POOR DOCUMENT

MC 2033

THE FARM

SHEEP RAISING

Why is it that so little interest is taken in the sheep industry by the average Canadian farmer? It must be that he does not think there is as much money in it as in some other lines, such as dairying, hog-raising, fattening steers, grain-raising, etc. How small a percentage of farmers give their main attention to that particular branch of farming! How few of us believe that it is the most profitable part of our business! There must be some good reason for this state of things. Is it the fault of the sheep or of the management?

I shall not go into the labor and cost of dairying, hog-raising, etc., but if we gave one tithe of the care to our sheep that we give to growing special crops of fodder and grain to force the flow of milk of our cows, and to hastily fatten our hogs, what a different result there would be in the profit from our flocks. What attention do the ordinary mutton flocks of the country receive? Very little. They are either put on the road, to live the best they can, to be chased backwards and forwards by all the useless curs that may pass along, or they are turned into the poorest pasture on the farm, where nothing else would be expected to live and pay its way. When the lamb-buyer comes in the fall to look at the lambs, and finds some melancholy-looking specimens, perhaps covered with burrs, and some not castrated, for which he (on that account) will pay a poor price, the farmer comes to the conclusion that there is no money in sheep anyhow. By the way of contrast, let us look at the flock of a good farmer on a hundred-acre farm, who takes an interest in his sheep. He has about twenty ewes, all good specimens of the breed he fancies, not pure-breds, but you can hardly tell them from pure-breds, for when he started his flock he just bought some common grade ewes, but he was always willing when necessary to purchase another ram, always getting one of the same breed, and the best specimen of the breed to be got, until now he has a flock that would equal in appearance a flock of pure-breds.

But some of you would say, I want to change my sheep every three or four years, because they will not do well any longer on the same land.

This man knows too much to listen to any such exploded theory as that. He knows when he selects from some good, pure-bred flock a strong, heavy-fleshed low-set, broad-backed, well-covered ram, with a strong masculine, but not coarse, head, a good type of the breed he fancies, that he is going to improve his flock. An acquaintance of mine told me he sold one fall 25 ram lambs to farmers for use in their flocks. I do not know how many the others will have sold; probably as many each. These lambs were of mixed breeding, which would mean that perhaps one hundred scrub rams in one township were used for breeding What can these men expect from such management? What would they think of using a mongrel sire for their mares, cows or pigs? They would say it would be the greatest folly. The folly is just as great with regard to their carelessness in not selecting good sires for their flocks.

Do you suppose those wide-awake Yankees would be coming over here and taking our best pure-bred rams for their own use at good long prices, unless there was money in it?

I know two Lincoln flocks in England that have been kept on the same farms by father and son down for 125 years, until now they have arrived at such a state of perfection that the fact of a Lincoln sheep being bred by Dudding or Dean is a guarantee of its superiority. Sheep from these flocks took about all the prizes offered for that breed of sheep at the World's Fair. I think this fact should be sufficient answer to those who are continually changing their flock. I would say to such, change your management, not your sheep.

Another thing that probably would be done in preparation for these twenty ewes would be to give them as additional pasture a strip of turnips or mangels, a bushel and a half a day, fed with good clean pea straw twice a day, and an occasional feed of clover will take them along until within two or three weeks of lambing. Then a few oats would help to bring on a stronger lamb and put the ewe in a better condition to give a good flow of milk. Two or three acres of rye, to turn into early, would keep the flock going for five or six weeks, when the piece could be plowed down and rape sown. This would come in nicely for the lambs at weaning time, and would send them on ready for the market, and at very little cost. If you could have an acre or two of peas and oats to follow the rye, you would need very little pasture, except for a change.

Another good plan for sheep pasture, where corn is grown, is to sow about a pound and a half of rape seed broadcast, the last time of cultivating. I did that one year, and our sheep nearly lived there until the 10th of February, when the first deep snow came. They used to come in every night, and I gave them a little oats in the morning before going out, just to keep them scouring.

I think, by a little extra care in growing some special crops, by using the best rams procurable, and by improving the quality of the lambs, we could get prices, at a less cost of production. If one is not afraid to invest in pure breeds and make a bid for the American trade, there is money in it. One need not be afraid of glutting the market if he produces the right sort, for there is always room at the top.—R. J. Hine.

