

Education Week Observed At North Rustico

During Education Week a large number of parents and ratepayers visited Stella Maris School, North Rustico. Their visits to the classrooms and their interest in the work that is being done there was a source of much satisfaction to both teachers and pupils. The fact that many of the visitors were not parents of children actually attending school proves that the people of North Rustico believe that "Education is everybody's business".

The week's activities were terminated by a debate in which Grade XI took part. The subject was: Resolved that, in the play, "Julius Caesar", Mark Anthony is greater than Brutus.

The leader for the affirmative was Joan Doiron with Vaunda Gallant and Lois Gallant as second and third speakers. The negative was upheld by Marina Gallant supported by Carmelita Blaquiere and Doris Poirier.

The speeches, characterized by eloquence and persuasiveness interspersed with wit, afforded a pleasant hour of entertainment to an appreciative audience, who gave high praise to the speakers for their forensic ability.

The judges, Mrs. M. J. Doyle, Mr. Allan Gauthier and Mr. Elmer

Scores Propaganda

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on the farm. I submit therefore, that a city worker with a job, getting good wages is in a much better position to buy good dairy products than to buy the cheapest of these substitutes without a job.

Loyal Support Locally

"I would like at this time to commend all the non-agricultural citizens of this province who have stood loyally in support of our dairy industry through the whole period. I would like to make special mention of the splendid support given us by the newspapers through their editorials and other columns.

"Now we farmers hear a lot, of course, about the large quantity of margarine that is being smuggled into the Province and used in place of butter. We are not unduly alarmed as the quantity is not sufficient to make much difference in the consumption of butter. We do find the principal offenders are the poor (?) people who travel extensively in their fine automobiles and bring a supply of margarine back with them from Florida or other extended trips throughout Canada and the U. S. A. Now I am not going to use any words to condemn these people. I will leave that entirely to their own con-

science. I would say, however, that any citizens living on Prince Edward Island, enjoying our standards of living and sharing our economy, and knowing that it is determined largely by the prosperity of dairy farmers, are not in my opinion one hundred per cent loyal if they persist in bringing in margarine for use on their family table.

people in Canada are benefitting by protection in their own incomes and then unfairly and inconsistently raise a great cry against farmers attempting a small measure of what they themselves are doing."

Mr. Profit's statements were made in the course of his presidential report at yesterday's meeting.

Reviews Year's Activities

"The year 1952," he said, "has been rather an unusual year due to the closing of the U. S. border to all livestock. By the holding back of surplus dairy cows on the farms we have experienced a substantial increase in the total production of milk. For all of Canada, it has been estimated at over seventeen billion pounds. However we hope that this situation may never develop again, and in that case we are not likely to have many surpluses of dairy products in Canada.

"The real problem we have had to face in 1952 has been a sharp decline in the price of dairy products and beef. The average price of milk produced on the farm dropped 10.2 per cent, while beef dropped a total of 30 per cent. It is perhaps not generally realized

that the dairy industry provides about 60 per cent of all beef eaten in Canada. You may readily see how these lower prices have contributed to an alarming decrease in the income of dairy farmers. And that is not all. Along with the decrease in revenue we have been subjected to a sharp increase in costs of production. The dairy farmer is being handicapped by the inflationary trend we are operating under, which stems largely from short hours of labor and a wage rate in industry with which the dairy industry cannot compete. There is no hope whatever, as far as I can see, that this situation of short hours and high pay in industry is going to be discontinued but rather may be further increased.

More Important Features

"The dairy industry therefore cannot be regarded as a big money making industry and I do not believe it will ever develop to be such. It has, however, many important features that should commend it to our farmers, and I feel at this time of crisis we must keep these benefits before our people. In Eastern Canada and especially in P. E. I. dairying is the one industry that is both basic and fundamental to the economic development and security of our people. There is no better known way to keep up the fertility of the soil than by grassland farming or a program of mixed farming with livestock as a base.

Loafing Barns

"We hear a great deal today about loafing barns, and I have seen a number of them. I am still not convinced that this system will solve many of our problems. I am not even sure that we can winter high-producing dairy cows in this cool, damp Eastern climate, with a cheaply constructed barn. In other words, the loafing barn will solve some problems but will inevitably bring others with it. One farmer on the Pacific Coast, with a fine herd of dairy cattle says you need more experienced help to look after milking cows in a pen barn.

