

NEW PARK IN NOVA SCOTIA

Canada is to have a new national park in Nova Scotia, according to an agreement signed recently in Halifax by Jean Chrétien, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and Benoit Comeau, Minister of Lands and Forests for Nova Scotia.

Located on the province's scenic eastern shore, the 225-square-mile park takes in portions of Clam Bay, Ship Harbour, Sheet Harbour, numerous offshore islands and a large inland area, including a major portion of Lake Charlotte. It is some 40 miles east of Halifax-Dartmouth and is situated closer to a major urban population centre than any other national park in Canada. This proximity will enable people of all income levels in the Halifax metropolitan region to benefit from a national park.

The new park will offer visitors several features of the Atlantic coastal environment found nowhere else in the national parks system. The three main components will be the coastal area with bays, inlets, small *barachois* ponds (a type of tidal lagoon), beaches and rocky headlands; the marine-environment element of offshore islands; and the lakes, streams and rolling, forested hills of the inland area, which has a warmer, less foggy climate than the coast.

There is a wide variety of wildlife in the area and good fishing and boating.

The new park is the third national park in Nova Scotia and the twenty-ninth in Canada.

INDIANS TURN TO FARMING

Ebenezer Sutherland is much like any other Manitoba farmer trying to build up a beef herd. It's a slow process getting 125 head of cattle together, and it takes money. He's caught in the same cost-price squeeze that affects most farmers. The three sons he expected to help out don't seem much interested in farm life.

There is, however, one big difference between Ebenezer and other farmers.

He is an Indian — one of 2,050 who live in the Peguis Reserve 90 miles north of Winnipeg. He is one of the growing number of Indian people who have turned to farming as a way to independence.

It's difficult being a farmer when you're of Indian ancestry. You don't own the land. Title is registered with the band rather than with individuals — so you can't get a mortgage on the land. Other normal financing is virtually impossible to come by. The Indian wanting to farm generally has no money with which to start, and his traditions are not rooted in farming as are the white man's.

When Ebenezer Sutherland began farming four years ago, he received assistance from a revolving Indian Affairs fund. The same arrangement was made for most of the other 14 farmers on the Peguis Reserve, who now have about 8,000 acres under cultivation and 2,000 more for pasturing cattle herds

totalling about 800 animals. Some have received a living allowance while moving towards self-sufficiency and have reached a gross income of about \$10,000 yearly, which leaves a net income of about \$5,000 after deducting expenses and loan repayment.

Chief Eddie Thompson and his Council can be credited for providing most of the drive to bring agriculture to the Peguis Reserve, by allocating land to farmers, and by providing encouragement.

Farmers on the reserve also have an outstanding example of what one man can do in Solomon Stranger, who came to Peguis from St. Peters, Manitoba, in 1938 bringing his family, two cows and a team of horses.

Today, he and his four sons operate a prosperous beef-cattle ranch entirely on their own. The Stranger family is obviously pleased with farm life. One son is taking the agricultural diploma course at the University of Manitoba and will finish next year. Another son has taken the five-month farm-management course and is currently the president of the Peguis Agricultural Committee.



Manitoba farmer Ebenezer Sutherland proudly shows his own cattle-branding iron — the Bar ES.

UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS

A total of 182,000 initial and renewal claims for unemployment insurance benefit were received in June — an increase of 7,000, or 4 per cent, over those of the previous month.

At the end of June, 753,000 claimants were registered for unemployment insurance benefit, down 61,000, or 8 per cent, from the May count.

Benefit paid to claimants in June decreased to \$138.3 million, or 26 percent less than the \$185.7 million disbursed in May.