

AMONG THE FARMERS

Federation of Agriculture Newsletter

ENDLESS HAYMAKING

Haymaking which usually starts the first week in July and is not expected to last for more than three weeks is this year stretching out into a two month campaign. Those farmers who were not fortunate enough to finish the job up in July have been faced with a wet August which has caused a very substantial loss in hay and in addition a loss in quality.

Many fields which were cut have been lying on the ground, this represents a total loss except in terms of fertilizer. Baled hay and coiled standing in the fields for weeks have certainly lost more feeding value and the hay which is standing is now pretty woody and low in value. At the moment baying, cutting of timothy seed and harvesting are all going on together.

Farmers who were in the grass silage business during June now find themselves with an excellent second crop almost equal to the first one and with pasture superior to that of June, the traditional pasture month of the year.

BOGS AND EGGS

Last week at the invitation of the Stabilization Board representatives of farm organizations met in Ottawa to consider the details and mechanics of putting the deficiency payment program into effect on eggs. The chief questions discussed were the volume of production of Grade A large eggs on which the payment would be made and whether it should be on a quarterly, semi-annual or yearly basis. While no official announcement has been made on the plan it is understood that all producers selling eggs to registered stations will be registered and given a number which will appear on all grading slips.

At the present time it is not planned to make any payments on eggs which are sold directly to consumers or to the trade of producers. Approximately 80 per cent of the eggs produced in Canada go through a registered station. Payment will be made only on A large and A extra large eggs. The deficiency payment will likely be uniform across the country and will pay the difference between a fixed and the average national price per dozen of all eggs sold through stations across the country.

Having discussed these matters with the poultry people the Board now plans to meet on September 2 and 3 with representatives of farm organizations to discuss payments on hogs. Almost the same questions will of necessity be dealt with, the difference being that considerably more in dollars and cents is at stake than is the case with eggs.

WAY OF LIFE

The Royal Bank of Canada's August monthly letter is a very fine analysis of many of the things which go to make up farm life. The letter is timely coming as it does during a period when the farmer is being constantly reminded that he must be a businessman and that farming as a way of life will no longer work. Many farmers either consciously or unconsciously resent the statement that they are now businessmen. Some of them have long believed that there was something superior to farming as compared with business and are not convinced that present day trends tend to improve their social status.

We recommend the Bank's newsletters and as an example of the material in it we reproduce the following paragraph:

FARM ENVIRONMENT

The farmer is regulated by nature, not by clocks and watches. He is close to the universe. The shifting constellations, the tilting earth, the changing winds: these are the signs that tell the farmer it is the day for planting, or the day of reaping, or the day of curing and storing. His timepiece is of colossal proportions, a computer infinitely greater than any man-made contrivance.

The farmer has servants, too. They are the lightning and the rain of the clouds, the burrowing of the worm, the plough of the frost, the sun which has for ages soaked the land with light and heat, and the earth itself, which yields new service to every application of intellect.

Farming, more than any other business, relies on the personal qualities of those who make up its ranks and direct its destinies.

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INVESTMENT

A great deal has been said and written concerning the size and importance of the farmers' investment in land, buildings and equipment. The farmer himself is quite conscious of these matters but probably not so conscious of the importance of the investment which must be made in marketing facilities if farm produce is to move from the farms into the hands of the consumer.

Generally the people who make the investment in any facility are the ones who control it and dictate policies related to it. More and more, marketing is recognized to be of prime importance in the scheme of things agricultural. If the farmer has no investment in connection with it then he need not expect to exert much influence on the manner in which the operation is carried on. On the other hand, if along with his neighbours, he makes an investment and owns

these facilities then his bargaining power is increased and his control over quality and trade practices. Over sixty years ago the dairy farmers of this province realized the importance of this matter and invested their money in cheese factories. Today, control of most of these factories is still in their hands and the results are apparent in a sound stable industry.

HARVESTING

In today's mechanical age it is taken for granted that harvesting will be carried out with heavy machinery—combine, binder, thrasher. It may not be realized that even in this modern age that there is probably more grain harvested throughout the world with the primitive sickle of Biblical days than by any other means. Present day harvesting methods cover a great span of history and all the known methods continue to be used—sickle, scythe, reaper, binder, thrasher, swather, and combine. While the methods may be different the end purpose is always the same—the provision of man's daily bread.

