

Try Fascinating Farming Experiment In N. Alberta

FORT VERMILION, ALTS. (CP) — The business of agriculture is being given a new twist in this northern Alberta district as an Arizona farmer carries out a fascinating experiment.

Wayne Wright is raising alfalfa, wheat and timothy seed and making use of the busy bee to produce what he hopes eventually will be tremendous yields from land that has broken hearts and bankrolls of the few who preceded him in the area.

He is working 350 miles northwest of Edmonton on a projecting point along the Peace River, cut off from the rest of this Fort Vermilion district by muskeg and swamps.

To obtain the yields he believes possible—with two early frosts in a row in 1956 and 1957 he is working on theory only—Mr. Wright is doing an unusual bit of farming.

The Wright fields are narrow strips, 500 feet wide, with 500 feet of timber and underbrush separating each strip from its neighbor.

Trash is piled up in the centre of each strip.

HOMES FOR BEES

Take away all the trash, clear all the fields and the bees leave, says Mr. Wright—and the bees are needed to produce big seed crops.

"I'm not talking about honey bees," he says. "I mean bumble bees and what we call leaf-cutter bees. Bumble bees make their nests in areas of undisturbed sod and trash and leaf-cutter bees in rotting logs."

In 1925 Mr. and Mrs. Wright established a seed farm in an isolated corner of Arizona. Their crops had to be irrigated and they produced high yields. But as more people moved into the area, the crops began to fall back to normal yields.

Agricultural authorities had been interested for years in the reason for high yields in remote areas and average yields in settled regions.

By 1951, the entomologists had

come up with this discovery: If a man did a proper job of farming, he left no place for native bees to propagate. Seed farms producing as much as 1,800 pounds an acre from small acreages dropped back to about 100 pounds an acre when they were expanded and brush and timber was cleared away.

Mr. Wright moved to Canada in 1951 for two reasons: There is little country suitable for farming in the U.S. which has not been cleared, and to produce the newly developed strains in which he specializes, he must use land which has not been seeded to other crops.

The Wrights took over 7,400 acres here on a 20-year lease basis. The land had been declared unsuitable for settlement because it is broken by muskeg into areas uneconomical in size for grain farming.

Mr. Wright has about 800 acres

Energy Experts Disagree On Value Of Russians' Papers

By DAVE OANCIA

Canadian Press Staff Writer ONTARIO (CP) — Western energy experts generally agreed Thursday that the value of Russian contributions to the world power conference is increasing, but a few questioned the reliability of some of the Russian claims.

Sir John Hacking, a British power consultant, said Russian research and development work in the energy field is "of a high order" and reports on it are becoming more valuable.

But chief engineer Sven O. Lander of the Swedish State Power Board said the reality of some of the Soviet claims is

doubtful.

"It's always difficult to know from their reports what the Russians have in operation, what they are planning and what they are doing," he said.

SIMILAR VIEW

A similar sentiment was expressed earlier this week by Sir Ian Horobin, British parliamentary secretary to the ministry of power. He said the Russians have "a bad habit of getting their tenses mixed up" in their reports to international conferences. "Sir Ian flew here for the Montreal meeting after attending some of the sessions of the Geneva atom-for-peace conference."

Sir John and Mr. Lander made their comments during the

final press briefing at the conclusion of the conference of roughly 1,000 delegates from 51 countries. Also participating were F. M. Sayers of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited; Kilshaw M. Irwin of the Philadelphia Power Company and Francis P. Adams of the United States Federal Power Commission.

Sir John said the Russians seem to be tackling the problem of meeting their country's energy needs realistically. But it was difficult to get information on their work because all research was done in an air of semi-secrecy. They also disclosed fewer details than scientists in Western countries.

The five power experts agreed there was little chance the world would run out of energy resources in the near future.

WOULD SWITCH TRADE

LONDON (Reuters) — A £300,000 switch of British trade from American and other foreign sources to the Commonwealth has been proposed by a group of Conservative party legislators. This was one of the proposals prepared by the Expanding Commonwealth Group of members of Parliament in a pamphlet issued Thursday.

TUG FOULS HYDRO LINE

SYDNEY, Australia (Reuters) — Sydney and its suburbs were blacked out for 90 minutes Thursday night after a tugboat struck a power line. Train services were halted, streets plunged into darkness and ambulance radios silenced.

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NOTICE

At the Tignish Village Commissioners August meeting it was decided that the Tignish fire equipment will not be allowed to go beyond the village limits on sound of the alarm except in cases when the property owners have subscribed to the fire system's fund.

By order of Commissioners.

NOTICE

The adjourned meeting of the HAZELBROOK DAIRYING CO. will be held MONDAY EVENING, SEPT. 15th, 1958 In Millview Hall, at 8:00 o'clock

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