occurred on highways running through privately owned lands where few if any open deer seasons have been proclaimed in recent years. As humans and the elements are almost the only predators of deer in the lower townships in the District, these factors are seldom sufficient to harvest enough animals, lawfully or unlawfully, to keep the numbers in check.

Since 1953 there have been 784 known deer kills on highways within this District alone, and possibly such mortality may increase in future as new highways and more traffic develops. So far there is no record in this area, of car accidents, involving deer, causing death to occupants of the vehicles. We may ask how long such a record can be maintained.

Should Pay Own Planning Fees

Whitchurch Township Council has spent \$2,216.40 in arranging engineering on the new water supply for Oak Ridge. Clerk Thos. Kerr was instructed to request that this amount be included in the financial figures to be borne by the area securing the benefit and not spread over the entire township.

Musselman's Lake Hearing, Feb. 25

A Hearing by the Ontario Municipal Board will be conducted Tuesday, Feb. 25th, at 10:30 a.m. regarding the appeal of Michael Sorosko against Whitchurch Township Planning Board. The Board had refused to accept a subdivision which Mr. Sorosko wished to develop on a road which was undeveloped and had never been taken over as part of the township road system.

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Council To Be More Active In Emergency Measures

W. F. A. Preston, Emergency Measures co-ordinator for York County attended the regular meeting of Markham Township Council on Monday. He requested that council pass a bylaw expressing support for the county project.

Deputy-reeve Rumble stated it was his impression that this was a federal project but it now appeared the council was being asked to take a more active part.

Mr. Preston said that previously the Act had read that councils "may" adopt a plan of co-operation, but in the revision, the Act states that the reading has been changed to make it mandatory. He gave a resume of the benefits for council but added that Reeve Hooper was well informed on the subject having attended the EMO course at Arnprior.

The program, he said, is to assure that all levels of government will be able to carry on in the event of hostilities. While world matters seemed encouraging at present with large stockpiles of arms on hand it was up to all to be prepared. He said that the township would be provided with a mobile radio set to be located in the police office. The government is providing sixteen sets, nine of which are now in use.

The bylaw supporting the county program was requested prepared on a motion of councillors Palmer and Sloane.

Begin Construction Of New \$54,000 Cannington Arena

Construction of a \$54,000 arena at Cannington to replace one gutted by fire early in December started last week. Hugh Wilson, manager of the former arena will superintend construction which should be completed in about five months.

Mrs. Harold Graham, Cannington council member and trustee of the community centre board said the project is classed under the government winter works program and is therefore eligible for grants. Local labour will be used on the project said Mrs. Graham.

The new arena will have a concrete block front, 40 by 95 feet, with concrete floor, asphalt roof and metal clad sides. The former arena was a frame structure in which a new hardwood floor had recently been laid.

The building will be 216 feet by 95 feet about 15 feet longer and five feet wider than the old building. In the old building the trusses came down to seat level and crowded the passageways, but in the new building there will be ample distance between the trusses and the seats. Added width will be used for a passageway behind the seats, Mrs. Graham said.

Seating capacity will be 1,200—roughly the same as could be housed in the former arena. An auditorium is planned for the second floor with glass paneling which will afford spectators a view of the ice. An auditorium to be added later will push the total cost of the building to about \$60,000.

Mrs. Graham said insurance on the old building amounted to \$40,000 and a \$10,000 grant from the agricultural department and additional government aid will cover the whole cost of the new building.

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