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FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

Location of New Experimental Farm Unanimously Agreed Upon, Kentville Being the Choice.— Large and Representative Meeting of Orchardists.

One of the most interesting sessions of the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers was the forty-sixth annual session recently held at Kentville. Among the important subjects discussed at the opening session was "The size of the apple barrel and the conservation of moisture in the soil." Prof. Shutt, of the Experimental Farm at Ottawa, spoke on the latter subject. He strongly opposed the practice of growing hay or grain in the orchard and warned growers against letting the young trees get stunted.

The evening session was opened by R. J. Messenger, who gave an interesting paper on the thinning of fruit, a system which he has only recently practiced but of which he is now strongly in favor. Prof. Cummins spoke of the work of the Agricultural College at Truro and the bright prospects ahead for that institution.

CO-OPERATION IN THE FRUIT BUSINESS. Robert Thompson, of St. Catharines, Ont., spoke on co-operation in the fruit business. He was a firm believer in co-operative work, and was a member of the oldest co-operative firm in Ontario. This scheme of work has been the greatest help they could possibly have. They were practically forced into it for self-protection and had, in so doing, a remedy for their troubles.

He was simply going to state what co-operation had done for his part of the country, the people here must adapt it to themselves. What was needed was to get the large buyers and shippers to go into the thing with the others, to have the benefit of their experience, and the membership should not be small. Those with limited membership went to the wall first, 50, 60 even up to 300 was all right. The only trouble with such a large number was the inability to handle so much fruit at once. He advised the people who were growing apples in this valley to stay here and not go west. British Columbia was not to be compared to this Province. He gave ideas on the forming of co-operative companies and details of management.

The benefits of the co-operation—1st, that as growers they did not distrust each other. 2nd, the benefit of each others experience. 3rd, the weight of opinion of a society over that of an individual.

Mr. Thompson gave a good idea of all their methods of packing and cooling fruit. His talk was practically

interesting, and most entertaining. At the close many talked and asked questions more informally.

On Thursday the morning and afternoon sessions were full of business matters of importance.

THE EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDS LOCATION FOR EXPERIMENTAL FRUIT FARM. Kentville, Dec. 3.— The closing meeting of the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association was held in the Pastime Theatre and was public. The opening speech of welcome was made by the Mayor, Dr. H. B. Webster. He made a very flattering reference to the work of the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association, and to the work they had done in the Province.

The Vice President, R. J. Messenger, of Bridgetown, replied to the address of welcome. He expressed the thanks and appreciation of the Society for the kindness of the citizens and officials of the town. He spoke of the work and importance of the Society, the weight of opinion they carried, and, because of it, he congratulated the Fruit Growers on their Society and their work.

DESIRABLE SETTLERS COMING. A. S. Barnstead, of Halifax, bore the regrets of the Lieutenant-Governor and also of Premier Murray, both were unable to be present. Mr. Barnstead then spoke directly of his work in the Immigration Office. Desirable settlers were coming our way now Mr. Barnstead loses no opportunity in the interests of his work, and urged on those present in need of farm help to apply to him in Halifax. It would help not only themselves but the intending settlers as well. He gave a brief resume of the work done by the Immigration Office and what they had already accomplished.

L. D. Robinson introduced the topic of the evening, "Winter Spraying." He began to enumerate the enemies of the farmer—blights and bugs and the many varieties of worms and moths. One might cultivate and improve but if one doesn't kill the bug, their work is more than useless. He prescribed Bordeaux mixture, in small doses, and judiciously applied, what is known as the 3-3 mixture is what has given universal satisfaction and is used by all the largest growers.

THE NEW OFFICERS. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President—E. E. Archibald, Wolfville. Senior Vice-President—R. J. Messenger, Bridgetown. County Vice-President—Annapolis County—G. C. Miller, Middleton.

Executive Board: The President, J. N. Chute, Berwick; Vice-President, W. O'Brien, Windsor; Secretary, F. H. Johnson, Lawrence town, Col. S. Spurr, Melvern Square. Exhibition Committee: A. C. Starr, Arthur Johnson, Col. Spurr, F. H. Johnson.

The closing hour of the session was spent in discussion, at times rather heated, over the proposed Experimental Fruit Farm. Prof. Cummins had given an assurance that when the Fruit Growers' Association were unanimous in their choice the purchase would be made.

