

A Feature for Every Friday—

Among The Farmers

Federation Of Agriculture News

An Economist Looks At Marketing Boards

Analysed by Dr. S. Sinclair of the Department of Agricultural Economics at Manitoba University, in this article Marketing Boards face the cold facts which an economist knows well how to require. His analysis has been divided into two articles for publication purposes.

Experiments with marketing boards and schemes have been in progress in Canada since British Columbia first passed "The Produce Marketing Act" of 1927. In Canada, as in other countries, notably Scandinavia, England and the United States, the objective of these marketing schemes has been to supplement free market pricing by government approved boards. These boards consisted of grower representatives operating under a provincial marketing agency.

The movement by farmer groups towards the institution of marketing boards developed from the economic conditions that caused severe price fluctuations in the prices of farm products. The "pooling" programme which became popular in the 1920's as a result of the "Sapiro" co-operatives, which included in most instances a signed contract, did not prove successful. Complete control of the product by the co-operatives, was not achieved. Non-members were in a position to take advantage of any benefits in price resulting from the actions of the co-operatives, without shouldering responsibilities. At the same time such non-members could offset the orderly plan of the supply.

Dissatisfaction with the marketing system was another feature in the demand for government action in agricultural marketing. This was manifested chiefly in the demand for floor or minimum prices. In the United States the demand has culminated in the provisions for "parity" prices. In Canada, under the marketing board legislation for many products, this is obtained through setting minimum prices at which processors and distributors shall buy the product.

An additional factor that added impetus to the marketing board movement in Canada was the apparent consolidation that appeared in the food processing industries during the 1920's. Small firms buying and handling farm food products were being absorbed and consolidated, resulting in large organizations in the canning, meat packing, milling and other food industries. Large grocers handled an important volume and thus the number of buyers from farmers, decreased.

This had a two-fold effect upon

farmers. Firstly, they began to fear the power of these large organizations. Secondly, farmers saw an opportunity where they could deal more effectively with the small number of buyers if they themselves had control of the total supply of their products. In other words, it would be a single farm organization, as sellers, facing what, in large measure, was a single buyer.

It was in such a setting that the federal government passed the Natural Products Marketing Act of 1934 which was followed by several provinces passing similar legislation of their own. This movement was halted when the federal act was questioned in the courts and declared ultra vires. Since 1940, however, every province has passed such legislation and those have been supplemented with federal legislation passed in 1949, as the Agricultural Products Marketing Act.

Under the existing legislation, farm groups can organize marketing schemes to control the marketing of any product from the producer to the final distributor, both in provincial and inter-provincial trade. Such schemes require a majority support of the producers of the particular product, usually 65 percent. If such support is obtained and if the scheme is approved by the provincial marketing board it applies to all concerned in the production, processing handling and marketing of the products. Under the legislation, licenses and other legal limitations are imposed which make compliance with the requirements of the scheme mandatory.

Are marketing schemes in the nature of democratic tradition? In the experience of the existing schemes it can be shown that all have been voted in by large majorities. It can also be shown that where farmers were not agreed on a scheme, it failed to receive support. In this aspect it can be said that such schemes are democratic. It should be borne in mind however, that these schemes, once they have sanction of law and become operative, affect more than the producers of the particular product. The incidence of marketing schemes is on all other farmers and all consumers. In relation to this larger body approval of the scheme may not have a majority.

Net Farm Income Calculation

Total cash receipts — 1951, \$2,811,949,000; 1952, \$2,778,343,000.
Farm products consumed and house rent — 1951, \$434,553,000; 1952, \$433,722,000.
Inventory gain — 1951, 353,493,000; 1952, 237,625,000.
Total income — 1951, \$3,589,995,000.

THE CENTRAL GUARDIAN

JIMMY'S TAXI—Dial 7379 or 1370.

HEAR W. C. S. McLURE over C. F. C. Y. tonight at 10:45 P. M.

KEROSENE, Electric and Propane Gas Refrigerators, Bryentou and MacKay.

DR. T. A. LAIDLAW will be absent from the Polyclinic for the month of August.

LIBERAL POLITICAL MEETING tonight, Spring Park, Spring Park Hall, at 8:30 P. M. Cecil A. Miller and Neil A. Matheson and other prominent Liberals will attend.

POWNAI UNITED PASTORAL CHARGE, Services Sunday, August 9th, 10 A. M. at Mt. Herbert; 11:15 A. M. at Bunbury; 7:30 P. M. at Pownal Sunday Schools, 10:45 A. M. at Pownal; 11 A. M. at Mt. Herbert and Millview. Rev. T. R. Goudge, Pastor.

HEAR CECIL MILLER ON C.F.C.Y. TONIGHT AT 9 O'CLOCK.

000; 1952, \$3,449,890,000.

Deprec. & operating costs — 1951, 1,421,712,000; 1952, 1,504,324,000.

Net Farm Income — 1951, \$2,178,283,000; 1952, \$1,944,766,000.

