Farm mechanization story is told by machinery firm

The story of the evolution of farm equipment and farming methods in Prince Edward Island is told through the history of the Hall Mfg. Co. Ltd. whose activity in this field spans an entire century.

This company, which today supplies everything for any type of modern mechanical farming, was playing a similar role 102 years ago, when it manufactured its own machines, before the days of electrical, mobile and self-propelled farm implements.

Older farmers in the province will recall Hall Mfg., Co., products, ulta modern by the standards of those years, but outdated badly by today's methods. Many of these farms then proudly displayed Hall Mfg. Co. machines activated by actual horsepower of horses walking on an endless treadmill. Later came the conversion to the power of gas engines which became the symbol of power for many stationary farm machines. Hall Mfg. Co. grain threshers were among their products that led the conversion from actual horsepower to engine horsepower.

Today the actual manufacturing of implements is left to giant corporations, whose complex facilities are necessarily a part of today's way of doing the business of farming.

CLOSE TOUCH

Unlike many other companies of its day, this company had a close touch with the farm industry of this province, and the visionary leadership to recognize the trends of farming that enabled it not only to survive but to alter its operation with the years, and grow to be the largest of farm implement distributing companies in Eastern Canada.

Founded in 1861 by the late Thomas Hall, the company is now headed by a father and son team, in the persons of George Key Sr., president and general manager and George junior, vice-president and sales manager, with Layton Schurman as secretary - treasurer.

Ralph Hogg and Walter Gamble are travelling salesmen in the Maritimes and Mrs. Virginia Svenson heads the credit department, with Joyce Day as stenographer.

Other members of the staff, about 15, some of whom have been with the company for several years are specialists in assembly and servicing farm machinery.

Hall Mfg. Company has pioneered many new farm machine ideas, proven in modern farming methods and introduced and distributes such well known equipment as new idea grass land machines, Allis-Chalmers tractors, and grain combines, Gray-Snider and John Bean potato harvesting equipment, Fleury Bissell cultivating equipment, Hanson spraying machines and Westfalia dairy equipment.

WIDE RANGE

The range of farm implements sold by the company is so extensive that they are able to supply any item, that could normally be required in any type of farming in the Atlantic Provinces.

The company credits its growth to its years of experience and customer confidence and satisfaction and takes satisfaction in having farmers everywhere look to Hall Mfg. Co. for the best in machinery and guaranteed service, along with a reliable replacement of parts required.

The company prominently located on Water St. East, ranks as a regular point of call for farmers from all parts of the Maritime Provinces, who are always fascinated by the newest proven types of farm implements that are constantly being assembled and displayed briefly before moving out to actual use on Island farms.

It has been said that there are many farms in P.E.I. and the Maritimes, which have some items of farm equipment purchased from, or supplied through the Hall Mfg. Company.

Metal Products shows progress

William Rix, Jr., and Norman Lowther, Jr., the present managers at Charlottetown Metal Products Ltd. took over the company in 1959.

Since then, business has doubled, the staff has increased from three to eight, the former building has been doubled in size and much new machinery has been added.

Helping such expansion has been the contract awarded to them by the government for the construction of the new guard rails and culvrts which were put along the highways last summer.

Bowness expands fleet

In 1950 Arthur Bowness began owner of Bowness Transport Ltd. began operations from Highfield, P.E.I., with one unit making two trips weekly to and from Halifax, Nova Scotia.

A second unit was added the next year and one driver was hired to meet the increasing demand for service. In 1953 the first semi-trailer was purchased in order to enable the company to ship greater loads.

As business increased, more space was needed, so in 1954 the firm moved to its present operation site at Belvedere Avenue in Parkdale.

In 1960 the business was incorporated under the name of Bowness Transport Limited.

At present Bowness Transport Limited operates 13 units between Prince Edward Island and Truro, Halifax and Annapolis Valley points, offering daily overnight service. Freight picked up on either end of the route is on delivery at its destination the following day before noon.

Florist shop is 103 years old

Williams' Florists Store, the first on the Island, was opened in 1860 at its present site on Upper Prince Street by the great- great uncle of the present manager, C.P. Williams.

About 40 years ago Williams joined the Florist Telegraph Delivery Association with headquarters in Detroit. This enables Williams to send flowers to any part of the world.

With a staff of five and a special delivery car, Williams' is still planning expansion. Renovations to the present store and a new wing to be added are included in the future plans.

CIRCULATION UP

NEW YORK (AP) — Daily newspaper circulation increased to almost 60,000,000 in the United States last year, the trade publication Editor and Publisher reported Thursday. At the end of 1962, the publication said, there were 1,760 U.S. daily newspapers, one fewer than in 1961. Their daily circulation, as of Sept. 30, was 59,848,682, almost 600,000 more than in 1961.

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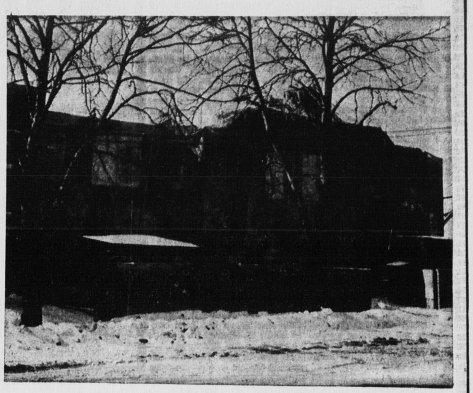
Manufactured of 100% Virgin Wool purchased in the Maritime Provinces, our blankets, large enough to tuck under mattress of the largest bed are noted for their warmth, non-shrink when properly washed) and long-wearing qualities.