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General Vanier Comes Home With Prayer, Quip And Quote

By ROBERT RICE
Canadian Press Staff Writer

MONTREAL (CP) — Canada's next Governor-General, Maj.-Gen. George Philias Vanier, returned to his hometown Wednesday after seeing the Queen in London and his family in Europe.

"At the moment," he said before stepping ashore from the ocean liner Ivernia, "I have no plans of any kind."

But he had a prayer: "We pray He may give us help and guidance to carry out this great mission," he told reporters.

And he had a quote—slightly amended—from Shakespeare: "There is a divinity that shapes our ends, however we hew them."

And he had advice for reporters who wanted to know how to address him:

"Just call me general, or if you know me well, call me George."

SPELLING PROBLEM

But he had no suggestions on how to spell his first name—George as in English, or Georges as in French.

"You can add the S or take it away to suit your preference. I don't mind."

And his political affiliation?

"There's no answer to that!" Gen. Vanier, 71, a white-haired soldier-diplomat who retired six years ago as Canada's ambassador to France, arrived in Montreal aboard the passenger ship after spending a month overseas in London, Paris and other cities.

His appointment to succeed retiring Governor-General Massey was announced while he was abroad. After the announcement,

he was received by the Queen in England.

He is to be installed Sept. 15 in a special ceremony in Ottawa.

"I count it a very great honor, indeed, to be appointed by Her Majesty the Queen of Canada to be Governor-General of Canada, this great country of ours," he said.

Asked about his health, Gen. Vanier, a Roman Catholic replied:

"I only feel it is in the hands of le bon Dieu (the good Lord). If we believe the Lord is our strength, why not act as if it is true. He will signify his assent or otherwise of the decision we have taken."

REST AND REFLECTION

He said the ocean trip—rather than an air flight—gave him a chance to rest and reflect before assuming the vice-regal duties.

"I have had a wonderful trip," he said.

"I did feel a thrill when we passed the Citadel in Quebec

where I commanded the Van Doos (Quebec's famed Royal 22nd Regiment)." Two of his children—the Vaniers have four sons and a daughter—were born in the oblong stone structure overlooking the St. Lawrence River.

Gen. Vanier said he hopes some members of his family will be able to attend the Ottawa ceremonies marking his installation as governor-general. He said his wife, who remained in Paris with

her ailing mother, plans to sail from England aboard the Carinthia Sept. 2, accompanied by their youngest son, Michael, who has been studying in Switzerland.

Fluently bilingual, Gen. Vanier spoke to reporters in both French and English. Dressed in a grey business suit with a red and yellow striped tie, and carrying a cane, the former diplomat appeared vigorous and healthy.

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HOSPITAL INSURANCE PLAN

VOLUNTARY . . . OR COMPULSORY ?

Our Conservative opponents have sought in an underhanded whispering campaign, as well as by other means, to suggest that the hospital insurance plan, introduced by the Matheson Government, should be voluntary and need not be compulsory.

Here is what their colleague in Ottawa, the Hon. J. Waldo Montieth, Federal Minister of Health, had to say on the subject in a letter to the Hon. A. W. Matheson, Premier of the Province of Prince Edward Island, dated Ottawa, May 20

... "In the case of all of the premium provinces it was felt essential that some safeguards should initially be provided and no difficulties were experienced with any of the provinces utilizing a premium system as the basis of provincial financing. . . . This would clearly require compulsory participation."

For a few cents a week taken out of employees' pay cheques and for an equal amount deducted from farmers' cheques, both employees and farmers of the Province will be guaranteed complete hospital care for themselves, their wives and their children in the event of illness. There is no other place in North America where hospital insurance is offered so reasonably as it is in Prince Edward Island.

Don't be misled by the irresponsible charges of the Conservatives, whose House Leader argued that a sales tax was the only method by which the money for a hospital plan could be raised.

VOTE AGAINST A SALES TAX! VOTE LIBERAL SEPTEMBER 1st.