

Bumper Crop, No Tariff Hard for Apple Growers

After a year of feast apple growers around the world are hoping for a year of famine—preferably in some other apple-producing part of the world.

Last year, world-wide bumper crops resulted in a glut on the apple market, which in turn meant lower prices for producers.

CROPS DOWN

Only now is a cautious optimism returning to the North American market as apple stocks have been reduced to normal for this time of year, although many growers had to take losses in the process.

Al Ferri of R.R. 2, Norval one of this area's leading producers, estimates that apple crops are down 20 to 25 per cent this year from last year "which should make it better for the grower. With last year's glut, we couldn't even apply our production costs to the produce."

LOST SALES

The difficulties of the Ontario grower last year were compounded by the government's refusal to place protective tariff on fruit, he said. Many growers here have lost sales to France and Italy, where production is highly subsidized.

"In those countries" he said, "the government covers most of the production costs by subsidies. They can then undercut our prices here and take no loss at all."

CHEAP FOOD

"The government's thinking seems to be to provide cheap food for everyone at the expense of the farmer," he said. "If there was a 15 to 20 per cent tariff applied, we could manage to pay our help a decent wage and make a decent living for ourselves."

He noted that, although last year apples were selling at greatly reduced prices to shippers, the savings were not being passed along to the consumer. "This was because of the high shipping and handling costs, he said, as well as the high chain-store mark up."

NOT LIKE CEREAL

Ferri feels a massive education program should be undertaken to inform people of the proper way to treat an apple. This would result in a more appealing product, he said, which would result in increased sales.

"The chain stores seem to think apples are like cereal, soap and store them out in the open," he said. "If they realized apples were perishable like milk or meat, they would refrigerate them, thereby keeping them fresh."

WON'T LAST

Apples will not last in the heat he emphasized. If left in the heat, they go soft and mushy and this is what "turns people away from buying them."

Bruce Pallett, an Inglewood apple grower, agreed with Mr. Ferri that crops this year were down about 20 per cent from last, but he doesn't think this will bring substantially higher prices for the grower.

WILL IMPORT MORE

"If production's down this year, then the government will just import that many more to make up the difference," he said. "It won't mean a thing as far as the consumer is concerned, and it won't help us either."

He predicted that apple growers will be in trouble for the next few years, "because of over planting and imports. If we had that protective tariff, it would help us greatly by offsetting the French and Italian subsidy."

LOSS NEEDED

He agreed that a crop loss in some other country is needed to pick up sales here. "It may sound like a horrible thing to say," he said, "but a crop failure somewhere else is what we need to really cut into the glut on the market."

Headed Letter Carriers Ray Ollivier Retires

Georgetown Post Office employees gathered to say goodbye to veteran mail carrier Ray Ollivier Wednesday. Mr. Ollivier, who joined the post office just a few weeks after letter carrier service was initiated, has been making the rounds for 10 and a half years.

Postmaster Harold Marshall presented the retiring mailman with a gift of cash on behalf of his fellow employees.

Prior to his job with the post office Mr. Ollivier worked in aviation. He was with Avro for six and a half years and before that spent 12 years with De-Havilland in England, the latter part as a service engineer.

He is the retiring president

of Local 154 of the Letter Carriers Union, a position which he held for the past three years.

Mr. Ollivier told the Herald he hopes to keep busy with part time work, as well as his hobby which is refurbishing antique radios. He'll also use some of his extra time hunting and fishing.

Ray, his wife Lillian, and son Geoff, a Northern Electric employee live at 44 Prince Charles Drive. He has three other sons, John, business manager with Cable TV; Bob, also a letter carrier and Ray who is currently in South Africa on a world tour and one daughter, Audrey (Mrs. Brian Williams) in Glen Williams.

Will Update Medical Records at the Manor

The physician for Halton County's Home for the Aged has agreed to demands from county council that he examine every resident and bring medical records up to date within a year.

Dr. J. W. McCutcheon of Milton, who is paid \$14,000 a year for the part time job, admitted that he may never have seen some of the institution's 300 residents.

ONCE A YEAR

The Ontario Homes for the Aged Act requires an examination once a year for every resident.

