

receive from a customer; for if you are, your customers will soon find it out.—[E. W. Alexander, in *Gleanings from Bee Culture*.]

Cleaning Honey-boards.

The bees are sometimes inclined to fill up the perforations of queen-excluding zinc when used as a honey-board, especially if left on in the fall when no honey is coming in. To clean out this wax and propolis, lay the honey-board out in the sun, on the hot ground or on a dark-colored board, and when the wax is softened thoroughly scrape both sides with a sharp metal or wood scraper. For the wood-zinc boards, this must be narrow enough to go easily between the slats. The metal scraper is best, but, in the absence of that, a piece split from a broken section will do very good work. Run it rapidly back and forth, first on one side and then on the other, and you will be astonished to see how it will take the wax and propolis out of the perforations without going down into them. Keep the scraper perpendicular to the surface of the zinc.—[J. A. Green, in *Gleanings from Bee Culture*.]

THE FARM BULLETIN.

The Power Commission Means Business.

At a meeting last week of the Hydro-electric Power Commission of Ontario, Hon. Adam Beck, Chairman, and Mr. C. B. Smith being present, it was decided to ask the companies developing power at Niagara Falls, also the Cataract Power Company, of Hamilton, developing power at Decew Falls, for the price of a minimum of 10,000 horse power at their development stations, "stepped up" for long-distance transmission. The information is to be furnished on or before August 1st, as the commission desires to be able by that time to quote figures in reply to specific requests from a number of municipalities that wish to be furnished with power. In case the figures then quotable by the commission should be considered unsatisfactory by the municipalities, the latter may ask the commission to furnish it to them under the bill of last session, by which the commission is given authority to develop and transmit power itself, or expropriate existing plants, or to take power produced by them and deliver it at rates controlled by themselves. It is not expected that such measures will be necessary, but that the vesting of this authority in the commission will impel the power companies to quote at fair prices the voltage asked.

Since the passage of the power bill in the Legislature last winter some rather hasty criticism has been levelled at the Government and the Commission, for tardiness in "making good." The recent action by the Commission answers the criticism, and indicates that the Commission intend to secure, on reasonable terms for the public of Ontario, power from the great natural engine at the Falls. The whole subject is of great interest to the agricultural class, not only because benefits to the urban municipalities, and especially the manufacturers, will be reflected in some measure upon all classes of the community, but also because the cheapening of electric power hastens the era of electricity applied to agriculture, which is probably nearer at hand than many suppose.

Canadian Meat Products in Favor.

John B. Jackson, Canadian Commercial Agent in Leeds and Hull, Eng., in his regular report to the Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, quotes six of the leading provision firms in his district as saying that they have no buyers at present for canned goods of any description, domestic, colonial or foreign. The public are, for the time being, prejudiced against tin cans, and all that in them is. They anticipated, however, that in a few months, after press comment has subsided and public opinion cooled down, the market would revert to its old position, and the public buy their old fancies, giving preference to the products from those countries having good Government inspection.

The same gentlemen, interrogated as to their opinion of Canadian canned meats, said they considered them equally as good as, if not a little better than the average "American" brand. Canadian packing houses have a great opportunity to make special efforts to place their goods on the British market, on account of their being put up under the British flag.

Mr. Jackson relates that some two weeks before date of writing a side of Argentine chilled beef was used by the work-house people of Hull, and, being diseased, was charged with causing five deaths. This naturally intensified the feeling against canned and chilled meats in that district, and the press loudly demanded that none but English beef be purchased, unless the cattle or carcasses, respectively, were imported from a country giving the guarantee of Government inspection.

In Leeds a new company, called the Canadian Direct Meat Supply Co., has been formed, financed entirely by English capital. It was organized on account of the great demand for Canadian as against American goods. Two branch shops in the industrial part of the city exhibit in the window a guarantee that no meat will be sold therein except Canadian. The company has already gained great popularity, and expected to establish branch shops in surrounding cities and towns.

Additional Accommodation for Ottawa Fair.

The Central Canada Fair, at Ottawa this year, Sept. 7th to 15th, is expected to be the best ever given. Howick Pavilion, the new general-purpose building being erected, will be a most important addition to the accommodation. The dimensions are 200x240, with an annex of 100x150. It is being built in steel, concrete and cement blocks. This will make it the most substantial building on the grounds, and there certainly should be no collapse of this structure. The cost is in the neighborhood of \$60,000. In the annex the poultry will be exhibited at the fair this year. In the main building, comic operas and other large stage attractions will be presented every year hereafter. The building is an extensive one, with a seating accommodation of 6,000. With this building the directors will hereafter be free from worry as to whether the night is clear or cloudy, for patrons will find performances without fail, and be able to see them in comfort. The Ottawa match of the Capital-Shamrock lacrosse series will be played on the exhibition grounds on the last day of the fair.

To meet the expected shortage of harvest hands in the Canadian West, the C. P. R. announces a rate of £6 from Liverpool to destination, between August 1st and August 23rd. After working a month, the harvesters are entitled to return not later than November 3rd.

Notes from Temiskaming District.

At the first annual meeting of the Temiskaming Farmers' Institute the following resolution was passed: "That this district is in favor of paying 50c. per acre for land, rather than free grants, but that the money should be returned to the township from which it was taken, for the purpose of improving the roads." The hon. secretary was instructed to inform the Minister for Crown Lands of this resolution. The secretary was also requested to write the Government, suggesting that boring for artesian wells in one or two places be done by the Government as an experiment, and to encourage settlers to bore for themselves should the experiment prove successful.

The Institute meetings have been somewhat poorly attended as yet, largely owing to the size of the district covered, and the difficulty of getting very far without making a two-day trip. Mr. Elliott, of Galt, and Miss Rose, of Guelph, are the Institute lecturers this year up here.