Milk Plants

"The erection of powdered milk plants in the province should encourage greater production, and should return to the farmer a greater net income. It does seem, in this day of food shortages throughout the world, that farmers are hardly justified in feeding such large quantities of milk to their livestock when children are so greatly in need of it.

"Having taken advantage of all available information and research in connection with the raising of feed on the farm and the production of milk in the barn, we still have to face collectively the greatest immediate threat to our dairy industry, that is the threat of cheap oils replacing butterfat, and substitutes which do not contain any dairy products. The loss last year alone to the dairy farmers of Canada was over \$50,000,000, a very large sum which could have been used to buy the necessary machinery and equipment needed on our modern farms."

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"There are two immediate problems facing us. The efficiency of our farm units and the protection of our industry from unfair competition and sale of imitation products. The first is an individual problem, and must step up our production and lower our costs by improved methods, and general all-round efficiency. Farmers must provide much more of the feed consumed by the cows on their own farms. Any farmer who thinks he can buy the feed for his cows under the present price structure at least, and have any profit at all, is just fooling himself.

Silage

"I am not going to pose as an authority on the use of silage in the dairy barn, for I have used it only one year. I do feel, however, that there is a future in this country for the use of silage. I am using corn silage this winter, and it has increased my production per cow, and in that way is lowering my costs. Whether you use grass silage or corn will possibly depend on the fertility of your soil.

For instance it would never pay a farmer to gather grass over a large acreage and rob his cows of sufficient summer grass and winter hay, when he could very well fill his silo with five acres under corn. Conditions on our farms is possible to know by the first of June if you have sufficient grass in sight. If you decide that grass will be scarce there is still time to plow your land and grow a good crop of corn.

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Must Not Relax

"In conclusion, I would say we must not relax our efforts in any way. We as farmers must produce economically the highest quality dairy foods that can be produced anywhere, at a price our people can afford to pay for them. We must also keep up our advertising programme and increase the consumption of these fine dairy foods in Canada. And to continue to be in a position to demand the same consideration and protection as other industries. If in the opinion of our government the time ever comes when our industries do not need further protection, we as farmers are quite prepared to go along with the other groups.

"Dr. H. H. Hannam repeated this challenge at the C.F.A. meeting in Victoria this year, when he said: 'Once again the farmers of Canada challenge other industries to wipe off all tariff protection including all restrictions on the immigration of industrial workers, and agriculture will be very happy to do likewise. Time and time again Canadian farmers have thrown out this challenge—yet no one takes it up. The plain truth of the matter is that most of the

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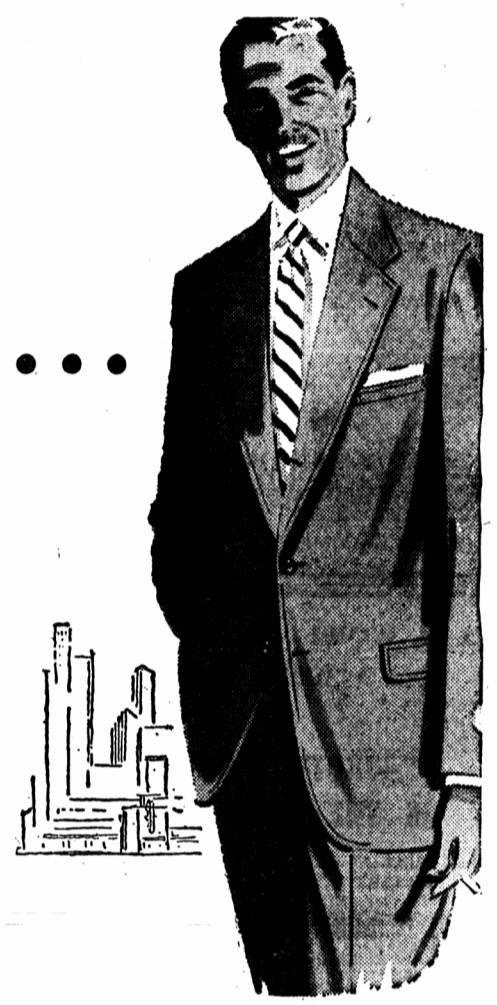
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