Meat, Wheat Present Main Problem on Economic Stage

By HAROLD MORRISON
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Canada's economy is currently throbbing with unprecedented activity but is gradually reaching a delicate and perhaps critical stage in two important billion-dollar industries—meat and wheat.

The meat market, in spite of the United States embargo on Canadian exports, has been comparately strong, bolstered by federal government price support and by the tripartite Canada-United Kingdom-New Zealand agreement to move some surplus Canadian beef to Britain.

But under the agreement, Britain will take from Canada only the amount New Zealand can divert to the United States market. At one time, it was thought New Zealand might have 80,000,000 pounds for the American market this year. The figure now has been trimmed to 60,000,000.

The Canadian government already has bought 45,000,000 pounds and that leaves only another 15,000,000 it can purchase for shipment to the U.K.

Normally, the heaviest marketings of Canadian beef are in the fall months when summer grass-fed cattle are ready for the dinner table. Unless the American market is opened, there likely will be a lot more than 15,000,000 pounds of beef surplus to Canadian demands.

Just how the government will handle this surplus will be a matter for some skilful planning. It already has committed itself to maintain a price-support program until the American market opens and that means it likely will buy up all surplus beef offered by the producers.

Other countries besides the U.K. have indicated a desire for Canadian meat, but it is understood the prices they have offered are far below cost and would mean sharp losses to the federal treasury if taken up.

Meanwhile, the chances of an early reopening of the American market, closed because of foot-and-mouth disease in Canada, are growing more and more remote. There had been some hope it would be reopened 60 days after the federal government officially declares Canada free of the disease on Aug. 19. Now there is a feeling that the doors will remain closed perhaps until early next spring.

In the case of wheat, the critical questions are transportation and weather. Canada may have a record crop this year, higher than the 566,000,000-bushel record crop of 1928. In addition, she likely will have a large carry-over of wheat from the last crop year. The crop is early this year and farmers will be ready to move their grain earlier than usual.

But the Great Lakes shipping fleet is striving to make up for the lag in iron ore shipments caused by the American steel strike. The ships are trying to get enough ore to the Canadian steel mills before the freeze-up to keep them going through the winter months.

Both ore and wheat will be bidding against each other for shipping. The Canadian Federation of Agriculture, for one, feels this may cause a shipping bottleneck such as developed last year. It feels the longer it takes to move the grain from the fields, the more opportunity there will be for fickle weather to change suddenly and threaten a harvest which otherwise would spell prosperity for a big segment of the Canadian population.

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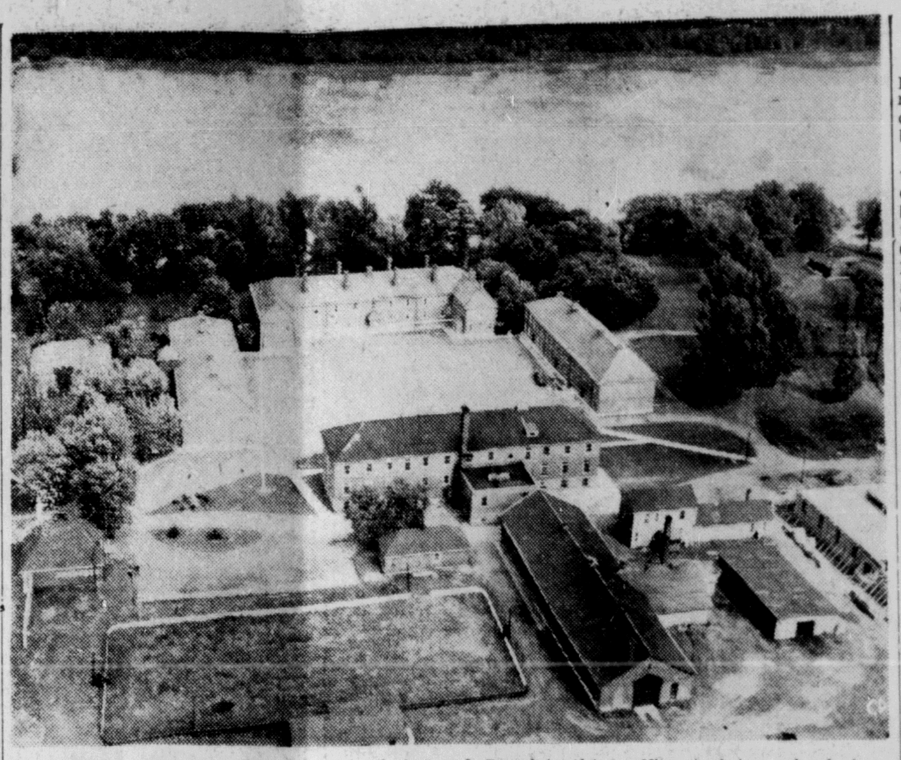
Fire Destroys Log Dwelling At Francoise

