

AMONG THE FARMERS

Federation of Agriculture Newsletter

RAILWAY HEARING

This province likely has as much at stake if not more relatively than any of the other provinces in this matter of freight rates. The McTague Commission which met here Nov. 12 is not dealing specifically with the question of higher freight rates; its terms of reference are much broader than that. In fact it is charged with the responsibility of inquiring into all aspects of railway transportation, even the Crows Nest Pass rates which have always been excluded in the past from such investigation.

Due to the fact that this province ships many of its products a great distance and brings many of its supplies from far points, transportation costs are one of our heaviest charges. For this reason when freight increases are applied on a percentage basis our charges go up much more than in the case where shorter hauls are involved.

Admittedly railway operations, freight charges, fair returns and all the other associated aspects constitute a murky field in which the layman ventures at his peril. The railways would of course like to make as much money on their investment as any other industry but find themselves in the position of losing business to their competitors. A ten percent increase does not bring them ten per cent more revenue and just at what point the tail chasing procedure comes to an end no one can predict.

POWDER MIRACLE

Even less than a year ago skim milk powder was one of the major headaches for the Dominion Government. So serious had the situation become that attempts to dispose of it were causing international complications. But now skim milk powder has almost disappeared and both the government and the dairy industry are breathing a sigh of relief.

TARIFF MATTERS

On October 20, the C.F.A. appeared before the Hon. D.M. Fleming, Minister of Finance and requested tariff adjustments on a wide range of products used by farmers.

In cases where sales tax was also applied relief was asked in this connection. Under discussion were such items as: wire fencing, steel fence posts, staples, sheet metal roofing, structural steel for farm buildings, metal storage bins, ventilators, equipment for milking parlors, engines and motors not already on the free list, barn door tracts etc. Relief from tariffs and sales tax on these items and on many others which we have not men-

tioned would constitute in total a very important saving to agriculture.

INDUSTRIAL SURVEY

Recently released by the Canadian National Railways is "An Industrial Survey on the Province of Prince Edward Island". This study is designed to provide information for those who may be interested in investing money, setting up industries or moving to the province. Without any doubt a great deal of painstaking work has gone into this publication which reveals a great variety of information on practically every aspect of our Island economy. The Canadian National Railways is to be highly commended for making available this valuable and highly informative analysis of our economy.

SMALL FARMS

The first night of Farm Forum dealt with some of the special problems related to the small farm. Generally the forums believed that farms were going to get larger. One forum suggested this would happen unless immigrants were brought in and took over the smaller farms. Labour limitations were held to be an important factor in holding down the size of farms.

Generally concern was expressed that the trend to larger farms was not going to be beneficial for the rural community, its schools and its churches. One forum suggested that unless farms could have an income of \$3,000 per year that it was going to be difficult to maintain their operation. Working together in production, buying and marketing was held to be one of the answers to saving the small farms.

RAIN AND MUD

Limited daylight hours, little

sunlight and almost continuous rain or drizzle are proving to be very effective in producing muddy conditions.

While frost would cure the problem many farmers are not ready for this solution as many fields of roots are still to be gathered in. In fact grain fields are still waiting for the harvester to appear.

PIG POPULATION

The regular quarterly survey of pigs on farms carried out on September 1 sets the number of pigs in Canada at 7,655,000 head, or 3 per cent above the September 1958 estimate of 6,849,000 head. A pertinent comparison is that of the June 1 estimate in 1959 which was 11 per cent above the June 1958 level. The September 1 pig population on farms in Eastern Canada is estimated at 3,780,000 head, which is 11 per cent higher than a year ago. In the West, the estimate of 3,275,000 pigs is 5 per cent below that of September 1, 1958.

U.S. BUTTER DOWN

The U.S. Department of Agriculture reports that butter holdings on October 1 were at a 12-year low. Reserves of butter on October 1 were reported at 92,263,000 pounds, compared with 76 million pounds in 1947 and 74 million pounds in 1946. With the exception of these two years, butter holdings at the first of October this year were the lowest since 1935. The high October 1 point was in 1954 with 488.6 million pounds.