Government inspectors said that in the nine years Dr. McCutcheon has served as physician at Centennial Manor not all residents were examined nor were all reports completed.

Action was taken by the manor committee of council three months ago after an Oakville doctor complained about the medical record of a woman who was a resident of the home for 12 months.

It was disclosed that the medical record of the woman listed only her identification, date of admission, and death.

Nurses reports contain no record of an examination by Dr. McCutcheon during the 21 months, although another physician was summonsed 4 times in the two months prior to her death.

Stanley Allen, Manor administrator, said this does not indicate that residents have been neglected.

The question is whether Dr. McCutcheon was complying with the act by doing annual medical exams and completing the records.

UP TO DATE

McCutcheon said the pa-

erwork on annual medical was not up to date and he agreed to bring it up to date as soon as possible.

Dr. McCutcheon was critic of the amount of detail required on medical forms. He said patients are free to call or visit their own doctors anytime if they are happy with the medical care.

The investigation was prompted by the doctor's complaint about lack of oxygen in the home for a resident with a respiratory ailment.

Minor Injuries Child Runs Into Car Side

Four year old Julia Richardson of 40 Queen Street suffered a bump on her forehead and scratches to her right arm when knocked down by a car on Queen Street near Murdoch July 8.

A police report said she ran into the side of a car driven by Mrs. Helen Arbuckle of 18 Edith Street. The child was taken to a doctor's office by Mrs. Arbuckle for treatment.

There were two other accidents on the same day. At 5:05 p.m. a car driven by K. C. Lindsay of 11 Emery Street and one driven by Donald Burt of 51 Edith St. collided at the corner of Edith and Park St.

Police put damage at \$300 to the Lindsay car and \$250 to Burt's. There were no injuries.

At 8:05 p.m. a car driven northbound on Rexway Dr. by Duane Cartier of 7 Lucinda Place skidded in loose gravel and hit a hydro pole resulting in \$300 damage to the car. Again no one was hurt.



Al Ferri of R. R. 2, Norval examines one of the apple trees.

Driver Exam Bookings Now To Be In Brampton

Since its inception several years ago, the Drivers' Examination Branch, Dept. of Transport has been handled by the Guelph Division of the Dept. In Georgetown every Wednesday, they have operated on

one day a week basis in town from the ambulance building.

As of the first of July control has passed to the Brampton office, and from now on instructors will come each Wednesday from Brampton to test driver applicants.

The major change for local residents is that appointments will no longer be made through the Georgetown Licensing office, but will be made directly at the Brampton Drivers Exam-

ination Centre. All information regarding appointments and testing will be made in future by Telephoning 459-0660, Driver's Examination Centre.

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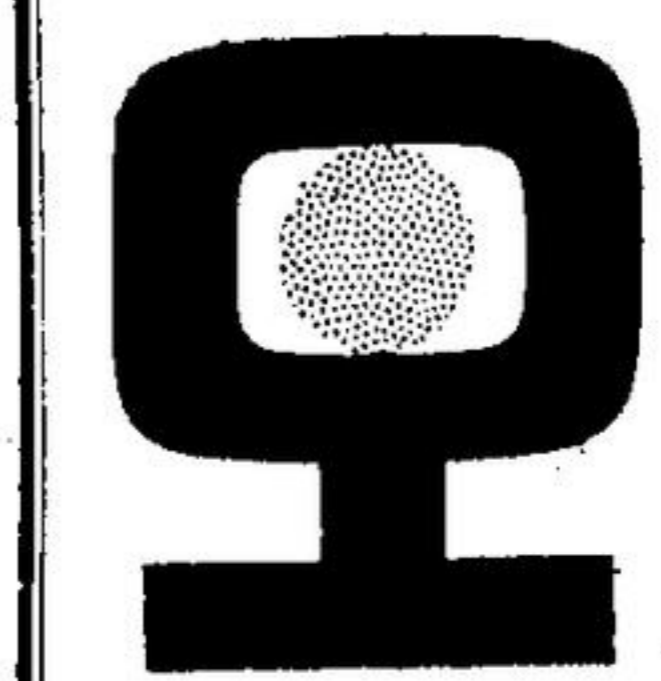
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