Questions and Answers
All About Canada

READ UP ON THE COUNTRY YOU LIVE IN

CANADA'S HAY

Q—What is the extent and value of Canada's hay crop?

A—Canada's hay and clover crop is of growing importance and value, amounting, in 1921, to 12,234,000 tons, worth $267,000,000 or a quarter of the total field crop value of nearly a billion.

GOOD ROADS IN CANADA

Q—To what extent is Canada carrying out a good roads programme?

A—Canada is spending fifty millions on good roads, twenty millions having been voted by the Dominion Parliament on condition that the Provinces spend thirty millions which is being done (1922).

CANADA'S NATIONAL PARKS

Q—Of what value are Canada's National Parks?

A—It is estimated that 50,000 foreigners visited the Dominion National Parks during the season of 1920-21. At $300 each, they left in the country $15,000,000, which if capitalized on a basis of 5 per cent, would represent $300,000,000 over against their total cost to date of $5,000,000.

THE PLASKETT SUNS

Q—What are the Plaskett Suns?

A—The Plaskett Suns are twin suns, 32 quadrillion miles from the earth, recently discovered by Dr. J. S. Plaskett, Director of the Dominion Observatory near Victoria, B. C., through the big 12-inch reflector telescope. It is regarded as a most remarkable and outstanding investigation and discovery. The largest one is 75 times the bulk of our sun and the lesser 63 times heavier.

THE BLUE NOSE SKIPPER

Q—Who is 'The Blue Nose Skipper'?

A—The Blue Nose Skipper is the nickname given to the Nova Scotia seamen who man the fishing and other craft that ply the Atlantic—the men "to whom no land was distant, to whom no sea was barred". Joseph Howe wrote of them—

Every harbor from Sable to Canso's a home,
Every depth from the Banks to St. Lawrence were tried
And we care not though round Labrador we may roam
Or sweep on the strength of old Fundy's tide.

Then who would exchange the rough life that we lead
Joint owners at sea and free sons of the soil,
At the bidding of others to labor and bleed,
With but little of pleasure to sweeten our toil?

COUREURS DE BOIS

Q—Who were Coureur de Bois?

A—Coureurs de Bois, or "wood runners", were a class of fur-traders who travelled through Canada during the period of the French regime and with the fur companies since.

LA VERENDRYE

Q—Who was La Verendrye?

A—La Verendrye was a Frenchman who set out from Montreal in 1731 with his sons to find the sea to China. They journeyed in canoes to and through the North West, thus practically discovering Western Canada, and built forts at Portage la Prairie and Fort Rouge.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

Q—What is the Advisory Council for Scientific Research of Canada?

A—The Honorary Advisory Council for Scientific Research of Canada has for its aim the promotion of the development of the industries of the Dominion, the utilization of its natural resources and the creation of the wealth necessary to lighten Canada's burden of debt. Its report for 1921 deals with eight different subjects.

GROSIELLIERS AND RADISSON

Q—Who are Grosielliers and Radisson?

A—Grosielliers and Radisson were two famous French path-finders and explorers who lived in Three Rivers and who traversed parts of Western Canada. It is said the idea of the Hudson's Bay Company was due to them, as, after being repulsed by the French King with proposals of this character, they went to England where their advice was followed.

CANADA'S FISHERIES

Q—What did Canada's fisheries yield in 1921?

A—The yield of Canada's fisheries in 1921 was $34,930,935, compared with $49,241,339 in 1920, a decrease of 29 per cent. owing chiefly to lower prices. The quantity of salmon caught and landed dropped from 1,284,729 hundredweight in 1920 to 878,124 hundredweight in 1921 and the total value as marketed in the different forms from $15,595,970 to $9,305,763. The catch of lobsters decreased from the previous year by only 6,360 hundredweight but the decrease in total market value was $2,000,052. Cod, halibut, whitefish, mackerel, pickerel, tullibee, perch and oysters show increases in catch and decreases in market value. Herring, haddock, sardines, pollock, hake and cusk and pilchards show decreases in catch as well as in total market value.

