

# School Taxation System In Need Of Revamping

By J. LINCOLN DEWAR  
**MEETINGS**  
 Since our last newsletter two organizations — the Queens County Federation of Agriculture and the P.E.I. Beef Producers' Association have held annual meetings at Birch Court. Attendance at both meetings was the best for some time and interestingly encouraging. At the Federation meeting a listing was made of problems raised by the county president and the provincial president added to by the meeting. The group was then divided up into five smaller groups for discussion on the listing with the suggestion that each group establish what they thought to be

the most pressing. In every case the matter of school taxation came to the top. It is now quite evident that the inequalities of the school taxation system cannot very much longer be taken for granted. Farmers are not against paying their fair share of school taxes but in a slang expression they are "getting the gears put to them."

As the press had already carried a report of those meetings we see on point in repeating. The Beef Producer's had good attendance and a good program with a very interesting guest speaker. Jack Johnson as head of the Farm Broadcast Department in Halifax has the great advantage of knowledge based on both theory and practice. Those who heard Mr. Johnson and saw the slides taken in Mexico had a very entertaining 45 minutes.

Again this meeting has been well covered by the press but we think the new president Mr. McIsaac hit the nail on the head that in order to have a cattle industry in this province it was necessary for everyone concerned to work together and get it on the basis where all would have reasonable returns for the part they play.

**GRAIN MEETING**  
 Last Wednesday the Maritime Grain committee met in Moncton with Dr. Lavigne the Feed Grains Administrator. The meeting was well attended and the discussion of the situation was very good indeed.

The conclusions of the meeting are summarized in the following resolution which has been directed to the Hon. Mr. Sauve and Dr. Lavigne.

"WHEREAS statistics covering the movement of all feed grains for the Maritime Provinces, procured from Western Canada for the 1963-64 crop year indicate a volume of about 9 million bushels of which at least over 4 1/2 million bushels are involved in winter period of consumption, and

WHEREAS because of drought conditions in the Maritime Pro-

vinces heavy supplies of additional imported feed grains will be required, and

WHEREAS storage space allotted this year in August for domestic use was approximately 2.1 million bushels which leaves about another 2 1/2 million bushels to be procured through storages including Prescott and Quebec, and

