

### Labor Minister Seems Cool To Union Automation View

By BEN WARD  
OTTAWA (CP)—Labor Minister Nicholson has responded coolly to a request by the Canadian Labor Congress for a federal labor law that would compel employers to negotiate with unions on the introduction of automated work methods.

He told a 300-member CLC delegation voluntary arrangements between labor and management are preferable to compulsion through legislation. The CLC's annual brief to the cabinet urged early action on the major recommendation of the Freedman report which said unions should be given a voice in working out new job procedures.

The 1,250,000-member labor body warned there is growing union unrest over the tendency of employers to introduce technological changes during the closed periods of labor contracts, when unions are legally powerless to protect the workers involved.

Mr. Nicholson did not directly reject the idea. But there was noticeable grumbling among the delegates when the minister confessed a preference for voluntary, labor-management arrangements.

Later, in an interview, Mr. Nicholson said something will have to be done about the problem posed by automation. But it was too early to say whether the solution lay in legislation.

Canada Packers display the carcasses they have killed. This is for an educational purpose as well as advertisement. I would suggest that as many as possible take advantage of this and they will become aware of all points that I did try to bring out in this article, namely finished type, a d dressing percentage.

If these points are understood then there will be a better understanding of the prices offered.

For further information contact Mr. Glen Cotton, Beef Fieldman P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, 100 Richmond Street, or write P.O. Box 2000, Charlottetown, P.E.I. If you live in the Charlottetown area you can phone 894-8520.



#### PROBLEMS OF WAR FOR A CHILD

A Vietnamese child clings to his bound father who was rounded up as a suspected Viet-Cong guerrilla by "Operation Eagle's Claw" in the Bong Son area, 200 miles north-east of Saigon. The father was taken to an interrogation camp with other suspects rounded up by U.S. 1st Air Cavalry Division that conducted operation (AP Wirephoto)



### CONSIDER TURNING OFF FALLS

Brig. Gen. Roy T. Dodge, chief of the North Central Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, points to an area of recently fallen rock at Niagara Falls. Under his direction a feasibility study is underway looking into possibility of removing accumulated fallen rock at base of falls. The plan would entail diverting the river over Horseshoe Falls by means of a dam of steel piling. (AP Wirephoto)

### FACTS FOR FARMERS



## Rail Grading Of Beef Road To Improvement

By GLEN COTTON  
Beef Fieldman  
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To start a discussion on rail grading, I must first refer to the swine production. Thirty years ago swine was sold by live weight, now all swine is bought on the rail grade basis. If you are old enough to remember there was a loud dissenting voice to this new procedure of buying hogs.

Prince Edward Island was one of the first areas to adopt this scheme of marketing hogs and it has improved the quality of our hogs to such an extent that we have consistently led Canada in the number of Grade A hogs produced.

Rail grading services are available for the sale of cattle, at any of the larger slaughter houses in the Maritimes.

The following slaughter houses have the facilities that P.E.I. producers may take advantage of and are competing for P.E.I. livestock:

Canada Packers, Charlottetown; Swift Canadian Co. Ltd., Moncton; and Halifax Co-op Slaughter, Halifax.

I will suggest that all cattle should be sold by our farmers on rail grade basis but I know, from experience, that if more cattle were sold on the rail grade basis we would improve the livestock offered for the sale on P.E.I.

#### COMPLAINTS

The main complaints that the packing industry have with P.E.I. farmers are:

- (1) Just prior to weighing the animals, after a sale, they will attempt to load them with as much bulk and water as possible thus receiving payment for portion of weight that is total loss.
- (2) Animals offered for sale are mainly in the following categories: (a) Under finished — these are usually steers; (b) Over finished — these are usually heifers; (c) Lack of type — these are the animals that are the most profitable to buy. The expensive meat cuts are lacking on these animals, i.e. the loin and hams.

(3) The inability of the farmer to know when his livestock should be sold.

The farmers of this province could and would educate themselves reasonably quickly on the points mentioned as Packers complaints by selling more animals rail grade.

He would learn:

- (1) That better type animals do dress above 50 per cent.
- (2) That off type animals are sold to the best advantage when they have only a light coating of fat and that it is unprofitable to attempt to get these animals in a higher state of fit.
- (3) That an animal can not be advanced into a higher grade if it hasn't got the conformation to reach this desired grade.
- (4) Animals that do have the proper conformation are reasonably easy to finish so that they will grade standard or better.
- (5) Nearly all beef animals crushed with dairy will grade standard.
- (6) Some Holstein steers, if not allowed to lose their baby fat and shipped to market at 11

cy area with the market at his doorstep and appears to receive at least four cents on the average below Toronto prices. Most controversies are conceived through ignorance.

We do want our farmers to get just returns from their products. We do want the packing firms to stay in business in our areas. We can achieve both by understanding the situation better. The buyers from the packing companies are well educated in buying and through necessity know their market. The farmer is the man on the short end of the stick. He, except for a small number, does not know what he is offering or what the market is able to pay.

The farmer can become more aware of his product by shipping some animals rail grade or enquiring about the results of the grading of his animals when sold alive. This is an advantage to both packers and farmers.

All animals slaughtered at Government of Canada inspected plants are graded by the Canada Department of Agriculture.

In the near future the P.E.I. Easter Beef Show and Sale will be held. After the sale



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