A GOOD MILKER

One more proof of the value of the Holstein cow is furnished by Boutsje Q. Pietertie DeKol, a pure-bred heifer owned by the Ontario Agricultural College. Bred in Michigan, she was brought to Canada at an early age, and has developed into one of the most remarkable producers in the world, as well as one of the handsomest cows of the breed. Dropping her first calf at two years nine months and four days, she showed wonderful capacity and was awarded first prize in her class at both Toronto and Ottawa exhibitions. After making the round of the fairs, and over three months after calving, she was officially tested for seven days and yielded 320.3 pounds of milk and 11.52 pounds of butter fat. She gained every day during the test, but it was discontinued in order to send her to the Provincial Winter Fair at Guelph. There she stood highest among all the heifers under 36 months, giving in the 48 hours of test 103 pounds of milk, testing 3.68 per cent fat, yielding 3.79 pounds of fat, equal to 4.42 pounds of butter. She was immediately purchased by Prof. Dean for the Agricultural College herd, and during the next eight months gave over 9,000 pounds of milk. Calving again in October last at three years eleven months of age she did even more remarkable work. During the 30 days of November she gave 2,522 pounds of milk averaging 3.5 per cent fat, or 88.27 pounds of fat, equal to 103 pounds of butter, 85.7 per cent fat. Her best day's milk was 96 pounds, and her best week 643 pounds, testing 3.5 per cent, yielding 22.50 pounds fat, equal to 26.02 pounds of butter, 85.7 per cent fat, or 28.12 pounds of butter 80 per cent fat.

When one stops to consider that the average Canadian cow, according to the best available statistics, yields only about 3,000 pounds of milk per annum, the significance of the above figures becomes very apparent. If no misfortune befalls this young cow she bids fair at maturity to equal, if not surpass, any milk and butter record yet achieved.

G. W. CLEMONS,
Secretary Holstein Breeders' Association.

WHAT GOVERNS THE SIZE OF THE LITTER

Many farmers have the idea that the size of the litter depends upon the male. This, we think, is entirely a mistake. The quality of the litter may depend on the male, and does; but the male has nothing to do with the size of the litter. Outside of breed characteristics, that depends more on the physical condition of the female at the time of mating than on anything else. In other words, it depends on the number and vitality or healthfulness of the ova at the time of impregnation. If these are few and unhealthy, then large litters will probably follow. The number and healthfulness of the ova is a matter largely in the hands of the breeder.

No mating of live stock on the farm should be done unless the female is in the pink of physical condition. For three weeks previous to mating, brood sows should be fed generously and on as great a variety of food as possible. This is much more important before mating than afterwards. Sufficient feed of the proper variety should be fed during the whole period of pregnancy in order to develop the young; but the number of the young is not determined by the sire nor by the feeding of the sow during pregnancy, but by the physical condition of the dam at the time of mating. To secure this physical condition the brood sow should be fed generously for three weeks before mating, and with as great a variety of food as possible, and should be given abundant exercise. We believe that if our readers will think this over and compare it with their own experience they will see that our reasoning is absolutely sound and correct. It is needless to say that the male should be in as high physical condition as the female. This, however, will not affect the number, but it will affect the vigor of the offspring. —Wallace's Farmer.

KEEP TRACK OF HENS

D. J. Ryther, of West Pownal (Me.), offers some practical hints to farmers who are interested in poultry. He says: I believe a great many more farmers would give the poultry on their farms more serious thought and their stock much better care if they would start a cash account with their hens and find out just "where they are at."

A neighbor of mine who keeps quite a flock of hens, I am sure, is in debt at the end of the year by reason of his hens. He keeps his hens until they are too old to be profitable. Why? Well, he will hatch out a good flock of chicks every spring, but when fall comes he has about a dozen pullets. Rats, crows, hawks, etc., have the rest. Such work does not pay. When fall comes and few pullets, like many others he thinks he must have a flock of hens, so he keeps the old ones.

The poultry business is one that will stand little neglect during the growing period if you expect to raise a good percentage of the chicks hatched, and have them laying at six months of age when "eggs are money," or any time of year, in fact.

