

James N. Allan Welcomes All To Plowing Match

I wish, first of all, to compliment the West Haldimand Record for their decision to produce a special number of their paper to commemorate the holding of the International Plowing Match in Haldimand County. This will be a week to be remembered, especially by Ted Montague, Chairman of the local Committee, and the two hundred Members of the various

sub-committees. These persons are responsible for the planning and operation of this tremendous show, the largest annual outdoor agricultural event of its kind in Canada.

It makes sense to hold this Plowing Match in Haldimand County because our farmers have been plowing conscious for years. This interest has been responsible for the development of many

expert plowmen who have won more than their share of awards in local competitions, as well as at the International through the years.

All the people of Haldimand are proud to host this important event and anxious to prove that the citizens of this fine agricultural County with its modern farms - its many herds of show-winning cattle and other livestock -

are capable of dispensing hospitality in generous fashion.

We have other items of interest to show our visitors, foremost of which is a new Ontario Hydro Thermal Generating Station which will be the largest of its kind in North America, only a mile from the site of the Plowing Match. Another item which must be of interest with respect to this year's Match is the fact that

it is being held on industrial land owned by Texaco Canada. It is the site chosen by them for the erection of a large and modern oil refinery. Stelco are in the area also - they have purchased 6000 acres of land and plan to develop a large industrial park, the centre of which will be completely integrated steel mill.

The tented city which covers 75 acres will have many of the features of a permanent city, including paved streets. The Committee is, therefore, able to assure our visitors that they can visit the numerous displays and functions in comfort.

Car Parking Challenge

Parking 10,000 cars in one day and seeing that everyone pays, is the job of the parking and ticket committee. Visitors to the Match are charged \$1 each with a charge of \$1 for parking. The parking areas are located within three to five minutes walk of the Tented City. The fields are enclosed with fences and the parking lanes marked with lines on the ground. Each car will be directed individually to its own parking spot. It is expected there will be 20 ticket offices, 10 at each gate, on the roads leading into the plowing match area, with 30 men involved in parking and manning the gates. Thus it is hoped to keep the inbound

traffic moving smoothly. The money collected at these offices will be picked up regularly by one of the staff, who will be accompanied by a Provincial Police officer and the money transferred to the head office in the administration building.

Ernie Craddock, of Jarvis, is the head of the parking ticket committee. The personnel for this job is being supplied by service clubs in Haldimand County.

It is hoped that with the co-operation of everyone concerned with the parking and ticket selling will proceed smoothly and efficiently so that everyone will get their full measure of enjoyment from visiting the Plowing Match site.

Pathway To Civilization Matched By Furrow Of Plow

W. A. Young, B. S. A.

The pathway of the progress of mankind has been matched by the furrow of the plow. Not only is the plow the basic instrument of agriculture, it is the symbol of civilization. The plow, more than any other instrument of labor, has been responsible for the development of agriculture and the corresponding development of civilization.

To begin the story of the plow, we must go back to the beginning of the world. Primitive man was a wanderer on the face of the earth. He had no settled home, but was able to exist by hunting the animals that killed along the way, and by gathering plants, roots and seeds.

He picked up. He ate food where he found it and moved on.

Civilization actually began on the momentous occasion when people stopped roaming around, and settled down in one place. It must have happened this way.

Someone had the bright idea that the animals they hunted could be caught alive and kept in an enclosure, where they could be used as they were required, without the trouble of chasing after them. Someone else discovered that plants grew from seeds placed in the soil and that it would be a great advantage to have their food where they wanted it, and when.

I strongly suspect the whole idea came from the women of the tribe who probably rebelled against having to bear their children and rear them under nomadic conditions.

Thus, early in the history of our race, the influence of women was a mighty force in determining the destiny, not only of the individual man, but of the race. In the dawn of civilization, men learned never to underestimate the power of a woman.

These primitive people had learned to use a pointed stick to dig small holes in which the seed was placed. Then someone found that dragging the stick through the soil to make a furrow was much easier than making individual holes. For this purpose, a stick with a branch giving off at an angle was much more effective than a straight stick. This was the first plow.

