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WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW.

CROP CONDITIONS IN CANADA: Further deterioration in crop prospects have occurred in the Prairie Provinces during the past week, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Premature ripening will reduce yields, especially of coarse grains, in most districts.

Intensive heat during the past week has hastened maturity of all grains in Manitoba and has caused deterioration especially to coarse grain crops which are maturing too rapidly. Rains since Saturday have brought some relief. The wheat crop in the main is promising especially in the Red River Valley and Swan River regions. Oats and flaxseed crops are average while barley prospects are below average. Other crops are mostly good especially the hay crop which has been gathered under excellent conditions. Swathing and cutting operations are becoming general in the south-west and central sections of the province while in the northern areas harvesting will get under way next week.

Continued dry weather with high temperatures is forcing premature ripening of all grains in Saskatchewan. Harvesting of fall rye is now general and cutting of coarse grains will start this week. Some fields of wheat are now being harvested in the western districts. Considerable sawfly damage is indicated in south-central, south-western and west-central districts.

Timely rains in central and northern Alberta brought some improvement in crop prospects for the province as a whole. Continued hot, dry weather in the south-eastern and east-central districts, however, caused further deterioration of crops. Rain is urgently needed in these districts and elsewhere in the province for filling, particularly of late crops. Prospects are fair to good in the central and northern districts but in the south-eastern half of the province the outlook is poor. The wheat crop is headed out with coarse grains 90 per cent in head. Some combining of early fields of wheat is reported in the south, and cutting of fall rye is under way.

Reports from Quebec indicate that during the past two weeks haying operations have been delayed and the quality of hay damaged by frequent heavy rains. The average yields of hay per acre are good but about 35 per cent of the crop still remains to be harvested. Generally speaking pastures have benefited from the wet weather and milk production has been maintained at a good level. The appearance of grain crops is good on well drained soils but only mediocre on low land. In spite of abundant weed growth truck crops are promising and potato crop prospects are especially good. The strawberry crop has been one of the best and raspberries and blueberries also promise good yields.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR

SPECIAL SERVICES ARRANGED: Many special services for foreign and domestic exhibitors have been arranged by the directors of the first Canadian International Trade Fair, which will be held under the management of the Canadian government in Toronto, May 31 to June 12 next year.

Realizing that foreign exhibitors, particularly, will require assistance with their displays, Trade Fair authorities have compiled a list of fourteen prominent display firms in Montreal and Toronto who are now prepared to carry out the design, installation and construction. This list will be forwarded to each exhibitor with their contract, so that they may make direct contact with any firm they wish.

The booths themselves are a new type of modern pre-fabricated design and are provided without extra charge in the cost of floor space. There will be an open booth for displays of heavy industry, while light and medium industries will be displayed in a closed booth of the same general design painted in the official Trade Fair colours of blue, grey, rust and yellow.

CHOICE FOR EXHIBITORS

All booths will have a uniform depth of 12 feet, and the frontage will be in multiples of 10 feet up to a maximum of 40 feet. They will have linoleum covered floors with masonite walls and fascia, and an ornamental lattice grille in the rear wall for ventilation. All lighting will be directed from inside the fascia. Exhibitors will have the choice of a decorative railing, a closed counter, or completely open front. Railings will be of wooden construction, painted in off white, while the counters will be wood frame with masonite ends, corrugated iron sheeting in front, and a 3/4 inch fir plywood top varnished in natural colour. The space rental charges of \$2.50 per square foot include the complete booth, with facades and general lighting, ready for the exhibitor to instal his display.

Providing approximately 165,000 feet of floor space, the Coliseum building in the Canadian National Exhibition grounds will be the main lobby or "brains" of the Trade Fair. Situated north of the Prince's Gate, this building will house the administrative offices and all such services as telegraphs, cables, telephone, banking, brokerage, translation, general information, and a unit of the Corps of Commissionaires.

Although the applications for space from foreign exhibitors will continue to be received until September 1st, it is already probable that still more space will be required, in which event additional buildings adjoining the Coliseum will be used.

