

THE EASTERN GUARDIAN

AGENTS:—MONTAGUE: Harold F. Landry, Mrs. Byron Stewart. AGENT GEORGETOWN: Waidon Lavers.

The Guardian may be bought at the following places in Montague: Blue Dome Restaurant, and Guardian Office; in Georgetown: The Post Office; in Souris: The Snack Bar.

*DANCE Beaver Hall, Thursday, New Year's Eve, December 31.

*NEW YEAR'S EVE novelty dance, Beaver Hall, Montague, December 31.

*NOTICE Due to market conditions, King's Mills, Montague will not be buying logs until further notice.

*MONTAGUE United Baptist pastorate, Rev. Rowland Hill, pastor, 11 a.m. Montague; 3 p.m. Murray River; 7:30 p.m. Sturgeon.

*DON'T MISS the second big midnight dance of the holiday season, Cardigan hall, New Year's Night. Dancing to Turner's Orchestra from 12 to 3.

*DOG'S Service Station will be closed New Year's Day. We take this opportunity to wish all customers a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

*THE PRESBYTERIAN Church in Canada. Services for Sunday, January 3rd, are as follows: Lorne Valley at 2 p.m. and Montague at 7:30 p.m. Montague Sunday School at 10 a.m. Services will be conducted by the Rev. H. R. Bell, interim-moderator, Rev. Carl Currie, Murray Harbour North.

*MURRAY HARBOUR PASTORAL CHARGE.—The United Church of Canada. Services for Sunday, January 3rd, 11 A.M. Murray River; 2 P.M. Little Sands; 3:30 P.M. Belle River; 7:30 P.M. Murray Harbour. Sermon: "Drifting above the Falls." Please remember our Week of Prayer Services. Rev. D. Wallace MacPherson, Minister.

*WODGE MEETING — The regular meeting of Hillside Lodge, I. O. O. F., was held Tuesday night with Brother Spencer Lewellyn, N.G., presiding. There were 18 members present. After the usual business was disposed of the election of officers for the coming term took place. The following officers were elected: Noble Grand, Brother Atwood MacDonald, Vice-Grand, Brother Gordon Coffin, recording secretary, Brother Robert VanDerastine, secretary, Brother Colin Jackson, treasurer, Brother Ellery Shaw, Brother Ernest Robertson was elected as a member of the trustees. Brother Bruce MacPhee reported that he had visited Brother Alistair Currie, who is confined to the King's County Hospital. The members all wish Brother Currie a speedy recovery. It is intended to install the officers into their respective offices at the next meeting. D.D.G.M. Brother Malcolm MacKenzie will install the new slate of officers.

CAPITOL TODAY - FRI. - SAT.

"VANQUISHED" John Payne - Jan Sterling Serial - Shorts

Advertisement for Clifton Webb in 'The Comedy Riot of the Year!' at Prince Edward. Shows at 2:30, 7:00, and 9:00. TONIGHT — MIDNIGHT SHOW — 11:30 BETTY GRABLE in 'MY BLUE HEAVEN'

TO THE CITIZENS OF MONTAGUE. Another prosperous year lies behind us and we face the New Year with great hopes. At the conclusion of the year 1953 let us thank God for the blessings he has bestowed on our town and people, and let us resolve to continue to make progress in the year to come. At the beginning of the New Year we wish to extend to all our citizens our most sincere thanks for their co-operation in the past year and hope that the year ahead will bring personal happiness and prosperity to all, and continued progress, to our town. BRUCE H. YEO, Mayor. COUNCILLORS: S. S. HESSIAN, Q.C. A. A. FRASER FRANK GREENE MARSHALL REYNOLDS CLAUDE NICHOLSON

Mayor Yeo Looks Ahead To Prosperous 1954

Mayor Bruce H. Yeo, (right) yesterday on behalf of the town council extended greetings and best wishes for a bright and prosperous New Year to the citizens of Montague.



His worship reviewed some of the accomplishments of the past year, and looked forward to still greater progress in the year just dawning. Among the projects cited was the major undertaking of paving the new market road from Queen street to the river road, passing directly alongside the new High School, together with the re-surfacing of all streets paved in 1952. He pointed out that the past year had been one of conservation, with a minimum expenditure of public funds. Mayor Yeo commended the splendid relationship existing between the people of the town and was most appreciative of the co-operation received during the past year.

town, spent Christmas eve as the guests of Mrs. Lavander's mother, Mrs. Thomas Murphy, St. Mary's Road.