Special to The Daily News

FRANCOIS LAKE. — A log ranch house was completely destroyed here Saturday afternoon when a raging fire burned down the home of Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Gatacre.

Little of the contents was saved. The Gatacres and five children were not at home.

The fire ate quickly through the tinder-dry building. It is believed to have started in the attic.



MILITARY COLLEGE—This is an aerial photo of Canada's third officer-training school, intended primarily for French-speaking officers in the three armed forces, at St. John's, Que., on the banks of the Richelieux River. The College Militaire Royal de St. Jean will open in September. (CP from National Press)

TCA Check Pilot Flew in Antarctic

MONTREAL (CP) — Capt. Bert Trerice, recently appointed appointed check pilot for Trans-Canada Air Lines' international services, is a veteran of Antarctic flying.

He joined Lincoln Ellsworth and Sir Hubert Wilkins in 1938 when the two explorers decided that Canadian bush pilots were the men to guide their party through the icefields during an expedition into the Antarctic.

The 19-man party, on board the schooner Wyatt Earp, was led by two aircraft flown by Trerice and another Canadian pilot, J. H. Lymburner.

Ellsworth and Wilkins planned to explore the southern polar region to determine the location of the shore line beneath the shelf of ice. The schooner was the base of operations while the two planes scouted ahead to find safe lanes through the treacherous icebergs.

A native of Amhert, N.S., Capt. Trerice merely shrugs at the dangers involved in Antarctic flying.

"The chief danger was icebergs," he said, recalling an incident when the crew decided to refill the schooner's water tanks with ice water.

The schooner was tied to an iceberg while the men chipped away at the ice. Suddenly the iceberg rolled, lifting the vessel high in the air. However, it slipped clear and escaped without damage.

The party spent six months mapping and exploring a vast expanse of shelf ice called Enderbyland, 1,000 miles from the South Pole.

Shortly after returning from the expedition, Capt. Trerice joined TCA and has since flown nearly 3,000,000 miles in the Maritimes and over the North Atlantic.

Even Woman's Corset Holds Treasure of Dead Recluse

SOMERSET, Pa. (AP)—The search of an isolated home occupied by a wealthy man—who even in death was armed with a gun and a fierce pack of dogs—is almost completed today but unsolved are the questions:

Why did Samuel Jackson King live in such conditions while worth at least $68,000? And how did he save so much?

Treasure hunters who have probed the debris-littered mountain farmhouse where King lived have come up with nearly $18,000 in negotiable bonds, old currency, gold and silver coins, in addition to bank books, safe deposit vault keys and real estate deeds indicating an estate worth approximately $50,000. These were tucked away in such places as a sofa, cookie jar and a woman's corset.

The whole thing started 10 days ago when 73-year-old King was found dead in a field, on his farm about 20 miles from this southwestern Pennsylvania community.

Nearby, lay King's favorite dog, Israel. A loaded shotgun was at his side. Death was apparently caused by a heart attack.

Then Sheriff Karl I. Hare and his deputies went to the house.

"I thought there might be some money there," the sheriff explained.

FALSE BOTTOM

Inside the house was an old sofa where Israel apparently slept. When it was moved, out dropped a false bottom revealing a sheaf of $1000 bonds, with not a coupon clipped since 1934. Some $430 in $20 and $10 gold coins were found in a canvas sack. A rumpled roll of old large-sized currency contained hundreds of dollars in bills ranging up to $50.

Throughout the house officers found tin cans and glass jars filled with coins.

Other searchers came upon similar situations. One man found a woman's corset and was about to throw it away when a wallet dropped from a secret pocket stitched in the lining. It contained $130 in bills.

