FEDERATION NEWSLETTER

Veterinarians To Discuss Mastitis In Dairy Cattle

In spite of the fact that farming people look forward to the spring time yet the April version of it produces some aspects that are far from pleasant.

April is a month of preparation on the farm, preparation for the spring work and for making adjustments in the livestock program when there are many new arrivals and changes to be made. Probably the least desirable aspect of spring is the mud and what is even worse a mixture of mud and snow. There are difficulties in getting work done and there are extra frustrations such as water in the stable or in the basement, lane ways difficult to navigate and a general untidiness that begins to appear as the snow disappears. In addition, the farm housewife having gotten the smell of paint in her nostrils embarks on an orgy of painting, paper hanging, and scrubbing all of which may produce upsetting features in household routine and normal steady nerves. The major misfortune is, of course, for the male to become involved in this spring epidemic of rearranging and redecorating.

MASTITIS CONFERENCE

This is a reminder that on Saturday evening April 18 at the Vocational Institute two veterinarians from OVC will discuss matters related to mastitis in dairy cattle. Mastitis is probably the commonest disorder of the dairy herd and in some cases can become a very serious problem both from an economic and health standpoint. However, in this connection good management practices pay dividends and the dairyman who is conscious of the importance of good practices can avoid at least some of the difficulties of the more careless operator.

Attendance at Saturday afternoon's session at the Vocational Institute is indicated for those who value and are interested in their dairy operation.

FARM EDUCATION

As this newsletter is being written prior to the Education Conference on Agriculture we are not in a position to report on that gathering. The program was designed to bring forward a variety of views and ideas on a number of different phases of education. The need for more definite thinking on the educational requirements of farm people is becoming more evident as the pressure of adjustment continues. Certainly it is now quite clear that the man who will compete in the agriculture of the future is going to need the very best obtainable in training, he will need better than average physical equipment and, in addition, greatly increased capital investment. Here it will probably be remarked that an individual with all this can probably find something easier and more rewarding (in terms of dollars and cents) than farming. However, there will always be people who will measure up to the more difficult challenge and who will appreciate the very important and very superior advantages of working with nature and of being the manager of his own destiny.

POTATO PROGRESS

This is a report on action since the potato meeting on March 30, that is in so far as federation responsibilities are concerned. On April 7 the minister of agriculture was interviewed and given firsthand observations on the meeting and the minutes covering it. On Friday afternoon the directors of the federation met and came to an agreement on two points: First it was decided to recommend to the minister of agriculture that a small conference of interested persons be convened to consider problems in the industry and approaches to their solution. Secondly in keeping with the directive of the March 30 meeting the federation proposes to name a committee to confer with the minister on matters related to the proposed plebiscite to organization in the industry.

It would appear that the potato industry is building up some pressure to organize and plan for its future and is going to exert pressure on all groups or officials who may be considered to have an area of responsibility.

HOG CONFERENCE

Preparations are now underway for the National Hog Conference in Montreal on April 28 and 29. Producers and other organizations in this province are entitled to three official delegates and it is hoped to have those nominated from the swine breeders, the Swine Improvement Association and from the federation. In addition, it is hoped to have present observers from the department of agriculture. At its recent director's meeting the federation made plans to have the delegates selected and to arrange for a meeting of them to co-ordinate Island views on hog matters. The conference grows out of the belief that there is room for improvement in both the quality of hogs and in the efficiency of their production. The Hon. Harry Hays has indicated his interest in the Conference and his intention to recognize the recommendations which will come from it.

MANAGEMENT MEETINGS

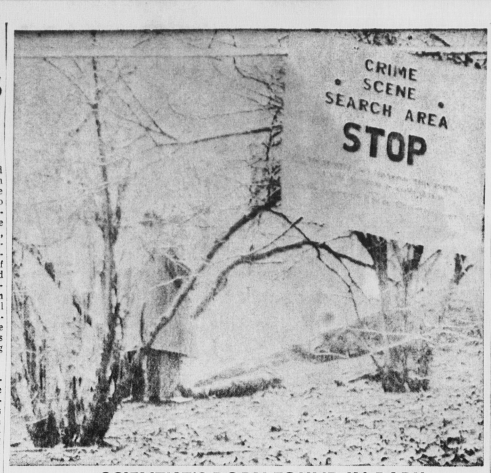
Windup farm management meetings now scheduled are as follows: Tuesday, April 21 at Vernon Bridge and Thursday, April 23 as DeSable. Both meetings at 8 p.m. The programs will consist of review of material already covered and some timely items on pasture and forage production. good attendance makes for better meetings.

