

may be practically free. However, even where the disease has not yet been noticed it is a wise precaution to spray and prevent the introduction of peach leaf curl and other injurious diseases.

Gum Diseases.

Careful observers in the orchard have, no doubt, noticed the exudations of gum surrounding cankerous growths on the cherry trees. These are known as "gummosis," and do considerable damage to the trees as well as disfiguring the appearance of the orchard. Steps should be taken to eliminate this undesirable condition, and, as the procedure is very practicable, nothing should intervene to delay operations. This disease is due to the cankerous growth on the bark, the organisms of which live through the winter, and spread the disease during the spring. With a sharp knife or other instrument carve the unhealthy wood back to healthy growth, and disinfect the treated area with some disinfectant, such as corrosive sublimate, which may be procured at the druggist's. After the area has thoroughly dried, paint it over with a mixture of white lead and raw linseed oil mixed to the consistency of ordinary paint. All affected areas or blighted twigs and limbs should be treated as soon as seen. One does not need to wait for the appearance of the gum as evidence of the disease.

H. P. Barss, in "Better Fruit," claims this treatment to be the most satisfactory of any yet tried out, and advises in the planting of new orchards to confine the varieties to disease-resisting kinds. However, our varieties are pretty well marked in their adaptability to our conditions, so we must plant the proper kinds and depend upon care and intelligent treatment to guard against loss from disease.

Crown Gall.

Planters should use a watchful eye when setting young trees in the spring in order to evade an introduction of diseases that will ultimately create waste in the orchard. Such diseases as scale and some insect eggs are destroyed by fumigation or treatments enforced by legislation for nursery stock. Often times diseases of the roots or branches that are not controlled by such fumigation creep into the plantation. Crown gall is often introduced in this way. It will be noticed as a small rough swelling of the roots near the ground line and although it may be very small at time of planting it may develop, after the tree is set, sufficiently to destroy it.

Often times when dead trees are taken up this swelling may be noticed on the roots, but it is usually found where soil location or soil conditions are not favorable for a healthy growth of the trees. The cause of this disease is not definitely known but it is possible that where conditions are unfavorable that this organism, whatever it may be, finds more ready foothold on the tree.

The new bulletin "Fruits of Ontario" reviewed in a recent issue may be had by those actually interested in fruit growing and who will use it to good purpose.

FARM BULLETIN.

Amazing Credulity.

A well-to-do farmer named Geo. Cretesinger, of Williamsville, N. Y., near Niagara, was a short time ago fleeced out of a snug fortune. He had taken his first holiday and became acquainted with a stranger at a hotel in St. Augustine, Florida, to whom he evidently disclosed a good deal of his affairs. He returned home and soon afterwards his new "friend" turned up and they met in a Buffalo hotel. The confidence man unfolded to the man from Williamsville a plan of buying old racing nags to be raced or doped and sold as the case might be. There would be a fat salary for a manager, but money was needed to start the game. The old man was cautioned not to disclose to the local bank cashier when drawing out his money what he was going to do with it, and to bring it in bills as gold was too heavy. "He just seemed so sincere and right that I believed he would double my money for me as he promised, and I let him have it." The stranger went to Rochester, but did not return "in a few days" as he promised. The amount as Mr. Cretesinger told the jury and the Buffalo police was \$26,000. He has a farm and \$200 left, but is broken hearted. A more graphic illustration of the Scriptural proverb "He that maketh haste to be rich falleth into a snare," could hardly be imagined, and for Simon-pure credulity by a man who had been able to accumulate so much money the New York farmer must be awarded the prize.

Nova Scotia Agricultural College Doings.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":—

The closing exercises of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College held at Truro, on Thursday, April 16th, last, were of a noteworthy character. Those in attendance were the graduating class and faculty of the Agricultural College, the students and members of the faculty of the Theological College, at Pine Hill, Halifax, the faculty and students of the Provincial Normal College, as well as citizens of Truro and the surrounding country. Addresses were delivered by Judge Longley, of the Supreme Court, the Honorable Mr. MacGregor, representing the Nova Scotia Government, Principal MacKinnon of the Theological College, Halifax, Dr. C. C. James, Agricultural Advisor to the honorable, the Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa, and Principal Cumming. And so town and gown, the Church, the Bench, the teacher and the laity, Provincial and Federal Government representatives met in the common interests of education for the farmer, in whose welfare all citizens are compelled to show such a profound concern in these days of financial crises and high living.

Most significant of all was the presence of some twenty of the theological students accompanied by members of the faculty who came all the way from Halifax (over sixty miles) to inspect the College and join in its closing exercises. The interest which these men of the church who stand out as leaders in the rural communities, are taking in agricultural matters augurs well for the improvement of rural conditions. Already there are outstanding instances in Nova Scotia and the other Maritime Provinces of clergymen who have been the prime movers in many phases of rural improvement and it only requires the multiplication of these instances to effect a still greater development.

The presence of Dr. C. C. James, Agricultural Advisor to the Honorable Mr. Burrell, Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa, was highly appreciated and his address on "The Romance of Agriculture" was most inspiring. These were the first formal closing exercises held in the history of the institutions and it was significant of the good results which are already following the Federal appropriation for the aid of agriculture in Nova Scotia that the exercises were held in the new Assembly Hall, the cost of the erection of which was paid out of this Federal appropriation and that one of the principal speakers should have been Dr. James who has taken such a prominent place in Federal and Provincial Government co-operation.

