

# BROADCASTER

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## THE FARMER GETS 'SOAKED' BOTH BUYING AND SELLING

Distribution Costs Alone Are Double What Farmer is Paid for Milk.

By WALTER W. V. FOSTER

"It is the country which makes the land; it is the country people who make the nation."

—ROUSSEAU.

A farmer was trucking a load of livestock to market. He had a blowout just as he was passing an insane asylum. As he repaired the tire two inmates watched him from the other side of the road fence. "Are you a farmer?" one called to him.

The farmer replied that he was, without looking up from his work.

"Have you ever been crazy?" asked the second inmate.

At that the farmer turned around to face his questioner. "Not that I know of," said he.

"Well," and the second inmate nudged the first, "You better try it, cause it's a darn sight easier than farmin'."

Industrial prosperity depends upon the purchasing power of the people engaged in the primary or basic industries. The primary industries are those of farming, mining, lumbering and fishing and they form the base of the economic pyramid. Incidentally they are the chief industries of the Maritime Provinces.

The secondary industries are those of manufacturing and distributing. They could not exist without the primary industries whereas the primary industries could exist without them.

One of the main reasons why this depression has lasted as long as it has and is continuing to last is because the producers in these basic industries, which form the very foundation of our economic order, have not received a square deal. Why?

1. They receive low prices for the products which they produce and sell.

2. They have to pay high prices for the products which they buy.

Accordingly, the purchasing power of the basic producer is far below the level where it ought to be and as a result the whole economic order suffers.

For example, take the farmer—the greatest of all basic or primary producers.—Why should he only receive 15 cents per pound for wool when a pair of woollen work pants sell at \$4? Or 2 cents per pound for beef hides with shoes at \$5 a pair? Or if you want to come right down to something familiar, why should a Kings County farmer receive approximately 4½ cents for a quart of milk when that same quart sells in Saint John at 12 cents or sometimes slightly less? Is the price spread justified?

To continue with our milk example. Should the amount received for distribution be almost double that required for production? It has been said by one of the best authorities on the question that as a general rule the farmer or producer should receive one half of the price paid by the consumer for his milk. This of course would vary with circum-

stances, but generally speaking it is given as a sound rule to follow.

Recent disclosures before the Price Spreads and Mass Buying Committee of the House of Commons showed that in the tobacco industry the manufacturer and distributor had cut the price to the producer while at the same time making large profits for himself. As a result the question arises why the middle man should be allowed to incorporate a company with a large capitalization and then claim to be entitled to pay substantial dividends on this large capitalization as a profit.

Similar tactics on a smaller scale in the dairy industry has led to far reaching legislation in Quebec and Ontario and there are rumblings for something along the same line in British Columbia.

In the Province of Quebec it has been found necessary to pass legislation creating a Dairy Industry Commission. This commission has been given the power to fix milk and cream prices. The pertinent section of the statute in question is as follows:

"No milk dealer or distributor of dairy products may sell, for purposes of consumption, within the limits of a territory of this province for which the purchase price of milk or cream has been fixed by the Commission under the Dairy Products' Act, milk or cream whereof such price, whether paid by a first acquirer or by any subsequent acquirer, is less than the price so determined by the Commission."

In Ontario a Milk Control Board has been set up. There, however, they are only able to regulate prices by licensing dairies and then refusing a license to, or cancelling the license of any company that violates an agreed contract between producers and distributor. It is probable that at the next session of the Legislature stronger teeth will be placed in the Act so that the board will be given power to control prices.

Is similar legislation needed in New Brunswick? Certainly the price spread already referred to would indicate that something is wrong. One would think that a fair and equitable price to producer, distributor and consumer

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## Free State Agrarian War Finds Landowners Opposing De Valera



Below is shown a quaint little rural village on Inshiny Island, Donegal, Ireland, one of thousands of such villages throughout the country. Many of the villagers in these typically agricultural settlements have never been more than a few miles from the place of their birth. They live in contentment, satisfied to till their few acres in the same manner that their fathers did for generations. The story political history of Ireland fails to touch these secluded spots. EAMONN DE VALERA, the present Premier of the Free State (left), has been the stormy petrel in the ballot battles and his bitterest opponent is probably former-Premier WILLIAM T. COSGRAVE (right), friend of England.



By P. J. QUINN

Central Press Canadian Correspondent  
Dublin.—There are about 80,000 farmers in the Irish Free States whose indignation against the agrarian policy of the government has no parallel since the days of the Irish "Land War" against landlordism about fifty years ago.

They represent the capitalistic section of the farmers. They are only a small minority, for there are 378,500 occupiers of land in the Free State. Capitalistic farming is doomed in this country if the self-sufficiency policy of the present government is continued.

The capitalistic farmers are, therefore, fighting for their lives. They are creating all the trouble concerning cattle sales, non-payment of land annuities and rates. The majority of them have no money to pay, but there are large numbers who have reserves. They

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## Maple Trees Are Found In All Parts of the Dominion

Ten Distinct Types of This Tree Are Found in the Different Provinces of Canada.

Ten distinct types of maple trees are found in Canada, including the red, sugar, silver, mountain, stripped, black, Manitoba, broad-leaved, vine and dwarf. It is not difficult to distinguish between them.

The seed wings of the silver maple are more widespread and the leaf more sharply indented than the sugar maple, although both have a high sugar content in the sap. The broad-leaved maple leaf is generally the type drawn by every schoolboy, with five prominent lobes, and is more deeply notched than the leaf of the sugar maple. The leaf of the striped maple is entirely without the lower lobes, that of the red maple with faint evidence of them, and the mountain maple with slightly more pronounced lobes.

In these leaves there are three main veins running to the upper lobes, with no lower lobe veining in the striped maple, and slight indication in the red and mountain species.

The leaves of the red and dwarf maples are often hard to distinguish. The lateral lobes of the latter are generally more prominent with a greater tendency to broadening. The leaf of

the vine maple is much rounder with seven main veins in the leaf. Many consider the silver maple leaf the finest in outline of all the maples in Canada, but the red maple in autumn the finest in coloring.

The habitat of the mountain maple is that vast area from the northern point of Lake Winnipeg to Gaspé and south. It is a small tree rarely growing by itself in the open. The striped maple, likewise a small tree similar in habits to the mountain maple, is found from Nova Scotia to Lake Superior. The broad-leaved maple makes its home on the British Columbia coast and on Vancouver Island. Its leaves are the largest in Canada.

The vine maple also makes its home along the lower British Columbia coast and on Vancouver Island, and rarely grows erect. The dwarf maple is found from Alaska down the British Columbia coast, and in the southern parts of the province.

The sugar maple is found in Ontario, Quebec, and the Maritimes, and the silver maple south of a line running from Georgian Bay to about Quebec City, with many in western New Brunswick.

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## Red Rose Tea

"is good tea"

—Always worth a little more than you pay