

Lax Measures Can Lose Markets Warns Rossiter

Reimposition of the former one cent per hundred levy on potato shipments, and the establishment of a one zone freight area for Island exports to Maritime points, was urged in the Legislature last night by Leo Rossiter (PC—2nd Kings).

Speaking in the budget debate, the Morell merchant said that the fund established in former years from the revenue produced by the levy on all carloads of potatoes shipped out of the Province had been of great assistance in reducing the incidence of potato disease.

It would be a "sad day" for Island potato growers if, through carelessness on the part of either grower, dealer or the department of agriculture, any major potato market should be closed, Mr. Rossiter said.



MR. ROSSITER

Recent reduction in the freight rates to certain Maritime points indicated that the federal government was attempting to do something to alleviate the impact of the 17 per cent increase on this area, the Kings member asserted.

He said that the freight from the Island inner zone to Sydney had been lowered from 80 cents to 46 cents per hundred, and the freight to Halifax, which had been 44 cents per hundred, now was down to 34 cents.

The shippers west of St. Eleanors and East of Mount Stewart were required to pay three cents more in each case, he observed.

This was a definite discrimination and, on a small profit margin, shut these areas out of these markets.

declined 40 per cent, Mr. Rossiter asserted.

Speaking of marketing boards, the member from Morell asked his colleagues to explain at some future date what had happened in the resolution in respect of this issue that he (Mr. Douglas) had placed on the order paper last year.

"He either took cold feet or somebody stole it," Mr. Rossiter observed.

"ARBITRARY ACTION"

Taking over the Griffin plants in Souris without the knowledge of all the shareholders was a "very arbitrary action" on the part of the government, Mr. Rossiter said. Only two were represented at one meeting and none at the second.

Since the P.E.I. Industrial Development Corporation took over the plants, two wells had been drilled by the firm of Douglas Brothers and Jones, one costing \$16,583, the other only \$1,134, Mr. Rossiter noted. "Why the \$15,000 difference?" he inquired.

R.R. Bell: "They must have been boring for oil."

The former owners had got along with only one well, the Second Kings representative remarked.

He said he was surprised to hear Hon. Mr. Clark refer to the roads-to-exposures program as a "sand dune to sand dune project". Did he include the Seven Mile Road in this classification, the Morell member asked.

RESENTMENT SEEN

Mr. Rossiter said that he was sure the people of the St. Peter's

wick or Quebec was \$20 short of that amount.

He said many farmers realized good returns from growing broccoli and brussels sprouts and one person growing cauliflower made \$700 out of a small acreage. He read a letter from a woman who was well pleased that she had netted \$75 from a quarter of an acre of beans.

SHOULD BOOST

"We should get together and boost our Island industries that are giving employment and keeping our young people on the farm instead of going through the country knocking them," said the Minister.

The Minister said that in spite of some snive remarks and nasty rumors that had been circulated about the evicting plant at Summerside, the plant was doing an excellent job.

He said the government had built the plant at Summerside because it offered the best facilities at hand. The \$42,000 which it cost to build the plant, he said, would have cost \$100,000 anywhere else without the cold storage and canning facilities close at hand.

Speaking of the poultry industry in general, Mr. Cullen said the outlook was not cheerful at the present time. He said 90 per cent of the poultry being produced in Canada today was being done through the vertical integration method and it was almost impossible for the small producer "to make a dollar" in the industry.

INDUSTRIAL HELPED

Mr. Cullen enumerated a number of industries on the Island which the government had helped to finance. Among these were the Mount Stewart Strawberry Exchange, The Kinkora Dairy Cooperative, The North Rustico Fish Co-op, The Fort Augustus Creamery, the Federal Dairy at Eldon and others.

He was particularly impressed with an experiment carried out by the North Rustico Co-op in fish filleting. He reported that last year the plant processed 85,000 lbs. of frozen filets of the highest quality.

He said not only did it provide a new outlet for fish products, but

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TOBACCO TO BE

(Continued from page 1)

of his praise for the present Board felt that a board or association representing the whole industry was the most desirable and promised, "As soon as the growers, over 60 per cent of them, get together and form a board we will back them to the fullest."

Mr. Cullen felt a potato organization should be concerned with other things as well as marketing. He took for example the Dairywomen's Association which he said was raising \$12-14 thousand a year for promotional purposes.

An amalgamation of the Potato Promotion Committee and a marketing Board might be a good idea, said Mr. Cullen.

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LASHES OUT

The Minister lashed out strongly against what he termed a group of knockers of Island industries and suggested that those who make radio speeches leave the facts before they make statements in public which he claimed were not only misleading but unpatriotic.

