

AGRICULTURAL NEWS

P.E.I. Department of Agriculture

WHAT'S IN A BAG OF FERTILIZER?

Some of the more common questions asked regarding the contents of a bag of fertilizer are listed as follows: Question: What do the figures mean, such as 3-15-6 or 6-12-12 etc.?

Answer: These figures represent formulae in which the first figure indicates the percentage of Nitrogen (N), the second, the percentage of Phosphorus (as P 205), and the third, the percentage of Potash (as K2O). They are always in this order. If minor elements are added, they are indicated on the tag or bag in pounds of water soluble and total pounds per ton.

Question: If a 100-lb bag of 6-12-12 contains only 30 lbs. of pure plant food, what makes up the other 70 lbs.? Is it filler?

Answer: Not necessarily. At least, most of it is not filler, for the following reasons: All the chemicals used in making fertilizers are compounds of two or more elements which cannot be separated, because pure nitrogen is a gas, pure phosphorus would burn, and pure potash is extremely caustic and as such cannot be handled or used as fertilizers. Therefore, the balance, or the non-essential elements in the compound, take up the balance of weight and space.

For example: 100 lbs. of sulphate of ammonia contain 20 lbs. of nitrogen and the 80 lbs.

balance, is made up of sulphur, oxygen and hydrogen. In 100 lbs. of super-phosphate, there are 20 lbs. of phosphorus pentoxide (P 205) commonly termed phosphoric acid, and the balance is mostly gypsum, containing calcium, sulphur, oxygen and hydrogen. In 100 lbs. of muriate of potash, there are either 50 or 60 lbs. of potassium oxide (K2O) and the balance is chlorine. A similar situation exists for all other compounds in fertilizers.

Question: What is filler and why is it used?

Answer: Filler is any loosening material which is added to complete the chemical ton when the added weights of chemical compounds containing the required percentage of pure chemicals do not add up to 2,000 lbs. This filler is not necessarily sand nor useless materials. As a matter of fact, by far the largest proportion of filler is limestone used to neutralize some of the acid-forming nitrogen compounds. When there is sufficient lime to balance the acidity, the mixture of formula is termed a neutral fertilizer, and is preferred for use on very acid soils. Neutral fertilizers, however, should be used with caution on potato land if the soil is infected with potato scab.

Question: What is the proper way to buy fertilizers?

Answer: 1. Buy only grades (Continued on page 9)

Life Membership Granted At Annual Meeting Of I. O. D. E.

The granting of a Life Membership to Mrs. J.A. MacMillan "for faithful services in the work of the Chapter," the election of officers for the 1958-59 term, and the reports of the various Chapter committees featured the 57th annual meeting of the Royal Edward Chapter of the I.O.D.E., held Monday at the Charlottetown Hotel.

It was also noted with satisfaction that the Chapter had played a part in the granting of a National Life Membership to Mrs. T.W.L. Prowse, National Vice-President, for her "kind hospitality to the Order while Chateleine at Government House."

The following were elected to the executive for the year 1958-59: honorary regent, Mrs. E.S. Blanchard; past regent, Mrs. B. Earle MacDonald; regent, Mrs. W.E. Massey, 1st. vice-regent, Mrs. Jan Burnett; 2nd. vice-regent, Mrs. Stuart Weir, secretary Mrs. J.B. Murley; assistant secretary, Mrs. H.L. Sear; treasurer, Mrs. J.O.C. Campbell; standard bearer, Mrs. G. Greenough; education secretary, Mrs. J.A. Lawson; echoes secretary, Mrs. E.V. Saunders; services at home and abroad, Mrs. J.A. MacMillan.

Councillors elected were: Mrs. S.D. Irvine, Mrs. G.R. Keeffe, Mrs. T.M. Brehaut, Mrs. W.M. For-

sythe, Mrs. A.W. Rogers, Mrs. W. T. Weir, Mrs. S.K. Todd, and Mrs. Eldon Campbell.

Among projects highlighted in the reports of the past year's activities were: the granting of a scholarship to a student at Prince of Wales; placing books in the libraries of the City Schools, donating prizes for history, awarding a scholarship in the Musical Festival, giving aid to the Halifax

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Discuss Branch In City Of The John Howard Society

The idea of establishing a branch of the John Howard Society in Charlottetown was discussed by the Kiwanis Club of Charlottetown at their regular weekly meeting held last night in the Queen Hotel. The idea was brought to the attention of the club by J. Frank MacMillan, Lawson Jenkins presided.

It was explained that the John Howard Society is an organization to rehabilitate prisoners who have been released after serving their sentences, and people in similarly unfortunate and difficult circumstances.

