

Seminar On ARDA Plan Is Seen Of Top Interest

From a rural standpoint probably nothing of greater importance took place this week than the seminar arranged at the Charlottetown Hotel for the Members of the Legislature on the new ARDA agreement. Also involved were a number of persons from different organizations and representatives of the clergy. This gathering was the first of its kind, the first time that Members of the House had been brought together for a discussion with lay people on social and economic questions related to rural Prince Edward Island.

There is always much to be said for an exchange of views and in a province as small as this it wouldn't appear to be difficult to keep the lines of communication open but the fact is that there are many groups carrying on useful work and not in touch with similar efforts by others. There may even be feeling at times that there is competition among organizations and Governments. This shouldn't be so, there is no reason why they shouldn't be complementary to each other.

Actual discussions centered around the terms of the new ARDA agreement and what

might properly be included in a comprehensive development plan for the province. While many aspects of this were discussed the emphasis appeared to be on education, land use, the development of secondary industry and searching out of markets from different organizations and representatives of the clergy. This gathering was the first of its kind, the first time that Members of the House had been brought together for a discussion with lay people on social and economic questions related to rural Prince Edward Island.

While there were numerous differences of opinion, yet there was a very good willingness to listen to and consider the opposite viewpoint.

While there were some tensions apparent in the first session these seemed to disappear and very good relationship continued throughout.

In a gathering of this kind it seems inevitable that the small farm versus the big farm matter comes up for discussion with fairly strong views being expressed in support of both. While ARDA is expected to affect all sections of our economy the seminar seemed inclined to focus most of its attention on the farm problem to the exclusion of what is referred to as rural poverty, which is complementary to a noble experiment and those who planned it and carried it out deserve a great deal of credit.



DAVID W. ROGERS

Dept. Employee Is Granted Master Degree

David W. Rogers of Charlottetown, P.E.I. was granted the degree of Master of Science from Cornell University of Ithaca, New York at its February convocation.

He majored in Extension and Adult Education with Rural Sociology being his minor subject. He finished his course of studies in the school year 1962-1963 and his Thesis on "The Sources of Information Used and Evaluation of the P.E.I. Pasture Competition in Queens County, P.E.I." was accepted in the fall of 1964.

Mr. Rogers is employed with the Extension Division of the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture. He is a native of Woodstock, N.B.

Local Ayrshires Have Qualified In ROP Tests

Several Prince Edward Island Ayrshire cows have qualified in record of performance tests, it is reported in The Canadian Ayrshire Review.

Greenwood View Gem produced 10,542 pounds milk, 418 pounds butterfat for breed class averages of 130 milk and 127 butterfat for Almon Wood and Sons, Little York.

Blackadder Fashion Gem produced 9,837 pounds milk, 389 butterfat for BCAs of 126 milk, 121 butterfat for George Boswall, Frenchfort.

Charlottetown We'll Joye produced 12,678 pounds milk, 562 butterfat for BCAs of 148 milk, 162 butterfat as a mature cow for the Experimental Farm.

Bonnie Choice produced 12,000 pounds milk, 479 butterfat for BCAs of 141 milk, 138 fat for Almon Wood and Sons.

R.A. White, Bello Bay West, had a cow, Sunny Bay Hele2, produce 11,399 pounds milk, 471 fat for BCAs of 135 milk, 137 fat.

The latter three are in the mature class five to nine years. The other two are in the mature class, 10 years and over.

Charlottetown G.A.Y. Poppy produced 10,376 pounds milk, 463 butterfat for BCAs of 124 milk, 135 fat to place high among the senior four-year olds reported in the issue, for the Experimental Farm.

East River Merry Maid stood third in her class as a junior three-year old for Almon Wood and Sons with 11,995 pounds milk, 472 butterfat for BCAs of 154 milk, 149 fat.

Potato Board Elections Set Til End Of May

Last week's vote in which potato growers endorsed the potato marketing plan was expressed by Agriculture Minister Andrew MacRae as "a fair measure of grower satisfaction with the activities of the present potato marketing board."

Mr. MacRae said between now and the end of next month, county meetings will be held to elect potato producers to the board. Each county will elect two members. It will be a nine-man board, with three representatives chosen by dealers.

May Extend Storage Plant Closing Date

The proposed closing of the plant on Esler Street in Charlottetown came in for heavy discussion yesterday at a caucus of the provincial Conservative Party.

A government member said Wednesday morning that the P.E.I. Industrial Corporation is considering extending the closing date of the plant and a decision on the matter may be made this week.