Available in a variety of appealing colors, Condon blankets are a ready choice of the discriminating buyer. Inquiries for your requirements, large or small, are cordially invited.

Charlottetown Branch No. 1 of the Royal Canadian Legion



New Legion Plans Opening In June

In June of this year the Grand Opening of the new Royal Canadian Legion in Charlottetown is planned. This fine new Legion is the newest and largest on P. E. I. The members of this Branch are proud of their new home and are happy to have it in such a fine community. Membership is now over 1100, this membership is hoped to increase with the opening of the new branch.

Charlottetown Branch
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

Hyndman Insurance firm marks century of service

Hyndman and Co. General Insurance has a long record of serving Islanders. The company was established in Charlottetown in 1872 by Fred W. Hyndman, a retired officer of the Royal Navy.

Since that time the business has remained in the hands of the Hyndman family. It was incorporated in 1910.

President of the company is the Hon. F. W. Hyndman, who is also Lieutenant-Governor of P.E.I. and directors are R. E. Hyndman, A. G. MacMillan and Miss Sybil Gordon.

When established, the firm dealt entirely in marine insurance and was closely connected with ships and shipping, the founder's father having built many ships at Princetown.

OTHER LINES

Gradually other lines of insurance were added, including fire, life, automobile, accident, sickness, surety bonds, etc., until now all lines are handled. The company is also provincial agent for Canada Permanent Mortgage Corporation.

In addition to the Charlottetown location on Lower Queen St. the company also maintains offices in Summerside, Montague, and Alberton.

The firm has been in its present Charlottetown location for approximately 60 years. Two years ago the original building was rebuilt with the addition of the former Island Telephone Company building to provide modern offices and apartments. An elevator was installed to serve the rental spaces on the upper floors.

12 ON STAFF

There is a total office force of 12 persons in Charlottetown while the agency department includes Thomas McAvinn, CLU, Jock Sutherland, Fred Hyndman and David Hyndman. Lorne Good is in charge of the loan department.

Allison B. MacLean, CLU, is in charge of the Summerside office and, Cyrus Shaw of the Montague office. Several agents are located in various parts of the province.

The company president reports that the business is still expanding, and last year was the largest on record.

Spud crop top influence on economy

Long regarded as the main cash crop of Island agriculture, potatoes have more influence on establishing the economic outlook each year in this province than any other phase of agriculture.

Returns can vary as widely, for example, in a good year like 1959 when the Dominion Bureau of Statistics estimated cash value on the farm of $15,738,000 to an abnormally low year like 1961 when the cash value was placed at $6,861,000. This latter valuation drew sharp criticism from agricultural spokesmen here though the DBS people stuck to their original estimate.

The abnormally low price of 30 cents per 100 pounds, contributed to the low return.

The 1961 potato returns played the major part in a sharp drop in farm income which several political spokesmen kicked around for a few days before the item was forgotten.

46,000 ACRES

The potato income comes from approximately 46,000 acres of potatoes with the acreage varying only slightly each year, and the greatest part of it planted to seed potatoes, although much of the spuds passed for seed are sold for tablestock because the seed demand does not provide a market for all of them.

A summary of the returns for the past five years has been supplied by the Provincial Potato Marketing Board. It shows that the 1957 crop year furnished the biggest shipments with 15,403 carloads of 450 hundredweight bringing a total value on the farm of $11,736,000. The production was down slightly in 1958 with 13,627 carloads bringing $10,556,000 to the grower.

The 10,639 carloads shipped from the 1959 crop brought $16,738,000 for the highest return in the five-year period. It was 11,267 carloads and $10,656,000 in 1960, and the controversial figure of $6,861,000 emerged as the estimated farm value for the 1961 crop, though that figure may be changed slightly.

A total of 6,384 carloads of 4,788,000 bushels had been shipped from the 1962 crop year up to the end of January. This is down slightly from the 6,522 carloads of 4,891,000 bushels shipped at the same date from the 1961 crop year.

FLIES TO AFRICA

LONDON (Reuters) — Colonial Secretary Duncan Sandys flew to East Africa Thursday night for a three-week mission to mediate between Kenya's two main African political parties who disagree on the constitution drawn up last year to give the colony internal self-government. Sandys was expected to press for settlement of their dispute so an early general election can be held to decide which party assumes power

Norma's carries variety of wear

Norma's Ltd. Ladies Wear Store was opened in 1951 by the late Mrs. Norma Yeo at its present site on Kent Street. Following her death in May of 1962 the business has been managed by her husband, Ralph Yeo.

In 1962 the store space and staff was doubled when a new wing was added. An increase in business has been noted each year since it opened.

A new department is soon to be added to the store which will carry all types of ladies sportswear.

Norma's carries all the better lines in clothing in the medium price range. If there is something that the customer wants that isn't in the store, a special order will have it for her in a short time.

Reddin Bros. improve store

Reddin Brothers Ltd. Drug Store was started in 1888 by Dennis and George Reddin. When Dennis Reddin died in 1917 Leo M. Doucette became a partner. Roy M. Smallman became his partner in 1933 following the death of George Reddin. They are still the owners of the business.

Several years ago the store was moved from its previous location to its present site at 132 Richmond Street in order that there would be more much needed room for expansion.

A fire 12 years ago gutted the inside of the building but as soon as the smoke cleared the entire stock was sold in a fire sale and the store was rebuilt. Last year the front of the store was completely renovated.

McCain

Your preference for McCain frozen vegetables and potato products has made them the largest selling brand in the Atlantic Provinces by Far. The fine quality of these products has helped to make McCain Foods Limited Canada's largest packer, marketer and exporter of frozen vegetables and potato products.