

# The Farm Show

FARM EDITION

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PAGES A-1 to 22-A

## TOUR OF SOUTHERN U. S. AREA IMPRESSES MACRAE

# Minister strongly backs water conservation

Possibly better prices may result, but it is almost certain greater income will be received by farmers of the province if they increase production without increasing their cost. Hon. Andrew MacRae, minister of agriculture, believes.

Marketing is assuredly important, he maintains, but raising more crops on the same planting area is virtually certain to raise the farmer's income by providing him with more marketable produce.

### SAME PRACTICES

The minister maintains too

many farmers are satisfied to use the same practices of the past instead of new systems which have been tried and proven. Specifically he noted a vast majority of plowing is still being done to leave a furrow only six or seven inches deep on the average.

He firmly believes the beginning of higher production must start with deeper plowing followed by deeper cultivation. In fact he is convinced the plowing should be deep enough to break up the "hard pan" well underneath the valuable top soil and then permit water to soak down and remain instead of running off—and taking the priceless top soil with it.

Agriculture Minister MacRae only recently paid a visit to southern United States farming areas to observe the success of

various programs built specifically around the water conservation program he so strongly advocates. He said he was frankly amazed at what had been accomplished in the field of bringing virtually barren sections in to areas of high productivity.

At the same time, he noted, the water conservation program brought almost invaluable side results because the dams built made possible creation of special tourist picnic attractions and also provided excellent wildlife facilities. He also stated his delight at seeing how these same dams added so much to the enjoyment of the residents by giving them extra fishing accommodations. Mr. MacRae said these dam-created ponds appeared to restock themselves with good fish by natural means.

There were so many new "swinkles" successfully tried in the farming operations he viewed he said he was at a loss to remember all of them, but he did recall the excellent results obtained from special drainage methods tried in swampy areas and the surprising saving of top soil when a variation of contour plowing was used to create an artificial "terrace" in sloping fields.

Information he had available pointed out that a one-inch rain-fall dumps up to 100 tons of water on an acre of land and unless the soil is prepared to receive this and let it sink deeply the net result is a run-off which not only wastes the necessary water but also takes with it much of the top soil which means loss of organic matter. Since this has to be replaced

with commercial fertilizers the cost to growers can readily be seen.

Mr. MacRae feels that recent changes in government departments which saw agriculture taking over the entire ARDA program as well as the forestry division make it all the more vital that he embark on a water conservation program.

### SWAMP DRAINING

He believes wooded areas could result in future crops of trees instead of nothing more than tangled areas of useless underbrush and rotting stumps.

At the same time the minister expressed cautious optimism over the possibility of draining hundreds of acres of u e s e s swamp districts and bringing the resulting reclaimed land in-

to top production. Particularly, he thought, this could readily be seen in Prince County near Mincouche where he feels there is much land going to productive waste because proper methods have never been applied to draining it. He remarked on a deep-ditch drainage system he had seen employed and was enthusiastic over the results obtained.

### AGRICULTURE MINISTER ANDREW MACRAE

# MacRae maintains farm production is major problem

"Marketing will be a prime consideration, but the best marketing plans known will be of little use unless we first meet the problems of production on each individual farm," Agriculture Minister Andrew B. MacRae said in a statement on the future of the farm industry in the province.

"I am optimistic enough to believe that the average farmer is beginning to recognize this," the minister continued, "and to set his patterns of operation accordingly. It will take time, but we will be dealing with basic things—production factors. In this sense, if we solve our production problems along lines of quantity and quality, at least, of our marketing of farm will take care of itself."

"Quality products are always in demand and cost of selling is less than in the past. It is in the fact that, unlike modern industry, farming is made up of thousands of individuals all of whom make their own decisions, raise their own products and determine their own yield and quality."

"It needs to be said," he continued, "that the farmer needs to recognize that a very heavy part of the production problem rests on his shoulders. Take, for example, the new processing plants that operate in our province. We have already found farmers who are able to take in over \$5,000 annually from relatively small acreages. We find others who claim to have lost money. The processors assure us that every acre of role crops, and every bushel of uncontrollable factors, can make money."

MAXIMUM YIELDS  
But they also assure us that the ability of a farmer to make the most of his capacity to grow good maximum yields and top quality. And the processors assure us that the farmer is prepared to aid the farmer who wants to accomplish these goals. The farmer must be in an contract or the market price alone. It is in the manner in which the producer is placed on the market. Nothing is spared to make certain that a top quality product with maximum appeal is placed on the market under favorable circumstances and under identical problems. Before products are marketed, the market there should be a maximum effort to see that the product—both quantitative and qualitative—is at the best possible peak."

