

Numerous Marketing Problems Discussed At Growers Meeting

That the institution of minimum prices by the Potato Marketing Board had been criticized in 1950 was freely admitted by Mr. D. A. MacDonald, manager of the Board, in addressing the large farmer audience at Prince of Wales College Tuesday night. However, Mr. MacDonald maintained that the policy had been a success.

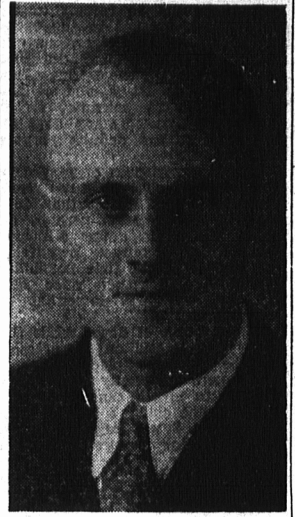
He said the Board came into existence at a time of a great surplus of potatoes and had used every means in its power to solve the marketing problem. With support from Ottawa it had entered on a starch program and though this was not exactly the assistance wanted, nevertheless it enabled the entire 1950 crop to be marketed.

The speaker pointed out that for the past 20 years farmers have striven for the legal right to exercise control over the marketing of their own products.

Hon. J. A. Bernard, former Lieutenant Governor, Tignish, asked how the levies assessed were collected and was told that it was all done through the dealers because they were the most accessible source of contact.

Mr. George Saville, M.L.A., Annapolis, asked if there had been much opposition on the part of the dealers. Mr. MacDonald replied that there had been no concerted opposition as many of the dealers had worked harmoniously in collections.

Ring Rot Problem
Mr. Walter R. Shaw, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, told of the seriousness of ring rot disease and said that in the late 1930's there had been an outbreak on two farms. In both cases the Government moved quickly to control it and succeeded in eradicating it entirely from the premises.



Mr. D. A. MacDonald, chairman of the P. E. I. Potato Marketing Board.

for the two in question. Mr. Shaw stated that such aid would be given wherever needed.

He traced the source of the potato fund since 1940 and told of the passing of the Bacterial Ring Rot Act in the Legislature in 1946. It was amended the following year and a levy of one cent per bushel established rather than the one-half cent previously collected. Asked by Mr. Leard, Cavendish, regarding the ring rot situation in the Province at present, he said he was not prepared to answer.

Mr. Shaw recalled that at one time growers could market potatoes at 60 and 75 cents per bushel, but they could not do this today in view of present high costs. He estimated that it cost \$1.25 per bushel to grow the potatoes.

Regarding the minimum prices set by the Board, he thought it wise as he did not believe it to be in the best interests of potato growers to have dealers making contracts in the southern market before the crop was planted. There was no reason it was felt to let some farmers, who were forced to dispose of their crop early, sell at too low a price and some dealers to fill their warehouses at a low cost and reap a big profit later.

Original Plan
Mr. MacDonald in telling of the sliding scale of rates said the original plan was to have the dealers collect the fees but that some new method would have to be found as the dealers objected. He said the Board did not particularly favor the licensing plan if any other means could be found, but that if everyone would be contributing a fair share to his own industry.

He thought the past system was the fairest which could be devised, but since the court had maintained that it was indirect taxation and invalid a licensing method had to be used, if the growers approved. He estimated the Board revenue this year at \$15,000, if everyone paid.

Mr. MacDonald expressed the opinion that the recent action of the Board in setting minimum prices could not help but have a beneficial effect.

Regarding the controversial Board Order he said that it was proposed to change it to eliminate all responsibility to the dealers and suggested that possibly each month the dealers, assemblers and truckers would give the Board a list of names of growers from whom they had bought potatoes.

Outside Truckers
Asked what would be done in the case of truckers from another Province coming in to buy potatoes, Mr. MacDonald said that if they did not report both the trucker and the seller were breaking the law.

Mr. Saville said that he would support the resolution approving

the actions of the Board and if everyone paid the fees now, perhaps next year another method of raising funds for the Board could be found.

Mr. MacDonald stated that now was the time to build up a stabilization fund while prices are good for use at a time when there might be a surplus.

The four resolutions presented to the meeting by the committee last night were brought in by Mr. George Shaw, chairman of the Resolutions Committee. Serving on the committee also were Mr. Lloyd Martin, Mr. W. Gibson and Mr. Colin Waugh.

The first of the resolutions related that past experience in the potato industry indicated the importance and necessity of funds being available for protection against disease and for general promotion of the industry by advertising and other means. For this reason it recommended that the Potato Board continue its efforts to create such a fund to be spent with the approval of the Potato Promotional Committee.

The second resolution presented to the meeting by Mr. Shaw asked for indorsement of past actions and record of the Board while the third called for acceptance of the licensing system. The final formal resolution stated that some money deducted from growers by dealers had not been turned into the Board and asked that this be done immediately or refunded to the growers.

Recalls Plebiscite
Mr. Lincoln Dewar said that a plebiscite had been taken by the Federation of Agriculture to determine if the growers desired to have a Potato Marketing Board established. The result showed that 99 percent of those voting favored such a Board.

THE CENTRAL GUARDIAN

This column is reserved for news of local interest, but advertising of a newsy nature may be inserted at five cents a word, strictly payable in advance.

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FOR YOUR NEW FALL HAT visit Hi-Style. Every style—Hi-Style. **INDUCTION** of Reverend A. F. MacLean, Trinity Church, 8 o'clock tonight.

