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An American's View of The Canadian North-West

A party of agricultural editors left Chicago on the 16th of last August for a three weeks' tour through the Canadian North-West, in order to discover the reason why so many American farmers have lately taken up their future homes in that country.

The editor of "Farm Life and Agricultural Epitomist," which is published in Spencer, Indiana, gives a long account of their observations during a journey of over three thousand miles.

Some of his remarks are of considerable interest to Canadian readers, part of them being here given:

"At Humboldt, Saskatchewan, we found a very promising section; promising because here we found mixed farming practised quite generally, with attention placed on stock raising and dairying. The district has many settlers of German descent, who have immigrated from the crowded sections of Wisconsin. This accounts in a large measure for the advanced dairying found here. We found the Andrus Creamery making about 1,000 pounds of high grade butter per day, and making money for the owners and the farmers. Huskert Rauro, once a renter in Wisconsin, is one of the prize dairymen of the community. His cream checks average from \$150 to \$200 per month throughout the year. He came here six years ago with six sons. Each took up a homestead, and they are now farming more than one thousand acres in the vicinity of general farming. A ride through the famous Red Deer Hills district six miles from here would lead one to believe he was driving through a prosperous section of northern Iowa were it not for the absence of corn fields. At Melfort, the principal town of the Carrot River Valley, conditions were similar to the last mentioned places. General farming and much live stock were in evidence. A government co-operative creamery is located at this place, and is a paying proposition. On the 21st of August, the time of our visit, the wild rye grass and the brome grass were green as June meadows in the states and as high as our knees. All cattle were in excellent condition. Beef cattle, we were told, winter in the open. Straw stacks are plenty, and stock is allowed to run to them during the winter. They are finished on ground barley, oats, or frosted wheat.

"In the district about Edmonton, the busy capital city of the Province of Alberta, a traveller might believe he was driving through Illinois. The same evidences of good farming are in view—neat, comfortable homes, large well painted barns, and everywhere waving wheat fields, just ready for the harvest. Here the farmers are united by a government supervised co-operative telephone, and have rural mail delivery. While not at all common in western Canada, rural delivery of mail is being rapidly introduced. Here, too, grain farming is transformed into the more staple live stock and mixed farming.

THREE STAGES IN A FARMER'S CAREER.
On the farm of R. P. Ottwell, living five miles out of Edmonton, is a scene which is worth mentioning only because it is typical of many others in Canada. The three houses standing in the midst of his two and one-half sections of good land, tell the story of his rise more eloquently than words can. Back from the road stands the tiny one-story one-roomed shack, which served as home in the pioneer days. Across the road stands the two-room house which sheltered the family while the country and town were "making good." The third house, a large three-story brick structure erected at a cost of \$13,000, tells the last chapter of the story. Here Mr. Ottwell lives the life of an English squire. Near town land is selling at \$100 per acre, several miles out at \$20 to \$30 per acre.
Two more sections most excellently adapted to live stock farming were visited before leaving for the great wheat regions farther south. They were Vermilion in Alberta, and North Battleford in Saskatchewan. Because of the lusciant grasses and pea-vines which grow rank, forage is very abundant. Vermilion has a stock-buying association, backed by bank-buying good stock and accepting their notes in payment. At other places the Government is helping the farmers in much the same way.
A story common enough in Saskatchewan, and which is worth repeating only because it is typical of the conditions based on our trip, is that told by a farmer who said:

"I came here in 1905, said Mr. Hoover, 'I homesteaded one-quarter section, and my son secured another in the same way. We never prospered much in our old home at Spring Brook, Ont., and when we came here our worldly possessions consisted of one horse, a yoke of oxen, four cows and a few farming implements. Three years ago we bought another quarter section adjoining ours at \$18 per acre, and a little later a 40 acre meadow at \$18,500. Besides this we bought for a few hundred dollars a lot in town which is now worth \$6,000. All has come from the land. We do not owe a dollar. We have twenty-three head of cattle and a nice drove of hogs. Wife makes butter and sells at North Battleford; she received 35 cents per pound for the last we sold.
"Some of our wheat this year will dollar. We have twenty-three head. The seven crops we have harvested have averaged more than twenty bushels per acre. My wife keeps one hundred hens and a garden. She is some gardener. I like the winters here better than those in Ontario—they do not have the fluctuations of temperature, which make those disagreeable. We never prospered until we came here, and now I only wish we had come out west sooner, instead of wasting the best years of our lives in the east."
"A visit to the wife's garden was enough to convince us that she was 'some' gardener. Everything was there with the exception of tomatoes, which will not mature in this climate—cabbage, parsnip, pumpkin, squash and skauw corn.