As regards the meetings, Miss Rose was the principal speaker, as she wished to organize women's institutes. This was done both at Haileybury and Lekeard. Both the speakers, Mr. Elliott in particular, struck the audience as practical people. There was very little theorizing done, and all that we were told was suggested by the actual experience of the speakers themselves. In the present state of this new country we need all the practical teaching we can get. Theory, though very valuable in its place, can be left till later without causing much loss. A much-needed warning was given by the Temiskaming Herald last week, in the form of an editorial, concerning the Colorado potato beetle. This seems to be fairly numerous in this district. The warning comes more appropriately from an editor than from a correspondent, as much more notice is given an editor's opinion than is given an ordinary correspondent, though not always wisely.

We are having a splendid summer this year—warm and dry since the first week in June. The spring was cold and backward, but not wet, and most crops are later than usual; though owing to the fine weather since, many crops have caught up. Hay seems to be a sufferer to some extent. A poor start in spring, and very little rain since, have kept the crop back, and I am afraid it will only be a medium crop even in the best places.

All other crops are doing well so far, especially those that escaped the two summer frosts we have had. A few weeks ago we had a heavy wind, and a rather bad hailstorm. Some few early things were cut a bit, and a few trees blown out or broken off. The mining "boom" is dying, at least for the present. Discoveries are everyday affairs, of course, and plenty of work is being done, but much of the excitement is over. I rather suspect that many miners and prospectors have had their enthusiasm damped, metaphorically, by the mosquitoes and other flies, which have been unusually bad in the bush. There is little doubt, however, that in the course of a few weeks, when the flies will be less plentiful, the prospecting and working will be carried on as vigorously as before.

Cobalt and Haileybury seem to be growing as fast as ever, so evidently plenty of people are still coming into the country. Regarding the Women's Institute, Mrs. John Sharp, whose husband is President of the Farmers' Institute, has been elected President, and the first meeting is to take place this month. G. W. W.

AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATION AT OTTAWA, 1906

During the Parliament just closed, several acts were altered by important amendments, which affect the agricultural industry of Canada, and which must attract the attention of the wholesale merchants and consumer, and give them confidence in the quality of our goods, thereby continuing to increase, broaden and strengthen our export trade in agricultural products.

One important feature of the session was an Act, changing the fiscal year from the first of July to the first of April. This change gives the Government a more convenient date to close up the accounts of the fiscal year, thus overcoming the great annoyance of closing and opening the public and other accounts during the summer months, when great public works are being executed. Provision is also made which gives power to extend the time for finally closing the accounts of any appropriation for a period of not more than three months from the end of the fiscal year. Parliament can now assemble during the late fall or early winter, attend to the usual routine work and other legislation, and prorogue before the hot summer months come. In view of this Act, all the estimates noted were for nine months only, from July 1st, 1906, to April 1st, 1907.

The following is a synopsis of the legislation more or less directly affecting agriculturists:

AMENDMENT TO THE FRUIT MARKS ACT.

The amendment to the Fruit Marks Act was practically framed at a fruit convention, held in Ottawa last March, convened by the Minister of Agriculture, for the purpose of bringing the fruit men of the Dominion together, and giving them an opportunity to discuss the

various questions connected therewith. At this convention were assembled representative fruit men from all over Canada, and after a thorough discussion of the different phases of the fruit industry, which lasted four days, several resolutions were passed, and it was entirely on these resolutions that the amendments to the Fruit Marks Act were founded.

MARKING OF FRUIT PACKAGES.—This section of the Act was amended, by the addition of a higher and better grade, called "Fancy," and by also making it compulsory for the packers to place on the fruit packages, according to the quality, one of the following marks: "Fancy," "No. 1," "No. 2," or "No. 3."

The amended section, which is now in force, reads thus:

"4. Every person who, by himself or through the agency of another person, packs fruit in a closed package, intended for sale, shall cause the package to be marked in a plain and indelible manner, in letters not less than half an inch in length, before it is taken from the premises where it is packed,—

"(a) With the initials of his christian names, his full surname, and his address; or, in the case of a firm or corporation, with the firm or corporate name and address.

"(b) With the name of the variety or varieties; and

"(c) With a designation of the grade of fruit, which shall include one of the following four marks, viz.: 'Fancy,' 'No. 1,' 'No. 2,' 'No. 3,' but such mark may be accompanied by any other designation of grade or brand, provided that such designation or brand is not inconsistent with, or marked more conspicuously

than, the one of the said four marks which is used on the said package."

The old section permitted the use of the brands XXX, XX, or X, instead of No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3, respectively.

The amendment, while leaving it optional whether the X's are used or not, makes it absolutely necessary that one of the marks, "Fancy," "No. 1," "No. 2," or "No. 3," be placed on the package of fruit. It had been found that these X marks were very easily changed. For instance, a package might be marked XX or No. 2, and a purchaser easily change it to XXX or No. 1, by the addition of another X, and even X (No. 3) might be changed to XXX (No. 1) without the knowledge of the original packer, and greatly to his prejudice. The amendment does away with this facility, and makes it compulsory to use marks which are readily understood to mean higher grade or better quality. No doubt it will soon lead to the exclusive use of the terms "Fancy," "No. 1," "No. 2," or "No. 3."

This Act does not apply to wild berries, although there are certain restrictions specified by section 9, which will not permit of falsely packing or marking of any fruit. This section reads as follows:

9. Whenever any fruit in any package is found to be so packed that the faced or shown surface gives a false representation of the contents of the package, any inspector charged with the enforcement of this Act may mark the words "falsely packed" in a plain and indelible manner on the package.

2. Whenever any fruit packed in a closed package is