



Agriculture In Scotland Stirs Premier's Interest

By NEIL A. MATHESON

A chat I had a few days ago with Premier Walter Shaw is the main fare in today's farm column, but first let me correct a potato story that appeared a few days ago in the news columns.

I wrote about two fine specimens of McIntyre Blue potatoes that were brought to this office from the Johnstone's River area. They were grown on the Lewis Brazel, Centennial Farm, Johnstone's River, Charlottetown RR 6.

The fantastically large number of sheep the premier saw grazing high on the steep Scottish hillsides, and the beautiful tweeds he saw being woven in

the small crofter's homes in the Isles of Harris and Lewis were two of the things which impressed the Island Premier most strongly, I gather.

No matter where one travels in the United Kingdom, he emphasizes, "one would see large flocks of sheep which indicate the importance of sheep raising in the economy of the country."

Driving through the Highland country and the Western Isles of Skye, Harris, Lewis and Uist... the Highland hills were beautiful. The more rugged and majestic at he crests were bare of vegetation, but an attractive covering of heather in the lower hillsides, and the beautiful tweeds he saw being woven in

And the hardy sheep, mostly Highland black faces, were seen on the steep hillsides maintaining precarious footholds, while they grazed far above the watcher from below.

Rustling or sheep stealing would be easy there, the Premier observed, though the animals are tended by shepherds with their incomparable sheep dogs.

He saw a few of the long-haired, woolly Highland cattle, but they're used mostly for crossing with other breeds, Mr. Shaw believes. People attending the Atlantic Winter Fair next week will likely see a pair or two of oxen from this colorful and rugged Highland breed. The first

thing you will notice about them is their horns, which I must spread close to four feet.

BEAUTIFUL TWEEDS

I liked particularly the Premier's reference to the beautiful tweeds woven in the homes of the crofters whose holdings of five to 10 acres are too small to give them a living. And I recall — I checked with Mr. Shaw on this one — that much of the Harris and other tweeds for which this part of Scotland is justly famous are woven in such humble homes in the hills, though they are marketed through regular channels of merchandising.

The Shaws' visit — Mrs. Shaw was along of course — to Dunvegan castle was interesting, though Dame Flora was not at home and it's easy for me to agree that "the Isle of Skye is beautiful". It's the land of my maternal ancestors and of course it's beautiful, even though I've never seen it.

The scythes and the rake are still important implements in Harris and Lewis islands, where they keep a few sheep, a cow or two, have a few potatoes and vegetables for

home use and, of course, plenty of peat fuel which is available there in abundance.

Here's one that has a real pioneer flavor. The Shaws report "the crofters' homes in those islands were honey and tidy... the people were warmly friendly and hospitable... some of old thatched roof block houses were still in evidence with a hole in the roof and the fireplace in the middle, with the smoke going out through the air draft."

But there was an atmosphere of independence, with evidences of hard labor and productive-ness. And the back of the homes on the steep, lonely hillsides rising from the tinted lochs, thousands of sheep pastured contentedly."

Stornoway was like a section from Hartsville, or Belfast, the Shaws report.

"A marvelous farming area and the heaviest grain I have ever seen" with great Ayrshire cattle breeders was the comment on the Ayr district. FAMOUS FARM VISITED The Shaws were dinner guests

at the farms owned by Wallace Montgomery — the bloodlines are well known in this country — and they saw 150 head of top Ayrshires, with perhaps 100 of them milking at the time. Big cows of "tremendous capacity" — size is stressed — caught the Premier's eye.

The wearability of the cows in this famous Scottish herd caught the eye: some were 20 years, with udders still reasonably intact.

The barn staff of men and women were on the job at five in the morning but more satisfied and content than they felt they could be in the uncertain labor market where "strikes, broken time and other disturbing irritations" are often found.

Mr. Montgomery carries about 300 sheep. Suffolks are used in crossing, chiefly with Dorsets. "Big sales of breeding sheep see 4,000 to 5,000 animals sold at the big sales at Kelso, with 10 sales rings in operation at the same time. The animals sell, at the rate of one a minute and cattle are sold at the rate of one every two minutes — a far cry from the often fantastic delays and eloquence associated with Canadian cattle auctions."

FAMOUS CLYDESDALE

The Shaws saw one fine four-in-hand hitch of beautiful Clydesdale horses in Glasgow, but the Premier laughingly observed "I believe they were advertising a brand of Whiskey."

The Clydesdale reference came when he recalled that the famous Clydesdale stallion "Baron of Bucklyva" generally regarded as one of the all-time great sires of the breed, had died at the Montgomery farm. The animal was given a burial and a memorial fitting to his great record as a sire and showman performer.

Another great Clydesdale stallion, Dundure Footprint had a service fee of 200 pounds Sterling at time of service, and another 200 pounds at the time the foal was dropped, the Premier was told. Obviously his "get" must have been used for show purposes when such a price was paid for the stallion's services.

Ayrshire breeding stock from the Leamescoke herd have come to this province periodically, ever since Bert Brown of York brought one in many years ago. The Premier carried back the best wishes from Mr. Montgomery to the many Ayrshire breeders he knows here.

Premier Shaw was greatly impressed by the reforestation and land-use schemes of thousands of trees are being planted annually, some of them well up to the crests of the rugged Highland hills. The results will soon be evident, he suggests, in plentiful supplies of lumber for local needs.

