

The Ottawa Spotlight

By Wilfrid Eggleston

Ottawa, Nov. 17.—A conference of the Ministers of Agriculture of the nine provinces together with the Dominion authorities has been called for December 14th. This is part of a program to improve Canadian sales of farm products in the United Kingdom, the United States and elsewhere. Hon. J. G. Gardiner has been giving considerable attention to the matter. He spent several weeks in Britain himself after the session. He made certain preliminary observations about the need of studying the British market a little more attentively, and also the desirability of watching Canadian quality and suitability before the cattle, cheese, butter, poultry, bacon, etc., left this side.

Then Mr. Gardiner asked the deputy minister, Dr. Barton, and Dr. J. H. Grisdale, the former deputy minister, to make some inquiries along similar lines when they were in Britain. He asked them to report independently on his own suggestions. Later he instructed H. S. Arkel, the former livestock commissioner, to visit the different provinces, and interview livestock organizations and farmers' societies as well as packers. Mr. Arkel will have his report in the hands of the minister by the time the Ottawa conference begins.

New Drive for Exports

What the Minister of Agriculture expects all this preparation to lead up to is this: he wants an organization formed in Canada to assist in the exporting of Canadian farm products, to advise farmers what is wanted on the other side, to keep an eye on quality, to watch market change. It is expected that this body will keep closely in touch with some sort of intelligence service on the other side, which will advise from time to time how the shipments are being received and what can be done to build up the trade still further.

The facts and figures for 1936 show that markets for the products of the Canadian farm are growing steadily, but there is still plenty of room for enlargement. The cattlemen of the Dominion have been urging upon the Minister of Agriculture the need for further emphasis on this matter. An ample market for Canadian live cattle at somewhat better prices than have been prevailing would be of tremendous value to Canadian farmers in every province.

Profits in Textiles

Some rather sensational evidence has been brought out by the Turgeon royal commission which is investigating the textile industry in Canada. Eyebrows have been lifted here and there at the profits which have been accumulated by some of the companies, especially when they are set in contrast against the wages paid some classes of employees. The "hidden inventory reserve" of Canadian Cottons Limited, has also come in for attention. Although the officers of the company claim that everything was done to safeguard the company against undue fluctuations, and that in the long run the reserve all come out in the balance sheet and had taxes paid upon it, this view does not coincide with that of the income tax department. The latter has made a tentative assessment of about \$383,000 for unpaid income tax between 1920 and the present. This, apparently, does not include penalties, nor

does it include anything for the year 1916-1920.

The angle which will be followed with especial interest across the country is what effect these disclosures will have on the tariff policy of the Mackenzie King government. Substantial slices have already been cut off the Bennett duties on textiles, and so far the action does not seem to have ruined any of the companies. It has enabled the Canadian consumer to enjoy a bit more choice when time came to buy cloths and clothing. But anyone who has brought in a shipment of textiles recently knows that the tariff is still moderately high on most lines. It so happens that these revelations about the textile industry arrive just when the Canadian government is trying to figure out some way of mollifying the British into continuing free entry for Canada's farm products. It would not be surprising if some further reductions in textile duties are offered by Canada in return for maintenance of the Ottawa agreement benefits. Iron and steel, boots and shoes, machinery, are other lines which we may see coming in more readily from Britain after the next budget.

Talk About Defence

We are beginning to hear a lot about defence programs, about orders for aeroplanes, about destroyers. There is not much of an official nature to announce. A great deal of talk can be dismissed as idle gossip. But an enhanced air force looks like a safe bet.

HEALTH

A HEALTH SERVICE OF THE CANADIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES IN CANADA



CANCER, WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT IT

Cancer Not a Hopeless Disease. Thousands of Well-Authenticated Cures. Necessary for Public to Learn the Earliest Signs. Early Treatment Would Save 95% of all Surface Cancers.

Cancer is a riot of the normal cells of the body. The ordinary cells of one's body divide in regular fashion in the course of from 2 to 12 hours. It is a well controlled process essential to growth and development.

