

# AGRICULTURAL NEWS

P. E. I. Department of Agriculture

## ROYAL WINTER FAIR

Exhibitors from all over the continent and every province in Canada are competing this week at the 27th Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto.

On Friday night last the British ambassador to the United States, Ambassador to the United States, reviewed the Guard of Honour, which was drawn up in the Arena and officially opened the Fair. Immediately following the Eaton Scholarship award was presented by Mrs. John Eaton, wife of the President, to a young man from the province of Alberta.

The features of the first evening's performance were nine six horse hitched, manned by some of the most skillful drivers. A class of nineteen harness ponies in which most of the top flight hackneys of North America were entered. The international jumping teams met in their first round of competition. The teams entered this year are the Republic of Ireland, Mexico, the United States of America and Canada, the United States and Mexico and to jump off three times before a winner was declared.

## ISLAND ENTRIES

Island entries at the Royal this year consist of Ayrshires, Jerseys, Guernseys, sheep, horses, poultry, potatoes and milk powder. The international championship award in potatoes went to Mr. Sylvester MacAulay of East Baitlic.

First prizes were awarded to Mr. John Simmonds, President Central Creameries, for milk powder. In the poultry division Mr. Dingwell MacLeod of Vernon River, received a first on each of the two boxes of capons submitted.

Mr. Almon Boswell of Marshfield, received the championship award for North Country Cheviot sheep.

Some of the Island exhibitors are: Ayrshires, Major MacRae and Sons and Col. F. I. Andrew. The Jersey exhibit is comprised of several breeders among which is Mr. Edson B. Much of North River. The Guernsey herd is being exhibited by Mr. Harold Palmer of Kensington. The standard bred horses are being exhibited by Mr. R. S. Humphrey, Kensington.

## P.E.I. BOOTH

One of the interesting booths, which is attracting a great deal of attention, is the Prince Edward Island potato booth. It displays various varieties grown in the Province and shows the various packs, which are used on the retail market. Each day one hundred and ten pounds of potatoes are distributed amongst the callers. Mr. T. E. Rowley of The P.E.I. Produce, Summerside, and Mr. W. E. Smith of the Provincial Department of Agriculture, are kept busy answering the many enquiries about P.E.I. potatoes and agriculture in general.

In the live mink show Mr. B.B. Jones of Charlottetown, is exhibiting the competition in this section is very keen.

In the live poultry show over eight thousand birds are competing in the various classes. It is of particular interest to see the many different breeds in the commercial birds. Included in this section are various game birds, cage birds such as budgerigars and canaries. The cavies or guinea pigs, and rabbits are also shown in this section.

One of the outstanding displays is in the floral section chrysanthemums and roses seem to be in the fore front. In the former they have developed varieties of enormous size and intense colour. The arrangement of the various flowers is wonderful. Of course, in addition to the exhibits mentioned, there are many more covering a wide range of subjects. They are all of great interest and educational value to the agricultural industry of Canada.

## FUTURE AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENTS

This is an age in which adjustments are made with startling rapidity. Take, for instance, the aeroplane of twenty years ago, today it is obsolete and the methods of defence against newer types of aeroplanes, as they are developed, are quickly adjusted. So it is in Agriculture, the whole structure of marketing is changing, new demands of the consumer have to be carefully considered and evaluated and although the law of supply and demand still governs the price of agricultural products, the agricultural outlook of twenty years ago is now obsolete.

Let us consider the dairy cow which for years has been considered the "backbone" of agriculture. Today, the dairy cow finds herself in a precarious position. A partial substitute for butter has been developed and we no longer are forced to rely on the dairy cow, as we did some years ago.

True, the dairy cow still is our source of fluid milk for human consumption, but the views of farmers in respect to the dairy cow are forcibly changing.

## PRICES

The price of farm machinery has risen sharply during the past few years and when a farmer purchases a piece of machinery, he is becoming larger but the structure of farming will change in entire areas according to the adaptability of the soil, toward growing a specific crop for which there is an adequate or potential market.

## PROGENY TESTING GREAT BRITAIN

The first organized progeny testing scheme for bulls in artificial insemination in Great Britain was put into effect in 1949 by the Milk Marketing Board. This organization owns 619 bulls in artificial use; they plan to reach a point where all bulls used are favorably proved except those being tested. Under the MMB plan young bulls are tested in groups of three or four.

This situation is causing more and more farmers to look to beef as a possible solution to their immediate problem, but if the trend continues toward the production of beef, as at present, we will find our markets overloaded and our beef of little value. Which way then, are we to turn? Are we going to continue on with our present program of mixed farming or are we going to put more eggs in one side of the basket than the other?

