

Island News Page

Western and Central Districts

The Guardian, Charlottetown, Fri., April 22, 1966. 3

Plant Still Operating Despite Stoppage

GEORGETOWN — Work at Gulf Garden Foods Limited plant continued through the day, yesterday, and resumes today despite work stoppage by a number of female employees on Thursday.

Male workers who are involved in work stoppage were off the production lines for approximately one hour and then continued to work without further interruption. At no time were the workers employed on the shore crew or those of the maintenance crew involved. Following the 10 a.m. coffee break, approximately 36 men and 52 female employees were refusing to return to work. Not all female workers were involved and a number of those involved at the time later returned to work.

The forenoon dispute was temporarily resolved when management addressed the workers in the cafeteria immediately upon hearing of the work stoppage and invited the workers from the various departments involved to appoint representatives to meet with the management to discuss the problems involved and that in the meantime the workers returned to work.

Workers' demands involved a request for pay increases and also the question of work hours and commencement of overtime rates.

Female workers on production lines asked for what would amount to a 12 cent an hour increase in pay. This was turned down by management who pointed out that when the incentive program, soon to be inaugurated, went into effect, it would result in increased earning power.

The representatives of the various departments met at one o'clock with the workers and all male employees and a number of female workers immediately resumed work. The remainder of female employees then left work and the plant.

A Findus International cost accountant is presently in Georgetown with the company until May 15 working on details of an incentive program which the company is undertaking to put into effect by May 15. This would mean workers would have a guaranteed wage per hour and it will give them the opportunity of obtaining greater take-home-pay based on individual production in excess of a minimum production figure which is in the process of being established and this incentive program will apply to all production line workers.

Workers of the plant work a 44-hour week, Monday through Thursday. They work a 9 hour day and work eight hours on Friday. Overtime rates are paid after nine hours of work on Mondays through to Thursdays and after eight hours on Fridays.

OVERTIME RATES
All work on Saturday is at overtime rates, overtime rates are classified at time and a half.

Rates of pay at the plant are male general workers at the rate of \$1 per hour. Skilled female employees at 75 cents per hour, female trainees at 67 cents per hour for a three-week period or less time than three weeks if qualified sooner.

A number of female skinning machine operators are paid 87 cents to 94 cents per hour. Workers are being recruited and production will continue at the plant with work also scheduled for all day on Saturday as trawlers are landing large catches of fish at Georgetown.

produce sales of \$10,000 or more. Those with lesser sales declined in number and in total production, Mr. Hunt told the seminar.

The main criticism of Island farming operations is that farmers here have not kept pace with other places in the application of technological changes. The reference was to such things as fertilizer, liming and other modern techniques, to taking advantage of modern mechanized equipment.

An active spirit of interest and an unusual amount of discussion featured the meeting. One man said he had "called at three homes this morning". He had found everybody in bed at all three places "and they are supposed to be farmers," the man said in a critical vein.

WORK IMPRESSIVE
This brought the observation from Mr. Hunt that South American students attending universities in the United States are most deeply impressed with "how hard the people work."

This aspect of American life has made a deeper impression than all of the skyscrapers, tremendous centres of population and all of the other unusual attractions, Mr. Hunt said he has been told by South American students to whom he has talked.

Magr. J. A. Sullivan, Souris asked "What is involved in stepping from one level of production to the higher level suggested?"

The reply included getting 8,000 pounds of milk from a cow instead of 6,000—increasing the herd production; a better knowledge of fertilizer needs and application of that knowledge, improved knowledge in the whole field of agriculture.

"We have no increase in technology in the next five years to the extent that it took Ontario farmers 30 years," Mr. Hunt suggested.

Discussing the "Plan for Community Development" Father MacDonald said the term implies group effort by an organized group rather than by individuals.

In the period of 30 years and more ago the rural community was pretty well self sustaining. They shopped in the area, they were educated in the district; there was a feeling of co-operation among the people. The community of those that period was a closely knit group.

Now all of that is changed with huge school units—the list-

ed the nearby Montague Regional High School as an example—accommodating students from long distances away and super large super markets replacing the country district stores.