There are thirty-one women employed as railway brakemen in the United States and ten as baggage scene which is worth mentioning only men.

Found!

A Tea that is instantly distinguished from all others by its fragrance, which will win you at once and forever

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Tip Top Tea
and every grocer sells it

The Fur Industry in Canada

Over one hundred thousand (\$100,000) dollars is paid to the farmer boys of Canada each year for raw furs, said Mr. John Hallam the large Toronto fur dealer, and many of these boys earn their first real money by setting out a line of traps and capturing the valuable fur-bearing animal.

Contrary to the popular impression, it is not necessary to go into the wilds in order to trap, as Muskrats, Mink, Skunk, Raccoon, Ermine or White Weasel and other valuable fur-bearing animals abound throughout the farming communities of the Dominion, and it only remains for the observant active trapper to capture the same and turn their pelts into the big money that they bring on the market today.

Not only does the following of the trap line well repay the boy for the time and energy expended, but it leads him to enjoy the healthful life in the open, and to become a lover of nature. It causes him to become observant and sharpens his wits, when he attempts to match his skill against the natural instinct and wariness of the wild animals, and offers an 'innocent safety valve' to the natural exuberance inherent in every boy having good red blood coursing through his veins.

It is not advisable or necessary to wait until the trapping season opens before locating places to set the traps, as a great deal of the preliminary work for a successful trapping season should be done now. Cubbies should be built, log runways constructed in places frequented by fur-bearing animals, and bait placed in the same spots that the animals will become accustomed to their presence and feed in the same before attempts are made to trap them.

In passing through the woods and along the creeks and sand bars look for tracks and signs of the animals, note where they pass in their search for food, examine holes in the ground, and see if tracks do not lead into them with hair on the side of the hole showing that you have found the home of the skunk, a fur that shows increasing value and popularity on account of its black glossy appearance and good wearing qualities.

As mink have a natural aversion to crossing travelled roads and prefer to pass under a bridge or culvert, all places of this description should be located and an old log or piece of plank placed on an angle against the side of the abutment under the bridge forming a tunnel or passageway, and every mink that passes that way will go through the tunnel you have made. Notice where a log lies across a stream as land and even water animals will use it as a bridge in place of going through the water, and a trap properly placed there often brings good results.

All these signs tell their tales to the experienced trapper, and if the boy is to make a success of trapping he must learn to read these signs, which show him where to set his traps to make success assured.
Good traps in good working condition are very essential for a successful season's trapping, as it is usually the best mink that escapes from a defective trap, so that before the season opens you should go over your traps carefully to see that the springs are in good condition, and that they work properly. The traps should then be boiled in water with pine, spruce, hemlock, balsam boughs or with walnut hulls, and hung up to dry, as this will give the traps a dark coating, remove the oil, and keep them from rusting. Never put kerosene on your traps as the odor remains for a long time and will warn the animal of the presence of the traps and cause them to avoid being caught.
The farm dog is a valuable animal in his place, but he should not be taken along when you go over your trap line, as mink and some other animals can scent a dog for several days afterward and will avoid the locality where their natural enemy has passed.
Don't take a crowd with you when looking over the ground to make your sets, nor when you are going

over your trap line. Trapping is best done alone or at most with one companion. Don't tell others where you have set your traps, or someone with a preverted sense of honesty may remove your catch from the trap, even if he does not take the trap along for good measure.

There is a right and wrong way of setting traps, and you should obtain all the information on the subject possible, and then use your good common sense in determining just which set is the best under all the circumstances of the case, as one boy will catch twice as many fur-bearing animals from his traps when they are set properly as will another who has set his traps carelessly and wrong. This means dollars, and it is advisable to think out the best sets for the different locations, so that when the season opens you know just what to do under the circumstances of the case.

These are only a few hints to the amateur trapper, we have received so many thousands of letters each season asking how, when and where to set traps, what bait to use, what the laws are concerning the time to trap fur-bearing animals and other information concerning trapping, that for the benefit of the amateur and to give new ideas to the professional trapper, we have published both French and English editions of "Hallam's Trapper's Guide," a book of ninety-six pages, covering all of these points which we are mailing free to all interested in trapping, or in the raw fur industry, thus assisting in developing the great Canadian fur industry, and giving pointers to the farmer boy whereby he may derive both pleasure and profit from a life in the open.

COUNTING MONEY BY THE MILLIONS.

Battery of Machine Guns Guard Experts at Work in New York.

