



HAS THE MAKINGS

Patosie Miss Brig graded just two points short of Excellent for Eric Hurry's Patosie herd at West Royalty. The young Guernsey cow has all the makings of a real show cow if she develops as expected.

Flax producers see expansion

Approximately 2,000 acres of flax will be grown in the province this year if satisfactory financial arrangements can be made — a proposition for financial backing was being studied by the provincial government — it was learned late in April. Some 92 farmers produced approximately 1,000 acres last year in the Prince and West Queens areas. Centre of the industry was in the Freetown Bedeque area, and the processing plant which was opened during the winter at Freetown is still working on the 1964 crop. The hope of Zeger Salome, the man who pioneered the idea of producing flax in this province for processing, is that the acreage can be expanded until 10,000 acres of the new crop are produced annually.

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But last year Messrs. Salome, Vier and the farmers who were behind the effort financed the first year's crop on their own, with financial backing from a banker who said the bank would back the effort if the producers would invest half of their first year's proceeds in their own industry. That was done and the amount of \$50 per acre was agreed on as share capital in the industry which the producers would purchase. The project had a working capital of \$130,000, Mr. Salome said last year, with each of the some 90 charter members purchasing the shares worth one-half of their crop. They were to be guaranteed \$100 per acre for the first year's crop. Because the operation was a late getting organized last year, some of the plantings were late and this created some concern, presumably a much earlier start will be made this year. Flax is sown earlier in the spring than any other crop. It's an oil seed and spring frosts do not harm it, people who know the flax crop explain. "There's a big demand for the product. If we filled the Island from one end to the other, we'd still be short of the product," Messrs Salome and Visser told this paper when they were first stirring interest in the new industry. And this optimistic viewpoint contrasts sharply with the Little survey people who said in most countries the industry is heavily subsidized. It was subsidized in the United States,

Recommend thimet to control maggot

An important development in agriculture of particular interest to producers of turnips is the recommendation by research officers at the Experimental Farm that aldrin and heptachlor insecticides are rapidly becoming obsolete for turnip root maggot control, due to the development of resistance in the maggot to those materials.

The resistance has developed during the past few years and "will probably spread throughout the Island this year and next in the observation by D.C. Read and C.P. Duffy who have been studying the problem created as a result of this development.

Experimental evidence has indicated that Thimet (phorate) would be the most effective replacement for aldrin and heptachlor on turnips. Present registration of this material is for four pounds active acre, whereas experience has shown that applications of six to eight pounds per acre are required for economic control. At the present time, application has been made for registration at the higher rate and it is hoped that



R. C. PARENT

action will be taken in sufficient time so that legal requirements will be met in 1965 for the effective rate of application.

Crop insurance gives security

The Crop Insurance (Provincial) Act was enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor and Legislative Assembly at the 1961 Session. This Act was passed primarily to provide some measure of assurance to the potato grower that in the event of a crop failure they would receive some compensation for their loss.

The operation of this Act is under an agency consisting of five members, one of whom is designated as the managing director. This agency is responsible for carrying out the regulations that are established for the insuring of the crop, the inspection necessary during the growing season and establishing any loss that may be incurred by those who carry insurance.

In view of the disastrous harvesting season of 1962 when a large amount of grain was not harvested, an amendment was made to the Act in 1963 whereby farmers, for a nominal charge per acre, were able to insure their grain crops and thus be assured of some returns for their labor. While the number of farmers insuring either potatoes or grain has not been large, nevertheless each year since the introduction of this Legislation, the number has shown an increase each year.

The policy of Crop Insurance is participated in by the Government of Canada whereby a portion of the administration costs are shareable. Crop Insurance is just like any other type of insurance in that it is a means whereby the farmer with the assistance of Governments can insure his crop and if a failure occurs the farmer will receive a measure of compensation.

these people said, until 1963 when commercial production ceased because, even with the tariffs and subsidies, it could not compete with European grown flax. Yet the Island experiment has been sparked by two men from Europe, and they are optimistic the industry can be good for the Island and good for them. It will be interesting to watch developments.