The old spirit of community co-operation has gone. "How do we pull those people back together, Father MacDonald challenged.

NO DEFEATISM
"We must avoid a spirit of defeatism at all times. We must operate on the idea that something can be done to improve the lot of any citizen," he emphasized.

Leadership and guidance should be provided for community development groups but the initiative should come from them. There should be no attempt at coercion, or dictating what should be done suggested Father MacDonald who made an exhaustive review of the subject.

Rudi Dallensbach—he was one of the many people who entered into a lively discussion during the meeting—put it this way: "The government cannot organize Community Schools, the initiative must come from the people in the community. The government, he observed, can help provide the facilities, and in some case an instructor or two."

This has been done by the government in the schools which have been conducted the past winter, he explained.

Others participating in discussions of the talks included Rev. Donald MacLennan, Mt. Stewart; Douglas MacFarlane, Fernwood; Kenneth MacLean Earl Cannon, St. Eleanors; Agriculture Minister MacRae; Magr. Sullivan, Reid Sangster, Rev. Frank Lacey, York—his secretary of the council—Paul Kingsbury chairman of the trustee board, Montague Regional High School and many others.



TROOPS INSPECTED

Major-General G. A. Turcotte, CD, general officer commanding Eastern Command

Headquarters, Halifax, made an inspection of the troops from the P.E.I. Regiment, the 5 Signal Regiment and the 5 Medical Company at the

Queen Charlotte Armouries last night. Seen above are members of the inspecting party (FROM THE LEFT), Major General G.A. Turcotte,

CD; Col. D.J. MacCormack, militia adviser for P.E.I. and Lt. Col. H.R. Hennessey, officer commanding 5 Signal Regiment.



PREPARING FOR ADDRESS

James Little, assistant curator of the Confederation Centre Gallery (LEFT) and Moncrieff Williamson, Confederation Centre Gallery director, re-arrange slides that Mr.

Williamson employed in his illustrated address at the Confederation Centre lecture theatre last night. Mr. Williamson spoke on portraiture in painting a lecture that he delivered

earlier this year when he was the inaugural speaker in the opening of a new theatre at the Department of Fine Arts of the University of Alberta in Calgary.

Accused Pleads Not Guilty In Queens County Court

The case of Barry Joseph Gass of Charlottetown, charged with break, entry and theft, opened yesterday in Queens County Criminal Court before Judge C. St. Clair Trainor.

The accused is charged in connection with a break at Nelson's Service Station in Cherry Valley on October 20, 1965.

A plea of not guilty was entered by the accused through his counsel D. Frank Sigsworth.

Conducting the prosecution Crown Attorney Alan Scates, called six witnesses: Reginald Taylor, Charlottetown jeweller; Edison Nelson of Cherry Valley, service station operator; Mrs. Edison Nelson; Cst. D.E. Shears, Cpl. C.A.J. Bungay; and Cst. H.W. Burns, all of the Charlottetown detachment of the RCMP.

IDENTIFIES WATCH
Mr. Taylor, in his evidence explained he was a jeweller for 30 years and when shown a ladies wrist watch by Mr. Scates, he identified it as one similar to those sold only by Taylor's Jewellery Store. He further identified the box the watch was in and a guarantee certificate. He testified he had signed the guarantee himself and that his store records disclosed the watch covered by the guarantee was sold five years ago, and that a number on the guarantee corresponded to a number placed on the back of the watch.

Mr. Scates further questioning brought out that other records made it further possible for Mr. Taylor to further recognize the watch.

DEFENCE EXAMINATION
Under lengthy cross-examination by defence counsel, Mr. Taylor testified, in reply to Mr. Sigsworth's request that he re-examine the number on the back of the watch through a jeweller's eyepiece, that the number on the guarantee and the number on the watch were not exactly the same. Further examination by Mr. Sigsworth adduced evidence that the back of the watch was detachable and that the back on which the numbers appeared could possibly be fitted on the back of another watch by mistake during repair. Concluding his exhaustive cross-examination, Mr. Sigsworth was told by Mr. Taylor that it was possible that this was not the same watch which he sold.

