

## Saskatchewan And Destruction of Game

Respecting the more generous use of our game for the purpose of eking out our meat supply during war times, I might say that outside of the Indian population there is very little hunting of big game or even feathered game in Saskatchewan for the exclusive purpose of supplementing our meat supply, the sport being a primary consideration and the meat thus secured being quite secondary. During the past number of years, in order to provide against the reduction of our wild life, we have been legislating in the direction of greater and greater restrictions in the annual fall hunt engaged in by our Nimrods. Last session the Game Act was again amended so as to conform with the Migratory Bird Treaty between Great Britain and the United States.

While a Game Act is probably one of the most transient pieces of legislation we have, still we feel we have got the foundation of it just where we desire after twelve years of long and arduous work. In view of this, it would be with some reluctance that the people would consider the turning of our game into a commercial article for the purpose of barter and sale.

If I might make a suggestion, I am of the opinion that the prohibition as a war measure of the slaughter of young lambs and calves would conserve and increase our meat supply in a far more practical manner than any attempt at commercializing our game supplies could ever accomplish.—*Letter from Hon. W. R. Moherwell, Minister of Agriculture, Saskatchewan.*

## UTILIZING FORESTS FULLY

The by-products of the lumber industry constitute an enormous amount of wood material which, for the most part, are now going to waste. Utilization is retarded in Canada on account of the scattered population and limited markets as well as the technical nature of many of the processes. It is estimated that the logging waste which is left in the forest represents about 25 per cent of the original tree. Obviously the opportunities for utilization are limited, and the main problem in Canada, at present, is to rigidly enforce the proper burning of slash in the wet seasons to remove this serious fire hazard and leave the woods in better condition for second growth. Other losses in the forest are due to fire, insects, fungi, wind, thick growth, scattered growth, loc. predominance of inferior species, failure of mature trees to come up to cutting standard, inaccessibility of timber and land-clearing operations. These are some of the problems which confront the forester, and the importance of the forest protective movement is emphasized when we

remember that forest fires in Canada have destroyed perhaps ten times as much wood as has been taken out by the lumbermen. The federal and provincial forestry branches and the various associations have done a great deal to safeguard our widespread forest resources and to secure the co-operation of the public in overcoming carelessness in the woods.

—*Dr. J. S. Bates.*

## GROW VEGETABLES AND ROOTS TO SAVE GRAIN

Roots and vegetables are not replacing cereal grains in this country to anything like the extent to which they are capable. We are told that the people of Germany and the prisoners of war there are being fed largely upon turnip soup. To save the grain and meat for hungry France and Britain, we must fight the enemy with his own weapons in this food problem and grow and eat more roots and vegetables.

On thousands of farms in Canada, where roots would grow well, there are none grown. It is claimed that root crops involve too much labour. It is quite true that if they are grown on a large scale, much labour is required, but a small patch on every farm would help wonderfully. Hogs are often wintered on expensive grains when, if roots were fed in conjunction with grain, much less grain would be required. A small area of root crops can easily be cared for at times which will not interfere with haying and harvest. Sugar mangels with a little grain will produce thirty pigs much more cheaply than grain alone. This is not only an opportunity for patriotic service but is a good business proposition and means more economical production of pork and a decided saving of cereal grains.—*F.C.N.*

## HIGH-PRICED PULP WOOD IS STIMULATING SETTLEMENT

Settlement in the northern portions of both Ontario and Quebec is being stimulated by the higher prices for pulpwood which, a few years ago, was looked upon as a detriment by the settler. Now it is a decided asset, with the result that he is less inclined to set fires indiscriminately or to let them run at large.

This situation, however, contains a real danger for all the provinces of Eastern Canada. There is a possibility that the demand for timber will lead to settlement of areas where the soil is unsuitable for agricultural production. The remedy lies in making a timber and land classification survey followed by proper government control. Already in New Brunswick and in the Trent Watershed of Ontario there are deplorable examples of the results of permitting settlers to try to eke out a living on land on which they should never have been allowed to settle.

