

1 GEORGE V, A. 1911

dence from childhood, and in many cases we find jealousy combined with that independence. In order to best solve the problem of how to advance the growth of any industry public funds should be devoted to the spreading of education and the demonstration of sound principles in such a manner as would benefit every man, woman and child in the Dominion. Agriculture being the greatest industry in this country, it should receive the greatest amount of consideration. It is an industry that should be taught in every room of every school in Canada, and in this connection an effort should be made to have the children appreciate the great value of co-operation. There should be works on bookkeeping available for farmers at reasonable prices, and these should reach as many farmers as possible. It is absolutely necessary for a modern farmer to keep a set of books so that at the end of each year he may be able to tell in which department of his farm he is making the most money. By following a system of bookkeeping the farmers will acquire most valuable information as to what part of their farms is paying them the best. This would lead to the farmers paying special attention to that branch of agriculture which yielded the greatest crop. Some farmers make a specialty of horse breeding, and other of other branches of stock-raising. A great many engage in dairying, others again in the raising of crops for canning purposes; and fruit growing is by no means the least important of the great agricultural industry. In this connection practical demonstrations are of great value, showing the farmers how to specialize in everything that can be grown on their farms and impressing on them that the great secret of success is to invest money in order to make money. This has been specially demonstrated in the apple growing industry in the county of Norfolk since 1903.

Before dwelling on the growing of apples, I want to give you an instance of a farm of 100 acres, just one mile outside the town of Simcoe, which I bought four years ago. I do this to demonstrate the point that one must invest money in order to make money. This farm has been carried on as a dairy and wheat growing farm, but I bought it with the intention of going into fruit growing. I have planted on that farm in the last four years no less than five thousand trees, and found it necessary to grow hoe crops for the growth of those trees. Two years ago my sales off that hundred acre farm amounted to seven thousand dollars, and last year they were eight thousand five hundred dollars, being probably at the least, three times the amount of sales which was derived in former years from that farm.

*By Mr. Hughes:*

Q. Were these sums derived from fruit growing?

A. Principally fruit and vegetable growing. I raised strawberries, potatoes and hoe crops generally. The next point of importance to consider is what were the net profits. I invested large sums of money in labour, which is certainly beneficial to our country. I netted two years ago over three thousand dollars, and last year the amount was over four thousand dollars. I did very little of the farm work myself, excepting the general management, and what has been done there can be done on many other farms in this Dominion.

*By Mr. Armstrong:*

Q. What kind of labour do you employ and what wages do you pay?

A. I employ the home labour that is available and the wages are \$1.50 a day. Excepting my year men. I am paying one of these \$350, and the other \$400 per annum, with free house, fuel and garden produce.

*By Mr. Henderson:*

Q. \$1.50 a day is not very big wages.

A. No, it is not.

Q. How many acres have you devoted to strawberry cultivation?