To get back to the account with your poultry. A good many think it needs a bookkeeper to do this. All that is necessary is a small account book. February I take account of stock and make an entry of so many hens, pullets and males. Place a value on them that they will bring as poultry if you are handling common stock. When any of these are sold or eaten during the year, give your inventory credit, and give the date. Any deaths in the flock should be noted; then at the end of the year you can easily figure any profit or loss on inventory.

On another page enter the eggs collected each day. A pad of paper can be tacked up in the henhouse for this purpose and transferred to the account book once a week or once a month, as convenient.

On another page make an entry of the feed measured out for the hens each month. If home-grown grain is used, it should be charged at market price.

Another page for broilers or chicks sold completes all the separate accounts a farmer ordinarily needs to keep tab on his flock.

When the year's work is done you can sit down and in a short time find how many eggs from each hen you have received, how much the feed cost is per hen, and know whether you have kept your hens at a profit or a loss, and how much gain or loss. After records have been kept a few years I am almost sure you will find yourself getting more interested, and your profits will be growing larger in proportion.

No one should be satisfied with a profit of less than $1 per hen above cost of feed. This is not fancy figuring. Many do better than this. By careful selection and breeding from known good layers, and from males from good layers, you will see your "eggs per hen" crawling up, and your profits, too. By this time, if not before, you will begin to want some nice pure-blood stock. Not because she will lay so many more eggs, but they are more pleasing to look at and care for, and the young stock grows of more uniform size and brings a better price.

The next step will take you to the fall fairs and poultry shows with some of your best birds, for you will have studied up the standard requirements of your favorite breed and will want to sell some eggs for hatching and must let people know what you have. Many of our fanciers who have made good in the poultry world started from small beginnings. Do not get the false idea into your head that utility and fancy cannot go hand in hand. There is no reason in the world why a hen with fine shape and fine feathers cannot produce eggs in paying quantities.

Start a record this year and see how near the $1 profit you can come.

POULTRY DISEASES

Scaly legs, which are a scourge in many poultry yards can be traced absolutely to filth, damp quarters, and neglect. Roup, canker, consumption, sore eyes, may all be traced to dampness, cold draughts blowing through the houses, and unnatural exposure to inclement weather. Nothing causes these ailments as quickly as damp, unhealthy poultry houses in which the fowls are compelled to sleep. Diphtheria, canker and roup are all kindred diseases, which can be directly blamed upon those having charge of the fowls. If the birds have ventilated houses, with sanitary conditions there is but little danger of these ailments unless they are caught by coming in contact with other ailing birds, or being shipped to and from shows in boxes or coops that are contaminated. Rheumatism, gout and leg weakness are usually blamable upon hereditary conditions, inbreeding, overfeeding, or unhealthy, damp quarters. All of these diseases may be prevented by removing the possibility of the contamination.—The Feather.

GROWING FRUIT

Apples are the most important fruit grown in the province, different varieties being adapted to a wide range of soils and climate.

In planting an orchard in a given district it is always well to be certain, as far as possible, what varieties do the best in that district, and then plant accordingly. In the Burlington locality, for instance, the Duchess for summer, the Ribston and Blenheim for fall, and the Baldwin, Spy, and Greening for winter, appear to take the lead. The same principle applies to other sections in the adaptability of varieties. I think that in the past the mistake has been very generally made of planting trees too closely together. Instead of 25 to 30 feet apart, 35 to 40 feet would be better, according to the nature of the soil. To do their best, trees, like men, should have plenty of room.

Soil for apple trees.—Apples will do well in a broad range of soils, a heavy clay being probably the least suitable. The land, however, must not be wet, otherwise the trees will soon perish. While planting, people are often in too big a hurry; the trees are not set deeply enough, and the result is that in a few years they either lean badly in the direction of the prevailing wind, or are eventually blown out altogether.

Thinning fruit.—A good deal is said and written about thinning out fruit by hand when small, so as to improve the size and quality of the remainder. In the case of apples, pears and plums, at least, this is impracticable, save to the amateur, who is not making his living by growing fruit, and that the practical, profitable, and economical way to thin fruit is by thinning out the branches; in other words, by pruning. If apple growers wish to increase the profits of their orchards, it seems to me that two things must be done: First, to care for their trees, so as to improve the quality of the fruit, and second, so as to handle the fruit as to realize the greatest possible margin of profit. Under the first of these are involved pruning, spraying, cultivation, and feeding; under the second, careful picking, packing and grading, whether in boxes or barrels, for the British, foreign or home markets.

