

Marketing Board Members Increasing Across Canada

The number of farmers operating under provincial marketing boards in Canada, and a sale of controlled products were increasing at the beginning of last year.

Economists of the Canada Department of Agriculture who have prepared a report on activities of these boards in all provinces for 1951 said the number of boards was 76, unchanged from the previous year, but the volume of sales was up eight per cent.

Milk boards, the Canadian Wheat Board and some other farmer organizations, such as Manitoba Beet Growers and Alberta Sugar Beet Growers, were not included in the summary.

One new marketing scheme for this year in Ontario was added; the marketing board for potatoes in New Brunswick and the P.E.I. and the Quebec Apple Growers and others in Quebec.

Quebec Field grown Celery Producers Marketing Board were reported as inactive.

About 245,000 producers were involved in marketing boards in 1951, an increase of 10 per cent over the year.

The value of sales under marketing board control was up \$32 million to a total of \$435 million. Ontario led with \$356 million in sales.

Board sales as a percentage of total farm cash income remained about 14.7 for the country. For individual provinces it was: Ontario 20, Quebec 14, British Columbia 12, Nova Scotia 5, New Brunswick 5; Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, under one per cent.

In the United States, the average farmer produces enough to feed 27 others; in Canada 28 others. The results of farm production are clearly visible.

But while the provincial horn of plenty spills over for the average American and Canadian, such is not the case in many other parts of the world.

One of the ironies of modern history is that at a time when some people produce more than they can eat and take the next meal for granted, two-thirds of the world's population lacks sufficient food. Just existing is a major problem for millions.

Seeing to it that these masses are fed — as well as clothed and sheltered — is of vital importance in preserving a free way of life. A hungry man is not always choosy about where he gets his food. And there are other interests just as eager to win him. Their food will taste just as good.

ture specializing on growing on his father's farm and later in Regina. He is married, with two children.

POTATO LEVY

The recent announcement that plans are underway for the setting up of a new system of levies on potatoes recalls that this is something with a fairly long history of both success and frustration.

Originally the idea was first proposed and supported by growers in an annual meeting of the Potato Association more than fifteen years ago. For a few years the Potato Industry Promotional Committee collected a levy on a voluntary basis. (Continued on page 9)

Mr. Hurd was born in 1925 in Bachelor of Science in Agriculture in 1947. Since joining the Country Guide he has maintained an intimate interest and contact with farm policy problems in general and the work of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture in particular.

Mr. Hurd has also, through his association activities, and in an advisory capacity, earned recognition and respect in agricultural circles in Canada. He is currently President of the Agricultural Economics Research Council of Canada and played an active role in the development phases of this new institution. He is a past-president of the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society and of the Canadian Farm Writers Association.

He was a member and group chairman in the Duke of Edinburgh's Second Commonwealth Study Conference on the Human Consequences of Industrialization in 1952. He has been a frequent speaker in recent years on agricultural policy topics.

ACROSS THE ISLAND

Norman Macdonald Has Unusual Record

By NEIL A. MATHESON
Provincial Farm Editor

THE FACT that Norman Macdonald, principal of Summer Street elementary school in Summerside taught three generations of his own family may not be a record, but I suggest that it is most unusual.

Mr. Macdonald taught his wife, the former Goldie Gutzon of Cape Traverse, their children, and their grandchild, Marsha Schurman, who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Bob) Schurman, Summerside.

But this is only one of the interesting facts about this unusual man.

Recalling a controversy in the correspondence column of this paper many years ago, I asked him about it when we talked briefly last week in the Guardian office at Summerside where Norman drops in regularly to keep us up to date on what happens in sport in that area.

I HAD recalled that he had topped the third year class at Prince of Wales College—it was in the 1922-23 term I found—and had protested to the then principal, Dr. S.N. Robertson, when he would not give him the gold medal—third year was the graduation year then, fourth year was added later for fishing in 1919.

He had topped the class by three-quarters of one percent. Dr. Robertson told him, and the principal suggested it would be unfair to keep the medal from Miss Edith Hugh, a Murray Harbor girl who had topped her class in first and second years, while Norman had not previously attended P.W.C.

Silver Medal Was Returned

"I SENT the silver medal back", Mr. Macdonald told me, and he heard that Miss Hugh had also returned hers, though he never did confirm it. Norman was understandably annoyed at the time but later, he told me, he was sorry for having made an issue of it because Edith was a very fine girl, and it was hard to fault her. He stated he had never captured first place without getting credit for it, and I acted on impulse," he explained.

Miss Hugh, who was also an outstanding student, later taught at P.W.C. and died some years ago.

But the unusual part of Mr. Macdonald's academic career goes back further than that. He took the equivalent of Grade XI or first year P.W.C. in Nova Scotia where his parents worked when he was three years old—he was born in P.E.I.—and took second year work at home while he was teaching in Murray River. It was on top of that feat that he came back to P.W.C. later and was able to top the class.

