

Carryover stock essential to oilseed crushing industry

By RIC SWIHART
Herald Staff Writer
EDMONTON — An assured supply of rapeseed and continuing profits are the keys to maintaining an oilseed crushing industry in Alberta, says J. J. Banfield, vice-president of Canbra Foods Ltd. of Lethbridge.

Speaking as part of a panel of oilseed crushing industry representatives at the 5th annual convention of the Alberta Rapeseed Grower's Association here last week, Mr. Banfield told more than 130 people a carryover stock of rapeseed through to each new crop year is essential if marketing is to

continue on a steady and reliable basis.

Mr. Banfield said high world prices for wheat and barley tend to reduce rapeseed acreage because growers will expect higher returns for these commodities.

"The indication we have is that with forecast high wheat prices we are again faced with the threat of a much reduced acreage of rapeseed this coming year," he said.

"Drastic changes in the acreages of rapeseed may perhaps have little effect on the price of rapeseed to Prairie producers, but reduced

or limited supplies can have a disastrous effect on the viability of rapeseed crushing plants."

Pointing to some disparities in common goals for the rapeseed industry in Alberta, Mr. Banfield said promotion of a different type of rapeseed variety to that which had been previously determined for the country could be damaging to the industry.

Erucic acid content of rapeseed, determined to cause cancer in rats, had been legislated at a maximum of five per cent in all end products made from rapeseed oil. To justify a plant at Camrose which will make plastics from rapeseed oil, high erucic acid varieties of rapeseed were promoted.

Mr. Banfield said the danger from promotion of a high erucic acid variety lies in the contamination that is left in the fields following growth of crop of that variety.

He said there is the risk of contaminating by mixing varieties of rapeseed marketed to crushers who are limited to the low erucic varieties for domestic and export sales for use in edible products.

He said another ramification of the high erucic acid rapeseed situation is the possible side effect it could have on contract production.

Contract marketing, a valuable alternative for producers in selling their crop, could be hurt.

A continuing problem facing rapeseed crushers is the freight rate structure. Rapeseed seed can be moved by rail to Vancouver for about 12 cents per bushel. To transport an equivalent amount of processed seed cost about 55 cents per bushel.

Mr. Banfield said at one point this year, rapeseed seed could have been exported to Japan and the crude oil imported back to Canada at a price lower than the domestic crushing industry could offer crude rapeseed oil for export.

And the threat exists that if recent freight rates increases are allowed, these inequities will worsen.

The pricing structure for rapeseed also is a problem for the crushing industry in Canada.

Mr. Banfield said the futures market, the basis for the market price of rapeseed, has been 70 cents to \$1.40 per bushel above the futures price for soybeans, one of the main competition crops.

With about 30 million bushels of rapeseed in visible stock position and another estimated 40 million bushels on the farm to be delivered, Mr. Banfield questioned the higher rapeseed futures prices in relation to soybeans.

Under the existing futures market price, Canada has been successfully limited to a few customers in the export rapeseed market. And the market for rapeseed oil and meal produced from crushed seed has been almost non-

existent, he said.

Paul Douglas of Lloydminster, a representative of United Oil Seed Products Ltd., Alberta's only other processing plant in operation, said the freight rate situation must be remedied. With a climate more favorable to raw seed export, Alberta is actually exporting jobs.

In the face of a possible lower acreage of rapeseed in Alberta in 1976, Mr. Douglas encouraged producers to reach for the four million acre figure. He said because Canada is a small oilseed producing nation, the amount of production here will not have a big bearing on the price producers receive for their crop.

"And the more (rapeseed) we have, the more we will eventually sell," he said.

Also hurting the Canadian crushers is a subsidy paid to some European crushers by their governments. This allows European crushers to sell processed oil on the world market for less than Canadian crushers.

Reinhard Muhlenfeld, general manager for Northern Alberta Rapeseed Processors in Sexsmith, which will start processing rapeseed in 1976, said fluctuations on the world market for processing oil and meal is what determines the profit margin for crushers. Crushing costs can be controlled within a narrow margin.

