

An orchard of eighteen hundred apple, cherry, pear and plum trees and fifteen hundred small fruits was planted in the Spring of 1911.

ROAD BUILDING TO BE AIDED

A Stone Crusher, having a daily capacity of four hundred tons, has been installed. The product is screened to two and a half inches, one and a half inches, three-quarters of an inch, one-quarter of an inch and dust, and is used for concrete road-making and the other industries on the farm.

It is possible, as a result of this enterprise, to furnish crushed stone in large quantities to the municipalities for road-making purposes.

Experiments conducted at various Agricultural Experimental Stations have warranted arrangement being made to carry on a number of experiments at the farms of the Provincial Hospitals for the Insane, with a view to ascertaining the benefits to be derived from the use of ground limestone as a fertiliser. The results of these experiments will be at the disposal of the farmers of Ontario and ground limestone will be furnished them at a minimum cost.

USEFUL WORK FOR PRISONERS

Prison camps have been opened for the utilization of prison labor in a way that shall be useful to the public without injuring free labor.

Thus one has been established at Whitby. There 250 prisoners are employed on the new Provincial Hospital for the Insane, to which is attached a farm of 630 acres.

There is another at Mimico for 75 men. Here a large brick manufacturing industry has been established to make the brick needed for the building at Whitby, and for the other public institutions in the province.

INDETERMINATE SENTENCES

The Central Prison is now known as the Ontario Reformatory. Its aim is to reform those who have gone wrong, rather than to strengthen them in their evil ways. Its success in this regard has been aided by the adoption of the indeterminate system. Prisoners are committed for a term not exceeding two years on the otherwise indeterminate plan. Thus the prisoner is encouraged to improve himself, and thus to secure his release.

So successful has the new system been that visitors from all parts of the world have come to Guelph to note the advances made in the reformatory methods adopted.

INDUSTRIAL FARMS

Another great reform has been the introduction of the Industrial Farm system. In 1912, immediately following the passage of the necessary legislation, the first Industrial Farm was established in Ontario. The object of the Industrial Farm is:—

1. To provide open-air employment, with moral and physical reformatory methods, for persons who would otherwise have been kept in idleness in a common gaol.

2. To lessen the expenditure hitherto made for gaol maintenance by making the Industrial Farms self-sustaining.

3. To permit the earnings of a person sentenced to an Industrial Farm to be applied towards his own maintenance, the maintenance of his wife children or other members of his family dependent upon him, and to pay the travelling expenses of a person to any place where employment has been secured for such person on his discharge.

A tract of 1,000 acres of Crown Lands was selected near the city of Fort William, and the prisoners were cared for in tents for the first few months. In two years the men have cleared a large portion of the land, and have this year about 300 acres in crop, besides fencing and stumping the whole farm.