

Spiralling Food Prices Cause Strong Reaction

By J. LINCOLN DEWAR
 In a society in which an ample supply of food is taken for granted it is quite possible to lose a sense of its importance and conclude that other material things should take precedence in the budget.

Where rising prices are concerned as much or creates stronger reaction than does an increase in food prices. Tobacco and liquor may skyrocket, automobile prices go up \$100.00, the daily newspaper double in price and building costs triple but none of these will produce the concern associated with food.

Statistically it can be demonstrated that in few parts of the world that the average consumer purchased food requirements with a smaller percentage of his income. In this connection are quoted figures used by the Hon. J. J. Greene in a recent address.

Here are some comparisons of the quantities of food which could be bought with an hour's earnings in 1946 and 1965:

- Beef sirloin - 1.6 pounds in 1946 and 2.0 pounds in 1965
- Pork rib chops - 1.9 pounds in 1946 and 2.6 pounds in 1965
- Creamery butter - 1.7 pounds in 1946 and 3.5 pounds in 1965
- Eggs - fresh "A" large - 1.4 dozen in 1946 and 3.5 dozen in 1965
- Milk - fresh - 8.8 quarts in 1946 and 8.5 quarts in 1965
- Flour - 17.8 pounds in 1946 and 19.4 pounds in 1965
- Tomatoes - canned - 8.0 (20oz) tins in 1946 and 6.1 tins in 1965
- Potatoes - 21 lbs. in 1946 and 16 pounds in 1965
- Sugar, granulated - 8.3 lbs. in 1946 and 21.6 pounds in 1965
- Bread - 10.6 pounds in 1946 and 11.7 pounds in 1965

CORN TIME
 While corn has been grown in this province for over 50 years it has never become a generally established or accepted crop. For many years a plot of corn would be grown as supplementary feed for cattle when pastures got dry, as a crop it always appeared to be quite a reliable one.

Corn is probably the ideal crop for ensilage in areas where the climate permits, yields of grain corn are extremely high. More recently a development of interest in growing corn for ensilage has taken place and some quite large acreages are reported.

In the past one of the main problems with corn was the control of weeds, now all this has been solved with a chemical called atrazine which kills everything but the corn. Today's corn crop is one of real beauty with clean ground and very little cultivation involved. Testing of varieties suitable for this province are underway and there seems to be every prospect for an expansion of the province's corn acreage.

CHRISTMAS CARDS
 Further to our observations with respect to postal strikes and Christmas cards a friend was thoughtful enough under date of September 23 to forward the traditional greetings and best wishes for a Merry Christmas. We suspect that this is probably one of the earliest Christmas cards on record and certainly relieves the sender of any possibility of being charged with putting things off until the last day.

This happening may be the answer to the combined problem of Christmas and a strike. Why not make October a special Christmas card month and encourage everyone to get the usual exchange of greetings

over with. Much of the last minute frenzy would be eliminated if the postal people (if they are working) will certainly have a better Christmas and in short the business will be spread over a wider area.

BEEF CONFERENCE
 We are not in a position to report on happenings at Canada's first National Beef Conference other than to say that representing the Island were delegates from the Department of Agriculture, the Federation of Agriculture and the Beef Producer's Association. It was expected that this conference would focus its attention on the commercial problems of the beef industry and tastes. We hope next week to provide something more in the way of information.

APEC ANNUAL
 Getting underway over the coming weekend will be the annual conference of the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council in Halifax. This year's program will focus more than usual attention on agricultural matters. Included in the list of speakers is David Kirk, Secretary of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and a number of others recognized as authorities on agricultural matters.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
 With strong demands from farm groups and individual farmers the Federal Government has finally decided to take the plunge and make unemployment insurance available to farm workers. In the absence of details we are not in a position to comment on how broadly the plan will apply or what the exclusions may be. However, it is understood that in certain circumstances a farm owner and operator may qualify provided he is employed as a farm worker with another farmer. In this province the strongest demand has been by the potato industry which no doubt will welcome the announcement.

NUFFIELD SCHOLARSHIPS
 Again we announce that travelling scholarships in Great Britain are available to farmers either sex from 30 to 35 years of age. If you are interested in spending six months studying agriculture in Great Britain, then we suggest that you write immediately to Box 546, Charlottetown for further information and application forms. Applications must be on hand by October 21 and as it takes some time to prepare a good application it is important to act early.

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Clearance Cotton Pyjamas

Regular 1.99
 Cotton pyjamas, styles for boys and girls, assorted cotton prints.
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