

# Conservation

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## C.N.R. Appoints Fire Inspector

### Company Organizes Special Department to Handle Protective Work

The Canadian Northern Railway has taken a very progressive step in connection with the prevention of fire along its lines by the appointment of Mr. William Kilby as Fire Inspector. Mr. Kilby is to have general charge of all phases of the Company's fire protection work. This practically involves the creation of a new department in the Company's organization. This includes right-of-way clearing, fire patrols through timbered country, and the construction of fire guards through prairie sections in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The prosecution of these lines of work is required by the Railway Act and the orders of the Board of Railway Commissioners.

The Canadian Northern is the first large railway Company to organize a special department to handle fire-protection work. Experience has demonstrated that the best results in this class of work are secured by specialization. The example of the Canadian Northern might be followed to excellent advantage by other lines.—C.I.

## ATLANTIC LOBSTERS FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA

Experiments in transplanting Atlantic oysters to Pacific coast waters have been sufficiently successful to encourage the Department of Marine and Fisheries to undertake similar experiments with lobsters. A number of shipments have already been made and others will follow. It will be necessary at the outset to ascertain at what points a suitable environment can be found for lobsters, and until this has been done the success of the effort will be more or less in doubt.

As the Atlantic lobster is much superior to the California variety, their successful transplantation to the Pacific will add very markedly to the value of the fisheries of British Columbia, and will still further augment Canada's premier position in the lobster markets of the world.—A.D.

## FARM JOURNALS—ATTENTION!

On page 3 of this number of "Conservation" there appears a special article on "The Essentials of Farm Book-keeping." Like all other matter printed in our bulletin, this may be freely reproduced in any Canadian publication.

It is the opinion of experts that many farmers do not receive enough income to pay the interest on their investment and at the same time compensate them for their labour. If this unfortunate state of affairs is true, then the sooner they realize the fact, the sooner will a remedy be found. The only way in which the truth can be revealed is by every farmer keeping books. All journals devoted to the interests of the farming class should not only urge their readers to do this, but should endeavour to place before them practical systems of book keeping, adapted to farmers' needs.

Farmers and students of agriculture may obtain free copies of this number, by applying to the Commission of Conservation, Ottawa.

## Bee Keeping

Bee keeping is being carried on with both profit and pleasure by men and women in all parts of the Dominion, and, while, as a rule, it is not the sole occupation of those who pursue it, there are many localities where experienced beekeepers can make a good living by devoting their entire time and attention to this line of work. The average annual yield of honey per colony should be from sixty to seventy-five pounds, many well managed apiaries yielding much more. The money return to be obtained from this crop depends entirely on the market and the method of selling the honey. If sold direct to the consumer, extracted honey should bring from 10 to 15 cents per pound and comb honey from 15 to 20 cents per section. If sold to dealers, the price will be from 3 to 5 cents per pound less. All these figures depend on the quality and neatness of the product.—J.F.

## Water Meters Make Householders Careful

By April 1st, 1914, every house in the village of East Syracuse, N. Y., will have a metered water supply. The meters, which will cost \$8.50 each, will be charged to the property owners.

The inordinate waste of water by the consumers forced the Water Commission to take action. During a recent water famine in the village, they willfully disregarded the orders of the commission to conserve the supply and used more than three times as much water as was deemed necessary.

Every municipality in Canada, having a public water supply, would do well to install water meters. No one begrudges water that is used for domestic and commercial purposes, but the people generally suffer financially by reason of the unwarrantable waste which unfortunately is to be noted everywhere.—C.A.H.

## TO NEWSPAPERMEN

"Conservation" is a press bulletin for newspapers to clip from, and for that reason is printed on one side of the page only. To further public interest in conservation subjects, our cuts will gladly be loaned to Canadian journals. It is requested that orders be by number, stating the date when the cut is required to be used, and that a copy of the publication in which the illustration appears be sent to our office.

## Familiarity Breeds Contempt

### And Contempt of Danger Brings Disaster—An Illustration

An inspector going through a plant in Illinois observed a set-screw projecting on a revolving shaft. He considered it particularly dangerous because the shaft was near a passageway and workmen were continually going back and forth past it. He called the manager's attention to it. "Don't you think," he said, "that that set-screw had better be cut off? Someone will get hurt some day if it is left that way." "I don't think so," the manager replied, that set-screw has been like that for years. No one has ever been hurt by it. The fact that it is exposed and can be observed by anyone renders it safe from causing an accident." The manager had a habit of gesticulating when speaking, and, as he waved his arm to emphasize what he was saying, the sleeve of his coat came in contact with the set-screw and caught on it, and in an instant he was whirled to death.

## THE FUTURE MEAT SUPPLY

For weeks prior to the removal of the American tariff on cattle, speculators were busy gathering live stock in Canada and then, for some weeks after, quite a formidable procession crossed the border. This gathering process has resembled a clean-up, but it is extremely improbable that either Ontario or Quebec can supply the same number to American markets a year hence. In some districts nearly everything has been shipped away except dairy cows.

Another cause of the beef shortage is the vealing of so many calves, few more being kept than are really necessary to replenish the dairy herds. The beef industry in Canada should not be allowed to dwindle to the production of veal only. The heifers should be kept for the purpose of producing more calves, to utilize the rough feed on the farm and to make manure to maintain soil fertility. Vealing heifer calves, while it may give the farmer a quick return, is destroying good beef-making material and is too much like killing the goose that lays the golden eggs.—F.C.N.