

Nova Scotia is Progressing

What impresses one most in visiting Nova Scotia after an absence of a few years is the remarkable progress being made in the Atlantic Province. Not only are there evidences of material prosperity, but the standard of living is steadily improving and education is becoming much more widespread. We in the West are too prone to think that the Prairie Provinces are outstripping all other parts of Canada and a visit to the Eastern Provinces has a chastening effect. The Eastern Provinces are suffering from a great exodus to the West and, judged equally, they are progressing as fast as even the rapidly growing West. Of course there are no fortunes accumulated in one year through real estate speculation and there are less opportunities to get rich without working, but better farming methods and better business methods are developing agriculture into a profession. The rush and struggle for the dollar which is too conspicuous in our Western life is less noticeable. The Eastern people believe in enjoying life. Somehow Father Time deals leniently with Eastern farmers. Boys and girls 80 and 90 years young are very common and they are still looking ahead to a "ripe old age." There is something restful in the air tempered by breezes from the Atlantic which is akin to the fabled "elixir."

A Beautiful Scene

Visiting my home in the Annapolis Valley during the first week in June gave me the opportunity of a two-hour ride on the train through the "Garden of Nova Scotia," when the fruit trees were in full bloom. And such a bloom! It must be seen and smelt to be understood. Nature had robbed the whole valley in dazzling white and the air was laden with an aroma which one inhales deeply and with a feeling of regret that it cannot be stored for constant pleasure. Nature has been very kind this year. Where last year the frost nipped the blooms, this summer sees "the greatest set" of apples in the history of the province. Prospects are for 1,000,000 barrels of apples for export, or nearly 200,000 barrels over the record. Orcharding has received a great impetus during the past few years in the valley, bearing orchards being valued at from \$500 to \$800 per acre. Like the grain growers of the West, the fruit growers of Nova Scotia have been fleeced for the past generation by speculators. But the tide has turned and co-operation is becoming fashionable. At eleven shipping points the fruit growers have organized co-operatively and purchased or erected warehouses where all fruit will be packed by experts and marketed through one agency, thus assuring a uniform packing system and a consequent better price. A movement is now on foot to consolidate these individual associations through a central organization for marketing and for educational purposes. This system has in it the greatest promise ever held out to the fruit growers of the province. The farmers are realizing they must work out their own salvation.

Development General

But fruit growing is only one of the many phases of life in that little province that possesses a greater wealth and variety of natural resources than any other Canadian province. Development is taking place on every hand and though Nova Scotia gained less than the other provinces from confederation, it is contributing well towards its fulfilment. Lumbering, stockraising, fishing, mining, and manufacturing are all flourishing. When the handicap of a protective tariff is removed, the iniquitous bounty system terminated and the transportation system improved the little old province will bloom, and the tide is setting that way. Among its other handicaps Nova Scotia suffers from too much familiarity with Mackenzie and Mann, who have tapped the provincial till for a \$5,000,000 guarantee upon roads much the same as they have in the West. In this respect the province is right up to date. The rustic simplicity portrayed by Longfellow, if it ever existed, long ago gave way to aggressive modernism.

Nova Scotia is quite proud of the number of statesmen it has contributed to confederation and is figuring on contributing another premier no matter which way the next election goes. Though the exodus of men and women from the province has been immense during the

past generation that fact in itself has done much to develop a national spirit among those who remain—and they are the equal in every respect of those who have left.

Reciprocity Excites Interest

Of course reciprocity was a subject of vital interest everywhere and was chiefly viewed from a party standpoint. Party ties grow stronger as one journeys east. Politics is pretty much of a religion in the older provinces. Men are largely Conservatives or Liberals because their father or grandfathers were, and anything done under the name of their "grand old party" is usually right. Where there is a break from party lines on reciprocity in the cities and towns the sentiment is generally against and in the country in favor of free trade. I was pleased to find a number of Conservative farmers who considered that a better price for their produce in the New England markets appealed to them more strongly than party loyalty. The railway question is also a live one and on these two questions there is much sympathy with the Western farmers in their agitation. The Nova Scotia Farmers' Association is largely a sideline of the government and is financed as such. However, conditions are ripe for an organization that would affiliate with the Canadian Council of Agriculture and assist in the fight for equal opportunities for all. Organizers from Ontario and the West would meet with hearty support and the work once started would grow rapidly. The Intercolonial Railway, loaded down as it is with political machinery and patronage, and bent and twisted at the behest of politicians of early days, nevertheless affords considerable relief from railway extortion. If it were operated as a business proposition it would be a triumph of public ownership. Any government that attempts to dispose of this road to any corporation will meet with a severe handling from the people.

