

The Standard

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1913.

AGRICULTURE IN NEW BRUNSWICK IN 1912.

For a great many years apples have been grown in New Brunswick, good apples too, but there were not many of them and the orchardists who grew them did not begin to supply the demands of the consumers of the Province. What native grown apples were offered for sale in New Brunswick were chiefly disposed of by the grocers or in the nearby towns. Few ever reached the St. John market. It was chiefly, indeed wholly, supplied for over a half century from Nova Scotia. It is true, a few grocers sold New Brunswick grown apples when they could get them, and they were occasionally offered for sale in the country market, but the quantity was so small compared with that brought from Nova Scotia as to be negligible. No great attention was given to the cultivation of apples in the Province. Outside of the orchards at Woodstock and two or three others in different sections of the Province, that were not so large, there were no commercial orchards in the Province. The existence of the Sharp nurseries caused quite a development in fruit culture in Carleton County, but the farmers had not awakened to the importance of fruit growing to follow it up as they should have done, once they had made a start.

From time to time during the past quarter of a century there have been occasions when the question of fruit growing has been seriously considered for brief intervals, but no permanent interest was awakened and the prospect of making New Brunswick one of the chief fruit growing Provinces of Canada was relegated to dreamland and forgotten. The Provincial Government which controlled the destinies of the Province from 1883 to 1908 practically did nothing to encourage the development of this great and profitable branch of agriculture during its term of office, until its last two or three years, when illustration orchards were planted in several of the counties. The idea was an excellent one had it been carried out with intelligence, that is to say had the orchards been planted where they would do the greatest good the greatest number instead of in the fields of some political henchman, where neither soil nor conditions were favorable, and where they could not possibly thrive and bear fruit. Under these conditions the greater number perished. A few, however, survived, and these have formed the nucleus on which has been built up the successful campaign of the present Government in bringing the advantages of fruit culture before the people of the Province, particularly those already engaged in agriculture.

Three years ago the Horticultural branch of the Agricultural Department could easily have found accommodation under the lead of the horticulturist. Now it has grown and expanded until there is an assistant horticulturist as well as Mr. Turney, and they have a clerk to assist them in their correspondence. Every day brings a batch of enquiries regarding the various problems which confront those new in horticulture. These are answered immediately and advice of the correct character given. There are also numerous enquiries from horticulturists located in other sections of the Dominion who have heard of New Brunswick and want to know something of this new land for apple growers. That not all of these enquiries are barren of result is proven by the fact that several who have engaged in horticulture elsewhere, and some who have tried British Columbia, have disposed of their holdings and have decided to settle in the new El Dorado for apple growers—New Brunswick. These men have a good training for the work they have undertaken, as they are farmers as well as fruit growers, and are thereby able to earn a good living while they wait for their newly planted trees to come into bearing.

The past season has not been a particularly good one, nor has it been a bad one for apple growing. In some districts the yield has exceeded that of 1911, in others it has been not so good. It has been a season that might be described as fair, on the whole reasonably profitable to those who have engaged in the industry. It was, however, a season of remarkable expansion. Thousands of new trees were set out and dozens of new orchards established. Old orchards which were almost out of bearing have been cleaned up and given a new lease of life. Many who have decided to take up the growing of apples for the market have given their orchards so much better attention that they have got much higher prices for their fruit than ever before and are anxious to go on and further improve their properties, having learned by experience that care of an orchard is quite as necessary to success as care of the crops or live stock.

