

THE EASTERN GUARDIAN

AGENTS—MONTAGUE: Harold F. Landry, Mrs. Byron Stewart, Mrs. Bruce MacPhee, Miss Joyce Wigginton, Pius McKinnon. AGENT GEORGETOWN: Waldon Lavers.

The Guardian may be bought at the following places in Montague: Blue Dome Restaurant, and Guardian Office; in Georgetown: The Post Office; in Souris: The Snack Bar and H. Richards & Son.

Miss Helen Annear, third year student at P. W. C. is spending her vacation at her home in Lower Montague.

Miss Claire DeLory, Montague, spent the Christmas holidays at her home in Newport.

Capt. James Keddy and Mr. Walter Seamon left Tuesday to spend a few days at their respective homes in Amherst and Shelburne, N. S.

Mrs. Malcolm MacKinnon, Killmuir, is spending a few days in Montague, guest of Mr. and Mrs. Angus Matheson.

Friends of Mr. John Yorston, Montague, are sorry to hear he had the misfortune of sustaining injuries to his foot. He received treatment in the King's County Hospital.

Pte. Emile H. MacLeod left Tuesday morning for Quebec after spending the Christmas holidays with his mother, Mrs. Angus Matheson, and step-father, Mr. Matheson, at Montague.

Miss Jane McGrath, Hyde Park, Mass., who is spending some time at her home in Lone Valley, is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Alex MacDougall, Montague, this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Carman Carle have returned to their home in East Florenceville, N. B., after spending the Christmas holidays in Montague, guests of Mrs. Carle's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Stewart, Montague.

WATCH NIGHT SERVICE—The local Ministerial Association will conduct a watch night service in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Montague, on Wednesday evening, December 31st. Service beginning at 11:15 p.m. Everyone welcome.

Miss Joyce Wigginton, and Mr. John MacIntyre, fourth year students at P. W. C., are spending their holidays at their respective homes in Montague.

Miss Jean Aitken, second year student at P. W. C., is spending her vacation at her home in Lower Montague.

Mr. Albert Johnston student at Dalhousie University, is the guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Johnston, Montague.

ENLISTS WITH NAVY—Mr. Wallace Burke, Montague, last week he has enlisted with the Royal Canadian Navy. Following induction Mr. Burke will leave for Cornwall where he will undergo training.

Mrs. Vince Larkin, Charlottetown, and her two children, Sheila and Kurt, spent the past few days visiting her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. John Burke, Montague.

NOTICE WHICH appeared in the evening paper on Dec. 29th to the effect that the Legion bingo was to have been held in Ye's Theatre, Montague, on New Year's eve is in error. There will be no bingo until further notice.

GOLDEN WEDDING—Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bulpitt today celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary at their lovely farm home at Roseneath. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bulpitt are in excellent health and are active in their daily work. The celebration will take the form of a family dinner, and in the afternoon and evening they will be "at home" to their friends and neighbors. Mr. and Mrs. Bulpitt have two sons, Harold at home and George in Brookline, N. H., and a daughter, Muriel, Mrs. Heise Larson, Georgetown.

MAGISTRATE'S COURT—A resident of Montague was fined \$50.00 and costs and his license cancelled for three months as a result of driving a vehicle while his ability was impaired by alcohol. The case arose out of a traffic accident which occurred last week on the Georgetown highway, and was heard before Magistrate Joseph W. MacDonald at Georgetown yesterday. A resident of Murray Harbour was fined \$5.00 and costs for the improper use of a rifle, and the firearm was confiscated. A resident of Abney and another of Roseneath were each fined \$20.00 and costs for intoxication in a public place. For possessing illicit spirits a resident of Murray Harbour was fined \$25.00 and costs. Cases adjourned included that of a resident of Glen William for possessing illicit spirits, a resident of Murray River for driving while intoxicated, and a resident of Greenfield for driving while his ability was impaired by alcohol.

Islander's Son To Play In Band At Sugar Bowl Game

John Lauchlin MacDonald, scholarship student at the University High School, University of Mississippi, and bass-horn player, is one of several High School students selected to play in the University of Mississippi "Ole Miss" band, on New Year's Day, January 1st, at New Orleans.