After the morning session on a meeting of the new executive was held to see if sufficient unity of opinion could be reached regarding the most desirable district in the Province of Nova Scotia for the Experimental Station for all that pertains to horticulture. Exceptional generosity and fair mindedness was shown in the part of every member of the executive which unanimously agreed that if a farm could be found in proximity to Kentville with possibilities of development commensurate with the financial importance of this industry which is bound to mean many millions of dollars of annual income to this province and the possibilities of illustrating the other departments pertaining to horticulture such as arboriculture, floriculture, landscape, gardening and forestry, that they would recommend that this farm be purchased. It is to be hoped that the Federal and Local Governments will now meet the wishes of the Fruit Growers at once and the station which has been petitioned for years will soon be a reality.

This annual gathering has been one of the most successful ever held by the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers Association.

Baby Twenty-Three Years Old.

Dwarfs and persons of arrested development are no new thing, but it is rare that their condition yields to medical treatment. Where the arrest of growth, however, depends on the failure of nature to supply the body with something that it needs for development the want may often be made up by administration from within. Thus, when the dwarfed condition is due to disease of the thyroid gland it may be relieved by giving thyroid extract derived from the glands of animals.

The English papers report a notable case of this kind, that of Mildred Hart, a Devonshire girl, twenty-three years old, who never "grew up." At this age she was still, to all intents and purposes, a young child, thirty-three inches high, with bulging forehead, broad nose, and pale complexion. She could speak only two or three words, was unobservant and uninterested in her surroundings, and her teeth were those of a child of five. After two months of thyroid feeding she had grown two and a half inches, her skin, which had been harsh and dry, became moist and warm, the nose took on a more normal aspect, her dull, vacant look disappeared, she cut several fresh teeth and began to develop an appetite.

Her mental condition was correspondingly improved. She began to talk, showing that she had been listening and remembering during her long babyhood. She surprised her family by alluding to the events of years before at a time when she apparently took no interest in anything. All this sounds like a somewhat exaggerated testimonial for a patent medicine, but there is no monopoly of thyroid gland. Every sheep and every calf has one in its neck, and the substance that it secretes cannot be imitated chemically.

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Old Lady (to druggist): "I want a box of canine pills." Druggist: "What is the matter with the dog?" Old Lady (indignantly): "I want you to know, sir, that my husband is a gentleman." The druggist put up some quinine pills in profound silence.

Why Eggs are Dear

(Ottawa Citizen) When eggs are selling for 35 cents to 30 cents per dozen every housekeeper is asking if they are to remain at that price all winter and the answer always is that they will likely be dearer. What makes them so dear? As in the case of all goods that are placed on the market the price depends upon supply and demand. When eggs are plentiful and the supply is equal to or greater than the demand, the price drops and the cooks are all pleased. At the present time the supply is far from being equal to the demand, and the price of eggs is away out of reach of the average working man in the cities.

The poultry industry is at the same place now that the dairy industry was a few years ago. It is only of late years that the dairyman has gone into winter dairying to any appreciable extent, and as soon as the poultry keeper learns that there is more money in winter eggs production and learns how to produce eggs during the cold season the sooner will he be lining his pockets with money that is rightfully his own. The aim of all manufacturers is to have their goods on the market when the prices are at their highest, and the poultryman should be no exception to the rule. Why should not the poultryman have the extra money by his products when he can have it by placing his goods on the market at the right time?

Unfortunately there are too many that are in the business as a side line and do not try to make the business boom. They are satisfied if they have enough to supply their own table. If these same people were to use a few extra precautions and care they would with the same number of hens, be able to supply their own tables, and besides have some eggs to sell. It does not mean extra cost nor the keeping of more hens, but it does mean the better use of the feed and the hens that one has.

Then if the egg-seller can guarantee the freshness of his eggs he will receive a much greater price. They should also be put up in as neat and as strong a package as possible. If the case is neat and attractive the eggs will sell all the easier, and if they are fresh the salesman will have no trouble in disposing of his eggs to the best possible advantage. Poultrymen, let us produce all the eggs we can in winter and get the highest price we can! If we can keep the supply even all the year round we will have no trouble in keeping the prices at their level.