In this connection he dealt at some length with the operations of the Frosted Food plant at Sherwood. He said the plant during its first year of operations had "done fairly well" and he predicted that with more experience, resulting in bigger yields and better quality of products greater success could be expected this coming season.

Mr. Cullen said it would be difficult to believe that during the 1920's anyone could grow 400 bushels of potatoes to the acre. As a matter of fact, he said the average production per acre during that time was 125 bushels.

In comparison to this, he noted that the average yield on the Island during 1957 was 315 bushels per acre. "If something like this should happen in our new industry, you can well imagine how it would be affected," he said.

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EXPLAINS PEA PRICE

He said mention had been made on two or three occasions in the House of the small price Island growers received for peas. He felt there were several reasons why some were disappointed: 1. Some thought it was going to be a gold mine and when they didn't make a lot of money over night they said the industry was no good. 2. The crop in some instances wasn't what it should have been. 3. The price paid per ton was less than in Ontario.

"Of course," said Mr. Cullen, "They didn't stop to find out that the price paid on the Island was considerably higher than in both New Brunswick and Quebec."

As an example, he showed that a farmer who grew 35 acres of peas in New Brunswick received \$1,656 but if he had sold them under the same contract held by Island farmers, he would have received \$1,885. On top of this the Islanders had their peas harvested for \$4 per acre and hauled to the viner while the New Brunswick grower had to do his own harvesting and hauling.

He said the best return per acre he got on the Island was \$98 while the best in New Brun-

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PLAN FISHING BOAT CONGRESS

OTTAWA (CP) - Canada is sending a four-man delegation to the second world fishing boat congress in Rome, April 5-10, it was announced Thursday.

The congress, sponsored by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, will deal with design and construction of safe, seaworthy and efficient fishing boats.

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AMONG THE FARMERS

Federation of Agriculture Newsletter

1959 Farmers' Week short version or abbreviated form is now over and those who attended will have a variety of opinions as to the probable results. The important topics up for public discussion at the Federation meeting on Tuesday night warranted a bigger attendance than was the case - this is not to say of course that the meeting was not well attended.

On the question of Hospital Insurance the Minister of Health, the Honourable Dr. Bonnell gave a very clear and well organized explanation of what the plan involves, what it provides and how it will be organized. Dr. Bonnell answered a number of questions in a very satisfactory manner and showed that he had complete grasp of the details of the plan. David Kirk on his first visit to this province basing his opinions on the probable future of Agriculture in Canada and particularly the advantages and disadvantages of Prince Edward Island, had a number of reasonable and sensible suggestions on what might be considered as a good program for the province. Mr. Kirk pointed out that the deficiency position of the Maritimes in most food products indicated the logic of attempting to fill these. Possibly the next important point was the need for Island farmers to excel in the production of a quality article. The Island would never have been into the potato business in the beginning except for the fact that it produced a potato of superior quality.

Finally Mr. Kirk pointed out the advantages that we have due to our small size when it comes to organizing in a provincial way. Agriculture embraces the entire province not just a portion as is the case in other provinces. Organization of production, processing and marketing by the farmer and under his control was of the essence stated Mr. Kirk.

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MILK PRICE CUTTING BANNED BY BILL BEFORE LEGISLATURE

Minimum prices stipulated by the Milk Control Board are guaranteed local producers of fluid milk and cream under the new "Milk Protection Act" given partial second reading in the Legislature yesterday.

Promoted by the minister of Agriculture, Hon. Eugene Cullen, the new Act was drafted by Judge Walter E. Barby, a former Attorney-General of the Province.

The Bill also prohibits price-cutting a practice deemed harmful to both producer and consumer. It would ensure that price paid to producers and the cost to the consumer would be the amounts prescribed by the Board, a body provided for in the Act.

ON OWN TEST

Under the new legislation processors would not be required to pay their clients according to the government test. Mr. Cullen informed C. C. Baker (L-4th Prince), his predecessor in office.

Frank Myers: "There should not be any unfairness in this. What are the prices received by the processors?"

Hon. Mr. Cullen: "Milk 19 cents a quart in Charlottetown and Summerside; butterfat, \$1.20 cents pound."

Mr. Myers: "We get 73 cents for butterfat."

Mr. Douglas: "But you have the skim milk left."

MORE

No processor was compelled to pay on the government test check, the minister told George Kitson (L-2nd Queens). In some cases where repeated and sustained variations were observed, the producer had taken the case to Court, but little could be done for him.

In Charlottetown, the test samples were picked up by City officials and tested in the laboratory of the department of

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FAIL TO LOCATE BODY

Assistants remove helmet from diver Gus Gallant yesterday after he gave up attempts to find the body of William Moore, who is missing and presumed drowned after a light truck went through Charlottetown Harbor ice Wednesday a

few hundred feet of Pownal Wharf.