Mr. MacRae stated that "millions of dollars are spent each year throughout Canada in research to assist the farmer to achieve the best yields production wise. Farms that are producing the best yields are spending money to see that the very best elements go into production. And in this province with a good deal of its money to supply technical assistance to farm people being spent, agriculture doesn't need to be ashamed of the investment that is being made to get the best production possible."

"Here in our own province we are looking forward to a major emphasis on production. We recognize that as a department we can go only so far in helping to achieve maximum goals. The rest is up to the individual farmer, who must view his resources of land and labor and work to get the most out of them by way of quality and quantity. If there are any great weaknesses in the overall farm picture it lies in the fact that, unlike modern industry, farming is made up of thousands of individuals all of whom make their own decisions, raise their own products and determine their own yield and quality."

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# Sandersons of York Pt family of showmen

By NEIL A. MATHESON

It was back in 1934 that Fulton Sanderson and his wife came to York Point with four head of Hereford cattle his father, Frank Sanderson, North River had given him, Fulton and his sons, Johnny and Robert, have approximately 100 head now.

There have been ups and downs in the intervening years but the story over recent years has been one of outstanding success.

Fulton got into the show cattle business in a big way in the early 1950's when he purchased some good foundation stock at the Royal Winter Fair. For several years he showed with Robert Borden, North River under the "Sanderson - Borden" name and cleaned up several years at the Maritime Winter Fair, as well as at Charlottetown.

### NINE RIBBONS

The S-B herd took nine championship ribbons and 26 other ribbons at Amherst in 1953 which was the biggest year in their experience. And they also had an excellent record in 1954 at the Maritime fair with all of the female championship ribbons coming their way, except one, and 21 others though they did not win any of the male championships.

In recent years Fulton Sanderson and Sons have been showing on their own and have been making a good showing too.

Last November at the First Atlantic Winter Fair Fulton took a junior yearling heifer and won the junior female championship and reserve grand ribbons against some of the strongest

competition seen in a Maritime ring. They took two other top ribbons—they only showed in five classes—two seconds and five lesser ribbons. They took some of them in the get and progeny groups.

Their champion heifer is a grand daughter of Real Princess Starway 35, a cow he bought at the Royal in 1952 for \$100, from the herd of Bracken and Willie, two men whose names are well known in Canadian political life.

Princess was the best cow he ever had and he has some good stock from her in his herd. Her sire, Zato Heir, is now in the herd of Herman Smallman, O'Leary, prince that had placed second in her class at the Royal last year to the cow that won the grand championship, and Fulton bought her at the sale of stars.

### RESERVE CHAMPION

A Hereford steer from the farm was reserve champion in his class and he brought slightly more than \$1,000 to the farm. There's an interesting story behind this animal. See this week's "Across the Island Column" in The Guardian for the story.

Mr. Willis, a former premier of Manitoba, is now Lieutenant-Governor. John Bracken was a long-time premier of the province, who later was caucus leader of the Progressive Conservative party of Canada, but retired after an unsuccessful attempt at the polls.

Real test of a registered herd's success is often found in the sales of breeding stock and the Sandersons rate highly in that category. In the last 10

months Mrs. Sanderson told me, they have sold 20 females and 21 bulls, all of them registered animals that will be used for breeding purposes. One female went to Saskatchewan and four bulls to Ontario. The others were sold in this province. One of the biggest buyers was Louis MacLean, Cornwall who bought one bull and six females, but others were scattered all over the province from Saults to Sibley.

They farm 450 acres of land—some of it is rented but more than 300 acres is owned by the Sandersons.

The farm had eight animals in the fat stock show here this year with good results and Margie Sanderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Sanderson topped her class at 10 years with her 4-H steer to make the fourth generation of Sanderson family to show cattle in the province.

Johnny won second place with his steer at the Maritime fat stock show in 1946 when he was 12, and the carcasses won that competition. He was second in the showmanship competition in his first attempt.

Johnny was the highest individual winner at the Maritime Rural Youth competition in Amherst in 1949 it was held in conjunction with the Maritime Winter Fair—and as first in livestock judging and took the Amherst Hotel trophy among other things. He and Fred Klison, Hampshire won second place in the 4-H Club team judging, next year they went to the national judging competition at Toronto and achieved the highest plac-

ing an Island team had ever won up to that time.

There is no competition at the national 4-H Club week now but Robert Sanderson represented the province in his category at Toronto last year.

