

The Weekly Monitor

AND

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NO 4

Apples for South Africa

Canadian fruit growers are interested in the consignment of 4,863 barrels of apples sent from Montreal to Cape Town. This lot of fruit was not sent by Canadian shippers to be sold on the shipper's account, but bought of Canadian dealers by South African importers. Mr. John A. Chesley, Canadian Trade Commissioner at Cape Town, has forwarded the following information regarding this shipment:

The apples were bought of Canadian dealers by South African importers before they were shipped, and the buyers here decline to name the prices paid the Canadian sellers. They were sold to the trade here by the importers, and the prices obtained were as follows: Kings 39s. 6d. to 40s. per barrel, Golden Russets 37s. 6d. to 39s. per barrel, Ben Davis 35s. 6d. to 37s. 6d. per barrel, other varieties from 32s. 6d. to 35s. per barrel. Kings 19s. to 20s. per half barrel, Golden Russets 18s. to 19s. per half barrel, Ben Davis 17s. to 18s. per half barrel, other varieties from 16s. to 17s. per half barrel. The maximum price obtained was 40s. per barrel, the minimum price being 32s. 6d. per barrel. The maximum price obtained for half barrels was 20s. and the minimum being 16s. The freight on these apples from Montreal to South Africa, including the charge for cold storage, was 10s. per barrel, and the freight on half barrels, including cold storage, was 5s. per half barrel. The dock dues and other port charges here are about 1s. 6d. per barrel, storage 1s. per barrel per month, for less time than a month 6d. per barrel is charged. The duty on fresh fruit imported into British South Africa is 3 per cent. ad valorem, less 3 per cent. rebate to the United Kingdom and reciprocating British colonies, consequently, Canadian apples enter free of duty. It is therefore apparent that Canadian apples shipped at Montreal, St. John, or Halifax, by the Canadian South African Line can be landed at Cape Town or other South African ports, reached by these ships, freight, cold storage, and all other charges paid, except insurance, for about 12s. 6d. per barrel.

Amendments in Nova Scotia Game Laws

(Passed in April, 1909.)

The open season for Moose has been made a fortnight earlier, being now September 16th to November 16th.

Cow Moose are protected until 1912.

Every person who kills a Moose, whether the meat is offered for sale or not, is now required to make an affidavit, in a statutory form, to the effect that the Moose was killed legally, and the head, the skin of the neck, and the legs of such Moose must be exhibited to the justice or warden taking such affidavit.

The open season for Hares ends February 1st instead of March 1st.

Otters are protected between March 1st and November 1st.

Marten are protected throughout the year.

It is not permitted to damage or molest any muskrat house, or set any trap within twenty-five feet of such house.

Prohibition of hunting game animals with dogs, between February 1st and October 1st, is extended to cover all mammals, whether included in the definition of game or not.

Wild Geese, Brant and Sea Ducks are added to the birds that can be shot after sunset and before sunrise.

Liberty is extended to non-residents of the Province to carry in the woods firearms of calibre not greater than 22, without taking out a non-resident's license.

Provision is made for the issue with each non-resident's license of a tag bearing the number of the license and name and address of the licensee, which tag must be attached to the head or other portion of a Moose exported by a non-resident licensee.

It is forbidden to export skins of any furbearing animals without first obtaining a permit from a Game official who shall have examined such skins.

On the suggestion of Sir Richard, the motion was changed to an address instead of an order, and was passed.

WOULD PREFER TO SELL TO THE TOWN

The Manager of the Bridgetown Electric Light, Heat and Power Co. Limited, Replies to the Adverse Criticism of the Town Council

Editor Monitor-Sentinel:

The Bridgetown Electric Light, Heat and Power Company, Limited, have been the subject of so much adverse criticism of recent date in certain quarters that the Company feel it is due its patrons that its side of the case should be presented. When the Company took over an Electric Lighting plant, the property of a private citizen, some years ago, it is perhaps only right to say that for a number of years the revenue was not sufficient to yield any returns on the outlay whatever and only by the most economical management and the exercise of the greatest care were the Company able to reach a point where they could look with some pride on the installation of one of the finest plants in the Province. Power was supplied to the first plant by steam but some four years ago the Company, obtaining various rights, privileges and lands during a number of years, were able to supplant steam power by a water power that has been demonstrated to be an abundant power in the driest seasons of the year and pronounced by experts to be one of the finest powers in the province. Our detractors do not realize perhaps the time and money it has cost the Company to accomplish what has been done in establishing the fine plant the Company possesses today. As better stated this water power was harnessed some four years ago and the plant today is therefore practically a new plant. It has dams that were most thoroughly constructed and has stood innumerable tests. Its piping is a recognized standard steel piping that has never as yet exhibited a flaw, its dynamo is practically new, its wiring and poles are in good condition, and in all other appointments the plant is practically new and in first class condition. The result is as to light that electricians are candid enough to admit that the quality of light supplied our patrons compares most favorably with any light that is supplied by a similar plant in Canada.

It might be well to give our patrons some idea of what we have had to contend with by the action of the Town Council of Bridgetown. In 1901 our rates were fixed by a conference with the town council that placed all profit to the Company beyond the vanishing point for a long time. On July 15th, 1903, we received a communication from the town council submitting terms for street lighting and also stating that the Company will also be required to furnish lights to the citizens of the town at a schedule attached to their communication. To this communication the Company replied on August 22nd and gave its reasons why it could not accept the rates required.

It is only fair to say that the rates submitted are those of Annapolis, which is a town-owned plant and not owned by a private Company or individuals. We insert our letter referred to.

Bridgetown, N. S.
August 22nd, 1903.

F. L. Milner, Esq.,
Town Clerk,
Bridgetown, N. S.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 15th ult. has been unanswered due to our wishing to go very carefully into the question of current rates before replying. After carefully considering the prices set forth in your communication, we regret to advise that we are unable to meet same. We do not know from what statistics these rates are compiled, but beg to give you the following particulars:

As you are no doubt aware, our entire revenue is derived from approximately 800 lights, and in making any comparison it will, of course be necessary that you take this matter into consideration; also the fact that our operating expenses on this number of lights would be equal to a plant of several times our capacity as we could quite easily double the

number of lights now in operation without any increase in our operating expenses.

We have gone very carefully over the rates charged by other plants in the Lower Provinces and elsewhere and find, without exception, that the rates which we are at present charging are not only compare very favorably, but are, in many cases, considerably below those charged elsewhere. You will, of course, understand that it is not possible to make any comparison between a Municipal and Company-owned plant, as in the case of the former same is operated purely to clear its operating expenses and interest charges, and is not meant to show any profit on the investment, being purely an outlay of the citizens' money so as to give them the advantage of the utility at cost. In this way it is not possible to make any comparisons from rates charged for municipal plants.

As many of your Council are aware in the early years the water power was not installed a plant was installed and operated same for a number of years, an actual loss was incurred only by investing considerable money in the latest and most improved apparatus that we have today in Bridgetown. A plant which is spoken of as being equal to any in the Province, and one of which our L. P. Council should take a long hard look at. When, in 1903, we were presented with your terms, we were not prepared to accept those rates, and at the time that it would have been the interests of all concerned to do so and after a most careful consideration we find that it would not be possible for us to make any reduction from our present rates, and continue operating the plant at a reasonable profit. We do not for a moment feel that it is the intention of any of your Council to place before us a proposition which would mean the closing down of our plant, and feel that you will agree that our policy from the outset has been to treat fairly with all concerned. And we also feel that such is your intention. We trust, therefore, after carefully considering this matter that you will see our position; and while we regret that we are unable in this case to meet your views, we feel sure that you will grant the explanations offered to be in accordance with the case.

In connection with our Street Lighting Contract, which, as you are aware, expired on July 1st, we have entered in on another year at old rates, and would ask that you kindly consider the question of a renewal contract for the same period, as one which has at present expired.

The particulars given being in connection with the rates will also apply to your street lighting, as under present rate we find our profit such as to make it impossible for us to offer you any reduction, and any further increase in the street lighting would have to be based on this understanding.

We feel sure after you have given this matter your further consideration that you will see exactly where we are placed, and hope to be favored with a renewal contract on that basis.

Yours very truly,
Bridgetown Electric Light Company,
per J. W. BECKWITH, Manager.

Our patrons can see that we carefully considered the proposition submitted to us and after reading our letter that we treated the Town Council with every courtesy. We herewith insert letter received in reply.