Mr. MacDonald is a son of Dr. and Mrs. Lauchlin D. MacDonald of the University of Mississippi. Dr. MacDonald, formerly of Killmuir, P. E. I., is a graduate of Prince of Wales College and a United Church minister. Mrs. MacDonald is from Toronto. The occasion is the Sugar Bowl football game between the season's two unbeaten giants, "Ole Miss," and "Georgia Tech," for the championship of the Southeastern Conference of U. S. A. "Ole Miss" won her place for the Sugar Bowl game by defeating the previously unbeaten University of Maryland, a record crowd at Hemingway Stadium, University of Mississippi campus, last month. The Sugar Bowl game promises to be a "battle of the century" and ninety thousand are expected to be in the Tulane University Stadium to see the game.

Card Of Thanks—I wish to thank all my friends and relations for their gifts and cards which I received during my illness in the Montague Hospital. Miss Ethel Thompson.

THE BISON RESTAURANT Montague New Year's Day Choice of Turkey or Chicken With all the trimmings at \$1.00 Dinner Starts at 5:30 P. M.

Report Fine Sheet Of Ice At Montague Rink

Mr. Malcolm Clair, manager of the Montague Rink, reports a fine sheet of ice which will be ready for the first skate today when the kiddies and adults will have their first opportunity to use the blades this year. Mr. Clair, taking advantage of the cold weather, has flooded the rink space day and night to get on as much ice as possible, and already it averages about one inch over the whole area. The preliminary work of leveling the ground has proved an advantage in that the ice is building over the whole area much more readily owing to the absence of high spots. This has provided some difficulty in the past, but is almost eliminated this year.

The bulk of the repair work having been completed in the past two years, only minor repairs were necessary this year, so that the manager is able to confine his attention to the making of ice. The early opening gives evidence of the attention which Mr. Clair has devoted to the work, and bespeaks well for the successful operation during the season under his management for the Montague Legion, who this year have charge of the rink.

Year Of Abundant

Continued from page 1 very often haul household supplies from neighbouring sources. The rainfall since April has been 23.89 inches, as compared with an average over a number of years of 27.96 inches. Further heavy rainfalls are necessary if water supplies on farms are to be maintained at normal levels. From the farm production standpoint an abundant harvest of food products of extraordinary quality has been secured. Acreages of field crops indicate an increase over 1951 when compared and adjusted to census returns. Wheat and barley acreage have increased slightly, while that of oats and mixed grains has been revised downwards. Potato acreage was expanded by approximately 12%. Of the total acreage of 33,400 acres 23,119 were entered for seed certification, of which 21,049 passed inspection. The area involving field roots was also slightly increased. Yields of field crops were surprisingly heavy considering the season. The volume of grain was only slightly below the heavy production of 1951. On the other hand quality was improved, and there is a wise tendency among farmers to retain Island grains on the farms for domestic live-

stock feeding. In view of high prevailing prices for imported feeds this practice is to be commended.

Potatoes—Potato production was particularly favourable and exceeded the previous year's volume by 4,000,000 bushels, the total field run being 10,020,000 bushels. Yields per acre were on the average amazing, and in many cases phenomenal, and while a substantial percentage of the tubers may be criticized for being oversized, the quality is extraordinarily high. It is estimated that between seven and eight million bushels of potatoes will be available for market from the season's crop. This excellent yield developed in a year when the market was singularly bare, and as soon as potatoes were ready they moved to supply an eager demand, and export continued at an unprecedented level throughout the Fall. As an illustration over 3,180 tons were rolled over the rails until the end of the year in comparison with 1245 cars in the same period last season. In addition large quantities moved by boat and truck.

It is estimated that over one-half of the available marketable surplus has been exported, and with reasonable regular conditions prevailing the balance of the supply should be absorbed without embarrassment. The potato prices have been very attractive, and the crop under such conditions, has provided substance and stability in agricultural economics for this season. Only once in a lifetime have favourable prices and favourable production gone hand in hand. This year has produced the jackpot, and the lowly spud has been chiefly instrumental in raising the total value of field crops in the Province to over \$31,000,000 as compared to \$26,590,000 for the year 1951.

While growers are deeply impressed with potato returns this year, however, the lean and less than cost of production years should have a sobering effect on any gambling tendencies that may occur as a result of the present favourable returns.

Root Crops—The yield of roots, particularly turnips, was phenomenal, and the quality of the crop was excellent. The texture and flavour of the current crop of Island turnips, even to the large ten pounders, is remarkable. Large quantities of this succulent vegetable are available for both export and livestock feeding. Corn production was also one of the best on record. Acreage was expanded and new improved Hybrid varieties commanded a wider patronage, and almost doubled in many cases normal yields.

