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Word From One of the Boys.

A letter from 415578, Pte. Basil G. Hillis, 9th Canadian M. G. Coy., B. Section, B. E. F., Jan. 18th, 1918.

Just a few lines to let you know where I am. Well, I have landed in England at last. I have been through hospitals in France and landed here at the British Red Cross Hospital, Netley, Eng. Am getting along pretty good, but have been very sick, almost took a homestead in France, but have pulled through up to time of writing. I have been suffering from yellow jaundice since the 23rd of December. Spent Christmas, New Year's and my birthday in bed, without money at that. Things are getting quite high here now; also in France. Well, I was in the big do at Passchendaele; went over the top with the first wave—some experience, believe me. It is mighty hard to see your chums fall on either side of you and can't stop to help them, but have to push on, but Canada has to be proud of the men she sent to answer the call. They get what they go for. They are bound to win if possible. Well, I am not able to write very much as I can only sit up for a short time. The authorized visitor reports me nearing to convalescent stage, so hoping to be able to write more next time. I will close with love from

BASIL.

[Private Hillis enlisted nearly three years ago and went overseas with the 40th Batt. Was later transferred to 9th Canadian M. G. Coy., has been in the trenches since a year ago last October, was through the battle of Somme, also at Vimy Ridge, has seen some pretty hard fighting, but fortunately came out without a scratch.]

A Good Bean Crop.

Everyone is beginning to think about food production for 1918. In this connection we hear of one Annapolis county farmer, J. P. Morse, of Melvern Square, who received \$700 for his 1917 bean crop. This was a nice return and in addition Mr. Morse had the satisfaction of knowing that he had given substantial help in solving the food problem.

THREE VALUABLE BULLETINS ON FOOD PRODUCTION IN NOVA SCOTIA

Important Announcement of Policy of Department in Regard to Seed and Bigger Implements

Three important Food Production Bulletins have recently been issued from the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and will be widely circulated in a few days. Those who are not on the mailing lists at the College may obtain these bulletins FREE on application to the College at Truro.

The first bulletin on "Wheat Growing in Nova Scotia," was written by M. Cumming, Secretary for Agriculture, and S. J. Moore, Dominion Seed Inspector. In this bulletin, in addition to much practical information, will be found a statement of the Department's policy to insure an abundant supply of seed wheat in Nova Scotia for 1918 seeding, in connection with which it may be added that upwards of ten farms in the Province have undertaken under this policy to handle at least a car of seed wheat, which, with local supplies available should give the farmers of Nova Scotia an ample quantity of seed.

The second bulletin is on "Bean Growing," by Prof. P. J. Shaw, Horticulturist at the College. It deals with the importance of every farmer and gardener in Nova Scotia growing at least sufficient beans for himself and family. It is pointed out that beans are the best known substitute for beef. They are grown in fairly large quantities in the Annapolis Valley, but owing to their tenderness, have not been grown very extensively except as wax beans in Eastern and Northern Nova Scotia. In this bulletin the author states that the Department of Agriculture has located and can put buyers in touch with growers of several hundred bushels of hardy strains of Nova Scotia grown seed beans that will ripen from ten days to two weeks earlier than the average beans, and can therefore be planted to advantage on many farms where beans were considered an impossible crop. In addition to this the bulletin contains information in regard to methods of growing, amount of seed required and many other practical details that should prove of interest to every gardener and farmer in Nova Scotia.

The third bulletin is on "Greater Labor Efficiency on the Farms of Nova Scotia By Using Bigger Implements," by Prof. J. M. Trueman, of the Agricultural College. In this bulletin, striking arguments are set forth for the more extensive adoption of two furrow plows and wider harrows, by means of which every man on the land can increase the amount of land cultivated. It is pointed out that three horses and one man with a two furrow plow can turn over about as much land in a day as four horses and two men, and it is urged that, since man labor is the most scarce and expensive kind of help on the farm, many farmers should adopt the three or four horse hitch and larger implements and so make each man more efficient.

In this bulletin an announcement is made by the Secretary for Agriculture that the Department of Agriculture of the government of Nova Scotia will pay a bonus of 25% of the cost of two furrow plows bought in the province of Nova Scotia between now and the first day of May next.

More Money is Wanted

An Opportunity For Bee-keepers.

(Experimental Farms Note.)

Sugar is an important war food, its price is high and there will probably be a shortage in the near future. Honey, the unequalled natural sweet that sugar cannot wholly replace, is being affected in sympathy. The unusually large crop of honey produced in Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba in 1916 was sold quickly at prices slightly above those of the previous season and present indications point to a still greater demand and higher prices for the new crop. Thus, by producing as much honey as possible this year, the beekeepers of Canada will not only increase their returns but will be helping the Empire. These remarks refer to extracted honey. An increased demand for comb-honey cannot be predicted.

The appeal for greater production is especially to those who are neglecting their bees or are not managing them in the best manner. There are many apiaries in good locations for profitable honey production more particularly in Eastern Canada, where colonies in box hives or in seldom-opened frame hives, now producing from 20 to 40 pounds of honey each, could be made to produce 80 to 100 pounds or more in an average season. If time cannot be spared to give the bees the attention they need, they might be handed to a member of the family who would take an interest in them, or they might be sold to a professional bee-keeper. But well managed bees often pay as well as, or better than, one's regular occupation for the amount of time spent with them. The different operations in modern apiary practices are briefly described in "Bees and How to Keep Them" (Experimental Farms Bulletin No. 25, Second Series) which may be obtained free on application from the Publication Branch of the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. A good way to become acquainted with the better methods of bee-keeping is to arrange to attend one of the apiary demonstrations that will be held early in the summer, under the auspices of several of the Provincial Bee-keepers' Associations. A list of the Bee-keepers' Associations, with the addresses of the Secretaries is given in the above mentioned bulletin.

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HOW THE ITALIANS CHECKED THE AUSTRIANS.

The Enemy Has Resumed His Battering Ram Tactics in the Mountain.

ROME, Feb. 13—Although the Austrian press in the last few weeks has been referring to preparations for an offensive, which they say the Italians are making, as justification for the assertion that it is impossible to withdraw either men or to help Germany in a supreme effort in France, Field Marshal Boroëvic, the Austrian Commander, apparently wishes to bring an end to the period of inactivity. He is resuming his battering ram tactics in the mountain section.

Awarded For Bravery.

Sergt.-Major W. M. Jones, who received the D. C. medal in January, 1916, has been awarded the bar for making a personal reconnaissance and driving back the enemy with a bombing party. He is a son of Mr. Frank Jones, K. C., of Digby, and went overseas with the first contingent in Oct., 1914. He was wounded and returned to England, and recently promoted to Lieutenant. He is now preparing to go back to the front.



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