Pears.—Pears have not so wide a range in climate as apples. A soil very rich in humus, or a light, sandy soil and subsoil are not well adapted for pears. There is apt to be too much growth, and consequent blight, in the former, and a deficiency of potash in the latter. For profit probably Clapp's Favorite, Bartlett, Duchess d'Anjou, and Kieffer stand about first. These are essentially export pears. If placed on the British market in good condition, they realize handsome prices. As with apples, they should be carefully graded and packed for shipping.

Plums.—Plums are widely grown. As the demand for them is chiefly limited to Canadian markets, it would appear that the acreage is about wide enough for profitable production. Of the domestic varieties, the Lombard, Glass Seedling (Quackenbos), Reine Claude, Imperial Gage, Bradshaw, Niagara, Saunders and German Prune do well. The Lombard and Reine Claude trees begin to bear heavy crops very early, and consequently do not reach the size of the Quackenbos, Bradshaw and Niagara. The Japan varieties, Abundance and Burbank, appear to have a distinct place in a commercial orchard. Most plum trees should be picked twice, the first time removing the ripest and best colored specimens. This gives the others a better chance to mature.

Grapes.—Grape growing seems to be about coterminal in latitude with pears. In districts where the vines have to be removed from the trellis and laid down for the winter to protect the buds from cold, it is a question whether the extra expense involved would not wipe out the margin of profit. In sections at all favorable, grapes, one year with another, acre for acre, probably net the grower as much money as any other variety of fruit. They are a reliable crop. For the best results they should be pruned severely every March. Different systems are used. I use the spur system; that is, cutting the new buds back to one or two buds from the base, and leaving about sixty buds in all on a vine over four years old. Summer pruning, or cutting back the new fruiting shoots to three or four leaves from the outer bunch, makes larger fruit and tends to lessen mildew. The Worden is perhaps the hardiest grape grown. This variety, with the Concord for black, and the Delaware, Massasoit, and Lindsay for red, and the Niagara and Moore's Diamond for white, do the best here. Grapes as well as pears are heavy feeders on potash and therefore, if they are grown on light soil, require liberal applications of this food, either in the form of wood ashe or muriate of potash.

Currants.—Currants do not like a light, sandy soil, nor yet a heavy clay. A rich, porous soil, sandy or gravelly, or a light clay loam, seems to be their choice. Until recently their margin of profit was narrow, so much so, that many plantations were pulled up. The reaction has set in, however, and we may look for better prices. Of the red varieties, the Wilder (a new sort), Cherry, Red Victoria, and North Star are good; in white, the Grape and Imperial; and in black, Collins' Prolific, Saunders and Naples take the lead. Both the North Star and Collins' Prolific are later varieties. Black Currants are desirable, inasmuch as they are practically immune from all insects and diseases, while the white and red varieties are easy victims to the currant worm, unless it is promptly destroyed with Paris green. This fruit is a voracious feeder, but it quickly responds to careful cultivation and liberal manuring.

Raspberries.—Raspberries do well on a rich, sandy, gravelly or light clay loam. Like strawberries and tomatoes, they should have a southerly slope or exposure, to accelerate ripening; and, like other fruits, they abhor wet soils. They should be pruned twice, the annual pruning in the spring and the other in the summer. When the new canes reach three or four feet long they should be topped back so as to make them push out laterals and become more stocky. The Marlboro and Miller, early varieties, and the Cuthbert and London, later, are excellent commercial reds. For purples, the Columbian and Shaffer take the lead. In blacks, Smith's, Giant, Kansas and Older rank first, while for a yellow the Golden Queen is pre-eminent. The tips of the Cuthbert are sometimes frozen in the winter, and for that reason it should not have its annual pruning until the spring. With a due regard to the nature of the soil, I feed my raspberries on nitrate of soda each spring (150 pounds per acre). Some six or seven years is, however, the normal life of a profitable plantation.

