

The Weekly Monitor

THE WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE IS THE SUPREME LAW.

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FARMERS FAVORED DURING PAST YEAR.

Price of Produce Was High While Goods They Bought Remained the Same.

Eggs Higher Than For Many Years. Bad Season of 1904 Followed by Hard Winter Blamed for Present Conditions.

The merchants of Bridgetown, almost without exception, report a good year during 1905. It was a year, nevertheless, in which everything favored the farmer. He sold his produce, or at least, a large portion of it, at a high figure, while the goods he had to purchase remained about the same and in some cases even fell off. At almost all the stores more goods were disposed of than during previous years, but strange to say, that although it was a year of plenty, several of the merchants report the collections as but fair, one or two of them going so far as to pronounce them poor. Great advances were made in several lines of produce, notably butter and eggs. This is attributed to the partial failure of the fall crops of 1904 and the unusually severe winter of 1904-05. Farmers could not afford to pay the high prices demanded by those who had feed to sell even when they were able to get it, which was not the case in many places, and as a consequence, it is estimated that fully 25 per cent. of the stock was killed off. None has been bought to replace it and it will be several years before the natural increase will bring it back to its old figure. It will easily be seen by this that only seventy-five per cent of the usual supply of butter and eggs was available and this coupled with the fact that the population was increased by several hundred men—railroad navvies—had the effect of driving the prices away up. Better is at the present time, from three to four cents a pound higher than last year, while eggs are higher than at any other season for many years. Thirty cents is the price now and the highest they have ever reached before was twenty-five cents, while the average price is about fourteen cents. Even at the high figure very few are offering. Vegetables are about the same in price as during 1904, but are very much superior in quality. One feature of the year is that considerable more cabbage was raised than ever before. Cheese, too, has advanced along with butter and eggs, and is now quoted at 14 cents at wholesale. This is owing to the great demand in the English market, there being a scarcity in the other sources of supply to that great market.

Sixty-six Cents on the Dollar.

Toronto, Dec. 29.—Sixty-six cents on the dollar is thought by Government Commissioner Cross to be the lowest sum likely to be paid by the York Loan to the shareholders.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy Absolutely Harmless.

Every mother should know that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is perfectly safe for children to take, as it contains nothing harmful. For sale by S. N. Weare.

1905 WAS PROSPEROUS YEAR FINANCIALLY.

Large Amount of the Town's Business is Done on Paper at the Banks.

Habit May Lead to Extravagance. Another Good Season Required to Even Matters Up in Farming Community.

Financially the business of Bridgetown is conducted in a manner considerably different from the other towns throughout the valley, in that so much of it is done on paper. Perhaps this is necessary in what is, to a large extent, farming territory, but financial experts here say that it has become too much of a habit. Merchants take notes from their farmer customers and discount them, which is of course, good legitimate business, but it is feared that this habit will ultimately have the result of making the farmer careless, as knowing that they will be carried along they may be led to over-purchasing, particularly if there is a strain of extravagance in their make-up. But if they do not abuse this privilege and pay strict attention to turning the money that is received into profitable channels, perhaps it may be made one of the best means for successful farming and may be termed good financing.

Last summer was a very prosperous season as there was the best hay crop in many years and vegetables and grain yielded in abundance. It is inferred that, as the direct result of this it was not found necessary to lay out any money for feed this fall as in former years. This, combined with the fact that apples are selling at a high price should make it very easy in enabling the farmer to meet the necessities of life. In 1904—that year being a very poor one, the farmers got behind and it will take all of 1905 and part of 1906 to enable them to catch up. But, taken as a whole, the year 1905 has been a good year in both the town and country. Only a little more than half the apples have been shipped so far and a possible slump might weaken the present condition of affairs, but authorities consider such as improbable as the world's supply this year is short.

In manufacturing circles all industries have made progress—some more, some less—and the same can be said of the merchants. There has not been a failure in Bridgetown during the whole year—a record to be proud of. Prospects for the immediate future are good, but everything depends on the sale of stock now on hand. Considerable money has been sent away for speculation but not so much as a few years ago. The tendency seems to be to invest money at home even at a less rate of interest than offered by many concerns, and as a result of this the deposits in the banks have largely increased.

Cheque for \$23,000.

Handsome Gift to Hon. G. W. Ross, Former Premier of Ontario.

Toronto, Dec. 29.—Hon. G. W. Ross was presented yesterday by a representative committee acting on behalf of his thousands of admirers with an illuminated address and a cheque for \$23,000.