Naval Strength

The United States naval department declares that the relative order of warship tonnage of the world's great navies will be changed only insofar as America is concerned when battleships already under way are completed. Germany will oust the United States from second place but, and this is the important point, the relative positions of Great Britain and Germany will remain the same. At present the order of the navies with their tonnage is as follows: Great Britain, 1,758,350; United States, 682,755; France, 609,700; Germany, 602,920. When the vessels now being constructed are finished the order will be as follows: Great Britain, 2,005,873; Germany, 820,692; United States, 785,687; France, 766,906. In other words, Britain will have nearly 70,000 more tonnage over Germany when the present program is completed than she has now.

Great Britain, the American department says, has no continuous ship building policy, but usually lays down each year four new armored cruisers with a proportionate number of smaller vessels. Germany has a continuous shipbuilding policy that expires in 1917 by which time it is expected that sixteen battleships will have been constructed along with twelve armored cruisers. In 1917 therefore, the situation as regards naval strength between the two countries would stand: Britain, battleships 52; armored cruisers, 162; German battleships, 42; armored cruisers, 82. In this summary there is no account taken of new British battleships. Even if only one were built strength up to 60 first class battleships by the time Germany completed her program.

The New Skating Rink

The work on the Bridgetown outdoor skating rink is progressing favorably and the promoters expect to have one of the best ice courses in the province. The ground space occupied is 150x25 ft. A building containing four rooms has been erected and a fence to enclose the grounds. The rooms contain two dressing rooms a Band Room and a room to be occupied as a cafe, by a man experienced in the business. The management have pledged themselves to prohibit any intoxicating beverage of any sort sold on or near the grounds which will be an assurance to parents that their children may enjoy a clean healthy sport without any dangerous associations. The building will be well heated and lighted by electricity and electricity will also illuminate the ice course.

Mr. Percy Burns has accepted the position of manager, and will also lend his assistance to any who wish to acquire the art of skating. His proficiency in this line is well known, as he has long held the title of champion.

The rink will be open every afternoon and evening, and on three evenings of the week the Bridgetown Band will be in attendance. It is expected that Christmas Day will see the opening of the new rink and a large number are looking forward to the event with great pleasure.

Protection of the Moose

To the editor of the Halifax Herald: Sir,— After reading the opinions of some of your correspondents in regard to the protection of moose, I would like to write a few words in that connection. Living in a place which in close connection with a large section of moose hunting territory, and being acquainted with several of the guides here, I have been able to obtain a few facts which might throw a little light on the subject.

Last season there were about forty-five hunters on a hunting and trapping trip, the majority being bulls. This year, with the close season on cow moose, the number fell to twenty-six, while there were nearly twice the number of hunters in the woods this year than there were last. Of these twenty-six, three-quarters of them are small and young, being under four years old and some only two years old—"spike horns." The spread of horns of at least twenty of them was under forty inches, and not more than four or five being over 45 inches; the largest having a spread of forty-two inches. The average size of the heads has diminished year after year, according to the opinion of the best guides, and at the rate the moose are being slaughtered it will not be long before a spread of fifty inches will be rare.

Of course it is well known that cow moose are the most plentiful in the woods, and it is most desirable that it should be so; but it is very undesirable to have the bulls so scarce. The best Indian hunter and guide in this section of country, told me that he saw during this season, eight cows without calves. Another first class Indian guide who has recently been on a hunting and trapping trip on the Liverpool and Shelburne waters, declares that bull moose are comparatively scarce and what he did see were small.

A year ago I enjoyed the pleasure of a hunting trip myself, and out of nine different moose which I saw on that trip there were only two bulls, neither of which were more than four or five years old.

I have talked with a good many guides and trappers on the subject and their universal opinion is that bull moose are becoming scarce; that more than two-thirds of the full grown moose are cows; that half the cows that are seen are without calves that the desire of every hunter—a big spread of horns—is almost impossible to get, as the old moose are all killed off.

It is my opinion that greater protection should be given to bull moose, and though for my own part, I would be glad to see a close season of two or three years; I think that at least the season should be opened later than at present, and then eliminate the calling season altogether, it being the very time when the life of the bull moose should be spared if his kind is to be propagated. C. S. ARCHIBALD. Bear River, Dec. 8.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Executive of Law and Order League Present Memorials Asking for Better Enforcement of Scott Act and Regulations as to Billiard Rooms.— Policeman Presents Resignation.