Blackberries.—Blackberries require a rich, damp, but not wet, soil. A sandy loam, based on a quicksand bottom, appears to be ideal feeding grounds for them. If the conditions be favorable, they are very heavy croppers. With them, as with other small fruits, frequent cultivation until maturity, by checking capillary evaporation, helps to retain moisture. Among the best varieties are Agawam, Erie, Kittatinny, Snyder and Western Triumph. If earlier sorts be desired, Early King and Early Harvest will fill the bill, although these and Kittatinny are somewhat tender in many sections of Ontario. As with raspberries, they should have both the annual and summer pruning. Snyder and Western Triumph in particular should be pruned severely in the spring, as they overload with fruit.

Currants, respberries and blackberries should be plowed towards the rows in the fall and cultivated from them in the spring and early summer. In a general way, I do not think it is well to cultivate the tree fruits and vineyards much later than the last of July, then sow some sort of seeds, clover, vetches, peas or rye, as may seem best. These will use and store up the soluble foods in the soil, thus preventing their leaching, and at the same time furnishing a cover for the winter.—A. W. Peart.

CO-OPERATION IN THE APPLE INDUSTRY

R. H. Coats, of the Labor Gazette, Ottawa, has written an intensely interesting and instructive article dealing with the subject of co-operation in the Canadian apple industry, which appears in the Quarterly Journal of Economics, published by Harvard University, November, 1906, in which he explains the character of the series of experiments which have been conducted for the purpose of showing the practical value of the co-operative principle as applied to the business in which large numbers of farmers and fruit-growers are interested. He traces the history of the growing, packing and selling of Canadian apples during the past half century, and shows that as long as the local markets made sufficient demand orchards continued to increase in number. There were not only orchards in great numbers, but great varieties of trees planted, the aim being to have apples from early harvest to late winter. Few growers were experts, and, natural conditions being favorable, injurious insects and fungus diseases did not prove a handicap.

The demand for apples abroad was comparatively small, and in the early years of the industry Canadian apples were classed with American and sold as such. Later Canadian apples became known and appreciated and the trade with Great Britain assumed large proportions. As foreign trade increased the inexperience of the average grower made him the victim of buyers, who had a free hand for many years, and conducted the packing and grading operations entirely in their own interests. However, for a time the orchard became once more a profitable department of the farm. There were still difficulties to be overcome, especially the alternating of phenomenal crops with years of scarcity, the great numbers of varieties of apples grown and the small size of the orchards. It is said that in 1886 more than 7,000,000 barrels of apples in Ontario alone gave no immediate return to the growers, and in 1904 many thousands of barrels were brought at fifty cents a barrel, whereas it frequently cost not less than forty-five cents a barrel to pick and pack the same apples. The industry was handed over to irresponsible and unscrupulous buyers, "whose usual method was to secure the confidence of the grower one year in order to rob him more effectively the next." All interest in the preservation and improvement of orchards was largely, if not wholly, lost, and in numerous instances the farmers cut down their trees.

To solve some of these difficulties which threatened to injure, if not permanently destroy the apple industry, the idea of co-operation suggested itself, primarily as a means of assisting those having small orchards. These growers found that they were unable to compete with those having large orchards, in that they could not dispose of their fruit to advantage, nor were they able to secure reasonable transportation rates. The first step was the organization of cold storage associations with subsidized plants, and the second the establishment of central packing houses. At the end of 1905 there were twenty co-operative apple packing and shipping associations in existence. Many of these, however, have not become incorporated. Following this movement, the dominion government passed the fruit marks act for the purpose of securing uniformity of product and high standards of classification, thus insuring an enhanced reputation for Canadian apples abroad.

Mr. Coats suggests that the objects aimed at in the co-operative movement in the apple industry are as follows:

"(1) Uniformity in packing.

"(2) The most economical methods of picking and packing.

"(3) The picking, packing and shipping of each variety when at its best.

"(4) The manufacture or wholesale purchase of baskets, boxes, barrels and other packages.

"(5) The placing of the purely commercial part of the industry in the hands of competent men, whose interests might be directly coincident with those of the other members of the association.

"(6) The stimulation of interest in the improvement of the product among the less progressive fruit growers.

"(7) The sale of fruit at the point of shipment.

"(8) Utilization of surplus or inferior products."

