

1965 produced unusual spud growing conditions

Potatoes are accounting for an increasingly large portion of the province's agricultural income. The estimated total for 1965 is set at \$15.7 million—this is a rough estimate—and the figure was even higher in the calendar year 1964 when the official estimated potato value was \$17.7 million, an all time high.

The growing season for the 1965 potato crop was one of the more unusual ones in Prince Edward Island. The marketing season looks as though it may be even more interesting.

This province experienced the lowest level of ground moisture last year that has been recorded in the 60 years in which official weather records have been kept. Many veteran agricultural observers have suggested there was not enough rainfall to warrant the production of any good crop. But there were some really good yields of several crops. There were acreages of potatoes that hit an estimated 500 bushels to the acre, and that is up with the best crops in the province's good years.

Unfortunately, though, there were fields that were far below par. The total yield was considerably below that of the seasons immediately preceding it. It's been a long time since growers in various parts of the province recorded such a variety of yield figures.

The year also saw irrigation introduced into the province for the first time. Horace Willis, a shipper who is also one of the Island's larger producers, says the results have been so satisfactory, he'll continue with irrigation, even though the season shows a normal moisture content.

Mr. Willis said late last year the irrigation equipment was ex-

pensive but it would probably have paid for itself before the current crop marketing year is completed, if markets held up reasonably well.

Chessel Irving, Murray Harbour was also pleased with the additional growth irrigation produced on his large acreage. There were others across the province who used artificial means of watering their spud crops. There was general satisfaction, so far as could be learned.

MARKET STRONG

The marketing season opened reasonably strong with prices that paid for cost of production with a reasonable profit margin. But veteran observers were keeping a wary eye on the big production reports from the United States.

One of the biggest crops on record was the way the Americans reported their yields in late fall. There was a good deal of shrinkage in the spud totals as the new year dawned, but the overall totals were still considerably above those of the previous year.

Several shippers here were expressing the hope that orderly marketing might see the entire crop disposed of with reasonably good returns to the producer. But there was a tendency early this year for producers to hold their spuds as they thought of the remunerative price of \$4.00 a bag they received last spring, and hope, apparently, for a long price again this time. The general consensus among those who studied the marketing situation most closely is that this is the sort of thing that must be avoided, if the market is going to be fed according to its needs, and a period of glutting, with resulting sharp price drops avoided.

A late April plebiscite saw the growers of the province endorse the marketing plan under which the Provincial Potato Marketing Board was established late in 1963. It meant that the plan that was set up on a temporary basis at that time was made permanent. A new board was chosen through R.L. Burge, Five Houses emerged again as board chairman. The new board has six producers and three dealers who must also be producers. The old board had three producers, three dealers and three men representing the Prince Edward Island Cooperative Union.

