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Ontario Agricultural Experimental Union

Chas. M. Flatt

I do not suppose that anyone would question the fact that great progress has been made in farming in the last half century. That nearly all this progress can be attributed to experimental work is equally true. But experimenting on any considerable scale is not practicable for the average individual farmer. Because of this Experimental stations have been established by the government. Even these do not do the work completely, as their results are only applicable over a limited area.

Because of the fact that soil and climatic conditions vary widely in Ontario, what is known as the Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union was established some 34 years ago. The original idea was for its few members to conduct experiments on their own farms in widely separated districts, and then publish the results in a bulletin. This was done and so rapidly has the organization grown that during the past year 5000 experiments were successfully carried out and reported. During the whole period of its existence the work has been under the direction of the Ontario Agricultural College.

Material for the experiments is supplied from the College farm, and results are tabulated and published there. The idea is for each member to conduct one experiment on his farm and carefully report it. There is a large list of different experiments from which any particular one can be chosen. Besides this there is a special list of seeds for members of the organization. This consists of new varieties that have been found of special merit at the college and are sent out for a final test in the province before being distributed for general use. Thus O. A. C. No. 21 barley was in the hands of members before it was for sale. Those who had it first reaped the benefit. Many of the standard varieties of field and garden crops were originally distributed in this way. The results of 5000 experiments conducted last year are published and form a very valuable source of information as to the best varieties of different crops to grow in different parts of the province.

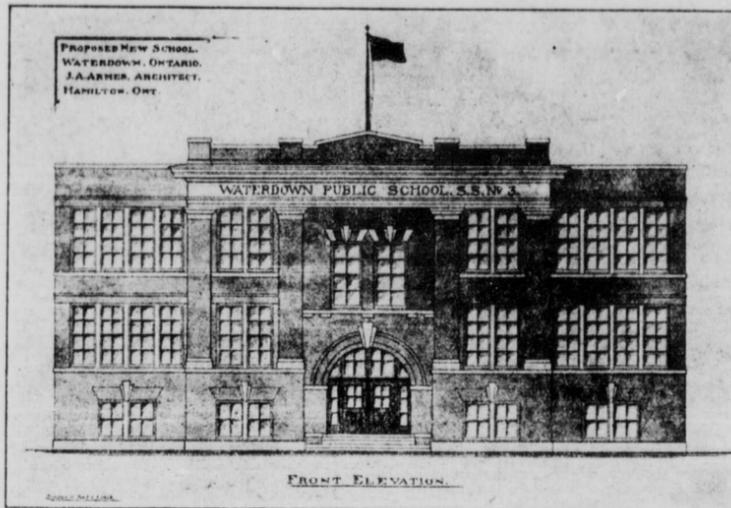
Besides the growing of different varieties in experiment, much work is done with commercial fertilizers. In this way many farmers can determine practically no expense the proper fertilizer to use on his particular soil.

Every year in January a two day meeting of the union is held at Guelph during which some of the best agricultural speakers in America deliver addresses on practical subjects, after which a general discussion by members follows. Any member is eligible for the various offices in the association.

The main topic under discussion at the 1921 meeting was that of "sweet clover" reports of which appear in the current farm papers. Any farmer who will pay a few of 50 cents to Dr. C. A. Zavitz of the O. A. C. who is the secretary of the union, and who will endeavor to conduct an experiment carefully can receive the full benefit of membership.

Renew your subscription now

Waterdown Public School



Opening of the New Public School

The formal opening of the new Public school was held in the school auditorium on Thursday afternoon of this week, and the School Board, school staff and pupils are to be congratulated upon the successful handling of the afternoon's entertainment, which was witnessed and greatly appreciated by a very large audience.

The ceremonies were opened by singing the Doxology, after which Rev. H. J. Leake, of Grace church, offered prayer in dedication of the building.

Among the prominent guests present were the Hon. F. C. Biggs, Dr.

F. Merchant, Warden J. A. Moffatt, T. J. Mahony and Peter Ray. The Minister of Education, Mr. Grant, was unable to attend, but was represented by his assistant, Dr. F. Merchant, who delivered a most fitting address on education. An address by Hon. F. C. Biggs and short speeches by J. A. Moffatt, T. J. Mahony, Peter Ray, J. F. Vance, Rev. H. J. Leake, Rev. J. F. Wedderburn, Rev. C. L. Poole, R. Sparks, David Davies, R. Sparks, Dr. Hopper and the School Inspector, Mr. Robinson.

The following interesting program was given by the school children.

Recitation Solo Instrumental Trio by Grace Alton, Evelyn and Muriel Everitt

Recitation Ethel Stock
Flag Drill by 17 girls.
Recitation George Poole
Solo Doris Bews
Recitation Jean Weaver
Piano Duet by Grace Rutledge and Hazel Bowen
Sister Drill by 14 girls.
Recitation Margaret Baker
Recitation Willie Forbes
Recitation Dorothea Greene
Closing Chorus.

Waterdown can be justly proud of its new school. No small town in Ontario has better, and possibly not its equal. Considerable praise is due the school board for their untiring faithfulness, and to the architect contractor and builders in presenting to the village so handsome and up to date school building.

Millgrove

Mrs. Oscar Crooker of Parry Sound is visiting some of her former neighbors in the village.

Mrs. Robert Flatt and daughter were visiting friends in Copetown last week.

Miss Reta and Miss Beva Allison of Hamilton were visiting in our village this week.

Mr. Robt. Flatt was the principal speaker at the League on Monday evening.

Mrs. Woodard of Blythe visited at the home of Mrs. Wesley Pepper on Sunday last.