Bridgetown, N. S.
August 29th, 1903.

The Bridgetown Electric Light, Heat and Power Company, Limited,
Bridgetown, N. S.

Gentlemen:—A special meeting of the town council of the town of Bridgetown was held last evening to consider the matter of lighting the town and your letter of the 22nd was laid before the council and a resolution was passed leaving the matter to be dealt with by the Committee on Lighting and I am instructed by that Committee to notify you, and I hereby give you notice that unless you choose to accept the

proposition contained in my letter of you of July 15th, 1903, you are to cease to light the streets after the 30th day of September next. In connection with this I wish to say that the offer contained in my letter of the 15th of July is only open to you to accept to the 5th day of September next and if not accepted on or before that date it will be withdrawn without further notice.

Yours very truly,
F. L. MILNER,
Town Clerk.

From this letter our patrons can see that we had to unconditionally accept the rates submitted whether these were fair to the Company or not, and the Company has taken the position that the revenue of the plant would not warrant the adoption of such rates. In this letter we are told that unless the proposition of July 15th was accepted to we were to cease to light the streets after the date named therein. The Company could only understand from this correspondence that the proposition included not only street lighting but house lights as well. While it is the duty of the Town Council to furnish street lights at reasonable rates, the COMPANY WERE OF OPINION THAT WHEN THE COUNCIL ATTEMPTED TO INTERFERE WITH THE COMPANY'S CONTRACTS WITH PRIVATE CITIZENS IT WAS AN UNLAWFUL AND UNDESIRABLE UPON ITS PRIVATE RIGHTS.

The subsequent action of the Council as is well known has been all along the same lines, and it must be apparent to any fair-minded citizen that such treatment is not fair play and probably has never been resorted to by any town council respecting any other plant of a similar character in Canada.

In the late correspondence with the Town Council the Company was asked for a price for its plant and franchises looking to a sale to the town and were told that such price would be submitted to the rate-payers and if they approved of the purchase at the price named legislation would be obtained at the next session of the Local Legislature to carry out the wishes of the citizens. To this request the Company gave the following reply:

Bridgetown, N. S.,
May 3rd, 1903.

Messrs.
The Town of Bridgetown,
Bridgetown, N. S.

Dear Sirs:—

Referring to our conversation respecting sale of Electric Light plant, the Bridgetown Electric Light Company, Limited, is willing to sell its plant and franchises to you at a price to be mutually agreed upon, or failing to agree upon a price, by arbitration should you so desire.

Yours truly,
The Bridgetown Electric Light and Power Company, Limited,
per J. W. BECKWITH, Manager.

We took the ground that after what has been said of the plant, as we think unfairly, that the price should have been reached by a conference with some person able to contract and to enter into a binding contract. We received the following answer, which we here insert:

Bridgetown, N. S.,
May 4th, 1903.

The Bridgetown Electric Light, Heat and Power Company, Limited,
Bridgetown, N. S.

Gentlemen:—I have been requested by the Electric Light Committee of the town Council of the town of Bridgetown to acknowledge receipt of your favor of the 3rd inst. addressed to the Town of Bridgetown.

I am instructed to say to you that your letter does not contain the necessary information to enable them to deal intelligently with the question of the purchase of your electric light plant by the town. In your interview with the Committee on the 3rd day of April last you told them that you were willing to sell and promised to give them your value of

(continued on page 4.)

Prize Winners at the Kentville Horse Show

Class 1—1st, Sabledon, Owen Wheelock; 2nd, Regal Pandec, T. B. Messenger; 3rd, Long John, George Blanchard.

In this class Mr. Allen Brown, of Waterville, exhibited a fine, black stallion, which was standard bred, but had not been registered in American Trotting Association and was not allowed to compete.

Class 2, roadster, 11 entries—1st, J. R. Blanchard, Upper Dyke; 2nd, L. E. Baxter, Canning; 3rd, Walter Moore.

Class 3, 1 Single Carriage, 13 entries—1st, W. M. Carruthers, Kentville; 2nd, John Harrington, Jr., Kentville; 3rd, Edward K. Clarke, Woodville.

Class 4, All purpose, 11 entries—1st, Sylvanus Whitney, Billtown; 2nd, T. H. Morse, Berwick; 3rd, John Tobin, Port Williams.

