



BOUND FOR AUSTRALIA

The Pacific Command's cruiser HMCS Ontario is pictured here as she left Esquimaux harbour Feb. 24, on the first leg of a

training cruise to Australia and New Zealand. On board the 9,000-ton warship are 50 senior term cadets of HMCS Venture, the

Royal Canadian Navy's officer training establishment at Esquimaux. The Ontario will return to her home base on May 5.

AMONG THE FARMERS

Federation of Agriculture Newsletter

POTATO PROSPECTS

The recent market increase in potato prices will be very welcome to growers that still have supplies on hand and the total is likely quite substantial. The improvements in potatoes can largely be attributed to two factors.

First, the February 1 report of stocks on hand were quite favourable in United States although Canadian stocks had shown roughly a ten per cent increase from those of last year.

Second, is the situation in Florida which has had some of the worst weather on record, these weather conditions will mean that the early potatoes in Florida instead of coming onto the market from March to May will be much later and will not be competing with the old potatoes as early a period.

In addition to this planting has been delaying in other potato sections in the United States such as Alabama and California.

Further for the past few weeks there has been extremely stormy cold weather and had travelling in Maine, Pennsylvania and New York. These are the conditions that have influenced prices recently, whether the market continues to rise and remains at high levels is difficult to predict.

There does not appear to be a real shortage of potatoes in Canada or United States but weather and growing conditions can affect the demand and that is what has happened.

POTATO QUALITY
Generally we take a good bit of pride in the excellence of our potato production and the good quality of the product. Admittedly we do grow good potatoes in this province but unfortunately the sample which appears in retail outlets is not always good.

To illustrate the point the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Convention featured a consumer package potato survey exhibit at its annual meeting. The exhibit consisted of ten-pound bags of potatoes which had been purchased by inspectors of the Fruit Branch at retail stores. These samples were classified as excellent, good, worthy and unworthy. To begin with out of the 160 lots 17 from Ontario, 8 from P.E.I. and 1 from New Brunswick were under weight.

Ontario distinguished itself with 73 per cent in the unworthy column. The point would seem to be that in spite of quality production and a highly developed system of inspection unsatisfactory potatoes are still being offered to the public to its annoyance and to the detriment of the potato industry. The solution of this problem is the responsibility of all concerned the grower, the dealer and the inspector. Unless a change takes place the potato grower can look forward to a continuing decline in per capita consumption of potatoes.

PRICE STABILIZATION
Agriculture will note with interest the announcement by the Prime Minister that the Agricultural Stabilization Act is to be proclaimed on March 3. While there is nothing definite at the moment it may be expected that the machinery will be set in motion to give some idea of what farmers may expect from the new bill. Political nature being what it is may be expected that the government will be interested in having the act make the best possible impression on the voting farmer.

However this is not to suggest that the bill is in any sense an election catch-all, regardless of what party may be in power following the election it can be assumed that there will be a general development in providing more assistance in improving the position of agriculture. This is the trend and one which will likely continue until agriculture is better organized to bargain more effectively in the selling of its products.

WEATHER TALK
The weather is a matter of both interest and importance to rural people. Heat and frost, rain and drought, wind and cloud, all have a bearing on the farmer's work and on his production. Of recent years weather forecasting has become quite an exact science with press and radio bringing information quickly to the general public. No one questions the value of this service and quite likely there is no other information that is awaited with any greater interest. P.E.I. people watch the weather and the forecast cannot fail to observe that in many cases the forecast and the weather do not agree.

A forecast which covers the entire province may be accurate for

one point and yet wide of the mark somewhere else. For instance, there is a great deal more snow at the present time in the Western part of the province than about Charlottetown and almost twice as much on the level in the Montague area as in the city.

Repeatedly there will be marked difference in snowfall, rainfall and temperature between Charlottetown and Montague with the County Line appearing to be the border of the two areas. The point is that weather forecasting if it is to be accurate and of the greatest value should take into consideration the fact that Prince Edward Island is not uniformly in one weather zone and that marked variations do occur and should be recognized. As a first step in compiling authentic data on the variations the meteorological people might consider the setting up of reporting stations at a number of different points in this province.

CENTRAL INSTITUTE
Probably the oldest farm organization in this province is the Central Farmers Institute which will hold its 70th annual meeting in March. At one time there was a large number of active institutes which played an important part in Livestock improvement, in improving farm practices and in the group buying and selling of farm supplies and products.

For many years the Central Farmers Institute played an important part in the field of policy-making for agriculture. Many of the problems that were debated and many of the resolutions developed continue to be the foundation for farm policy in this province.