Hay—Hay production was also above average, and many acres of splendid meadow were not harvested chiefly because of labour difficulties, and the fact that more than needed supplies were saved. The market for hay has been indifferent. The closing of the United States border against Canadian exports because of Foot and Mouth disease has prevented movement south of the border where there has been a scarcity and high prices for the product. The opening of the American market recently, however, will

relieve this pressure to some extent, and possibly effect to advantage local demand.

Silage—A development that has gained momentum over the past few years was further expanded in the form of silage accommodation, particularly for grass. The season, with its heavy meadow growths, provided a favourable basis for the production of grass silage. Officials of the Department of Agriculture, in collaboration with those of the Department of Industry and Natural Resources, rendered a valuable service in directing and assisting in the construction of trench silos, and the processes involved in saving grass for silage purposes. Scores of new trench silos have been constructed, and excellent mixtures have been conserved for winter feeding. In some cases grass and corn have been processed on the surface by using snow fences, some lined with paper and others unlined.

Investigational work in the saving of crop materials for winter feeding is still going on, and as the details of construction and conservation are more thoroughly understood a greater measure of attention will be given to a standardized system of silage production. Large quantities of grass and corn have been saved for feeding purposes at Falconwood Farm in silos of the standard upright variety, the ordinary trench variety, and in enclosures running along the side of the barns, and in snow fences. Some of the silage has been treated with molasses, and some is without treatment of any kind. Two crops of grass were saved for the purpose.

Up to the present it can be stated that a surface silo, arranged with very little cost, and running along the side of the barn, with the second crop of grass that was stored without preservative treatment, has probably proven the most satisfactory.

Livestock—The livestock population of the Province expanded materially during the year 1952. The cattle population is now placed at 104,500, as against 97,900 for the previous year. Sheep and lambs are 36,200 in comparison with 34,400 while swine are up at approximately 135,000 head. At the end of November the number of hogs going through inspected abattoirs was 96,055 head, as compared with 85,524 head for the same period last year. Horses are down to 2,000 head, and definitely slowing up with old age. At the same time there has been a revived inquiry regarding horse breeding, particularly for farm purposes. The number of stallions standing for public service has dwindled down to a few horses at segregated points. Markets for livestock have been very uncertain and have undergone a distinct drop to lower levels. The outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease on the Prairies, and a prompt embargo imposed against Canadian animal products into the United States, brought about a serious marketing condition in Canada. It is amazing, in view of no alternative market outlets, that prices have been sustained at current levels. Even had Foot and Mouth disease not occurred meat prices would have deteriorated and the process was in effect previous to the outbreak. The American market will be reopened again on March 1st, and trade, it is hoped, will flow

in freer channels and thus remove meat pressures on the domestic market. There should not be too much optimism, however, regarding price conditions thereafter, as the levels in the United States have been undergoing changes which would not indicate any favourable uplift on Canadian prices. This situation will similarly affect beef, cattle, and hog prices. It is of great value, however, in view of increasing cattle population, and supplies backed-up on the Canadian market, that the important United States outlet should be made available at an early date for our surplus supplies.

Local market prices show the following changes since December of last year with the 1951 prices in brackets: Hogs Grade A 25.00 (30.00); Choice and Good Steers 20.00-21.00 (28.50); Cows Good 12.00 (20.00); Bulls Good 12.50 (22.50-23.50); *Lambs Rail, Grade 47.00 (62.00); Eggs 33c (36c); Turkeys Grade A 45-56 (53); Ducks Grade A 32 (38); Geese Grade A 32 (40); Butter 64 (69); Cheese 31 1/2 (38); Feeds Carlots Barley 2.85 3/4 (3.35); Oats 2.69 1/2 (3.40); Oil Meal 100.00 to n (110.00); Bran and Shorts 2.65 (3.67).

Cattle—Cattle breeders were active in the promotion of improved breeding practices. Importations of outstanding dairy and beef bulls have been quite common, and the Province is now reasonably well supplied with outstanding strains in both the beef and dairy divisions. Under the new subsidized Sire Policy, initiated by the Department of Agriculture last year, a total of 47 bulls have been inspected, and the majority have been placed and subsidized. This policy is proving very popular, and is undergoing gradual expansion.

The beef men led by the Short-horn Breeders' Association have been active in the sale of registered breeding stock, and in March conducted, in conjunction with the first Fat Stock Show to be held in the Province, a sale of selected males and females. The Fat Stock Show and Sale was an outstanding success. The prices averaged 29.86 per pound, which was somewhat higher than that secured at the Maritime Fat Stock Show and Sale. A total of 43 animals was disposed of in this feature, while a total of 36 animals was sold in the Breeders' Sale. The demand for dairy cattle during the year has been keen, and at the end of the season the supply of good Grade and Pure-bred dairy animals was well depleted.