The government also stated it was decided to close the plant mainly for safety reasons. He said "we are concerned with the safety of the people working in the plant which is in a bad state of deterioration. Engineers have told us that safety conditions in the plant are not up to standard."

YORK

Mrs. Harry Foster of Marshfield is the guest of her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Murray, York.

Mrs. Frank Watts of York is a patient in the P.E.I. Hospital. The 4-H Club held a supper in York Hall recently for the 1964-65 sewing group. Leaders are Mrs. Elmer Brown, Mrs. Irving MacDonald and Mrs. Laken Lewis.

Deborah MacDonald, Florence Vessey, Jean MacDonald, Ariene Cooper and Hazel MacDonald, all of York, attended the recent youth conference in Charlottetown.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth MacDonald of Glen Valley were guests of their son-in-law and

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daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Crockett of York.

Mr. and Mrs. Colby Lewis of Freeport were recent visitors to York, guests of their sons, Mrs. Barbara MacLennan and Donald Dickison, Glen Valley, spent the weekend in York, guests of Mr. and Mrs. Laken Lewis.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Brown of Charlottetown were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lewis, York, Sunday.

CHARGE REDS

TEHRAN (AP) — Iranian security authorities Wednesday accused a leftist group, with close ties to China, of being re-

sponsible for a plot to gun down the Shah of Iran in a communique, the security officials said the group persuaded a conscript soldier of fire a sub-machine gun at the monarch as he entered his marble palace office 18 days ago during which two guards and the assailant were killed—but the shah survived.

BATS ATTACK MEN
MEXICO CITY (AP)—Giant bats with wing spreads of up to three feet have attacked people and cattle, report the mountain inhabitants of northern Chihuahua state. Health workers have been sent to the district—via flame-throwers to scour caves where the bats might live.

ACROSS THE ISLAND

Boundary Revisions Are Stirring Interest

By NEIL A. MATHESON
Provincial-Farm Editor

THE CHANGES in the boundaries of federal ridings in this province suggest some interesting possibilities to me.

An announcement in this paper on Saturday by the Tweedy Commission—Judge George J. Tweedy is chairman—suggests in future the four island ridings will be Cardigan, with 23,081 people; Hillsborough, with 30,050—it includes Charlottetown; Malpeque which includes the Western part of Queens and takes in parts of Prince which includes the 4th Prince District, has 22,307 people, and the Western part of Prince is to be known as Egmont. It has 29,291.

If somebody is wondering about the new names, it is fairly obvious that the districts have been named for the major bays in the area.

Perhaps the most interesting possibility, the way I see it, lies in the fact that Kings—up to now the counties have been the electoral ridings—has a Roman Catholic representing it in the House of Commons, since the representation was reduced to one member, and that goes back to the turn of the century.

AWAY BACK in 1846 the Scots and Irish fought a bitter battle that history has dubbed the "Belfast Riot". There were people killed on both sides—nobody ever knew the number. I've been told: many others were injured.

I know that's almost 120 years ago but the riot has never been completely forgotten. In some sections of Belfast the old names have never healed. As a result a Roman Catholic member has never been elected in the Belfast district, a provincial riding. Because Belfast is a part of Queens, a Roman Catholic has never represented the county. Neither of the old parties would even nominate one.

Incidentally, I saw more than a year ago, one of the shill-lazhs used in the "riot". It's an Irish Blackthorn stick that came from the Auld Sod. Naturally the stick has historic value today, but the owner asked me not to reveal his name, so I'm keeping faith with him.

I tried for some time to get enough facts on the fight, and the background, to do an accurate and an impartial column on it. I made some progress, but not nearly enough, so I've dropped the idea for the present.

Interesting Possibilities Seen

And now we are going to have this Belfast district tacked on to Kings, where they've never had anything else but a Roman Catholic represent them. It suggests some interesting possibilities.

They have an exceptionally fine young man, John Mullally, representing Kings in the Commons now. I can't imagine anyone turning him down, particularly a Liberal; and Belfast is predominantly Liberal.

I'm wondering—and I admit I'm only hoping—if the result may be that at some future date we may have candidates chosen for their individual ability, instead of for their religious persuasion. Of course I'm thinking of all four island ridings. I cannot recall when we had a Roman Catholic member in any of the other island seats. It just doesn't make sense to me that a Protestant should never have a chance to be an MP in one district, and a Roman Catholic never have a chance in the other three.

