

GIVES WARNING RE BROWN-TAIL MOTH

William McIntosh Reports to Government on His Inspection Trip

NOT SETTLED HERE

Nevertheless Fear is Expressed That Dreaded Insect May Invade This Province — Measures, He Says, Should Be Taken to Prevent Ravages.

Following is the report of William McIntosh, who made a lengthy search in the province this spring for signs of that dreaded insect, the brown tail moth:

Hon. D. V. Landry, Commissioner for Agriculture, Fredericton:

Sir,—Acting upon instructions received from your department that a "reasonably careful search be made for the brown tail moth in this province," early in April I began the search. It was thought best to examine those sections where the moth may be expected to appear, namely, the city of St. John and vicinity and the parts of Charlotte county bordering on the infected area in the state of Maine and the railway and highway roads leading from Maine. All fruit trees within 100 yards of the road or railroad were searched and a sharp lookout kept for nests on the forest trees. All schools passed en route were visited and a short talk given on the brown tail moth, actual specimens were shown and a colored plate illustrating the life history of the moth left in each school. Your inspector found it necessary to return to St. George and found the school children had thoroughly searched the trees in the vicinity and a number of summer nests of the cherry tortrix, which are very much like the brown tail nests, were removed and examined and one sent to St. John for identification since the inspection was made the teachers and school children of a number of the schools visited have been sending insects for examination showing that a watch is being kept for dangerous insects.

The search was commenced in St. John city and suburbs. This area was most carefully gone over. Nearly every year male brown tail moths are taken in the city of St. John. This is not surprising for each summer large numbers of persons come from the infected districts in Massachusetts and moths are probably brought on clothing and baggage.

The search in Charlotte county was commenced at St. George and continued along the main road to St. Andrews; the section bordering the St. Croix river was inspected. St. Stephen and Milltown were visited and the highway road and railroad from Welsford to St. John.

Sixteen days were devoted to the search and we are pleased to say no traces of the brown tail moth were found in the districts visited.

Though the brown tail moth has not yet become established within the province, a number of adult male moths have been taken, as previously stated, and we may reasonably expect it to appear, as it is found in large numbers in the state of Maine and also occurs in Nova Scotia. The moth was first noticed in Summerville (Mass.) about sixteen years ago. It is a European insect which doubtless had been introduced into this country by accident.

Since its introduction it has spread rapidly and has proved one of the most dangerous insect pests known. Last year a half million dollars was spent in the state of Massachusetts for the suppression of brown tail and gipsy moths. This included the state's annual appropriation of \$165,000. The state of Maine makes an annual grant of \$17,000 for the suppression of these pests. Wherever these insects have obtained a foothold and have been allowed to increase without being recognized they have occasioned great loss, and the expenditures of large sums for their suppression. Therefore, it is desirable that we should take measures to recognize and deal with them before they become established in any section of the province.

Respectfully submitted,
(Signed) W. M. MCINTOSH.

UPPER HAMPSTEAD FARMER GORED TO DEATH BY A BULL

Word has been received in the city that William Cameron, a well known farmer of Upper Hampstead, was killed by a three-year-old bull on Wednesday. The bull was very wild, and a few days before had backed a young lad. Mr. Cameron was one of those who helped to pull the bull away. On Wednesday, Mr. Cameron was found lying dead in the field where the bull was kept. He was terribly battered, and was almost unrecognizable. It is supposed that the bull attacked a yoke of oxen which Mr. Cameron was driving through the field, and that when the bull attacked the oxen he attempted to drive it away.

HARVEY STATION NOTES

Harvey Station, June 20—Rev. M. J. Macpherson, pastor of the church here, has arranged to have a number of revival meetings in the Upper Church this week, the first of which was held last evening.

Rev. Franklin W. Barker, of Amesbury (Mass.), who is visiting friends here for a few days, preached a powerful sermon on Prayer to a large and appreciative audience. Rev. Mr. Macpherson also spoke.

Thomas Glendinning, of Winnipeg, arrived on Friday last to spend a few days visiting his brother, D. Glendinning, at the Glen House.

Mrs. George Gantley, of Vancouver (B. C.), who has spent some weeks visiting friends and relatives in this neighborhood, left for the west this morning by way of Lewiston (Me.), where she proposes to remain for a few days.