Increasing eagerness is evident on the part of manufacturers and producers to make their bid for two-way trade at Canada's first International Trade Fair. Of the many letters

expressing this thought to reach the Trade Fair headquarters, one from a large Canadian firm states: "The Canadian International Trade Fair is really worth something to our company, inasmuch as we would be able to display products to people from all over the world in a most advantageous way. As we have had many inquiries from many countries in the world during the last six to eight months, it seems reasonable to believe that we might be able to develop a great export business, perhaps at a time when it might be a very desirable thing to have."

DEFENCE MEDAL: Manufacture of the Defence Medal at the Royal Canadian Mint in Ottawa will commence as soon as dies are received from the United Kingdom, it is announced by National Defence Headquarters, Ottawa, following an overseas announcement that striking of the Defence Medal there has begun.

The Overseas announcement stated that the Medal will bear on one side the uncrowned effigy of His Majesty, while the reverse shows the Imperial Crown over an oak tree defended by a lion and a lioness, with inscription "1939-1945" and "The Defence Medal". Approximately 342,000 Canadians qualify for the medal.

The Ottawa mint is now working on the various campaign stars and medals, but distribution will be commenced only when sufficient quantities are available. These include the 1939-45 Star, the France-Germany Star, the Africa Star, etc., as well as the War Medal, and Canadian Volunteer Service Medal.

BATTLEFIELD MASCOT

HORSE WITH WOUND STRIPES: Princess Louise, the horse which men of the 8th New Brunswick Hussars snatched from death on an Italian battlefield, adopted as regimental mascot, and brought to Canada last year in a shower of oats and confetti, recently left her green pastures of retirement to attend Army summer camp at Utopia, N.B.

She went with her equally famous regiment -- now the 5th Armoured (Reserve Force) -- and soon after arrival galloped off to the ranges to smell the smoke of "battle" and hear the roar of Sherman tanks once more.

"The Princess" is a great friend of Field Marshal the Viscount Montgomery. Last autumn, when "Monty" visited Canada, he personally inspected Princess Louise at Fredericton, N.B. as he had done on more than one occasion in the past in Italy and Northwest Europe.

Lt.-Col. G.R.H. Ross, officer commanding the regiment, said his Reserve Force boys could not go to camp without their horse. They picked "the Princess" off a battlefield near Coriani, Italy, where she was wounded three times with shrapnel and her mother was killed. Still only a colt, the unit took her with it when it left Italy for Europe, and carried her

by truck through southern France and the battles of Northwest Europe until the end of the war.

On parade, "The Princess" is replete in her regimental garb consisting of shoulder flash, divisional patch, three wound stripes and her service ribbons denoting the theatres of operations in which she has served.

ARMY TRADES TEST BOARDS: A number of boards for the "trades testing" of members of the Active Force have been authorized on the basis of one at each Army Command Headquarters, one at each corps school in a Command, and one at Army Headquarters.

Soldiers drawing trades pay -- extra pay for technical or clerical skills -- will be tested from time to time by the boards and graded accordingly. Dependent upon their craftsmanship, they become eligible for any of four groups of extra pay if employed at their trade. Trade groupings are numbered and range from \$4 per month for group one to \$28 for group four.

There are roughly 90 trades recognized in the Canadian Army today and a large percentage of the soldiers now serving are skilled tradesmen or specialists of one kind or another.

EXPORT TRADE INCREASES

JUNE TOTAL IS \$272,700,000: Canada's merchandise export trade reached a new peacetime monthly high in June at \$272,700,000, exceeding the May figure by \$5,100,000, and 63.5 per cent above the June 1946 total of \$166,700,000, according to trade returns released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Aggregate value for the first six months of the year was \$1,328,500,000, 25 per cent above the first half of 1946 and more than three and a half times as high as in the first six months of 1938.

The expansion in Canada's export trade in the first half of 1946 was virtually worldwide in extent, shipments to most of the 121 countries listed in the returns being at a higher level. Exports to countries of the British Empire were valued at \$552,317,000, showing a sharp rise of 38 per cent over the similar period of 1946, while the aggregate to foreign countries was \$776,142,000 compared with \$663,377,000, an increase of 17 per cent.

Six-months' exports to the United States totalled \$482,006,000 compared with \$396,442,000 in the first half of last year, while shipments to the United Kingdom, showing an almost identical gain, totalled \$352,639,000 compared with \$266,080,000. The Union of South Africa was the third largest purchaser of commodities, up from sixth last year, at \$40,157,000 compared with \$25,753,000.