Such a society offers personal interest and genuine concern for the person through the advice and co-operation of properly trained workers who know best how to deal with people in difficulty. The club showed marked interest but felt that further study was needed on such an important matter.

Earl MacLeod is chairman of the curling committee that will be responsible for sending two teams from the club to the Kiwanis Bouspiel to be held in

School for the Blind, and the Charlottetown school for the mentally retarded.

Other 1957-58 Chapter projects included: the presentation of pictures of Her Majesty, the Queen, to a number of schools and Scout troops; the re-decorating and re-upholstering of the reception room at Mount Herbert Orphanage; the donation of magazine subscriptions to the veterans at both Charlottetown Hospitals, contributions to the British Save the Children Fund, and the forwarding of boxes of used and new knitted articles for relief in disaster areas within the Commonwealth.

It was reported that eight new members were given the affirmation within the year and pledged allegiance to "Her Majesty."

Truro on March 17th. The club was told that all committees were functioning at full steam, especially the projects committees which has a project under development at the present time. Birthdays congratulations were extended by the chairman to Russ St. John.

Turks Going To Kentville San

HALIFAX (CP) — Eight Turkish sailors confined to the Halifax tuberculosis hospital nearly two months will be transferred to the Nova Scotia sanatorium at Kentville this week. City health commissioner Dr. A. R. Morton said the men are being moved because of space limitations at the Halifax institution.

The eight, including an officer with commander's rank are part of crews brought here to man five Canadian minesweepers turned over to Turkey last November under NATO agreements. The tuberculosis cases were found in routine medical check-ups at Stadacona naval hospital here last month. Only one of the eight

cases is described as "moderately" advanced. Dr. Morton said arrangements are being made to have the patients returned to Turkey in May. The five minesweepers, now at Sydney naval base, are expected to sail for Turkey early this spring.

TOP WEEKLY PUBLISHER
TORONTO (CP)—A 64-year-old weekly newspaper publisher, who delights in "poking into everything in the community," has been named Mr. Ontario Weekly Newspapersman of 1958. George Arlof Dillis, publisher of the Acton Free Press and Milton Canadian champion, was named for the annual convention of the Ontario Weekly Newspapers Association, opening here Saturday.

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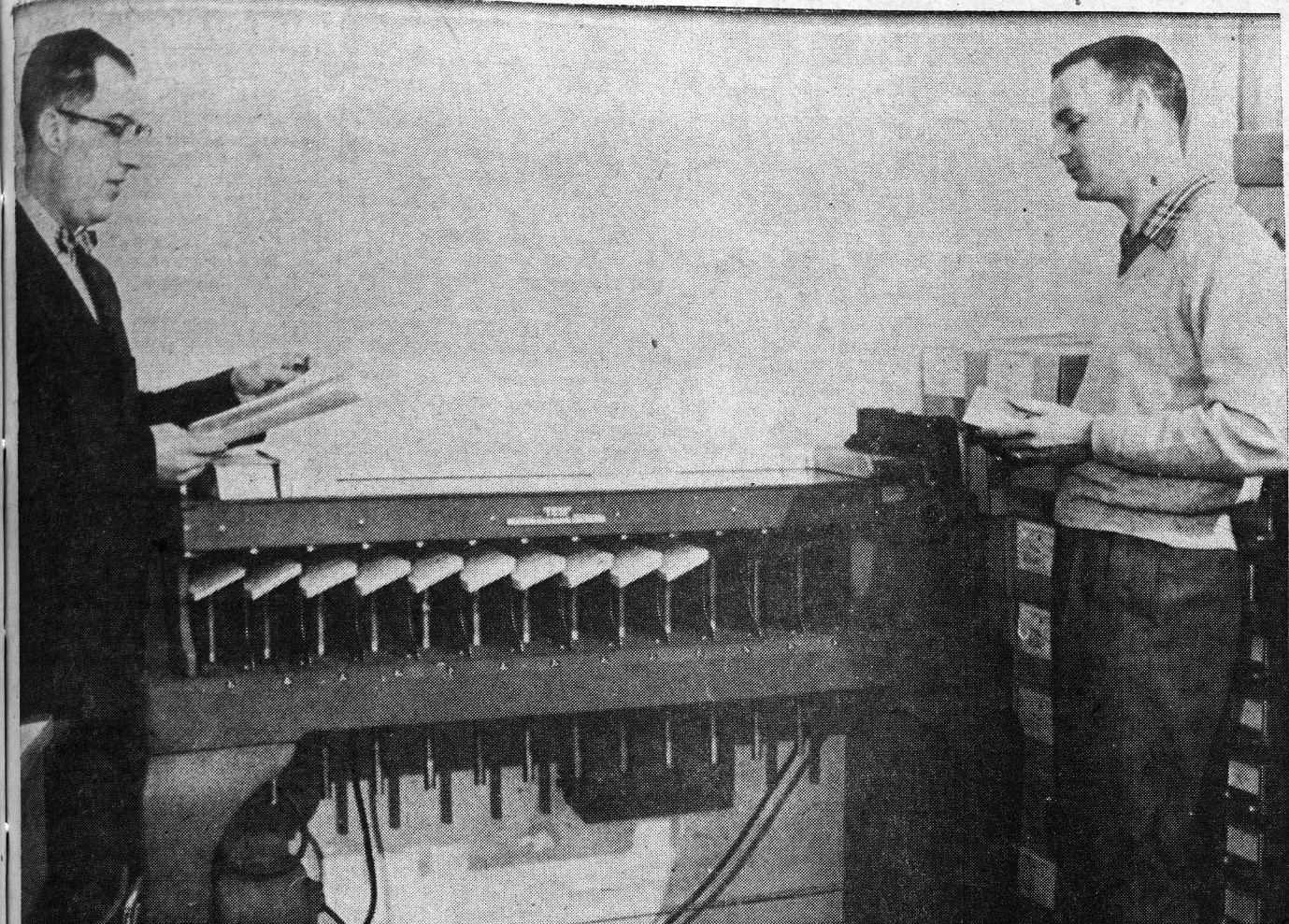
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WHERE QUALITY IS SURE



