

# The Weekly Monitor

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### PROSPECTS OF ORCHARDING IN NOVA SCOTIA

R. J. Messenger of Bridgetown, President of Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association, Holds Out Tempting Possibilities to Nova Scotia Orchardists. Soil and Climate Ahead of All Other Countries for Successful Culture.

Eight years ago when I stood on this platform and advocated the establishment of an agricultural college, I felt if a standing vote had been taken on that occasion—and the people who were present were supposed to represent the farmers of Nova Scotia—not more than fifteen or twenty out of that audience would have endorsed its establishment. I would like to have that same audience here tonight to ask them if the agricultural college has been a failure.

I want, in presenting this subject, to take two or three premises and see if I can prove them, if you will bear with me in the way I shall present them. The possibilities of Nova Scotia as a fruit growing country. I want to take up this subject first from the standpoint of soils, and see if the soil of Nova Scotia is fit to grow fruit trees. We have fruit trees growing in Nova Scotia upon almost every kind of soil in the eastern part of Annapolis County, and in Kings County, we have trees thriving and bearing splendid crops of apples upon almost clear sand. I do not believe you will criticize or contradict me there. I know of orchards in Annapolis County and in other parts of the province, growing and producing good crops of apples on almost clear clay—the other extreme. I have one orchard in mind today, an old orchard that has been well taken care of, that has averaged one hundred barrels to the acre upon clay that has to be treated at just the right time. It has to be ploughed and cultivated at just the right time or it will bake up into mere bricks. I have in mind an orchard in Shelburne county, that was planted in a swampy place that has been drained, what we would call a muck swamp. I saw that orchard four or five years ago, and it was in splendid condition. Prof. Shaw said he had seen it recently and its gives promise of producing fruit. I have been in twelve counties of our province, and I think I am in a position to say, that if we take out the marshes, the places that are very rocky, and the seaboard lands, that we can grow orchards successfully, if we give them proper care, upon almost any soil in Nova Scotia, and in almost any place in Nova Scotia. If we drain a wet soil we can grow trees upon that soil that we could not do without draining it, and upon which

a man would scarcely expect to grow trees from the look of it today undrained. I want to give you one instance of successful fruit growing. Prof. Shaw will speak to you later on the profits of fruit growing and he will give you some more examples. But I desire to cite a case of what a commercial proposition in an orchard has done.

"The first orchard I planted contained four acres and one of my neighbors, a hard-headed old farmer asked me how I was ever to care for so many trees. I have been planting more or less trees every year since, until I now have 105 acres in orchard, and expect to set out 10 acres more next spring. In 1906 I raised about 450 barrels of apples; 1700 barrels in 1907; 1500 barrels in 1908. The year, 1909, I had 2300 barrels, and expect before many years to get 4000 or 5000 barrels. I hope to see the day when this orchard will produce 10,000 barrels of apples.

I have one acre and a half, containing 75 King trees, planted twenty-one year ago, which has given me (as they came from the tree) 175 barrels in 1905; 225 barrels in 1906; 260 barrels in 1907; 336 barrels in 1908; and 280 barrels in 1909. I think you will agree with me that that averages up well as a commercial orchard. I want to take up the subject of our climate next, to see if I can show whether it is suitable for fruit growing. We have had in 1909 and 1910 two remarkable years. In 1909 we had scarcely any rain from the first of June to the first of October. We were feeling pretty blue about the last of September. We did not expect our apples would grow to any size; and although we had them on the trees, we expected a small crop. But you will remember the last of September and first of October, we had rains and had one of the best apple crops in the Province. That was a remarkable crop made good at the end of the season.

In 1910 we had another remarkable season. We had a period in bloom time which was hard on pollination. Some have ascribed it to frost, and some have ascribed it to the cold east rain that we had about blooming time. There may be other reasons for the apparent failure that we have had this year, but I want to say that it will not be a failure if we look over a period of

### Why is Nova Scotia the Best Commercial Apple Growing Proposition in the World



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BECAUSE her climate is right for growing apples of choicest flavor.  
BECAUSE no part of her area is more than fifty miles from a good harbor.  
BECAUSE she is nearest, by all water route, the markets of the world.  
BECAUSE her fruit lands are the cheapest in the world.  
BECAUSE with an abundant and even rainfall no irrigation is needed.  
BECAUSE the greatest railway system in the world passes through her fruit districts.  
BECAUSE the winter port of Canada is within her borders.  
BECAUSE she has the great markets of the world at her disposal.  
BECAUSE her fruit growers are intelligent, progressive, and have faith in their country.

—From the Annual Report of the N. S. Fruit Growers' Association.

the next ten years. I think most of the people here will agree with me, that we will be amply repaid for what we have lost this year. The growth of the trees this year has been exceptionally large. The trees have been thrifter than they have been for a long time; and the rest the trees have had, possibly, and the renewal of vitality which they will gain from this year, will more than compensate in the next ten years for the loss we have received in this year's apples. So I can look over a period of years and say we have had no summer from beginning to end, that has been totally unfit for the production of apples in Nova Scotia.