A meeting of the town council of the town of Bridgetown was held in the Council Chamber, on Monday, at 7.30 p. m. with Mayor Ruggles in the chair and Councillors present as follows, viz., Calder, Longmire, Dixon, DeWitt, Chute and Freeman.

The following bills were ordered to be paid:— Frank Charlton, rebate for water tax, paid twice, \$2.50; John Brooks, materials for work on bridge \$3.20 do for labor on bridge, \$12.00; Wm. Hudson \$12.75; Wm. Rufee, \$9.62; Chas. Berry \$5.00; Gutta Percha & Rubber Mfg. Co., for 100 feet M. C. fire hose, \$115.00; provided the hose has been delivered according to agreement; Elias Ramey, for hauling stone \$39.60; Alden Walker, for gravel \$37.60; John W. Ross, 75; R. Allen Crowe bill \$42.44 Municipality of the County of Annapolis for maintenance of Reuben Hearn \$20.79; T. McAvity & Sons for twelve sidewalk service boxes \$18.00; E. A. Craig \$1.50; Lewis Bros. for two lamps and expenses, \$12.59; John T. Eggleshaw, for sundries \$13.87; James Goldsmith, janitor council chamber and firemen's room \$6.00; Schooner Francis \$0.50 Laurie Mansfield, \$2.50.

A communication from Mr. Bell, secretary for the Bridgetown Skating Rink Co. was read asking for water from Dec. to March for \$1.00 and upon motion the request was granted.

A communication from the Law & Order League was read complaining of the inaction of the Scott Act Inspector, as follows.

To the Mayor and Council of the Town of Bridgetown. Gentlemen:— Whilst it appears to us, the Executive Committee of the Bridgetown Law and Order League, that the present "Scott Act" Inspector, when first appointed, made effort to enforce the law under the said "Act," it now appears to us that no effort is being made by him for such enforcement. We, therefore, respectfully suggest to your honorable body, that pressure be brought to bear upon the said Inspector to constrain him to fulfil the duties of his office as "Scott Act" Inspector by immediately enforcing the law against all and sundry violators.

EXECUTIVE LAW & ORDER LEAGUE

The resignation of Mr. J. T. Eggleshaw, policeman, was read and upon motion it was resolved that the resignation of Mr. Eggleshaw from

all offices which he holds under the Town of Bridgetown to take effect Feb. 1st, 1910, be accepted, provided he shall then have collected all outstanding taxes.

Mr. A. D. Brown read a memorial from the Law and Order League asking that the Town Council pass by-laws to regulate the billiard rooms of the town, and he and Rev. E. Underwood and Rev. A. J. MacDonald supported the memorial with short speeches and upon motion it was resolved that the petition be received and referred to the town solicitors for report at the next meeting of the council.

Following is the petition: To His Honor Mayor Ruggles and members of the Town Council Gentlemen:— At a recent meeting of the Executive of the Law and Order League of the town, it was understood that the matter of billiard rooms was a little time since discussed by you, and it was resolved, that inasmuch as the Town's Incorporation Act provided for the control by the Towns of such institutions, the Executive would urge upon you the advisability of at once passing such by-laws as shall accomplish the purposes of the said Act in relation to any such rooms as may now or hereafter be opened in the town.

The Executive is influenced in presenting this request by the earnest wishes of our fellow citizens and by the conviction that such action on the part of your honorable body will tend to subserve the best interests of the entire community.

By order of the Law and Order League, E. UNDERWOOD, A. D. BROWN, C. JOST

Minutes read and approved and council adjourned.

The Halifax Herald says: It is an open secret that there have been within the past few months overtures looking to an amalgamation of the railways in the western part of the Province into one system. A visit was recently made to London by a gentleman from this city, whose business was to learn on what terms the D. A. R. would sell out its railway and steamships. A satisfactory price could not be agreed upon and hence the negotiations ended, and they are not being resumed at this time. It need not surprise anyone, however, if negotiations should be resumed before very long. The D. A. R. officials say there is nothing in the report.

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