France and the Netherlands were in fourth and fifth position, respectively, six-month export trade with the former country amounting

to \$35,233,000 compared with \$38,462,000, and the latter, \$31,816,000 compared with \$19,176,000. Australia followed with \$30,200,000 compared with \$14,428,000, Belgium \$22,923,000 compared with \$36,650,000, Newfoundland \$22,506,000 compared with \$15,138,000, Italy \$19,604,000 compared with \$11,371,000, China \$18,956,000 compared with \$13,301,000, and India \$17,362,000 compared with \$31,520,000.

Half-year exports were higher to all Latin-American countries, the aggregate for the group rising from \$41,819,000 last year to \$63,961,000.

There was a general advance shown for all nine main commodity groups of exports in June, gains being outstanding in agricultural and vegetable products, and wood and paper products. In the six-month period, two groups showed reduction -- animals and animal products, and fibres, textiles and textile products. As in June, most pronounced advances during the half year were shown in the agricultural and wood and paper products sections.

In the agricultural and vegetable products group, wheat exports rose from \$124,251,000 in the first half of 1946 to \$130,023,000, wheat flour from \$60,319,000 to \$102,418,000, other grains from \$10,842,000 to \$18,222,000, and rubber and products from \$11,326,000 to \$17,033,000. In the animals and animal products group, bacon and hams rose slightly from \$33,116,000 to \$33,248,000, but fish and fishery products showed a small decline, from \$38,608,000 to \$38,280,000. Other meats showed a substantial decline from \$36,421,000 to \$26,909,000, and furs from \$22,696,000 to \$16,014,000.

In the wood and paper group, newsprint rose sharply from \$119,886,000 a year ago to \$162,360,000 in the first six months of this year. Planks and boards also recorded a marked advance from \$43,816,000 to \$90,723,000, wood pulp from \$54,671,000 to \$82,074,000, and other unmanufactured wood from \$20,438,000 to \$34,204,000. In the iron and products group, exports of automobiles advanced from \$28,843,000 to \$42,690,000, farm implements and machinery from \$16,382,000 to \$21,005,000, and machinery other than farm from \$6,084,000 to \$17,878,000, while exports of locomotives and parts fell from \$16,720,000 to \$10,720,000.

Six-month exports of aluminum and products increased from \$18,530,000 in 1946 to \$27,152,000, copper and products from \$17,733,000 to \$24,661,000, lead and products from \$8,363,000 to \$14,972,000, nickel from \$26,331,000 to \$30,164,000 and zinc and products from \$13,874,000 to \$15,593,000. Non-metallic minerals as a group moved up from \$24,099,000 a year ago to \$34,183,000, and chemicals and allied products from \$33,010,000 to \$42,698,000.

Exports of fibres, textiles and textile products were valued at \$24,406,000 as compared with \$29,175,000 in the similar period of 1946, wool and products falling from \$11,794,000 to \$4,002,000.

CAR LOADINGS: Car loadings on Canadian railways for the week ended July 26 increased to 79,848 cars from 77,286 cars for the preceding week and 70,266 cars for the corresponding week last year, according to figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This brings the total for the first 30 weeks of this year to 2,175,841 cars as against 2,001,708 cars in 1946 and 2,081,073 cars in 1944, the previous peak.

Grain loadings increased from 5,276 cars in 1946 to 6,810 cars and grain products from 2,794 to 3,344 cars. Coal increased from 4,294 to 4,829 cars, the gain being all in the eastern division. Ores and concentrates rose from 2,496 to 3,531 cars; sand, stone, gravel, etc. from 4,370 to 5,392 cars; pulpwood from 4,148 to 5,844 cars; lumber from 4,703 to 5,044 cars; gasoline and oils from 3,748 to 4,199 cars; iron and steel products from 710 to 1,474 cars; and l.c.l. merchandise from 17,294 to 18,402 cars.

U.S. CURRENCY CHECK: At the request of the Foreign Exchange Control Board, the R.C.M.P. are commencing a country-wide check of the way in which storekeepers, service stations, hotels and others are handling U.S. currency received from tourists.

