

THE GUARDIAN

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Wool Market Situation

Noting that Canada's wool-clip in 1951 was slightly over nine million pounds while domestic disappearance of wool totalled over eighty-seven millions, a bulletin issued by the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa last summer pointed out that at least twelve million sheep would be required to meet home wool needs. Since the sheep population is now only about two million there is ample room for expansion before the point is reached where heavy importation of wool is not required to meet the demands of Canadian mills.

The bulletin, incidentally, paid tribute to Canada's "most modern and accurate wool-grading system, leading all countries in grading and pricing methods." It also quoted the opinion of many now interested in this almost forgotten phase of livestock production, that "sheep-raising has an almost unlimited future for generations to come."

Returns on the 1952 wool-clip in Canada, however, have been disappointing. The situation is reviewed in the current issue of "The Canadian Wool Grower". Sizeable sales were made at the comparatively favorable prices that prevailed prior to the collapse in July, but since then the demand for all types of wool in all principal marketing centres has been limited. In view of the fact that wool is recognized as the choicest of all fibres, it seems almost unbelievable that not one type among the many included in Canadian shipments has been readily saleable during the summer months.

Wool producers, it is suggested, can do much to meet the challenge of man-made fibres that have been concocted by various processes to dethrone wool from its pedestal as the finest fibre available to manufacturers of clothing and other fabrics. These marauding synthetics beat wool in one respect—they are uniform in texture and in color. Flock-owners, then, must do the best they can to look after their sheep and to so prepare the fleeces for market, that colored fibres and foreign matter are completely removed from the rolled and tied fleece. Manufacturers, it is predicted, will react favorably if sheep-owners co-operate with wool handlers in keeping their product up to a high standard. Price, of course, also will be a determining factor but mill-owners are well aware of the fact that the consumer-public demands that clothing and other items must be made from wool. Sheepmen can boost their own industry, too, by insisting on woollens when they buy clothing.

British Press Reaction

The performance of General Eisenhower as a presidential candidate in the United States has been disillusioning to many of his countrymen who had expected firm, enlightened leadership from him. In Europe, with its concern about Washington's international policies, the shift of sentiment has moved even more rapidly away from the man who was highly regarded as commander of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's armies. The London Economist, among a number of British periodicals and newspapers, is now openly hoping for Governor Stevenson's victory.

The Economist tries to maintain a proper non-partisan front, yet it notes as a matter of fact that while "Western Europe, in July, was solid Eisenhower territory" there has since been "a subtle change in atmosphere." "What has set people wondering," it adds, "is the emerging signs that Mr. Eisenhower the politician is a different man from General Eisenhower the architect of a united victory." The hope has faded that, if no expert on public affairs, the General would be "solid as a rock on all matters of principle." It cannot be squared with the Republican candidate's temporizing with Taft isolationism, McCarthy slanders, and the Nixon appeal to mass emotion.

On the other hand, Governor Stevenson's speeches "have made a great impression, not simply for their grace and eloquence but also for the evidence they have given of a man who has thought things through." The European mental image of "the best man" to win "is no longer as clear a reflection as it was of one familiar physiognomy."

The Times of London gives similar reasons for Europe's "shaken" faith in General Eisenhower and expresses misgivings about

the quality of his political leadership. Perhaps in the United States, too, recent experiences have reinforced the strong traditional sentiment against generals as politicians.

Korean Battle Casualties

Of the sixty member nations of the United Nations, only sixteen have sent troops to Korea. Of these only one, the United States, has sent them on any substantial scale. A recent breakdown of battle casualties in Korea showed that 61.5 per cent had been sustained by the South Koreans (who are not members of UN), 35 per cent by the Americans, and 3.5 per cent by the other UN forces.

These statistics lend point to the statements made in New York last week by Mr. John D. Hickerson, U. S. Assistant Secretary of State. Speaking to the American Association for the United Nations, Mr. Hickerson said frankly that the Americans, along with the South Koreans, were bearing "a disproportionate share of the military burden" in that country. Calling for the other UN countries to send more troops, he declared: "Each nation desiring the protection of such a system (collective security) must be prepared to share proportionately the sacrifices and the risks. Each must be willing to make the most precious contribution that can be made—manpower, human lives."