"In view of our own small efforts to improve our forest growth in this province, I have been encouraged by the Scottish and Irish policies to expand on this program, and increase what I am sure will be a very valuable natural resource," he observes.

"Through the Glenary hills one comes on a very lovely glen called the Great Glen. I believe this was once owned by a Canadian. The glen has been tremendously improved and has developed into a large cattle ranch. Sheltered on all sides by high hills, cattle run at large all winter, with temporary shelter for stormy or rainy weather. I observed some of the herds and they seemed to be of excellent beef type and in fine vigor and condition."

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SIGN MORE COUNTRIES A record total of 60 countries now have signed up for Expo 67, the Montreal World's Fair.



MAN IN SPOTLIGHT

Lights stream down on Progressive Conservative leader John Diefenbaker as he addressed a Kiwanis luncheon in Toronto Monday. Later Monday night a major rally in

Richmond Hill, Ont., just north of Toronto he spoke at the service club talk, although it was billed as non-political, he managed to emphasize his ideas of Canadian unity. He

said he does not want to see Canada become "a loose grouping of petty states" with the central authority in Ottawa "subjugated to other interests." (CP Wirephoto)

Parliament Hill Turned Into Propaganda Factory

By RONALD LEBEL OTTAWA (CP) Parliament Hill has turned into a propaganda mill, with the five parties mailing election literature at the rate of 80,000 pieces a day.

Thompson speech recorded on tape this plastic. Campaign manager Frank Jones said there's only one thing wrong with the new - fangled folder. The printers left a key word out of the party platform on the back cover.

with their farm platform, using different headline stories for Eastern Canada and the Prairies. Most slogans used this year are comparatively mild. "Policies for people, policies for progress," proclaims the Conservative pamphlets in bold blue letters. "Make your vote count for more," reply the Liberals in even bolder black letters.

While politicians are away on the campaign trail, party workers and MPs' secretaries bombard voters and candidates with slick-paper pamphlets, booklets and even records.

The brochures are long on ad-verbs and pictures and short on specific proposals for future government action. Most popular words are "progress" and "security."

Two ALTERNATIVES He was debating whether to return the folders to the printers in Paris, Ont., or have his staff paste on 50,000 tiny pieces of sticky paper bearing the word "financial." (Social Credit calls for more federal aid to education but favors continued provincial control in this field.)

The main Liberal pamphlet has a cover picture showing the sun shining through a young maple tree and a quotation from a speech by Prime Minister Pearson beginning with "I speak to you about this new Canada..."

Another Social Credit pamphlet consists of five postcard-size show a young man with a briefcase intitled "R. N. T." walking on a green carpet stretching across Canada.

Le Ralliement Creditiste running its first independent campaign to an admittedly small budget, offers eight pocket books on Social Credit monetary theories for sale at prices ranging from 25 cents to \$2. The party platform is distributed free, but it is mimeographed on foolscap, not printed.

NDP DISTRIBUTE PAPER New Democrats are distributing a four-page newspaper with a page-one picture of the Parliament Buildings and a headline saying: "Parliament costs you \$30,000 a day—are you satisfied with the results?"

Inside-page articles deal with main planks in the NDP platform and a picture shows leader T. C. Douglas clutching his hands above his head in the classic pose of winning boxers.

The Conservatives have issued a special pamphlet for eastern farmers sporting a cover photo of Mr. Diefenbaker fingering a turnip at an open-air country market while grinning farmers stand around.

The high-speed taxi stop was made during a test of a hook-and-cable braking device similar to the arrester cables which halt aircraft landing on aircraft carriers.

The Canadian Experimental and Proving Establishment has been testing the brake at Namoo since July, hoping to develop it until it can stop a 13½-ton aircraft at 225 m.p.h.

The Liberals are distributing a four-page tabloid newspaper

NEW STOP DEVICE Tested By Jet

EDMONTON (CP) — A 104-ton jet fighter roared down a runway at nearby RCAF Namaso and came to what Pil. Lt. Larry Nelson called a "kind of jerky" halt from about 135 m.p.h.

It felt, the pilot added, "jerky but gentle" — like a panic stop in a car doing 60 m.p.h. But the important difference was that Nelson wasn't using the CP-104's brakes.

"I wanted to work on my own. This is one of the few jobs open to an engineer today where he uses his intuition," he said.

The chain passes over sprocket wheels which are hydraulically braked, thus stopping the plane. The system, developed by a German company, is in use in Germany and Denmark.

They are: Freshwater and Placentia-Town council office—total cost of \$40,000. Duviville — Town hall — total cost \$9,246. King's Point—Centennial park—total cost of \$6,199. Fogo — Recreation centre — total cost of \$40,000. Woody Island—Park and playground—total cost of \$2,730.

The first electric arm, designed for adults, operated by switches on a battery attached to the wearer's belt. The new design has no switches.



ARSON SUSPECTED

Arson officials of the Montreal Fire Department are investigating the ruins of the Downtown Club in downtown

Montreal, which was destroyed by a spectacular blaze early Monday. Firemen discovered gasoline-soaked rags in the

stairway. Three other establishments were also damaged. (CP Wirephoto)

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