Alan Doyle, to procure information for John MacAleer, Director of the Division of Vital Statistics, Provincial Dept., of Health. This machine can sort over 20,000 cards per hour.



Alan Doyle IBM operator for the Provincial Department of Health, adjusts the accounting machine as cheques for pensioners are automatically printed by the machine.

Health Data

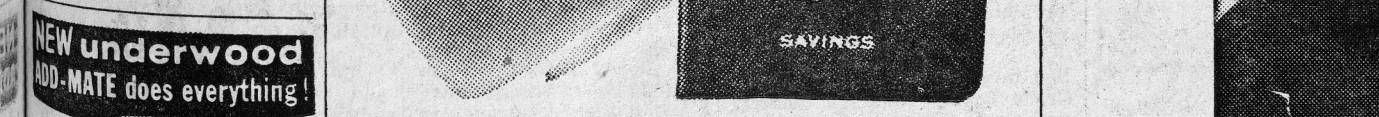
(Continued from page 1) sort the cards at the rate of 20 cards per minute or 21,000 in an hour. One operator with one machine can complete the whole job of sorting 25,000 cards in several hours depending on the amount of data needed. It may also be seen that much greater accuracy can be expected by the use of these machines.

Dr. Bonnell went on to say that motorists in the Province would be interested to know that all of their operators name, address, date of birth, serial number, sex, and fee. Along with the speed of the operation, accuracy obtained is very valuable both in respect to time and economics. Nearly 1,000 licenses are printed in an hour and the 37,000 licenses were prepared in this way, saving applicants valuable time when securing their licenses and plates.

SINCE 1953 Since this program began in 1953 records and statistics are being kept on all patients in hospitals, all births and deaths occurring in the province, in-patients at the Sanatorium, Sanitary Engineering Surveys, the Histopathological work of the Division of Laboratories, the Brucellosis Control program of the Department of Agriculture, Accident Statistics, Dental examinations performed by the Division of Dental Public Health, and Mental Health Clinic reports, while several others are still in the planning stages.

Efficient and accurate work is also done in the preparation of cheques for Disabled Persons. Beginning in April cheques will also be prepared for the Blind and Old Age Pensioners. The machine prints on the cheque the person's name, address, serial number and amount, and completes about 1,000 cheques per hour. The machine adds the number of cheques as well and balances out the total amount of money.

Dr. Bonnell went on to explain that there are four machines in the Department. The first is a card puncher on which is punched the information. Following punching the card is run through the verifier to check for accuracy. If it is necessary to sort the cards for any information i.e. arrange cards in alphabetical or numerical order, break up into age or sex distribution, to pick out a particular card, or for any other breakdown the sorter is used which operates at 350 cards per minute or 21,000 cards per hour. If on the other hand totals of numerical information are desired, or if printed data is to be obtained from the cards,



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Will Be Speaking At The Rollaway Club In Charlottetown



THURSDAY NIGHT 8.45 P.M.

Everyone Welcome—Doors Open at 8:00 P.M.

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