Mr. Hickerson was not speaking to Britain and France, which, in addition to sending troops to Korea, are deeply engaged in similar actions themselves—the British in Malaya, the French in Indo-China. Neither, it may be supposed, was he speaking to such countries as Canada and Australia, Greece and Turkey, whose forces, albeit small, have acquitted themselves well. Quite obviously, suggests an exchange, Mr. Hickerson was appealing to those UN countries which have sent no troops to Korea at all. The worst offenders are the South American countries. One might suppose that they, more than all others, would be anxious to take an active part in resisting Communist aggression. But only one of them, Colombia, has contributed manpower to the Korean campaign. The rest have sent supplies—or nothing at all.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The rivalry of irons and rocks in Canadian curling has been decided almost everywhere in favour of the granite product of Ailsa Craig in the Firth of Clyde. Irons, however, continue to be used in some of the bonspiels, particularly in Montreal.

A fish found in Central American lakes and rivers uses bifocals, says the National Geographic Society's new Book of Fishes. With the upper halves of its two eyes out of water it looks around for floating food. With the shortsighted lower halves submerged it keeps alert for sub-marine enemies.

Federal taxation increased 718 per cent, provincial 303 per cent and municipal only 50 per cent between 1930 and 1948 according to Ottawa's Mayor Charlotte Whitton. Considering the growth of municipalities during that period, compared with the general population increase, Mayor Whitton's demand for a revision of taxing powers seems fully justified.

Young Progressive Conservatives are playing host at Summerside today to Canada's newest Provincial Premier, the Hon. Hugh John Flemming, at their annual meeting. The result of New Brunswick's election on September 22 makes Mr. Flemming an inspiring figure for youthful Progressive-Conservatives even apart from his personal qualities.

Canadians are engaged in making aerial maps in Pakistan and in South American countries, we are reminded by the well-known speaker, Mr. John Fisher. This country acquired a vast amount of skill and information in the course of making aerial photographic maps of the whole country and should take the lead in providing a similar service all over the world.

The new constitution of the Prince Edward Island Temperance Federation includes the securing of the most effective legislation against the traffic in intoxicating liquors amongst its objects. That puts the Federation in accord with many who wish to deal effectively with the problem of alcohol but are far from convinced that a return to prohibition would be the answer.

James Boswell, Scottish author, biographer of Samuel Johnson, was born this date 1740. He studied law at Glasgow and Utrecht and travelled from the latter place to Berlin and Geneva, then to Italy and Corsica before returning to England. Macaulay held him in low regard and explained his triumph as a biographer on the supposition of inspired idiocy. It has taken long for scholars to overcome their resulting prejudices.

Unlikely Developments



Notes By The Way

The British atomic bomb seems to have been a singularly unpleasant specimen of the bomb species. What a pity all this ingenuity has to be applied to engines of destruction!—Ottawa Journal.

Calgary has a young man of Chinese descent as the president of its Junior Chamber of Commerce. But Calgary's arch rival to the north can shrug that off. Edmonton has Mr. Normie Kwong who for football purposes, oddly enough, calls himself an Eskimo.—Ottawa Citizen.

There's 8,000,000,000 tons of gold in the world's oceans. It's free for the taking, but the taking is prohibitively expensive. That's the catch, but despite past failures to "mine" some of that gold in the last century there still are the hopefuls—in the last few years three U. S. patents have been filed on new methods of extraction.—Hamilton Spectator.

An American who insists that the British and French people show "a strong sentiment" for the election of Governor Stevenson is really doing a first-class job for General Eisenhower. The Americans resent, as Canadians do, anything that could be construed—or misconstrued—as interference by outsiders in their private affairs.—Ottawa Journal.

In too many tax evasion cases the punishment is only nominal, no discouragement to those who seek to evade their just dues. Indeed, such light fines are an actual encouragement inasmuch as dishonest persons will take a chance on saving thousands in taxes if they think they will pay only a light penalty if detected.—Windsor Star.

Too often municipal councils feel they must hush-hush "ticklish" problems. This is not only their duty or their right. As public trustees, councils should act in the best interests of their municipalities, take the public into account. Compare that with the Guernsey's height of 50 inches and weight of 1,150 pounds. While the Guernsey gives five gallons of milk a day, the Dexter gives only two.

One great advantage of a mid-range automobile is the number of miles it can go on a gallon of gas. So, too, the Dexter admits of appreciable savings of "fuel". Where a Guernsey needs two acres of pasture and from three to four tons of supplemental hay a year, a Dexter can get along on one acre of pasture and one ton of hay.

What is more, the Dexter does not have to be fed on alfalfa and clover. It is said to have a taste for weeds, including wild grasses, thistles, nettles and even poison ivy.

