



**HAPPY REUNION**

Madame Vanier, wife of the Governor-General, poses in St. John's, Nfld., with four children she first met several years ago at the MacKay Institute

for the Deaf in Montreal. She visited the School for the Deaf Monday while in St. John's for a Memorial University convocation. Seen here LEFT TO

RIGHT are David Hayden Bauger, Denise Anobis of St. John's and Linda Sawbridge. The fourth was not identified. (CP Wirephoto)

**THIS AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY**

**Practical Grading Method Is Aim On Hog Carcasses**

By NEIL A. MATHESON  
A third national hog conference has been called at Ottawa by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and the dates are July 11 and 12, a news release from the Meat Packers Council of Canada tells me.  
The conference will deal with two main subjects: 1. possible revision of hog grading evaluation policy, and 2. formation of a Canadian Hog Improvement Organization as recommended

by last year's hog conference. Voting delegates to the conference will be members of producer groups across the nation. Others invited to attend include federal and provincial departments of agriculture people, members of the Meat Packers Council, the Co-operative Union of Canada and several others.  
These hog conferences have accomplished a great deal already. Much more is possible, and I am waiting with interest decisions that may be reached at this one coming up.

ily comes in for a meal. Personally I can't think of a better way to grade a carcass of any meat that is used to feed human beings. I've often wondered when the people responsible for the meat-grading standards — I'm talking now about beef — will adopt an equally practical idea.  
This idea of grading hog carcasses is being used now for the rating of pure bred swine, when test litters are being evaluated to score their dams.  
The method used is too cumbersome — there is too much work involved — to lend itself to the rapid-fire type of grading that is necessarily used in packing plants where the grader has to rate two carcasses, I believe, in the space of a minute.  
The important column in the grading of registered swine — they are on record of performance tests — is the one under the heading "Estimated percentage yield of trimmed cuts."

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**CONFERENCE AT AMHERST**  
Several weeks ago I attended a Maritime hog conference at Amherst where I heard some down-to-earth, common-sense discussion on what we really should think of when we think of carcass grading of hogs.  
The present concept of carcass grading of hogs is based on the Wiltshire side idea that was developed more than 20 years ago when Canada shipped bacon sides to the United Kingdom — and that has long since been outdated.  
Basically the new grading idea rates the carcass on its percentage of meat the housewife can put on her table when the fam-

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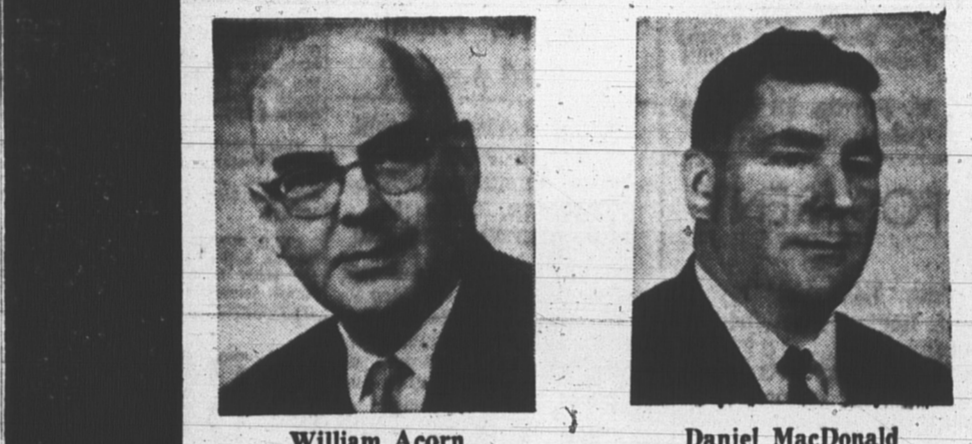
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The national average level of performance in 1965 was 78.1 percent. The latest score sheet to reach my desk shows two Island men with sows that rated close to that. A.D. Mutch, Charlottetown RR 1 has a pig with a score of 77.8, which is slightly below the national average. But Chester R. Whiteway, Murray River, had an animal with a score of 79.8 which is considerably above the national average.  
A grader from the Canada department of agriculture office at Moncton cut and graded a hog carcass at the Maritime Conference, and gave us the results. He used the method which is used to evaluate the hogs on LROP tests, but it requires a detailed study, with accurate measurements, of the fat and lean through the ba-

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**SOURIS REGIONAL HIGH**  
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Alex Campbell, the energetic Liberal leader, goes into the fishing districts to learn the needs and problems of the fishing industry. Island fisheries, he says, must be improved and expanded.

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I haven't permission to reveal the name of the organization, but I have been assured that the men behind it are knowledgeable in the cattle marketing industry. It's an interesting probability.  
I was interested in the remarks of a New Brunswick corn grower who was talking on a CBC farm show over the weekend. This man emphasized the need of a great deal of cultivation on land that's being seeded to corn. It requires a great deal of work with the spring tooth harrow; this man said, among other things.  
My mind went back to George Morris who talked to beef cattle men here last spring. He emphasized "leave the ground loose". Mr. Morris said they plough the land in the fall, then plant the corn in the spring "with a once across" — the field operation with the cultivator behind the tractor."  
The Ontario man explained "we go across the field once, come back and get out of there and stay out." The idea is to avoid parking the soil by driving machinery across it. They don't even use cultivating machinery to fight weeds. That is done by a weed-killer spray, I gathered.  
**TOBACCO PLANTING**  
Tobacco planting is underway in this province. Last Friday I dropped in at the farm of Leonard Vaereyck and Marl Vaneste. Grandview, and they planted their first plants on Saturday. They had intended to plant on Friday but the rain prevented it. Nobody was sorry to see the rain, though. The moisture will do a tremendous amount of good.  
Grandview people are planting 50 acres this year — they had 40 acres in 1965 — and Douglas Roloson, Ocean View — he also has a tobacco farm at Greenfield — is planning on close to 100 acres. I am told. It depends on how many plants his greenhouse capacity will provide. Mr. Roloson had about 75 acres in 1965.  
So far as I know the Grandview planting was the first this year but I believe that Marcel Moyaert, Upper Montague was expecting to get underway either yesterday or today.

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