

OUTLOOK FOR NEW BRUNSWICK FARMERS

**Is Still Good—Adverse Weather Causes Some Damage
—As to Shipment of Iron Ore.**

(From Our Own Correspondent).

St. John, August 10th.

The crops in New Brunswick have been injured to some extent by wet weather. Hay was the largest crop for many years, but could not be harvested in first-class condition because of almost daily showers of rain, some of it being cut for five days before it could be dried for the barn. Thus, while the crop is heavy, the quality is not up to the average. Grain promises well, both in straw and grain, but is a little late and somewhat affected by the wet weather. Potatoes have a heavy top growth, and on dry land there should be a good yield. The apples did not set well, and the crop will be light. Small fruits are not up to the average in yield or flavor.

The outlook is still fairly good for the farmers. The season has been exceptionally favorable for dairying, as the pastures have been good since early spring and the yield of milk better than usual.

The lumber trade has been rather dull of late, owing to lack of demand chiefly in the United States market. It is stated that the large sawmill of Messrs. Andre Cushing & Company, which recently got into financial difficulties and is now operated by the Union Bank of Halifax, will shut down shortly until the markets improve. All the mills are running at present, but there have been rumors that they will lessen their output unless markets improve.

Shipment of Iron Ore

Mr. J. J. Drummond stated recently in St. John that large quantities of iron ore would soon be shipped from the mines at Torbrook, N. S., and those near Bathurst, N. B. The branch railway from the latter to the Intercolonial Railway has been completed, and shipping facilities have been provided at Newcastle, on the Miramichi. Dredging is being done at Bathurst harbor with the intention of eventually providing shipping facilities there. Mr. Drummond states that the mines near Bathurst have a capacity of 1,000 or 2,000 tons per day, and the output will probably be about the former quantity. Most of it will go to the United States, but some to Great Britain. Quite a village has grown up at these mines, and a post office—to be known as Iron Mountain—will soon be opened.

There is a great rush of tourist travel to the province this summer, coming by train and steamer and automobile. The auto industry was slow in arriving at St. John, but there is now one large garage in the city, a second is nearing completion, while a third is promised.

Will City and C.P.R. Exchange Lands

Negotiations have been in progress between the city council of St. John and the Canadian Pacific Railway for the exchange of some forty acres of sand flats at West St. John, most of it submerged at high tide for a strip 1,600 feet long which the C.P.R. owns, and which the city wants in order to have the big scheme of additional wharves and warehouses carried out. The plan is for the Federal Government to provide these facilities as required, and the C.P.R. to build a sea wall and fill in and construct railway yards on the flats behind. The Board of Trade decided to urge the city council to make the C.P.R. spend \$250,000 within ten years if the exchange was made; and failing that to have the property revert to the city. The city council may or may not be guided by the Board's resolution, but the question must be settled, as dredging operations are in progress.

The Board of Trade of St. John has decided to fee a lawyer, and have the question of the recent increase in rates by the New Brunswick Telephone Company brought formally before the new Public Utilities Commission of the province. The Board contends that the increase was not justified by the financial position of the company.

Plans for Dry Dock Proceeding

There is talk of the organization in St. John of a company to conduct a fleet of small steamers such as now, under the Norwegian and Swedish flags are getting an increasing portion of the trade carried in schooners. This applies to lumber cargoes to United States ports, the white pine trade, the plaster trade and the trade with Cuba. St. John has always had large interests in the schooner trade, but the steamer is gradually getting a larger share of the business.

Some Ontario capital may be interested in the sheep-raising industry in New Brunswick. Mr. Andrew Elliott, of Galt, has been looking up desirable farms in Kings County with that end in view.

Honorable William Pugsley states that he has seen the plans of the Dominion Dry Dock Company for a great dry dock and ship repair plant at Courtenay Bay, St. John, and the engineer told him that matters were progressing satisfactorily. This is the company in which Sir Robert Perks and the big railway and steamship lines are interested.

The work of preparation for the Dominion Exhibition, September 5th to 15th, is well advanced, and all indications point to an immense attendance at what will be beyond question the greatest exhibition ever held in the Maritime Provinces.—A.

BANK CONSPIRACY CASE

Brings Out Further Strong Terms—Legal Pros and Cons.

During the taking of evidence last week in the bank conspiracy case at Lindsay an idea was given of the line of defence. The case has reached only the stage of a preliminary investigation, but Mr. T. Patterson, who acted for the three accused, intimated that the defence would likely take this form—that McGill persuaded his friends originally to place their money in the Farmers Bank and that when, from the prices at which the stock was selling, he had doubts as to the safety of the institution, he was justified in advising them to get out.

Magistrate Jackson stated that he thought it a serious case and that he desired to read carefully the evidence taken.

Why He Resigned

Mr. J. C. McConechy, who was manager of the Farmers Bank at Pontypool in June, said:

"I met J. L. Coulter at Pontypool on June 11. He said McGill told him Farmers Bank shares were selling at \$10 per share, and he and McGill had resigned. He said they were going to get out before the crash came," said McConechy.

"And did you resign?" asked Mr. Dewart.

"I sent in my resignation because I thought possibly what Coulter said was true. Later I saw Mr. Travers (general manager) and withdrew it," was the reply.

Coulter told him also, he said, that there was an injunction against the bank for \$150,000.

About fifteen farmers gave evidence at the concluding hearing last week. They stated they had been visited by one or two of the accused. They were told, they said, that the Farmers Bank was unsafe and they changed their accounts.

Said the Stock Was Low

Mr. Chapman withdrew his account from the Nestleton branch of the Farmers. This was because McGill told him the bank was not in good shape and stocks were going down. Coulter was with them during the conversation.

"McGill said the Farmers Bank was getting in poor shape and I withdrew my money," said Wm. Johns. "He said the stock was going down and I thought I might lose my money. He told me shares had sold for 15 and 11, and said the bank might break or it might not."

"Depths of Duplicity"

"I submit that the evidence shows clearly that there was an agreement between the three parties, and concerted action," said Mr. Dewart in opening his argument. "From the acts of these parties can be drawn the conclusion that they were united in injuring the Farmers Bank." He held that the sending away of all the resignations at once was evidence of concerted action. "And from that time on there is evidence that they not only proposed to leave the bank, but take everything they could with them. McGill showed an absolute and complete indifference to the affairs of the Farmers Bank, and his intention of helping the Home Bank at the expense of the Farmers."

"The depths of his duplicity is one of the most deplorable features of this case. He was absolutely false to the interests of his employers," said Mr. Dewart, referring to McGill, as manager of the Farmers Bank, cashing cheques on accounts secured by Fleury for deposit in the Home Bank, to which he went two days before McGill.

And "Brazen Audacity"

"And then," continued Mr. Dewart, "he has the brazen audacity to say there has been a run on the bank."

Coulter, he said, appeared to have been "singularly under the sinister influence of this sinister man"—McGill. "McGill was deliberately making representations which he knew to be untrue, or else which could become true only by reason of his actions."

Mr. Stewart submitted that there was absolutely no evidence of a conspiracy—no evidence to warrant the placing of the accused on trial.

"The fact that the resignations went in on one day is no evidence of conspiracy. They were free agents, and could do as they liked."

As to McGill's Justification

"These men did not put their money into the Farmers Bank because it was that bank, but because of McGill. McGill hears that the stock is going down. He says to himself: 'I got these men to put their money into the Farmers Bank. If anything happens now and they lose their money they will