

As We See It

We have endeavored, in these columns, to keep the interests of our basic producers in mind in discussing such matters as the establishment and operation of food processing plants in this Province. This movement, as we see it, offers about the best hope our farmers have of offsetting the current trend toward the elimination of small-farm activities, and the best means by which our natural advantages of soil and climate, and acquired advantage of skilled farming techniques, can be utilized in gearing our production to present-day consumer demands. In the circumstances, we think it deplorable that this program should be in danger of getting bogged down in political controversy at this time.

First and foremost, we suggest that every effort be made to straighten out amicably the difficulties which gave rise to a resolution passed last week at the Prince County Federation of Agriculture meeting, voicing dissatisfaction with producer-management relations in the East Prince area. The resolution says that growers of crops for processing received bills rather than payments for their crops. The manager maintains that it has sent out no bills for seed supplied or for planting. Farmers were billed for fertilizer, however, which was not included in any contract. In future these bills will not be sent out; instead, if no crop is forthcoming, the debt will remain on the books and can be taken out of future crop credits.

INTERVENTION?—There appears to be other grievances, which raises the question of how best to insure against disagreements in the future. In its brief before the Legislature last March the Provincial Federation of Agriculture stressed the importance of the producer having some bargaining power with the plants, and maintained there should be "some assurance" that contracts would be reviewed by appropriate government departments. From other sources, too, there have been suggestions that the Government has responsibility in this connection, since it employed the taxpayers money in establishing the companies here.

But how far, under our free enterprise system, could Government intervention go? Such an arrangement might have its advantages, but it would have to be exercised with great care and caution. It would be simpler, of course, if we were under a socialist regime where the Government has much more arbitrary powers in such matters. But neither the Liberals nor the Conservatives are running on a socialist ticket in this campaign, and we needn't go into that point any further.

A much better plan, in our opinion, has been proposed by the Kings County Federation of Agriculture, which welcomes the new processing plant at Montague and offers to cooperate fully with the company in setting up its operation and in negotiating on behalf of the farmers with the company in order to avoid the dissatisfactions apparent in other areas. This is a first class idea. It was adopted unanimously at the Kings County meeting, and could well be made the basis of policy for the Federation generally.

LOCAL CONTROL—Another question raised in the Federation brief to the Legislature last March was with regard to local control of

processing plants, and the need for giving preference to local interests in setting up such plants. Certainly we believe such interests should be given priority; but we must remember the difficulties in the way, which have hindered the pursuance of this policy in the past.

Two cardinal requirements are involved in the successful operation of such industries on a large scale. One is the "know how", the experience and technical efficiency required in this highly competitive undertaking. The other factor, equally important, is the distribution potential. No company can hope to succeed now without being nationally known and having marketing contacts with wholesale outlets on a nation-wide scale.

Big companies that can fill these requirements are being sought after in every agricultural province. They are not going begging for inducements in getting established here. The shoe is on the other foot, and whether we like it or not we must accept this as a prior condition to getting our farmers launched on this new and tremendously important job of putting Prince Edward Island food products in homes all across the continent.

We appeal, therefore, to both parties in this campaign to go slow on the political angles of this issue, and remember what is at stake.

Let's Keep Our Record!

This week is being observed across Canada as Safe-Driving Week. Let's hope that Prince Edward Island will set the pace in this campaign, for it has just scored a record which should be an inspiration to further efforts along this line. We refer to the results of an All Canadian Insurance Federation survey, just released, which shows Prince Edward Island as the only province where drivers can expect lower automobile insurance rates next year. Why? Because despite a slight increase in average accident costs in P.E.I. in 1962, the frequency of accidents has dropped significantly.

In contrast, accident costs in Ontario jumped 14 per cent, more than in any other province. Manitoba ran a close second with an increase of 10 per cent. In Nova Scotia, accident costs were up 8 per cent, with rural areas showing the largest gains. In both Newfoundland and Alberta, costs rose 6 per cent. Quebec and British Columbia registered an increase of 3 per cent. Costs in New Brunswick rose only 2 per cent, the biggest increase being in the cities.

Car insurance rates, which are set by two rating bodies and by individual companies, are based to a large extent on accident costs during the past year. Individual rates may not follow the general trend, because they are often geared to the individual's driving record.

After we've taken a bow for our good record so far this year, let's take a look at what the Canadian Highway Safety Council has to say about the record generally. The Council fears that 60 human lives will be snuffed out during this Safe-Drive Week period on the highways and streets of Canada. While this is a large and needless slaughter, it would be less than the average for a week this time of year, and less than the seven-year average for Safe-Driving Week.

Here and elsewhere there is need for the greatest possible co-operation by all motorists and pedestrians to make this the safest seven days of the year.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Farmers in northern Italy, where poultry and sheep sometimes live in the living room during severe weather, are discovering that television sets have interesting effects on animals. Chickens go to sleep as soon as the screen lights up, but sheep watch each program from beginning to end as if hypnotized.



LEARNING TO SKATE BACKWARDS

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Halifax Missed Out Under Liberals

An interesting new commemorative postage stamp is included in plans for next year, says Postmaster General Hon. Ellen Fairclough. This stamp will commemorate the 20th anniversary of the opening of the first Post Office in what later became the Province of Canada, in Quebec City, Montreal and Three Rivers. It will go on sale on 23 August next.

Largely thanks to the lack of imagination of her Liberal predecessor as Postmaster General, "Madame Minister" has sorrowfully learned that a postage stamp can be sticky, and she has got into a sticky little pickle of a quite unimportant nature through this slip.

The three "Johnny-come-lately" post offices which Ellen Fairclough is now planning to commemorate were not opened until after the shooting stopped at the end of that war; and they were organized, not by a Canadian, but by a foreigner.

