

THE GREAT LEAMINGTON DISTRICT, WHERE EVERYONE "STAYS-IN-ONTARIO"

WHAT ENTERPRISE DOES
WHEN THE LAND IS GOOD

London Advertiser

AN EXAMPLE TO MANY
UNDEVELOPED DISTRICTS

51st Year.

LONDON, ONTARIO, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1914.

PRICE TWO CENTS

THE LEAMINGTON DISTRICT is blessed with the finest soil in Ontario, but it is also blessed with the finest type of agriculturist Canada has---the man who puts the neglected opportunity out of business and puts his money into development. There is romance in the wonderful advance of this section, romance that will do much to stir those who are content to work according to the moss-grown formulae of a dead age. In Leamington farming assumes its real dignity as a profession.

ELLIS AN EXAMPLE TO ALL YOUNG MEN

Leamington Grower Has the
Largest Plant in Canada.

FOUR ACRES UNDER GLASS

Starting in Modest Way, He Has Achieved
Wonderful Success--How He Has
Made the Sun Do His Work.

[By Staff Representative.]
Leamington, Feb. 6.--For those who want it, story book romance is all right, though at best it's fiction, but there's a more practical, thrilling real romance in the life of Roy Ellis of Leamington. There is no fiction about the life and the achievement of this young man. It's all hard work and struggling and finally succeeding.

In his four acres of Essex soil under glass it seemed to The Advertiser man that this typical young Canadian with a purpose and the grit to carry it through, has written one of the biggest stories of them all. There are other big stories of the harnessing of the fertile earth in the Leamington district but everyone takes his hat off to Roy Ellis.

Ellis is the pioneer of early vegetable raising and hothouse farming in the district. That is, in a big way. Others had hothouses before he started some six years ago, but he has led the way in his line and stands at the top of the heap for Canada now.

Works Sun Hard
The sun must feel that young Ellis is a hard master some days. He has literally put Old Sol to work with him as a silent but forceful partner and he keeps him going 365 days in the year and makes him bring the rosy bloom to the faces of tons and tons of early tomatoes and makes him paint the deep rich green in his all-the-year-around lettuce. Tomatoes at Christmas time that can beat "Madinatti" tomatoes to the market, and any other kind of vegetable that the market demands are produced in those big sweeping conservatories day after day. The Advertiser man saw a verdant crop of lettuce, stretching 300 feet into the distance, worth thousands of dollars. Salad for a nation! A big idea come true! Can it be done anywhere else? Sure! Continued on Page Twenty.

FATHER PREDICTED FARMS OF 10 ACRES

Lewis Wigle Remembers When
All Had Big Farms.

THE TOBACCO PROSPECTS

Buyers Believe That Quality Must Be
Raised--Growers To Hold a
Meeting.

[By Staff Representative.]
Leamington, Feb. 6.--"When I was a boy," said Lewis Wigle, ex-M. P. and ex-M. R. P., "my father told me he might not live to see it, but that I would see the time when all the 200-acre farms that were then the order of the day would be cut into 10-acre pieces, and that a man would make more money from one of them than he formerly made from 20 of them."

The prophecy of Solomon Wigle has been realized in Leamington, and his son believes that before long there will be many thousands more people in the district than at present. Where one family lived a few years ago there are now ten or more on the same area of land.

Quality the Cause
Mr. Wigle buys tobacco in the Leamington district, and when asked why the price this year was not so good and purchases not so extensive he said that it was because of the quality of the leaf.

"I was in Louisville, Kentucky, recently," he said, "I found there that the farmers were getting better results by sorting their tobacco in piles of 200 to 400 pounds, according to the quality. In this way the better prices are received for the leaf of better quality, and there is no dissatisfaction because of the culls."

