

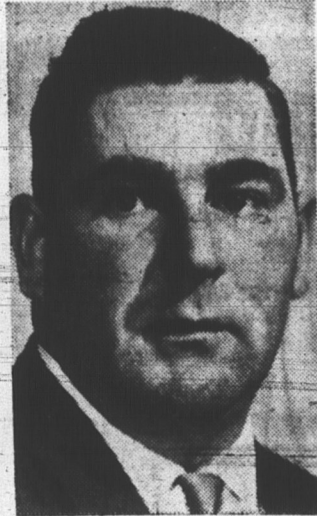
THE EARTH SHOOK -- BOULDERS TUMBLED

A boulder, estimated to be 10 feet high, plunged through wire restraining fence and came to rest just off Interstate 80 during Monday's earthquake in Eastern California and Western Nevada. Others stopped on the highway or hurled on past to the opposite side of the four-lane road, but no autos were struck. This photo was taken about 20 miles west of Reno, just inside California. (AP Wirephoto)

THIS AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY

Achievement Of Minister Considered Remarkable

By NEIL A. MATHESON Today's column attempts to tell the story in brief of the man I suggest is today this province's most notable figure in the world of agriculture. Back in April, 1963, I visited the Bothwell home of Daniel and Pauline MacDonald to get a story for this paper's "Farm Edition" of that year. I thought Dannie's achievement was remarkable then; it's much more remarkable now. Let me refresh the memories of those who read the story, and bring it now to the attention of those who did not see



Dannie told me one story about the first morning he was "orderly Corporal" in Italy. A

PUBLIC FORUM

(Continued from page 4)

cars. But the flow of American traffic is not north and east, it is south and west, Florida, Arizona, California.

The Island like the rest of the world is looking toward industrialization as the cure of all ills, the fulfillment of all hope for progress and prosperity. They think that the causeway will place the Island in the front of the race in an industrialized world. This seems strange from a people who have been brought up with an understanding of the racing game. Other places have the inside track. Where is the hydro-electric power, the coal, the oil, the ores? They must be shipped in. How can the harbors compete with Halifax or Vancouver? Prince Edward Island raises wonderful grain, but it cannot compete with the vast fields of the Canadian west. Even when it comes to scenery Prince Edward Island does not have the wild dramatic beauty of lofty mountains or towering cliffs.

Why do we, strangers, linger and wander on the lonely beaches? Why do we love every tiny pebble? Why do we look at the smiling faces of the wildflowers? Why does the moon shine so beautifully upon the water?

It is an accepted fact that quantity destroys the value of things while scarcity increases their value. The smallness of the Island, the lowness of the hills and the cliffs gives it an unique value. Three elements, land, sky and water are brought together in an unbelievable intimacy. One does not destroy or lose the other. You can walk along the shore and see where water and sky meet. It is the intimacy and harmony of these basic elements of land, sky and water which create its beauty and its charm. There is balance and not dominance that gives one a sense of balance. It brushes away the cobwebs of confusion. The simplicity of such beauty given to us in this intimate sort of way gives us a clearer understanding of God than all the unfathomable vastness of the universe.

This Island has long been known as a place where you can raise the best livestock, especially horses, and I hope that it will never be so mechanized that the people living here will not have the contact with lower forms of life which God so wisely gave to man.

This Island can produce the finest horses on earth. It has the resources to do it, but it also can use those same resources to produce the finest people. This Island is the place to educate young people. Here you can produce the best teachers, the best writers, the best artists, the best scientists, the best doctors, the best preachers. God's balance, God's harmony is here. There is more of God here. It is God's sky, land, and water. The beauty is God's beauty brought near enough for us to see it and understand it. As soon as the people of this Island feel the nearness to God they will know that to produce the best artists, doctors, teachers, and preachers is not just a dream, but as real as the sky, the sea, and the land.

This is God's Island. I am, Sir, etc. (Rev.) WILLIAM A. PARVEL North Rustico, P.E.I.

HON. MR. MACDONALD

the story more than three years ago. I called Mr. MacDonald's performance unusual then when he had developed his own home and farming operation, though he had been offered his choice of several government jobs when he came home from World War Two with his right arm off above the elbow and his right leg above the knee. The husky Scot stubbornly and courageously refused to be a cripple; he turned down the desk jobs because he loved the life of the country.

"I've never regretted that decision," he told me as we sat in the kitchen of his Bothwell home more than three years ago, with his charming "Polly" by his side. I thought about that visit this week after I had talked to the man who is now Agriculture Minister of this province.

MOST REMARKABLE I suggest, in all seriousness, that the performance of the big likable Scot is one of the most remarkable in our agricultural picture in recent years. The big fellow is a farmer because he didn't want to accept anything else for his life's work; now he heads the department of government which has to do with agricultural development.

