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AGRICULTURE

The Adulteration Of Maple Production Not Diminished

(The Journal of Agriculture and Horticulture.)

The Laboratory of the Inland Revenue Department, Ottawa, has recently published in Bulletin Nos. 258 and 259 a report upon the maple sugar and maple syrup offered for sale throughout Canada last winter. This is the first report published upon maple products since the adoption of legal standards by the Government in October, 1911, and is therefore of legal standards by the Government in October, 1911, and is therefore of more than ordinary interest. As regards the percentage of samples found to be adulterated, however, this report shows practically the same con-

dition as those issued previous to the adoption of standards. About thirty per cent. of the samples of syrup and about forty per cent. of the samples of sugar analysed are condemned. "In several cases," the bulletin states, "vendors have acknowledged that they sold artificial maple syrup, claiming unimpeachable oversight. In many other instances the vendor claims to have acted in good faith, believing the article offered to be genuine maple syrup, having been purchased by him as such. Careful examination of the label, or of the form of warranty furnished by the manufacturer would have led him to see his mistake, and yet one cannot but surmise that in some cases the careful wording of these labels or warranties shows a desire on the part of the manufacturer to conceal the real nature of his goods."

A careful examination of the maple syrup report reveals the fact that thirty-one of the thirty-seven adulterated samples come from five firms—four located in Montreal and one in Toronto. On referring to the Montreal directory the discovery is made that two of the Montreal firms do business at one address and the other two at one other address. Moreover, five of the six samples which do not come from these Toronto and Montreal addresses were of unknown source. It therefore appears that its business of adulterating maple syrup is concentrated in three houses. Turning to the maple sugar report we find that there were thirty-four samples condemned as adulterated. For nineteen of these, the manufacturers' names were not ascertained. Of the remaining fifteen no less than thirteen came from the three addresses to which we have referred—two in Montreal and one in Toronto. The business of adulterating maple

sugar as well as maple syrup seems to be largely in the hands of this small number of manufacturers—and the Montreal firms, naturally, have the bulk of it. These houses have been the adulterating business for many years and the fact that they can continue in spite of the recurrent condemnation of their products by the Government officials is surely a proof that the Adulteration Act is its present form is incapable of meeting the situation, which gravely menaces one of the important agricultural industries of this province.

Repeated representations to the Government by dealers in genuine maple goods, by producers and later by the Pure Maple Sugar Makers Co-operative Society have so far failed to produce the desired result. The Chief Analyst has himself suggested special legislation for this purpose, his proposal being to impose a heavy fine upon the actual adulterator and to offer half the fine as a reward to anyone furnishing evidence which would lead to a conviction. This proposal has been endorsed by the Inland Revenue Society, who have also asked that the manufacture and sale of compound and imitation goods, as such, be prohibited. Further pressure should be brought to bear, and no more effective way could be found than for every farmer who owns a maple orchard to write three brief letters to Ottawa, urging better protection of his interests in this respect, one letter to be addressed to the member of the House of Commons who represents his county or constituency, a second to the Minister of Inland Revenue, the Hon. Mr. Nantel, and the third to the Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. Mr. Burrell. When these gentlemen begin to get letters on this subject by the hundreds we imagine they will "sit up and take notice."

The Agricultural Survey Of 1912

(The Journal of Agriculture and Horticulture.)

That part of the Fourth Report of the Commission of Conservation recently published relating to agricultural conditions in the various provinces of Canada, obtained by means of an agricultural survey, makes very interesting reading. We are naturally more interested in the conditions found to obtain in Quebec than in the other provinces, consequently we shall confine our remarks to the findings of the Report with regard to this province.

It is very evident that the majority of Quebec farmers are still following old methods and are not giving much heed to the advice of the more progressive neighbors. To such fundamental matters as systematic rotation of crops, the selection of seed grain, the growing of clover and use of manure they pay but little attention. As a result the weed problem has become a serious one. The lands are polluted with persistent weeds such as couch grass, chicory, ox-eye daisy and paint-brush. Too little care is given to the cutting of weeds in the fence corners and along roadsides.

In the dairy districts but little attention is paid to cow-breeding, but many herds give evidence that some careful breeding has been done. The scarcity of labour is widespread, even on the French-speaking farms, where families are larger than those on the English-speaking farms. This labor factor has had the effect of lessening the number of dairy cattle.

THE NEW AMERICAN TARIFF

(The Journal of Agriculture and Horticulture.)

Economists cannot always tell exactly how a tariff will affect the industries of a country in the long run. Frequently new and unexpected turns will develop. The long fight in Congress over the Underwood-Simmons Tariff shows that the people of the United States are far from unanimous regarding the extent of the benefits they are likely to derive from the lowering of the duties on food products and other articles.

However, so far as Canada is concerned, the new Tariff is likely to benefit the farmers, the makers of farm machinery, and the dressed-meat industry. Cattle, sheep, ewes, eggs, corn, rye, milk and cream are now placed on the free list. The duty on horses has been reduced to 10 per cent.

on poultry to 1 cent per lb. live and 2 cents per lb. dead; on wheat to 10 cents per bushel; on barley from 30 cents to 15 cents per bushel; on oats from 15 cents to 6 cents per bushel; on peas from 25 cents to 10 cents per bushel; on fruit from 25 cents per bushel to 10 cents per 50 lbs.; on turnips from 25 per cent to 15 per cent; on butter and cheese from 6 cents to 2 1/2 cents per lb.; and on hay from \$4.00 to \$2.00 per ton.