"The reason that there is not such a good market for tobacco in Leamington just at present is because the companies have bought too much poor stuff. I have positive instructions not to buy any second quality. The farmers appear to think it hard to separate the good from the poor stuff, but I can't see why they expect to sell the culls from tobacco more than they would expect to sell the screenings from a flannel mill. If the farmers would put in fewer plants they would get better quality and better prices."

Bought From 900
F. S. Moss, local manager of the Mc-Alpine Tobacco Company, stated that his company bought leaf from about 900 growers, including Pelee Island. About two and a half million pounds are handled each year. Tobacco growers inform Mr. Moss that they make more out of tobacco than out of ordinary crops outside of small vegetables and fruits. Mr. Moss believes that in some instances the land has been "flooded to death," and that some of it must be given a rest and well fertilized. As for the Leamington district in general he says there are more automobiles owned there than in any other place in Canada, according to population.

There are three other tobacco companies in Leamington, all of which have plants and offices and employ a number of hands at fair wages.

George Wiper, tobacco grower, of Leamington, is calling a meeting of tobacco growers for February 12 for the purpose of discussing the tobacco situation. Some of the growers claim that there has been discrimination, and that money has been paid because the companies will not handle their product.

Part of the Greatest Vegetable Plant in Canada.



These photographs show the interior of one of Roy Ellis' mammoth greenhouses at Leamington, the exterior of his latest addition, which is 35 by 305 feet, and the young man himself, whose constructive ability has produced this wonderful array of vegetables producing plants. A man in his twenties, he has built a profitable business in a few years. His example brought before the young farmers of Western Ontario will encourage them to "Stay in Ontario," and to accomplish great things for their country.

\$10,000 HIS SHARE OF ONION CROP

A. E. Roche Had Twenty-Five
Belgians on Reclaimed Land.

MORE TO BE BROUGHT OUT

E. E. Adams, District's Selling Agent,
Gives Figures of Some Phenomenal
Yields.

[By Staff Representative.]
Leamington, Feb. 6.--The man with the facts and figures in regard to the progress made in the Leamington district is E. E. Adams, of the Leamington Onion Association and several other organizations for the co-operative marketing of products.

He had some interesting figures to give in regard to the reclaiming of the marsh land around Point Pelee. The most remarkable evidence of the success of the men behind this work is that they have gone to Belgium and secured the men who reclaimed the salt lands of the sea to work their land for them.

\$10,000 His Share
Mr. A. E. Roche had 25 Belgians working on his onion farm last year. They understand the game. There were 47 acres of onions under cultivation and Mr. Roche took forty per cent as his share, 60 per cent going to the Belgians. Mr. Roche received in the neighborhood of \$10,000 as his share of the yield. It was a good onion year and the value of the crop was in all \$25,000.

John A. Campbell has excellent success with onions and potatoes on the marsh land, securing in the neighborhood of \$7,000 from his crops. This included 4,700 bushels of pickling onions, sold to the Heinz plant at \$1 a bushel. Mr. Campbell is now in Belgium arranging to bring another colony to Leamington for the purpose of working on the reclaimed land.

Mr. Adams says that the future of the onion business is secure. The production is not increasing but the demand is.

\$1,000 an Acre
Mr. Adams also markets the early tomatoes grown in the district. They are started under glass and then put in the field. A crop is forthcoming early in July and in some cases \$1,000 an acre has been realized. The average runs from \$300 to \$950. Tomatoes for the canning factories bring excellent prices. One hundred carloads of outdoor tomatoes were shipped last year in baskets.

The melon business is increasing, and the prospects for big profits in cabbages are good. In fruit, as high as \$7,500 from 25 acres has been secured.

URGES THAT SLAUGHTER OF GAME BIRDS BE STOPPED

Forrest H. Conover Is Conducting Great Work to
Conserve District's Wildfowl and Songsters--
Has Faith in Leamington.