He said transportation is more important to the industry than just a question of freight rates. Often a sale of product is made subject to getting the product to market in time.

Mr. Muhlenfeld said even with all other factors favoring crushers, continuity of raw seed is vital to the crushing industry.

He feels the crushing industry can help growers achieve this continuity of supply by working towards improving yields that will allow rapeseed to compete with other crops even when its price falls. While some growers reached 30 bushels per acre, the provincial average was 17.7 bushels per acre in 1975.

Ralph Chamberlain, representing Alberta Food Products at Fort Saskatchewan which will begin processing rapeseed in about 1 1/2 years, said it is important for the entire rapeseed industry to take a more positive approach.

A soybean industry representative until coming to Canada, Mr. Chamberlain said rapeseed people basically tend to have an inferiority complex.

He said in some aspects, rapeseed is already better than competing oils and in other areas, soon will be better.

Improved pride in its product will allow the industry to sell rapeseed and rapeseed products at a premium price.



CHECKING THE FEED LOT

Following father's footsteps big job for Cardston farmer

A number of Southern Alberta farm operations earned the title master farm before the provincial government discontinued the award several years ago. Herald Agriculture Writer Rick Swihart is revisiting these award-winning farms to see how the operations have changed to meet changing conditions in agriculture. This is the seventh in his series.

By RIC SWIHART
Herald Staff Writer
CARDSTON — George Linder is the third generation to operate the 2 1/2-section spread six miles south of here and he has big shoes to fill in ability and community spirit which won a Master Farm Family Award in 1971 for this father Herman.

Herman and his wife Agnes talk proudly of the engraved plaque signifying the last Master Farm Award winner before the Longhead government came to power in 1971,

changing the farm award to the Alberta Agricultural Hall of Fame.

The award is nestled among thousands of the other keepsakes and awards won by Mr. Linder in his years as North American and Canadian Rodeo Cowboy championship and prize-winning Maine Anjou cattle.

But it almost ended before it started. When he was 10, he moved to the Cardston homestead with his brother Warner and parents from Illinois in 1910.

"There was no snow the winter of 1918-19 and no rain in 1919," he said. "It was the worst drought and the winter of 1919-20 was the roughest we ever had."

Because their father had been a cheese maker, he had no training in agriculture. The brothers often ran the farm while

their father sought off farm employment to bring home the groceries.

At that time, in the fall of 1920, cattle sold for \$20 per head and wheat was worth \$2.50 per bushel. With only three horses left from the winter, the Linders' started breaking land on the half section they owned.

In 1924, they hit the jackpot. Their crop of wheat on their half section and on another half section they once owned but then rented reached 40 bushels per acre.

By 1930, they were farming with an eight-horse team. In the early 30s, Herman Linder Sr. turned the farm over to the brothers.

Riding had become a part of Mr. Linder's life. He liked riding for pleasure and turned to part-time rodeo for fun and to make some money.

In 1929, he entered in the Calgary Stampede and "hit it lucky." He earned \$1,000 and "that spoiled me." For the next 10 years, he rode the circuits throughout North America, spending his money wisely. In 1937, he bought a section of land with his rodeo earnings and later added the last half section.

In the spring of 1940, he started looking at cattle to expand the herd he had started in 1933 when he bought animals for \$11 each.

A lease on the Blood Reserve allowed him to expand the herd more. But the drought of 1936 saw him sell the cattle. He bought back in, keeping mainly Hereford cattle.

In 1967, son George came home and in 1969 he was a

partner with free reign of the operation.

Attendance at an artificial insemination course in Pincher Creek paved the way for introduction of exotic cattle to the operation. They applied in 1969 for a permit to buy exotic cattle, receiving one. They bought a Maine Anjou bull calf from France and after 30 days of service in the British Columbia Artificial Insemination stud in Calgary, it died.

But weight gains of more than 100 pounds per animal higher than any cattle they had previously owned spurred them on. They applied for more permits, finally bringing nine purebreds Maine Anjou to Canada.