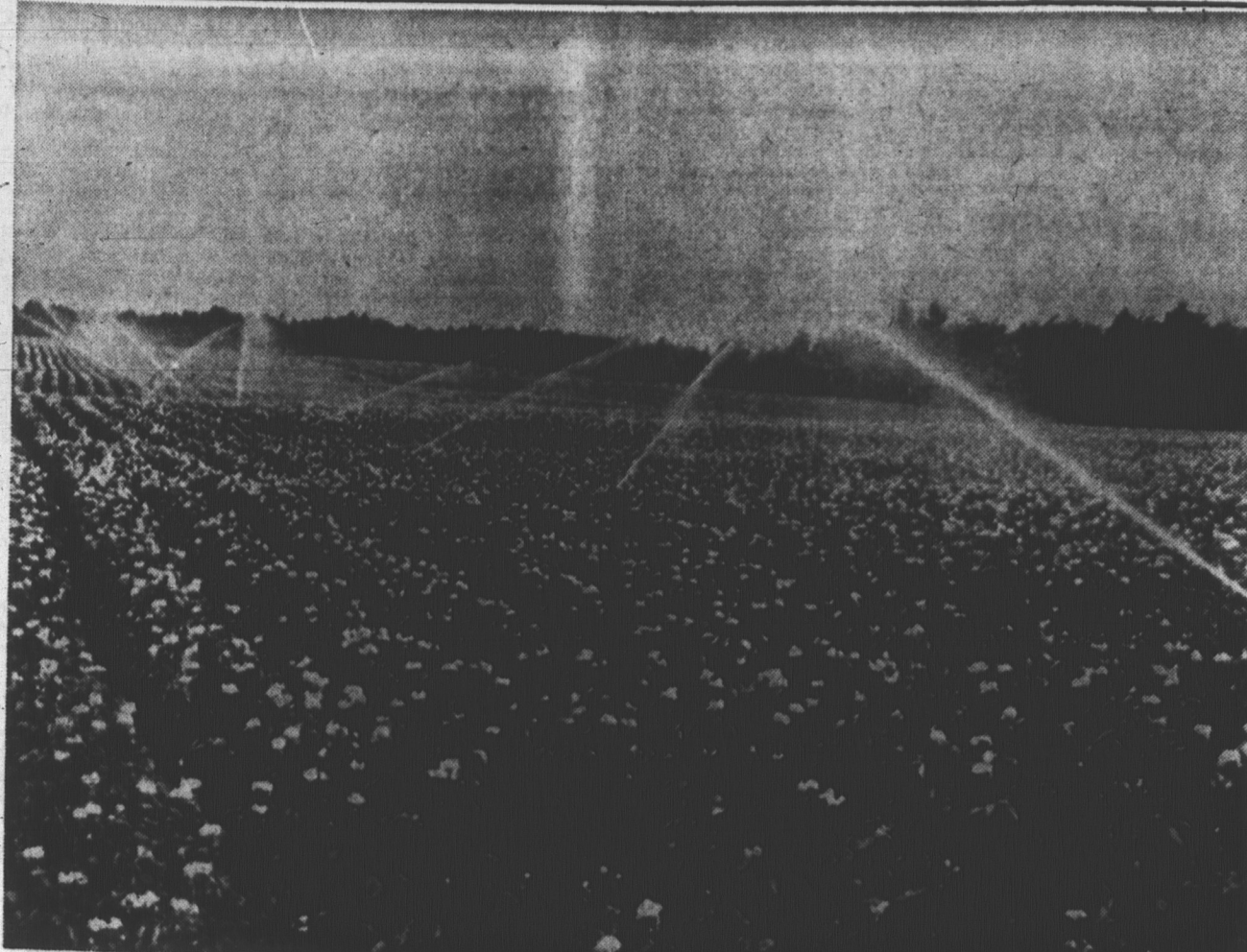
CONCERN FOR KILLERS

The use of poisonous potato top killers continued to cause concern through the weeks that tops were being killed off. The damage was light, by comparison with some of the previous years. But several farmers reported losing several animals to the arsenic base killers that were used by neighbours.

Non-toxic top killers are now available and have been recommended after trial sampling, but not all producers have been concerned the cost of the non-toxic top killers. Some of the objections concisely to actually kill off the vines, apparently, of their killer.

QUAKES RECORDED

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP) — Four earthquakes—three nearby and the fourth in the south Pacific—were recorded Thursday on University of California seismographs. Dr. Cenna Lomnitz, seismologist, said the tremor was measured at 6.5 on the Richter scale—strong enough to cause damage—and was about 5,500 miles southwest of Berkeley, possibly in the Mariannas Island.



IRRIGATION PROVES HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL

Morell Packing Co. had productive year

By WALTER O'BRIEN
The year 1965 proved to be one of the most productive years ever experienced in the history of the Morell Packing Company.

With some 40 fishing boats under contract, ranging from Red Head to Cable Head and Savage Harbor during the lobster season these boats landed more than 300,000 pounds at the plant wharf for which the fishermen were paid anywhere from 17 to 65 cents per pound.

This provided bigger returns for the fishermen plus one of the largest payrolls plant employees have ever enjoyed. Not only and the huge catch ensure full employment for those working in the plant it also proved to be a good source of additional revenue for a number of truckers in the area who were kept busy hauling the processed crustaceans to mainland markets.

In addition to the lobsters landed at Morell others were trucked in from the receiving plant operated by the company at Fortune.

The plant operations were under the supervision of Adreco Doiron as plant foreman, who came to Morell from New Brunswick. Sales and marketing was handled by Jack Coffin a buyer for National Sea Foods Limited.

Mr. Doiron was ably assisted in the plant operation by Gerald Barry, who had retired after some 50 years as plant foreman. Mr. Barry undertook to look after the supplies for the fishermen and assisted in the selection of the more than 100 people employed in the packing plant.

The 1965 operations ran until the end of October and in addition to the processing of lobsters hundreds of pounds of chicken haddie and scallops were packaged and canned.

Another sea crop which provided big revenue for both the fishermen and the plant were smelts which were landed in the

thousands of pounds and they like obsters always find a ready market.

Equipped with the most modern of machinery, the company also installed a new freezing plant in which the processed fish is stored buried in ice shavings which keeps the temperature at a steady 40 degrees below zero.

To facilitate shipping a number of night security men were employed who also were available to assist in loading of trucks at any time during the night hours, thus ensuring the trucker of a quick turn-around and enabling them to reach the mainland markets early in the day when the majority of buyers are on hand.

For the current year plant officials have revealed that operations are to be further expanded with a substantial increase in the number of boats plus a 20 per cent increase of the plant staff.

The majority of the additional help will be recruited among women from districts as far away as St. Peter's, Tracadie and Mt. Stewart with transportation to and from the plant being provided.

used Monday are mysteriously turning yellow.