## SUGGESTIONS

Some suggest that the law "survival of the fittest" will determine the contest — that the fellow who cannot or will not adjust his farming operation with the times will be squeezed out and that the strong will own and operate the land. This is exactly what is happening at the present time the "strong" are endeavouring to better their position in the race by buying more land; increasing production per acre and by keeping more stock.

The "small fellow" is being slowly but inexorably squeezed out. The question arises, is this a healthy state of affairs? The economist tells us that in this age of machinery when we are developing machines which greatly increase the efficiency of a man on the farm it is healthy to find a mig-

ration of farm youth to the city. Perhaps this is true, but it surely is not healthy to find a farmer, who likes farming, being squeezed out of business because of conditions which he is not able to cope with himself.

This man may be in an area which over the years has followed a program of mixed farming and, has managed to get along, but now with the rising cost of feed, farm machinery, food and clothing, etc., this man finds that he is just barely able to exist.

It is quite likely that the agricultural policy of such an area, in the future, must change if those in it are to continue farming as their way of life.

It may be that if the soil in such an area were analyzed it would be found ideal for the growing of strawberries and a strawberry exchange could be set up which would bring a new source of revenue.

## THE FUTURE

In the future, we must certainly look toward markets which are not being filled and the strawberry market is one of them.

The demand for strawberries fresh, frozen or as jam, in the United States is tremendous and it is not likely that this huge market will be filled for a good many years, as strawberries require so much hand labour.

People living in deficit areas on Prince Edward Island would do well to look into the possibility of setting up a strawberry exchange in their area.

Last year strawberry growers in the Mt. Stewart area sold their strawberries for twenty-five cents per quart and realized as much as eight-hundred dollars per acre.

Taking into consideration the actual cash expenditure in growing and harvesting an acre of strawberries, this certainly represents a fine return.

In the future we are likely to see not only a particular farm unit becoming larger but the structure of farming will change in entire areas according to the adaptability of the soil, toward growing a specific crop for which there is an adequate or potential market.

## NEW ZEALAND

Artificial insemination is relatively new in New Zealand, and their progeny recording scheme predates it by several years. The sire survey or progeny recording scheme possesses features which are distinctive. Surveys on bull are issued in three stages, namely: preliminary, when ten daughters have completed one lactation; intermediate, when eight of these daughters have completed a second lactation; and final, when at least six daughters have completed three lactations.

The daughter records are corrected to mature equivalent, and are measured against the expected production for the offspring of an average bull from cows of the herd average level. The plan is confined almost entirely to purebred herds using bulls which have proved themselves through the above scheme and has the pur-

pose of breeding more bulls for natural use in grade herds.

Justice Minister Garson, who received the report of the three-man commission Monday, said he will decide later whether court prosecution should be undertaken.

The commission's allegation against Moffats, a subsidiary of a United States firm, is that it used an indirect method of getting around a 1951 federal law barring manufacturers from coercing dealers into holding up prices of their products in wholesale or retail trade.

The commission said Moffats had a plan under which it paid a part of a dealer's advertising costs if the dealer inserted manufacturer-approved prices on Moffat articles.

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# Charge Appliances Firm In Price Maintenance Ban

OTTAWA (CP) — Manufacturers trying to control the advertised retail price of their goods are violating Parliament's anti-combines law, in the view of the restrictive trade practices commission.

The commission laid such an accusation Monday against Moffats Ltd. of Weston, Ont., makers of household appliances. It alleged the company withdrew financial help in advertising from dealers who advertised its products at prices below those approved by the company.

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## WOULD COOPERATE

KITCHENER (CP) — The Australian High Commissioner to Canada has called for closer co-operation between his homeland and Canada. Sir Douglas Copland, internationally known economist, said "I hope the distance between these two young countries is not too great an obstacle for us in drawing closer together in our work within the Commonwealth."

Proof has often been inadequate being figured from too few daughters, and its errors have been magnified by daughter dam comparisons.

Body type has often been ignored. Frequently proved bulls have suffered from the enthusiasm of their friends who have tended to over emphasize breeding and under emphasize environment as factors in dairy cattle improvement.