There has been a sensational development of apple growing in New Brunswick in the last two or three years. No one knows exactly how many new fruit trees have been set out during the period, but the number is variously computed by those who ought to know at from 100,000 to 150,000. There is definite knowledge of the work done under the supervision of the New Brunswick Fruit Growers Association. In two years the number of new orchards established under the auspices of this association has been as follows:

From 50 to 100 trees	25
From 100 to 200 trees	13
From 200 to 300 trees	9
From 300 to 400 trees	6
From 400 and over	15

Here are 68 new orchards varying from 50 trees to 400 and over each. As one of those over 400 alone contains 6,000 trees and others of the 15 containing over 400 have over 1,000 trees, some idea may be had of the extent the industry has developed in three years since the active and energetic policy of the present Government was put into operation. Just what acreage is covered by newly planted orchards has not been computed, as the number of trees to an acre varies from 60 to 96, according to the ideas of the planter. The larger part of the trees for these new orchards has been purchased through the association at a saving of from 20 to 30 per cent., an arrangement having been effected through Mr. Turney, by which the farmer secured this large discount by paying cash. Over 15,000 trees alone have been purchased by the farmers at this large saving.

Regarding the three experimental orchards over which the Government retains control, one in Albert, another in Sunbury and a third in York, the season's results have been most satisfactory, and very similar to those of last year in a general way. A summary of these results is appended:

Albert County Orchard.	
Net profit per acre in 1911	\$181.70
Net profit per acre in 1912	79.47
Taking the two years the net annual profit is \$130.55,	

which on a valuation of \$500 per acre is a return of 28 per cent.	
Sunbury County Orchard.	
Net profit per acre in 1911	\$ 55.89
Net profit per acre in 1912	206.91
The average annual profit for two years, \$131.40,	
which on a valuation of \$400 per acre, is a return of almost 33 per cent.	

York County Orchard.	
Net profit per acre in 1911	\$ 88.56
Net profit per acre in 1912	341.74

The average annual profit per acre for two years is \$215.15, which on a valuation of \$300 per acre is a return of over 72 per cent. These are not mere fanciful figures. All the charges of maintaining the orchard are kept in detail as well as the receipts from the sale of fruit. The object of keeping the accounts in detail is to obtain exact results that cannot be controverted by those who would. The results of these orchards leave no room for doubt as to the profitable character of the business conducted under ordinary circumstances. The excellent showing of the York County orchard in 1912 is to some extent due to the thorough cleaning up in 1912 and also to the excellent quality of fruit grown there. The smallness of the return from the Albert County orchard in 1912 is to some extent due to the fact that the class of fruit grown there does not always bring the highest prices in the market.

During the year New Brunswick grown fruit has been exhibited in several Canadian cities, where it has received more than usual attention, as it always has done. The result of these exhibitions has been many personal enquiries regarding New Brunswick and its fruit growing possibilities. In addition to exhibiting the product of New Brunswick in different sections of Canada the Government, through the Department of Agriculture, has made several trial shipments to Great Britain. The apples were sent in both boxes and barrels and there were several varieties among them in order that the market might be thoroughly tested as to the popularity of different apples. The result was fairly satisfactory, but from the result of the trial shipments it is quite evident that when the business of exporting apples becomes a large one the shipments must be made direct through St. John, as it is of the highest importance that fruit should reach the other side of the ocean in prime condition, fresh and clean, and as bright looking as when it was taken from the tree. The fruit was offered for sale and sold in London, Manchester, Birmingham and Glasgow. One feature of the sales was that the New Brunswick grown Duchesse sold at six shillings a box, while the Newtown pippin, grown in Oregon, and one of the fancy apples of that State, brought only five shillings. From this it will be seen that New Brunswick has already made a good start abroad in a most important branch of agriculture.

It is rather early to predict the number of new orchards that will be added during the present season, but already the Horticultural Department has knowledge that as many if not more than last year will be planted. Between 500 and 600 trees will be planted in the spring on the land on the St. John river acquired by members of the St. John Board of Trade, who are going to try out orcharding in New Brunswick as a commercial proposition. Many farmers who have hitherto not displayed any large degree of interest in the new industry are putting out a few trees. In the meantime the orchards which were planted two years ago, and those planted since, will be in bearing in three and four years more, and as the interest seems unabated there will be a large quantity of apples for export in five years and the quantity will be annually increasing. No policy ever inaugurated by any Government of this Province ever before so fully caught the people as that of fruit growing. The Province had first its own market to provide for and then the nearness to the great population centres of Great Britain, where there is apparently a limitless market, gives this Province an advantage not enjoyed by those further West.