A cancer at first is a single cell. As such it is infinitely small. The growth of a cancer cell is uncontrolled. It is a sort of bolshevist; it divides and grows rapidly; its growth is many times faster than the growth of the tissue cells from which it sprang.

The chief cause of which we know anything, except in the case of age, is chronic irritation of some kind, irritation prolonged for a considerable length of time. The irritant may be a jagged tooth, a badly fitted denture, dirty teeth, the influence of heavy smoking or chewing tobacco, the effect of tar or lubricating oils on the skin. Certain dyes, such as the aniline dyes, cause cancer in the urinary bladder. Arsenic may cause cancer of the lung. Now and then a mole placed somewhere on the skin where it becomes irritated will result in cancer. There are hundreds of irritants which, if prolonged in their action, may produce a cancer.

Age, like an irritant, is a predisposing cause. Ninety per cent

of all cancers occur after thirty-five years of age.

Cancer is not inherited, but the tendency to have cancer may be an inheritance. Cancer is not contagious nor infectious: it is not due to civilization nor the food of civilization. It is found in all climates, in all classes of people. About one in every ten persons is fated to have cancer. The early signs of cancer must be alarmed by everyone if we are to have, what is essential to success, early treatment. Pain is not an early sign. Most cancers fail to cause pain until there is pressure on a nerve or interference with the function of some important organ. The early signs of cancer are, lumps, as in a woman's breast, irregular bleedings from any of the orifices of the body, departure from habit in the digestion of food or in bowel evacuation, difficulty in swallowing, chronic hoarseness from disease of the larynx and finally sores, be they ever so small, which do not heal.

What is the procedure if you, my reader, discover any of these signs in yourself or in a member of your family? Go at once to your family doctor. Why? Because the family doctor knows more about you than any other medical man. But be sure that he gives you within reasonable time a decided opinion one way or another. It may be difficult. It is rarely impossible. What you bring to the doctor suspecting cancer is either a cancer or is not a cancer.

The doctor on his part must use all the resources at his disposal for the purpose of prompt and correct diagnosis. He has the microscope, the X-ray and the test-meal. He can call in the aid of an expert. For your sake and for the reputation of his profession, the doctor must do his very best. And that he will do.

What are the resources of treatment? Excellent in this and most countries. The writer has had frequent opportunities of comparing the medical education of Canada with that of most of the civilized countries of the world. Canada in this respect does not lag behind any.

There are only three methods of treatment of any value in cancer. These are surgery and the use of X-rays and radium. No quack ever cures a cancer. Rarely does he know whether the disorder he treats is a cancer or not. All a quack does for the victim of cancer is to delay the securing of proper treatment.

Surgery treats 70% of all cancers coming for treatment and surgery, in spite of the fact that many cases come for treatment at a very late date, makes an excellent job of it. Surgery is probably the best form of treatment for all internal cancers, those of the deeper parts of the throat, the larynx and the breast; but even in these situations, X-rays and radium are valuable auxiliary methods.

The X-rays and radium are probably the best methods in all surface cancers, in those of the lips, tongue, mouth and upper parts of the throat and particularly the cervix of the uterus in women.

All over Canada in large hospitals there are the best of facilities for the treatment of cancer. Clinics have been set up at great expense for this purpose. There

WELL BABY CLINIC

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THURSDAYS 2 to 4 p.m.

is no longer any ground for the cancer patient to say, "I cannot have treatment because of poverty." No case is turned away. All receive the best treatment available. Cancer need no longer be considered a hopeless disease.

Questions concerning Health, addressed to the Canadian Medical Association, 184 College Street, Toronto, will be answered personally by letter.

