

Slaughter Cruelty Is Debate Subject

OTTAWA (CP) — Spokesmen for two organizations interested in humane slaughter of food animals agreed Tuesday that pre-slaughter handling, generally results in the greatest cruelty but disagreed on ways to remedy the situation.

P.R.U. Stratton of Vancouver, representing the Humane Slaughter Association, urged regulations specifying the humane methods to be employed. He proposed also that the Criminal Code be amended to outlaw hoisting animals for the kill before they have been stunned.

However, W. G. Gunn, counsel for the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies, told the Commons agriculture committee the federation favors regulations under current meat inspection legislation or a special act regarding humane slaughter without any amendment to the code.

The two organizations were the last ones scheduled to appear before the agriculture committee which has been conducting a study of humane slaughtering.

The federation's brief, presented by Lt.-Col. Richard Taylor of Ottawa who is president, said "the greatest pain is caused by the shackling, hoisting and hanging of the live animal while it is still conscious."

"The federation is convinced that the continued use of this method constitutes a disgraceful blot on our vaunted civilization. This federation readily accepts the view that the ritual slaughter practised by the Jews is among the most humane methods in use, but deplors the apparent satisfaction expressed by the Canadian Jewish Congress in its brief and through its spokesmen with shackling and hoisting as prehandling methods."

BEDEQUE

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Calbeck, Central Bedeque, returned recently from a ten day trip to Toronto. They went and returned by air.

Mr. Fred Moyle, returned to his home in Toronto on Tuesday morning, April 21st, after spending several days with his father, M. Thomas Moyle, who has been confined to his home for about two months, due to illness.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Ellis, Tyne Valley, were recent guests with Mr. Ellis' mother, Mrs. Ernest Weeks' and Mrs. Weeks.

While Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bowness, were in the States, a short time ago, they were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Doval, Mrs. Doval was the former Miss Clara Affleck of this community.

ELMSDALE

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BOMB CARRIER HANDCUFFED

Patrolman Walter Marilno puts handcuffs on John Gregory Feller, 23, in Central Park last night after Feller was seized carrying a homemade bomb only 200 feet from where Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro was addressing a crowd of 35,000. Feller told police he intended to touch off the bomb "for excitement". (AP-Wirephoto)

AMONG THE FARMERS

Federation of Agriculture Newsletter

Officers and executive: President, Ken MacLean, Central Lot 16; 1st vice-president, Colin MacDonald, Commercial Cross; 2nd vice-president, Chas. Jones, Charlottetown R.R. 1; past president, C.B. Waugh, Wilnot Valley.

Executive members, George MacDonald, St. Georges; Raeford Locke, O'Leary R.R. 1; Mrs. David Mutch, Mt. Herbert; Elmer Waugh, Wilnot Valley; Roland MacDonald, Southport.

TRE GREAT GAMBLE

Farmers everywhere in the northern hemisphere are once again preparing to embark on their annual gamble with nature and the market place. The only difference in the 1959 gamble lies in the fact that the economic odds are a little heavier against them and the natural opponents just as strong as ever. In this province the gamble will begin shortly with farmers risking their labour, seed and fertilizer, in some cases to the extent of thousands of dollars against the prospect of being able to harvest a crop that will pay the expenses and provide a living as well for the farm family.

To make the game more interesting and certainly tougher there will be gangsters in the form of weeds, insects and fungi to exact their toll and there is always the chance that the elements will fail to cooperate either with too little rain or too much rain.

Finally after all these hurdles have been climbed there is still the chance to be taken with the instability of market prices. This factor is always of particular importance to the farmer who produces cash crops. However, springtime and crop time is a period of optimism coupled with a great burst of energy all of which results in the farmer paying more attention to the possibility of production and without working too much about all the factors which can work out wrong so far as his efforts are concerned.

SWEET MUSIC

It was altogether appropriate that concurrent with the Musical Festival that one of the most welcome songsters of the northern spring should stage his first concert on the night of April 27. People who live within hearing distance of a marsh or swamp allways wait expectantly for the song of the frogs. The frog is evidently a happy creature and his contributions to the opening of spring indicates that the ice has disappeared and the frost is receding.

HUMANE SLAUGHTER

Citizens generally and livestock farmers in particular have an understandable interest in the methods employed by abattoirs in the slaughtering of animals. Of recent years considerable research has been done with respect to development of painless methods of preparing animals for slaughter. Some of these are electrical, others use gases and a pistol with a captive bolt can be used instead of a hammer.

On April 24 the C.F.A. made a statement on this matter to the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Colonization of the House of Commons. The matter was quite exhaustively gone into and the statement appears to represent very adequately the feeling of farm people in this matter.

PRICE SUPPORTS

The April issue of the CAC Bulletin contains a statement on agriculture price supports which makes the following statement. "So far as the consumer is concerned current agricultural support means farm prices maintained at artificially high or incentive levels, thus increasing retail prices directly." There are other statements in the article which will not bear searching analysis but the one quoted appears to sum up the thinking of the "Consumers Association".

Canada can't afford to subsidize agriculture according to J.M. Appleton Vice-president of Quaker Oats Co., as reported in the Globe and Mail.

Suggesting that in young countries an innate reverence for land results in an emotional, rather than logical, approach to agriculture. Mr. Appleton said that Canada needs a comparatively small number of highly productive farm units so that food can be produced on a competitive basis.

It is all very well, Mr. Appleton told the Ontario Educational Association, to talk of protecting the "little man", but "little men" cannot be supported as an economic group. He added that the belief that farmers have been exploited by city dwellers has not been true for 200 years.

It seems to us that at best Mr. Appleton's remarks are mischievous. If the vice-president of Quaker Oats had spoken against all subsidies, we could respect his point of view, whether or not we agree with it.

FAST PIGEONS

Racing pigeons have been timed at more than 90 miles an hour over an 80-mile flight.

Mrs. Harry Lowther, Halifax, was a recent visitor to Charlottetown.

Mrs. Stewart MacMicken, now residing in Charlottetown, is recovering from a hip injury. She is with her son, Mr. Arthur MacMicken and family Charlottetown.

Mrs. Myra Callaghan, accompanied by her daughter, and grandson, Mrs. Gerald O'Brien and Master Gary O'Brien were recent visitors to Summerside.

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