The U.S. dollar expenditures of tourists in Canada are one of the main sources of the foreign exchange needed to pay for Canadian imports and other normal expenditures in the United States. So that the U.S. dollars spent by tourists will be available for these purposes, the Foreign Exchange Control Regulations require that Canadian merchants and others turn the U.S. currency they receive into their banks.

Officials of the Board said that reports they have received indicate that many merchants are not turning in their U.S. dollar receipts but are paying them out freely in change and in some cases are selling them to members of the public in exchange for Canadian currency. This has led to the check-up now being made and where breaches of the Regulations are found, prosecutions under the Foreign Exchange Control Act will be commenced.

Under the Regulations a merchant, hotel-keeper or other person engaged in a business serving tourists may accept U.S. currency at par and may make change in U.S. currency for a non-resident tourist who tenders U.S. currency in payment for purchases. For this purpose a merchant may keep on hand a reasonable amount of U.S. currency but, with this one exception is required to turn in to his bank all U.S. currency he receives.

In no circumstances is a merchant, hotel-keeper, etc. entitled under the Regulations to pay out U.S. currency in exchange for Canadian currency or in change to a Canadian resident, even though the latter may have tendered U.S. currency in payment for a purchase.

WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

CARRY-OVERS SMALL: Both in Canada and the United States crop-year-end carry-overs of wheat are at near minimum levels, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports in its monthly review of the wheat situation. In the United States, stocks of wheat in all positions amounted to only 83.5 million bushels on June 30, end of that country's crop year. The official estimate of Canada's carry-over stocks will not be released until August 18, but it is anticipated that the total will not differ markedly from the low level of just under 70 million bushels reached at the end of the 1945-46 crop year.

Clearances from the two major exporting countries in the Southern Hemisphere, Argentina and Australia, have not been heavy during the current crop year. Crops in both countries were below average last year and carry-overs at the beginning of the season, December 1, 1946, were at an extremely low ebb. Should both countries fill their current commitments their carry-overs at December 1, 1947, will again be of insignificant proportions.

Overseas requirements for wheat were very high during the current season and much larger quantities of bread grains could have been shipped had they been available. Strict rationing had to be maintained in the deficit areas and diets in most, if not all, of the war-devastated countries have been far from adequate. While European production of wheat in 1946 was significantly greater than in 1945, shortages of labour, machinery and fertilizers combined to restrict acreages and yields, and total production was well below prewar levels. Another factor contributing to the drain on world bread-grain supplies has been the serious world shortages of rice, sugars and fats which created additional pressure on the exportable surpluses of cereals.

DISTRIBUTION OF SUPPLIES

The distribution and allocation of supplies has also been difficult during the past year. The greater part of the 1946 exportable surpluses of wheat, corn and oats was located in North America, which added greatly to the problem of meeting requirements of the deficit areas in a timely manner. Export movement from North America during the latter half of 1946 and early 1947 was seriously hampered by limitations of rail transport; by Maritime and other strikes; by severe winter weather and by lack of supplies in forward positions at the outset of the crop year. Conditions improved markedly later in the season and the rate of exports from North America during recent months has been most satisfactory.

In the Argentine, export movement has been retarded by transportation difficulties and shortages of bags, as well as by an apparent reluctance on the part of producers to deliver wheat at the relatively low prices set by the

Trade Promotion Institute. According to trade reports practically all of the Argentine's exportable surplus, estimated at 95 million bushels, was sold under bilateral contracts with various countries. Australia's exportable surplus was placed in the vicinity of 40 million bushels with latest advices indicating that some 43 million bushels of wheat and flour equivalent have been sold for export. Most of Australia's shipments are destined for the Pacific area, but a few cargoes of flour have cleared for the United Kingdom.

In many respects the wheat situation in the new crop year appears likely to duplicate that of 1946-47. The crops in most western European countries suffered severely during the past winter and many countries, including Italy, France, the United Kingdom, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Denmark will be even more dependent this year on outside supplies than they were in 1945-46. Rust has materially reduced the outturn of wheat in India.

On the supply side, the United States is harvesting an all-time record wheat crop and substantial export quotas for August and September have already been established. Prospects for a large Canadian wheat crop have deteriorated considerably in recent weeks due to hot, dry weather over much of the Prairies -- although the outlook is still good in many of the normally heavy-yielding areas of all three Provinces.