The stick which was now in the rough form of a hoe, was awkward to handle and the man had to walk backwards to pull it through

the soil. The solution for that was easy, he just hitched his wife to the plow, while he held it in the ground and guided it.

The ground was hard, and someone thought of attaching a sharpened flint to the stick, which worked like a charm but made the plow too heavy for his wife to pull. So the family cow was hitched up. The man who first made his cow, and then the ox, became one of the benefactors of the human race. The cow, and then the ox, became the standard beast of burden for many centuries. The ox was strong and steady and easy to manage. Horses until fairly recent times, were considered too noble an animal to undertake such a lowly task.

The domestication of animals and the growing of

crops meant that the people stay more or less in one place.

The time and energy thus saved enabled primitive man to discover many new possibilities of improving his way of living. He looked at the world of nature at his feet, and discovered minerals and clay for pottery. He built himself a shelter from the wind and rain, and thus the building industry was born. Gradually, some became talented at making plows and building houses, and were paid for their time in food. Thus the plow was the father of business and industry.

Agriculture and civilization have come a long way together since our ancestors scratched the soil with a crooked stick. The plow, while maintaining its original form, has developed into a highly specialized machine mounted on rubber tires and drawn by a

high-powered tractor. It is interesting to note that, in spite of all the advances of engineering and civilization, the plow is still the most important instrument of agriculture, and plowing is still a fine art.

In spite of many recent attempts to discredit the plow, investigations at the Ontario Agriculture College, University of Guelph, show that we have not yet developed a machine that gives better results, under normal conditions, than the plow.

The man with the plow will become increasingly important because he has been given the responsibility of feeding a hungry world, and caring for the world's soil from which all things derive life itself. The atomic age will bring many changes, but the plow and the man who guides it will always be in the vanguard of our civilization.

Lutheran Hour Rally

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SUNDAY OCT. 31st, 1971,

3:00p.m

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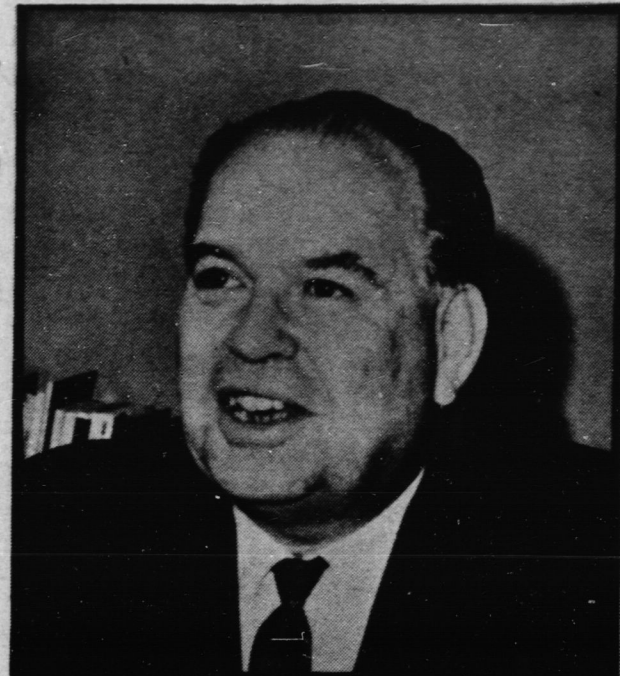
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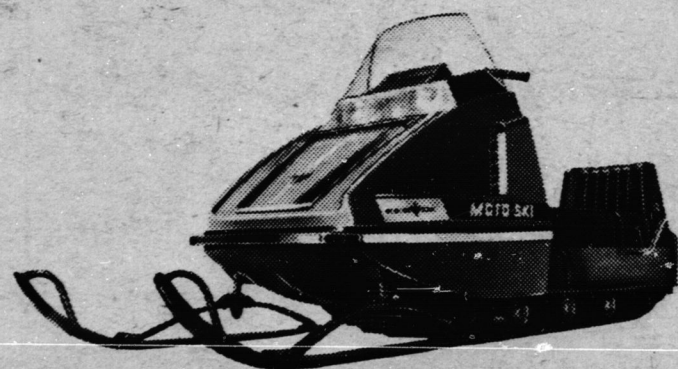


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Lutheran Hour Speaker

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