

DAIRY PRICE SUPPORT

Agriculture Minister Alvin Hamilton has reaffirmed that there will be no change in Canada's dairy price support programme before May 1. The Minister's statement came in the wake of reports that the price of butter to consumers would be cut by 10 cents a pound starting April 1. "The dairy support programme is under study now, but the details have yet to be worked out," he stated.

The new dairy year, as far as price supports are concerned, will be May 1, 1961, to April 30, 1962.

Mr. Hamilton said that the support programme for the new year would be announced as early as possible.

GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES BOARD

Too many "trivial or inappropriate" names are given to Canada's geographical and other features, Mr. Paul Comtois, Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys, told the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Board on Geographical Names held in Ottawa recently. "These names are given without benefit of consultation with either provincial or federal authorities. And once a name is given, a local usage is established, and any change thereafter becomes exceedingly difficult and sometimes frustrating", he said.

Mr. Comtois, through whom the Board reports to Parliament, congratulated it for the educational campaign it had carried out during the past year with the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association and with mining and oil companies on the matter of naming Canada's features.

Mr. Comtois went on to state: "In setting up and maintaining an organization such as yours, one is conscious of the fact that the inherent and acquired rights of all parties concerned should not be jeopardized. The Canadian Board on Geographical Names is, in essence, not a centralization, but a pooling of authorities, Federal and Provincial, to accomplish, in a co-ordinated and orderly fashion, that which otherwise could only lead to confusion and misunderstanding."

A highlight of the programme was the naming of a ridge in the central Yukon "Miller's Ridge", after the late W.H. Miller, former director of the Department's Surveys and Mapping Branch. The ridge, which is near Carmacks, is some 16 miles in length. It was in this area that the late Mr. Miller laid out a baseline for 4-mile topographical mapping in the area. This was the start of the 4-mile series in Canada.

G.M. Munroe, secretary, reported that the Board had processed some 19,000 names for 139 new maps, 21 hydrographic charts, and four revised maps. He also reported that the gazetteer of Prince Edward Island was released in 1960 and that the gazetteers for Ontario and Nova Scotia are under way.

NEW NORTHERN ROAD

The federal and provincial governments have agreed to co-operate in building a new road in northern Ontario to provide access to the McIntosh Indian Residential School. Each government will pay 50 per cent of the cost, which is estimated at \$120,000 for the 10 miles of road.

The school, which has an enrolment of 175 pupils, is a boarding school for Indian students in the vast area from Fort Frances to Hudson Bay. It lies 17 miles northwest of Vermilion Bay and north of Kenora. Access hitherto has been by way of an old logging road and has been extremely difficult. The 60-year-old school is isolated at certain seasons.

Pupils will now be able to take part in extra-curricular activities with other schools, both Indian and non-Indian, in northern Ontario.

The road is to be built and maintained by the provincial government. Work is expected to begin this summer.

STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS

There were fewer work stoppages in January than in the previous month and, although more workers were involved, there was a drop in the number of man-days lost, according to a preliminary summary of strikes and lockouts issued by the Department of Labour.

There were 21 work stoppages in January, involving 2,346 workers, with a duration of 28,140 man-days. In December there were 29 work stoppages, involving 1,891 workers, with a duration of 30,160 man-days.

Fourteen of the January work stoppages were in Ontario industries, six in Quebec industries and one in British Columbia. None of the stoppages was in an industry under federal jurisdiction.

MAIN DISPUTES

More than 67 per cent of the time loss -- 18,950 days -- resulted from four disputes. These were in the paper-products industry in Pont-Rouge, Quebec, among shipyard workers in North Vancouver, in the iron and steel products industry in St. Thomas, Ontario, and in manufacturing in St. Laurent, Quebec.

Six of the January work stoppages involved 100 or more workers. Of these, three had been terminated by the end of the month.

A breakdown by industry of the month's stoppages shows 11 in manufacturing, five in trade, four in construction and one in transportation, storage and communication.

Based on the number of non-agricultural wage and salary workers in Canada, the number of man-days lost in January represented 0.03 per cent of the estimated working time. In December the percentage was also 0.03, while in January 1960 it was 0.06 per cent.