



AGRICULTURAL NEWS



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MANY ACRES BURNED OVER

Statistical Report of Recent Conflagration Is Being Compiled Now.

Somewhere between 350 and 400 square miles of territory, or approximately quarter of a million acres, has been burned over by the forest fires in New Brunswick this year, according to unofficial estimates.

So far no official information on the subject is available. Officials of the Department of Lands and Mines said that they were compiling statistics and the various private land owners and lumber companies were also carrying on similar work, but it would take some time to compile it.

QUEBEC FINANCES IN GOOD SHAPE

Despite Large Expenditures On Roads, Education and Other Departments.

Quebec, July 12.—The surplus of the province of Quebec for the year ending June 30 amounts to \$11,200,000. This was the crux of the financial statement presented to the Provincial Cabinet today by the Hon. Jacob Nicol, Provincial Treasurer. In making the statement the Minister pointed out that this result had been achieved despite the enormous sums that had been expended by the Government on highways, education, colonization and agriculture, as well as other departments. He was sure that it would be regarded as an excellent tribute to the system of Government in the province of Quebec. That it would be so regarded outside of Quebec, he was quite sure, for he knew of no other province in the Dominion, or for that matter any other state, that was capable of making a similar showing.

The Growing of O. P. O. Silage

(Experimental Farms Note)

If mixed farming is to be followed in Northern Ontario, and the leasing of the soil a cheap and succulent feed must be available to bring them through the winter. Up to the present time it has been found at the Kapuskasing Experimental Station that O. P. V. is one of the best feeds for this purpose, although greater tonnage has been obtained from sunflowers, and at a much less cost of production. The O. P. V. has its advantages over sunflowers; as it can be sown at a much later date, requires no intertilling, is a much more satisfactory crop to handle under field conditions, can be cut by the binder and the blower will handle the full size sheaf from the wagon, where it can be fed to the blower as fast as it can be taken care of. When it is cut at the proper stage for silage purposes it makes a very succulent feed and is readily eaten by stock of all kinds. When the oats are at the dough stage, and the peas well formed, is the proper time to cut and ensile, right from the binder if possible.

It has been found that when silage takes place there is over-fermentation in the soil, with resultant musty silage. At the Station it is usual to keep a light stream of water in the blower and excellent results have always been obtained, but care must be exercised as too much water will cause injury. O. P. V. generally grows very rank under favorable conditions, and smother weeds of any kind; and early fall plowing can be carried on when the crop is removed, which is a great advantage in the north owing to the short season in which to do the work. Every advantage must be taken of silage crops that mature in time for fall plowing to be done, and O. P. V. has the advantage over both corn and sunflowers in every respect.

O. P. V. will grow to maturity in from 90 to 100 days under good growing conditions. As sunflowers and corn take a much longer period to fully mature, the harvesting and silage work is extended into really cold and unpleasant weather; but care must be given as to the quality of the silage. The clay soil is much easier to work when fall plowing is done, and it also means earlier seeding, which is equally essential where such a short growing season obtains for the cereals which follow a good crop. This crop can be highly recommended for the settlers of the clay belt. Where they have no silo it can be used as hay, makes good feed for live stock and will bring them through the winter in good shape.

If the above directions are carefully followed the resulting solution will usually contain the proper proportions of bluestone and lime, but since the composition of lime often varies it is preferable to test the mixture in order that the foliage may not be injured by an excess of bluestone. A testing solution may be prepared by dissolving one half ounce of potassium ferri-cyanide in one half pint of water. This material is a poison. Sprinkle a few drops of this reagent onto the surface of the spray mixture, and if on striking the surface of the solution, a distinct brown colour results more time should be added to each 40 gallons of solution for the control of potato beetles.

Commence spraying about the middle of July and repeat every two weeks throughout the season. When the plants are small 60 gallons per acre will be sufficient. This amount should be increased as the plants grow larger. The spray should be equipped with three nozzles to each row, two side nozzles pointing slightly inward and one nozzling downward—so that both upper and lower surfaces of the leaves will be thoroughly protected. The spray should be applied under a pressure of 125 to 200 pounds. At least four applications are necessary during the season, but five or even six will usually be found preferable. Particular attention should be given to the latter applications. If these are neglected or are carelessly applied a

Spraying Potatoes For Late Blight

(Experimental Farms Note)

Late blight and rot is the most destructive disease of potatoes and in some years causes tremendous losses. The potato leaves are the factories in which the starch is manufactured, later to be stored in the tubers produced underground. Should these factories be impaired in any way the yield must necessarily be reduced, in the case of late blight, the results both from the blighting of the leaves and the constant failure of the tubers to attain their normal size, and by the rotting of the tubers which is an attack of the disease. These losses can be greatly reduced, if not entirely prevented, by careful and thorough spraying with Bordeaux mixture. Applications of this spray should be given whether the crop is being grown for "seed" or for table stock.

Careful experiments over many years have demonstrated that the best spraying solution to use is home-made Bordeaux mixture, of the 4:4:40 strength. The most convenient method of making this mixture is by the use of concentrated stock solutions of copper sulphate (bluestone) and lime, diluting them as required. These solutions are prepared as follows:

(1) Bluestone stock solution: This is prepared by dissolving 40 pounds of copper sulphate in a barrel containing 40 gallons of water. A convenient method is to place the chemical in a sack and suspend it overnight in the barrel of water just below the surface. A more rapid method is to crush the bluestone crystals and dissolve it in a smaller quantity of hot water and make up to 40 gallons. Each gallon of the solution will then contain one pound of bluestone. Metal vessels must not be used in handling this chemical.