Hogs—While swine production during the year was increased by about 10,000 head, market conditions, prices, cost of production, and an announced lowering of the floor price to 23c at January 1st, brought about a condition of panic in the industry, and the prospects from the best available breeding sources indicate a lower production of hogs for next Fall of between 30% and 40% This condition obtains right across Eastern Canada, and will bring about another high and low, and unstable condition in the industry. It is unfortunate, even admitting that a 23c floor is too low, and costs are too high, that breeders respond so quickly and lose sight of long-time conditions. A steady program of production, with an excusable slight variation in response to cost and mar-

ket conditions, will be found over the long pull to provide the most satisfactory returns. Cutting our hog production at one blow almost in half can scarcely be justified in the light of past experience and prospective future needs. The quality of Island hogs continues to dominate the Maritime swine industry. At the Maritime Winter Fair Island exhibitors practically swept the competition clean, and the same occurred in the dressed carcass competition at the Royal where two carloads were entered in competition from the Province.

The apparent dual judging standard set up at the Royal is long overdue for correction. It is difficult to understand why Island hogs on the rail, under the most accurately known system of judging capture national trophies, and sweep through the complete competition with comparative ease, should have their equally good litter mates turned down consistently to the bottom of the classes in the live judging. When this situation is mentioned to those who know the exhibition, only a somewhat embarrassed smile, is the reaction. Is this obvious contradiction the result of judging ignorance or a deliberate policy associated with dual judging standards? If either or both where are we heading in our swine industry, and what is the use of Advanced Registry standards?

In the Advance Registry tests Island breeding stock still retains its rank away in front of other Provinces, while in the Commercial strata our percentage of "Selects" for the year occupies an equally impressive position of pre-eminence at approximately 52%.

During the season the bonus on inspected boars was raised to \$16.00 for Grade A. Over one hundred and forty boars were subsidized under this Policy. Of this number over 70% graded in the "A" class.

Sheep—Almost one hundred rams were inspected under the Ram Premium Policy. The demand for good sires has been exceedingly keen, and in conjunction with export

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LAST TIMES TODAY SEE FBI SMASH SPY PLOT AND SAVE OPERATION FALCON. WALK EAST ON BEACON. PRINCE EDWARD TODAY. MATINEE 2:30; EVE. 7 AND 9. HEAR 22 STEPHEN FOSTER SONGS! I DREAM OF JEANIE. CAPITOL.

at our RING OUT THE OLD CHIME IN THE NEW NEW YEAR'S EVE SHOW Presenting You'll Sing! As They Swing! Charles R. ROGERS Presents SONGS OF THE OPEN ROAD. TO-NIGHT PRINCE EDWARD WHERE GAIETY and GOOD FRIENDSHIP MEET at 11.30 P.M.

JOIN THE GANG FOR FUN AN FROLIC -- THRILLS AND DRAMA AT THE THEATRES ON NEW YEAR'S DAY!! PRINCE EDWARD THUR. - FRI. - SAT. Best Wishes for 53 MATINEE 2:30 EVENING SHOWS 7 AND 9 CAPITOL THUR. - FRI. - SAT. NO KIDDIN' IT'S GREAT KIDDIN' WHEN Meet Captain Kidd. Abbott and Costello Meet Captain Kidd. CHARLES LAUGHTON. SALT SONGS! SAUCY BABES! and that SPICY SONGSTRESS FRAN WARREN. EXTRA!! NEWS - SPORTS - CARTOON - "CRUISE OF ZACA"

Montague Skating Rink Program Wednesday, December 31 2-4—Skating 8-10—Special New Year's Skate Thursday, January 1 7:00—Hockey Practice, senior team Friday, January 2 8-10—Regular Skate Saturday, January 3 12:30-2:30—Skate 8:30—Hockey Refrigeration SALES and SERVICE Repairs To All Makes MOTORS Rewinding and Repairs ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE Repairs Palmer Electric PHONE 1444 H. J. Mabon R. O. Optometrist Eyes Examined Fitting and Supplying Glasses, etc. Office Hours: 10 to 12 A.M. 2 to 5 P.M. and by appointment. Office Connected with Mabon Drug Co. Montague, P. E. I.