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### Founder Of N. S. Tech To Retire

HALIFAX, Feb. 17 — (CP) — Dr. Frederic H. Sexton, founder of the Nova Scotia Technical College and its president for 40 years, will retire in May and will be succeeded by Dr. Alan E. Cameron, deputy Minister of Mines for Nova Scotia, it was announced tonight by Premier Macdonald.

Dr. Sexton, who is 67, was selected by the Provincial Government to found the college in 1907. Nova Scotia became the first Prov-

ince to have organized technical education.

As president, he has been a leading figure in Canadian engineering education. He was responsible for the development of evening technical and coal mining schools in Nova Scotia and a pioneer in plans for establishment of vocational high schools in the province.

Dr. Cameron, the new president, a native of London, Ont., joined the staff of the Department of Mines in 1937 as deputy minister. At various times he has been president of the Association of Professional Engineers of Nova Scotia, the Provincial Mining Society and of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy.

## H.W. Clay Presents Interesting Report

The following report was presented by H. W. Clay Senior Livestock Fieldman, Federal Department of Agriculture at the opening meeting of the Farmers Institute held last night at the Legion Home on Grafton Street.

In giving you a report of the Swine Industry in this province, I feel that I am in a position where I find it difficult to prevent myself from becoming over-enthusiastic. I can make a statement of fact that P. E. Island is today looked upon as an important source of the best bacon type Yorkshire hogs in Canada. The outside demand for our registered breeding stock is far beyond our present supply.

Last September we shipped a carlot of registered boars and sows to Alberta and Manitoba. As a result of this shipment we received orders for four carlots of breeding age sows and some boars. We shipped ten head to Wisil Limited a Montreal Packing Company with a large farm near there. This firm came back with an order of a carload of registered sows. We have received orders from individual breeders in Quebec, Ontario, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. All these orders up to the present time have not been filled. We have not the necessary surplus.

Why is there such an outside demand for Island Yorkshires? The answer is found in the fact that we have a type of hog that conforms more closely than that found in other parts of Canada. Our commercial hogs average closest to 30% A grade. If we had closer attention to weights and finish, the market hogs in this province should grade close to 80% A grade. Since 1922 when hog grading was initiated we had selected our breeding stock with emphasis on the important characteristics such as length smoothness, and the ability to produce a lean carcass up to the top market weights. We have maintained feeding qualities and constitution as evidenced by the fact that many of our hogs reach market weight at 14 weeks of age. We have refused to be carried away by the fads and fancies which are often dictated by breeders and judges who never had an opportunity to apply these facts to the finished carcass as it hangs on the rail. Twenty years or more ago, there was a scramble to produce a Yorkshire with a long head. About ten years ago the same breeders scrambled to have a hog with a short head. Today, these same breeders are beginning to think they need a change again. Some years ago, it was thought the Canadian Yorkshires needed more bone or heavier underpinning. Today we have this fad carried to the point where coarseness of legs head and shoulders have almost reached the point of deformity.

Our Island breeders escaped these pitfalls with the result that we have a strain and type of Yorkshire in demand by swine breeders from all parts of Canada.

Another point in our favor is our freedom from swine disease. In some parts of Canada where short nosed pigs are common, there have been very heavy losses from Rhinitis. It is significant that we never had a known case of this disease in this province. If for no other reason than our freedom from Rhinitis we should not bring in outside breeding stock.

Some years ago we improved our Yorkshires by bringing selected boars and sows from Central Canada. About ten years ago we noted that it was becoming increasingly difficult to find the kind we wanted. Since then practically every boar brought in from the provinces has failed to improve our stock. Breeding stock in Central Canada today is too short in the body, too heavy in the shoulders, too coarse in the bone and decidedly too bull dog like in the head. If we wish to maintain the merit of the strain we now have, we must not bring in outside blood as we find it available today.

I would agree with a plan to import a few Yorkshire boars from England and have them tested here under careful supervision. This idea might warrant further consideration.

We need have no great concern about the lack of blood in our Yorkshires. An analysis of our best breeding stock today will show invariably that they are closely line bred. I believe we can identify the good qualities of our hogs in line breeding. I believe that we have gone far in eliminating ridglings, hermaphrodites and ruptured pigs by close breeding. This is no experiment. The fox breeders found that they improved their stock by line breeding and in some cases in breeding. In the Island of Jersey the cattle breeders never bring new Jersey blood. I have a record where a sheep breeder bred back to the same ram for five generations with an improvement in every step. Our Yorkshires are now the best we have had and they are more closely bred than at a past time.

Close breeding cannot be followed indiscriminately. We are exercising great care in selecting for fertility and feeding qualities. I believe that the general swine producer will agree that we have eliminated the kind that in years gone by were considered "hard to feed."

