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MILLION DOLLAR PLANT WILL EMPLOY 250 PEOPLE WHEN FULLY OPERATIONAL

SERVES TWO MAJOR PURPOSES, SAYS PREMIER

Gov't officials hail new plant

PREMIER SHAW

Mr. Shaw

"Needless to say the building and opening of the Langley Fruit Packers plant at Montague is in keeping with the aims of my government. From the very beginning we have been anxious to create more jobs in this province and bring about a higher level of prosperity," says Premier Walter Shaw.

"I am extremely pleased when we can see the development of an industry that serves two major purposes—creating a fine market for our farm products and creating jobs for our people. I also find it encouraging that this company is co-operating with the government in a training program that will make it possible for many of our people to hold key positions in the plant.

"It is a major part of the present government's program that we give every assistance possible to encourage the location of such plants. I realize that we have some disadvantages in seeking heavy industry. But I also know that we have many advantages such as a good way of life, people willing to work and some broad provisions of our industrial development program. In most cases we are able to find good solutions to most of the problems.

"I congratulate the Town of Mntague for the help that it has rendered and I assure you that the provincial government will do all in its power to assist this fine new industry to get going. The government joins with me in expressing to John L. Willams and his company the very best wishes for what I shall call our mutual prosperity."

Mr. Rossiter

"Having seen the Langley Fruit Packers enterprise develop from an idea to a reality I am particularly enthusiastic that this large plant is now ready to operate. I am told that the brussel sprouts that have been produced by Island farms are tops in every way and this is highly encouraging," says resources and industry minister, Leo Rossiter.

"As Minister of Indistry and Natural Resources I feel that we have a great deal to offer in this province. Therefore I am encouraged by the increasing number of firms that are coming to talk to us about possible location here. You can be sure that in every case we will give the same serious study and the

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MR. ROSSITER

READY TO GO ON BRUSSELS SPROUTS

Montague plant to increase P. E. I. strawberry output

Island strawberry production will be increased by four times the present acreage, or more, if plans now under consideration by Langley Fruit Packers Limited frosted food plant at Montague develop satisfactorily.

The firm envisions processing the production from 2,00 acres—that compares with 400 to 500 acres now in the entire province—they also intend to process 4,000 to 5,000 tons of potatoes. A large raspberry production is also in the planning stages.

The forecast was made a few days ago by Ernest Buffum, the genial and capable plant manager for the British Columbia based firm, that hopes to begin processing Brussels Sprouts next week, although construction problems have delayed the date for the beginning of operations, and could possibly delay it beyond that.

But the sprouts are not easily damaged by forst, so there is little worry on that score. "I have seen them dug out of snow in Chilliwack," Mr. Buffum said.

MODEST SCALE

Operations this fall will be on a modest scale, with 40 people growing an estimated $70,000 worth of Brussels Sprouts — that's the value to the producer — with plots ranging from one-half acre to 15 acres. In future, the company looks to producers having a larger range of plots—five acres would be ideal, Mr. Buffum said.

The plant will process potatoes and chips later, possibly by the New Year, and this will be one of the largest production items, it was learned.

The new plant will employ up to 200 women and 60 to 70 men when the soft berry operation is underway, if the berry development turns out as expected; and that, he said will be the peak of employment.

"Several of our berry varieties will be tested in the Experimental Farm green house here over the winter to see how they grow in this province", explained Mr. Buffum, who said the berries they have used in British Columbia are better for processing than the Island varieties, though the ones produced here have excellent flavor.

Large quantities of the berry plants will be obtained if tests are favorable, and a large raspberry operation is also envisioned.

Most of the fish and chips processing operation will be carried out here, said Mr. Buffum, a New Hampshire, U.S.A. man originaly, who has been in Western Canada since the First World War. "This will probably be our top operation here, with peas a close second," he estimated.

Spinach, raspberri cauliflower, beans, Bell peppers and certain sea foods are some of the other foods that will be processed when the plant is in full operation, Mr. Buffum said.

The strawberry picker is used by the plant people in British Columbia and it steps up production. It has a low, wide platform that will cover 14 rows and 28 people work on it, lying face downwards and they pick the vines as the machine proceeds slowly ahead. "One big advantage is that you get 28 people working in one unit, and it is a self-policing unit, for the person

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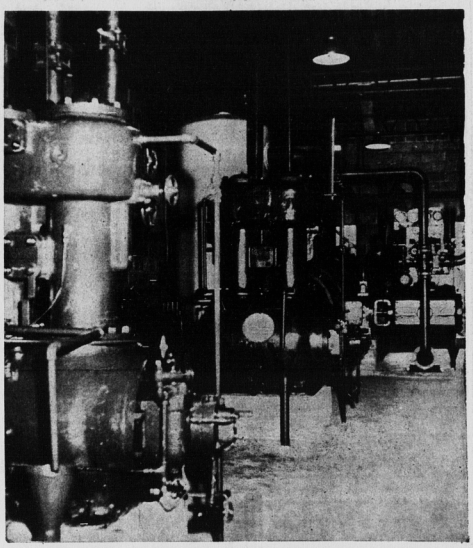

NEWLY INSTALLED EQUIPMENT READY FOR ACTION

Another Milestone In Our Growth!

The Government of Prince Edward Island is happy to take this opportunity to extend best wishes to Langley Fruit Packers, Limited, as it begins its processing operations at Montague.

From the beginning we have felt that this fine firm, with its know-how in food processing, is an ideal plant for our Province. From our soil will be coming the finest fruits and vegetables. In the plant there will be a staff of Island people who will welcome the opportunity to be part of this operation. This is an industry that fits especially well into our particular type of economy.

The Government has been pleased to have had a part in the location of Langley Fruit Packers. This is the type of effort that our people have indicated they want us to carry on. With the growing demand for jobs each plant that becomes established means that more of our young people will be staying with us, more of our service trades will prosper and the general level of our entire economy will be raised.

Our role as Government is not only to bring industry into the Province but to continue to cooperate with such an industry through the years. This we will do to the fullest. Again best wishes to Langley Fruit Packers, Limited.

LEO. F. ROSSITER, MINISTER

Department of Industry and Natural Resources