The graduating class numbered forty-four, of whom thirty-eight were awarded diplomas, the remainder being conditional until they have satisfactorily completed the course of instruction. The session just finished has been the most successful in the history of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College. The number of students in the regular course was 102 and in the January Short Course 351, making a total far in excess of any previous year. The outlook for next year is still brighter, a considerable number of applications having already been received and plans being under way for the erection of a new science building which will add much to the effectiveness of the work which is being done at this Maritime institution.

M. CUMMING.

Prince Edward Island Notes.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":—

The weather during last week was quite wintry. A heavy fall of snow Tuesday evening provided good sleighing till Saturday, and although the season looks late the farmers are rejoicing over the prospect of a good catch of clover, and the breeders of foxes are also pleased with the cold weather as many claim the warm days of last spring had to do with the unusually high mortality. The House is now nearly over. The most important measures as far as farmers are concerned were the incorporation of the Egg and Poultry Association and the incorporation of the Sheep Breeders' Association. The former makes the "circle with the numbers in it" the Trade Mark of the Association, and so gives them control of it. All stamps are owned by the Association and merely loaned to members. The Sheep Breeders' Association is made responsible for compensating members for losses arising from the killing of sheep by dogs. It is to receive an annual grant from the Treasury equal to the fees collected for membership. The membership fee shall not exceed two cents per sheep for any member. On Friday the meeting of the Central Seed Fair Committee was held. The business of the past year was concluded and arrangements completed for the Fair to be held in March, 1915.

The market in Charlottetown was small Friday. The principal feature was the large number of Wild Geese on sale. They brought about \$1.25 a piece. Other commodities retailed as follows: Butter 30 to 32c per lb., Eggs 20 to 22c per

doz., Fowl \$1 to \$1.50 per pair, beef 12 to 20c, mutton 12 to 16c. Potatoes brought 28c per bushel, White Oats 28c and Black 30c.

T. R.

The Country Clergyman and Agriculture.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":—

The editorial "The Pulpit and the Farm," in your issue of April 16th, is pointing in the direction of greater rural satisfaction, and is to be highly commended. Far from multiplying the tasks of the rural minister, a course in agriculture would enable him to more easily reach those with whom he comes in contact. He should know more of what Jesus knew, and of what Zavitz, Howitt, Dean and the Days know of plants, flowers, cattle and soil, if he is to understand and sympathetically live the daily life of those with whom and for whom he works.

Now, since Ontario is receiving liberal grants from the Federal Government for agricultural instruction, it would seem that the time and the opportunity have come when some instruction of this kind could advantageously be extended to ministers in rural districts. A short course of lectures and demonstrations could be established at O. A. C., especially designed for these men in Ontario. Their railway fare could be paid, and their board at the college furnished without a very great outlay by the Government. It might not be possible to reach all in one year, but a start could be made. Some time ago the "Ottawa Valley Journal" sent out several hundred letters to rural ministers in Eastern Ontario, asking their opinions regarding some steps being taken to develop a closer bond of sympathy and relationship and a clearer understanding between the rural clergyman and the farmer. Nearly every minister written to replied, and, without exception, they expressed themselves as heartily in favor of a move in this direction. Logically, Ontario is the Province towards which to look for leadership in this matter, and it is hoped that the Ontario Department of Agriculture will favorably consider making provision for the inclusion of rural ministers among those who participate in the benefits of agricultural instruction as given at O. A. C.

F. C. NUNNICK.

Agriculturist, Conservation Commission.

Assistance in Marketing Wool.

The Live Stock Commissioner of the Dominion, John Bright, has sent out the following notice of interest to sheep breeders:

The Live Stock Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture is prepared to offer practical assistance this year to associations of wool growers in the preparation and display of their wool clips for market. Associations, in order to receive this aid, must be organized in accordance with the regulations of the Branch, and membership is limited to actual owners of sheep. West of Fort William an Association must contain at least 3,000 sheep, or sufficient to comprise one carload of wool; east of there, a relative number. The services of expert wool classifiers, who will take charge of and perform the grading, classification and preparation of the wool, will be provided.

This proposal represents much more than a mere continuation of the work undertaken last year, when two wool classifiers, in the employ of the Live Stock Branch, visited the Western Provinces and gave practical instruction and advice to sheep raisers upon wool growing. Rather it means the introduction of a definite scheme whereby wool producers may be actually assisted in preparing and presenting their wools upon the market in the most acceptable fashion, and thus be in a position to cater more directly to the requirements of the market. Moreover, it should prove effective in developing and improving the general status of sheep raising, and in creating an impetus to the production and preparation of an improved grade of wool and indirectly a better class of mutton.

The Branch will also provide the means for the establishment of a central bureau for the distribution of current information respecting domestic and foreign markets for wool, so that the Associations may be constantly in command of complete knowledge concerning the source of the demand and the ruling prices of all grades. Reliable information of this nature will serve as an excellent asset to an Association in directing its policy and placing it in closer relationship with the demands of the trade.

Sheep raisers desirous of taking advantage of this offer and of forming an Association should write, for detailed information and application forms, to the Live Stock Commissioner, Ottawa.

R. H. Harding, Thorndale, has been appointed one of the inspectors under the Stallion Law of Ontario to assist in the carrying out of the Enrollment regulations.

Curl.

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