He discusses each of the foregoing points in turn, explaining the methods pursued and stating the degree of success attained by the association in their employment of the co-operative method.

In conclusion, he says that, "on the whole, the outlook for the success of co-operating in the apple industry is vastly more favorable than for any other experiment of the kind under trial in Canada during the past several years. The plan is being accepted with enthusiasm in many of the best fruit growing sections of the country, in spite of the distrust and exclusiveness that so often characterize the farmer. Its advantages, indeed, have been clearly demonstrated, and are best illustrated by the fact that on the rare occasions on which shipments have been sent by the associations on consignment they have decisively beaten all competitors in the open market. Even as a purchaser, the association is preferred by the independent grower to the individual buyer. In a large way the factor that has chiefly militated against co-operative undertaking in Canada, as in all new countries—the mobility of the industrial population—is minimized in the case of an industry like fruit-growing, which presupposes years of development and a fixed stake in the community. Many plans are in the air as to the future of the movement. A union of the different associations operating in Ontario has been formed within the past few months with a view to regulating outputs and markets. This is decidedly in the way of taking time by the forelock, for as yet no competition or trade rivalry has arisen among the members.

"The one contingency that might have compelled it—a glut in the market—has been indefinitely postponed by the work of the associations in cheapening the production and in improving the quality of the fruit. For good fruit there is always a market and it is chiefly the inferior grades that in years of abundance have proved a source of loss. Considerations, however, of an immediate and practical kind rather than far-off aims and objects are at present engaging the attention of co-operative packers in Canada. That the industry will be given a new lease of prosperity under the influence of the new method seems at present in every way assured."

When Mrs. Guy Heminway, of Lee (Conn.), had a severe toothache recently, her husband persuaded her to accompany him to a dentist, where he put her in a hypnotic condition and the tooth-puller did his work without causing the patient the slightest pain.

GOOD WORK AT RIVERSIDE SCHOOL

Two Hundred and Ten Scholars in Attendance During Winter

Domestic Science Department Furnished Dinners to 25 Every Day at a Nominal Fee--Manual Training Department a Great Success--The Pupils' Standing.

Hopewell Hill, April 16—The following students of the Riverside Consolidated school made the highest standing in their respective grades during the quarter ending March 30:

Grade I—Harry Farris, Deborah Mitton, Isaac Tingley, Roy Milburn, Hilda Steeves, Marie Fullerton.

Grade II—Hallie Smith, Harold Fullerton, Percy Bassett, Charles Robinson, Arnold Kinnie.

Grade III—Kenneth Barbour, Lucien McLeod, Georgia Fullerton (Hattie Colwell, Gordon Crocker).

Grade IV—Etta Sprague, Achoah Mitton, Lena Fullerton, Christine Crawford, Dalphina Mansfield.

Grade V—Gertrude Fullerton (Margaret Barbour, Amy Keiver), (Golda Graves, Minnie Tarris).

Grade VI—Ethel Ewell, Mina Stiles, Russell Fullerton.

Grade VII—Allie Mitton, Blair Tarris, Frank Fillmore.

Grade VIII—Lena Reid, Edith Hoar, Mildred Murray, Harriet Tingley.

Grade IX—Rosie Tingley, Leoline Crawford, Alberta Richardson (Chester Crossman, Barry Reid), Willis Crocker.

Grade X—(James Reid, Wendell Wright), Dora Tingley, Auxiena Copp (Clara Tingley, Nita J. Fawcett, G. Bruce Dixon).

Grade XI—Clyde Robinson, Alonzo Stiles, Marion Reid, Emma Marks.

Grade XII—Agnes Caruwath, Mabel Elliott, Clarence Hoar.

Reports from the school appear very encouraging, the interest of the students being well sustained. Two hundred and ten pupils have been in attendance during the past quarter.

As an illustration of what can be done in the household science department, it may be noted that during the winter months some twenty-five boys and girls were served with dinners by the department, the work being done by the class, under the direction of Miss Clara G. Turner, the efficient teacher. A fee of five cents was charged each pupil to cover expenses. The experiment gave the work of the department a practical turn, and seemed to be well worth trying.