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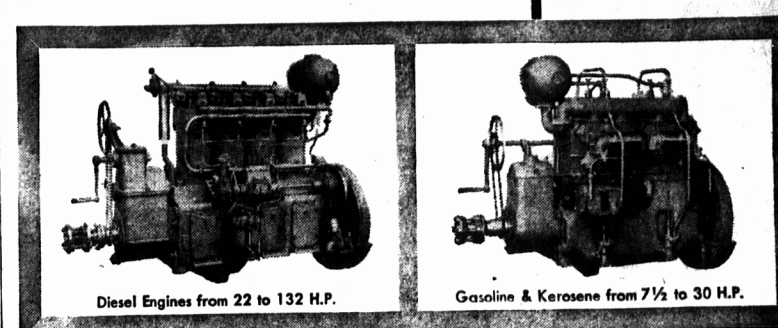
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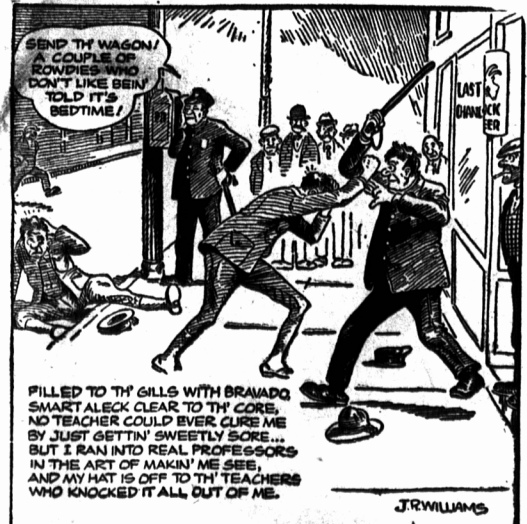
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## Out Our Way By J. R. Williams



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J.R. WILLIAMS

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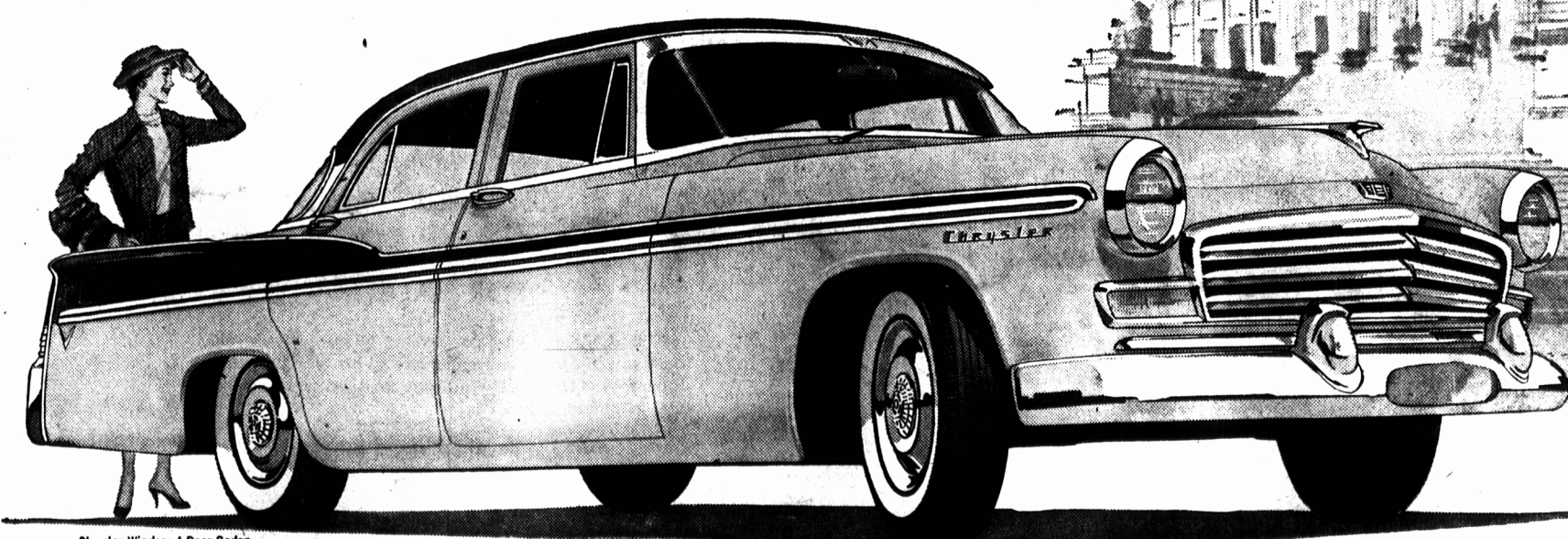
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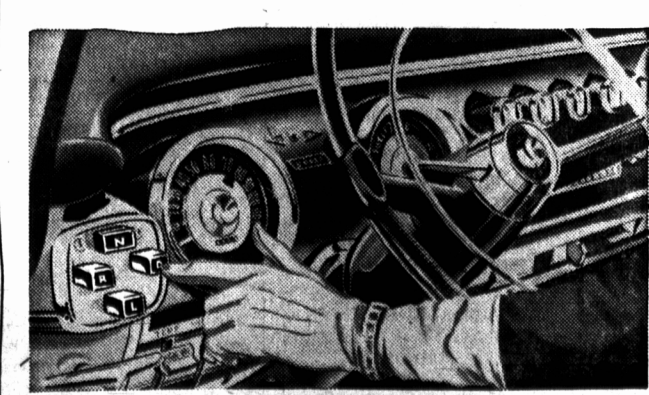
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