[By Staff Representative.]
Leamington, Feb. 6.--Forrest H. Conover, one of Canada's crack shots, is waging a great fight for the conservation of the game birds that migrate yearly to Canada and are slaughtered for sport. He believes the game birds will be exterminated if the slaughter continues, and urges the abolition of the market and a limit on the individual bag. Mr. Conover is president of the South Essex branch of the Ontario Fish, Forest and Game Protective Association.

He has enlisted the sympathy of all true game lovers, and petitions, asking for the enforcement of his demands, have been circulated in many localities. Mr. Conover has a small farm in the Leamington district, and no one believes more thoroughly in the district than he. He calls the Leamington district the Eldorado of Ontario.

"The semi-tropical conditions that exist in this district are such as to produce a varied amount of the choicest fruits of Ontario," he said. "We have peaches, grapes, apricots, pears, and the field varieties are legion, from the tomato to all kinds of melons and pie plants. Sweet potatoes and peanuts are among the varieties that grow here."

The Eldorado of Ontario
Mr. Conover believes that one of the duties of the district is to care for the birds that pass through on their migration. There are some 52 varieties of song birds, as well as the quail wintering at Point Pelee, the most southerly point in Canada. Under the protection of the South Essex Association these birds are well cared for.

The Reclaimed Land
After describing the advantages of the district in general, Mr. Conover pointed to the wonderful production of the reclaimed lands at Point Pelee in onions, celery and tomatoes. Everything is marketed in carloads lots, and the general productivity of the district has made a name for Leamington unexcelled in the Dominion.

Mr. Conover believes the town never had better management, and that it is on the eve of even greater development.

Leamington's Mayor
The name of Arthur Brown, mayor of Leamington, is known all over North America. As the owner of Gallagher and hundreds of other well-known race horses, he became a figure of national reputation. He has handled thousands and thousands of the finest horses ever bred, probably more than any other individual in Canada.

Now he is devoting his time to his home town with good results. Recently he has opened up several surveys in Leamington, has erected beautiful entrances, and laid cement walks and curbs on every new street. The houses, homes that anyone would be proud to live in, are springing up like mushrooms.

The new streets have been named George, after the mayor's son, Morgan, after their son, and Arthur, after the mayor himself. No one has more faith in Leamington than Arthur Brown, and no one will hustle harder to advance its interest.

than in the last few years. He believes that the "new blood" in the city council will greatly improve conditions.

Dr. Will Burgess, son of Mr. J. T. Burgess, formerly of London, is a Western University graduate, who has established himself in Leamington. His parents also reside here and are loud in their praises.

A Great Shot, But He Loves the Birds



FORREST H. CONOVER, of Leamington, one of the Dominion's crack shots. He is leading a great movement for the preservation of Ontario's wild fowl and song-birds.

LEAMINGTON'S HUSTLING MAYOR MEANS TO MAKE TOWN ADVANCE HOW HE "STARTED SOMETHING"

Arthur Brown Cut a Farm Into Building
Lots and Sold 90 Lots in 90 Days--Covered
With Houses Now--Permanent
Pavements Planned.

FINE COMMUNITY SPIRIT MAKES DISTRICT BEST IN THE LAND

[By Staff Representative.]
Leamington, Feb. 6.--Leamington wanted a new mayor. It wanted a 1914 model, self-starting, six-cylinder mayor, not too fancy, but built for speed and utility. The sort of a mayor demanded by the citizens was not a runabout, nor yet a touring type, but a general-purpose mayor, who could do the work of a six-ton truck, and have the proper conformation and non-stalling qualities.

It has been said that enthusiasm is



a great hill climber, and when Leamington picked G. A. Brown for mayor and elected him by the largest majority ever given in the town, they secured a man whose little brother is Enthusiasm.

"It's not the town that makes the people, but the people that make the town," was the watchword of Mayor To-Be Brown in his campaign. He had been a horseman all his life, dealing in speed and hitching himself to everything that could go along better than a 20 clip in general. He had been all over the country, and he had made his way from a boy chopping wood on a farm near Leamington into the first citizen in his early thirties. He is the man on whom Leamington has its eyes just now. Not all the citizens agree with him. Some of them do not approve of his precise methods of doing things, but they are behind him to a man and believe that he will move the town up a rank or two in the thriving centres of Western Ontario. It has never been in the rear rank.