The corset is believed to have been the property of King's sister, Amanda, who lived with King until her death 18 years ago.

Two wills, the most recent of which gives the farm and everything on it to a neighbor, Earl Gray, were discovered. Gray worked for years as a part-time hired hand for King.

HUGE CATCH

For the first five months of 1952 the Bay of Fundy sardine catch was 21,488,000 pounds, worth $365,000 to fishermen.

Vancouver Man To Inspect Repair Work at Reservoir

F. C. Stewart, consulting engineer of Vancouver, will be brought to this city to inspect repair work being done on the reservoir before final cementing is done.

This was decided by city council over the objections of Alderman George Casey who said he believes there are men in this city "quite competent" to do the job.

Alderman George Hills said Mr. Stewart was brought here to do the designing and "therefore he should be the man to oversee the repair work."

Mr. Casey questioned the fee to be paid Mr. Stewart for his services and said, "I don't like the idea of having to run down to Vancouver every time we need a job done here."

Alderman J. W. Prusky backed Mr. Casey's contention that a local man should be employed to inspect the work, but Alderman Darrow Gomez said Mr. Stewart had the experience and he is the logical man to supervise the work.

Workmen began the $27,500 job at the beginning of the week and expect to take from six weeks to two months to complete the job. All old cement and paint is being taken off in preparation for new material.

City Works Superintendent Don Stewart told council the contractor is "well ahead of schedule" and work is progressing favorably.

The Vancouver engineer will be brought here before the new coat of cement is applied.

Don Stewart said the works department slowed the intake last Saturday to allow all water to be used from the reservoir before work started.

"There were about three coats of cement on there," he said. "They will all be scraped off, after which workers will wash down the reservoir with water.

It will then be sandblasted and the hundreds of steel pins will be driven into the sides of the wall and floor and a steel mesh placed over before new cement is applied.

The company hopes to put two shifts on the job, working from sunrise to sunset.

DRY MIXTURE

The new coating to be applied is called Gunite. It is a mixture of sand and cement mixed in a dry state and placed under pneumatic pressure by a machine manufactured for that purpose. Water is then introduced through the nozzle and the mixture is blown into the mesh.

The new coating will be a minimum of two inches thick.

Mr. Stewart said the reservoir has been leaking badly for several years and this work has been long overdue.

Telegraph Gives Way to Wireless

Special to the Daily News

TERRACE—Dominion Government Telegraph operations, which have served the north country for more than 50 years, are gradually making way for radio communication set-ups.

Lloyd Huntley, who arrived here to relieve George Grant who is on vacation, said telegraph operations at Dawson Creek, Stewart River and Fort Selkirk, in the Yukon, have been closed and replaced by modern radio communication.

Mr. Huntley has been telegraph operator at Stewart River for the past four years.

WHAT, NO COOLERS!

WINNIPEG (CP)—Old Dobbin just doesn't seem to care about dunking his nose in the water trough any more. City Engineer W. D. Hurst reported seven of the old sidewalk refreshment booths are unused.

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CANUCK FLIES

(Continued from Page 2)

pounds of freight and mail, and more than 10,000 passengers, including many wounded brought back from the Far East.

The squadron was at its Dorval home base when it received orders to move to McChord and begin the Trans-Pacific operations. Under command of Wing Cmdr. Campbell Mussells, OBE, DSO, DFC, of Montreal, the squadron flew its own North Stars to the Pacific Coast, taking ground crew, administrative staff and servicing equipment with it.

HECTIC AT START

At first the squadron went through a hectic period, keeping to a one-flight daily schedule with only six aircraft on strength. During the critical period when the Korea campaign demanded maximum effort air crew were logging as much as 160 hours a month through some of the worst flying weather to be found anywhere.

In recent months the squadron has been flying eight round trips a month, operating from Dorval instead of McChord.

Wing Cmdr. Mussells left the Thunderbirds last year to become senior personnel staff officer at Air Transport Command headquarters, Lachine, Que., was replaced by Wing Cmdr. K. MacDonald, DFC, of Antigonish, N.S.

Since the squadron's base was moved back to Dorval, Wing Cmdr. H. W. Lupton of Regina has taken charge as commanding officer of No. 426. Wing Cmdr. MacDonald is to take over new duties with the RCAF on the continent of Europe.

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