

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY MEETING

Interesting and Instructive Address by Dr. Cox—Officers Elected For Year.

This is hardly the season when one is apt to think of reptiles, except possibly in the form of some human representation of the class, but they were, nevertheless, much in evidence Monday evening, when they were made the subject of consideration before the meeting of the Natural History Society.

Beginning with snakes, upon whom so many look with antipathy if not abhorrence, the lecturer, Dr. Cox, endeavored to show, and it is to be hoped, with some success, that their aversion is without any good reason, and that snakes, as found in New Brunswick, are not only utterly harmless but of very great benefit to man, while, prejudice being laid aside, they are really forms of great interest and beauty. The larger part of the lecture was, however, devoted to the consideration of frogs and toads. These, too, are by many looked upon as repulsive and only fit to kill, whereas they are harmless and though their work in destroying really harmful insects, bested upon man inestimable benefit. The cruelty, for it can be called by no other name, which leads so many to destroy or maim frogs as well as snakes, only serves to remove forms of life which by Nature's balance serve to keep down the undue multiplication of other living creatures which if not checked, may lead to the most disastrous consequences. It is the result of ignorance, and it is the part of education to lead the way to juster views and more considerate practices.

The development of the frog was described at some length and the changes from the tadpole to the adult stage, looking like a fish, swimming like a fish and breathing with gills like a fish, to that of the air-breathing adult, provided with lungs and lungs, was fully described, and referred to as a most remarkable instance of evolution, only second perhaps to that of the conversion of a caterpillar into a butterfly. The coloration of the frog, resembling so nearly that of grass and water plants, was referred to as an example of protective mimicry, while other sources of safety were to be found in its active movements and its power of the great development of the hind limbs, and its habit of changing its specific gravity of its body by the swallowing or excretion of air, thus enabling it to will either to float at the surface of the water or to sink below it. The familiar croaking was described as partly due to the process and partly as playing the part of a signal, either of love or warning to other members of the tribe. The croaking was described as being due to the contraction of the larynx, and the habits of frogs swimming, as also of the more common case where the tadpoles are turned and snakes swallow the frogs. The use of their tongues, attached to the front instead of behind, just the reverse of the mode of man, was referred to and interesting description of the process or amusement of frog catching were given. Frogs on Tadpole Lake were described as being sometimes as large as a hen.

Between frogs and toads there are important differences. The hind legs of the toad are short and stout. The latter walks rather than leaps. He lives on wet ground rather than in the water, and takes the color of the ground, dark brown, and the color of protective coloration. On his hind feet are extra toes, capable of being used like spades, and thus enabling their owner to seek refuge in the earth. They are also protected by a slimy secretion which, though not poisonous, acts as a deterrent to other animals, thus making them hold aloof. The principal enemies of toads are birds and man. They themselves feed on insects and insects, thus prevent the undue multiplication of the latter. Hence they should be carefully protected.

The lecturer ended with an appeal to his audience, consisted largely of those who are to be teachers, to do what they can to remove the groundless and unreasonable prejudices existing in regard to most forms of reptile life. The example of the Colorado beetle, which, having been introduced to British Columbia, is now being referred to as illustrating what harm may come from ignorance or of ignoring of those safeguards which nature left to itself usually provides in the relation of living things.

This being the annual meeting of the following persons were elected for the ensuing year: President—Dr. Philip Cox. First Vice-President—Mr. Geo. N. Babbitt. Second Vice-President—Mr. Geo. Members of Council—Mr. Hagerman, Dr. Bailey, Mr. Burton Foster, Mr. Inch, Dr. Hamilton.

**FALLING OFF IN SHEEP BREEDING**  
Montreal, Feb. 15.—According to an official report presented at the breeders' Association meeting here, sheep breeding in Quebec is in a bad way. There was a marked falling off last year and the fact was deplored by officials. In the Ontario register there were 1,647, an increase of 27 per cent, while in Quebec there were only 309 registered, showing a decrease of 33 per cent.

**C. N. R. TRANSFER.**  
Winnipeg, Feb. 15.—It is understood here that General Manager McLeod of the C. N. R. is to be transferred to British Columbia, to take charge of the construction work of the company there during the next four years.

GOOD BREAD THE STAFF OF LIFE

F. W. Thompson Says People Should Eat More Bread and Less Meat.

"Eat more bread and less of the luxuries, and the health of the nation will be improved both physically and financially," declared Mr. F. W. Thompson, vice-president and manager of the Oshawa Flour Mills Co. in an interview given the Montreal Gazette.

