

# Conservation

Published monthly for eight months in the year  
by the Commission of Conservation, Ottawa, Canada.

VOL. 11

MARCH, 1913

NO. 2

## Public Health Week

A British Innovation that Might Well be Tried in Canada

Public health depends on education. Unless the people appreciate the need for maintaining sanitary conditions throughout the community, the passing of legislation can be of no avail. Consequently, every effort that is put forth to enlighten public opinion in this very vital matter should receive undivided encouragement.

An interesting experiment in this line was tried in Great Britain last year. A National Health Week was promoted and the results were so satisfactory that it will probably remain an annual institution. The National Health Week Committee outlined the general programme for the week, but the details were worked out by local committees. This made it possible to take the greatest advantage of local possibilities. Thus some schools were more highly trained than others, and the scholars from these were enlisted to give gymnastic and other displays, which demonstrated one branch of physical training for the young. In other places Medical Health officers, Sanitary Inspectors and nurses gave valuable assistance, and their "popular talks" on health matters were listened to with great interest and profit. Again, by means of sermons in churches; addresses in Sunday Schools; addresses to school children by their own teachers throughout the week; the use of health films in the moving picture shows; having ratayers visit the water, gas and sewage works of the municipality; and by carrying on demonstrations in nursing and cooking, very many people were made to understand something of the meaning and value of health.

Of course, it may be urged that such spasmodic efforts are apt to have mere transitory results, and that, to be effective, the work must be continuous. But it is well to remember that it is often necessary to shout to awaken a sleeping man, and even wide awake people are interested by the unusual.

While no central organization exists in Canada for carrying out a National Health Week programme, it should be feasible for many municipalities to accomplish such a task. And the spring season, when the snow has melted and uncovered the refuse of months, is the time for such work. Health and cleanliness go hand in hand.—A. D.

## A Word as to Our Policy

Fee men are in a better position than the rural clergyman, to further the conservation idea. His work is closely concerned with the men who are developing and utilizing the country's natural resources. As a recognition of this fact the Commission of Conservation is endeavouring to enlist the support of clergymen in its work. To this end, some 3,500 rural clergymen have already been added to the mailing list of CONSERVATION and it is hoped that subsequent issues will reach every rural minister in Canada.

The April issue will contain a short bibliography of the best books on agriculture, and other conservation literature which should prove of interest, not only to ministers, but to school librarians, and to Canadians in general.

## What Do You Pay For Your Water?

Some Canadian Water-works Statistics that are Both Interesting and Valuable

On the average each person in Canada served by water-works uses 113 imperial gallons of water a day and pays \$4.12 a year for it, according to a report on the water-works of Canada in preparation by the Commission of Conservation.

New Brunswick has the highest per capita consumption in Canada, viz. 161 gallons per head a day, while Manitoba and Saskatchewan have the lowest—46 gallons per head per day. The more general use of meters in the Western provinces reduces waste and keeps the per capita consumption down to about the same amount as in European countries. The people of Manitoba pay the highest per capita rate for their water—\$6.27 per year, while those of New Brunswick come next with a per capita cost per year of \$4.82.

The following table shows the estimated cost per 1,000 gallons, the estimated cost per capita, and the daily consumption per capita:

Province.	Estimated Cost per 1,000 gal. (cents)	Estimated Cost per year per capita (dollars)	Daily Consumption per Capita (imp. gal.)
Nova Scotia	7	3.76	147
Pr. Ed. Ind.	16.4	2.87	48
N. Brunswick	8.2	4.82	111
Quebec	9.2	3.92	162
Ontario	9.6	4.21	120
Manitoba	20.6	3.46	46
Sask.	23	3.86	46
Alberta	13	6.27	122
Br. Col.	8.2	3.44	115
Canada	10	4.12	113

## Clam Farming

Clam Flats on Cape Cod are Said to be Worth \$500 an Acre

Clam farming is said to be a good paying industry. Clam flats on Cape Cod for instance produce an average yield of \$500 an acre, and if the clams are little-necks or quahaugs, experts say that careful handling will result in an acre being valued at \$1,000. A brook running over a clam flat will wash away impurities and carry food to the clams, and is therefore a desirable factor. Dr. L. Belding, in charge of a laboratory at Wellfleet, Mass., and who has for years been working under the direction of the Massachusetts Commission on Fisheries and Game, is authority for the statement that \$3 worth of clams planted in good ground increase in value to \$15, on an average, in a year. Dr. Belding also states that in cold weather any clam will live for days and some for weeks out of water. A low flat gives the clams more feeding time and therefore develops a better crop.—Ex.

## Production of Beet Sugar in Canada

From the three sugar beet factories at present in operation in Canada there was produced during the sugar-refining campaign of 1911-12 from Canadian grown sugar beets a total of 22,157,155 lb. or 11,078 short tons of beet root sugar, as compared with 20,612,276 lb. or 10,306 tons in the previous campaign of 1910-11. The three factories are situated at Wallaceburg and Berlin in Ontario and at Raymond in Alberta.

## Utilization of Coal

How the Mines of Nova Scotia Make Use of the Coal Produced

Among the economic uses of coal in Nova Scotia may be mentioned, (1) The generation of power for mining purposes, (2) The coking of coal in by-product coke ovens, (3) The briquetting of slack coal and (4) The generation of electric energy at central power plants and its transmission to the surrounding collieries. This has been developed to such an extent that some of the collieries are now operated entirely by electricity. Electric cables are carried underground by means of bore-holes and the energy is used for mine haulage and pumping purposes.

These plants present many new and up-to-date features such as low-pressure and high-pressure steam turbo-generators and mechanical stokers for firing the boilers with low-grade slack and splint coal.

The Dominion Coal Company has recently installed a power plant at Waterford lake in which Bettington boilers, fired with pulverized low-grade coal are used to generate steam for the turbo-generators. The boilers are the first of their kind to be installed in America. It is claimed that they will give a higher efficiency than any other boiler on the market.

Practically all the coke produced is made in some type of by-product oven. The Dominion Coal Company recovers the by-products—gas, tar and ammonia. The Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company recovers only the gas from their coke ovens, but are considering the erection of by-product ovens. The coking of coal in by-product ovens is of importance, not only on account of the value of the by-products recovered, but also because the basis of a briquetting industry is dependent upon a supply of tar or pitch as a binder for the briquettes.

Much slack coal is now made in mining operations in Nova Scotia and as the higher grades of coal become less plentiful, lower-grade seams will be worked and more slack coal obtained.

There are at present, two coal briquetting plants under construction and one in operation in the above mentioned province. The Dominion Coal Company also has a briquetting plant under consideration but has not yet decided where it is to be erected.—W. J. D.