Mrs. John Eaton is on the sick list.

The many friends of Miss Estelle Markie will be pleased to learn that she has been accepted as a pupil nurse in the Buffalo General hospital.

Nelson

The annual meeting of St. Paul's Presbyterian church was held on Monday afternoon, January 24th. Rev. Mr. Cranston in the chair. The meeting was largely attended and the old officers were mostly re-elected to their respective offices. There was a number of new members and also a pleasing increase in the financial standing of the church.

Locals

Miss L. Hood spent the week end visiting friends in St. George.

Mr. John H. Kirk is visiting with friends in Montreal this week.

Mr. Art. Featherston has purchased the John Buchan on Dundas street.

Mrs. Frank Johnston is still improving and expects to soon be around again.

Miss Alice Higginson, who has been very ill at the home of Mrs. A. Stewart, is able to be up again.

The Women's Auxiliary of Grace church will hold their annual meeting at the Rectory, Thursday afternoon, February 3rd.

Miss C. E. Reid is visiting her aunt, Mrs. R. Wilson, in Beamsville this week. Mrs. Wilson has just lately returned to her home from the Hamilton hospital.

Since Mr. Clifford King has entered the employ of Alton Bros. the firm has secured the Case Motor agency, a fine car arriving last week. We understand Mr. King will be the official demonstrator.

The Women's Institute will meet on Wednesday afternoon, February 2nd, at the home of Mrs. Chas. H. Brigger, 4th concession. A paper will be given by Mrs. Walker Drummond on Canadian Laws Relating to Women and Children. Also a paper will be read from Millgrove Institute. Good music will be provided. All are welcome.

Rich Haul of Stamps

They were unobtainable But Proved Very Valuable.

The death of Major Arthur Allison Bartlett, of Charlottetown, a noted philatelist, recalled an incident in his career when he carried out a coup with Hon. W. S. Fielding, then Premier of Nova Scotia. The major had discovered that locked up in the archives of the Government was a very large stock of unused pre-Confederation stamps. The Nova Scotia government desired to cancel the stamps, but the British Government would not accede to the request and they were paid for and forgotten. With this "time" on the circumstances, Bartlett interviewed Premier Fielding and offered him \$10,000 "for something he did know the Government possessed." The Premier declined to do business without knowing what he was selling, and ultimately, under an agreement of strict confidence between the two, Major Bartlett disclosed his knowledge on the understanding that he would receive the first refusal of the whole of the unused stock at a fair price which Premier Fielding would fix.

Shortly afterwards the major received a letter from Premier Fielding offering him the whole supply for \$20,000, or double what the major had offered. The major took two friends into his confidence and they agreed to join him in acquiring the issue for \$20,000, or for as much less as the major could negotiate. Armed with two certified cheques, one for \$20,000 and one for \$15,000, Major Bartlett returned to Halifax and had a second interview with Premier Fielding. As a result of this conference Premier Fielding agreed to let him have the stamps for \$15,000, and thus it was that Major Bartlett obtained possession of the most valuable and remunerative collection of stamps ever placed on the market. Having got a corner on them he proceeded to place them on the market judiciously, and succeeded in making a great deal of money on the investment.

Reeve Smith Puts up Fight

Making good his promise that if he was returned to the council this year he would be a "little livelier" than he had formerly had been, Councillor Richard Smith, of Waterdown, threw a little fire-cracker into the tranquillity of the county council Wednesday morning.

The occasion which aroused the ire of the Waterdown representative was the putting of a motion by Councillors Ray and Easterbrook, of East Flamboro, that C. P. McGregor and John Duncan be appointed to the Board of Trustees for the Waterdown High school. Mr. Smith jumped to his feet, declaring that he was the representative of Waterdown, and the people did not want Mr. McGregor. He was advised to put an amendment to the motion, which he did, seconded by Councillor Gray of West Flamboro. The amendment was that O. B. Griffin and L. J. Mullock be appointed.

Speaking of the amendment, Mr. Smith hotly declared that the men he suggested were the men the people wanted. "They don't want Ray's men," he said, "and it is up to you to give them who they want. The same crowd wanted to run me out of the council a week ago last Monday, and C. P. McGregor is one of the men. The people do not want him. I didn't get in by the skin of my teeth, and I am working for the ratepayers."

Mr. Ray declared that East Flamboro paid a large portion of the fees for the school, that Waterdown wanted a good live board, and that Mr. Mullock did not want the job. Mr. McGregor, Councillor Ray declared was a live wire. "He is not," he said, "a merchant doing business in Waterdown, loading to the people and afraid if he didn't he would lose custom. It is a slur," he asserted, "to say the people to not want C. P. McGregor. If Smith has made any pre-election promises, he didn't, and C. P. McGregor is head and shoulders above the others."

Councillor Smith took the floor again. "No one in East Flamboro wants C. P. McGregor," he declared. "If there was an election to-morrow he wouldn't get 100 votes, and I know what I am talking about. Peter Ray may be pretty smooth, but I don't know why he should stick up for McGregor."

When the vote was taken Councillor Smith voted alone on the amendment and again on the motion.

Modern Courtship

There was a young man in our town,
Who seldom was known to frown;
By chance on the street, who should he meet,
But a certain young girl of renown.

He blushingly ask her, her name:
He could almost been felled with a feather;
Says she, "I'm Miss Right," says he, "I'm All-bright"
Soon they may be living together.

So, good-bye to hard tack and cold beans,
Good-bye to the horrible past
And sitting alone, by his cold hearth stone;
He's thrown out his old dish cloth at last.