As the number of institutes declined and as farm people saw the need for uniting all farm organizations thus the Federation of Agriculture came into being and assumed the role of the major policymaker. As an important feature of Farmers Week the Central Farmers Institute is able to provide the farmer a meeting in which production and management problems may be debated and information on these matters made available.

"LOW INCOME" FARMER
Next Monday evening Farm Forum brings to its listeners and groups a discussion on the problem of the low income farmer. Who is he? What are his problems? So we need special policies and programs to meet them? This topic would appear to be one which should create some interest on the part of many farmers, for the most part nearly all farmers believe that their income is too low. Questions to be debated are: Is there a special problem of the low income farmer and should specific policies be developed to help him? If special programs are required, should these be (a) to help him increase his income from the farm (b) to help him become established in some other industry.

TORONTO

(Continued from page 9)

Violon	350	128	125	138	+3
Waltie Am	150	610	610	610	+20
Weedon	5500	20	20	20	0
Wiltsey	17200	20	18 1/2	18 1/2	-2
Wt Harg	4300	150	145	148	-11
Yk Bear	5600	77	78	77	+1
Zenmac	8100	26	25	25	-1
Curb					
Pato	1050	330	325	325	-8
Perit Ore	2000	185	180	180	-5
Yukon Con	2500	69	69	69	-1
OILS					
Ajax	500	49	49	49	-1
AP Cons	2000	40	39 1/2	40	+1
Am Leduc	9000	23	21	21	-1
Anchor	6800	21 1/2	20	21	-1
Asamers	2933	184	175	180	-8
Bailey S A	1000	725	715	715	-10
Bailey S pr	110	22 1/2	22 1/2	22 1/2	-1/4
Baie S 5/4 pr	300	21 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	-1/4
Bata	2000	7 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2	+1/2
Breclia	1000	76	76	76	+1
Britalta	1700	154	150	154	+4
Calaita	1250	53	53	53	-2
Cal Ed	300	18 1/2	18 1/2	18 1/2	-1/2
C Oil Lds	1400	125	125	125	-10
Cdn At Oil	300	390	390	390	-10
C Br Emp	11700	37	34	35	-2
C Chierin	3800	91	90	91	-1
C Deca wis	29055	11	10	11	+1

NEW YORK

NEW YORK (AP) — The stock market slipped back into the minus column Thursday after a one-day fling on the upside.

Only 1,047 issues were traded, the narrowest market since Nov. 11, 1937, Veteran's Day. Turnover sagged to 1,670,000 shares from Wednesday's 1,880,000.

The Associated Press average of 60 stocks dropped 80 cents to \$158.50. Industrials were off \$1.30, rails 90 cents and utilities 10 cents.

Interstate Power Co. was most active with turnover of 27,600 shares, up 1/4 at 14 1/4. Of this total, 25,000 shares changed hands in an opening block. Benguet was next in line, unchanged at 1 1/4 on 22,000 shares. Others in the top five were Lorillard, off 7/8 at 4 1/2; Shell Transport, off 1/8 at 17 1/4; and Standard Oil (New Jersey), off 1/2 at 48 1/4.

Mont	82 1/2	82 1/2	42	42	-1
Comm	100	94 1/2	43 1/2	43 1/2	-1 1/2
Imp	75	84	49	49	+ 3/4
Royal	1145	859	58 1/2	59	- 1/4
Top-Dom	700	84 1/2	40 1/2	40 1/2	-1 1/2
INDUSTRIALS					
Alumini	2180	82 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2	- 1/2
Angle Nfld	100	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	- 1/2
Richwil	100	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	- 1/2
D Magnes	600	11	11	11	- 1/2
Inlan	1505	6 1/2	6	6	- 1/2
Nor Star	1100	11 1/4	11 1/4	11 1/4	- 1/2
Simpson	320	18 1/2	18 1/2	18 1/2	+ 1/4
Wainwit	250	340	300	300	- 1/2
Walk New	1083	82 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2	- 1/2
Total sales	2,693,000.				
MOST ACTIVE TORONTO STOCKS					
Stock	Sales	High	Low	Close	Ch'ge
CPR	4985	82 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	- 1/2
Beil Phone	4950	84 1/2	84 1/2	84 1/2	- 1/2
Int Nickel	3975	73	72	72	- 1/2
Alumini	2180	82 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	- 1/2
Roe Av Can	1565	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2	- 1/2
OILS					
Un Oils	36550	210	201	205	- 1/4
Provo	14025	254	247	250	- 1/2
C Br Emp	11700	37	34	35	- 1/2
Trans-Em	9132	178	175	175	- 1/2
Am Leduc	9000	23	21	21	- 1/2
MINES					
Tandem	123500	12 1/2	12	12 1/2	+ 1/2
Elder	7050	65	63	63	- 1/2
Nick Rim	69475	94	91	91	- 1/2
Donalda	44600	16	15	16	+ 1/2
Coprand	41268	130	107	124	- 1/4

MONTREAL

MONTREAL (CP) — Trading was light and prices were lower in spite of a late firming Tuesday on the Montreal and Canadian Stock Exchanges.