Application is made at a rate of five pounds of 25 per cent W.P. as a drench in the transplant water, using 200 gallons water per acre, or apply 10 pounds of 10 per cent granular Guthion in the row as a preplanting band treatment. "It is believed that our problem with turnips is still largely a problem of marketing and that larger acreages planted by precision planters with insecticide applicators are a necessity if we are to maintain and increase our turnip sales. Growers taking advantage of the most up-to-date information on root maggot control have, over the past several years, produced highly marketable crops. Our system of small acreages is largely outmoded along with the disparity in quality and grade that is inherent under this basis of production. Much of our market has been lost to Ontario producers due to the fact that we have lagged in adopting modern methods of production and marketing.

Scientists produce rust-resistant wheat

By ROB TRIMBEE SASKATOON (CP)—Canadian plant scientists once more have gained the upper hand in a never-ending fight to produce wheat varieties resistant to stem rust attacks.

Stewart 63, the first durum wheat produced in Canada, was licensed two years ago and sufficient supplies of seed to meet Canadian demand are expected to be available by next year. It was produced by the University of Saskatchewan.

Not since 1954, when damage to \$200,000,000 was caused by an attack of rust, have widespread losses been suffered by Prairie farmers from this cause. Scientists pin their hopes on development of Stewart 63, a rust-resistant durum wheat, and on a rust-resistant Thatcher ACREAGES FLUCTUATE. Stewart 63 will give Manitoba and southern Saskatchewan

that they will provide another decade of protection against stem rust attacks. Stewart 63, the first durum wheat produced in Canada, was licensed two years ago and sufficient supplies of seed to meet Canadian demand are expected to be available by next year. It was produced by the University of Saskatchewan. How soon sufficient supplies of the new rust-resistant Thatcher will become available was not known. It was developed at the Canada agriculture research station at Winnipeg. ACREAGES FLUCTUATE. Stewart 63 will give Manitoba and southern Saskatchewan

farmer an alternative to Ramsey, another rust-resistant variety. The new variety has yielded higher in tests.

There have been wide swings in durum wheat acreage in Canada during the last 12 years. The 1952-61 average was 1,114,000 acres. This climbed to 2,170,000 acres in 1962, but dropped to 1,888,000 acres in 1964. Durum is a soft wheat used in Macaroni.

During the same periods the bread wheat acreages averaged 23,500,000 acres from 1951 to 1961, climbed to 26,900,000 in 1962 and a record 29,000,000 last year.

In bread wheat Canada's power on the international scene is held by its high maintenance of quality. Thatcher wheat, a variety susceptible to race 15B rust which caused the 1954 disaster, still is the most popular among producers. Dr. D. R. Knott of the University of Saskatchewan's crop science department, cautioned that Stewart 63 and the new bread wheat now under study at Winnipeg provide plant scientists with only a respite in "the never-ending job of finding varieties able to combat new races of rust which become prevalent."

"New races of rust can be established faster than we now can produce wheat varieties

which resist the rust. That's why the job never end and is a reason why we are cataloguing the inheritance qualities of certain rust-resistant plants. Rust cuts off food supplies from the head of the wheat plant. Damage can range from nil to 100 per cent, depending upon when the plant is infected. The disease normally enters Canada from the United States through southern Manitoba and southeastern Saskatchewan and moves northward across the Prairies. Normally, much of the Prairie grain crop has matured before the wind-borne rust hits the crop.

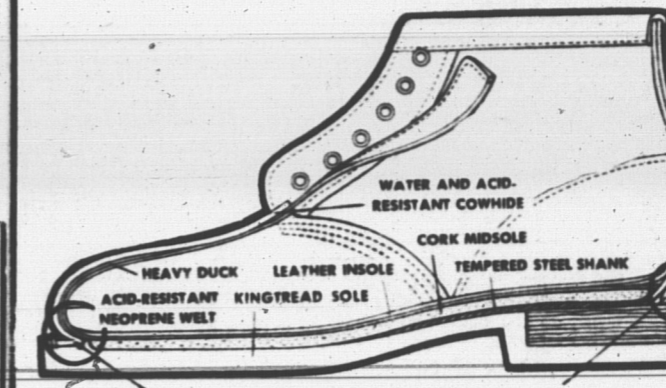
Council sees flying fists

BOSTON (AP)—Fists, missiles and curse words were flung in the city council chamber Tuesday during a hearing on a proposed controversial \$41,000,000 urban renewal project in the city's Charlestown district.

Some 30 policemen restored order after ejecting several persons. At one stage, spectators in the balcony swarmed onto the council floor, flailing about with fists and shouting insults at proponents of the measure.

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