The Town's Growth.

Leamington puts forward the claim that it has grown more in proportion to its size than any other town in Western Ontario. One and a half years ago it had a population of 2,700, and at the present time it is over the 4,000 mark. Mayor Brown believes that within a year it will have added at least another thousand inhabitants, and when one sees the big addition to the Heinz pickling plant and the houses that are scattered over the new subdivisions, it is not hard to believe. It is rather hard to disbelieve.

Leamington's population is not confined to Leamington. Drive along the lake road as an Advertiser man did, and you will find that the district is made up of five-acre farms, and that the houses are close together and of a type to make the ordinary city dweller envious. There are no loose boards or broken fences. There are no unpainted barns. The houses have a distinctive style. Nothing has that ragged look that is common with too many rural communities.

Ninety Lots in Ninety Days.

Mayor Brown opened a survey of the outskirts of the town about three months ago. He says that he sold 90 lots in 90 days, and that none of them went for less than \$500. His survey is laid out with cement walks and hand-laid out brick entrance arches. Within a year every one of these lots and an adjoining survey that the mayor also owns will be sold and occupied.

When one meets the businessmen of Leamington, and the men who have those five-acre gold mines in and near the town, he comes to the conclusion that the best recommendation Mayor Brown could have lies in the character of the men who chose him. They are a distinctly prosperous type, with no frills, dressed in well-cut clothes--they do not substitute whiskers for Continued on Page Twenty.

**Some of the Men Who
Do Well in Leamington**

[By Staff Representative.]
Leamington, Feb. 1.--The men who grow tobacco and early tomatoes and vegetables and general crops in the Leamington district do not toil from morning to night in the winter time. A large many of them drop into the Businessmen's Club on Talbot street for a game of cribbage or checkers or bridge, or to hear something new on the Victrola. If the growers of the district are not in California or Florida, you will usually find a group of them around the comfortable room.

An Advertiser man had an opportunity of meeting a number of the prominent men of the district, and talking over crops and profits. They were not many millionaires present, but there were few who were not as financially prosperous as anyone could wish for, few who did not have a garage with a six-cylinder car in it.

C. Haisense has 50 acres, three miles out Talbot street. Last year, with the assistance of a boy, he secured from his various crops as follows:

Tobacco \$1,000
Hogs 350
Dairy 350
Horses 650
General 100

Total \$2,450
This was the result of a half-year's work, and there was a good margin of profit. He did not do it by neglecting the work, keeping a man on the place. He also had 4 acres of late tomatoes, which yielded good returns.

Douglas Maynard, who owns Bonnie Brook Farm, has been in the district for five years, and has 75 acres. He has underdrained it, using 50,000 tile, and has gone into many lines of agriculture. He values his land at \$1,000 an acre, although he secured it for a comparatively reasonable amount. His early potatoes last year yielded him \$2,000, his tobacco \$1,500, and his seed corn \$400 to \$500. In addition to these he raised much other stuff. He has tried strawberries with a return of \$450 to the acre, and has been successful with celery and onions. One crop of wheat on his place produced 40 bushels to the acre. Mr. Maynard has fertilized his land with sweet clover and manure with excellent results. He has sixty horses on his place at the present time.

Herbert Mitchell secured \$3,600 from his tobacco last year on a 14-acre crop, and Verne Fox secured \$4,000 from 22 acres.

J. D. Fraser, W. W. Hilburne, Tom Fleming, Cole Williams and many others have had wonderful success one line or the other in the district.

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**He Will Give Good
Roads to His Town**



MAYOR G. A. BROWN, of Leamington, who has inaugurated a "Go Ahead" policy for Leamington that is the keynote of the district's progress.