Class 4th, Matched pair, all purpose, 4 entries—1st, T. H. Morse, Berwick; 2nd, William Tully, Kentville; 3rd, J. D. Bennett, Blomhon.

Class 5, Heavy Draft, 6 entries—1st, C. C. H. Eaton, Canard; 2nd, Oscar Chase, Port Williams; 3rd, G. O. West, Morristown.

Class 7, Saddle horse, 8 entries—1st, Miss Blanchard, Upper Dyke; 2nd, Miss Eva Ryan, Kentville; 3rd, Edward Jordan.

S.S. Primary Graduation Exercises

On Sunday evening, April 25th, a Primary Graduating Exercise was held in the church at Clarence. The program was as follows:—

Music—Choir.
Scripture and Prayer—Pastor H. H. Saunders.
"The Lord's Prayer"—led by a motion picture.
Salutatory—Helen Young.
Books of Old and New Testament—Class.

Catechism—on the Life of Christ, Scripture Texts, Disciples' Names—Graduating Class.

Review of last quarter's lessons, Temperance Exercise, "The White Ribbon Army."

Duet—Mrs. F. Banks and Mrs. Ralph Williams.
Temperance Exercise—Mont Smith and Clyde Wilson.

Recitation, "The Sunbeam"—Muriel Whitman.
23rd Psalm recited with motions.
The Ten Commandments.

Music, "What are you doing for Jesus"—Choir.
Catechism, The Old Testament, Child's Creed—Edith Jackson.

Beatitudes repeated.
Recitation, "Spring has come"—Harold Whitman.
Music, "O that will be glory"—Choir.

Valedictory—Evelyn Smith.
Address to scholars—Teacher.
Presentation to Honorary Certificates.

Music, "In the sweet bye and bye"—Benediction—Pastor.

The Primary Graduates, promoted to the Junior Department by systematic grading, are as follows:—

Helen Young, Ruperta Banks, Edith Jackson, Evelyn Smith, Irene Jackson, Grant Messenger, Aubrey Sprowl, Stewart Elliott, and Harold Whitman.

Provincial Roads

(Colchester Sun.)

There has been and will be a lot of talk about the necessity of the municipalities receiving provincial assistance toward the upkeep of the roads. Whatever can be said about the necessity for this action, it is certainly desirable that something should be done. The important question is how this aid should be given. It would almost seem that the Province of Ontario had hit upon the right scheme. In that province the through roads are built with an eye to the needs of the whole province rather than any particular locality. The result of that policy is that these roads are well kept, whereas if government assistance were rendered in a more or less haphazard way where it was most needed, there would be, as in Nova Scotia, a lot of patchwork done, but nothing of a permanent nature. It will be better for the country to go in tatters for a time and a little at a time put on a new garment of good through roads. If the main roads were fitted up in this way, especially those leading through portions of the country where the railroads do not reach, the value of the farm lands would be tremendously increased. Such roads in the course of their construction would serve as object lessons for the municipalities in building their country roads and for the road sections in building the by-roads.

The Province of Nova Scotia does not so much need more money spent on the roads as it does need a proper and systematic application of what is now voted. System is valuable in anything but in road building it means the difference between success and failure.

Fire in Halifax

On Thursday morning, May 6th, one hundred thousand dollars damage was wrought when a section of Upper Water street was wiped out by fire. Starting shortly before midnight in some old buildings in the rear of the H. H. Fuller building, it was not stopped until after four o'clock this morning. In that time everything between Pickford & Black's and John Tobin and Company's with the exception of the Eureka House and the brick building of G. C. Cook and Co. was laid in ashes.

Seven steamers, two fire boats, and the combined Halifax, Dartmouth, and military fire departments fought the blaze. On the north side the brick building of Cook's stopped the flames and the Eureka House and the premises of John Tobin & Co. were only saved after a heroic battle.

An approximate estimate would place the losses as follows, including stock, furniture and buildings:

H. H. Fuller & Co., \$50,000.
J. Simon, \$30,000.
Geo. C. Cook, \$8,000.
Frank W. Fraser, \$3,000.
Donovan & Brennan, \$4,000.
Geo. E. M. Stephens, \$3,000.
J. Melvin, \$2,000.

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