The CNR diver found the truck resting on its four wheels in 40 feet of water. The door on the driver's side was open. The right hand door was closed.

Chief of Police C. W. MacArthur said that nothing more could be done now to locate the body of 41-year-old Moore, of Wood Island. He was employed in Charlottetown.

The truck driver, Dirk Baker of Union Road escaped from the submerged vehicle and reached the ice safely.

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It gave employment to men who would be without work after the lobster season closed. He felt that this would be the trend in a number of north shore fishing ports.

THRIVING INDUSTRY

Mr. Cullen also reviewed the fishing industry at Souris. He said that from 1951 to the present day the industry has expanded to a point where the payroll of \$390,000 had been reached.

He said the average pay of the men engaged on the draggers, clear of captains and engineers was around \$2,000. On top of this he said many other people received an income from the fisheries from an indirect source. He had in mind those who repair and replace parts for the draggers.

The Minister said that this spring 16 draggers would be fishing out of Souris.

Loans given fish processing plants were coming in well, Mr. Cullen reported. He said the Eastern Fisheries had three quarters of their loan paid back.

He said two fish smoke houses at Egmont Bay were producing an excellent product and were expanding in their operations.

MAN BEHIND IT

Mr. Cullen gave most of the credit for this tremendous expansion in the fisheries industry to Mr. Eugene Gorman, deputy minister of fisheries, whose foresight and tenacity, he said, would not allow him to quit even when so called authorities shook their heads and said it couldn't be done.

The Minister made reference to the role played by the Island Cold Storage plant which he said has handled over 30 million lbs. of farm products including butter, strawberries and blue berries. He said in the strawberry business alone the farmers of the Island had been saved many thousands of dollars by the facilities provided by Government Cold Storage.

"It is a service to our people," said Mr. Cullen, "and while profit is not objected to it is not our prime motive. Millions of dollars that farmers have received for their products have occurred through the facilities of this plant."

City University Women's Club Hears Address On Education

The guest speaker at the March meeting of the Charlottetown University Women's Club last night was one of the club members, Mrs. Clifford Birt, a former resident of The Netherlands, now residing in Charlottetown.

Mrs. Birt described the Montessori method of teaching. She gave a clear account of the objectives of the Montessori school and outlined the methods and techniques used.

He stressed the necessity of stimulating interest and keeping it alive; of introducing material when the child is ready for it and developing independence through self-activity. It is essential that the child may be free to work according to his inward power.

Since education comes through the senses, concrete material is an essential part of the technique.

Mrs. Birt pointed out that it does not do to "hurry up" the child.

Creative ability is encouraged. The teacher is known as the guide and independence is developed through self-activity.

Mrs. Coffin expressed the appreciation of the members to Mrs. Birt.

The meeting was at the home of Miss Katharine MacLennan. Miss Helen Yeo presided at

the business meeting.

Committees were set up to prepare a brief on the status of women for presentation at the regional conference of University Women's Clubs to be held in Fredericton in May. It was decided that a special savings account should be set up for the scholarship fund of the club.

Miss Doris Anderson gave the review of current events. She outlined the background of and the present strike situation in Newfoundland; the unsettled condition of Iraq; the rule of Castro in Cuba and finally the tense situation in Berlin.

3 Cases Heard In Souris Court

SOURIS - Before Magistrate Gilbert A. Gaudet, here on Wednesday, a resident of Bayfield, charged with possession of liquor in a place other than his residence, was fined \$20.00 and costs on 20 days.

A resident of Little Harbour and one of St. Catharines, for being intoxicated in a public place, were each fined \$20.00 and costs on 20 days.

Evidence in the case of a resident of North Lake, charged with breaking, entry and theft, was completed at 9 o'clock Wednesday night after taking the evidence of six crown witnesses. The case was adjourned to April 1, Counsel for the accused was J.O.C. Campbell. Ian MacLenn represented the crown.

THE DEATH BATTLE OF THE SUB-KILLER AND THE KILLER-SUB - ACROSS A THOUSAND MILES OF EXPLODING OCEAN!

ROBERT MITCHUM - CURT JURGENS

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Today

CINEMA SCOPE COLOR BY DE LUXE

THE ENEMY BELOW

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Fire Damages House Roof

The roof of a house at 23 Spring Street suffered considerable damage in a fire that broke out about 8:30 yesterday morning.

Three engines of the Fire Department arrived on the scene and quickly had the fire under control but not before a large part of the roof of the wooden dwelling was destroyed. The interior of the house was damaged by smoke and water.

The blaze was believed caused by sparks from the chimney. Shortly after returning to the fire hall, firemen were called out again to answer a call to 18 Haviland Street, where they doused the slight blaze before it could do any material damage.

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