BEFORE I leave this district, I should add that it also contains Mt. Stewart, a part of the present Third Queens district. And, as I see it, the Cardigan federal riding should lean to the Liberals.

To Charlottetown the commission has added Third Queens—I'm speaking in general terms. Charlottetown has been strongly Conservative over the years. Third Queens is Liberal, but it's not big enough to offset Charlottetown. Here is a safe Tory seat. I see a battle between Angus MacLean and Heath MacQuarrie to get the nomination here. Whoever gets it should be home free.

But the Malpeque seat should be as close to a safe Liberal seat as you can get in the province. Rural Queens has always been regarded as Liberal—Charlottetown was always the big 4th obstacle—and now they've added the predominantly Liberal 4th Prince district. Unless Liberal fortunes are terribly low, the PC who nominates here, any PC, will have rough going indeed.

Tougher Fight In Egmont

TO BE accurate, I have to note that Malpeque also has a bit of Fifth Prince, the Summerside district, and that included the airport. But where does that leave the rest of Prince which comprises the Egmont riding?

I know Prince has been strongly Liberal. Not since A. A. Letourneau won or the Tories in 1904 by the slim margin of 291 votes, has a Conservative ever won Prince with the exception of the years 1937 to 1963 which were disastrous for the Grits right across the country.

But I suggest that the predominantly Liberal 4th District played a major role in achieving that effect. Now the 4th District is gone. If there's a really unhappy MP in this province now, it just has to be Solicitor General Watson MacNaught. The way I see it, the Egmont constituency is now weighted towards the Tories. It should be tough fighting ground for a Liberal in future.

THE NEW boundaries will cause political changes in several ridings. But the overall result will be much the same. We have two Liberals and two PCs now. It's often been that way. Two of the new ridings favor the Tories, two favor the Liberals. There's nothing new about that, but the individual ridings offer some interesting possibilities.

Six hearings have been advertised, two at Charlottetown, and the others at Georgetown, Summerside, Souris and Alberton. The commission will be there to hear reaction. But here's the all-important thing to remember:

No representation shall be heard by the Commission at its sittings unless notice in writing has been given, stating the name and address of the person by whom the representation is sought to be made and indicating concisely the nature of the representation and the interest of such person. That's a direct quote from the regulation laid down. Notices have to be postmarked not later than May 16 in this province. If they are not, no representation will be heard. Judge Tweedy and his commission have no other choice.

NEXT WEEK'S column will tell the story of an Island man who has built up a large mail-order business which stretches from Newfoundland to Alaska.

HOPE SPRINGS

After almost continuous night frosts through April there are finally signs of the fields firming up even though there is still much snow. In some areas last week fields were firm enough to carry manure spreaders and that operation was getting underway. With weight restrictions lifted, fertilizer can now be moved and where it is to be used for hay can be spread any time, certainly the same goes for early pasture. In this connection consideration should be given to the benefits of fertilizing pastures in late June, July and August. There is usually an abundance of grass in June, planning or no planning but it takes management to have it in abundance through the latter part of the season.

PLANNING

Almost three years ago the Federation of Agriculture proposed that extended research be undertaken with a view to developing a comprehensive plan for the province. Very similar to where something very similar to the Federation's proposal is being undertaken with the involvement of the H.G. Acres Firm in carrying out a major study with a view to making recommendations for a comprehensive plan of development. In this connection it may be in order to reproduce an excerpt from the original proposal made by the Federation.

"Getting answers to questions about where we are going and what we should be doing about it is not a one-shot affair. What is required are permanent continuing programs of research, planning, and education for the future to the end that we seek to make things happen for us rather than have them happen to us. This all involves planning even though it is realized that planning of the future in many cases causes a vague feeling of uneasiness. However, good planning can be carried out in such a manner as to retain and protect our freedom. The very act

HOPE SPRINGS

of planning, of making choices ahead of time instead of having them forced on us is an exercise of democratic freedom. It is submitted that the future of this province depends on leadership, vision, and idealism. Leadership, however, must be backed by knowledge, vision by education and understanding, and idealism by boldness, otherwise change will overtake us every time and push us where we may not want to go. The proposal which is being brought forward will provide the research that will give us the facts and the understanding to enable us to plan, to participate in public policy making, and enable us to act together in self-help programs."

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 - CLARKS
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 - LIBBYS
 - Fruit Cocktail 20 oz. tin 33c
 - Bologna 29c
 - Wieners 42c
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 - Sliced Bacon lb. 57c
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