

FEDERATION NEWSLETTER

# Annual Brief Important To Agricultural Industry

By J. LINCOLN DEWAR  
FEDERATION BRIEF

For almost 25 years the Federation of Agriculture has been gathering up its ideas and recommendations in the form of a brief and presenting it to, for many years, the Members of the Legislature and more recently to the Executive Council and the Agricultural Committee.

Last night the presentation was made to the Executive Council.

This exercise is one to which the Federation attaches a great deal of importance. In a sense it represents a statement on the state of agriculture in the province and makes recommendations regarding changes which might be held beneficial. It would probably be a fair assessment to say that action has not been rapid in respect to many of those requests but going back over the years a surprising number have been acted upon. Possibly the more important examples are rural electrification, veterinary service policy, and the Farm Establishment Board, the latter it may be remarked was badly needed ten years before it actually came into being.

This year's brief which the press will likely be commenting on emphasizes the rather strong feeling of farmers with respect to tax discrimination in a number of areas and the feeling that much more is needed in the way of planning for land and in making adjustments for a new era in agriculture, an era which is rushing towards us at unusual speed.

**BACK ORDER**

Very frequently in attempting to purchase some farm supply item or some part for a machine the clerk checks the bin and a parts book and a supply card and with a look of great satisfaction announces that the item in question has been "back ordered". Translated into quite plain English the item is not in stock but this inconvenience is not we feel to be taken to heart because everything is justified by the term "back order".

No one has ever bothered to explain to us what the phrase means. We suspect it might be any of the following:

A. The part is out of stock and has not been ordered.  
B. It was out of stock six weeks before it was ordered.  
C. It has been ordered and may be on the way.  
D. It actually has been ordered and the supplier has also back ordered it to the manufacturer. This sort of back passing is, of course, very satisfying to everyone but the world-be purchaser who just feels out of order.

**CATTLE PROSPECTS**

Looking ahead for the next few years the prospects for cattle both beef and dairy appear to be the best for some years. First of all there is a quite strong feeling that the payment for \$4 milk will be met, if not, there is going to be real disappointment and we predict a marked cutback in dairy production.

With strengthening beef prices there will be a tendency to move dairy heifers out of the herd into the meat trade, this can be an important factor in reducing the size of Canada's dairy herd.

There is expected to be a strong demand for dairy cattle in Canada both for export and domestically and here we would suggest to cattle people whether they are selling beef or dairy stock that there is every prospect of much stronger prices. Good dairy cows should be worth substantially more this spring than a year ago even up to \$100 more. Feeder cattle should command better prices and any kind of a good calf is going to be in fairly strong demand.

We realize that for some farmers this is proving to be a difficult winter with scarcity of cattle feed and bedding but this would appear to be the time to increase the herd rather than to cutback.

**BEEF MEETINGS**

Today Thursday the Beef Producers' Association is meeting at the Legion Home in Kensington. The guest speaker is George Hunt who is widely known in both Canada and the United States as a farm management consultant. Smart farmers will not pass up the opportunity of hearing Mr. Hunt's remarks.

There are signs that the beef business is starting to move now is the time to be doing some planning for the future.

The next beef meeting will be in Souris on Monday, March 7. There will be a later announcement in the press with details but in the meantime we would suggest that Eastern cattlemen keep the date in mind.

**DEHORNING**

Finally the writer has gotten around perhaps ten years too late to making a start in dehorning calves. After having invested in an electric dehorner we proceeded to test our skill on six calves. Only time will tell how well the operation was done but we are hoping for the best and would suggest that no great skill or courage is involved. Basic equipment consists of the household scissors to clip the hair around the horns, someone to help hold the animal and the dehorner. We are now convinced the time has come to make war on horns no matter where they are to be found.

**FARM PRODUCTION**

Based on a statement made by an authority that we are not inclined to question we learn that Prince Edward Island is one of the few places where

there is good agricultural potential and where total farm production has actually declined since 1949. Why this should have happened in a province so richly endowed and situated in a deficit area for practically all feed products in a real puzzle. We do not intend to discuss

**U.S. Forces Not Overtaxed By S. Viet Nam**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara said Wednesday that even with about 300,000 U.S. fighting men in Southeast Asia "we are fully capable of meeting our commitments elsewhere in the world."

McNamara issued a report on U.S. readiness in response to recent press articles which he said "give the impression" that because of deployments in Southeast Asia the United States "is now militarily overextended and would not be able to meet other contingencies."

"This allegation, if true,

this matter at any length or to seek reasons or to place blame but clearly the situation is not one that reflects very much credit on our industry. However, the situation mentioned is one which should be the cause of very serious concern and the cause for action to reverse the trend.

would indeed represent a serious situation," McNamara said. "But it is not true."

The defence secretary said that "far from overextending ourselves, we have actually strengthened our military position."

**HAS 'GREAT' RESERVES**

The U.S. secretary said, still has "great untapped resources upon which we can quickly call to meet any other major contingencies which may confront us in the future."

It is essential that this be clearly understood by friend and foe alike, McNamara said, "so that there may be no miscalculation as to our capabilities to meet our commitments anywhere in the world and to safeguard our national security and other vital interests."

McNamara said the United

States currently has a total active duty military strength of nearly 3,000,000 men, plus about 1,000,000 receiving regular training in the various armed forces reserves.

U.S. forces in Southeast Asia represent only about 10 per cent of the active duty strength, McNamara said.

**GETS FEDERAL POST**

OTTAWA (CP) — William F. Nelson, 41, a native of Toronto, has been appointed director of personnel administration with the federal works department, it is announced. A graduate of Queen's University in psychology, Mr. Nelson spent more than 10 years in senior personnel positions with major industrial firms before entering the civil service a year ago.

**COMETS ARE ELASTIC**

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**Straw Shopping Bags**

Lined, double handle. each **1.69**

**Foam Pieces**

18 x 18 x 1, for upholstering chairs etc. each **1.79**

**Fingering Yarn**

3 Ply 1 oz. balls, assorted colors. each **48¢**

**Shower Curtains**

White ground with coloured flower design, "Pearl Rose". Shower 72 x 72. **4.33**

**Chest Expander**

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