

Cattle Auctions Providing Valuable Market Service

By J. LINCOLN DEWAR
DECEMBER BEHAVES

It has been quite difficult to convince ourselves that the past two weeks have really been December and not November. An extremely mild, moist period kept the fields green and roads and barnyards muddy, a very moderate amount of frost rarely did not penetrate the earth to any depth. In some cases cattle have never been housed and are probably the better for it as we have heard complaints of stable animals suffering from the warmth and development of pneumonia.

December is, of course, on the darkest month the days are the shortest and the more than usual amount of overcast has in past years cut the hours of sunlight to less than one per day. While the shortest day falls on December 21, the evenings actually have started to lengthen on December 12 but the sun does not catch onto the early rising bit until about January 5 by which time the evenings have lengthened noticeably and we are well on our way to the longer and extra glorious hours of sunlight May, June and July.

While the climate in this northern hemisphere may at times be trying, yet it does not suffer from the lack of variety and the monotony of equatorial seasons where days and nights are of equal length the year around and there is really no change in the seasons.

CATTLE AUCTIONS

That the cattle auctions being conducted at the Exhibition Grounds are rendering a marketing service of considerable value to both producer and buyer seems to be generally quite agreed on. Up to the present time feeder cattle and cull dairy cows have made up the bulk of the offering. Numbers of these in both cases can be expected to decline and for this reason the sale should be in a good position to handle finished cattle during the winter months.

The good reports from the sale to date would indicate that it also has a service of value to render producers of finished cattle.

COMMUNITY SALES

The decision of the Beef Producers' Association to seek legislation covering the operation of community auctions is based on the experience in other provinces where these sales are a feature and where legislation has been found necessary to set up rules which will put uniformity into sale practices and protect both buyer and seller. Other provinces have found that in many cases livestock auctions in the beginning were attended with considerable success and this led to the setting up of more auctions by people whose regard for and knowledge of good business practices was not of the highest.

For these and other reasons the decision of the Beef Producers' Association to seek legislation appears to be quite in order.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

More by rumour than with any real knowledge we suspect that the province's Comprehensive Development Plan is pretty well formulated and now awaits the consideration of the Provincial and Federal authorities. Further it is rumoured that the main emphasis on the development plan will be directed towards the expansion and upgrading of agriculture. The possibilities here appear to be encouraging. In the first place our volume of agricultural production has not risen during the past 15 years in keeping with the rest of Canada, not only would it appear possible to pick up this slack but it should be possible to surpass the rate of growth in the rest of the country. If it were possible to triple production of farm products, it could very well mean not three times the net income but possibly six or 10 times. These then are the stakes which comprehensive development can play for and 1967 would appear to be the ideal year to launch the province on a dynamic second century of progress and expansion.

JANUARY 1
We have been asked to keep January 12 open and free of other meetings in order that those interested will be able to attend at Birch Court a meeting of the Soils and Crop Improvement Association. The feature attraction will be George Jones speaking on grain production. We suspect that Mr. Jones who is known as "Mr. Corn" in Ontario will also be questioned on this important crop.

Remember then that January 12 is an important date for those

interested in soil and crop improvement.

POTATO MARKETS

This year's fall potato crop is the largest in Canada since 1955 also in the United States and for North America stands at two hundred and seventy million hundredweight, very much indeed above the crop of sixty-four. With this sort of production it is not surprising that the market has weakened, in fact it has happened ten years ago,

there would have been a real crash.

While prices are certainly not good the fact that they are not worse suggests that there must be certain stabilizing factors operating today that did not operate 10 years ago. Two of these we suspect would be much greater storage capacity in the hands of growers and strong demand on the part of processors. These two appear to be rather obvious, there are probably

Baptist Federation Backs Wider Grounds For Divorce

OTTAWA (CP)—The Baptist Federation of Canada has proposed that grounds for divorce be extended to desertion for five years and legal separation for seven years.

Others such as a smaller number of growers with substantially larger acreages.

DAIRY PRODUCTION

If we go back to 1955 we find that Canada has lost in 20 years over a million milk cows. However, the average cow in 1955 did not produce 4,000 pounds of milk in the year while her modern version manages over 6,000. The net result is that production for the last three years runs around eighteen billion pounds as opposed to about fourteen and a half back in 1955.

posed that grounds for divorce be extended to desertion for five years and legal separation for seven years.

Other new divorce grounds suggested were continuous physical cruelty, insanity, long and repeated imprisonment, drug addiction and extreme alcoholism.

In a brief to the Senate-Divorce committee on divorce laws, the Baptists also proposed that uncontested divorces be processed by provincial government officials rather than by courts, with final decrees being granted after seven years of legal separation.

The brief said these changes would reduce divorce costs and perjured evidence in divorce hearings.

"The prohibitive costs of the dissolution of marriage is an incentive to common-law relationship and other social practices. . . . There is in effect one law for the rich and another for the poor."

WOULD ERASE STIGMA

The Baptist leaders said future federal legislation on divorce should substitute the phrase "dissolution of marriage" for divorce, which carried implications of criminal behavior and a harmful social stigma.

The brief expressed the hope that divorce courts will be set up in Quebec and Newfoundland, the only provinces that now do not have them. Residents of those provinces that desire a divorce must appear at

New Process For Apples Is Perfected

TORONTO (CP)—Dr. J. H. L. Truscott said here that a method of canning and freezing whole baked McIntosh apples has been perfected at the Horticultural Research Institute of Ontario at Vineland.

Dr. Truscott, director of the horticultural products laboratory at the institute, said the

quasi-judicial hearings in Ottawa and petition the Senate to pass a resolution dissolving their marriage.

The Senate now was a divorce court, in effect, and this embarrassment should be removed.

process must be done commercially because no housewife could afford the machinery.

The machine was displayed at the Ontario Food Processors Association 33rd annual meeting Tuesday. The finished product—canned and frozen baked McIntosh apples—also were on display.

Dr. Truscott said the process—developed by researchers at Summerland, B.C.—was perfected in an effort to help the Ontario apple grower dispose of his crop. McIntosh apples account for 43-per-cent of the apples grown in Ontario.

Dr. Truscott described the method as a vacuum system under a syrup that is made up of 25-per-cent sugar and 75-per-cent water. "Don't ask me how or why it works, all I know is that it does."

Bilingual Signs Are Scheduled

OTTAWA (CP)—The government intends to place bilingual signs on all federal buildings in Canada, Works Minister McEraith informed the Commons Monday.

In reply to a written question by Lloyd R. Cross (PC-Queens-Lansburg), the minister said this policy was confirmed in 1965.

Controversies broke out recently in Halifax, Port Hope, Ont., and Edmonton when bilingual signs with the French words on top appeared on federal buildings. Mr. McEraith said at the time these were mistakes by his department and new signs were put up with the English wording on top.



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