MASONS CELEBRATED ST. JOHN'S DAY IN ROYAL STYLE.

Seventy-Five Sat Down to Dinner in the Masonic Building and Listened to Speeches Afterwards.

The celebration of St. John's day, December 27th, by Rothesay Lodge, A. F. and A. M., was a complete success. Early on the evening of that day the members gathered in their lodge room and at seven o'clock walked in procession to the Presbyterian church where they listened to a sermon by Rev. Mr. Macdonald. The latter was assisted by Rev. Mr. deBlois, of Annapolis, permanent grand chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.

After the service they returned to the lodge room where they were met by their wives and friends. About nine o'clock the whole party repaired to the store beneath which, during the day, had been converted into a dining-room. Two long tables, tastefully decorated with lamps and flowers had been provided and the bare walls had been covered with a profusion of bunting. About seventy-five people sat down to enjoy the good things provided by "mine host, Conde," of the Grand Central Hotel. Following is the menu:

- Consomme Royale
- Clear Tomato
- Beefsteak
- Stuffed Olives
- Chow-Chow
- Celery
- Radishes
- Sabayan Sauce
- Hot Potatoes
- Boiled Potatoes
- Boiled Leg of Southern Chicken
- Capers
- Sauce
- Stewed Kidneys with Mushrooms on Toast
- Queen Potatoes
- Sabayan Sauce
- ROASTS:
- Main Dish: Young Turkey
- Cranberry Sauce
- Prime Rib of Beef au Jus
- Yorkshire Pudding
- VEGETABLES:
- Boiled and Mashed Potatoes
- Hot and Cold Squash
- Creamed Cabbage
- Worshipful Master, Dr. Anderson, presided at the function, and after full justice had been done, introduced the toast list, the first, of course, being the usual one to the King. This toast is a popular one at all banquets, but doubly so to a masonic gathering as the fraternity never forgets that His Majesty is a mason and that he, for years, occupied the highest office in the gift of that body in England.

"The Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia" was replied to by Fred B. Fay and Rev. Mr. deBlois. Mr. Fay was proud he was a mason under the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, and in Annapolis County. It was in this county one hundred and fifty-six years ago, (1749) that the first lodge in British North America was organized at Annapolis Royal, followed shortly afterwards by Chebucto Lodge at Halifax. From these sprung the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia. Today there are eighty-five lodges with a membership of upwards of five thousand. The Grand Lodge was organized in 1866, and prior to this the lodges worked under the Grand Lodge of England. The Royal Standard of Halifax, still works under that lodge by special permission of the Nova Scotia lodge, but its membership consists principally of the military and naval element. It was in 1759 that we have the first mention of masonry in Nova Scotia but there is no doubt but that it existed a century and a half before then. Even back in DeMonts' time there is evidence of craft life. Some years ago a piece of trap rock was found on the shores of Annapolis Basin on which was marked the square and compass and the date 1646. It went to show that when the French were here masonry existed. But you may ask, what has that to do with the Grand Lodge? Perhaps nothing, except to show the antiquity of "the order."

The Grand Lodge is doing a good work for charity. We have today a ward in the Victoria General hospital, in Halifax, where any mason in Nova Scotia may receive treatment at no cost to him. The lodge is now laying plans for a home for aged and infirm masons. With this in view a mammoth fair is being arranged which will take place this year during the Dominion exhibition and it is hoped that there will be sufficient encouragement to ensure the erection of the home.

Rev. Mr. deBlois said masonry was cosmopolitan, and spoke of the efforts of the order to induce sobriety. There were few drunkards in the active membership now—they may be of us but not with us. There is no objection to drinkers provided they do not drink to excess, although many Grand Lodges will not allow drinkers. Now a good mason must be a good man. Many join who have no idea of the benefits of masonry—it is a study of a lifetime.

Did you ever notice how many orders have sprung up in your day—in my day? They did good work but they have gone. But masonry has lasted since the days of Solomon, still stands and will stand because God is at its head. Its every undertaking is conducted under divine principles. Every man who joins is prayed for by others and must pray for himself.

B. Starratt replied to the toast "Our Country." Canada was a great country—a vigorous giant with vast possibilities. It has great natural resources and is pushing them. It has built immense transportation lines, is operating many steamship lines and is continually stretching out for more commerce. It is taking great strides in manufactures, and where we used to import such goods as clothing we now make them and offer better quality than we used to import.