HE TOPPED his year in four out of seven subjects. They were physics, Latin, English and chemistry. His average for the seven subjects was about 89 per cent, but he struggled off that performance as he recalled that Chester Stewart, Norborn had done better than 90. Mr. Stewart is now the dean of Dalhousie University medical school, I believe, and is a friendly chap with a warm personality as well as an outstanding scholar.

Mr. Macdonald admitted to me that he had never found much difficulty in studying, but added that he had always had a longing to perform on the athletic field, like some of the better known athletes of that time.

Mr. Macdonald may have not realized that ambition but he does write an interesting column "Sport Echoes", and does this paper's sport stories from his area.

I have often thought that he must enjoy writing his column as I read it, and I found he does enjoy part of the choice which must compensate in some part at least for the long and weary hours a sport writer must put in at times. I mean that, Norman, but I can speak from my own experience during a 10-year stint when I started newspaper work.

P.E.I. Man in Moose River Rescue

DID YOU know that it was an Island man, Pat Doyle who came from Hunter River, that was the first to reach Dr. D. E. Robertson and Alfred Scadding in the ruins of a Moose River gold mine shaft early in the morning of April 23, 1936.

Mr. informant is Harold Lloyd, a Charlottetown man who came from Westville. His information is reliable for his father, J. C. Lloyd, who was a Westville miner and participated in the Moose River rescue operation told him about it many years ago. His dad died only a few months ago.

Mr. Doyle who is buried in a Westville cemetery, was the first man to break through the last remaining barrier and shout a greeting to Dr. Robertson. But he did not have the privilege of bringing him to the surface. That was reserved for one of the "draggermen", miners specially trained for rescue work in gas-filled coal mines. There was no gas at Moose River, it was a gold mine, but the ordinary miners were told, Mr. Lloyd recalls, that they were to leave the draggermen the privilege of the first step in the rescue effort that was being broadcast in the world by J. Frank Willis, the man you now see on several TV programs.

FOR YOUNGER readers who cannot recall the dramatic event—it was made dramatic by the news and radio coverage given it—three men Herman McGill and Robertson and Scadding, all from Toronto, went down into the mine on Easter Sunday, April 13 and were trapped by a cave-in that has never been explained.

At first the authorities gave them up for lost but the narrow bit of a diamond drill operated by Billy Bell punched its way accurately to the stone where the men were trapped 141 feet below. Soup and concentrated food was fed to them through a tube which was lowered into the mine through the hole opened by the diamond drill, and the pair could talk to the surface while the burly miners dug and clawed their way through a narrow tunnel that couldn't have been much more than four feet wide.

THE EVENT stirred tremendous interest. Lights burned in hundreds, perhaps thousands of homes across the province night after night as occupants listened, waited, hoped and sometimes prayed for the rescue that seemed to be coming nearer with each passing hour. Radio bulletins were flashed every half hour, and later the bulletins came much more often, especially in the last few hours when the broadcast was almost continuous.

But this is the first time we hear that an Island man was as dramatically involved in the rescue effort. Doyle was a councillor and a one-time mayor of Westville. Mr. Lloyd told me, as he emphasized the fact that the ordinary mine days were a tremendous part in the rescue effort, although the news stories and broadcasts at the time seemed to give most of the credit to the draggermen.

And the going was unusually tough. The miners worked in a tunnel so narrow and low that they filled buckets and passed them back by hand, they had to be disposed of in the shaft. At times they dug as they pushed the narrow tunnel through hard ground that was comprised mostly of quartz, he told me.

Pastures Are Really Good Here

A CHAT this week with two nationally known Hereford men, pointed up the statement made many times by Agriculture Minister MacRae that Island pastures are "the best."

F. H. Hinmanson owns a big Hereford herd at LaHave, N.S. and is the Maritime director, and I have been told he will be the next president of the Canadian Hereford Breeders Association. Keith Gilmore is the editor and publisher of the Hereford Digest with office in Calgary, Alberta.

Commenting on our pastures they suggested they must come close to handling one cow per acre. I told them that the top men in our annual pasture competitions get an average of about one and one-half cows per acre. Then I asked them what good pastures achieved elsewhere.

They told me that one cow to 10 acres is considered good on "good" ranges in the foothills of the Rockies, one cow to 17 acres is considered average in the High River area, and there are one range pastures where "the ratio goes up to as high as one cow to 100 acres." And they seem to be a little surprised to raise a cow.

WIN \$400

Be smart — shop at the stores on this and the opposite page — cash your Family Allowance Cheque at any of these stores, and deposit your name in the ballot box. Note too — the terrific savings offered by these stores.

Mr. Don MacGillivray of 278 Grafton St., Charlottetown, was the winner of the August Family Allowance draw of \$400.00. She was presented with a cheque on behalf of the merchants whose advertisements appear on this page. Cash your Family Allowance cheque at one of these stores—you may be this month's winner.



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