The Argentine crop has evidently gone into the ground under favourable conditions but no acreage estimate is as yet available. Reports from Australia indicate that upwards of 15 million acres may have been seeded and that crop prospects are currently quite satisfactory. It is reiterated, however, that reserve stocks in all exporting countries are practically non-existent and as a result practically all exportable supplies will again have to be obtained from the new crop.

CROP CONDITIONS

DETERIORATION ON PRAIRIES: Above-normal temperatures and moisture deficiencies have caused further deterioration in the crops over wide areas of the Prairie Provinces, particularly in Saskatchewan and Alberta, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Fairly general rains over most of Manitoba have maintained quite satisfactory conditions in that province, but only scattered showers have fallen in Saskatchewan and Alberta. Unless heavy rains are received in the very near future the already large drought areas in these two provinces will expand still further. Extremely hot, dry weather during the past three weeks has largely destroyed the promise of good yields which existed earlier in south-western and west-central Saskatchewan and in much of the eastern half of Alberta. In large portions of north-western and north-central Saskatchewan, and in parts of south-eastern and east-central Alberta, where adverse reports have

been received throughout most of the season, deterioration has reached the stage where any substantial recovery cannot be expected.

Rains over a large part of Manitoba have maintained the generally good crop conditions previously established in that province. Insect and hail damage throughout the province has been very light to date. Correspondents in some west-central areas of the province and in a few localities north of Winnipeg indicate, however, that considerable deterioration due to heat and dry weather has occurred, particularly in stubble crops. Cooler weather in most areas would be welcomed, the heat of the past three weeks having advanced maturity of many crops somewhat too rapidly.

Continued warm weather with only scattered local showers has resulted in further general deterioration to crops in Saskatchewan. While prospects in the south-east, east-central and the east half of south-central districts continue good to fair, the general downward trend has not been arrested over the remaining large areas of the province in some of which pronounced feed shortages are indicated. Cutting of fall rye is now general in some districts and wheat fields are showing premature ripening.

Further deterioration of crops occurred in Alberta during the past week. Crop prospects continue fair to good in south-western, northern and north-central Alberta and in the Peace River district but elsewhere in the province the outlook has depreciated. In the south-eastern and east-central districts deterioration of crops on stubble land is far advanced and good rains immediately would be beneficial, particularly to summer fallow crops. Rain is urgently needed in all districts to prevent further declines in the crop outlook. Temperatures were well above normal during the week while only scattered showers were received in most districts. Wheat is reported to be 80 per cent headed out over the province as a whole.

EXPORT MARKET CHANGES: Export trade returns for June issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics show many changes in the relative positions of Canada's leading markets, other than the United States and the United Kingdom, during the first half of this year as compared with the first six months of 1946.

Besides the United States and the United Kingdom, which together purchased somewhat over three-fifths of Canada's exports in both the 1946 and 1947 periods, Canada sold commodities to the value of \$10,000,000 or more to fourteen countries in the first six months of this year as compared with twelve countries last year. Aggregate purchases by these fourteen countries was \$306,018,000, or approximately 23 per cent of the half-year total.

Third among all countries and first among the fourteen was the Union of South Africa, which advanced from sixth among all last year, with purchases from Canada totalling \$40,157,000 as compared with \$25,753,000. France was

next, down from third in 1946, with a drop to \$35,233,000 from \$38,462,000, while the Netherlands moved up to fifth from seventh last year with purchases sharply higher at \$31,816,000 compared with \$19,176,000. Australia was close behind in sixth place as against ninth a year ago, with a still sharper rise from \$14,428,000 to \$30,200,000, followed by Belgium which slipped from fourth in 1946 with a decline from \$36,650,000 to \$22,923,000. Newfoundland stood eighth, one notch higher than last year and only a shade below Belgium, with a substantial increase from \$15,138,000 to \$22,506,000.