New York, Aug. 30.—About eighty-four tons of gold which lies in the United States sub-treasury in Wall Street, guarded night and day by a small army of watchmen and a battery of machine guns, is being counted by nine men sent over from the Treasury Department at Washington. Between 25,000 and 30,000 tons of silver also is being counted, as well as several million dollars in bills, and a few tons of nickels and coppers. The task was begun Tuesday, and will keep nine skilled men busy for three weeks.

At the end of that time they are expected to inform Martin Vogel, assistant United States Treasurer in charge of the New York sub-treasury that he has \$171,103,286.12 of Government funds in his keeping. If they should report one dollar more or less than this amount there would be no rest until the cause of the discrepancy was discovered.

ALMOST every man in this country has \$20. Almost every man may, therefore, become an investor.

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A Million Dollars for Good Roads

County Council of Essex, Ont., Presents By-Laws for Improving 150 Miles of Roadway.

One of the most important of the many road improvement plans now under way in various parts of Canada, is that just launched in Essex County, Ontario. At a meeting of the Council, on Thursday, October 16, a By-Law was drawn up for presentation to the voters next January. This By-Law calls for the raising of a million dollars to provide for concrete roadways covering no less than 150 miles, and connecting all the important communities of Essex County. The proposed routes of the concrete roads will completely circle the County, and afford the finest type of highway connection to the farmers for reaching Windsor or any of the smaller towns.

With the assistance of Engineer Huber, of the Ontario Government, the committee appointed at the last session of the council, went over the different roads proposed for paving. Basing his recommendation upon the fact that the route will be used for much heavy traffic, Mr. Huber made his report in favor of using concrete throughout.

An interesting feature of the plan as outlined, is the provision of a continuous route of good roads. There have been instances in other communities where otherwise excellent road development ideas were, in a measure, spoiled by failure to have the good road a continuous good road. The Essex County Council have shown their wisdom and far-sightedness by providing for the complete connecting up of the proposed concrete stretches, so that in the completed project there will appear no interruptions of unimproved or bad roads. While not in a straight line, the completed series of roads will be, in effect, one long continuous highway all of concrete, and taking in practically the whole of Essex County.

There would seem to be a peculiarly enterprising spirit in the vicinity of the Detroit River. On one side of the River was Wayne County, Michigan (the county of which Detroit is the principal centre) with approximately one hundred miles of concrete County highways. This magnificent series of highways has been a model for other communities, and has attracted visitors on inspection tours from all over the world. Now comes Essex County, a sister community, on our side of the river, with a plan which bids fair to fully equal that of Wayne County, and which will perhaps, eventually eclipse the splendid road system that is the pride of Michigan. The building of one hundred and fifty miles of concrete highways such as Essex County is to have, means a model county from the view-point of inter-communication between towns. Doubtless we will find deputations of municipal officers visiting Essex County to obtain pointers on how best to link together the farm communities with the market places. The eyes of all North America will turn toward Essex County and watch with growing interest the completion of this project.

BANK STATEMENT FOR SEPTEMBER.

The Outstanding Feature Was the Large Increase in Demand Deposits.

Ottawa, Oct. 24.—The September bank statement, just issued by the Financial Department, reflects the increased volume of business transacted during the month, largely brought about by the crop movement but also due, no doubt, to activity of the autumn trade. As compared with the statement for August, there has been an increase of \$5,268,605 in bank note circulation, and of \$1,207,046 in circulation of Dominion notes. But the outstanding feature is the large increase in demand deposits, which is greater by \$23,315,588 than in August 30. There was also an increase of \$2,216,738 in savings deposits. Current loans by the banks show an increase of \$8,429,017, and call loans in Canada an increase of \$2,813,308, while the bank's cut down their call loans abroad by nearly three and a half millions.

N. S. Temperance Act and the Scott Act

As petitions will be circulated in a number of counties of Nova Scotia very soon asking that a vote be taken on the question of Scott Act Repeal, the following comparison of the Scott Act with the Nova Scotia Temperance Act will be of interest.

1. All Alcoholic Drinks Prohibited.—The Scott Act prohibits the sale of all liquors that are intoxicating.

The new Act prohibits the sale of all drinkable liquids containing alcohol and names rum, brandy, whisky gin, wine, ale, porter, table beer and lager beer concerning which no proof of alcohol is necessary.

2. No "Personal Use" Clause.—Under the Scott Act Halifax dealers can legally ship liquor into Scott Act counties for "personal use." Under the new Act they cannot legally send it into N. S. Temperance Act counties.