"There is no question but that the farmers have been benefiting by the high prices of all agricultural products, and personally I feel that this is well for our country. Agriculture is the fundamental basis of our commercial prosperity. In order for the business interests of Canada to prosper, agriculture must be prosperous, and the greater the prosperity of our farmers the greater will be the development of our commercial and manufacturing interests, and the maintenance of good wages.

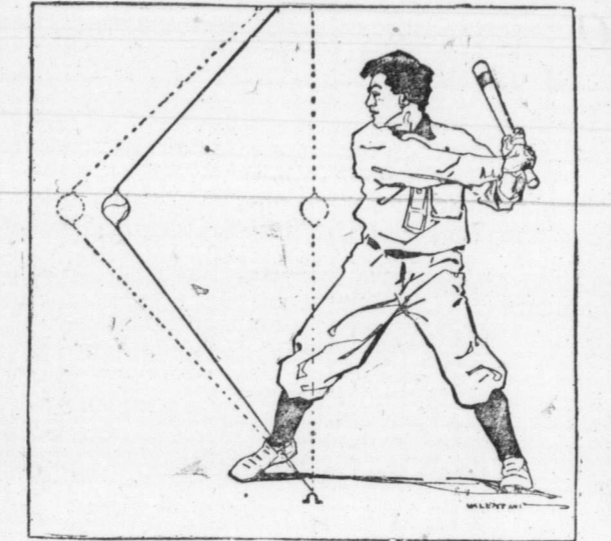
"From time immemorial bread has been recognized as the staff of life, and when the question of the cost of food is discussed anywhere, the subject of bread is always paramount. Yet how few people there are who realize the astounding fact that in the average family the consumption of bread forms less than five per cent of the total food supplies. Let every householder analyze the monthly bill, and they will find the small proportion that the consumption of bread bears to the whole bill. As a matter of fact, the average family spends more in reading matter and amusements in two months than their entire cost of breadstuffs for a whole year.

"It is quite true, generally speaking, that foodstuffs are higher in price because of the great commercial development which is taking place in this country, resulting in many of the younger generation to the industrial centers of population, causing a more closely balanced condition of supply and demand and which can only be remedied by the greater development of the land.

"When considering the cost of the loaf of bread delivered into the home by the bakers in our cities, as compared with the price of the wheat, it is home in mind that the wages in the manufacturing of bread in a city like ours averages from 60 to 70 per cent higher than abroad.

**NATIONALISTS TO REMAIN NEUTRAL**  
Will Not Embarrass the Government by Opposing the Budget.  
London, Feb. 15.—John R. Redmond, accompanied by John Dillon and T. P. O'Connor, visited Chamberlain for Lloyd George after the cabinet council and remained in conference for an hour tonight, discussing the attitude of the Nationalists toward the budget. It is understood that Mr. Redmond gave the chancellor assurances that the general body of Irish members would make no deliberate attempt to embarrass the government, whatever might be the minister's decision as to the order of dealing with the budget and veto question. This promise means that even if Premier Asquith finds himself unable completely to satisfy Mr. Redmond regarding the Lords' veto, the Nationalists will remain neutral and abstain from voting on the budget, which would then be carried by a small majority obtained by the support of the Liberals.

Home Trainer For Poor Lamps, Fox Griffiths Latest Infant



Cincinnati, Feb. 15.—Responsible Clark Griffith, leader of the Reds, is determined to make Bob Bescher, his crack base-stealing outfielder, the Ty Cobb of the National League, and to this end is doing his best to make Bescher hit left-handed.

Griffith sent Bescher a batting device, which originated in the fertile brain of "The Fox," with orders to stand up and whale away from the south side, by the hour.

The device consists of a regulation league ball sewed inside an exercise coat, to which a son rubber cord are attached. One of the cords is fastened to the ceiling and the other to the floor, so that the ball swings about waist high.

When struck the flexible cord permits the ball to swing several yards, and it returns with great speed. Then it is time for the batter to get busy with the club and soak the sphere again. It surely promises large things for the batting eye.

Bescher, who is a big, strong fellow, is naturally left handed, but unfortunately he was coached to bat right-handed when a kid and has swung from the far side of the plate ever since. He is so fast that he would beat out many an infield hit batting left-handed, and he has the strength in his left arm to do it as soon as he gets accustomed to the shift.