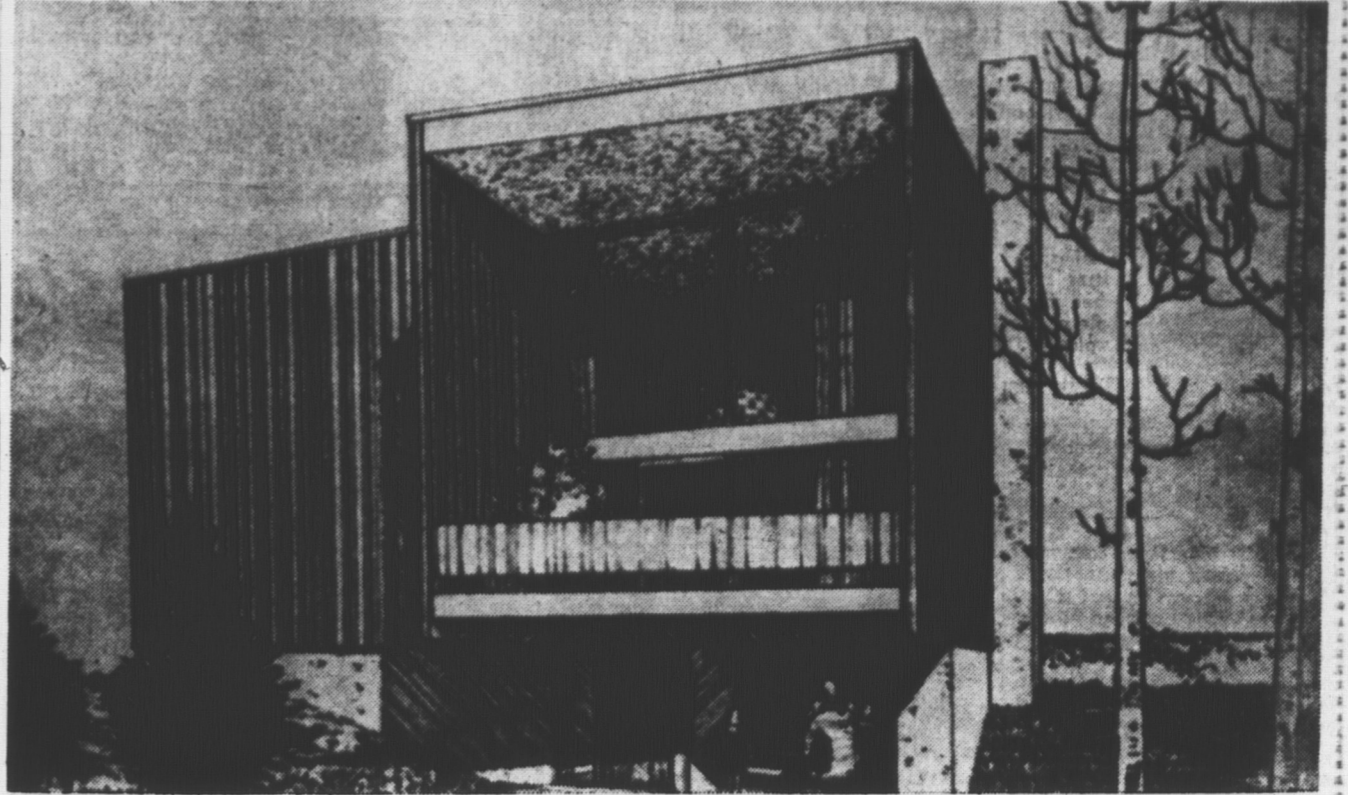
WHEREAS Prescott storage available was at a bare minimum due to heavy demands for storage to meet the drought conditions of Eastern Ontario and parts of Quebec, necessitating the extended use of Quebec storage for Maritime supplies, and

WHEREAS increased cost of as high as \$5.00 a ton from Quebec and \$4.00 from Prescott to move grain supplies by rail, to fill Maritime requirements to areas outside of the Nova Scotia counties adjacent to Halifax, imposes additional costs to the feeder, to the extent that livestock production may be materially decreased.

RESOLVED that the Feed Grains Administration and the Government of Canada be requested to take immediate steps to increase the transportation assistance on winter grain movements to the areas affected."

**CENTENARIAN**  
 Not very many farm organizations have over one hundred years continuous history but this is a record to which the Nova Scotia Fruit Grower's Association can lay claim as they are holding their one hundred and second annual meeting this week. This group takes their annual meeting seriously as it goes on for three days.

**WEATHERWISE**  
 We should like to commend the weatherman for his efforts through November and December to date. The rainfall and melting snow has been welcome, in addition, there has been no severe weather and farmers have had one of the best falls for getting work cleaned up. For those who have a woodlot, conditions have been ideal for working there and



## AWARD-WINNING HOME

This design for a modern, \$18,000 home won Gustava De Rosa of Winnipeg first prize in a competition sponsored by

the Canadian Lumbermen's Association. Mr. Da Rosa, a 32-year-old professor of architecture at the University of

Manitoba, was presented with his \$10,000 prize for the winning design Wednesday in Ottawa. (CP Wirephoto)

many seem to have taken advantage of the opportunity.

We are now moving into the most active stage of the shopping frenzy associated with the holy Christmas season. While there may be some disquieting aspects to the commercialization yet generally it has to be admitted that in spite of the dollar sign most people acquire a more friendly brotherly attitude to each other at this time of the year.

We are not yet prepared to recommend the abolition of Christmas even though it does interfere with getting the job done.

### DAIRY FOODS

This week the Canadian Dairy Foods Service Bureau holds its annual meeting in Montreal, this meeting is preceded by a meeting of the executive and by the Quebec Regional Committee. In addition, a number of special committee meetings are held all associated with producing a better promotional program for dairy products.