PUBLIC FORUM

GROWING PEAS Sir—Mr. Eldon Drummond, President of P.C. Federation of Agriculture, is to be congratulated for his effort in trying to bring the attention of the public to the matter of the farmers who grow peas and beans for food processing plants. But all losses are not the results of bad weather as I would like to point out.

In 1961 the weather for harvesting peas was perfect, because it was so hot and dry, grew 17 acres plus along side of the Sherwood plant and instead of the usual 100,000 bushels owed the Frosted Foods \$83,000 when settlement was made. When the first 11 acres were ready for harvesting, all their equipment was a broken down and the crop loss was properly tried to save it for seed, but was so indifferent to getting around to coming to the plant, lost it again when it could have been saved for pea seed. The six acres which was properly harvested.

It is common knowledge that wages are not too low in the plants and the majority of farmers who produce for Sherwood plant are disgusted with harvesting losses and contracts being drawn up which are only to the favor of the welfare of the Federation of Agriculture started in 1951. On March 1962 regarding the frosted food plant's conditions and the contract was properly presented to the farmers—many who suppressed the Federation in its pursuit in this respect. It was properly the Government stamp out the Union movement among labourers in this plant. And further why is the Government so anxious to bring in foreign companies and give them the welfare of the farmers? They turned their back on the farmers last year when they wanted to be.

To Much Heat Can Cause Harm

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen

The application of heat can be good or bad; it is a recognized remedy for many ailments. But heat also burns. Many persons assume that the more heat the better. This philosophy is as wrong as the idea that if a little more heat is better, a little more developed pain in his right foot and ankle. He decided arthritis was the cause and heat would bring relief. He soaked the foot in hot water for half an hour and then applied a heating pad for several hours while reading a book. "I soaked the foot in water as hot as I could stand," he told me on the following day, "but it hurts worse than it ever did. And look at the color of my toes!"

This older had gone. The condition was caused by poor circulation as a result of arteriosclerosis. Heat increased the local metabolism of his toes which in turn required more blood to meet the tissue demands for more blood and they died (gangrene). He was relieved, but the color of his toes was much too warm.

Most of us can tolerate as much heat as the skin will stand but there is no advantage in going to this extreme. The heat and the color are not just as much as an overdose. In addition, the skin is not burned and the tissues are not injured.

Heat cooks meat and it can cook a hand. Dr. Herbert H. Stark of Los Angeles describes a condition which he calls "the cooked hand syndrome." The hand is red, puffy, smooth, and feels warm and soft. Numbness, stiffness, and aching occur. All victims of this condition tell the same story. The hand was cut, sprained, or bruised several months previously and soaked for long periods in hot water. Some received diathermy, and others were treated with heat lamps.

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NERVOUS SIGNS A.C. writes: How can signing of the United States Constitution be a sign of nervousness? It is a sign of courage.

URGENT IS CURATIVE R.W.F. writes: Do bleeding hemorrhoids ever heal without operation?

BLEEDING STOPS AND THE hemorrhoidal veins might shrink but recurrences can be expected. Surgery is the only cure. Send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for leaflet on hemorrhoids.

A Study In Contrasts

By Joseph MacSwain Canadian Press Staff Writer

Canadian Press Staff Writer For observers at the United Nations it is interesting how the two worlds are so different. The United States is a general confederated secretary - general, honors the example of Dag Hammarskjöld.

NEW JEWEL HOUSES LONDON (CP) — Archeologists will be on hand when the Crown Jewels are shown ready by 1966. Wakefield Tower, where the royal regalia is kept at present, is considered too cramped.

QUOTED TAG When Thant made his brief speech to the UN General Assembly Friday accepting his election as secretary - general, he declared: "On this occasion, I would like to express my distinguished predecessor's high election to a second term. He has been a great help to me, and I am sure that he will continue to be of great help to me."

CONTRASTING TYPES Yet the way they approached things was completely contrasted. Hammarskjöld had a habit of striding through the UN headquarters, accompanied by a bodyguard or two, in a way that he spoke know that the secretary-general was not a bodyguard.

THAT seems to arrive in the General Assembly or elsewhere in the United Nations. Sometimes he looks a bit rumpled, as becomes a married man compared with the impeccable

NOTES BY THE WAY

In Sheffield, Britain's steel capital, they have unveiled the bust of Vulcan, the blacksmith god of metals. It is made of glass fibre. This is carrying the business of plastic substitutes to some sort of ultimate. — Montreal Star.

Ocean Fish Farming

Cape Breton Post

An Oxford University professor's prediction that 50 years from now man will be farming the bed of the sea with giant tractors is not as far-fetched as it seems — after you examine it. It is a sensible forecast that calls for planning. Creative thought already has been given to the problem. The time will surely come when we will be harvesting the sea bed, and this will come about in 50 years or so.

COMPOSERS' CONTEST MILAN, Italy (AP) — This Italian city has established an annual contest for aspiring composers 40 years old or younger. The prize is a cheque in the lire equivalent of \$4,000 and a one-night program at the famed La Scala opera house.

Can Men Combine Marriage With a Career?

Most men work and are married — how happy effective are they in one sort of farm methods to the sea? Are we going to go on reaping the fish harvest without putting anything back? TWO QUESTIONS The two questions are of great concern to the fishing industry of these four Atlantic provinces.

Our Yesterday's

(From the Canadian Files)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO December 3, 1937 The Board of Public Utilities has an application by the Maritime Electric Company for permission to supply the village of Miramichi with electric current at a meeting there Saturday. The application was taken under consideration by the Board and a decision would be given within a few days.

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