Banks and newspapers led the decline with the Bank of Montreal at 42 and the Bank of Commerce at 43 1/2 each recording a

drop of 1 1/2 while Howard Smith, 29 and Powell River 3 1/2 were off 1 apiece.

Steels and constructions were mixed and generally unchanged although Foundation recorded a new high of 19 1/2, up 1.

Utilities and breweries were firmer in the fractional range.

Refining oils and base metals as well as pipelines followed the downward trend. Trans - Mountain Pipeline was off 1 at 42.

Mines and oils also were off slightly.

The exchanges' closing averages show banks off .61 at 47.10, utilities up .9 to a new high of 138.3. Industrials were off 1.6 to 236.5, papers down 8.78 at 1094.45 and golds off .44 at 68.33.

MONTREAL CLOSING STOCKS
By The Canadian Press

Abitibi	27 1/2	Fraser	24 1/2
Asbestos	28 1/2	GT Lakes	31
Bank Mont	42	How Smith	29
Bank NS	54	Hud Bay Min	41 1/2
Bathurst B	17	Imp Oil	38 1/2
Bell	41 1/2	Int Nick	72 1/2
Brazil	6 1/2	Mass-Har	6
Buzig Prod	30 1/2	McCall	5
C Cement	28 1/2	N St. Car	21 1/2
C Cement pr	28 1/2	Noranda	38
C Steamship	37	Quebec	41
Ck Brk Cmn	43 1/2	Royal Bank	58 1/2
Cdn Brew pr	27 1/2	Royalite	12 1/2
Cdn Celan	13 1/2	St L Corp	24 1/2
Cdn Celan	13 1/2	Shawin	13 1/2
CPR	23	Steel	47 1/2
Cockshutt	8	Walker	26 1/2
Seagrams	26	CANADIAN	47 1/2
C Bridge	25 1/2	Cons Pap	7 1/2
Dom Tea	23	Ford	7 1/2
Foundation	19 1/2		

LIVESTOCK

MONTREAL (CP) — Cattle prices this week were generally 1.00 stronger than last week on the Montreal livestock markets.

Receipts: 2,074 cattle, 2,643 calves, 2,227 hogs and 40 sheep and lambs. Cattle receipts were some 900 head more than last week and about 600 more than the corresponding week last year. Included were 299 receipts from Ontario and 142 from the Maritime provinces.

In active trading, choice steers sold 23.25-24, good 21.50-22.85, medium 19.50-21.50, common 16-19.50, few down to 11.50. Good heifers 19-20.50, (one at 20.25), medium 17-18.75, common 12.25-16.75. Good cows 17-18, a few at 18.50, medium 15-16.75, common 14-15.50, canners and cutters 11-14.50; good bulls at 18-20.25, common and medium 14-17.75.

Calf prices were generally 2.00-4.00 lower in steady trading. Good and choice vealers 27-33, common and medium 15-29, grassers 15-16 and yearlings 12-13.75.

Hogs were 1.00-2.00 lower this week. On the west-end market, 1,593 hogs and sows were offered. Grade A hogs sold for 30-31.50, 16 feeders were for 25 and sows sold at 23. On the east-end mar-

ket, 1,834 hogs and sows were offered. Grade A hogs sold for 29 plus 1.50 with 40 at 29.50 plus 1.50 and sows were 21-22.50 plus 2.00.

Sheep and lamb sales were light and steady. Good lambs sold at 19, common 17. Good sheep were 12-12.50, common 10.

PRODUCE
MONTREAL (CP) — Agriculture department quotations: Eggs: Wholesale dealers prices to country stations, wooden cases extra-large 43-44; large 43; medium 41; small 39; B 33; C 22. Receipts: 73.

Butter: Current receipts 62 1/2; fresh-grade creamery prints job price 64-65; fresh wholesale 63 1/2. Cheese: F.O.B. factory, Ontario white 33 1/2, colored 33 1/2; delivered Montreal, Quebec white 33 1/2, colored 35 1/2; wholesale Ontario white 35, colored 35 1/2; wholesale Quebec white 34 1/2, colored 34 1/2.