DAIRYMEN'S MEETING

Last week's important meeting event was the 65th annual meeting of the P.E.I. Dairymen's Association. As the proceedings have already been well covered in the press it is hardly in order to deal in detail. However one different issue developed which is going to require a sorting out and this involves a difference of opinion between fluid milk section of the industry and the producers involved in the reduced milk operation. While the difference of opinion was fairly marked, yet the past history of the association would indicate what amicable agreement will likely be reached.

The retirement of H.J. MacDonald as dairy superintendent was duly noted and recognition made of his outstanding service to the industry over a period of years.

At the banquet the guest speaker made a very good case for the need of advertising and promotion in the industry and impressed the audience with his knowledge of the subject.



SCIENTIST'S BODY FOUND IN PARK

Detectives stand near body of Columbia University scientist Dr. Charles J. Gallagher Jr., 31, who was found shot to death today in New York's Central Park Police disclosed that Gallagher, an assistant professor of physics at Columbia, had visited Brookhaven National Laboratory on Long Island yesterday—only hours before the shooting. Police had no immediate clues as to whether there was an connection between Gallagher's background in nuclear physics and his death.

(AP Wirephoto)

New Liquor Controls Are Rapped

The attorney general's department came under sharp criticism for its apparent laissez-faire attitude toward illegal liquor and beer outlets.

Members of the Kings County Ministerial Association, meeting recently in Dundas, expressed concern at the seeming inability and reluctance of the attorney general to close illegal outlets from which the province indirectly receives a large revenue.

Reverends Russel Burns, A. G.J. Steeves and Basil Lowery were appointed to meet with Attorney-General Alban Farmer concerning this matter.

Another motion was adopted by the Association urging all coaches and managers of baseball teams and leagues to schedule games and practices on week nights and Saturday. This would give players the freedom to spend Sunday as they choose, without the pressure and restrictions of league schedules.

A motion to invite a member of the Billy Graham campaign team to conduct training sessions for counsellors in the Montague area was also adopted.

Following the business meeting Rev. Elton Adams gave a paper on Pastoral Care and Visitation.

MIXED STRONG DRINK

LONDON (CP) — George Wells, landlord of a suburban pub, is recovering from a bad hangover in hospital after mixing too many drinks. He accidentally poured himself a shot of hydrochloric acid.

MARBLES CONTEST

CRAWLEY, England (CP)— Six teams competed in the British marbles championships in this Sussex town. The contest has been an annual event for 200 years.

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Firm Seeking Information

More information is being sought by an Ottawa firm from subcontractors in the island on the new proposed government building to be erected around the block of the old West Kent School.

Minister of public works, J. Phillip Matheson, who is chairman of the Crown Building Corp. said yesterday that the Ottawa firm wanted as much information as possible so they could submit an overall tender for the job.

He said architects have already called for sub-contractors but were concerned at the time with the larger elements of the building.

Mr. Matheson said the tenders which have been called would be opened in his office next Thursday.

Elementary Hoop Tourney Is Big Success At Souris

MANILA (AP)—Seven of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization's eight members agreed Wednesday the alliance must be ready to act in South Viet Nam if necessary to keep that country from falling to the Communists. France, the eighth member, abstained.

The representatives of President de Gaulle's government said they considered the issuance of such a declaration unwise. The split was the deepest in the treaty group since it was formed in 1954.

Far East policy differences between France and the other SEATO countries highlighted the organization's 10th anniversary meeting that ended here after three days of talks.