Perhaps one of the best things about our late spring is, it retards the opening of the buds until such a time as they are strong enough to come out and be fertilized without danger of frost. Remember this is an exceptional year. They have a good deal of trouble in Ontario that way with some of the warm days of spring—the warm days will start the buds, and if the warm are followed by frost, it will in a great number of years, affect the apple crops for the worse. But we do go not have that. This, as you all know, is an exceptional year. And as far as climate is concerned we have as much sun and suitable weather to ripen our apples and give them as much color as in any other province. Our Septembers and Octobers are normally the sunniest months of our year, and this as the season when our fruit needs the sun to give color. We hear of the western province of British Columbia being a sunnier country. You have heard this afternoon that they prune more severely than we do, and open up the tops, and so in consequence the apples have a better chance to get that sun. We do not prune so severely—but still we get excellent results on the whole.

#### TRANSPORTATION.

The question of transportation in the past has been a delicate one, and one that we have had a great deal of trouble over. I would just like to take you back to the days when the export of apples to Great Britain was something we could not depend upon at all—when we sent our apples off, we did not know whether they were going over in ten days, in twenty days or in thirty days, or perhaps the steamer would get off the track and we would not hear of them. Perhaps a good many here can remember the steamer "Wyandotte" that went across in which a large cargo was destroyed. The claims of the consignors were taken up by the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association and a settlement was subsequently made. I only refer to it to remind you that this Association never received the thanks it was entitled to, for taking up the various claims and pressing them to a satisfactory conclusion.

(Continued on page 4.)

### Had A Gay Winter At United States Capital

It Was a "Dinner" Winter.

(New York Tribune.)

Washington's social winter, to the surprise of the pessimists, has been an exceedingly gay one. It began with a few debutante teas and luncheons, but on the wing of the New Year the city's hospitable doors were opened wide. As one man, who has just built an enormous house near Sheridan Circle, put it (to the deep mystification of a prominent diplomat to whom he was speaking):

"Washington is a great place for give and take. Why, your excellency, I've hardly ever had my knife out of my mouth since Christmas!"

It has really been a "dinner" winter that being the favorite form of entertainment, and when Lent arrived many sought a strict diet not only as a penance, but as a first aid to the injured. Invitations had to be issued four or five weeks in advance before a worried hostess could get the desired number of dinner guests. Numerous contretemps have resulted as a consequence.

A pretty widow, who has been very much entertained since her return to Washington, went to a large tea recently. While there her hostess informed her she had been invited to meet her at a dinner Senator and Mrs. Blank were giving in the widow's honor on February 28th.

"Indeed," said the widow, "This is the first I have heard of the dinner." Her hostess expressed her surprise, and then they departed. After that other friends told the widow they had been asked to meet her, but, receiving no intimation herself, she became more and more bewildered. Several days later she met the Senator on the street and stopped to talk with him.

"My friends tell me they are invited to meet me at your house on the 28th, Mr. Senator, but your wife has not written or telephoned me about the dinner," she said, after they had exchanged greetings.

"My dear Polly"—the Senator was an old friend of her father—"it's just this way: We made out a list of guests to meet you and sent out our invitations weeks ago, thinking it difficult to find people disengaged. Unfortunately, our dining room is not large, and the seating capacity is, therefore, limited. To our great surprise we received acceptances for the proper number before we reached your name on the list. We're awfully sorry, but we just couldn't ask you this time." The Senator finished his naive confession and bowed himself off before the astonished widow could collect her wits.

Washington men, as a rule, are very temperate; at least they seldom appear the worse for wear at dinners or dances. Out occasionally, being only

human, there are lapses.

Some years ago a young clubman, a member of an old and distinguished Pennsylvania family, went to a ball at the Russian Legation, as it was then. During supper one of the attaches persuaded the clubman to drink some vodka. The fiery stimulant promptly went to his head, and on their return to the ball-room the clubman leaned over and bit the wife of a Russian minister on her bare shoulder.

Her frantic shrieks alarmed the company, and the people rushed to her aid. The intoxicated clubman was immediately taken home. He told his scandalized companions that he bit Mme.—because he always wanted to know how Russian leather tasted.

There are numerous odd characters in the kaleidoscopic life of the capital whose adventures would fill a volume. There are those who are intentionally witty and those who are unintentionally amusing. Of the latter class one dame stands pre-eminent. Many stories are told of her, among them that of her encounter with George Bancroft, diplomat and historian, who was then eighty years old.

A member of the Cabinet gave a large dinner, and among the guests were George Bancroft and the woman referred to. He was assigned to take her out, and as they were enjoying their oysters she turned to Mr. Bancroft and said:

"Oh, Mr. Bancroft, we are all waiting with so much interest for your autopsy."

"Madam" ejaculated the astonished Mr. Bancroft.

