

PM Denies Press Bar

SASKATOON (CP) — Prime Minister Diefenbaker says a magazine report that Gen. Earle Partridge was prevented by the Canadian government from talking to the press is "false in its entirety."

Mr. Diefenbaker was commenting Wednesday on a story in Data, a technical magazine published in Washington. The magazine said Gen. Partridge, American commander of the North American Air Defence Command, was held back from visiting Canada for some time and then told he could not meet the press or give a press conference.

"At no time did such a thing happen," said Mr. Diefenbaker. "The story is wholly and fantastically unjustified."

He said he could not comment on a further report from the magazine that U.S. Air Force officers attached to the northern NORAD region in St. Hubert, Que., had to be listed as "liaison officers" at the insistence of the Canadian government and had to wear civilian clothes. Comment would have to come from the minister of defence in Ottawa, Mr. Diefenbaker said.

Among The

(Continued from Page 2) potato industry is due to a number of different factors. First of all there was the suitability of the soil and climatic conditions which produced a product people liked to eat. Next the development of the seed industry based on freedom from virus diseases and other afflictions of the tuber. The latter condition is one which must be jealously protected and is one in which each individual grower has a responsibility.

This responsibility consists of taking every precaution in seeing that disease free seed is used and also in seeing that diseased potatoes are not introduced to the provinces or shipped from it. In a year when potatoes are bringing good prices at planting time there is a temptation to use inferior stock. For example culls from table stock, something that is expressly prohibited. Perhaps the whole case in point may be summarized by saying that the potato industry needs the best protection it can get, quality and disease wise, if we are to maintain the market for our production.

IMPORTANT MEETINGS

All citizens and rural rate payers are reminded that Tuesday evening, June 2 is the time for

the annual school meetings. There doesn't seem to be any argument as to the importance and value of education. Much of our educational progress will depend upon decisions reached at the school meetings and the amount of vision displayed in planning for the year ahead.

Further it may be pointed out that these meetings provide what is possibly the one remaining opportunity for tax payers to decide how much tax they are going to pay. Anyone who stays away from the meeting has no sound grounds for criticizing what is done there. Attendance at the school meetings is both an opportunity and a civic responsibility. Attendance is an indication of interest in educational welfare of the province and its future progress and development.

MEETING POSTPONED

The special meeting which had been planned for May 28 and 29 in Ottawa to consider problems related to floor prices and deficiency payments has been postponed. It is now planned to have this matter dealt with at the semi-annual meeting towards the last of July. An attempt was made to obtain a commitment from the Hon. Mr. Harkness that no firm decisions would be arrived at in this connection before the latter part of July. This, Mr. Harkness felt unable to do although saying that it was quite likely that the deficiency payment plan would not be worked out before that time.

In its most recent edition the

Financial Post in its usually peculiar and negative approach to agricultural matters, castigates the C.F.A. for stating to the Senate Committee of Land Use that the small farm as a social and economic unit must be protected and preserved. We have read the brief in question and fail to find anything in it which suggests that small farms should be preserved at all costs. In fact the Federation points out that those farmers who find themselves on submarginal land with no prospect of improving their position should be assisted in moving to more favourable land or into other employment.

In its brief the Federation has the following to say: "We would make the general observation that we do not think the family farm enterprise of moderate size can be written off as on the way out. No doubt the family enterprise will have to enlarge its output further, as it has over the years, and no doubt it will have to adapt not only its production, but its marketing programs, to changing conditions. But no assumption is justified that the future lies with the factory farm. Policies of government and of organized farmers should be directed to encouraging the farm enterprise of moderate size."

Now, in the face of that statement the Financial Post charges the C.F.A. with being unrealistic and attempting to preserve something that was only suited to pioneer days.

BREEDING CLUB

Those who attend the annual meetings of the various artificial breeding clubs in the province will learn that these clubs are rapidly becoming big business and are exerting a great deal of influence on the improvement of

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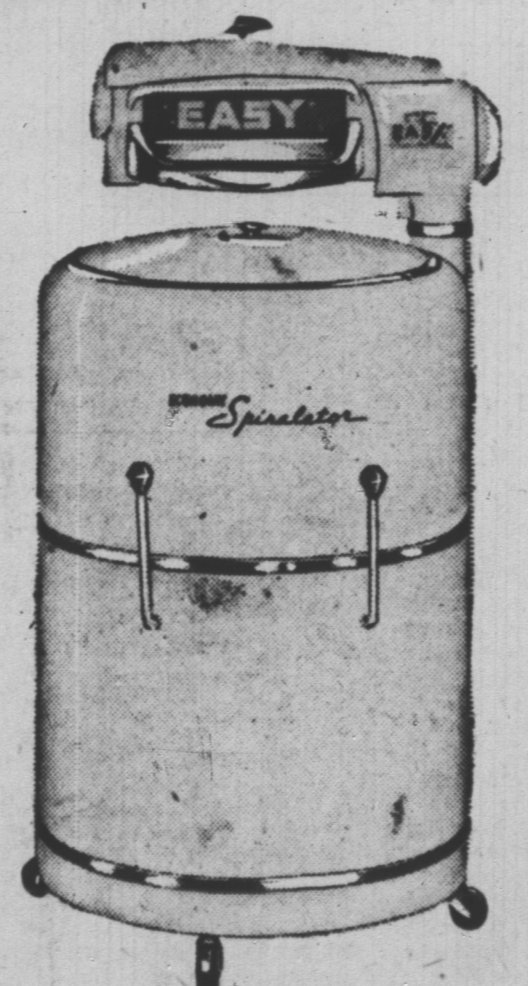
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