France, which recently recognized Communist China, has proposed the neuralization of Southeast Asia. That proposal came under sharp attack in the SEATO council of ministers.

Despite the French abstention, the U.S. delegation headed by State Secretary Rusk was said to be well satisfied with results of the Manila meeting. One informant said the Americans felt the inclusion of the question of South Viet Nam in final communique demonstrated SEATO is a live, vital organization.

South Viet Nam is not a member of SEATO but is one of the states that come under the organization's protection.

ACROSS THE ISLAND

Blindness Can't Halt SDU's Class Topper

By NEIL A. MATHESON
Provincial-Farm Editor

I HOPE my good friend, Joe Gaudin, North Rustico and his son will pardon me if I use Lionel's outstanding scholastic record in the face of most unusual difficulties, in an honest effort to encourage students who may now be feeling discouraged and inadequate, as the final examinations for the term are approaching.

There is no doubt that some students will fail to pass their examinations this year, who could make the grade if their morale could be improved as they approach the task.

A column I wrote on May 12, 1962 told how a rare operation performed in Montreal restored sight to the eyes of Lionel Gaudin. Prior to that he had been rapidly losing his sight from "Diabetic Retinopathy", a condition that sometimes develops from diabetes.

LIONEL HAD been taken out of St. Dunstan's University on March 12 of that year, but the prospect following the rare operation was all good. I met his father later that year however, and found to my sincere regret that the news was all bad. The eyes had hemorrhaged and, apparently, there was nothing that could be done further.

But it failed to stop the young man who was so greviously inflicted. His purpose may have wavered, but I learned from Registrar Mike Hennessey of St. Dunstan's University that Lionel led his senior class in the mid-term examinations, and he's now on his way to a degree at next month's convocation.

Working Under Difficulties

THE EYES are improving again and—I have my fingers crossed when I write this—it looks as though he will have fairly good sight again. But the battle against adversity, the battle to maintain his university status, has been fought, and won, by the use of braille, by tapes that have on them the kind of thing a university student has to learn and understand; and I believe fellow students have helped by reading excerpts to him.

I'm not too clear on the details of what I have said in the preceding paragraph, but I am using Lionel's story here, as I said earlier, as a challenge, as well as an inspiration to students who even now may be feeling like quitting the task because it seems too formidable. I know from personal experience, from talking with other students and from conversations with some teachers, that many a student can make the grade, if his or her confidence can be restored enough to face the task of examinations with a spirit of confidence, at least of challenge, instead of defeatism and despair.

I hope this may help some students who are serious about their aim in life, and I hope that Lionel and his dad will forgive me for using him as my example in this effort to help.

Howlan Called To Senate 3 Times

IT WAS my friend Professor J. Henri Blanchard, who suggested that Senator George Howlan, to whom I referred in a column several months ago, had been appointed to the Senate several times. And I find that is correct.

Our Parliamentary Guides do not go back that far, but John Mullally, MP was good enough to look up the record in the Archives and here is the story of this unusual Island man who spent many years of his life in an unsuccessful effort to promote the idea of having a tunnel constructed between this Island and New Brunswick.

Most people think it is quite the feat to get appointed to the Senate once, but this man was appointed three times. He was called to the Red Chamber after Prince Edward Island entered Confederation in October 18, 1873. He resigned in 1880 and was reappointed on January 5, 1881.

BUT HOWLAN resigned again, this time to contest the federal election for his Conservative party. He was unsuccessful at the polls but he did manage to get appointed to the Senate again in March 1891.

Born in Ireland, Howlan came to P.E.I. with his parents in 1820 at the age of four years. He was educated at the Central Academy, forerunner to Prince of Wales College. He was later vice-consul for Sweden, Denmark and Norway; was vice-president of the Dominion board of trade, and a governor of Prince of Wales College among other things.

Mr. Howlan entered the Executive Council of Prince Edward Island in 1866 and remained a member of the government without interruption until June 30, 1873; part of the time he was co-leader.

Prior to his funnel sponsoring activities, he had been a strong advocate of the P.E.I. railway.

