

Tongue-In-Cheek

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room to make sure that only marijuana is talked about and to ensure no hidden fields of the nicotine weed are being grown.

This may be the time to push for a change as the federation claims there are no "conclusive findings" that dictate marijuana should be under the Narcotics Control Act.

The changeover to marijuana would end the federation's worry that youngsters are starting to smoke in epidemic proportions claiming 300 new ones are getting their first drags on a cigarette every day.

The CBC could get back its lost revenue from all those cigarette advertisements with a big splash about the coupon carrying marijuana sales.

The tobacco board and the cigarette manufacturers could wing over to the swinger group to help out all those brainy professors who contend marijuana is harmless while Health Minister Munro decrees that one cigarette takes eight minutes off your life.

If the young lady in London, Ont., who is 106 and smokes two packs a day, hadn't smoked she might live to the ripe old age of 170.

She just might make it by getting into the swinging age with a changeover to marijuana.

The changeover would release vast areas of land in Norioik to blow in its own way as only closely-watched

nurtured small plots would be needed to produce the new product.

This production would have to be closely controlled as an overproduction would haul down the price.

Even the government could get into the swinging age with lots of extra revenue from a new product. Instead of the \$1 billion it gets from tobacco, it could get \$2 billion from marijuana because when you come out with something new you can name your own price.

The RCMP could relax somewhat, which would be a savings to the government, because the underworld would really be confused and it would take some time before they discovered what was the underground product.

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"I use mostly local labor," he said.

Mr. Scott expects a bigger cut in acreage this year and said he will probably have only about 15 acres to plant this season.

"I will be using Delhi 34 again this year," he said.

Chairman George Demeyer could fire all his field inspectors and take a tour of the 10-foot plots in his own leisurely time.

He could also forget about those nasty Munro quips about that dirty old tobacco that's killing off the race.

The tobacco editors could relax and tell all those sweet things the public would like to hear and quit telling about slaughter on the highways.

Nobody would want to go anywhere anyway as they would have those marvelous "mars" to relax with on the patio.

In all it could again become a grand old world.

Tobacco

Continued from Page 1

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Early experiments with two strains of chickens show that the chick mortality rate was cut in half when the birds were given regular lights-off rests.

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application to protect a provincial crop amounting to about 3,500,000 bushels. Fungicidal spray programs are expensive but, until a less costly and equally as effective method of control is developed, there is no alternative for growers, says Dr. Ross.

In Nova Scotia, use of better fungicidal sprays and methods of application have reduced the incidence of the disease to a remarkable degree, adds the federal plant pathologist.

Surveys made annually since 1948 in 66 orchards show the pattern of decline in apple scab. From 1948 to 1953, an average of 20 per cent of the apples in the orchards were infected with scab; by 1960 the average had dropped to five per cent, and since then, to two per cent.

In 1969, 62 of the orchards were practically free of the disease, with an incidence of less than one per cent. Results in the other four, however, showed that scab will remain a problem if spraying is neglected or done improperly. The four, poorly sprayed, had a disease incidence of about 22 per cent.

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Control of Apple Scab

Spraying apple orchards to control disease is fairly costly, but the results are worth the investment of money and time, says Dr. R. G. Ross of the Canada Agriculture Research Station, Kentville, N.S.

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British Made Tractors Flow Into Country

Greatly stepped up imports is the first reaction to the Royal Commission Report on Farm Machinery.

The Ontario Farm Machinery Agency, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, has already planned a greatly expanded program.

More British-made tractors and implements will flow into Canada. Moreover, the Farm Machinery Agency reported to be lining up a deal of Czech-made Zetor tractors. Two of these were displayed at last year's OFA convention.

The report revealed that Canadian farmers pay too much for their tractors. The profits go to the big tractor companies that build their machines in Western Europe and ship them for final assembly to North America.

These are the jamor conclusions of Clarence L. Barber, head of the Federal Royal Commission. Particularly singled out are Ford Motor Co. of Detroit and Massey-Ferguson Ltd. of Toronto.