Index — 1951, 100; 1952, 89.

The 1952 index of prices received by farmers (that is per unit) was 81 compared with 100 in 1951.

The costs of goods and services (per unit) was 106 in 1952 compared with 100 in 1951. This would indicate price ratio or what some people would call a cost of price squeeze, of 86 in 1952 compared with 100 in 1951.

On the other hand the net farm income of \$1,944,766,000, was 11% less than the previous year. It will be noted that this is not quite as bad as the price ratio of 86. In other words, volume would compensate to small extent for the drop in prices. In looking at the items making up the net farm income, it will be seen that the total cash receipts increased about \$33 million, but that operating costs increased \$83 million. In other words, the costs as a result of increase in volume were greater than the increase in cash receipts as a result of the increase in volume.

Another factor was that the gain from inventories was less chiefly due to the fall in value of livestock at the end of the year.

Where Do We Fit?

A free agriculture cannot prosper in an economy in which strong corporate controls over prices and union controls over wages persists, with monopolistic power and public benefits of many kinds available to non-farm groups. It would appear, therefore, that if agriculture is to operate within the framework of a free market, every effort should be made to promote policies that will result in labour and industry being under the same type of competitive principles as agriculture.

HEAR J. ANGUS MacLEAN over C. F. C. Y. tonight at 10:00 P. M.

SERVICE TO SICK, Dial 5132, Cantwell's Pharmacy, next to Gloria.

PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE Campaign Headquarters at 160 Kent Street, Dial 6343. Vote for McLure and MacLean.

YORK PASTORAL CHARGE. — The United Church of Canada, Minister: Rev. J. M. Sproule. Sunday, August 9th, 1953. 9:30 A. M. Pleasant Grove, 11:30 A. M. Central, 7:30 P. M. York.

CAVENDISH UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA. — Services Sunday, August 9th, Stanley Bridge 11 A. M. North Rustico 7:30 P. M. Rev. F. W. Sawdon, Minister.

ST. PETER'S BAY PASTORAL CHARGE. — The United Church of Canada, Services for Sunday, August 9th, Marie, Sunday School 10 A. M. Service 11 A. M. St. Peter's, Sunday School 11 A. M. Service 3 P. M. Greenwich, Sunday School 10 A. M. Service 7:30 P. M. Rev. Russell A. MacLeod, Minister.

MARSHFIELD PASTORAL CHARGE. — The Presbyterian Church in Canada, Marshfield, Friday 9 P. M. Preparatory Service, Sunday 11 A. M. Communion Service, Mount Stewart, Sunday, 3 P. M. Sacrament of Baptism, Harrington, Sunday School 10:30 A. M. Service 7:30 P. M. Rev. Lee MacNaughton, B. A., Minister.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, Belfast. — Sunday, August 9th, Sunday School 10:30 A. M. At 3 P. M. the Annual Memorial service will be held in the final in the series of Anniversary services commemorating the arrival of the Selkirk settlers at Belfast, August 7th, 1803. Rev. D. A. Campbell, B. A., will be the guest speaker. Soloist, Mrs. John MacRae, Cherry Valley. Rev. James E. Heathwood, M. A., Minister.

LONG SERVICE. — On the evening July 19, a sacred song service was held in Pleasant Valley United Church and was largely attended. The Zion Presbyterian Church male quartette consisting of Messrs Harry Craswell, John MacLeod, Malcolm MacKinnon and Wendell Phillips sang the following numbers: "Lord I want to be a Christian", "The Way-side Cross", "Lead Kindly Light" and "Jesus Keep me Near the Cross". Mr. Phillips and Mr. Craswell also rendered two duets "Nailed to the Cross" and "Come Heavenly Spirit". Mr. James Power, Charlottetown sang effectively, "Bless this House". Other selections by the choir were "The Old Rugged Cross", and "My Jesus I love Thee". Rev. W. B. MacPhail led in prayer and read the Scripture Lesson. Mrs. Harry Weeks was organist. The singing of several other selections by choir and Congregation brought a inspiring sacred song service to a close. —

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CORNWALL W. M. S. POSTPONED until Monday next.

LIBERAL POLITICAL MEETING tonight, Spring Park, Spring Park Hall, at 8:30 P. M. Cecil A. Miller and Neil A. Matheson and other prominent Liberals will attend.

LIBERAL Headquarters now open daily from 9 a.m. until 10 p.m. Phone 3533 or 8913. Vote for Miller and Matheson.

CRAPAUD, SPRINGFIELD, LONG CREEK, PARISHES. — Services for Sunday, August 9th, 1953. Tenth Sunday after Trinity. St. John's Church, Crapaud, 8:00 A. M. Holy Communion, 11:00 A. M. Morning Prayer, St. Thomas' Church, Long Creek, 3:00 P. M. Evening Prayer, St. Elizabeth's Church, Springfield, 7:30 P. M. Evening Prayer, Rev. George R. F. Ebsary, Rector.