MISS SYBIL BENNETT, President of the Women's Progressive Conservative Association for Canada, will speak to both men and women, in the Clover Club on Tuesday evening, October 7th, at 8 o'clock. Everybody welcome.

NAVAL RECRUITS—Three additional recruits were sworn in as members of the R.C.N. (Reserve) at H.M.S. Queen Charlotte last night. The men were D. A. Saunders, Marshfield; W. N. MacInnis, 190 King Street, Charlottetown; and J. D. Doyle, Mt. Stewart.

THE HALIFAX Symphony Orchestra opens the Prince of Wales College Concert Series Monday evening, October 6 at 8:30. Tickets may be secured at door or by phoning 2800.

would have to limit their remarks to three minutes.

Mr. Leard, Cavendish, made note of the fact that the Government had no responsibility regarding the licenses. He said the proposed tax fell heaviest on the small grower and asked Mr. MacDonald where the Board got its authority to make the dealers collect the taxes. He felt that the potato industry in this country rests on the dealers.

Although there were occasional objections voiced from the floor on various aspects of the Board's actions, when the resolutions were put to a vote only three dissenting hands were raised.

Among others who spoke briefly from the floor were Mr. George Kitson, Hampshire; Charles McGuirk, Fort Augustus; John Dawson, Tryon; Ire Lewis, York; and A. Griffin, O'Leary.

IN MEMORIAM
In loving memory of our darling daughter, Verna Bryanton, who passed away Oct. 2nd, 1946.

There is still an ache in our hearts today
That countless years won't take away.
A place in our hearts that nothing can fill,
We miss you darling and always will.

Lovingly remembered by Daddy and Mom.

IN MEMORIAM
In loving memory of my dear father Mrs. Edwin Jeffery, Howe Bay who passed away, October 2, 1952.

There is still a heartache in my heart today
That countless years won't take away
A place in my heart that nothing can fill
I miss you Dad and always will.
People often think I am happy
When they sometimes see me smile
But they do not know the heart ache
That lies within me all the while.

Sadly missed and lovingly remembered by daughter Jean, Charlottetown.

Emerald Notes
—Mr. and Mrs. Jarvis Trainor spent a recent weekend in Moncton, N.B., the welcome guests of Mrs. Gordon Murphy and daughters.

Miss Theresa Cash, R.N., left on Saturday, September 27th, for Jersey City, New Jersey, to take a post-graduate course in operating room technique. Miss Cash was awarded the scholarship by the Charlottetown Hospital this year. She has the best wishes of her many friends.

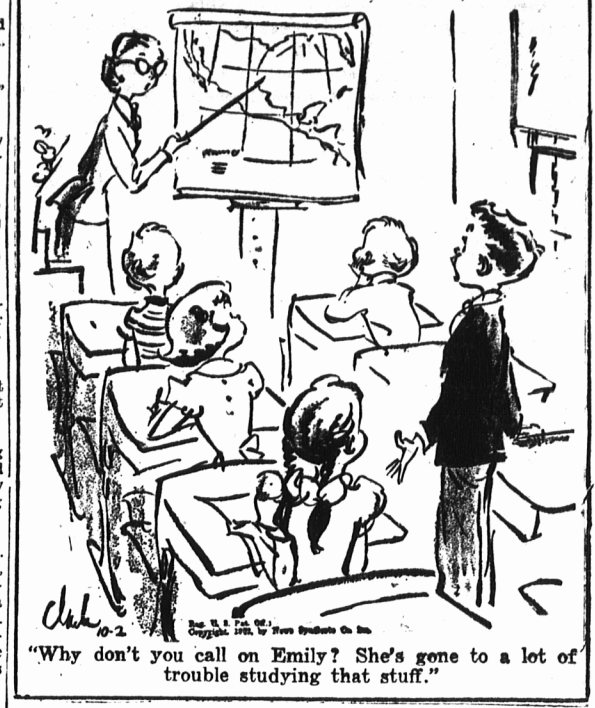
Miss Rosemary Cash, stenographer on the office staff of R. T. Holman's, Charlottetown, spent a weekend at her home in Emerald accompanied by her friend, Miss Lena Hartinger.

Mr. Peter McMahon of Montreal visited his sister, Mrs. James Power and family, of Emerald. It is his first visit to his native Province since he went away, and his many friends are glad to see him back.

Miss Elaine Cash, secretary in the admitting office of the new Prince County Hospital, Summerside, paid a short visit to her home in Emerald recently.

Reverend Father Alfred McDonald and Mr. Louis O'Connor were the welcome guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Cash and family recently.

The Neighbors



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ALLEN'S—20 OZ. APPLE JUICE 2 for ... 25c	KLIK ... 37c
WOODBURY'S SOAP, 4 for .. 29c	AEROXEN FLY HANGERS, 2 for ... 7c
SHINOLA WAX, 1 lb. 41c	JELLO, 3 for .. 29c
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NEW CROP Seedless RAISINS 2 lbs. 43c	FRESH FRUIT
SWIFT'S (Bulk) SAUSAGE Lb. 39c	CALIFORNIA ORANGES, 2 doz. 57c
PURITY ROLLED OATS 5 LB. Pkg. 45c	CALIFORNIA GRAPEFRUIT, 3 for 29c
	TOKAY GRAPES, 2 lbs. . 29c
	LEMONS, 3 for 17c
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