Italy was ninth against twelfth last year with a rise to \$19,604,000 compared with \$11,371,000, followed by China with \$18,956,000 (eleventh with \$13,301,000 in 1946), and India, down from fifth a year ago, with a drop to \$17,362,000 from \$31,520,000. Appearing for the first time in this group, Argentina was twelfth at \$16,766,000 compared with \$7,866,000; Trinidad and Tobago thirteenth at \$14,864,000 against \$7,866,000; New Zealand fourteenth at \$14,138,000 (\$6,282,000); and Brazil fifteenth at \$11,430,000 (\$9,329,000). Last was Norway, in the same position as last year, with \$10,063,000 compared with \$10,285,000.

Two countries -- the Soviet Union and Poland -- were among the \$10,000,000 and over markets for Canadian goods in the first half of last year, the former being also sixth among all countries and the latter thirteenth. This year both are below that level, exports to Poland having fallen from \$10,522,000 to \$9,233,000 and those to the Soviet Union from \$15,633,000 to \$4,325,000.

COST-OF-LIVING INDEX: With five of the six component groups showing increases, and one unchanged, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index, on the base of 1935-1939=100, advanced a full point between June 2 and July 2, or from 134.9 to 135.9. At July 2, the index was 8.9 points higher than at the beginning of the year, and 10.8 points higher than on the corresponding date last year. When adjusted to the base August 1939=100, the index moved to 134.8 at July 2 as compared with 133.8 on June 2.

The index for the food group rose from 157.7 on June 2 to 159.8 on July 2, and compares with 144.2 on the same date last year. Among the individual food items showing increases at a large number of centres were butter, cheese, eggs, lamb, rice, cocoa, potatoes, marmalade, and lemons.

The fuel and light sub-group index advanced from 116.7 on June 2 to 117.3 when it was 10.1 points higher than at the beginning of July last year. Rentals index at 117.8 on July 2 was unchanged from June 2 but was 5.2 points higher than last year.

The clothing index rose on July 2 to 143.2 as compared with 142.4 on June 2 and 126.4 a year ago; homefurnishings and services, 142.5 as against 139.8 on June 2 and 125.1 last year; and miscellaneous sub-group, 117.2 com-

pared with 117.1 a month earlier and 113.7 last year.

Among the non-food items showing increases were men's suits, women's rayon slips and men's and women's shoes. Several items of furniture and house furnishings also showed small increases.

MAJOR-GENERAL LARKIN HERE: Major-General T.B. Larkin, Quartermaster-General of the United States Army, arrives in Ottawa Thursday, August 7, on a liaison visit, Army Headquarters announced Wednesday.

General Larkin will be met on arrival by Major-General N.E. Rodger, Quartermaster-General of the Canadian Army. During his visit to Canada, he will make an informal inspection of Army installations at Fort Churchill, Man., the Northwest Highway System, Longue Pointe Ordnance Depot at Montreal, and Central Ordnance Depot here.

General Larkin saw service during World War II in North Africa and later as Deputy Commander of U.S. Forces in Northwest Europe. He is the holder of the Distinguished Service Medal and Oak Leaf Cluster.

MR MARSHALL ELECTED: Hebert Marshall, Dominion statistician and Canada's delegate to the sixth International Conference of Labor Statisticians, was elected chairman at the opening session Monday.

Mr. Marshall, who is also chairman of the statistical commission of the United Nations, was the unanimous choice of the delegates representing 30 countries.

Leon Delsinne of Belgium, scientific director of that country's Labor Review, was elected vice-chairman.

These two, with three representatives from the governing-body of the International Labor Office, will constitute the officers of the conference.

Closed sessions were held to consider proposed resolutions dealing with changes in cost-of-living indices to meet needs of the postwar world, changes in definitions relative to employment and unemployment statistics, and labor data on surveys, social security and social insurance.

Ewan Clague, United States Commissioner of Labor Statistics, headed the United States delegation, and K.M. Archer represented Australia.

BATTLEFIELDS COMMISSION: The Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, announced Tuesday the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel the Honourable Wilfrid Bovey, Member of the Legislative Council of Quebec and Director of Extension Courses of McGill University, Montreal, and of the Abbé Joseph Thomas Arthur Maheux, a Professor of Laval University, Quebec, to be members of the National Battlefields Commission to fill the vacancies caused by the deaths of the Honourable Sir Th. Chapais, K.E., and Mr. James F. Kenney.