

Among The Farmers
Federation Of Agriculture News

The Weather
Those who like variety in life should be well satisfied with the weather here for the last month. High temperatures and low temperatures, wind, rain and snow have followed one another in quick succession.

Last night's heavy rain on the partially thawed ground is apt to cause serious erosion on sloping fields. In some instances the development of gullies can be stopped by the use of the shovel in diverting small streams and rows running up and down the slopes are potential points for the development of deep trenches.

Seed Grain Survey
Information released at the recent Agricultural Conference indicates considerable carelessness in cleaning seed grain. Some samples had as high as 11,000 weed seeds per pound. Why plant over a million weed seeds to the acre when these should be eliminated by proper cleaning?

Quite a number of large grain cleaning machines are located throughout the province and these, if properly operated, will eliminate most of the weed seed. It is apparent though that some of these machines are not being properly operated, therefore, a little interest on the part of the farmer to find out what sort of a job is being done might produce some improvement. Good seed is one of the first steps in the production of good crops.

C. F. A. Annual Meeting
H. H. Hannam in his presidential address at Calgary analyzed conditions in agriculture and stated the policy of the Federation on certain national problems. The Federation believes that if price controls are to be put into effect they should cover all prices, profits, fees, salary, and wages. The necessity of steps to curb inflation and the continuous study on the part of the Government on the relative position of various economic groups when considering controls was advocated. Mr. Hannam felt that the outlook for Canadian agriculture is much brighter than a year ago. Although potato growers, apple growers, and farmers with frosted grain in the West were working under some difficulties yet the general picture was held to be good.

The uncertain outlook for butter was a worry, aggravated by the inroad of vegetable oil substitutes and increased costs of production. The development of producer controlled marketing was pointed out as a necessary development in competing on an even footing with powerful private companies.

The speaker looked forward to the future in seeing organized producers in Canada negotiate export sales and sales agreement. It was mentioned that Danish farmers had negotiated their own bacon contract with the United Kingdom.

World Crisis
In discussing the world crisis Mr. Hannam stated that democracies must be prepared to meet the challenge of hunger, want, misery and exploitation on which Communistic ideas feed and grow. The proper distribution of surplus farm products was a practical method.

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Farm Prices & Market Report

Following are excerpts from the weekly Market Report prepared by Mr. W. R. Shaw, Deputy Minister of Agriculture.

Livestock prices for the present week have shown some up trend at both Moncton and Charlottetown. The following is the detail:

Moncton: Hogs: Grade A 32.25; B1 31.85. Sows 26.00-27.00 hot dressed weight delivered.

Cattle: Choice steers are 27.00 with good 26.50; medium 25.00; common 21.00 to 23.00. Heifers range from 20.00 to 26.00. Cows from 14.00 to 20.00. Bulls: 17.00 to 21.00.

Calves: 19.00 to 28.00 according to grade.

Sheep: 8.00 to 15.00 with Rail Grade or A's 36.00.

Lambs: Good lambs 27.50 and Rail Grade 66.00. All f.o.b. country points.

At Charlottetown: Hogs: F.o.b. country points Grade A 31.25; B1 30.85. Sows 25.00 to 27.00.

Cattle: Choice steers 27.00; good 26.00; medium 25.00; common 20.00 to 23.00. Heifers range from 19.00 to 26.50 according to grade. Cows 13.00 to 20.00. Bulls 16.00 to 21.00. Calves: Choice veal is 25.00. Other grades 18.00 to 24.00.

Lambs: 27.50 alive with Rail Grade 66.00 for Grade A.

Sheep: 15.00 Rail Grade 36.00 for Grade A up to 70 lbs.

Montreal prices on all classes of livestock are steady to strong. Good heifers are 30.50. Good bulls 24.00 to 27.00 and hogs 32.50.

Little pigs are worth \$24.00 a pair for 30 pounds and up with lesser weights 40c per pound.

Large numbers of dairy cattle and young animals are still going to market. Farmers are advised not to deplete their herds below normal good farm practise requirements.

Potato Situation
During the past month there has been a steady and heavy movement of potatoes out of the province and in many instances at prices better than the minimum levels set by the Potato Board. Some growers seem to have gained the impression that the Board lowered the price on all potatoes. This is definitely not so. Sebago seed, and other seed only, was lowered from 45c to 40c per bushel; all other seed and table stock remained at the original levels set by the Board.

