

FARM NEWS

Something worthwhile to attend in the near future is the Leeds Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting and Banquet in Lyn on February 16. A skit reproducing the clever "Foodland Ontario" supermarket exhibits the Federation created last fall and a talk on the changing role of Ontario as a food producing province will headline the evening's events. Leeds' Federation of Agriculture is showing the way to the rest of Eastern Ontario on this important matter of what a bargain Ontario grown food is. Everyone is welcome to try and attend the meeting. Urban development, usually described as sprawl, housing and industrial expansion, roads, hydro lines and pipelines are familiar to us all. The thing about these facts of life in our modern industrialized society that causes many people concern is that they use good land where pushing the soil around for building purposes is simplest and cheapest. This good land is Canada's agricultural heritage. It is shrinking in Southern Ontario at a fatal rate ... 100 acres a day, which contributes to Canada's becoming a net importer of every type of food but grain. The Jan/Feb. issue of the *Independence* (the magazine for the Committee for an Independent Canada) emphasizes that urban sprawl "prices the land out of young would-be farmers reach" and that "increasing scarcity and price of farmland contributes as much as higher operating costs to higher food prices." "A land use policy to protect farmland from urban encroachment..." the *Independence* points out, "is needed to revitalize Canadian farming." Some ideas on this crucial subject will surface at the Leeds Federation of Agriculture annual meeting in Lyn.

- Tony Locke

KID'S STUFF

RIDDLE MANIA

1. When is a window like a star?
2. Why is a pencil like a riddle?
3. If a man and a goose were in a runaway balloon, and the man had no parachute, how could he get down?
4. How do bees get rid of their honey?
5. What is it that a person can place in his right hand that he can't place in his left hand?
6. What table is made of paper?
7. Why is a hen sitting on a fence like a penny?
8. Would you rather have an elephant chase you or a gorilla?

ANSWERS

1. When it's a skylight.
2. It's no good without a point.
3. Pluck the goose!
4. They sell (sell) it.
5. His left elbow.
6. A timetable.
7. Because she has a head on one side and a tail on the other.
8. Let him chase the gorilla.

Up The Creek

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DISCONTINUES DRAINAGE GRANT AND LEAVES AREA FARMERS HOLDING THE BAG

In the fall of 1977, area farmers signed a petition to do drainage work on the Schmid-Mattice Municipal Drainage Works and the construction of the Myers Branch. The township of Bastard and Burgess South hired A.J. Graham Engineering Consultants Ltd. of Ottawa to survey and plan the drain. Plans, profiles, and specifications were respectfully submitted Nov. 10, 1978 at a cost of \$169,000. with 1/3 payable by Provincial grant, 1/3 by the Federal Government through A.R.D.A., and the remaining 1/3 to be paid by the farmers involved. One month later, Dec. 5, 1978, the Federal Government discontinued its financial assistance on all projects retroactive to Sept. 1978. Should the project continue as planned, the farmers involved will be held responsible for 2/3 of the cost of the drain, approximately \$110,000; the lion's share on the shoulders of about 7 farmers. If the project is terminated at this time, the above farmers will have to bear the burden of the engineer's fees and administration costs. However, one condition in the contract states that if one or more of the farmers involved withdraws his support and as a result the project is terminated, the responsibility of the cost to date would be levied against the farmers. But the Government has the authority to discontinue its support without any penalty or obligation. The old adage still holds, "Not do as I do but do as I say". A delegation of farmers presented their problem to the directors of the Leeds County Federation of Agriculture and asked them to endorse a resolution and present it at the Ontario Federation of Agr., Provincial level. The Federation assured the farmers that they would support them as best they could.

- Etta Proud

NORTH LEEDS

Appropriate Technology

"Everything you ever wanted to know about NUCLEAR POWER but were afraid to ask."

The Appropriate Technology Group will present an evening of information exchange on the controversial topic of nuclear power on Thursday, Feb. 15, at 8 pm, in Crosby Hall.

Stan Segal, Queen's University physicist, will discuss the nuclear power issue. His talk will be accompanied by a film.

We regret that the Wind Power meeting Jan. 17 had to be rescheduled. The new date will be announced in the *Lantern* as usual.

FRENCH DRESSING:

- 1/2 Cup olive oil
- 2 Tblsp. white wine vinegar
- 2 Tblsp. lemon juice
- 1 Tsp. sugar
- 1/2 Tsp. salt
- 1/2 Tsp. dry mustard
- 1/2 Tsp. paprika

Place ingredients in a jar. Cover and shake well before using.
Yield: 3/4 Cup.

FARM BUSINESS FOR FARM WOMEN

The 180 women present for the 2 day conference at Kemptville College were eager and determined to learn; their enthusiasm apparent. Several women came from as far a way as P.E.I. and Western Ont. The purpose of the conference was to provide farm women with an opportunity to gain up-to-date information, business skills and ideas they could utilize in their work.

To-day farming is a highly skilled and complex business, and many farm women do all of the recording and bookkeeping while sharing the responsibility of major decisions. Some of the more complex topics under discussion were total farm management, estate planning, farm partnerships, income tax, insurance, time management and budgeting for decision making. On the lighter side, were direct farm sales, knowing your banker, and understanding the milk cheque. Demonstrations of micro-wave ovens, electronic sewing machines, and food processors were also added to the programme.

One of the most outstanding events was time spent listening to the guest speaker, Mrs. Margaret Campbell, Liberal MPP for St. George. She is a lawyer and has been a family court judge. The topic for the evening was family law. Mrs. Campbell credited rural women of having done more to bring about changes in legislation in favour of women than any other group. But we still have a long way to go. While many farm women resent the lack of recognition and acknowledgment toward their contribution to agriculture, each came away with a much deeper sense of pride in her work.

This was an opportunity to participate, learn, and enjoy. The conference will be of value to those who attended long after the cows come home.

Cookery Corner

VALENTINE'S DINNER

ASPARAGUS VINAIGRETTE
CRAB and MUSHROOMS EN COQUILLE
CARMEL PEARS

ASPARAGUS VINAIGRETTE

- 1 Cup French dressing
- 1 Hard-cooked egg, finely chopped
- 2 Tblsp. minced onion
- 2 Tsp. finely chopped parsley

Leaf lettuce
Cooked asparagus spears, drained and chilled
Radish slices
Lemon wedges

1. Combine French dressing, egg, onion and parsley in a jar and shake well.

2. Line individual salad plates with lettuce. Arrange 4 - 5 asparagus spears in fan-shape on lettuce. Place radish slices between asparagus spears.

3. Drizzle salad plates with French dressing. Garnish each plate with a lemon wedge. Chill until serving time.