

WINTER BRINGS ITS TRAFFIC PROBLEMS

Resources development div. takes sharp look at future

While the department of agriculture's resource development division had an active year in 1964, the year's activity mainly was in the area of extensive stock-taking and serious planning for the years ahead, according to provincial research director Reid Sangster.

For the most part, said Mr. Sangster, "we have maintained the various resource development groups that were in operation before the start of last year and we have also added four new areas of operation."

The whole resource development program, launched four years ago, according to Premier Walter R. Shaw, was based on the conviction that the province had many opportunities and attractive industrial possibilities that were being neglected and which could, with a coordinated effort of the people and the government, result in great economic value.

"The program," the premier said, "was designed to show people what they could do to help themselves and their own communities." He emphasized that the program is "a long-term one" that would build up from year to year. The influence of the people themselves was considered a major factor in the work.

Consequently, through the division of research, resource de-

velopment groups were organized in all parts of the province. It was pointed out that local groups possessed a great potential if harnessed and directed toward the development of a community.

Projects from the local groups covered a wide range of activities including agriculture, fishing, handicrafts, cultural and recreational development, water and soil conservation, music, drama, and, according to Premier Shaw, "almost every influence that affects the happiness of our people."

According to Mr. Sangster, the resource development movement in the province has three phases. "The first phase," he said, "is what local groups can do for themselves, possibly with the help of provincial government fieldmen; the second is what people and government agencies, such as the Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development Commission, can do together; and the third is a large phase—the development of the province as a whole. This is mainly the job of government and big business, sometimes working with such agencies as the Atlantic Development Board."

CONSULTANT FIRMS
Mr. Sangster pointed out that three consulting firms have sub-

mitted reports to government on economic development studies carried out in Prince County. "These will be quite helpful," he said, "in formulating rural development plans."

Also in 1964, arrangements were completed to have Prince and Kings Counties declared designated areas so that they would receive additional benefits under ARDA.

In reviewing other 1964 activities of the resources division, Mr. Sangster said "community pastures have been studied in several areas and one has become a reality in the Lot 16 area."

"Much time has been spent on water conservation problems in our groups as well as small parks. These are very important to our future economy from several standpoints."

"Such industrial possibilities as the expansion of the blueberry and cranberry industry in the province have been under study in several of our groups in the Tignish area of Prince County, the first organization to exploit the possibilities in blueberries is being started. A similar group in Kings County is being organized."

FORECAST
Looking into 1965, Mr. Sangster said "the year will see an

active program in resource development. We have now the experience of the past three or four years to help us; some of these were very fruitful, while others were disappointing ones."

"As we begin this new year, plans are being made for seminars on at least two important levels. First, we will bring together all our resource people in the various departments of government that will be directly involved in a development program. In this, we should be able to place before everyone, and also with their assistance, a plan of action. This should have the effect of putting everyone into the picture and with the same ideas. In other words, we should be presenting a common approach to our problems."

"Shortly after the first seminar, others should be held in various places with our community leaders so that ideas from the first seminar might be tested. Following this, we then should be able to get down to the real business of involving as many people as possible in their program of rural development and economic betterment. Certainly no program of this nature will ever solve any of our basic problems unless, in the final analysis, the people themselves get enthused and involved."

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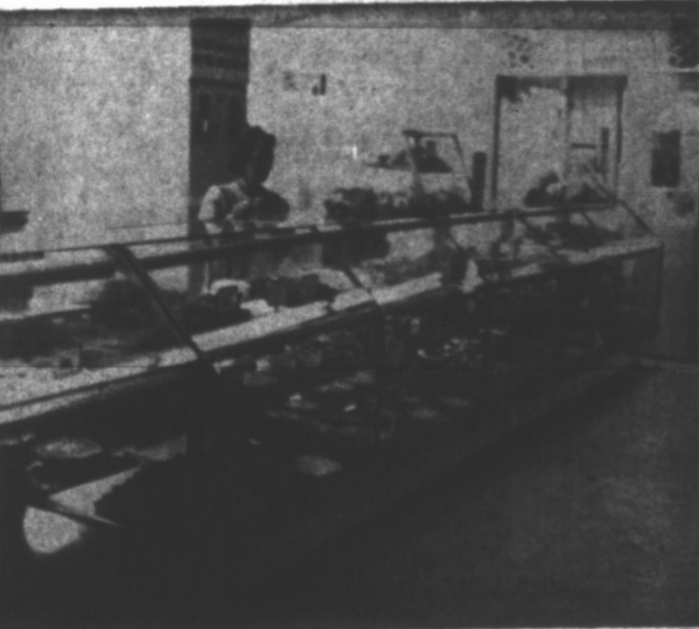
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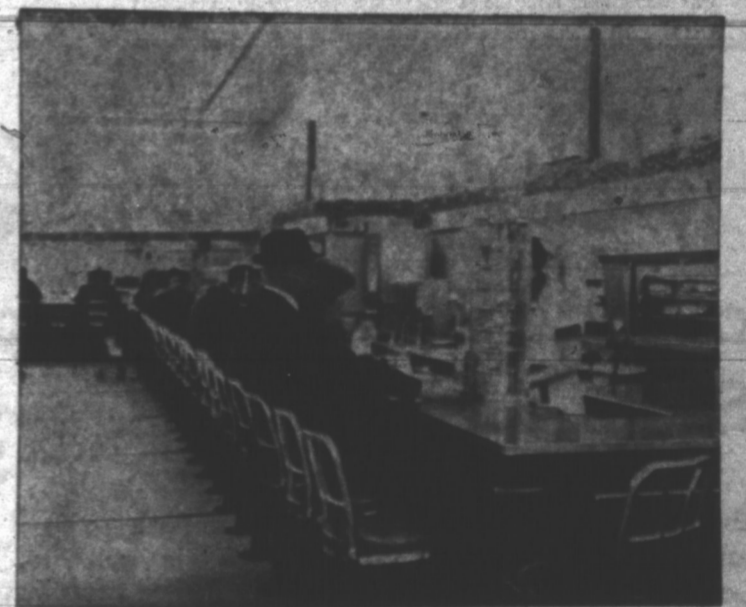
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Legion expands quarters

The Royal Canadian Legion members at Tignish expanded their building to 104 feet long by 47 feet wide under the Winter Works program. The building that was originally 100 feet long by 32 feet wide was erected in 1952.

The building houses a training room for cadets, billiard and card rooms, club rooms, TV room, meeting room and they will install a two-lane bowling alley in the new built-in section. There is a community hall, ladies lounge, a modern kitchen and canteen, storeroom, cloakrooms and washrooms on the ground floor with fluorescent lighting.

The second floor will be turned into office space and janitors' quarters. The main entrance to the building, now has a glass frontage with two oversize glass doors 12½ feet by 9½ feet with tempered glass.

Province gets more pavement

Last year saw 69.9 new miles of paving laid on provincial highways.

This brings the total number of paved island highways to 1,114 miles.

The province has 3,214 miles of roads. Of these, 1,114 are paved; 1,306 are improved roads; 688 are unimproved roads and 15.5 are national park roads.

Last year 13 miles of Trans Canada Highway in the province were widened and recapped. Because of the extra width of this portion of the highway system, pavement laid was equivalent to 44 miles of standard paving.

In a county breakdown, statistics from the department of highways show that Queens County has 453 miles of paved roads, Prince County has 384 miles and Kings County has 286 miles.

By counties, Queens has 469 miles of improved roads, Prince County has 481 miles and Kings County has 445 miles.

Prince County leads the way in having less unimproved roads than the other counties. It has 264 miles in this category while Queens has 237 and Kings has 286.



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