## BUTTER FOR THE ALLIES

In Toronto, in 1916, 766,329 pounds of butter-fat were sold and consumed as cream. In addition, 778,479 pounds of butter-fat were made up in the form of ice-cream, or a total of 1,544,808 pounds of butter-fat utilized in these ways.

If all cities in Canada used the same amount of cream and ice-cream as Toronto does, it would amount, at the very least, to 9,620,000 pounds of butter if converted into that material.

Since the allies need butter-fat, why not give them 9½ million pounds of butter, which we can easily do without? It isn't much of a sacrifice for any of us to do without cream in our coffee, or an occasional ice-cream soda, and we will be glad to make it. Of course, it will dislocate trade to some extent, but war has dislocated most businesses, and this is one that the nation can easily make recompense for in deserving cases.

We venture to say that every producer and consumer would gladly fall in line to contribute their quota of the 9½ million pounds of butter, or make the necessary sacrifice to enable it to be made. In no other way can 9½ million pounds of animal fat be so simply and easily diverted to the Allies without interfering with our own food supply.—*Toronto Health Bulletin.*

## CROWDED STREET CARS MENACE PUBLIC HEALTH

Crowded street cars, undoubtedly, are favourable to the transmission of diseases, notably tuberculosis. A tuberculosis patient, coughing without taking the precaution to cover his mouth, will fill the air with germs that will endanger everyone who may be near, especially those who may be predisposed to tuberculosis.

To offset this menace in New York, the Board of Health of that city recently issued orders to the street railway companies to the effect that no car should take in more passengers than its seating capacity, plus one-half. Conductors were instructed, therefore, not to start their cars until all the passengers, above the allowed number, had stepped off. It is claimed that this plan has proved effective and that the public quickly accepted the change.

Of course, such action presupposes that the railway companies provide sufficient cars, not only for ordinary business, but also for traffic during rush hours. It is probable that much of the trouble would be obviated and public health greatly benefited if an adequate number of cars were kept on the lines at all times.—*Adapted from Montreal Health Bulletin.*

Fires occur in Canada in the ratio of one to every 600 people, and in Europe in the ratio of one to every 3,000 people.

## Limited Way of Using Electric Heat

The use of electricity for heating our homes has been the subject of much controversy during the past few years. The difference of opinion was principally due to a general way in which the subject was treated and the lack of detail in the various over-optimistic arguments advanced. The recent coal situation has brought about a more serious study of facts, and the figures now available show that, even if all of our numerous water-powers in Canada were converted into hydro-electric energy, the quantity would still be short of that required to heat our homes during the winter.

To say that hydro-electric energy cannot replace coal entirely for heating purposes does not mean that it cannot be utilized, but that it must be confined to raising the temperature of a cold room a few degrees in the late spring or early autumn. It may, indeed, stimulate the use of more available fuels, such as wood or peat. The principal objection to the use of many fuels for domestic heating is, that a fire cannot be banked up to last over night, from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. Now, this is just the period when a large portion of the hydro-electric equipment installed in the country lying idle, and the surplus energy then available might well be used to supply heat in at least a few of our homes. This would not mean a direct conservation of energy but would render feasible the use of other fuels not requiring to be transported such long distances.

As an example, the hydro-electric energy used in the Mead red district is some 150,000 k.w. with a load factor of about 75 per cent. This 'load factor' means the 25 per cent of the total possible output during the 24 hours unused, though it could be utilized at certain hours. In other words during the six coldest months approximately 121,000,000 k.w. could be used for heating purposes without the addition of a single horse-power in the present installations. This is equivalent to some 20,000 tons of coal.

One of the difficulties would be to prevent the energy being used for heating purposes except during the hours when very little energy is required for power and light. This could probably be accomplished by installing at the various heating services a disconnecting relay operated from the central station.

—*L. G.*

Retired farmers are numerous in Canada. They can perform national service by selling their experience and assistance to farmers in order to relieve the labour shortage.

Grow your own supply of vegetable seeds for next year. The Dominion Department of Agriculture has issued a leaflet to tell you how.