The Poets' Corner

IDLE HANDS

"Idle hands find mischief," My grandma used to say, "Idle hands are devil's aids—They stray." She was exquisitely old. When she came to stay.

Because I was then gawky young And she was ageless grace— A figurine in ruffled lengths Of rosepoint lace— I loved her and I feared her— And ran from her embrace—

Ran from her embrace, Then brought her all my toys. And would have given her my life Had I the choice. I loved her and I feared her— I loved and feared her voice.

"Idle hands find mischief," My grandma used to say, Her little hands were humming-birds. Humming-birds in May, "Idle hands are devil's aids—They stray."

Once I went to look for her, They told me she had died; Her hands that day were winter leaves— I ran away and cried, I ran away because her hands Changed to leaves and died.

So many years, so many years, I'd brought their autumn gold— Yet I remember how she came Exquisitely old, And how I found her in her bed— Her small hands winter-cold.—Sophie Himmel

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

TEMPERANCE MEETING

"A public meeting, having in view the formation of a new division of the Order of the Sons of Temperance, was held in the Winsloe Road (South) school house on Thursday evening. William Bryenton, Esq., was appointed chairman, and R. Locke, secretary. The chairman, after stating the object of the meeting, called on the Grand Scribe, J. B. Cooper, Esq., and the Provincial Deputy, Mr. J. J. Chappell, both of whom spoke briefly. "Hold-fast" Division, No. 123, was then formally established with 22 charter members. The following are the officers: W. P. Frederick Horn; W. A. E. Holman; R. S. J. Diamond; A. R. S. Geo. Pickard; Ch. Richard Locke; C. George Peardon; A. C. S. Holman; I. S. George Diamond; F. S. W. Bryenton O.S.; C. Williams; T. J. Holman; P. W. P. C. Bryenton." —The Examiner, 1 a.m. 12, 1951

Midget Milker

(Baltimore Sun)

There is a growing demand in this country for useful objects in small sizes. We have dwarf fruit trees and midget automobiles. We enjoy the benefits of baby tractors, household elevators and one-room air conditioning plants. We have developed units just large enough for a family. We have miniature turkeys and watermelons bred to fit into refrigerators. It ought not therefore be surprising to learn that we now have a miniature cow which is said to be ideally suited to a domestic establishment in the suburbs. The breed of cow in question is not new. It is described as a native of the mountains of Ireland. It is named the Dexter, and is being tried out on farms in Westchester county New York, and in Connecticut. The Dexter is a pretty little animal not much larger than a Shetland pony. It comes in black or red, stands 28 inches high to the shoulder and weighs around

The Public Forum

MORE HOME THOUGHTS FROM ABROAD

Sir—A glorious day to celebrate "United Nations Day" after much of dark, dull weather; and I hope it is even more beautiful on Prince Edward Island! Blueberries comprised the main topic of my last letter, but they are past history at least until another year, and as such, according to a learned and fine speaker we are privileged to hear (almost too often of late) they must be relegated to the past with the moss-grown Republicans and dinosaurs. Nevertheless perhaps it might be permissible to delve into the dead past long enough to say I learned with interest that what was once just fun for youngsters picking blueberries, and helping out with the family larder had turned into an industry, and had possibilities of becoming a much greater one in the not too-distant future.

To return to modernity and the present, or the near so, I note the harvest has all been garnered in, and already the day of "Thanksgiving" is past on the Island. Seema early when used to the latter part of November. However the time matters not, but only the thankful spirit which I feel—like Christmas—should last the whole year through. We in this western world, particularly the North American continent, are so appreciative our goodly heritage—our blessings are past numbering. Before I go any further I wish to say how much I enjoyed Mr. Hill's poem on Thanksgiving. The first thing I look for in any magazine, or newspaper, is what it affords in the poetry line. Our daily paper has that column on the back page, also the editorial, so I read the paper backwards, so to speak.

October is such a lovely month in Prince Edward Island. As I look back I believe it was my favorite in many ways. It seemed though old "Mother Nature", in the culmination of her year unwilling to relinquish to the inevitable, put forth, what one might term, a superhuman effort in the bright radiance of gay coloring of the leaves and autumn flowers; and in the slip in the investigating air which gave one such a sense of well-being. Then the longer evenings meant open fires, books, games, laughter and fun, to say nothing of the finest flavored apples I have ever tasted. Apples cannot have good flavor without plenty of frost. The Delicious (name) apples we get here from the Yakima Valley, in Washington, although fair as to flavor, cannot hold a candle to the Bishop Pippin and Russet of other days. We had barrels of them for fall and winter use; then when they were all gone, as all good things go, we had dried apples for spring and summer cooking. The latter made wonderful pies, but they were so hard and sour that one, if foolish enough to taste them during a quick, hard frost, might find one's visage slightly changed and less prepossessing, so I suppose the dried was a must to make them edible.

