

\$10 million boost seen if livestock stressed

Farm revenues in this province could be boosted \$8 million to \$10 million annually—it would mean an average of \$1,000 more for every farm family—by placing more emphasis on livestock production with the resulting increase in butter and meat, it has been suggested by agriculture department spokesmen.

There have been various estimates of the number of cattle Island farms could carry but there's pretty general agreement among department spokesmen that the present 118,000-cattle population could be doubled, and Agronomist D. W. Rogers suggests that better pasture care and management along with fertilizer, limestone and manure applications, could easily double the carrying capacity of Island farms.

Island pastures now carry an average of one-half an animal per acre and this, it is suggested, could be stepped up to one and one-half. Several of the better pastures in the province are hitting close to that now, it has been shown in pasture competitions over the past few years.

BUTTER DEFICIENCY SEEN

There is an estimated butter deficiency in the other three Atlantic Provinces to the value of \$9 million and of 50 million pounds of beef at an estimated value of \$17,500,000, a department report indicates.

Nova Scotia is working on a program to increase its cattle marketings by 60,000 annually with an emphasis on community pastures and the development of a co-operative abattoir in Halifax.

New Brunswick has been promoting beef cattle in the potato areas and marketing is carried out through community auction sales, reports Mr. Rogers who says the open competition helps to increase prizes and give farmers a better share of the value.

Here on Prince Edward Island, it is explained, a program is underway to double the cattle population over the next 10 years.

BEEF INTEREST INCREASING

Interest in beef production is increasing rapidly and province-wide interest was shown here recently in a meeting called to discuss the marketing problem. A committee named at the meeting met later and planned to report back with concrete proposals for improvement to a further general meeting of Island producers.

Speaking of fertilizer, Mr. Rogers says that recommendations considered completely out of line now will be followed in future.

Recommendations here are for 400 to 600 pounds 6-12-12 for grass pastures and 300-500 pounds 0-20-20 for clover or alfalfa pastures, he suggests.



MR. WRIGHT

Butter cut seen

The federal government's consumer subsidy on butter which becomes effective on May 1 should have the effect of moving a considerable quantity of surplus butter to market, according to S. C. Wright, deputy minister of agriculture.

"The subsidy applies at the consumer level," said Mr. Wright, "and will mean that all consumers can buy butter at 12 cents per pound less than at former prices."

"With the federal government granting this subsidy and leaving the support price to the farmer as it has been in previous years, the effect should be that the surplus of butter now held by the government will be reduced."

CROP INSURANCE

On other agricultural matters, Mr. Wright said that the provinces new crop insurance plan for potato growers should be well supported, particularly since the last several years have shown, especially in the western part of the province, that potato crops can be affected by drought and disease.

Mr. Wright said that he is calling for increased grain production in the province which will serve as a cost-of-production saving to those producers who must import feed grains.

Also called for is a program of improved pastures through the use of proper forage mixtures, increased fertilization and better grazing methods. Some of these things can be brought about through pasture competition held in co-operation with the P.E.I. Dairymen's Association.

USE MORE LIMESTONE

Department of agriculture officials for a long time have emphasized the need for more extensive use of limestone on Island farms. "Our soils," said Mr. Wright, "are on the whole inclined to be acid, and increased use of limestone is needed if we are to improve our forage crops."

"By increasing our grain and forage crops we hope to increase our cattle production. The Maritime Provinces are deficit in butter and beef so we would have a market available for all the butter and beef that we can produce."



ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF 1961 WAS MEETING IN CHARLOTTETOWN OF AGRICULTURAL MINISTERS OF CANADA. Front row, left to right, Hon. W. J. Keough, Newfoundland; Hon. Andrew R. MacRae, P. E. I.; Hon. E. D. Haliburton, N. B.; Hon. Adrien Levesque, N. B.; Hon. Alcide Courcy, Quebec; Hon. W. A. Goodfellow, Ontario; Hon. George Hutton, Manitoba; Hon. J. C. Mallett, Sask.; Hon. L. C. Halburst, Alberta. Standing, S. C. Wright, P. E. I.; Dr. Waldo Walsh, Nova Scotia; R. D. Gilbert, New Brunswick; Roland Lesperance and Romeo Lalonde, Quebec; E. M. Biggs, Ontario; T. R. Hilliard, Ontario; Dr. J. R. Bell, Manitoba; W. H. Horner, Saskatchewan; R. M. Dunsin, Alberta. There was no representation from British Columbia.

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SECOND SECTION MONDAY, APRIL 30, 1962 PAGE 1-A

MacRae foresees expansion in Island's farm economy

Tobacco to spread to three counties

Marked expansion in tobacco production is indicated this year with Agriculture Minister Andrew MacRae predicting up to 300 acres under the province's newest farm crop, which is almost four times the production in 1961 when it was grown for the first time on Island farms.

For the first time production is planned in all three counties with one grower in the Alberton area and another in the Rustico region although the bulk of the crop will be produced in Kings County as it was last year.

NEW DEVELOPMENT A new development at Brudenell where Maurice Mermuys who came from Bolton, Ontario and his son-in-law Willie Delonten, are reported to be planning for 40 acres, will probably be the largest single operation although several other growers are also stepping up their effort over last year's crop.

Calcium tests will be conducted in tobacco production at Greenfield and Pleasant Grove by the Experimental Farm Research officer, Keith LeLacheur told this paper.

The tests will indicate whether it is possible to produce a low calcium tobacco and that is desirable, he explained.

The farm research branch conducted temperature and fertility experiments last year which have produced valuable information, Mr. LeLacheur said.