An Election Campaign

I had the pleasure of being present during a provincial election campaign and attended several political meetings. All kinds of federal questions were dragged into the fight and the politicians made the usual effort to confuse the people. That a government holding office for twenty-nine years should be sustained does not speak well for any province, but democracy is spreading. A study of the Halifax political newspaper organs on the morning after the election was gratifying after the bitterness of the campaign. Both papers explained that just what they expected had happened and that everything was all right, so

if everybody is satisfied nothing more can be desired.

Nova Scotia has suffered from class legislation most grievously. Their coal is mined and sold elsewhere cheaper than at home in many cases and free trade in coal would be a boon to the consumers. The tax on agricultural implements and machinery is also a heavy burden, while free trade in cement will be a relief. What is needed more than all else is an educational campaign upon economic conditions and the remedy. But this must emanate from the people, as Special Privilege has a strong grip and the politicians are like those of other provinces seeking only to gain or hold power. The heaven of democracy is working and five years from today will see great changes in the province by the sea. In the great fight which will take place in the near future between Privilege and Democracy Nova Scotia will give an account of herself. She has all the resources and needs only to have them utilized. There is no antipathy against the West but only admiration that the Western people have taken the bit in their teeth and revolted against Special Privilege in every form. The farmers of Nova Scotia realize that the farmers of Ontario and the West are fighting for the common people of Canada. When the soldiers of democracy in Nova Scotia can clasp hands across 4,000 miles with their brothers in British Columbia there will be a power so strong that the pillars of privilege must come down. Privilege has had its day and now it is time for the people to have a turn.

G. F. CHIPMAN.

FEEDING DAIRY CATTLE IN SUMMER

(By Philip Fockler)

The dairy cow is a machine, and we use this machine to convert the feed grown upon our farms into a saleable product. Money cannot be made out of any machine unless it is run to its capacity. Think of a man owning a grist-mill and running it to one-third of its capacity! He must run it at full capacity to get largest returns. And we have to run this machine, the cow, on the dairy farm to its full capacity to make any profit.

Grass is one of nature's greatest gifts to the dairy cow; and her owner. The dairyman must have pasture for his cows if he expects to succeed. With land at a high price, however, to make a profit the most intensive methods must be employed. When pasture gets short it may be supplemented with mill feeds; this means a considerable financial outlay, however, and other less expensive means are within reach. The growing of alfalfa, winter rye, clover, corn and peas and oats will by success-

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ive sowings carry on the supply of feed well through the summer. Millet can be sown when the peas and oats have been cut and will carry the green feed into September. No green feed need be wasted, since it may be made into hay or ensilage, or, in the case of peas and oats, harvested for grain.

Those of us who feed our cows six months of the year and let them hunt for themselves the other six months are the ones who are feeding cows grain at a loss. The farmer who feeds his cows a good ration twelve months of the year and keeps his cows in good shape all the time is the farmer who is investing his money where it will bring him good interest.

We aim to maintain the milk flow throughout the season. Comfort, suitable foods in suitable quantities, regularity as to feeding, milking, salting, etc., and kindness we find are the great essentials to this end.

A QUESTION OF VENTILATION

Many poor hatches reported from incubators are due to the faulty ventilation of the room in which the incubator is set. Unless the room is well ventilated, the incubator cannot be. If the cellar smells of decaying vegetables, the chick is half poisoned before it leaves the incubator. Be as careful about the air of the room the incubator stands in as you would be of the air in a living room. A poultry breeder set a new incubator, and the hatch was a complete failure. The machine was of a well-known make, which was doing good work in the hands of others. This breeder had the incubator on top of a high table, bringing the trays about on a level with her head. The ceiling was low, the room stove heated, and the chicks could not get enough pure air to bring them to the pipping point. The incubator was moved down providing better ventilation, with most satisfactory results.



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