

1980 Simmental Assoc. Convention begins tomorrow

BOZEMAN, Mt. — The fabulous MGM-Grand Hotel in Reno, Nevada, will serve as Convention headquarters for the American Simmental Association's 1980 Annual Meeting. The Convention is scheduled for February 10-12 in Reno, which bills itself as the "Biggest Little City in the World."

"Plans are proceeding right on schedule," says Ron Baker, of Hermiston, Oregon, who is general chairman of the committee which is planning the event. "We're looking for record member attendance because of the festive atmosphere of the MGM-Grand and the city of Reno."

Baker, who is a member of the ASA Board of Trustees, representing the Western Region, is heading a committee that has been actively planning the 1980 meeting for more than two years. Other trustees on the committee, all from the

Western Region, are Emmet Butcher, of Lewistown, Montana; Dr. Harry Furguson, of Anaconda, Montana; and Miles Davies, of Deer Trail, Colorado.

The schedule calls for the trustees to gather for their meeting Sunday morning, February 10, with the ASA membership to meet with the trustees in general session late that afternoon.

The program Monday, titled "Western Stockmen's Symposium," will take place exclusively at the Washoe County Fairgrounds, located three miles from the MGM. An educational program, featuring three highly qualified speakers will consume most of the morning, with a beef barbecue slated for noon.

In the afternoon, cattlemen from varied operations will participate in a "How We Do It" program, sharing insight on cattle management. A sale of

range bulls, under the direction of sale manager, Bill Lefty, and the parade of purebred animals will conclude Monday's schedule.

ASA will provide complimentary bus shuttle service between the MGM

and the fairgrounds throughout the day.

Monday evening, a large block of seats have been reserved for ASA attendance at the spectacular "Hello, Hollywood, Hello" show at the MCM-Grand. Time

magazine called the production "America's grandest floor show."

The program on Tuesday, February 12, will include the Association's Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony in the morning,

with the trustees election of officers to be held at noon.

In the afternoon, the MGM-Grand Ballroom will be the site of the sale of forty to fifty purebred cattle, with adjournment following the sale.

Agribusiness truckers attend defensive driving seminar

CAMP HILL — A defensive driving program which has been shown to reduce both the number and the severity of truck accidents was held here last week.

Sponsored by PennAg Industries Association, the day-long program was attended by 58 agribusiness drivers representing many of the association's member firms. PennAg is a trade association representing

some 400 agribusinesses in Pennsylvania.

Richard Charles, safety manager for Agway, Inc., was the course instructor. Agway, the Northeast farmer cooperative, is the nation's fourth largest private truck carrier, according to Charles, with some 4000 vehicles and 3700 drivers.

The firm has had formal driver training programs for

more than a quarter of a century, and enjoys an accident rate considerably lower than that of most carriers.

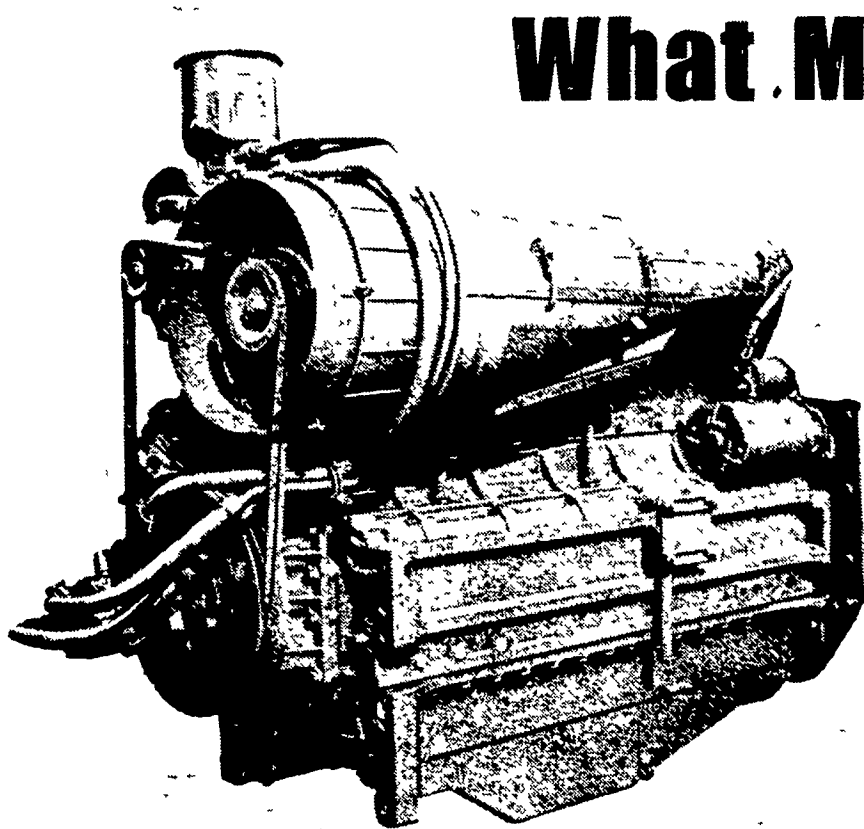
According to Charles, Agway drivers averaged 9.89 accidents per million miles last year, compared to 12.10 million miles for all fleet vehicles.

Every Agway driver must complete the defensive driver training course when he joins the company. Beginning this year, Charles said, each driver will be retrained about once every three years. The program, he noted, has cut down not

only on Agway's accident rate, but on the cost per accident, as well.

Over the last five years, Agway's average cost per accident has declined by \$250 in spite of soaring costs for labor and repair parts.

The training session for PennAg members was the second one offered by the association, according to Ralph Getkin, chairman of the PennAg Education Committee. He said they were pleased with the strong interest shown in this year's program, and that it would continue to be an annual event.



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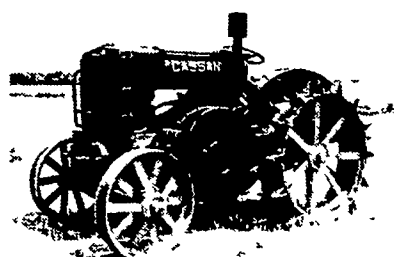
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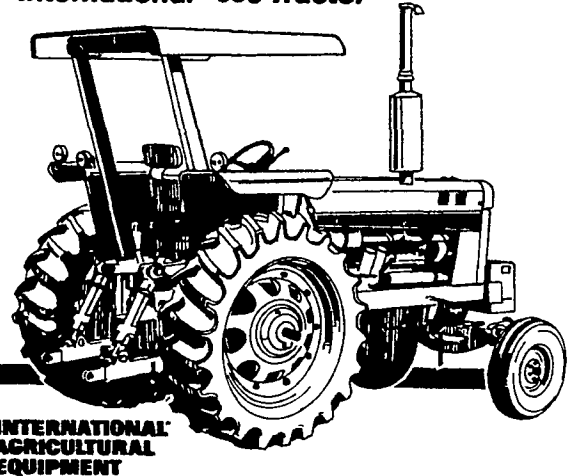
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