Miss Maude Robinson has gone to St. John (west), to spend some weeks with

HOW TO DEAL WITH FLY NUISANCE

Dangerous Insects Recognized as Most Serious Carriers of Germs of Certain Diseases—Advice to Housewives.

The department of agriculture, Ottawa, has issued an instructive circular dealing with the danger against the very dangerous insect known as the house fly. It points out that house flies are now recognized as most serious carriers of the germs of certain diseases such as typhoid fever, tuberculosis, infantile diarrhoea, etc. The circular says:

"Flies infest themselves in filth and decaying substances, and by carrying the germs on their legs and bodies they pollute food, especially milk, with the germs of these and other diseases and of decay. No fly is free from germs. The best method is to prevent their breeding."

"House flies breed in decaying or decomposing vegetable and animal matter and excrement. They breed chiefly in stable refuse. In cities this should be stored in fly-proof chambers or receptacles, and it should be regularly removed within six days in the summer. Farmyard manure should be regularly removed within the same time and either spread on the fields or stored at a distance of not less than a quarter of a mile, the further the better, from a house or dwelling."

"House flies breed in such decaying and fermenting matter as kitchen refuse and garbage. Garbage receptacles should be kept tightly covered. All such refuse should be burnt or buried within a few days, but at once if possible. No refuse should be left exposed. If it cannot be disposed of at once it should be sprinkled with chloride of lime."

FILLS IN HOUSES.

"Windows and doors should be properly screened, especially those of the dining room and kitchen. Milk and other food should be screened in the summer by covering it with muslin; fruit should be covered also. Where they are used, especially in public places as hotels, etc., spittoons should be kept clean as there is very great danger of flies carrying the germs of consumption from unclean spittoons. Flies should not be allowed to have access to the sick room, especially in the case of infectious disease. The faces of babies should be carefully screened with muslin."

"Flies may be killed by means of a weak solution of formalin or formaldehyde exposed in saucers in the rooms. This may be added to a tablespoonful of formaldehyde to a pint of water. The burning of pyrethrum in a room is also effective. House flies indicate the presence of filth in the neighborhood or insanitary conditions."

Copies of this circular may be had on application to the division of entomology, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

MAGGAN HOTEL BURNED; LOSS IS ABOUT \$6,000

Housekeeper Lost \$1,000 Cash in Her Trunk—Insurance on Building \$3,000.

Amherst, N. S., June 20—The Hotel Belmont at Maggan Station, conducted for many years by Archie Madden but recently sold to James Legere, was this morning totally destroyed by fire, together with outbuildings. All the contents except a piano and some other dining-room furniture were destroyed. The fire first broke out about 4 o'clock in the rear of the building and the flames had made such progress that it was with difficulty that the people escaped with their lives. It was only through the heroic efforts of the firemen that the flames were prevented from reaching adjoining buildings.

It is said Mrs. A. J. Townshend, the housekeeper, Mrs. Madden's daughter, had \$1,000 in her trunk in her bedroom and had not time to remove it and the money, as well as all her clothes, was destroyed. Many of the boarders lost all their personal effects, but considering the headway that the flames had made before the fire was discovered, it was fortunate that no lives were lost.

The origin of the fire is a mystery. It is understood there was insurance on building and contents to the amount of \$3,000. It is doubtful if the hotel will be rebuilt.

NEWS OF REXTON AND VICINITY

Rexton, N. B., June 20—Rev. J. L. L. Bellevue, parish priest of Grand Digue, Kent county, will celebrate the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on Tuesday, the 21st inst. Father Bellevue is one of the clearest and most popular preachers in the province and his parishioners are making elaborate preparations for celebrating his silver jubilee.

On Tuesday evening a play will be presented in St. Philip's hall by a group of St. Joseph's College students. After the play there will be a display of fireworks, etc.

Bishop Casey, of St. John, will preside at the ceremonies and a large number of priests from different parts of the province will be present besides a number of friends from Quebec and parts of this province.

At Grand Digue, the 3rd inst., there passed away Fernand Gagnon, of Antoine R. Gallant, after a tedious illness of five years duration. He was 26 years of age.