Clock More Than 200 Years Old

A.R. MUTCH, Cherry Valley tells me that he has a Grandfather's clock "so old that the shadow of the pendulum has worn a hole in the back of the case." This bit of exaggeration is his way of emphasizing that the instrument is really old. It's a replica, apparently, of the clock owned by William Johnstone, Kensington RR, Mr. Mutch believes.

Mr. Mutch believes that it was about 1750 that he first Irving man to come to this province, came from Scotland to Murray Harbor and he brought the clock with him. Irving later came to Cherry Valley and is the ancestor of the Irvings who live there at the present time.

Mr. Mutch's grandfather bought the clock at an auction sale about 100 years ago. Houghton tells me, and "it's keeping perfect time." It has the days of the month and the phases of the moon on it, though the moon face is so faded that it is no longer recognizable.

"Of beautifully polished mahogany, the case is the most beautiful I have ever seen on a clock", Mr. Mutch told me.

THIS WEEK I talked to a man who with his sons thinks farming is the best occupation a man can follow, and to another man who is starting something which most Island people have said for some time is impossible. I'll tell you about those interesting and enterprising people in a later column.

Tall Tale Told Of Island's Past

MANY STORIES have been told about the intrepid and hardy men who carried on this Island's business and lived here in earlier years. Here's one of the most interesting I have found in recent years. It's taken from a booklet the Guardian published more than 30 years ago, and I want to thank my friend Walter LePage for making it available to me.

William Dutton wrote about the Island in the American Magazine and here's the excerpt:

"Captain Alex Taylor, now a farmer in the Belfast district of the Island, but who in his seafaring days sailed with Jack London's famous character, Wolf Larsen, told me a story of one of the old-day mail carriers whose route took him across the ice. The story shows the type of men that Prince Edward Island begot in those days when the ice in the strait was unbroken.

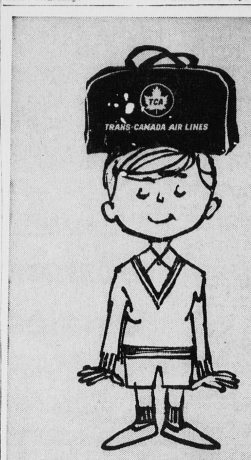
"ALONE AND on foot, with the heavy pouch of mail slung over his back, this mail carrier set out one winter's day for Pictou, Nova Scotia where he was to deliver the mail to the stage driver who was to convey it to Halifax, where it was to be placed on a boat sailing for England.

"However a storm delayed the carrier and the stage had left, for it had passengers for the boat which was sailing next day for England. It was 90 miles from Pictou to Halifax over the stage road, and that road was deep in snow. Without a word of complaint the carrier from Prince Edward Island shouldered his mail and walked to Halifax. He caught the boat."

As I have said, it's a good story. Only thing wrong with it is that it's completely impossible. Imagine a man walking 90 miles through deep snow in one day, with a mail pouch on his back.

It's apparent that Captain Taylor was having a bit of fun with the American writer, or the latter expanded more than a little on what the Belfast veteran had told him.

SEVERAL FRIENDS called me last week to explain that the term "Corn" as used in England covers all grains, not merely "corn" as we know it here. It started with John Smethurst and ended with Jim Pendergast. So there's the answer to the use of the term "corn" to which I referred in last week's column.



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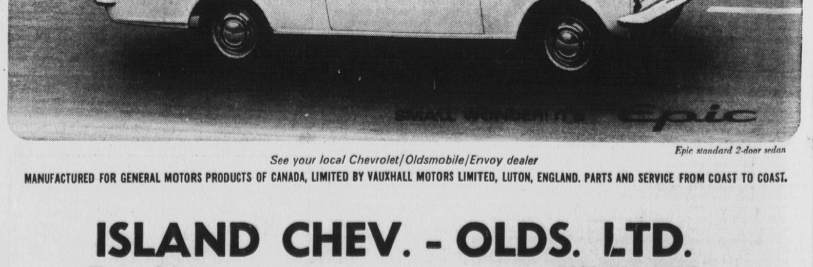

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