With regard to dressed meats, bacon, beef, canned meat, hams, lard, mutton and pork are entitled to free entry.

The removal of duties from milk and cream will undoubtedly stimulate the trade in these articles of diet from border districts. This extension of the milk and cream trade will undoubtedly have an injurious effect on some of our cheese and butter factories established by a great deal of effort by our government.

The ready market for our raw farm products in the border cities of the States will certainly tend to raise the price of these products in Canada, so that while the farmers will benefit the consumers in our cities will likely be compelled to pay higher prices for the necessary articles of food. It is probable, however, that the farmer will have to pay higher prices for the articles he buys in the city—such as clothing and machinery.

To Restore Good Health

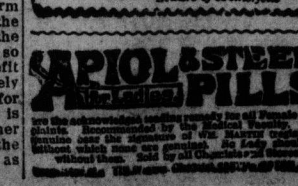
The first thing to do is to correct the minor ailments caused by defective or irregular action of the organs of digestion and elimination. After these organs have been put in good working order by timely use of

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(The Largest Sale of Any Medicine in the World) better digestion results, and then the food really nourishes and strengthens the body. The first dose gives relief and sounder sleep, quieter nerves, and improved action of all the bodily organs are caused by an occasional use of Beecham's Pills. They give universal satisfaction and in safety, sureness and quickness of action Beecham's Pills

Have No Known Equal

Sold everywhere. In boxes, 25 cents. The directions with every box are very valuable.



WEEDS SEEDS IN MILL FEEDS

(The Journal of Agriculture and Horticulture.)

The purchases of bran, shorts and chop feed has little to fear in the way of falling to the detriment of the miller value for which he pays. Out of 396 samples collected by the Inland Revenue Department in September and October, 1912, only fifteen were found to fall below the Government standards, which are as follows:

	Proteins	Fat	Moisture
Bran	14	3	10
Shorts or Mid-Glins	15	4	8
Chop Feed	10	2	10

Even among the fifteen samples below standard the deficiencies were for the most part slight.

There is, however, another point to be considered in reference to feed stuffs. This is the liability of introducing new weeds to the farm through the medium of purchased feeds. It is well known that the vitality of some weed seeds survives not only the milling process but even the destructive action of the processes of digestion. Fresh manure from animals fed on feeding stuffs containing weed seeds is, accordingly, a source of contamination of the fields upon which it is used. This is recognized by the Government in the provision added to the standards of feeding value—that bran, shorts and chop-feed "must be free from vital seeds of any of the noxious weeds defined by the Government-Council under the Seed Control Act."

Of the 396 samples examined, 260 conformed fully to this requirement, 20 had less than 5 vital weed seeds per pound, 51 had from 5 to 25 per pound, and 65 had more than 25 per pound. Several of them ran up into the hundreds. Wild mustard, wild oats, false flax, sow thistle, Canada thistle, and several other weeds were among the seeds commonly found. The seeds appeared even in shorts and middlings, indicating that some millers are in the habit of adding "screenings" to the feed stuffs. This is a practice which may account for the evil effects sometimes noted in the health and appetite of the animals using them.

By referring to the Government report upon this subject, which is issued as Bulletin 254 of the Laboratory of the Inland Revenue Department, stockmen and retail dealers in feeds may ascertain what millers have been putting out dirty goods and what millers have been conforming to all the requirements of the standards.

THE PROTECTION OF OUR BIRDS

(The Journal of Agriculture and Horticulture.)

On October 14th ten persons were fined in Montreal for killing song birds. It is high time that the indiscriminate destruction of our birds should be dealt with by a strong hand. In the great majority of cases the culprits are men and boys from cities.

PILES

Do not suffer another day with itching, bleeding, or prolapsus of the rectum. No surgical operation required. Dr. Chase's Ointment will relieve you at once and as certainly as you can use a pencil. Sample box free if you enclose this paper and enclose 25c stamp to pay postage.

and towns, who have no higher ideal of true sport than that anything wild that runs or flies should be shot. Such persons require to be given a salutary lesson so that the offence will not likely be repeated.

Canadians as a rule do not sufficiently value the services of the birds. Aside from their aesthetic value, which every lover of nature rates very highly, their economic value is incalculable. Most of our common birds get their living by feeding on insects which are injurious to trees and crops of various kinds. A competent authority has stated that if it were not for the work of the birds it would be impossible to grow the majority of our crops.

A few years ago Scotland suffered severely from the ravages of field mice. A Commission of the Board of Agriculture after thorough investigation reported that the excessive numbers of mice were due to the indiscriminate killing of hawks and owls, which feed largely on these animals. It is believed that if birds were thoroughly protected and were encouraged to come about our homes about the ravages of insects. Farmers should never allow men or boys from nearby towns and villages to enter their property if they are carrying guns. Protect the birds by all means.

QUACK GRASS.

(The Journal of Agriculture and Horticulture.)

Where a field is badly infested with quack grass it should be plowed from five to eight inches deep as soon as the hay or grain crop is removed.

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