All of the farm organizational leaders to whom I have talked thus far are happy with Premier Campbell's choice for the position. "We feel after I had worked with us," is the comment heard most often. There were 20 head of cattle on the MacDonald farm when I talked with him three years ago. There are 35 head now — he has Holsteins and Ayrshires — and the new large barn on the property within the past year is the latest addition to the farmstead.

Dannie actually did work a short time on one government job, as I recall it. "But I felt fenced in," he told me, and he went back to Bothwell. There he was joined by four brothers and they went to the woods to cut 60,000 feet of lumber for his house.

"I had my eye on the bird and I was building the cage," he told me with the imp of mischief in his eye, as he glanced fondly at "Polly" who was formerly Pauline Peters of St. Charles. Dannie was crossing the Senio River in Italy with his platoon from the Cape Breton Highlanders, one day in December, 1944, when a German 88 millimetre shell came along with his number on it.

The husky Corporal, as he was then, hopped on his right leg for 30 to 60 yards, though his right leg, and arm, were badly shattered. The man who is now minister of agriculture had to be placed on a stretcher against his will — he had not wanted his men to go on without him. For a time the medics had tried to save the leg but finally they had to amputate it.

big Cape Bretoner, bigger than Dannie, had a hangover from a binge the previous night, and came at the new Corporal. But Cpl. MacDonald had just come off a tough battle course and he "took care of the situation."

A fellow spud Islander heard the loser remark later "That blankety-blank MacDonald, he's as tough as Hell."

I LIKED THIS STORY The returned man had a fund of stories, here's one I liked best.

The unit had 18 Arabs attached to it as mule drivers, during one particularly bad period in Italy. MacDonald drew rum rations each afternoon of an ounce per man, and the 18 Arabs were included in the count, though their religion forbids them to drink.

The commanding officer got wise a few days later, and reprimanded the Island NCO with the observation "Arabs don't drink."

"Nobody said they did sir," replied the unabashed Islander who is now our new minister of agriculture. I was surprised when Dannie MacDonald was named minister of agriculture. I hadn't thought of him, though several others suggested him just before the cabinet was announced. But a man with so much raw courage, with a complete refusal to let anything get him down, should do a good job in his present post. Indeed I'll be surprised, if the Bothwell Scot does not "make good" in this portfolio.

The Canadian Legion magazine did a feature story on him shortly after the end of the war. Terming him "a born leader", the Legionary added in part:

"Dannie has been the inspiration for more than one lad who had begun to think there was no place left in civilian life for him. You can't stop a man with guts, faith and a fighting heart. He loves the soil and independence, no man was to be his boss." As I added back in April 1963, that seems to describe the likable Scot.

CORN FIELD DAY FRIDAY David Smith, provincial de-

partment of agriculture, tells me the 1966 corn field day will be held on Friday. It starts at 12:30 with a visit to the farm of Sterling MacRae in Greenville, near Hunter River; from there the tour goes to the Experimental Farm just outside Charlottetown and concludes with a visit to the corn fields of Leo P. McIsaac of Mermaid.

Incidentally I missed the tobacco field day that was held some weeks ago, on the farm of Douglas Roloson who has crops growing at Ocean View and in Greenfield. Sorry Doug, I was sick at the time, otherwise I would most surely have been there.

I was down to the Hants County Fair, in Windsor, N.S. last year with Leo McIsaac who was judging Angus cattle. That was the 20th anniversary of the fair and I did a special item on it in this column. That's probably why the fair people sent along a program this year.

The fair entertainment features an Ostrich race. Here are a few paragraphs on it; I thought you might find interesting:

OSTRICHES IN SULKIES "Ostrich Races on Sulkies, Gene Holter, the famous Hollywood Animal Trainer, is supplying the big birds for the Hants County Exhibition.

The Ostriches will all be driven by local drivers. Since none of the local drivers are experienced, we have a few facts on Ostrich driving.

"First the Ostrich is the largest bird in the world, weighing up to 400 pounds and standing over seven feet tall. He runs at speeds of over 40 miles an hour with a 20 foot stride.

"Now, you don't steer Ostriches like a horse, because you have no bridle or reins. You only have a broom. When you want the bird to turn left you shake the broom on the right side of his head, the bird turns away from the broom. It works the same on the other side, you hope.

"The main thing Mr. Holter says: 'Hang on to the sulkie at all times so you don't fall out, especially on the fast starts,

Experienced Teachers Short In Rural Areas On Prairies

By THE CANADIAN PRESS

A shortage of experienced teaching personnel has hit many Prairie rural areas as the 1966-67 school term opens.

Common to districts in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the apparent shortage has sparked statements from both teacher association and government spokesmen.

Howard Loewen, public relations officer for the Manitoba Teachers Society, said: "We've never had so many phone calls from principals asking if we could find a teacher for them."