Dr. Pidgeon's recent article on the New Translation of the Bible interested me greatly, especially his "Trust your scholars", and that Dr. Taylor was among the learned who helped with the translation. It is as drinking in how such revered and outstanding theologians feel about the Revised Version, which has entailed untiring and painstaking effort, of the most brilliant intellects and finest Christians of the era, to make God's messages more understandable to mankind. Only Christian fortitude and real zeal could have had the patience for such a gargantuan task. Already small, prejudiced minds are condemning and criticizing, perhaps without even being familiar with its contents. Dr. John Sutherland Bonnell was recent sermon on "National Vespers" said: "The King James version three hundred and forty-one years ago, in 1611, got as much criticism as the revised version will today". Who does not accept that translation now? People are so afraid of change! Jesus was the greatest psychologist the world has ever known and he used the whole "status quo". Lloyd Douglas said he wrote "The Robe" because he was afraid of change, but we can no more stop change than we can control the tides of the sea.

I note the controversy over education still goes on, i.e. languages to teach or not to teach, cultural vs. factual or scientific? Although not qualified probably to give an opinion pro or con, I should like to add my two-cents worth. Education is the easiest thing to carry out. Without it in this competitive world it is almost impossible to make the grade, or even make a start up the ladder. Methods of teaching are very different here, at least from my day. Children are not taught their letters, but sight reading, or becoming familiarized with objects. They learn to read well much more quickly. In fact six and seven year olds amaze one with the facility with which they master the art. Language, other than English, here in the Bay Area schools to date has not been considered until Junior High, much later than in P.E.I. in by-gone days. We were being taught a smattering of Latin and French at the age of ten, or eleven before we were making our foundation in English. What was one expect when our teachers were little more than children themselves, sometimes only sixteen and seventeen, and after only one year in Prince of Wales? Some were fine, but others could not help a with even, simple arithmetic problems.

I read with interest the Summerside teacher's letter re Latin and "ds" reply. Children cannot realize that all subjects are correlated, if know I did not think (paraphrasing) that the test is not in one's should, and point out the necessity of studying subjects which they might not like, or feel they needed for their particular vocation in life. During the last war, when so many youths were working in the shipyards during their vacations, they were making more money than their elders. I remember one boy who had just turned eighteen and graduated from High School. His friends and some of his relatives advised him to stay with the war plant and make money while the making was good. His reply was: "There are two things no one, and nothing can take away from me—character and education—I am going to university". I do not think he has ever regretted that decision, though his college course was interrupted for several years by his military enlistment in the service of his country and doing his bit; as he says: "I cannot have the other boys doing my fighting for me". The old Scotch spirit that would almost consider it a disgrace to be drafted; although today we look on war so differently as it is such a senseless, useless evil.

My advice to youth would be, get all the college education you possibly can, but do not stop there as it is only the beginning—the training of the mind to think. There is really no excuse for any one who can read to be unimpaired with all the access to books in free libraries, worthwhile radio programs, and other sources of information. Schools of higher learning cannot give one special talents, but they can at least develop those one has, and the most brilliant ideas in the mechanics of expression are useless, if I know that to my sorrow, not that my ideas are special, but more formal education would have helped greatly to enable me to express the wondrous beauty I see and feel.

With all the cruel handicaps war has inflicted on our youth, people are coming to see that these physical bodies of ours are not nearly as important as the mind and spirit. They are only the homes in which we live, and only important in the sense that dwelling places are. The real education many rising above the severest handicaps—has taught us that there are practically no limits to the power of mind over matter, providing one has tenacity and an undaunted spirit. The most handicapped far outstrip the mechanically gifted and many other fields as well. This old Spanish proverb might be appropriate here: "The pleasures of the senses pass quickly; those of the heart become sorrows, but those of the mind are ever with us, even to the end of our journey." Well, this is the end of a too-long letter. I have already been given far too much space for a foreigner (furriner), but thanks a million anyway; and the best as always for P.E.I. and "The Guardian" which has contained many worthwhile articles and fine, un-biased editorials, since I last sent a message across the miles.

I am, Sir, etc. G. S. GORDON (Mrs. D. J.) Oakland, 2, California.

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