There are 65 registered Herefords in the cattle barns. There's a milking herd of about 20 Holsteins—they've been 10th and 11th the last two years among dairy producers in the Whitefish factory—and the rest are cross breeds.

They sold 20 animals for beef recently and Mr. and Mrs. Sanderson agree the best commercial beef animals is a Hereford-Holstein cross. They—the scores averaged around 1100 pounds and were under two years—average 200 pounds more per animal, there is very little difference in the price per pound, and bring a good deal more money.

They rejected the suggestion the bigger cross-breeds had more feed, and told me their son, Johnny, insists they do not. "They may eat more hay, but they require no more grain than do the Herefords," Johnny insists.

One of the province's biggest cattle buyers observed 14 E. Sandersons told me, "I wish every animal I bought was black with a white head, indicating the Hereford-Holstein cross. They get some Blue brands with this cross, and in a n y standard, Hampshire and a pure bred steer cross between pure bred Hereford and a pure bred Holstein cow actually graded Red brand when slaughtered and achieved the highest plac-



4-H CLUB WORK PROVIDES EXPERIENCE FOR FUTURE FARMERS

## \$300,000 creamery now ready at Morell; will open next week

By NEIL A. MATHESON

It will cost \$300,000 that Manager Reg MacAdam estimated it would when the old one-barrier last winter—it may even run to \$100,000 more—but the more than 600 members of the Morell Creamery and Cheese Co-operative will move next week into their new plant that is as modern and as fireproof as modern know-how can make

The \$3 by 10 foot building has capacity for 40,000 pounds of milk for cheese at a time—the old plant could handle 10,000—and the holding tank for cream has a capacity of 20,000 pounds.

The most modern equipment for the manufacture of both butter and cheese is being installed and the target date for butter manufacture is May 2. The intention is to get the cheese manufacture on a v i n g the following week, Mr. MacAdam said.

### MAXIMUM CAPACITY

The refrigeration accommodation will handle four cartons of butter and the electrical dehydrator will be able to as to keep it operating at maximum capacity. The temperature will be held at five degrees below zero.

Some 250 refrigeration lockers are being provided for patrons—they're 24 inches, by 24, by 18. The lockers were in keen demand in the old plant. Found, though lockers have a v e n e r discounted at other spots like Montague and Souris, because the modern home dehydrator units have reduced the need, Mr. MacAdam said.

The heavy protection for the basement space is installed by the construction. There's a four-inch brick on the outside, over the air spaces, the concrete block, seven inches of

### VENER BRICK

The rest of the building has an eight-inch wall, with one inch of insulation and a veneer brick finish on the outside. The insulation incidentally is styrofoam and it's light as a feather. "You can pick up a slab four feet by eight in your hand and it weighs scarcely a pound," the manager observed.

### ABSOLUTE HUMIDITY

The cheese operation is the most bulky and required approximately two-thirds of the floor space. The washing equipment is automatic.

The cheese holding room will be held at 40 degrees. Cheese has been wrapped in cheese cloth and dipped in wax now for some years. The washing equipment is automatic.

They have two boilers in the basement space is installed by the construction. There's a four-inch brick on the outside, over the air spaces, the concrete block, seven inches of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3-A



ROBERT SANDERSON HOLDS GRAND CHAMPION STEER THAT SOLD FOR 100% CENTS PER POUND

## OUTLOOK FOR CROPS IN 1964 IS BRIGHT

A bright outlook for farming operations in 1964 is seen in figures on estimated planting for the coming season. With some crops remaining approximately the same as last year, others are expected to be anywhere from slightly to noticeably higher.

There may be a small decrease in potato plantings, according to figures supplied by agricultural authorities, but if it materializes it is not expected to seriously decrease farm income.

Last year 100,000 acres in this province planted to potatoes and the resulting crop, 8,300,000 hundredweight, the provincial department of agriculture stated recently. Of this total 8,983 carloads had been disposed of on domestic and export markets by Tuesday last week.

Expected to show a distinct increase this season is planting of barley which may rise higher than 10 per cent over 1963 when 18,000 acres planted produced 750,000 bushels.

When plantings are anticipated as being the same as last year when 5,300 acres gave growers 153,000 bushels. Oats will be up slightly from last year's 86,000 acres and 3,900,000 bushels while mixed grains should show a gain at approximately 10 per cent. Last season's planting of 48,000 acres which returned 2,350,000 bushels.

All in all, local department officials predict a generally good year under normal conditions while hoping for especially good growing season would make production even better.