"Yes," went on the unconscious woman, "My husband tells me it is to be published very soon." Like a flash her meaning dawned on Mr. Bancroft, and he chuckled as he deftly turned the conversation into safer channels; but later in the evening he could not refrain from telling his hostess, and that he thought of adding the remark to his autobiography.

On another occasion a prominent society woman went to call upon the same matron. She was shown into the drawing room and told that Mrs.— would be down in a moment. In a few seconds she came in wearing a pretty dressing gown.

"My dear," she remarked, as she shook hands with her caller, "please forgive my informality, but I did not want to keep you waiting, so just slipped on my non de plume and came down!"

Sick headache results from a disordered condition of the stomach, and can be cured by the use of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. Try it. For sale by all dealers.

Maud S. the famous trotter, reached the age of thirty-five years on April 19th. She was shot and killed to end her career, at Springfield, Ky., on that day. For many years she was queen of the turf and made a record of 2, 08 3-4 at Cleveland, in 1885.

### TOWN OF AYLESFORD

#### SWEPT BY FLAMES

Sparks From the Anvil in Blacksmith's Shop Set Fire to Shop and Started Conflagration Which Destroyed Sixteen Buildings and Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars Worth of Property.

AYLESFORD, May 9.—Fanned by a strong westerly wind a raging fire destroyed sixteen buildings at Aylesford. Fully one third of the village was swept away in two hours. It was the worst fire ever known in this vicinity.

About noon yesterday the blacksmith shop in the town caught fire from sparks from the forge and with great rapidity the blaze spread through the building. With no fire protection it was practically impossible to stay the flames. The high wind carried the sparks and burning embers to adjoining buildings, with the result that in a short time several buildings were burned.

The fire raged with terrific fury. Men, women and children worked to save their valuables, many not having time to save anything, so fierce and swift was the progress of the flames. Fire broke out in three different parts at one time. The D. A. R. eastbound express, although it only stopped a minute at the depot, was on fire in two places. The parlor car was considerably damaged. The station and other buildings were on fire but extinguished.

#### MAN'S NARROW ESCAPE FROM DEATH.

A man nearly met a terrible death, being trapped in a house and succeeding in escaping by a small scuttle hole just as the building collapsed.

Many other buildings were threatened and at one time it appeared that the village was doomed.

At a critical moment the men some thirty strong, from Blackadar's mill arrived and they, together with those already at work and a large party from

Kentville, who arrived by special train, did splendid work in stopping the flames. At six o'clock the fire was under control.

#### THE LOSSES AND THE INSURANCE

The losses are as follows, as nearly as known at present, but the list is not complete:

L. H. Davidson's general store, tenant stock and damage to residence	\$5,500
Insurance about half covered.	
Grant Power, furniture	\$ 300
Geo. E. Thompson	200
L. R. Whitman	100
Partly covered by insurance, Clarence Elliott, store and residence	\$2,600
Insurance	1,000
Charles McIntyre, harness shop and lodge	2,500
Insurance	500
Mary Healy, barn, damage to store and stock	450
Partly insured.	
M. S. Foster, barber	120
No insurance.	
Julia Foster, barn	150
Mrs. Frances Nichols, residence	2,000
Insurance	1,000
Chas. Blackburn, residence and stable	2,200
Insurance	650
John Taylor, house and barn	1,600
Insurance	650
Wesley Taylor, house, shop and barn	2,600
Insurance	1,000
This totals \$20,350, with an insurance, partially made up, of \$4,800.	

### Shrubb Defeated Cameron at Boston

The English Champion Was Too Speedy for the Amherst Runner.

Boston, May 6.—Alfred Shrubb, of England, defeated Fred Cameron of Amherst, N.S., tonight in the Boston Arena in a twelve-mile race. The time was one hour, six minutes and twenty-three seconds. Shrubb finishing about two-fifths of a mile ahead of his opponent. At three miles and a half the little Englishman lapped Cameron, and toward the end of the eleventh mile he gained another lap. Shrubb ran the last three laps of the race with one bare foot. Cameron's time was 1,07.13.

### Typhoid Fever Claims a Victim

Daughter of Dr. T. C. Lockwood, Who Was Attending Acadia Seminary Has Passed Away.

Wolfville, May 7.—The death occurred at Wolfville today of Miss Lockwood, daughter of Dr. T. C. Lockwood, of Lockeport. The young lady who had been attending Acadia seminary, was attacked by typhoid fever at the same time that a number of other pupils of the school became ill of the disease. The announcement of Miss Lockwood's death will come as a great shock to friends in Nova Scotia. Much sympathy with Dr. and Mrs. Lockwood finds expression here, not alone from citizens of the town but among the students. After a short service by Rev. Mr. Webber on Monday the remains will be taken to Lockeport for interment.

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INCORPORATED 1869

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A. J. McLEAN MANAGER, Bridgetown  
F. G. PALFREY MANAGER, Lawrence town  
E. B. McDANIEL MANAGER, Annapolis Royal.