PARLIAMENT MEETS TODAY.

Parliament will resume its sessions this afternoon after the holiday recess. The first question to be disposed of is the Naval Bill, and recent advices from Ottawa seem to indicate that this most absorbing and important question will be disposed of before any but routine business is taken up. There does not seem to be any real need of a prolonged debate on the question. Mr. Borden has submitted his case and Sir Wilfrid Laurier his. The issue is squarely between the two parties. Mr. Borden proposes an emergency grant of \$35,000,000, which would add three super-Dreadnoughts to the British Navy in three years and place the Mother Country in a position to meet the emergency in which she is at present placed. Sir Wilfrid Laurier wants to establish a Canadian Navy to go to the relief of the Motherland when necessary and which at other times would guard the coast of Canada, this navy to be constructed in Canada.

It is a curious way Sir Wilfrid has of meeting an emergency but it is his way. Years would be consumed in constructing and preparing such a navy to be ready to do efficient service. These, however, are the two policies before the two great parties of Canada. There is nothing in Sir Wilfrid's policy to cause dissension in the parliamentary majority of Mr. Borden. On the contrary the party behind Mr. Borden is more strongly cemented together than at any time since it has been in power. It has cast off its swaddling clothes and has attained full age in a few months under the attacks of Sir Wilfrid and his henchmen. Whether the Liberals will continue to talk or permit a vote to be taken has not been divulged, but probably after a few days more the question will be taken up in both Houses and the business of the country will be resumed. There are many important measures to come up for decision, one of which is the amended bank act, which requires careful thought.

The Chinese may have an expeditious way of disposing of many troublesome questions and people. In Nanjing Province of Kwangsi thirty-nine lepers were put to death by the provincial authorities and their bodies cremated. At the point of the bayonet the lepers were driven into the pit and shot and the pyre was lighted and their bodies burned in the presence of a large crowd. The authorities offered rewards for the discovery of other lepers, and this offer resulted in the shooting of one more man afflicted with the disease. The Governor, after the massacre, issued a proclamation in which he accused the lepers of having committed outrages.

Mr. Daniel Mullin, K. C., who argued the Canadian case against the Chicago Drainage Canal Commission before the United States Secretary of State, yesterday received word and congratulations regarding the successful outcome of the case from Hon. J. D. Hazen, who informed Mr. Mullin that Canada had won everything practically that was asked for. Mr. Mullin's argument is briefly reported in a special volume issued by the Conservation Commission some months ago.

Late in Speaking.

(Toronto Mail and Empire.) President Taft's willingness to arbitrate the Panama Canal dispute between Britain and the United States is suspiciously coincident with the disappearance of his power to arbitrate anything as President of the United States.

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GOOD BILL OPENS WEEK AT NICKEL

Pathe Weekly and Other Up-to-date Films Pleased Large Audiences Yesterday—Music also Good.

First class films, including an especially interesting Pathe Weekly, together with music of a high order, marked the opening programme of the week at the Nickel Theatre yesterday afternoon and evening, when hundreds attended, all expressing themselves in no undecided manner, as having enjoyed the programme from first to last.

Signor Manetta as usual won the audience by the excellent manner in which he rendered his solo "Tell Me That You're True."

The comedy of the programme was ably supplied by the screaming Scotch film, "An Unusual Honeymoon," in which a Highland lass, dressed in go through many and varied adventures after Tamme in a spirit of bravo aided by a host of his native whiskey, put his wife in a balloon, climbed in himself and cut the string. The result produces side-splitting roars of laughter.

The Pathe Weekly as usual, was full of many and interesting subjects, sketches from the Turko-Balkan war attracting the major share of attention.