*Mrs. Ira MacLaren, Brudenell, had as her guests for the Christmas holidays her son Kenneth, Halifax, N.S., and her daughter Phyllis, R.N.S., of the staff of T.C.A., Toronto, Ont.

Mr. and Mrs. B. Rattray, Charlottetown, were guests of Mrs. Rattray's son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Neil Hooley, Montague, last week. Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Wightman, Halifax, N.S., are guests of their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. G. Arnold Wightman, Montague.

Misses Sue and Mary Hemphill, Montague, spent Christmas and Boxing Day at their home in Georgetown.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Webster, Charlottetown, were the weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. V. R. Pepper, Montague.

Mr. and Mrs. V. Hill, Charlottetown, were the holiday guests of their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Fraser, Montague.

Mr. Ambrose McCarron, St. Mary's Road, is spending Christmas with his mother at Halifax, N.S.

Miss Pauline Farrell, student at Notre Dame, is spending the yuletide holidays with her parents at St. Mary's Road.

Mr. Thomas Hughes, who has been employed in New Brunswick, is spending the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hughes, St. Mary's Road.

The Misses Lillian and Georgina Gillis of the staff of Simpson-Sears Ltd., Halifax, spent Christmas with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Gillis, Forest Hill, P.E.I.

Miss Lydia Hennigar, who has spent the past few months in Charlottetown is spending several weeks at the home of her parents in Montague.

Mr. Amos Lavander, Hawthorn, N.Y., Mr. William Hook, Charlottetown, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lavander, and family of George-

Personals

*Miss Mary E. Gormley, Charlottetown, is spending her Christmas holidays at her home in St. Mary's Road.

*Miss Eileen McCarron, student nurse at the Charlottetown Hospital spent Christmas at her home at St. Mary's Road.

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Former Islander Dies Suddenly

Word was received yesterday by his sisters and brother on Prince Edward Island of the sudden and unexpected death yesterday morning of Chester Ewen MacKenzie of Concord, New Hampshire, in his 47th year.

The late Mr. MacKenzie was born at Cavendish, P.E.I., son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Ewen J. MacKenzie, and moved to Concord about twenty-five years ago, where he was employed as a diesel engineer with a large firm in that city.

In addition to his wife, two daughters, and one son, he is survived by the following sisters and brothers:

Mrs. Stephen Huestis, North Carleton; Mrs. Elias Bishop, Summerside; Mrs. James E. Andrews, Hunter River; Mrs. James L. LePage, Hunter River; Mrs. Warren E. Houston, Charlottetown; Mrs. E. C. LePage, Charlottetown; Mrs. George Taylor, Moncton; Mrs. Leslie Andrews, Concord, N.H.; and Harry MacKenzie, Cavendish, P.E.I.

Duke Flies

Continued from page 1

mond circlet, bracelets, earrings and necklace, the Queen joined more than 80 guests at a dinner given by Mayor R. Braithwaite of Hamilton.

She and the Duke then visited the Bledisloe building, one of the country's largest structures, and waved from a balcony to 4,000 cheering participants in a youth festival.

Spear-waving Maori natives chanted a welcome earlier in the day when the royal couple stopped for an unscheduled visit in tribal King Koroki's compound.

The king, combining a western dark blue suit, white shirt and tie with his traditional mantle of kiwi bird feathers, presented the Queen with a sacred carved stick.

One hundred Maori warriors in full warpaint chanted ancient tribal songs from two canoes in the river beside the compound.

They had previously assured the royal visitors of an unobstructed view by clearing a mile of the river bank.

Other determined tribesmen had dug up whole trees and transplanted them in triumphal lines along the Queen's route to the compound.

Premier Matheson

Continued from page 1

ure. In the greater demand for more foodstuffs we feel confident that we can play our part and consequently share in the prosperity of the rest of Canada.

"In this, my first year as Premier of the Province, I take pleasure in wishing you a Happy and Prosperous New Year."

Hunter River Youth Elected

Harold Bernard of Hunter River was elected Deputy Premier of Maritime Youth and Older Boy's Parliament at the closing session of the 31st annual meeting of the organization held at Sackville, N. B., from last Saturday until yesterday morning.

Other Island boys in attendance were Malcolm MacRae, Cherry Valley, Charles Mair, Georgetown, Arthur Craig, Kinkora and Harold Laird, Beauce.