FAREWELL TO CANNING PASTOR

Rev. H. Barber and Mrs. Barber Presented with Cheque for $130

CANNING, May 3.—The auditorium of the United Baptist Church was filled on Tuesday evening when the congregation and community gathered to bid farewell to a beloved pastor, Rev. H. Barber, and Mrs. Barber, who have labored faithfully and well during a pastorate of four years. L. M. Ward, clerk, presided. The programme, much enjoyed, was the following:

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name.
Prayer, Rev. G. A. Logan.
Address, L. M. Ward.
Hillaton Vocal Quartette—Mrs. B. McGowan, Miss McLeod, Burpee McGowan, Clayton Harris.
Vocal Quartette—Leila Blenkhorne, Louise Woodburn, Marjorie Annis, Ufadeline Covert. Accompanist, Miss Kennedy.
Reading, Miss Mabel Hilchey.
Vocal Duett—Misses Isabel and Myrtle Meek. Accompanist, Miss Josephine Harris.
Vocal Quartette—Mrs. Avery, Miss Josephine Harris, Myrtle and Isabel Meek. Accompanist, Mrs. Rufus Eaton.
Reading, Miss Ada Reynolds.
Vocal Quartette—Hillaton Quartette.

Representatives of the sister congregations were present and adressed the meeting.

Rev. C. Riseborough, pastor of Pereau Baptist Church, spoke of the friendship and fellowship experienced as a co-worker with Rev. H. Barber, wishing him Godspeed wherever he was called as a representative of Jesus Christ.

Rev. T. W. Hodgson, pastor of the Methodist Church, paid touching tributes to the work of Rev. H. Barber and Mrs. Barber, who have at all times stood for the highest and best, and who have combined courage and zeal with the finest type of good fellowship

Rev. G. A. Logan, pastor of Upper Canard Presbyterian Church, next addressed the congregation, bringing before them the high ideal for which their pastor had stood, and the splendid manner in which he had measured up to the standard of Jesus Christ, for whom he always spoke a good word.

H. R. Ells, on behalf of the church, read an address of appreciation to Rev. H. Barber and Mrs. Barber, and a cheque of $130 was presented by John Lloyd, the young son of Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Ward. Next came Helen, wee daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Newcombe, who, on behalf of the parents and pupils of the infant class, presented Mrs. Barber with a beautiful gold wrist watch in appreciation of the work accomplished amongst more than thirty little ones, whose loving trust she has gained to a remarkable degree.

Rev. H. Barber and Mrs. Barber greatly affected, thanked the givers, expressing regret at the severance. "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" was then sung and the benediction pronounced by Rev. G. A. Logan. More than 250 then adjourned to the vestry wher supper was served and a social hour spent.

Thieves broke into a restaurant the other day. The only valuables removed were three beefsteaks and, as the place carried a $700 burglary policy, it is thought the loss is fully covered.

Minard's Liniment for Falling Out of Hair.

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT TAX GATHERERS

(From our Special Correspondent)

Echoes from the Press Gallery, recent session of the House of Assembly, Halifax, April 30,1923.—The financial returns tabled by the Government contain much material for serious reflection, particularly with reference to that ever vital question of taxation, which like an insatiable evil spirit, pursues us at every turn in some form of civic, municipal, federal, or provincial taxation.

The local Government in an attempt to shirk responsibility for taxation, has the following bungling stupid statement in its report on Industries and Immigration, for 1921, page 10.

"It is the Dominion Government alone which claims and exercises the right to tax."

But just look over the Provincial Accounts for 1921, and 1922, with an occasional glance at the Provincial taxation statutes and note how the Provincial Government has filled this oppressed Province with Provincial Tax Gatherers.

First, there is the Provincial Land Tax, which under the statutes of 1917, has to be collected by the "Municipal Clerk of the Municipality" and paid over to the Provincial Treasurer.

Under this law $31,553 was collected in 1921 and paid over to the Provincial Treasurer. (See Public Accounts 1921 page 305.)

This was under the law of 1912, which placed the land valuation at One Dollar per acre; but the Act of 1921 Chapter 54, raised the valuation to Two Dollars per acre, thus doubling the tax making it $64,584 in 1922 (See Public Accounts 1922, page 327.)

Then follow Game Licenses for which $8,466 was paid in 1921 and $36,262 in 1922. (See P. A. 1921 page 322; and 1922 page 348.)

In the next place, the Government makes Tax Gatherers of every Incorporated Company doing business in the Province; of every chartered bank and savings bank; of every Insurance Company; of every Loan Company; of every Trust Company; of every telegraph and cable company; of every electric tramway; of every express company, of every railway (See Chapter 13, Acts 1919) and also of some two dozen other companies that somehow escaped the previous drag net (See Chapter 3, Acts 1921.)