DEATHS
TROWSDALE — At the Prince Edward Island Hospital on April 21st, 1966, Joseph F. Trowsdale age 70 years. Remains will rest at the Dawson Funeral Home Crapaud, until noon on Saturday, April 23rd, then to Crapaud United Church for funeral service commencing at 2 p.m. Interment in Crapaud Peoples Cemetery. Visiting hours at the Funeral Home 3 to 5 and 7 to 10 p.m. Masonic Service will be held in the funeral home on Friday evening at 8 p.m. All Masons invited to attend.

CURRIE — At Nine Mile Creek Thursday, April 21, 1966 of Mrs. Margaret Currie, wife of Robert Currie in her 64th year. Remains were transferred from the MacLean Funeral Home to the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Campbell, Funeral, Saturday, April 23 from the New Dominion United Church with service commencing at 2 p.m. Interment in the Church Cemetery.

O'BRIEN — At the Prince Edward Island Hospital on Wednesday, April 20, 1966, of James A. O'Brien, 51 Elm Avenue, age 75 years. Remains are resting this afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Hennessey Funeral Home from where the funeral will take place on Saturday morning leaving the funeral home at 11:15 to the Church of the Most Holy Redeemer for Requiem High Mass at 11:30. Interment in the Catholic cemetery.

FORD — At the P.E.I. Hospital April 20th, 1966, Henry W. Ford, of 14 Douglas St. in his 74th year. The remains are resting at the Cutcliffe Funeral Home where funeral service will be held on Friday, service commencing at 2 p.m. Remains will be placed in the Cutcliffe Receiving Vault later to be interred in Winslow South cemetery.

PETRIE — At the Prince Edward Island Hospital on April 20, 1966 of Mrs. Alex Petrie of Suffolk and formerly of Charlottetown in her 63rd year. Resting at the Cutcliffe Funeral Home until noon Saturday, then to Spring Park United Church, service commencing at 1:30 p.m. Interment in Floral Hills Memorial Gardens.

Mr. Edison gave evidence that he locked the service station the previous night and that the next day a window was broken in back, drawers were rifled and papers were strewn about. He said his wife's watch was missing, some money and perhaps other things. He said he bought his wife's watch at Taylor's.

Cross examination revealed that he couldn't definitely identify the watch.

Mrs. Nelson's evidence corroborated her husband's, and under cross-examination she admitted she could not positively identify the watch.

The evidence of the three RCMP constables gave details of the arrest and charging of the accused. Under cross-examination, Cst. Shears replied to defence counsel that he did not know whether the jacket worn by the accused in which the watch was found was the accused's jacket. Mr. Scates, at this point, closed the case for the prosecution and defence counsel Mr. Sigsworth, announced that the accused would make a statement or would any defence witnesses be called. The Court then granted Mr. Sigsworth's motion for adjournment for summation and argument until April 29 at 2:30.

WOODLAND BURNING
Forestry Department Attends 6 Grass Fires

Frank Gaudet, provincial forester, reported last night that the department of forestry trucks answered six calls between the hours of 10 a.m. and nine p.m. and that the Mount Stewart Fire Department was called to the scene of a bush fire at Tracadie Cross.

At 10 o'clock yesterday morning they were called to a brush fire at Malpeque Road and were called to Mermaid twice. Once at 11 a.m. and again at 2:00 p.m. Other brush fires were located at Mill Cove near Bedford, Fanningbrook, Cherry Hill and Blooming Point.

The call to Blooming Point came at about nine o'clock last night and it was reported that approximately 100 acres was ablaze. At one time Mr. Gaudet said woodland had been burning but was extinguished by 10:30. However, at the time of this report the fire was still going.

He said that most of the fires resulted from people burning grass and shrubs in which the fire got out of control. However very little woodland was damaged and most of the fires concentrated in grassy areas but some undergrowth was damaged.

Winds approximately 15 miles per hour hampered the fighting of the fires all day and later in the afternoon increasing winds made the task even more difficult. Mr. Gaudet said that the conditions for burning grass were not favorable due to the dry conditions and that if people were to attempt to burn fields or such they should confine their attempts to days which are calm. He added, sufficient fire fighting equipment and personnel should be available when such an attempt was made.

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