

# Possible \$1 million industry on Island's horizon in flux

A mid-October proposal to establish a fax industry here is the latest in a series of "last count" at the Island's farm-ers up to \$1,000,000 additional revenue in a couple years time—was the most exciting suggestion in the agricultural field heard last year.

The proposal was made by Zeger Salome of Bedeque who applied for government aid in establishing a fax process in a plant in this province, probably at Summerside, and the proposal is still under consideration in Agriculture Minister Andrew MacIver's office.

More information is being sought on the prospects for the type of industry proposed, the minister explains.

Melis Visser, Grevendeld Holland who is a member of a firm that handles large quantities of wax and the linen made from it in Europe said the Island proposal is still under consideration. Mr. Salome had sent him samples—was slightly better than anything made in Europe.

**10,000 ACRES**  
The crop would set the farmer from \$5 to \$100 an acre, the Salome-Visser team said, and Island farmers may be producing 4,000 to 10,000 acres in a couple of years time, it was stated at the time.

Progress made in quality potato production through the establishment of the F.L.I. Seed Potato farm on Fox Island in Caspeur's Bay is one of the most exciting prospects in the country.

It is the aim of the Seed Potato Certification service that in the course of a few years all certified seed potatoes grown in the province will have originated from the high quality seed grown at this farm, it has been learned from Glen Ramsay, district inspector for the Canada department of agriculture.

The greatest care possible is exercised in the operation of the seed farm, as all stock is eye-indexed and all tubers planted on the farm for multiplication are microscopically examined for freedom from disease. All stock is planted by the tuberculin method and supervision by the plant protection division over seed treatment, time of planting, cultivation, roguing, curing program, harvesting, grading and storing of the crop.

**SEBAGOES LED**  
In 1962 there were 20 acres of Sebagoes, and one acre each of Kennebec, Irish Cobbler and



ZEGER SALOME, BEDEQUE AND MELIS VISSER, HOLLAND

Hunter varieties grown, plus eye-index plots of each variety. In 1962 plantings were 10 acres Sebagoes, 13 acres Kennebec, two and one-quarter of Hunter plus eye-index plots.

Eye-index plots of Fundy, Irish Cobbler, Red Pontiac, Cherokee and Katahdin varieties were also grown for multiplication.

Most significant single development in Prince Edward Island agriculture last year was probably the tremendous 60.4 per cent Grade A hogs marketed in December which played a part in the all-time record of 56.1 per cent of top grade hog carcasses marketed here in 1962, a record for Canada as well as for P.E.I.

The December top quality output is all the more remarkable when compared with the 49.9 per cent of "A" carcasses which had provincial livestock men worried for a time in December of 1962. The number of animals shipped last December was also up, with 1,400 more hogs going to market than in the same month the previous year.

Several reasons are advanced for the change, but most of the credit goes to the improved breeding program resulting from the commercial breeders organization which expressed concern early last year over the

drop in quality, and received carcasses was 49.8 which compares with 49.7 in the previous year.

**QUALIFIED Sires**  
H. C. Hearty, senior livestock fieldman, Canada department of agriculture, said recently that there were 60 per cent more hogs in the province last year than in 1962.

"If we can maintain that pace of improvement for the next few years, we'll be on a par with the cattlemen" said Mr. Hearty. Some 82 per cent of all beef and dairy cattle bred in the province last year, were bred to qualified sires, it was explained.

The quality of market hogs shipped from Island farms in 1963 was almost one full percentage point better than the previous year, with last year's 56.1 per cent comparing with the 55.2 in 1962.

There were 79,183 hogs shipped from P.E.I. last year which is up 1,891 over the previous year. This compares with 69,543 in Nova Scotia, up 3,024 from 1962 and the percentage of "A" carcasses was 51.4 which is next to P.E.I. in the national ratings.

New Brunswick shipped 37,061 hogs last year, down slightly in number from the previous year and their percentage of top car-

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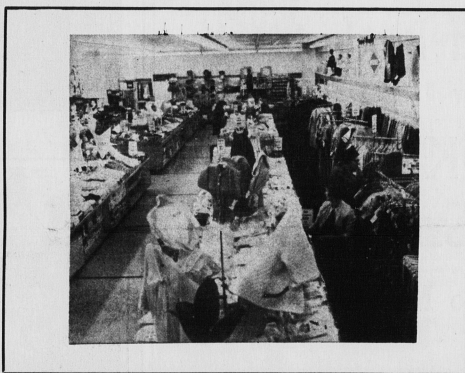
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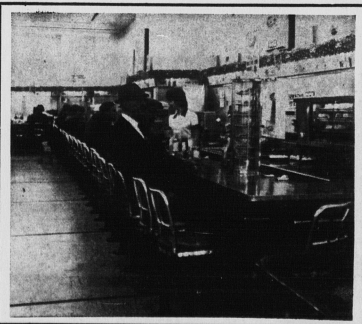


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