Generally across the country contributions are up this year, the program of advertising is being commended by producers, by processors and by those who

are experts in the business of advertising.

### READY FOR WINTER

As a young boy growing up on the farm we gained the impression, "That getting ready for winter" was a very serious business indeed. Any time after the first of November we believed it was possible for the bottom to fall out of the thermometer, for the earth to be buried in several feet of snow and life as we had known it to come to a complete stop.

"Are you ready for winter?" was a standard greeting and covered such unspoken questions as, "Are your crops all harvested?" "Is the house banked?" "Are the cattle all in?" "Is the barn tight?" "Have you wood for the winter?" "Is there a barrel of flour?" "How is the fat cow coming?" "Did you get your barrel of herring?" "How are you along with the shipping?"

season was usually gradual, the cold periods instead of lasting for a day lasted longer and eventually merged into each other. However, there were ones which descended like an avenging angel with frost and snow after the unwary had been lulled into a sense of security by a mild fall.

Such was the case in November 1933 when "even the trees were killed by a ferocious attack of frost."

Today much of this has changed. Transportation and communication is expected to continue, there is more livestock in the barn and even water lines in most cases are secure. In many farms filling the tank with oil takes the place of heading to the bush with saw, axe and wood sleigh. Radio and television keep us constantly informed and alarmed over the numerous low pressure areas which all seem to be headed for this small province.

Years ago, if Prince Edward Island was buried in snow, we concluded that North America was in a similar condition. Now we know that the weather can be a very local matter indeed, rarely now can storms sneak up on us, their paths are traced all the way from the Texas Panhandle to the Arctic.

Finally perhaps the greatest change is in the matter of road breaking. In the good old days all public spirited citizens in possession of public spirited horses were required to, on pain of the severest censure, to turn out for road breaking. Today the solution consists of reaching for the telephone, dialing the nearest local politician and inquiring, "Where is the snow plow?"

### AGREE TO MEET

MOSCOW (Reuters) — Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri of India and President Mohammed Ayub Khan of Pakistan will meet in Tashkent in southern Russia Jan. 4, the Soviet news agency Tass announced Wednesday.

This Christmas... give

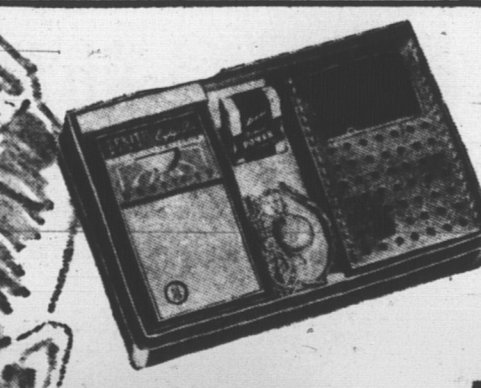
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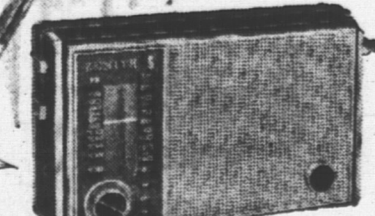
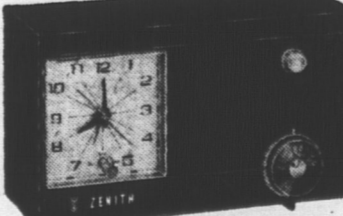
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### COMPACT PORTABLE

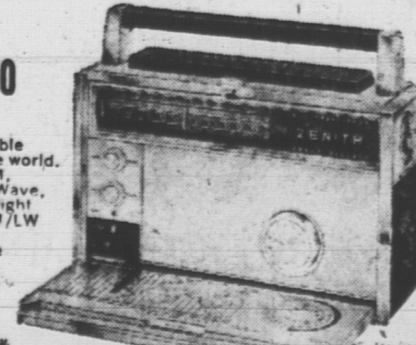
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