(2) Lime Stock solution: Slake 40 pounds of fresh quick-lime in a barrel by gradually adding water. Mix thoroughly and continue to add water until the barrel contains 40 gallons. In order to keep out dirt and prevent evaporation, the barrels containing the stock solutions should be kept covered. To make up a tank of spray ready for use, transfer four gallons of the stock solution of bluestone into the spray tank and add 32 gallons of water. To this dilute solution add 4 gallons of the lime stock solution. This should be poured through a fine mesh strainer to remove all solid particles, otherwise clogging of the nozzles will result. The solution in the tank should be kept thoroughly agitated while the lime is being added. The tank now contains 40 gallons of Bordeaux mixture.

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WILL ELIMINATE "ATMOSPHERICS"

Marconi and Marrec in Race to Market Latest Radio Development.

London, July 14.—Two wizards of the wireless world's greatest expert in that field, the other an obscure inventor fighting against heavy odds, are bidding for supremacy in the new triumph of wireless. One is Senator Guglielmo Marconi, inventor of wireless, the other M. Yves Marrec a Frenchman.

Both announce that they have discovered certain means of eliminating "atmospherics" and all other outside disturbances from wireless telegraphy and claim their discoveries will greatly lessen the amount of power required for transmission and reduce its cost from 30 to 50 per cent. Each indicates his invention will revolutionize present wireless methods.

Senator Marconi and M. Marrec are about to place their achievements before the world. It is only a question now as to whether the Italian or the Frenchman will first establish his new device which will prove the more successful.

late attack of late blight may cause more damage than if no spraying had been done. In the later sprays the proportion of copper sulphate should be increased using the formula 6:4:40. That is add six gallons of the stock of bluestone instead of four, and 30 gallons of water instead of 32.

Bordeaux mixture will also control Marrec has already been seen in operation in London. In a noisy office with electric trains and motor traffic creating a constant disturbance and

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Marconi after recent experiments in his yacht off the coast of Africa, announced he had devised a new apparatus, which, beyond doubt, would require much less power for transmission, cheapen the cost, produce infinitely clearer transmission over long distances and eliminate all foreign disturbances.

"By the use of the new wave," Marconi said, upon his return to London, from small stations than from bigger stations in the ordinary way. We Frenchman's apparatus suppresses every interfering message being sent from other stations. A British company have arranged to market Marrec's invention. Marconi's will be promoted by his own country. Marrec says that he has purposely tested his device under the most trying conditions. "If I could only install my instrument outside London," he said "with just an ordinary broadcasting receiving aerial, I am certain that I should receive perfectly clear signals from clear across the American continent."

We received successfully up to 2,200 miles, between England and Cape Verde, off Equatorial Africa.

Transmit on Low Power
Even in its present state, according to Marconi, his invention should make it possible to transmit over 1,000 miles with a power as low as two kilowatts, that is add six gallons of the stock of bluestone instead of four, and 30 gallons of water instead of 32.

The invention of the Frenchman M. Marrec has already been seen in operation in London. In a noisy office with electric trains and motor traffic creating a constant disturbance and

Reassuring
She—I wouldn't marry the best man on earth.
He—Then take me and you'll be running no risk.—New Haven Register.

GOOD MONEY IN GOOD FARMING "Let's Get to Work and Pay Off the Mortgage"

NINE years ago Canada's national debt was about one-third of a billion. It is more than two and one-third billions today.

Our debts have greatly increased—our revenues must also go up. The farmer has to bear his share of the increased burden. That means he must increase his revenue.

Complaint has been heard that farmers under present conditions in Canada cannot make farming pay. And yet many thousands of Canadian farmers do make it pay.

How Is It Done?
Patient and industrious "carry on" will do wonders, but something more is needed. Too often "patient industry" is coupled with "dull persistence" in poorly thought out methods.

Farmers today more than ever, must plan ahead, as well as "plug along"; indeed they have no option, if they wish to succeed. Co-ordination of head and hand will mean real success. Farming in Canada has paid and pays now on many farms. It can be made to pay on almost every farm. Canadian agriculture has passed through low profit-making eras successfully in the past and can do so again.

Crop Returns Should be Increased
On the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa some crop costs and crop profits in 1922 as contrasted with all-Canada average crop costs and crop profits are given below. The all-Canada figures are in brackets:

	Cost per acre	Profit per acre
Hay	\$21.13 (\$13.50)	\$11.21 (\$5.09)
Corn for		
Forage	\$47.50 (\$33.75)	\$10.38 (\$2.86)
Oats	\$26.47 (\$19.32)	\$ 7.33 (.54)

Similar returns for other crops are given in the Dominion Experimental Farms in every province.

Experimental Farm crops are sometimes claimed to be produced at too great cost. Thousands of experiments, however, show that increased crop returns are well applied up to a reasonable point in ways increase crop profits. This is true on the Experimental Farm and on any and every farm.

Have Faith in Canada
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W. B. MOTHERWELL, Minister.
Dr. J. R. GIBB, Deputy Minister.

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