If we are to emphasize the sale of our stock to outside points, our breeders of registered Yorkshires must support the Advanced Registry Policy. They must make a special effort to test every sow and then build their herds on qualified individuals. Practically every order from other provinces shows a preference for stock from qualified sows and boars. In fact, most orders for boars insist that they be from qualified dams.

Before a sow can qualify in Advanced Registry, she must have a minimum of eight pigs at six weeks of age. Four of this litter, two sows and two barrows are sent to the Test Station. These four pigs must reach 200 pounds in 200 days. When the four pigs are shipped, the carcasses are cut and scored. They must average 75 points out of 100. These requirements eliminate the sows of low fertility and poor maternal instinct. They eliminate sows which produce pigs of poor constitution and poor feeding qualities. They eliminate the sows which produce pigs of low grading. In this way Advanced Registry is useful to every swine producer by indicating the profitable families. Our objective should be to have every sow and boar in the province out of a dam qualified in Advanced Registry.

In the production of registered breeding stock for sale to outside buyers our breeders must take a more serious responsibility than they have in the past. Our brood sows and herd boars must be developed and kept in better condition. They must be kept outside on pasture. The young stock must carry bloom and they must be given exercise on pasture. Lice must be eradicated.

Standard Required In 1947 I do not intend to be a party to the sale of registered stock unless the breeder meets these requirements. I do not intend to take outside buyers to farms where the management and the condition of the pigs is a bad advertisement to our stock. I would ask the breeders to co-operate with us in outlining their breeding policy. If they expect us to assist them in placing their surplus stock, they must build their herds on stock that we can recommend and not animals which they may select or buy at random.

This breeder's responsibility includes the tattooing of all litters except those going on to the Test under Advanced Registry. Every pig must be marked before it is eight weeks old; otherwise, it is not eligible for registration. For this reason, every breeder should arrange to have a tattooing outfit available at the proper time. With the great increase in the number of breeders, we cannot assume the responsibilities of marking any stock other than litters in Advanced Registry. I would ask the breeders of other classes of live stock to bear this in mind and not ask us to mark their stock. This is the breeder's responsibility.

Improvement in our methods of registering our stock. There is too much delay in securing registration certificates. The Canadian National Records Office is not responsible for all of it. I understand that almost one half the applications forwarded from this province are returned for correction. This is the result of careless record keeping. When we make our first visit to all the breeders next spring we expect that all record books will be up to date with full particulars of all animals in the herd.

Outlook The outlook for 1947 is very bright. Whereas we had only about ten active breeders of registered Yorkshires in 1946, we will have over one hundred such breeders in 1947 and many with herds of five or more brood sows. This gives us assurance that we will have a large increase in the stock available for sale to outside buyers. Not all of these new breeders will be successful. Those who do not follow the correct system of feeding and management will never be key breeders of registered stock.

With the increase in the number of new breeders, some of our older breeders may fall by the wayside. I am mentioning this possibility in order that some of our established breeders may remedy some of their past shortcomings. If they keep their stock indoors in the summer, they will find that they continue to show unnecessary delay in their registration, they will find that new breeders will make the sales. We will co-operate with the breeders who co-operate with us.

The year 1946 was a year of expansion. We were taxed at all times to find sufficient stock to supply the local demand of registered stock. This meant that we could not make the close selections we would like. In 1947 with a large expected increase in the number of registered Yorkshires, we shall be in a position to cull more closely. Some breeders may find it necessary to replace some of their brood sows with better ones. There will be more competition among the breeders in making sales. The year 1947 will see the efficient breeders come to the front. The others will fail to survive as producers of registered stock. No matter how many new breeders we have, we will not have too many top animals for sale. In fact, we can open up new outlets if we have young sows and boars in our load lots available at all times.

Due to the outstanding type of Island Yorkshires we have, growing demand for breeding stock from outside points. We must avoid bringing in outside breeding stock except under very close selection and control. We must cull our stock very closely and line breed to intensify the good qualities and to eliminate the characteristics we do not want. We must base our breeding on sows qualified in Advanced Registry. Our breeders must show more efficiency and more self-reliance in developing, marking and registering their stock. In 1947 we must cull our herds very closely and replace with better individuals. Our breeders must keep their stock in premises and in condition that will attract visiting buyers. In 1947, we will see the breeders become key breeders while others perhaps some old established breeders may pass out of the picture. I hope that we may all work together to capitalize on our present favourable position and that we may continue to hold the spotlight as the best source of Yorkshire breeding stock in Canada.

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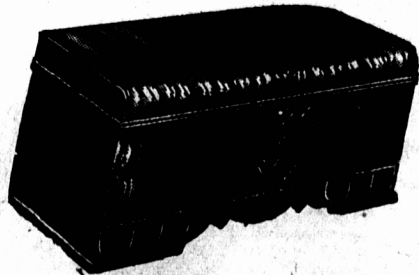
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