IN THE COURTS

County Court.
The case of the King vs. Alfred E. Gibbs, charged with shooting Leo Quinlan in a boardinghouse on the West Side a few weeks ago, came up before Judge Forbes on Saturday, under the Speedy trial act. The prisoner pleaded guilty and representations were made to his honor as to the good character of the defendant. The prisoner was sentenced to a year in the reformatory, and Gibbs said that he was only playing with the revolver at the time and did not know that it was loaded. K. J. Macrae appeared for the prisoner.

Chancery Division.
The case of W. Walker Clark vs. Mayor Frink and Commissioners McLellan, Agar, Wigmore and Schofield will be resumed this afternoon at 3 o'clock. D. Mullin, K. C., will continue his argument in support of the form of procedure taken and the legality of the injunction.

Probate Court.
In the matter of William McKelvie, a petition from John C. Keel, the administrator of bona non, was presented for leave to sell the real estate in consequence of a deficiency in the personalty to pay the debts. A citation was issued to the estate on Feb. 17 next at 11 a. m. John Kerr, K. C., is proctor.

The matter of the estate of Peter Ryan, carpenter, came up. He died on estate on Dec. 30, leaving his wife and two infant children, girl twins, by her and a former wife, five children, namely: Mary Ellen, wife of John Quinlan; John, residing in Summerside, P. E. I.; James, of St. John; Elizabeth, wife of Edward Kennedy, of Port George Island, and Katherine, wife of Charles Cochran, of St. John. On the petition of the widow she was appointed administratrix. Real estate consists of a half block in Brussels street, valued at \$2,500. Personalty consists mostly of three leaseholds on the northwest side of Brussels street, \$3,200, subject to a mortgage of \$1,000. William J. Mahoney is proctor.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Royal.
B. S. McFarlane, Paris, Ont; E. A. Murray, Turin; R. A. Barker, Kentville; R. C. McManis, Halifax; C. A. Walkinshaw, Toronto; C. W. Rowling, E. C. Stewart, Geo. Henderson, Halifax; Gordon Smith, L. C. Hamilton, Moncton; H. L. Grant, Woodstock; C. A. Seaton, Montreal; A. M. Phillips, New Heston; G. H. B. James, Vancouver; G. W. Miller, Calais; C. A. McNown, Yanketee; Hill, W. R. Finson, Bangor; J. C. Archibald, Lawrencetown; E. Nichol, Bridgetown; J. A. Bayne, Moncton; G. H. Hallifax; E. H. Cunningham, Montreal.

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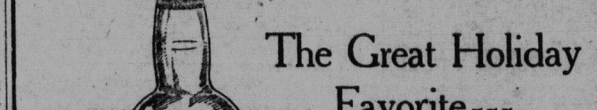
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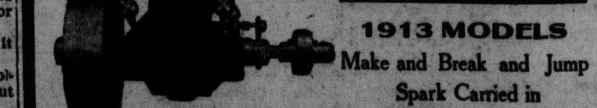
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CITY

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The city commission passed the estimates for 1913. \$63,254 larger than as they have appeared. The assessment will be much of the increased salaries proposed additional city employees, provokes in the Provision is the number of raising the salaries and sergeants 25 increase to be considered it the employer's office and the age department in salary and small increases the fire department employees of the fire cranes last year.

Tax Levies
The following

Streets, squares, Lighting streets Police Dept. Fire Dept. Fire hydrants Sewerage amount of \$12.25 on various debentures. In addition warrants for school rates. The warrants collected from the expenditure after deducting taxes.

The Finance Commission the following statement. The warrant county all purposes the estimate for \$48.93 and estimate 400. The estimate \$651,222.10 of the city and \$116,464 an increase in \$53,284.47. The deed by \$37.77, increase over the \$24,548.47. That of warrant was 1913 \$629,737.10 ances amount to largely made up receipts of taxes against these but ed over expenditure 099.68, C. P. R. balance of Ger-ture not bonded a total of \$9,26 of \$67,782.29. This surplus follows: Market 828.36; Water Reserved for 000.00, leaving assessment of 779.34 for, balance from 956.80. The return

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