FORMER CHTOWN MINISTER TO PREACH. — Rev. Dr. E. Melville Aitken, pastor of First United Church, Hamilton, Ont., and formerly of Charlottetown will conduct the Sunday services at Trinity Church, this week. Dr. Aitken is paying a visit to his native Province. He is a widely-known radio preacher and for the past four years he has been chairman of the Overseas Mission Board of the United Church of Canada.

WINSLOE PASTORAL CHARGE. — The United Church of Canada Services Sunday, are as follows: Winsloe North 11 A. M. Winsloe South 3 P. M. Princetown Road 7:30 P. M. The North Winsloe Choir will have charge of the music at the evening service. Sunday School as announced. All are welcome. Heber H. Hardy, Presby. Supply.

CORNWALL UNITED CHURCH. Services August 9th, will be as follows: Kingston at 11:00 A. M. Cornwall at 7:30 P. M. The Orwell-Vernon Male Trio will be guest singers at the Cornwall service. The New Dominion service has been withdrawn on account of the St. Catherine's Memorial service at 2:00. Rev. A. S. Weir, Minister.

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ORWELL HEAD UNITED CHURCH. — Sunday, August 9th, 7:30 P. M. a special service will be held with M. D. Dunbar of Charlottetown guest speaker. Special music by Mrs. Cyril MacGregor and Mr. Eric MacGregor. Guest organist for the evening will be Mrs. M. D. Dunbar. A. C. Fraser, Minister.

UNION CHURCH OF CANADA. Covehead—Union Road Charge Services for August 9th, Stanhope 9:30 A. M. West Covehead 11 A. M. Soloist, Miss Phyllis Coffin of Charlottetown. Selection, "How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings" by Liddle. Duet W. H. Phillips and Harry Craswell. Covehead Road 7:30 P. M. Norman R. Green, Minister.

ORWELL—VERNON UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA. — Sunday August 9th, Vernon River 9:30 A. M. (Special service closing Vacation School). Cherry Valley 11 A. M. (Sacrament of Lord's Supper). Rev. Lewis M. Murray, guest speaker. Eldon 7:30 P. M. Special music by Jean and Margaret Murray. Rev. John F. MacKay, B. D., Minister.

Card Of Thanks

We wish to thank the Doctors, nurses and staff, especially the male attendants for their kindness to us during our stay at the Prince County Hospital, the many friends who visited us and sent cards and the members of St. Thomas W. A. for their gift of fruit.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Meek, French River.

Dorothy Dix's Column

Continued from page 2

a gossipers' holiday out the mess, some good might be accomplished. If the other wives ignored the pest, instead of playing up to his flirtations, he might catch on to the fact that his antics aren't making the bit he imagines. Any friend who deems it her duty to carry unpleasant tales is no "friend" at all. Better an open enemy than a trouble maker who hides behind the guise of "friend."

Miss Nissen cannot reply personally to readers but will answer problems of interest through this column.

DR. J. K. L. IRWIN will be absent from the Polyclinic for the month of August.

"WE TREAT THE SICK WELL." Giggey's Pharmacy, next Stewart's Bakery.

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"YOUR DOLLAR BUYS MORE— at the HUGHES DRUG STORE"

DR. J. W. MacKENZIE will be absent from the Polyclinic for the month of August.

Personals

Mr. R. H. Hegan, New York, is visiting his sister Miss Janet P. Hegan, 5 Grafton Street. Q. PERSONAL

Mr. and Mrs. Glen MacLeod and their son, Jeffrey, Mrs. Kenneth Dinsmore and Mrs. Bernice Cook, all of St. Stephen, N. B., are holidaying in the Province. Mrs. Dinsmore is the sister of Mrs. R. W. Moore, formerly of St. Stephen and now of Charlottetown. They are staying at Windemere Cottages, Stanhope.

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 7—9:00 p.m.—Cecil A. Miller.

LIBERAL POLITICAL MEETINGS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7—

Spring Park (Spring Park Hall)

Meetings will begin at 8:30. They will be attended by the Candidates, Cecil A. Miller and Neil A. Matheson and by other prominent Liberals.

MARK YOUR BALLOT MONDAY FOR CONTINUED PROSPERITY



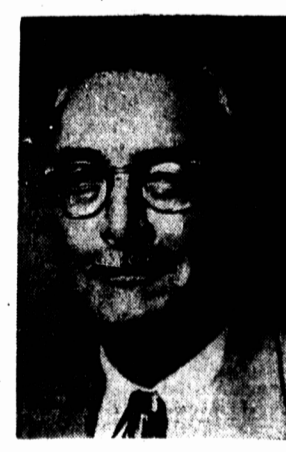
CECIL A. MILLER

NEIL ALEXANDER MATHESON
Editor

CECIL ALLAN MILLER
Farmer

J. ANGUS MacLEAN
Farmer

W. CHESTER S. McLURE
Broker



NEIL A. MATHESON

VOTE FOR MILLER & MATHESON

TOP OF THE BALLOT — TOP OF THE POLL