The retiring Premier, Tom Denton of Saint John, N.B., was succeeded by Vincent Ithaz of Sydney, N.S.

The parliament was organized and directed by Rev. Garnet Sherwood of Saint John, N. B., who is Maritime Boy's Work Secretary of the M.R.E.C.

Announce C.N.R. Appointment

MONCTON, N. B., Dec. 30.—The appointment of A. F. Steeves to be superintendent of investigation for the Canadian National Railways Atlantic Region was announced today. He succeeds W. V. Payne who has retired.

Mr. Steeves a native of Roseville, N.B., was a member of the Moncton police force for nine years before joining the C.N.R. in 1925 as special agent at Newcastle, N. B.

In 1948 he was appointed inspector for the C.N.R.'s Saskatchewan district with headquarters at Saskatoon. He held the latter post until his present appointment.

Swine Industry To Island Farmers A Life Preserver

By Harold W. Clay, Chief of Production Servicing, Federal Department of Agriculture.

In 1953 the swine industry has been the life preserver which has kept many farmers afloat financially when they were in danger of being engulfed in the sea of over-specialization. Unfortunately, too many producers, by their inactivity in and out production policy, threw away this life preserver in 1952 when they should have retained their swine breeding stock.

This is not a new story. From the beginning of live stock production in this province the pig has been named the "mortgage lifter." Even our younger farmers have had this lesson driven home to them repeatedly. At intervals of every four or five years, swine production takes on a blue outlook long enough to see the faint hearted producers dispose of their breeding stock. Then, in more or less startling fashions, hog prices advance much to the amazement and discomfort of those who previously professed to know what was to happen six months or more in the future.

Invariably those who try to out-guess the market guess wrong and those who jump out of swine production jump out at the wrong time. Before many months they regret their hasty action. During the last half of 1952 many swine producers, convinced that there was no promise in the outlook for hogs, liquidated their breeding stock.

When hog prices advanced spectacularly after January 1st, 1953, these former swine growers had time to regret. Such post mortem analysis never pleasant but they may serve a useful purpose if they in any measure serve as an object lesson to our swine growers.

Profitable Year

For those who maintained an even level of swine production the past year has been very profitable. Hog prices advanced and remained encouraging throughout the year while feed prices continued to decline. A heavy local crop of grain made the picture more attractive. In fact, it would appear that hog production in 1953 was by far the most profitable phase of farm production. Unfortunately, too many former hog growers did not participate. With this province annually producing about two percent of the total Canadian hog production, it cannot be claimed that any increase or decrease in our local output has any effect on the Canadian hog price structure.

Four years ago and again in the fall of 1952 we had a very weak demand for weaning pigs. In both cases following events proved that these same pigs when fed to market weights were very profitable to the producers. The moral in this is: When weaning pigs are cheap it is the time to stay in the business and not stamper with the crowd.

The total figures for Island hog production in 1953 are not yet available, but a look at the total up to October 31st is indicative of the general decrease:

Table with 2 columns: Year, Pigs. 1952: 86913 hogs; 1953: 62481 hogs.

As the months passed, this decrease became more evident: October, 1952: 3285 hogs; October, 1953: 2250 hogs.

When the complete figures are out they will show that this decrease will continue and will continue well into 1954.

The Outlook for 1954

Up to November 30th of 1953, there has been very slight evidence of an increase in sow breeding in any part of Canada except a small increase in Alberta. In fact, the sow breedings for eastern Canada show a small drop compared with that of 1952. This is evidence that we can expect little or no increase in market hogs much before October, 1954. In the Maritimes, there is some indication that fewer sows have been bred than in the previous year. All this should result in a scarcity of pork products for the first three quarters of 1954 with no great break in prices.

We cannot ignore the depressing effect low beef prices have on pork prices, but one cannot but be amazed at the manner in which hogs have held at a high price level in the face of dropping cattle prices during the past year.

No other meat will take the place of bacon on the breakfast table. This may explain the present strength of the hog market.

Present available evidence should influence our hog producers to keep and feed all their weaning pigs born before April 1st next. The decision to feed or to sell weaning pigs born after April 1st should hinge on the possibility of a heavy increase in sow breeding especially in western Canada after January 1st. If the West plunges into hog production, it might be wise to exercise caution in laying plans for any increase in hog marketing during late 1954 and early 1955.