3. Illegal Prescriptions.—Under the Scott Act a physician who prescribes liquor for other than medicinal purposes is liable to a fine of \$20 for a first offence and \$40 for subsequent offences.

Under the new Act prescriptions can only be given to persons whom the doctor visited professionally within three days (unless the patient live three miles away) and the punishment for violation is \$50 for first offence and \$100 or two months for second.

4. Jail Penalty after First Offence.—Under the Scott Act the penalty for first offence is \$50 or one month; for second \$100 or two months; for third not over four months.

Under the new Act the penalty is \$50 or one month for first offence but is three months for second and subsequent offences and the inspector is himself liable to a penalty of \$20 if he does not regularly proceed from first to second or subsequent offences.

5. Only One First Allowed.—The Scott Act expressly provides that a conviction may be had in any case as for a first offence though there have been previous convictions.

The new Act provides that no conviction shall be made as for a first offence where a subsequent offence has been duly laid and proved. Amendment 1911.

The inspector who knowingly and willfully violates this is liable to penalty.

6. Search Day or Night Without Warrant.—Under the Scott Act a search can only be made with a warrant and in the day time.

Under the new Act any inspector, constable or peace officer may day or night search without warrant any place where liquor is reputed to be sold or he believes it is for sale.

7. Safeguarding Court Records.—Under the Scott Act it is difficult to prove previous convictions through technicalities or lost papers, etc.

Under the new Act the magistrate must within seven days file a copy of the conviction with the Prothonotary and if he fails to do so he is liable to a penalty of \$20.

8. Easy Proof of Previous Conviction.—The Prothonotary is required to furnish the inspector with a certificate that such conviction was filed and it is sufficient evidence of previous conviction.

9. Seizure from Vehicle.—Under the Scott Act liquor cannot be seized in transportation on a wagon. Under the new Act any inspector, constable or other peace officer may without warrant seize and remove liquor in any vehicle or in any warehouse or other place where it is unlawfully kept for sale.

10. Sending or Bringing in Liquor for Others.—Bringing or sending in liquor from any place in Nova Scotia into a N. S. Temperance Act county, except for druggists, etc., is punishable with fines of \$50, \$100, then \$200.

11. Labels on Liquor Packages.—Liquor shipped in from Halifax for druggist etc., must show conspicuously on packages the full name of shipper, consignee and the kind and quantity of liquor, otherwise the shipper is liable to \$50 fine.

12.—A carrier of liquor shipped in Nova Scotia for druggist, etc., in a N. S. Temperance Act county is liable to fine, if package of liquor is not properly labelled.

13. Liquor Not Permitted in Clubs.—Clubs are not permitted to sell, give or keep liquor. New Act.

14. Liquor Peddlers Searched.—Peddlers may be searched and, if liquor is found, arrested. New Act.

15. Liquor Packages Seized.—Under certain conditions inspector may examine packages for liquor and have offender convicted, and has wider powers than under the Scott Act. If it appears to the magistrate that liquor was consigned in a fictitious name or was shipped as other goods or covered so as to probably render discovery more difficult it is prima facie evidence of violation.

16. Unclaimed Liquor Destroyed.—Where the shipper or owner of liquor seized is not known and does not claim it inside thirty days it may, on affidavit of facts, be destroyed. No such provision in Scott Act.

17. Heavy Fines for Incorporated Companies.—An incorporated company for first offence is fined \$50, for second \$200, for third and subsequent \$500. New Act.

18. Duty to Question Drunks.—It is the duty of the magistrate to examine those arrested as 'drunk or drunk and disorderly' as to where and from whom they got the liquor and refusal to answer shall constitute contempt of court for which the party may be committed to jail.

Under the present law this can be done only in case of one arrested as 'drunk and incapable.'
19. Enforcement.—It is made the express duty of the council and every member and the police and temperance committee and every police officer to enforce this Act, and take necessary proceedings to punish offenders. New Act.
20. No Compromises.—No magistrate inspector council or officer shall have authority to remit or compromise any penalty. New Act.
The new Act is much more effective and workable, and temperance people should work for its adoption in Scott Act counties.
I consider the foregoing a fair comparison of the two Acts.
F. L. MILLNER,
Barrister at Law, Amherst.

Royal Bank of Canada

INCORPORATED 1869.

CAPITAL - - - - \$11,500,000
RESERVE FUNDS - - \$12,500,000
AGGREGATE ASSETS - \$175,000,000

70 BRANCHES IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES

SAVINGS DEPARTMENT

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E. B. McDANIEL MANAGER, Annapolis Royal.