Potatoes: N.B. 75s 2.25 - 2.50; N.B. 50s 1.50-1.60; N.B. 10s 38-40; P.E.I. 75s 2.60-2.75; P.E.I. 10s 45-47; Que. 50s 1.35, Que 75s 2.10.

GRAIN

WINNIPEG (CP) — Considerable irregularity appeared in flax and rye prices in quiet trade on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange Thursday. Oats and Barley prices moved narrowly.

Closing prices: Oats: May unchanged 70; Jy unchanged 69 1/2; Oct. unchanged 68 1/2.

Barley: May 1/4 higher 91 1/4; Jy 1/4 lower 91 1/4; Oct. unchanged 91 1/4.

Flax: May 2 1/2 lower 3.00 1/2; Jy 2 1/2 lower 2.97 1/2; Oct. 1 1/2 lower 2.80 1/2.

Rye: May 1 1/2 lower 1.05 1/2; Jy

Fire - Auto - Casualty Marine
G. G. K. PEAKE LTD.
78 Great George St.
Dial 4311 Charlottetown

NEW YORK

NEW YORK (AP) — The stock market slipped back into the minus column Thursday after a one-day fling on the upside.

Only 1,047 issues were traded, the narrowest market since Nov. 11, 1937, Veteran's Day. Turnover sagged to 1,670,000 shares from Wednesday's 1,880,000.

The Associated Press average of 60 stocks dropped 80 cents to \$158.50. Industrials were off \$1.30, rails 90 cents and utilities 10 cents.

Interstate Power Co. was most active with turnover of 27,600 shares, up 1/4 at 14 1/4. Of this total, 25,000 shares changed hands in an opening block. Benguet was next in line, unchanged at 1 1/4 on 22,000 shares. Others in the top five were Lorillard, off 7/8 at 4 1/2; Shell Transport, off 1/8 at 17 1/4; and Standard Oil (New Jersey), off 1/2 at 48 1/4.

Mont	82 1/2	82 1/2	42	42	-1
Comm	100	94 1/2	43 1/2	43 1/2	- 1 1/2
Imp	75	84	49	49	+ 3/4
Royal	1145	859	58 1/2	59	- 1/4
Top-Dom	700	84 1/2	40 1/2	40 1/2	- 1 1/2
INDUSTRIALS					
Alumini	2180	82 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2	- 1/2
Angle Nfld	100	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	- 1/2
Richwil	100	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	- 1/2
D Magnes	600	11	11	11	- 1/2
Inlan	1505	6 1/2	6	6	- 1/2
Nor Star	1100	11 1/4	11 1/4	11 1/4	- 1/2
Simpson	320	18 1/2	18 1/2	18 1/2	+ 1/4
Wainwit	250	340	300	300	- 1/2
Walk New	1083	82 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2	- 1/2
Total sales	2,693,000.				
MOST ACTIVE TORONTO STOCKS					
Stock	Sales	High	Low	Close	Ch'ge
CPR	4985	82 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	- 1/2
Beil Phone	4950	84 1/2	84 1/2	84 1/2	- 1/2
Int Nickel	3975	73	72	72	- 1/2
Alumini	2180	82 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	- 1/2
Roe Av Can	1565	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2	- 1/2
OILS					
Un Oils	36550	210	201	205	- 1/4
Provo	14025	254	247	250	- 1/2
C Br Emp	11700	37	34	35	- 1/2
Trans-Em	9132	178	175	175	- 1/2
Am Leduc	9000	23	21	21	- 1/2
MINES					
Tandem	123500	12 1/2	12	12 1/2	+ 1/2
Elder	7050	65	63	63	- 1/2
Nick Rim	69475	94	91	91	- 1/2
Donalda	44600	16	15	16	+ 1/2
Coprand	41268	130	107	124	- 1/4

MONTREAL

MONTREAL (CP) — Trading was light and prices were lower in spite of a late firming Tuesday on the Montreal and Canadian Stock Exchanges.

Banks and newspapers led the decline with the Bank of Montreal at 42 and the Bank of Commerce at 43 1/2 each recording a

drop of 1 1/2 while Howard Smith, 29 and Powell River 3 1/2 were off 1 apiece.

Steels and constructions were mixed and generally unchanged although Foundation recorded a new high of 19 1/2, up 1.

Utilities and breweries were firmer in the fractional range.

Refining oils and base metals as well as pipelines followed the downward trend. Trans - Mountain Pipeline was off 1 at 42.

Mines and oils also were off slightly.

The exchanges' closing averages show banks off