A. B. MACRAE

Disease control is one of goals

In summarizing the intended program of his department for the coming year, Agriculture Minister Andrew MacRae invited "the people of the province to share in the program because only by our combined efforts can we attain the growth and progress which is so necessary for economic survival."

Stating that for many years the department of agriculture has attempted to keep up with new developments in the field of agriculture and has attempted to pass along the knowledge of these developments to the province's farm people, Mr. MacRae said "perhaps this is an opportune moment to outline some of my department's plans for the coming year."

ENVIABLE REPUTATION "For many years this province has had an enviable reputation for the quality of its seed potatoes and that is why we have budgeted \$25,000 for the eradication and control of potato diseases. If disease was allowed to go unchecked it could put us out of the potato business. The money will be used for steam cleaning and disinfecting of equipment and to set up a field inspection service."

"Assistance is to be given in the purchase of seed grain treating equipment and we will encourage the increased use of seed which has been treated against disease."

Pointing out that "much concern" is being felt about expected increases in potato acreage in Quebec and Ontario who are

endeavouring to supply their own needs in seed and table stock, Mr. MacRae said "our answer is to reduce our table stock acreage and concentrate on seed potatoes as there appears to be good markets available if we have top quality seed."

INSURE CROPS "Potato growers, under the crop insurance plan now effective, will be able to insure their crops at a cost of \$3.06 per acre. The insurance is based on a yield of 145 bushels to the acre and a grower will be able to get compensation if his yield drops below the 145 bushels."

Commenting on poultry, the minister said "we are increasing our assistance to the poultry industry through larger

HARD, BUT AMUSING TIMES RECALLED

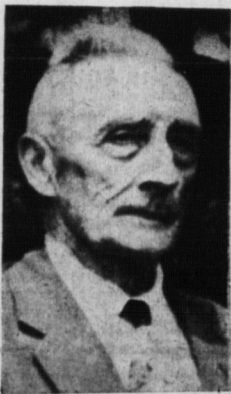
Hall of Fame farmer looks back on career

Almon Boswall, first P. E. I. man to be elected to Canada's Agricultural Hall of Fame looks back today on a career in which he bred and exhibited just about every type of poultry and livestock, which have populated Prince Edward Island farms since he purchased a 100-acre farm at Dunstaffnage, 81 years ago.

Known principally for his hogs and sheep in recent years, Mr. Boswall has bred a number of Clydesdale and Hackney horses, Dual Purpose and Beef Shorthorn cattle, several types of poultry, and many breeds of sheep and swine over the span of 50 years.

Mrs. Boswall, the former Pearl Cheverie of Village Green, and her husband reminisced a few days ago as they recalled some of the extra effort demanded by exhibitions in other years. Some were amusing, looking back over the years, although they meant hard work at the time.

WASHED POULTRY They recalled showing White



MR. BOSWALL

Wyandotte roosters and hens at a poultry show in Charlottetown some 40 years ago that was under the direction of George Leightizer who was known throughout the province for

many years as the manager of the P. E. I. Egg and Poultry Co-operative.

"We took the poultry into the kitchen — there would be about 40 of them—and washed and scrubbed them to get their feathers shining white," the Boswalls told this paper.

They put the birds through three waters and the last one had blueing in it, to emphasize the white color.

The Wyandottes were showy birds, a bit plumper than the Rocks, Mr. Boswall recalls.

The poultry objected strenuously to the indignity of the water, but that was only one of the many obstacles the poultry showmen faced at the time. The birds were kept in the house over night as the weather usually was bitterly cold, and the unusual sound of roosters crowing in the kitchen at daybreak was another of the side effects.

There were some great poultry shows at that time, with more than 1,000 birds competing, the Boswalls recall. Char-

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THE BASIC INDUSTRY

Listed below are only some of the stories that are highlights of this information packed edition.

(1) A look through 50 years of farming with the Island's only member of Canada's Agricultural Hall of Fame—Almon Boswell—Page 1A.

(2) A unique father and son team pool resources to increase farm output and profits—Page 1A.

(3) Livestock holds key to increasing value of Island agriculture by \$10 million—Page 1A.

(4) How a Mount Herbert farmer makes the poultry industry pay—Page 3A.

(5) Farm wives are told they are not enough concerned with farm economics—Page 5A.

(6) Do you feel you don't have enough privacy in your new housing development home?—See Page 8A.

(7) Calf study at the Dominion Experimental Farm probes best rearing methods—Page 9A.

(8) Alberton cattleman aims to own Island's biggest Hereford herd—Page 13B.

(9) Value of seed cleaning stressed by department's products division—Page 14A.

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Father-son team pool work efforts

BY NEIL A. MATHESON Provincial and Farm Editor

An unusual father-son partnership increases the working efficiency, and greatly reduces the expenses, on the dairy farms of Almon Wood, Little York and his son Wallace Wood, Marshfield.

They have more than 300 acres of cleared land with brooks flowing through it, to make an ideal place for dairy farming, and that's what the Wood men specialize in.

Almon Wood told me they bought the old Donald Ferguson farm alongside their own in 1953, and the Heber Crosby farm in Marshfield a few years later. Wallace moved to the Crosby farm of 125 acres when

he was married several years ago. Approximately 80 acres of grain are grown co-operatively and pooled each year.

MACHINERY POOLED

Machinery is pooled and this not only effects a substantial saving, but it also means, they explain, that they can purchase labor saving equipment which would not be feasible unless it were used on the larger acreage. There's far too much machinery on the average small farm, Almon observed.

This includes a combine, two tractors and two manure spreaders. The double tractor-spreaders combination means that they can load, haul and

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