And here let the people note, and make no mistake about it, that though these corporations are made liable to these taxes in the first instance, just as the Municipalities are made liable to the Provincial Highway Tax, yet these companies sooner or later collect every penny of these taxes out of the people of this city and Province, and the Companies are thus mere tax Gatherers for the Provincial Government, and in 1921 collected $541,264 and in 1922 also collected for the Provincial Government $558,856.

Here is over half a million dollars of direct taxes paid and to be paid year by year to the Provincial Treasurer.

And don't forget that these taxes touch everybody's pocket.

For example, the $1050 paid last year by Moirs Limited has to be collected from the people of this city and Province; the high taxes placed on the Fire Insurance Companies help to swell the premium rates to the present burdensome figures; the $16,675 paid by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company has to be collected largely from the poor people who buy Industrial Insurance from that company and so on through the whole long, long list of companies that are thus made Tax Gatherers for a grasping and wasteful Provincial Government.

For the Incorporation of Companies, the Provincial Treasurer collected $18,721 in 1921, and $17,727 in 1922 for the Annual Registration of such companies $69,427 in 1921 and $138,307 in 1922; for the registration of partnerships $7,159 in 1921 and $10,719 in 1922—the three making $95,298 in 1921 and $166,753 in 1922 (See Public Accounts 1921 pages 324 and 1922 page 350.)

The taxes on "Motor Vehicles" which are three times as high in Nova Scotia as in the United States, amounted to $373,121 in 1921 and $418,606 in 1922, (See P. A. 1921 page 344 and P. A. 1922 page 327.)

Then there are "Miscellaneous Taxes" amounting to $4,808 in 1921 and $5,087 in 1922.

And next come "Officials' Fees" amounting to $4,334 in 1921 and $41,932 in 1922 (See P. A. 1921 page 344 and P. A. 1922 page 372.) These are the fees that have to be collected by every Prothonotary, Clerk of County Court, Sheriff, Judge of Probate, Registrar of Deeds and Registrar of Probate; all of whom are thus made Tax Gatherers for the Provincial Government.

Marriage License Fees amounted to $12,763 in 1921 (See page 345) and to $10,666 in 1922 (See page 373).

Succession duties amounted to $158,972 in 1921 (See page 353) and to $120,739 in 1922 (See page 382.)

Theatres and Picture Shows had to pay $180,036 in 1921 (See page 353) and $140,530 in 1922 (See page 381); and the theatre goers need not be told that they had to provide this money. The theatres and Picture Houses were Tax Gatherers for the Provincial Government to such amounts.

Under the Public Highways Act and Sundry related Statutes the twenty-four Municipalities were compelled to collect and pay over to the Provincial Treasurer $329,062 in 1921 and $354,330 in 1922; the forty Incorporated Towns $53,041 in 1921, $53,410 in 1922; and the two Cities $58,290 in 1921 and $59,529 in 1922—the three items totalling $440,587 in 1921 and $467,229 in 1922, well on to another half million dollars, directly out of the pockets of the people. (See P. A. 1921 pages 361-362, and P. A. 1922 pages 391-592.)

In addition to the foregoing there were some "Back charges" collected in 1922 and making the grand total for 1922 $490,157.

The aggregate of all the various Provincial Government schemes of direct taxation amounted in 1921 to $1,892,282 and in 1922 the total was $2,054,906.

This is certainly quite a spread of direct taxation for a Provincial Government that publicly declares, in one of its official reports, that it does not claim or exercise the right to impose taxes.

The facts are that the Government has crowded the statute books of the past score of years with new tax laws, that they have covered the Province with Provincial Tax Gatherers; that they have taxed about everything they could think of; that they have increased the taxes from year to year, and enormously within the last ten years; that the aggregate burden of taxation is heavy, handicapping every industry and hurting every citizen; and worse still, and worst of all, they have wasted the peoples money in batches of hundred of thousands of dollars as was proved beyond question in the investigation of the Great Provincial Highways Scandal of 1920-1921.

A specialist gave up as hopeless a case being treated for blindness and presented his bill. That opened the patient's eyes, but he hasn't "seen" the specialist yet.

Auto Topics

When making adjustments, if you remove a cotter-pin replace it with a new one and spread it well. Loose or broken pins on transmission or motor assemblies may cause trouble that will send your car crashing into another car or up on a crowded sidewalk.

No matter how careful you are such crashes are likely to occur. Insurance will make good your loss, both for damage to your car and to the person or property of others if involved in a mixup.

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A181

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