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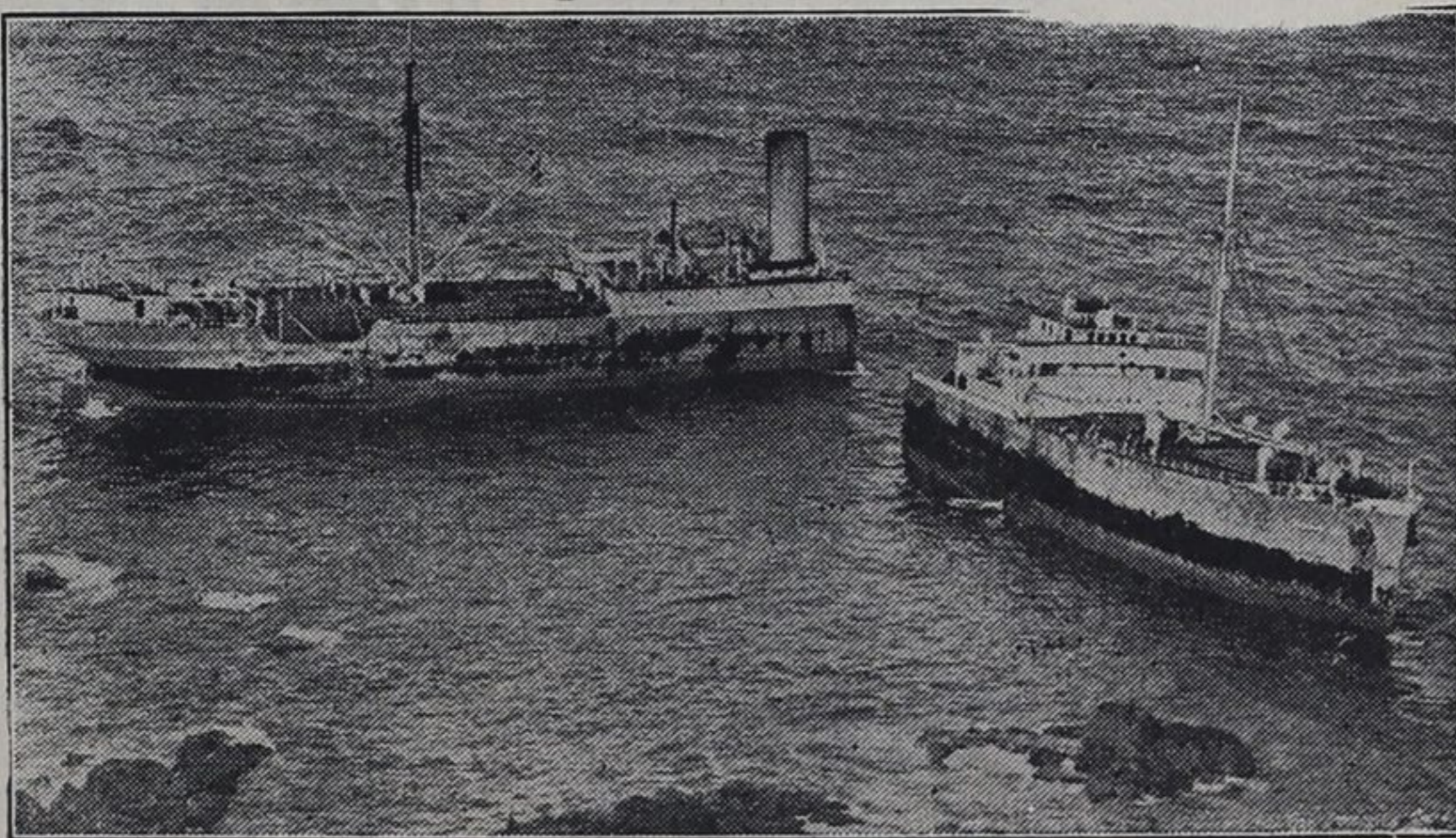
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STEAMER BROKEN COMPLETELY IN TWO

The "Bessemer City" of New York, wrecked on the coast of Cornwall during a fog, broke in half after the crew had been rescued by the St. Ives Lifeboat. This picture was taken at low tide, showing the vessel very securely fixed on a reef of rock.