At St. Francois de Kent, on June 7, the death occurred of Melina Basterache, wife of Alfred LeBlanc, after a brief illness.

At Grand Digue, the 3rd inst., there leaves behind her husband, her father and two brothers.

Miss Anna Cormier, of Buteauche, has gone to Boston to spend a couple of months.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hachey, of Coal Branch, are receiving congratulations on the arrival of a daughter.

THE HERALD DISCUSSES THE DISASTER AND ITS CAUSE

A TERRIFIC CRASH

Big Water Tank Carried Everything Before It and Ruin Was Complete in a Few Seconds—No Warning for People in Its Plunge.

The Montreal Herald, in discussing editorially the awful disaster from which it and its employees suffered, says in part:

The lesson of the disaster is the terrible destructive power of the weight of water contained in one of these great tanks. Necessarily, in this climate, it has to be enclosed. When it falls, therefore, it falls with the full force of its tens of tons. Putting aside the question of whether, and how, it should be supported, the question will then be to be borne in mind is what will happen if it falls. There was every reason to suppose the Herald's tank was secure. During nearly five years there was nothing whatever to suggest the contrary. In no other establishment in the city was there less doubt on the score of security. And yet when the weak spot appeared it was a matter of seconds until the destruction was wrought. On the highest floor they had no warning at all. Men and girls in the path of the thunderbolt were crushed through the floor or swept in after it. Men on the floor below were carried down through three stories and thrown into a lane, where they lay covered with timber, bricks and machinery. They were all active, powerful, quick-witted fellows, and a second's notice would have been enough if they could have had it. Two men working at their linotype machines on the edge of the abyss had no other warning than the toppling of their machines, which fell as they sprang to safety. So rapid was the movement that no hint of all this going on above them was perceived until it was too late. There was a noise as if a glass partition had fallen. Then there was a crash as if a press had been stopped suddenly, with resulting vibration. And then there was a rip-rip-rip, a sag in the ceiling, a sinking of beams, stanchions and partitions, a roar, a rush of dust, and then a great silence. From roof to cellar the water bullet whizzed. They in a few seconds were so it would be venture to think, with almost any other tank falling through the floors of almost any other building in Montreal. Plainly, this kind of fire protection is too much of a menace. Factors of safety are all very well, but when it turns out that something unknown, a weak spot in the wall, a flaw in the steel, a high wind, the influence of machinery, any one of many possible things, wipes out the safety factor, see what happens. Yesterday people were telling each other how many tanks had fallen in a few seconds. A good crop of crows will add in its roots, in his belief, 150 pounds of nitrogen to the soil after the crop has been cut for hay. This amount of fertilizer would cost, if bought on the market, from \$20 to \$30. The crows do not improve the mechanical texture of the soil and add humus as well as nitrogen.

Another crop for stock feeding which he strongly urges New Brunswick farmers to grow is turnips—a fodder crop which grows better here than in Ontario and makes the cheapest and best winter feed for all kinds of stock. He explains in detail at the meetings he addresses the methods which he has found most successful in turnip growing.

The sheep raising industry, in his opinion, should be encouraged, and the raising of cattle that will not only develop the dairy industry but also provide feeding cattle for beef production. While, he says, theoretically the argument of special breeds for special purposes cannot be successfully carried out here, the raising of a cow that will give a good flow of milk, and at the same time produce a calf that will make a good beef carcass, is easily the most profitable for all farmers except those who are making a specialty of milk production.

What in some degree relieved the strain of those terrible three hours was the way the best in human nature showed itself. There was not a fatality, so far as can be learned or even an injury, occasioned by anything that happened after the actual shock. If there was an exception, it was in the case of a man who went back to rescue a girl, and who perished with her. There were some remarkable examples of self-possession. A young woman, her foot pinned by the crumbling wall, waited until a policeman came to release her, and then calmly walked down the stairs. A man climbed down a dismantled elevator and then jumped twenty feet to an adjoining roof. Men worked in the mass of debris at the rear, pulling out the injured until the fire chief forced them to desist as a wall which fell a moment afterwards threatened to bury them with the others. There were some remarkable examples of self-possession. 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