Both these are parent companies of large multi-national organizations, which the commission found charge whatever the traffic will bear in each country where they sell machines.

In Britain, where there is a lot of competition, the price is low. In Western Europe, where there is not quite so much competition, the price is higher. And areas like Scandinavia and

North America, the prices are a good deal higher.

All for virtually identical tractors.

The differences are maintained by harsh rules that stop dealers in low-price countries like Britain from selling to anyone who might export the tractors for a year after they are sold.

The commission was told by British dealers, whose names were not revealed, that the dealers who broke this rule to sell machines to the Ontario Federation of Agriculture for its importation program risked heavy fines or even loss of their dealerships.

The commission estimates that if Canadian farmers could get tractors at British prices they would save about \$15-million a year.

To get the prices in line, the report suggests a combination of government persuasion and arm-twisting. If the companies will not listen to government requests to lessen the price spread, and Commissioner Barber is not expecting them to, he suggests a couple of measures to force them.

One is to bring pressure on the British government to outlaw the trade restraints inherent in the no-export rules. This would have problems, because the report says the British Board of Trade — a Government body — evidently approves of them.

Another kind of pressure could be by importing tractors from areas of the world where they are produced at prices below even what they are sold for in Britain.

Specifically mentioned are the Zetor tractors the OFA recently brought to Ontario for field trials.

The report suggests farm groups could set up distribution and servicing for the tractors, and the OFA is understood to be working on a plan which — if approved — would provide this.

The report suggests Zetor prices could be "more in line with those that currently prevail in Britain."

Zetor recently tackled the British market, and its prices there are understood to be about 25 per cent below those of the Western manufacturers in the same market.

Final proposal is for what Barber calls a "reverse dumping duty."

The company importing a tractor at more than the price for which it sold anywhere else would have to pay a duty equal to that difference in costs. The duty would then be paid to the Canadian farmer buyer.

This would mean the buyer would have a net price equal to that in the country where the tractors were being sold cheapest.

Barber notes this is a radical suggestion, and would have to be studied at length before being applied, because it would affect

more fields than farm tractors.

Problem is that tractors are built in Britain by one subsidiary of the world-wide parent company and then sold to a Canadian subsidiary. In some cases they first go to a U.S. subsidiary where they are fabricated.

In these transactions, it is possible for the companies to take the profit in subsidiary companies that are outside Canada and beyond the jurisdiction of the Canadian government.

This makes necessary the elaborate mechanisms to control the amount of profit the companies can make on tractor sales to Canadians.

The report points out that all major tractor companies selling in North America sell for about the same price.

Small companies like Case and Allis Chalmers are able to cover their costs with production of fewer than 20,000 units a year.

This leaves a healthy profit for International Harvester and John Deere, which produce in the same high-cost U.S. market, but at a level of 60,000 to 100,000 units.

Earlier studies by the commission showed that tractor manufacturing becomes more economical as the annual production gets closer to 90,000, and it indicated annual production of 150,000 would be even more efficient.

Barber notes that when Britain devalued its currency in 1967, the spread between tractor wholesale prices in Britain and those in Canada should have dropped. Instead it rose.

Had the British selling price been related to costs of manufacture there, when the pound became worth fewer dollars (i.e. was devalued) the tractor priced in pounds should have cost fewer dollars in Canada.

Before devaluation, the difference between British and of pollution in those places. This applies especially to eagles and Canadian wholesale price.

The year after devaluation, the difference had stretched to 30 to 45 per cent, depending on the model.

Wholesale prices in Britain ranged from \$1,800 to \$3,000 in 1968. In Canada they were \$2,500 to more than \$5,100.

The presence of these inequities is demonstrated, the report says, by the severe penalties imposed on anyone selling tractors for back-door export.

Company officials in Canada checked the serial numbers of tractors imported under the OFA program over the past two years to find out what dealer sold them.

White, the truck builders.)

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