From a domestic herd, this spring, the Linders will have about 140 calves. Half of them will be three quarter Maine Anjou and the rest mainly seven eighths. They are aimed for a foundation herd of purebred stock to supply commercial cattle men in efforts to upgrade beef production.

He says he has been able to raise bred yearling heifers to 1,000 to 1,150 pounds. That was the weight he sold two-year old steers off grass for from his earlier cattle herds.

For his interest in the cattle breed, he has served as president of the Alberta Maine Anjou Association while son George was president of the Canadian Maine Anjou Association.

A past president of the Cardston Rotary Club, Mr. Linder has kept the Linder blood lines in rodeo. Daughter Rosemarie is married to rodeo star Tom Bews of Pekisko.



HERMAN AND AGNES LINDER

Employees get raise

FOREMOST (Staff) — Ten non-union employees will be given 10 per cent salary increases this year, the Forty Mile County council decided Friday after a two-hour session from which the press was barred.

Fringe benefits will be reviewed after six months, council decided.

Council approved the sale of lots 18, 19 and 20, block 6, and a former farm equipment dealer's building at Whitta to the natural gas co-operative. Other old buildings are to be torn down.

Johnson, Morrison, Hunter and Nelson, Medicine Hat chartered accountants, were appointed auditors.

Council set 1 p.m., March 26 as the date for the annual meeting to be held at Eltzikom.

Coun. Marg Dragland was named to the county Agricultural Development Committee, replacing Coun. William George McFall, on holidays. It will meet at 1 p.m. Feb. 10 to study applications for Agricultural Development Corporation loans.

Council approved grants to churches and clubs in lieu of taxes as follows: Christian Reform Church, \$354; Manyberries Community Association, \$34; Eltzikom Evangelical Church, \$102; and Foremost Fish and Game, \$26.

Council approved a bylaw authorizing County Administrator Roy Wallman to borrow \$750,000 for 1976 operations, the borrowing that is normally required on a short-term basis.

New weekly gets start

KIMBERLEY (Staff) — The city's second newspaper has begun publishing this week under the direction of a former Lethbridge Herald employee.

Bruce Busby, formerly an advertising salesman at The Herald, is editor and publisher of The Portal, which is to publish each Wednesday.

Other staff members include reporter Susan Bond and Mrs. Busby, who is in charge of advertising.

The paper's first issue was an eight-page broadsheet printed by the Cranbrook Townsman. The Portal's staff prepares type and advertising layout to the camera stage of newspaper production.

The Townsman's press room staff prepares plates and prints the newspaper under a contract with The Portal. Kimberley readers are also served by the Daily Bulletin.

Agricultural Committee Chairman Bill Gejdos said Lee Holmes of Manyberries has had his application approved for a bursary to attend college.

Deputy Reeve Frank Romeike said a brief urging establishment of an Agricultural College and Irrigation Research Centre at Bow Island, presented to Advanced Education Minister Bert Hobol and Agriculture Minister Marvin Moore Jan. 19, received a good reception. "It was a very worthwhile trip and meeting with department officials. They said they would give some consideration to the brief in the future," said the deputy-reeve.

Bunny Bonspiel scheduled

BLAIRMORE (Staff) — Curlers from throughout southern Alberta and British Columbia have been invited to the 20th annual Bunny Bonspiel at the Blairmore arena April 15-18 to take part in the 20th annual Bunny Bonspiel.

More than \$2,500 in prizes is being offered to the 64 men's and 32 ladies' rinks expected to take part in the four-day event.

Entry fee is \$60 per men's rink. Four events will be featured on six sheets of ice. Entry fee is \$40 for ladies' rinks.

Mill levy meets costs

FORT MACLEOD (Staff) — A one-mill levy brought \$4,170 for the Fort Macleod Centennial Library in 1975, sufficient to meet operating costs, Coun. Margaret Moses told council this week.

The same levy will produce about \$4,500 for the library this year, council was told.