**Alteration and Clean Up Sale.**  
Startling Prices During This Week.  
**AT HALF PRICE**  
A number of Ladies' Suits, Coat, Skirts, Waists, Underskirts, Wrappers, Raincoats, etc., to be sold at half price.  
Whitewear Sale. Night Gowns, White Skirts, Corset Covers, Drawers Princess Slips, &c., at 12% discount.  
We are remodelling our Ready-to-Wear Dept. and it is necessary to clear out all Ready-to-Wear Garments.  
**A. MURRAY & CO.**  
438 Queen Street. Telephone 423 Opp. Normal School.

**98 CENT SALE** Classified Ad.  
Of Whitewear, Waists and Children's Wear. This week we are offering a beautiful selection of Dainty and Durable White Under-kirts, Night Dresses, Drawers, Corset Covers, Children's Pique Coats and Children's Dresses at 98c per Garment. Many of these garments are worth \$1.50 at the present price of Cottons.  
We are also showing lots of more elaborate Whitewear, including Princess Slips, which arrived too late for our January Sale.

**R. L. BLACK, York Street**  
**UNION BLEND TEA**  
The Tea that Satisfies  
PUT my business reputation as a judge of good tea back of every packet of Union Blend Tea that I sell. I do that in this way: if you don't like it, you will never buy again. And I cannot afford to spend money in advertising to gain your confidence and then destroy that confidence by offering you inferior tea. Therefore, I don't sell you tea until you have taken my word and proved yourself that you like it.  
Union Blend Tea at 40c per lb. (any 20c lb. tea on the market). And it will make better tea. Make your tea-cup prove it.  
**40c**  
Harry W. Post

**Highest Possible Grade MANITOBA Flour**  
**CREAM OF THE WEST FLOUR**  
It fairly exhales the essence of prairie strength and purity.  
Specially milled for bakers and others who demand above all things strength, color and uniformity.  
DEALERS EVERYWHERE SUPPLIED  
**JOHN McKNIGHT, FREDERICTON, N. B.**  
**CAMPBELL MILLING CO. TORONTO JUNCTION**

**The York St. Post Card Store**  
We have the best and largest assortment of Views, Fancy and Comic Post Cards, Also Music, Stationery and Novels.  
**WE DO TINSELLING.**  
**Post Card Store, York Street.**

**DINNER BELL MUSIC.**  
The music of the dinner-bell is always welcome to the healthy man or woman—able to the working man or woman who eats a plain meal, or the millionaire who calls him to a trial for which he knows he is unfit. No one can enjoy a meal, or get nourishment and strength from it, knowing that pain and distress will follow after. The true course, even for healthy people, is to help the digestive system, from time to time, with that excellent tonic medicine, Mother Siegel's Syrup.

**WANTED**  
Wanted—To buy lots in Prince Rupert, B. C., in sections 5, 6, 7, and 8, 4000 ft. from owners. P. O. Box 105, Prince Rupert, B. C. C-435.

**FOR SALE**  
FOR SALE—Baby saw mill, complete, capacity twenty to twenty-five thousand per day. 120 h. p. engine and boiler with stack, pulleys and belting nearly new and ready to run. Also new rotary and second hand stump pullers. Can be located at reasonable price. Particulars apply to W. L. Carr, Woodville, N. B. C-434.

**FOR SALE**  
FOR SALE—The subscriber offers for sale his residence on Westmount Street, and also five acres of land, and particulars apply to A. A. Stirling—434.

**LOST**  
LOST—On Friday a parcel containing music between Charlton and York streets kindly leave at Greater office—514.

**DENTISTS**  
MARITIME DENTAL PARLORS, J. B. McMurphy, 101 St. John Street, Fredericton, N. B. Done by the latest and improved methods, teeth extracted and repaired with Special attention given to treating and curing natural and worn teeth. It is a reliable service. Hours 9 a. m. to 6 p. m. except on Saturdays. Queen Street, opposite Post Office.

**BARRISTERS**  
J. T. SHARKBY, LL. B. Barrister, Notary, Etc. OFFICE—Opp. Officers' Quarters, Queen Street, Fredericton, N. B.  
HENRY B. BAIRD, Barrister and Attorney at Law, 101 St. John Street, Fredericton, N. B. County Court House, Fredericton, N. B.  
CROCKETT & GUTHRIE, Barristers, Solicitors, Notaries & Officers, 101 St. John Street, Fredericton, N. B.  
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**FIONA Conservatory of Music.**  
Director—Mr. FRANK HARRISON. Violin Dept.—MISS HAZEL PALMER. Orchestra Class for Youth Pupils. Complete System in Piano and Organ. Special in Voice Production and Repertoire.