

New Brunswick demands greater French TV coverage

The Canadian Radio Television Commission should expedite the extension of French-language radio and TV service to Fredericton, Saint John and northeast New Brunswick immediately, Premier Richard Hatfield of New Brunswick urged recently.

Mr. Hatfield presented a brief, on behalf of the provincial government, during a recent sitting of the Commission, which contained 11 recommendations, six of them dealing with cable television.

The recommendations urged that:

(1) The CRTC expedite the application for French-language radio to Fredericton, Saint John and the northeast;

(2) the CRTC act to extend the present French-language TV service (CBAFT Moncton) to Fredericton, Saint John and the northeast;

(3) the CRTC ensure the improvement of present English-language TV service in the northeast at an early date;

(4) the Government of Canada, through the CBC or CRTC, act in the near future to establish second choice off-air television service throughout the province; and

(5) the Federal Government's broadcasting and educational agencies collaborate with the federal economic development agencies and with provincial educational and economic development agencies to bring the power of radio and television broadcasting to bear on correcting some of the province's long-standing and deep-rooted social and economic problems.

Mr. Hatfield said the Government's recommendations on cable television, if adopted, would result in cable television being made available at reason-

able cost to all urban communities with over 500 households, while protecting and fostering off-air broadcasting.

Existing coverage inadequate

Premier Hatfield told the Commission that existing broadcast coverage in his province was "woefully inadequate". Certain policies and practices of the CRTC, he said, were, in the opinion of the province, "retarding the expansion of broadcasting within the province, thus inhibiting the economic, social and cultural development of New Brunswick".

New Brunswick is bilingual, "yet complete two-way exchange of views between the two ethnic groups is presently impossible due, not only to the language barriers, but to the curtains that have developed as a result of the lack of modern communications media", the Premier declared.



Canada Agriculture photo

Cattle cycles affect beef prices

The number of cattle being slaughtered in North America is increasing, and will probably increase faster still during the next few years.

According to A.M. Boswell of Agriculture Canada's economics branch in Ottawa, the supply and prices of beef cattle go in cycles, with the current one on the upswing. Higher feeder

cattle prices have encouraged beef cow operators to increase the size of their beef breeding herds. This increased number of cattle is soon expected to be reflected in a higher cattle slaughter.

Mr. Boswell expects continued expansion in the number of beef cows and beef output until at least 1975.

International Youth Festival

The Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Quebec Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs announced recently that the two governments had agreed on reception arrangements for the first International Youth Festival which will be held in August 1974 in Quebec City. The proposal to hold an International Youth Festival every four years in one of the member countries of the "Agence de Coopération culturelle et technique" was made in 1971 at the Agency's second General Conference. The first Festival, which will contain both cultural and sports events, is intended primarily to favour contact between youth of different cultures that share a common language as a means of communication.

The "Société d'accueil du Festival international de la Jeunesse francophone" will be responsible for preparing the cultural and sports events and for administering such support services as reception, accommodation, catering, local transportation, offices and equipment, supplies, personnel, documents, communications, health and security.

A budget of \$1.4 million has been drawn up for the reception arrangements in Quebec City. The federal and Quebec governments will contribute \$900,000 and \$500,000 respectively.