Revenues last year were received as follows: Willow Creek School Division, \$1,000; provincial library grant (1974), \$2,036; and Norfab Homes Ltd., \$500.

"On the money held by the town," said Coun. Moses, "there is still some due to the library."

The town pays utilities and the librarian's salary, as well as insurance premiums. These total \$345 per month.

The library has \$5,000 on hand plus \$1,700 due from the town coffers, said Coun. Moses.

She made the brief comment, "one mill will have to go to two mills."

Contacted after the meeting, Coun. Moses said, clarifying the comment, she is hopeful council will increase taxation for the library to two mills this year, after she submits her proposed budget.

South in short

'Pass gets ambulance

BLAIRMORE (Staff) — A new ambulance has been purchased to service the Crownest Pass.

The Pass Ambulance service, under direction of the Crownest Pass Municipal hospital, may keep the old ambulance as a standby if contributing communities in the area agree.

Legion officers named

FORT MACLEOD (HNS) — Officers of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 46 were installed recently by Zone Commander Al Goddard. Heading the branch for the fifth consecutive term is Jim Furman.

The Ladies Auxiliary officers were installed by District Commander Irene McCaugherty. Their president is Peggy Michell.

A social and dance followed the ceremonies.

Lodges to hold celebration

FORT MACLEOD (HNS) — Anniversaries will be marked by the Fort Macleod B.P.O. Elks and their sister lodge, the Order of the Royal Purple on June 5.

The Elks will be 50 years old and the OORP will be a quarter of a century old.

David Cootts, Exalted Ruler called a joint meeting to set up committees to head the banquet-dance celebration.

Frances Yanco and Ian Campbell were named treasurers. Other officers will be appointed.

Charter members will be honored and speaking for the respective lodges will be Lawrence Dixon and Jean Swihart. Supreme lodge officers will also be in attendance.

Tickets for the affair will be sent to neighboring lodges. Only 350 will be able to attend.

Mining firm may be saved

VANCOUVER (CP) — There are chances of rescue for Purcell Development Ltd., an East Kootenay mining company in receivership, shareholders were told Friday.

Purcell president Lloyd Wilder, owner of Fairmont Hot Springs resort on the Columbia River, said Giant Mascot Mines Ltd. appears willing to reconsider participating in the project although it turned this down

about a year ago.

Winston Wolfendon, Kootenay rancher and prospector, said a Calgary company is interested.

Purcell was closed down in March 1974 with an empty treasury and debt totalling \$735,000. The largest debt is \$535,000 advanced by a bank to start up mining and milling at a number of former metals producers in the Purcell mountain range.

Wilder who met the final payroll for a crew of 20 himself and paid off some trade creditors.

The bank appointed Harold S. Sigurdson receiver. He has seized the mining machinery, mill and record books. The equipment is for sale.

About \$60,000 is owed to

Centennial society to meet

FORT MACLEOD (HNS) — The Fort Macleod Centennial Society will hold a general meeting at 8 p.m. Feb. 4 in the Knights of Columbus Hall.

The executive has completed the work for which the society was formed. The society will likely be disbanded at the meeting.

Highlighting the meeting will be the showing of the film on the centennial.

The 1974 film shows the opening and closing Carrison Ball, the July first crowning of the centennial Queen and homecoming events. The film captured the reactions of hundreds of people.

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NOTICE

The Streets & Traffic Department would like to advise that the intersection of 16th Street and 2nd Avenue North will revert back to a **4-WAY STOP** until such time as the Sight Lines at the Intersection are Improved. Please approach the Intersection with caution.

DRIVE CAREFULLY

L.C.I. STUDENTS
ATTENTION:

Registration for Semester II
TUESDAY, JANUARY 27th

Grade 12 — 8:30-10:00 a.m.
Grade 11 — 10:00-11:30 a.m.
Grade 10 — Pick up timetables at 1:00 p.m. in home rooms.

Any new students wishing to register should contact the school immediately.

Classes will begin in all subjects Tuesday afternoon, January 27th.