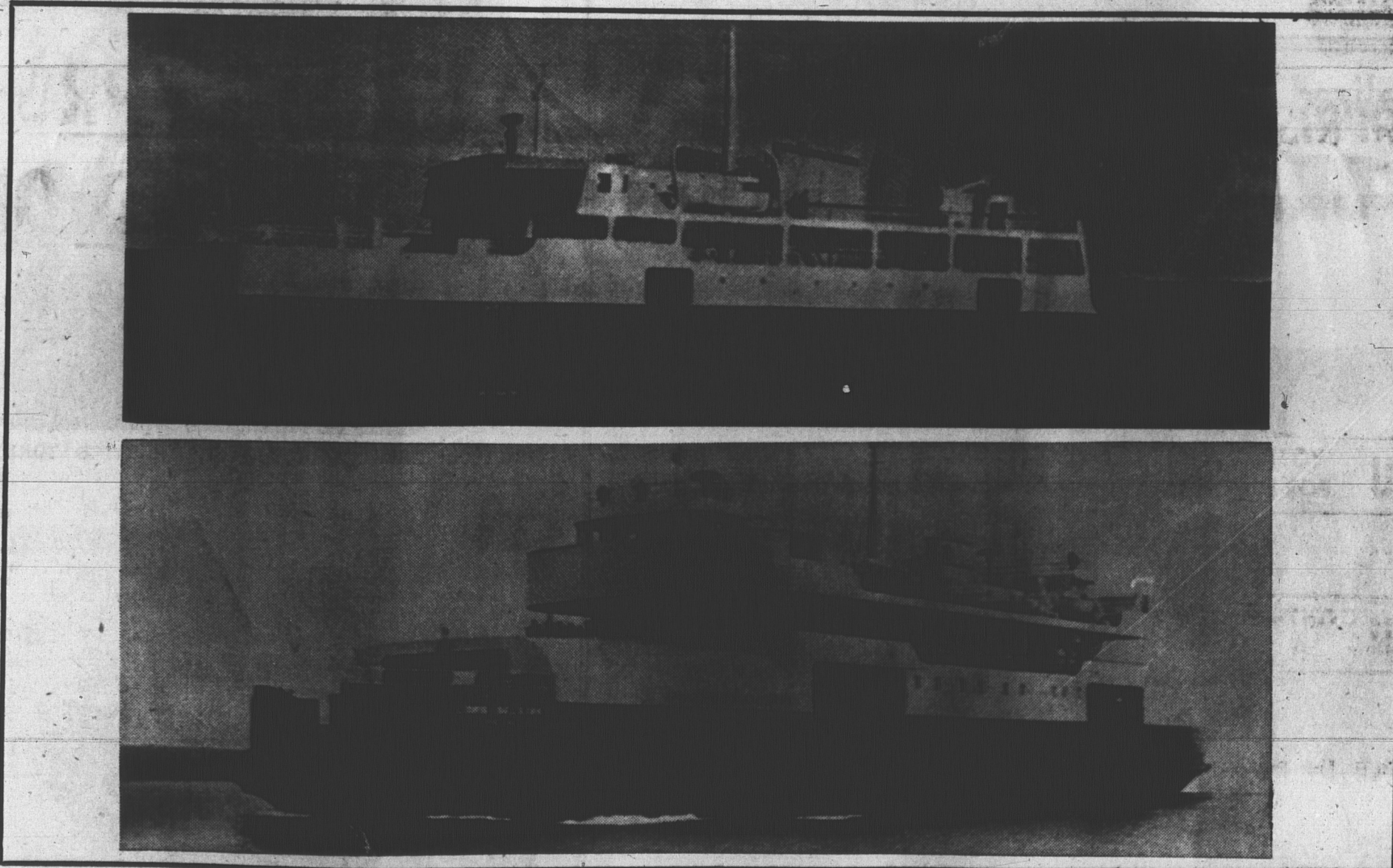
DOLLARS LOOK CHEAP
Federal officials in the capital had harsh words about the new dollar bills. They said they look like cheap occupation money for a second-rate republic or like bills used in children's games.

An authority on coins said the material composition of the new coins is probably the main cause of discoloration.

One- and two-cent pieces contain 97 per cent copper and three per cent zinc and tin. The five- and 20-cent coins are 75 per cent copper and 25 per cent nickel. The 50-cent pieces are 80 per cent silver and 20 per cent copper.

Northumberland Ferries Ltd.

Report Another Record Breaking Year (1965)



Pictured above are the Prince Nova and the Lord Selkirk

Northumberland Ferries Limited reported a record breaking year in 1965. All types of traffic showed increases and in the month of August almost as much traffic was carried as during the whole of the 1957 season. Over 900 vehicles were carried on several days during the season and on July 18 a new high of 979 vehicles was established


Figures for the 1965 traffic between Wood Islands and Caribou with those for 1964 in brackets are as follows:

	1965	1964
Passengers	229,445	(223,348)
Automobiles	73,164	(70,565)
Trucks	12,412	(11,918)

Northumberland Ferries Limited

Queen St.

Charlottetown



Employment Is A Key To Economic Growth

Your local National Employment Service Office contributes to the growth of Prince Edward Island by performing a variety of important employment functions.

Last year your Charlottetown Office was responsible for placing in employment

4865 men and women

It also arranged for vocational training courses for 221 unemployed men and women.

Its interest in the employment future of our youth was shown by its organizing of career counselling sessions for more than 1700 high school girls and boys.

Charlottetown office provides a service covering all employment needs from recruiting harvesters to filling orders for highly skilled personnel. It is an important member of the chain of 238 offices which make up the

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