

Delegation Will Protest Ban on Export of Cattle

Three farmer members of the Ontario Legislature, John W. Freeborn, Lib., Middlesex North; Colonel T. L. Kennedy, Con., Peel, and former Minister of Agriculture, and Ross A. McEwing, Lib., Wellington North, on Tuesday will take to an Ottawa beef conference a protest "strongly opposing" the placing of an embargo on the export of cattle to the United States markets.

They will be accompanied by W. R. Reek, Deputy Minister of Agriculture. Besides the protest, registered yesterday by the Legislative Agriculture Committee on Mr. McEwing's motion, the delegation will carry out additional terms of the resolution, asking Ottawa to formulate some plan to stabilize the beef industry.

Mr. McEwing, himself, said the retail beef ceiling should be made sufficiently fluid that higher producer prices could be paid for stable-fed cattle. "If other industries can be assured production costs plus 10 per cent profit, I don't see why agriculture should not be placed upon an equal profit," he said.

Short of an adjustment in the ceiling, he suggested a subsidy of one-quarter or one-third of a cent per pound for stable-fattened beef. Farmer spokesmen in the committee forecast a "serious beef shortage" within the next two years if the prices for winter beef were held at the current level. Among those supporting vigorous action were George Bethune, Lib., Wentworth, and W. J. Gardhouse, Lib., York West, whose family is noted as breeders of Shorthorns.

"It burns me up," said the latter, "that every time the farmer gets something with a little profit in it, some one throws a wrench in the works."

The committee, with hog raisers irrespective of political affiliations taking opposing stands, had a showdown on Colonel Kennedy's plea that, in the interests of stepped-up war production and farmer returns, weight specifications on the two top grades should be raised fifteen pounds per hog.

Colonel Kennedy argued that from the farmers' standpoint, the last few pounds on a finished hog were the cheapest, so far as feeding costs are concerned. He was confident that, from the British consumer's standpoint, that quantity was more important than the last thing in quality. He was backed by J. W. Sinclair, Lib., Bruce, representative of one of the major hog producing ridings, and R. G. Croome, Lib., Rainy River.

Called to a vote, his resolution was defeated twelve for lean hogs and eight for heavies. "They will be coming back next year, or at least by 1944, and saying I was right," retorted the Peel member.

Bill for Day Nurseries Given Second Reading

House approval, without a single hint of objection, was given in second reading yesterday of a measure to authorize the Department of Welfare to establish and assist in the establishment of day nurseries for giving care to the children of women who are working in war industries.

"The House must be aware of the situation," said Welfare Minister Oliver. "As we take up the slack in manpower, more and more women must go into war industries."

He described health and moral effects of leaving children without proper supervision. He declared he was confident that the department should have supervising and licens-

ing authority over the nurseries which must be established. "It is only just and proper," he said, "that the department should see to it that proper places are provided while the mothers are working."

"It is urgent," he added, "that something be done to help mothers find places for their children."

Mr. Oliver said some suggestion had been made that Ottawa was interested and might take a lead in the provision of nurseries but, he stressed, the department so far has not been able to get definite word from the Capital as to its intention.

"We will invoke the 'establish and assist' section of this bill if Ottawa does not act or if the need is pressed," he said. He added, however, he was not in a position to say how far the department would go.