Directors' Meeting
The provincial Board of Directors are meeting Friday afternoon to take action on recommendations made at the annual meetings and to discuss Federation policies for the coming year. Committees will be appointed to deal with livestock, potato, and veterinary problems. One matter requiring careful study will be the development of a quota system of marketing potatoes.

One of the first essentials for success of any marketing scheme is a realization by the growers of what sharing the market means and the necessary discipline that goes with it.

It is hoped and expected that the coming year will see the solution of the veterinary problem and the development of increased interest in livestock production and the growing of increased quantities of grass, hay, and grain.

Butter Production
At the present time the province is producing barely enough butter to supply its own needs and it is possible that butter could be airtily scarce for a period this Spring. Price levels have not been sufficiently high to make the production of butter as attractive from a financial standpoint as beef, bacon, eggs, etc.

Pulpwood
Much activity in the cutting of pulpwood is apparent and while this possibly presents an opportunity to the farmer to increase his income at the present time, it would be unfortunate if promising stands of timber are cut without provision being made for future income from the woodlot through proper selection of trees to harvest.

Some variation in prices apparently exist \$14.00 per cord on the car as \$14.50 being paid in some cases.

Dairy Cold Storage
For years past the dairy industry of the province has been handicapped by a lack of adequate dairy cold storage facilities. The construction last summer by the Provincial Government of a dairy wing to its existing cold storage affords an opportunity for the butter and cheese factories to exercise a greater measure of control over the marketing of their products.

It is important, however, that the factories decide what use is to be made of the storage and what responsibility they are prepared to assume in making supplies available for storage.

Wool News
Prophets are apt to damage their reputation when predictions prove false or inaccurate. Nevertheless, it would appear that farmers who have been either lucky or far sighted in the sheep business have no worries as to returns from their wool clip for the coming year. In-

Card-Of Thanks
Mrs. Baston Dupuis and Bryon wish to thank those who sent flowers, cards and letters and all who assisted in any way in their recent bereavement.

Thanks
Mr. and Mrs. Morris Smith wish to extend thanks to the staff of Prince County Hospital, also our neighbours and thanks to Dr. Delaney and Miss Adams for taking our baby in and caring for him during his short illness.

quite a wide variation in retail prices.

"We have also had some complaints that carton packed eggs have not been up to grade. These eggs are the highest priced eggs on the market. If the grade is not right the inspection staff should be notified for a check-up. It is required that carton be stamped with the name of the packer and the grade. Watch for it. With the cost of living on the increase there should be a more careful scrutiny of all purchases made whether it is fruits, eggs, or bread, and consumers should frown on any attempt to hoist prices whether it be by design, unfair advantage, or monopoly, and the latter should be definitely cracked on the head before it gets under way."

PULPWOOD
"Never in the history of the Province since the days of the pioneer has the ringing sound of the woodsman's axe been heard more frequently in the forests of Prince Edward Island. Buyers of pulpwood are scrambling throughout the Province for their supplies and crews of woodsmen are rapidly cutting down forests growths to supply the hungry maw of the pulp mills. In parts of the country piles of pulpwood are appearing as if by magic and if the cutting continues as we see it in some sections the landscape of Prince Edward Island will undergo a devastating change in the near future. So also will our water levels and our farm production possibilities.

"Two new Foresters have recently been appointed and it is to be urgently desired that land owners with forest growths should seek the advice of these men in promoting their own best interests in forestry and of the Province at large.

"We understand the pulpwood is being purchased at prices ranging from \$13.50 to better than \$14.00. A really fine revenue may be secured from this product and our forests still remain intact if wise selective cutting is practised. A slaughter policy, however, can be definitely fatal.

WILD FRUITS
"Approximately \$100,000.00 was secured by Prince Edward Island pickers last year for blueberries and over one million pounds were harvested.

"Cranberry production was estimated at almost a quarter of a million pounds but the price was not good. The market is still in the doldrums and we have heard reports of cranberries held by some producers which would have to be dumped. This is an exceedingly unfortunate circumstance. Storekeepers, of course, are in a position where they have bought their supplies early at certain fixed prices and must charge a certain level which, in any event, is not high for this delectable product.

"I am personally of the opinion that there is a very urgent need in this Province for definite overall Provincial organization in the form of marketing machinery to take care of our wild fruit production. This is an exceedingly important production and should receive attention.

POTATOES
"Potatoes are still moving rapidly to market and prices are holding steady at slightly better than last week's quotations. There is a somewhat better feeling in the United States markets and rumouring at least temporarily in Maine has been stopped. The United States Department of Agriculture requires some little time to fully assess the situation before ordering any further Price Support.