The Saskatchewan Teachers Federation reports its highest summer loss since 1958—about 2,000 of 11,000 teachers won't be back.

"We consider this a very serious situation," says executive assistant Jules Friesen.

In Alberta, Deputy Education Minister Dr. T. C. Byrne says the province will have about 1,000 new teachers this year, about 400 more than usual.

Manitoba's problems were quick turns and the unpredictable finish." Dates of the fair are Sept. 20 through Sept. 24.

emphasized this week when a group of 18 grade nine students in Austin were unable to begin classes because their school was short one teacher.

Mr. Loewen says 28 high school teachers still were needed in the province, mainly in rural areas, and rural elementary schools need another 20 or 30 teachers. About 20 one-room rural schools likely will be closed for lack of personnel.

However, Manitoba's shortage is denied by the Manitoba Association of School Trustees, which claims the situation is no worse than normal.

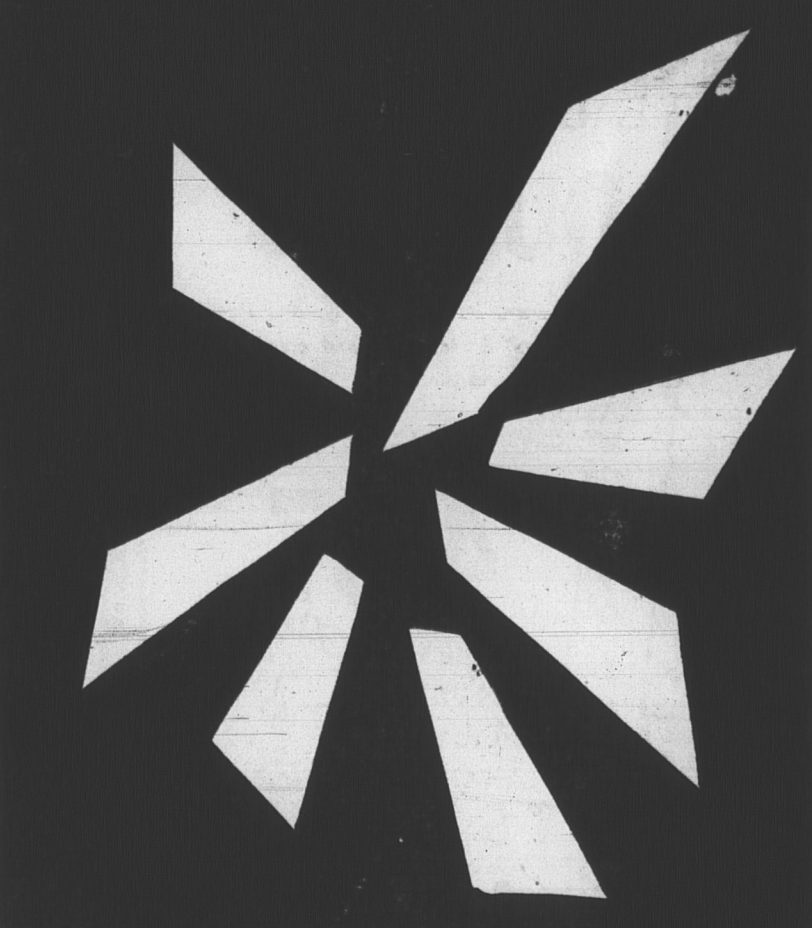
Mr. Friesen says that Saskatchewan has had to recruit in Britain and the United States this year and the rural situation is much the same as Manitoba's.

"What will doubtless happen is that rural classrooms particularly will be filled with people with no teacher education at all."

The department of education recruiting campaign has brought in about 300 teachers and another 800 to 900 are expected to come from university this year. Less qualified teachers are given probationary one-year certificates.

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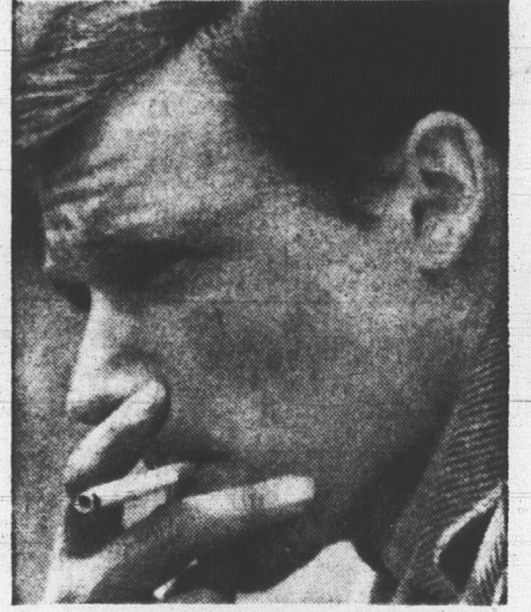
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