United States butter stocks totaling 92 million pounds on October 1 were 37 per cent below holdings on that date last year and were 60 per cent below average.

WHO SET THE PRICE

The price of their products has always been a major concern of farmers and next Monday evening farm forum will deal with the topic "Where is the market place? How are prices set? Who set them?" For discussion will be the following questions:

1. How and where do you think

French Atom Bomb Proposal Brings Colonialism Charge

By JOSEPH MacSWEEN
Canadian Press Staff Writer
UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (CP) The issue of colonialism flared in angry exchanges last week as the United Nations debated France's plan to explode an atomic bomb in the Sahara desert.

Ismael Toure, brother of the president of newly-independent Guinea, tangled with French disarmament delegate Jules Moch after declaring that the French experiment was a "specific enterprise of colonial reconquest." Toure noted that Moch said the bomb was tiny in comparison with H-bombs possessed by Rus-

sia, the United States and Britain, then he asked: "Against whom does France plan to defend herself?" Moch won a rare laugh from delegates in the 22-member political committee when he replied scornfully: "Certainly not Guinea."

LIBERATION IS KEY
The African delegate said that Guinea's president Sekou Toure, in his address to the UN general

assembly last week, had said Africa's attitude toward the two great camps would be according to their answer to the question: "Are you for the liberation of Africa—yes or no."

It could be, said Ismael Toure, that France was seeking to "menace" dependent peoples seeking liberation in Africa. Explosion of a small atomic bomb "could only be effective at the scale of a colonial war."

In an obvious reference to the Algerian rebellion against France, Toure added that French President de Gaulle's term for this was "pacification operations." Colonial powers had often masked their aggressive aims by

claiming their actions to be defensive.

Moch said France had freely offered independence to Guinea and other African colonies and he was surprised to hear Toure mention territorial claims with regard to the "French departments of the Sahara."

OTHERS AGREE
Moch said the premier of the Malagasy Republic, formerly Madagascar, a member of the

French delegation, and other African representatives of the French community were in full agreement with the French position. Toure had been "carried away by his written eloquence."

Morocco later challenged the Madagascar premier's right to speak for Africa, saying the island is not part of the continent and adding:

"All that glitters is not gold and all that's black is not Africa."

HISTORIC MODEL
The first steam-operated fire engine appeared in 1853 at Cincinnati, Ohio.

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the prices are set for the main products you sell?

2. Do you think you are getting a fair market price for each of your products? If not, why not?

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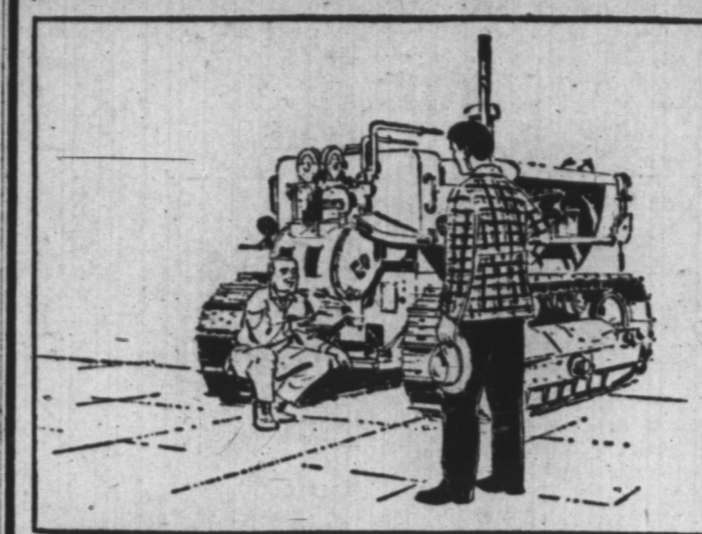
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