"The movement this week has been again to the limit of cars available. A total of 1170 cars have left the Province since January 1st. A very heavy movement into the States before the quota fills which we estimate will be about February 15th. While the market may be a little stronger our advice to our producers is to keep material moving to market.

"At Tignish, O'Leary, Summerside, Borden Line, Kensington, and Charlottetown, all varieties of seed are 50c per bushel; at Colville and Wiltshire 45c-48c; Cardigan 45c; Morell 47c for Cobblers; Souris 42c-45c; Elmira Foundation A. Katakidins 42c; smalls 50c, Cobblers 45c; and at Murray Harbour Sebagoes and Cobblers 45c-47c.

"Tablestock at Western points 45c per bushel at the car. At Summerside, Borden Line, Kensington, Colville, and Charlottetown, 50c per 75 pound bag at the car; at Cardigan 50c per bag; Murray Harbour 47c per bag.

DAIRYING
"There has been no change in the price of butter on the Nova Scotia market during the past week. The wholesale price is quoted at 57c f.o.b. Halifax with local jobbing at 61c.

"No change is quoted from the Montreal market either where storage butter is selling at 57c for No. 1 solids f.o.b. Montreal.

"In Toronto the current manufacture is now selling at from 60c-63c f.o.b. Toronto.

"In New Brunswick quotations on creamery butter remained at essentially the same level as last week with creameries to wholesalers, one and two pound flats, 53 1-2c; wholesale to retail stores, 50c. It was reported from New Brunswick that butter is still scarce but every effort is being made to have it distributed as fairly as possible.

"Prices on the Charlottetown market are also quoted at the same figures as last week with a strong demand for butter at the wholesale price of 59 1-2c f.o.b.

Charlottetown and local jobbing at 61c.

The production of butter in this Province is much lower than this time last year. In the week ending January 13th 43,920 pounds were made compared with 56,761 pounds for the same week last year. A summary of the Cold Storage holdings in the Maritimes and in all Canada on January 1st, 1951, compared with January 1st, 1950, makes interesting reading at this time with the current manufacture in the Maritimes down about 26 per cent below last year.

1950	1951
P. E. I. 534,000	271,000
N. S. 1,313,000	222,000
N. B. 2,515,000	1,022,000
Canada 56,080,000	39,721,000

FEEDS
"Feed prices are still strong and the supply market somewhat indifferent. Advances have been registered on bran, middlings, soybeans, hog concentrates, and some other materials.

"Grain prices are still high and show no evidence of recession. Producers are to be warned to study mixtures that are being placed on the market. See that these mixtures carry the necessary food requirements. A ground

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mixture may look perfectly good. The hammer mill attends to that but it depends upon the digestible protein carbohydrates and fat whether it is valuable or not. It is possible to grind wheat straw into a fairly good looking meal but it would be of little use to grow or fatten the hog. It would be wise to stick to the mixtures that the producer knows are of high quality and feeding value; or perhaps better still, to mixtures out of grain that he knows are of high quality.

HAY
"Hay is moving quite briskly and the quotation from one of our main exporters is \$15.00 per ton as the producer's barn for good quality hay."

CAVENDISH UNITED PASTORAL CHARGE. - Sunday, January 28th, Stanley 11 A. M. North Rustico 3 P. M. Rev. George Gough, Minister.

MONTAGUE UNITED CHURCH CHARGE. - Services on Sunday, January 28th, as follows: Trinity Church, Montague 11 A. M. and 7.30 P. M. Church School 10 A. M. 3 P. M. Lower Montague. Dr. MacKenzie will conduct all services.

HAZELBROOK. - Rev. J. D. Davison will preach on Sunday, January 28th, at 3 P. M. in the Hazelbrook Baptist Church. This will be a united service. All are welcome.

HAMPTON PASTORAL CHARGE. - United Church of Canada. Services Sunday, January 28th, Victoria 11 A. M. DeSable 3 P. M. Botsfaw 7.30 P. M. Continuing with another in a series of sermons on the Ten Commandments. Rev. L. S. Woolfrey, Minister.

MURRAY HARBOUR PASTORAL CHARGE. - United Church of Canada. Services Sunday, January 28th, 11 A. M. Murray River, Holy Communion. 3 P. M. Belle River. 7.30 P. M. Murray Harbour. Rev. D. Wallace MacPherson, Minister.

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