Cattle On Increase

In any forecast of livestock market conditions, one must consider the over-all meat supply. As in the United States, the cattle population in Canada has been building up since 1948. By June 1st, 1954, our total cattle numbers may reach ten million. In the twelve months ending September 30th, 1954, it is expected that cattle marketing may exceed 1953 by something like 300,000 head. This figure should not frighten our live stock producers. With lower beef prices, it is estimated that beef consumption in 1954 will run as high as 14 percent over that of

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Table with 2 columns: Region, Percentage. P.E.I.: 56.8; N.S.: 50.4; N.B.: 43.5; Que.: 32.0; Ont.: 33.8; Man.: 25.9; Sask.: 24.6; Alta.: 18.8; B.C.: 29.4; All Canada: 28.8.

It should be noted that N.S. and N.B. in late years have been getting their herd boars in large measure from this province. This partially accounts for the rapid improvement in these provinces.

In the twenty years since 1933 our grade "A" hogs have increased from 33 to 53 percent. On the basis of 1952 production of 100,000 hogs this means 20,000 more in the top grade. These grade "A" hogs command a premium of \$2.00 per head from the government and 60 cents from the packers. If all these hogs had graded "B" the premium would be only \$1.00. Here we have an extra \$1.60 on 20,000 hogs or \$32,000 more income per year.

This is a considerable reward for the praiseworthy effort put forth by our Island breeders in making such an amazing degree of improvement in the key breeding stock. It is an encouragement to those who have been associated with this progress. One often wonders if our commercial hog producers realize the debt they owe to our leading breeders of foundation stock.

One of the leading contributors to this improvement has been Almon Boswall who received recognition as such when on the recommendation of the Canadian Swine Breeders' Association he was awarded the Coronation Medal for outstanding service to swine improvement across Canada.

Although we have attained a very high standard of quality in our market hogs, we must continue to exercise great care in the selection of our breeding stock. We must strive for more length

Challenge To Efficiency

The year 1954 should not be a time for the live stock producer to become discouraged and to make drastic reductions in production. It should be a time to practise greater efficiency, to lower cost of production and to take advantage of lower prices of foundation breeding stock by improving the type and quality of his animals.

A point which our Island live stock producers should remember is that we are in the center of a meat deficiency area. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland do not produce their own requirements. This leaves this province with an assured market close at hand. We might be in better financial circumstances now if we had catered to this market instead of over-producing crops which must be shipped to distant markets under increasing transportation costs and which give favorable returns only when the growers in other areas experience some bad luck. It is quite apparent this year that the producer who has based his farm economy on the dairy cow, the pig and the hen is weathering the storm which has been brought upon us by too great a tendency to gamble for the shadow of high returns and miss the more dependable and safer dollar in live stock production.

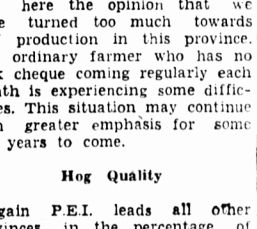
It might do no harm to intercept here the opinion that we have turned too much towards beef production in this province. The ordinary farmer who has no milk cheque coming regularly each month is experiencing some difficulties. This situation may continue with greater emphasis for some few years to come.

Hog Quality

Again P.E.I. leads all other provinces in the percentage of Grade "A" hogs. The figures for the past year are not yet complete but a statement covering the October marketing is representative of the general picture.

Grade "A" Hog Percentages October — 1953 (Less sows and stags)

At the sound of the bong, it will be time for us to say Happy New Year!



The ROGERS HARDWARE Company Limited

GOOD LUCK TO ALL IN 1954. Here's a cheery wish that the New Year will open the doors of good luck and good cheer for you. Thanks for your past patronage. We're looking forward to another year of pleasure in serving you. HORNE MOTORS Ltd.

YOU CAN DEPEND ON DODDS KIDNEY PILLS. When kidneys fail to remove excess acids and wastes, backache, tired feeling, disturbed rest often follow. Dodd's Kidney Pills stimulate kidneys to normal duty. You feel better, work better, live better. Write for free literature. Get Dodd's at any drug store. You can depend on Dodd's.

EXPORT CANADA'S FINEST CIGARETTE. The sale of registered breeding stock to outside points has continued at a satisfactory rate through 1953. A large number of boars have been shipped to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, with a smaller number to Quebec and