Ex-Mayor Shaner replied to "Our Civic Government." He had heard many remarks about Bridgetown being the most flourishing little place between Yarmouth and Halifax. He referred to the assessment (350,000) and the comparatively low rate of taxation (81.60 per cent). With this the town owes about \$50,000 and have to offset this debt, a supply of water of the best quality in Canada, put in at a cost of \$25,000; a schoolhouse, one

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"MADE IN BRIDGETOWN" GOODS ARE WELL KNOWN.

May be Found From the Atlantic to the Pacific and Even in Great Britain.

There Was a Large Output Last Year. Barrels, Larrigans and Vinegar Were the Principal Articles of Export.

"Made in Bridgetown" goods have for some years past been forging ahead and can now be found in every important market in Canada between the Atlantic and the Pacific, in Great Britain and Newfoundland, and have even made an entry into the Gt. England States, where at the present time several canvassers are engaged in selling toilet racks and paper holders—two articles manufactured by J. H. Hicks & Sons. This is all good advertising for Bridgetown—advertising which has, of late, brought the town to the front to such an extent that it is now looked upon as the brightest spot in the western counties and takes rank as one of the leading manufacturing centres of the province. Situated as it is on an important line of railway, at the head of navigation on the Annapolis river, in the midst of one of the greatest fruit growing regions in the world and within easy reach of the best of lumber it is a wonder that more manufacturers, particularly in wood, have not located here. During the year just closed over 75,000 pairs of Bridgetown larrigans were disposed of throughout Canada and Newfoundland; over 200,000 gallons of the best cider vinegar left the two factories here, a great deal of it going to Great Britain, from 25,000 to 30,000 barrels were sent to provincial ports, and over 400 cabinets, referred to previously, were turned out by the Hicks factory every month. Besides these a lot of stoves and family castings were shipped, thousands of bricks were made and sold, carriages and sleighs were built and sent away, thousands of bottles of liniment manufactured, and on the whole every line of manufacturing represented here enjoyed a profitable year. Speaking of the larrigan factory alone their output increased fifty per cent. over that of 1904 and the number of hands employed was increased from forty to fifty. The tannery was enlarged and a steam plant was put in to run the machinery. In buying hides preference is given to those produced in Nova Scotia, but enough cannot be obtained from this source and it was found necessary to purchase \$35,000 worth from New Brunswick. In connection with hides it may be interesting to note that the prices have so far advanced during the year that the price of the 1906 output of larrigans will have to be increased twenty-five per cent. It speaks well for the prosperity of Canada during 1905 that with this large output going to all portions of the Dominion, the company has found collections exceedingly good and has not lost one cent in bad debts during the whole year.

Empire Liniment, too, has largely increased its territory during 1905. A new company, with a good capital, has been organized and they are stretching out towards the great

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Holiday Greetings

Have now become the order of the day. Before purchasing your gifts drop in and see our goods. We have a special assortment of the season, best quality at very figures.

LEATHER GOODS, SHOPPING BAGS, PURSES, BILL-FOLDS, WRITING PORTFOLIOS, EBONY SETS, a large range of STATIONERY, PERFUMES, which include the finest odors of the best French, English and American makers.

Our lines are well worth your inspection and it is a pleasure to us to show them to you, whether you desire to purchase or not.

Royal Pharmacy

W. A. WARREN, Phm. B., Chemist & Optician.

BRIDGETOWN'S GROWTH A STEADY ONE.

Nine Modern Houses Were Built and Other Improvements Made During Year Just Closed.

Present Prospects Are Rather Dull. Lumber Shipments Practically Nil and Only Enough for Local Consumption.

Bridgetown's growth during the past year has been a steady one. For some years past buildings, all of a good class, too, have been going up at the rate of from six to twelve a year. The past year opened rather dull and continued a little slow all through. Nine modern residences were built, however, one business block was remodelled and a large addition was built to the Larrigan Company's tannery. The following are the owners of these new buildings:

Union Bank of Halifax.
Avarad Boaler.
G. B. Topper.
J. H. Hicks & Sons.
Henry B. Hicks.
Stanley Grimam.
W. H. MacKenzie.
James DeWitt.

Lumbering operations have not been up to the average as far as this town is concerned. The shipments have been practically nil and probably not more than 250,000 or 300,000 feet were brought here for local consumption and that was practically all from Dalhousie and neighborhood. The high prices reached in 1904 are still maintained and at present there is not much chance of a decrease. Just now there is nothing new in sight for the new year, but that is not taken as an indication that it will be a dull year by any means.

MINARD'S LINIMENT CURES COLDS, ETC.

WE extend to all our patrons and friends our best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year

John Lockett & Son