Good reports also come from the manual training department. During January and February, Mr. Peacock, who is in charge of this department, took special training in Fredericton. During Mr. Peacock's absence the class was under the direction of George W. Copp, a practical mechanic, and Mr. Copp pays a very high tribute to the skill of the pupils from a mechanical standpoint. More than 100 picture frames were made by the class under Mr. Copp's direction, and the work was so well done that Mr. Copp asserted that he would sooner take his choice of the school boys to frame pictures than an equal number of ordinary carpenters. This certainly speaks well for the training the boys have had.

A new feature in the school is the formation of a branch of the League of the Empire, in which much interest is taken. Almost all of the teachers and about fifty pupils are regular members. The fees and names are sent to Mrs. J. Haldane, of Oxford (Eng.), who places the members in correspondence with students in various parts of the empire. The letters received are read at the weekly meetings, and the places studied about in the geographies and encyclopedia. Essays on current events are written, and debates held. On Friday, April 5, a debate will be conducted on the following subject: "Resolved, that the expulsion of the Acadians was justifiable." The leader of the affirmative is Miss Dora Tingley; of the negative, Miss Frances Downing; Judge, Mr. Peacock; critic, Miss Turner.

Could'nt Pass Pure Food Laws

Numbers of catarrh remedies have been forced off the market by Uncle Sam's New Pure Food Laws. But "Catarrhozone" comes through with flying colors, and is guaranteed under the act, thus establishing this standard remedy in the front rank of remedies that "do cure." Try it for asthma, catarrh, bronchitis. Cure is guaranteed to all who use Catarrhozone.

KINGSTON PEOPLE WILL PAY SLIGHT INCREASE TO KEEP THEIR SCHOOL

Local Government Grant of $3,000 Yearly Much Appreciated—Prof. Robertson Opens Their Eyes—Dr. Inches Also Spoke.

Kingston, April 17—Kingston people are talking of nothing else today except the good news that was published briefly in The Telegraph this morning, that the Macdonald school would be continued for another three years at least. They speak in terms of the highest praise of the generosity of the provincial government and Sir William Macdonald, which will enable them to continue the good school that has been in operation here for the past three years.

Everyone enjoyed the frank talk of Dr. Inch to the children and parents, but the remarks of Prof. Robertson, the heart to heart talk he had with the children and the people won everybody. He did not ask them to do anything but what they thought was best. He appealed to what was best in them to do what was best for their children and the community. He spoke of the value of education and gave them some idea of what their benefactor, Sir William Macdonald, was doing in St. Anne's.

The children apparently were as interested as the parents in his graphic talk and they did their share, singing and marching before they were dismissed and the business of the day begun.

With the chairman, Clarence Flewelling, presiding, Dr. Inch talked to the point and soon relieved the anxiety and uncertainty of the people as to what the government proposed to do. When they heard their generous terms they showed their satisfaction plainly. He spoke first of the great value the Kingston school had been as an example to the rest of the province, and in this connection, he spoke of Riverside, Florenceville and Hampton schools. He talked of the large expense in connection with the schools on account of the van service—seven in Kingston, where there were two at Riverside, where there were nearly twice as many children.

Then he advised the people to abolish district lines and to become one district under the general act, and take advantage of the aid extended by the government for all time. There was a special act passed this year, but he advised them strongly to come under the general consolidation law. They would have a board of seven trustees, four of which would be elected by them and three appointed by the government, including the chairman. They would get the regular grant that all schools receive and beside the grants given to manual and domestic science and school garden departments. They would also get half of the expense of running the vans and more than that, $700 per annum for every district in consolidation, and more than that too, for the government promised to pay $2 a head for the average attendance during the term ending in December.

Talking about their present expenses, he said transportation cost $2,800, of which the government pays half. Supposing that could be reduced to $2,400. The expense would then stand thus:

Salaries of teachers	$2,850
Salary of janitor	126
Coal bill	412
Wood	20
Sundries	82
Van drivers	2,400
	$5,500

He told them pretty plainly that a tax rate of $1 would not run the school on a total valuation of about $100,000. There were districts who paid two and three dollars on the hundred and didn't think it too much. Riverside, Albert county, paid $1.18, and Hampton expects to pay $1.25.

But it was Prof. Robertson who got down to practical and actual figures, and showed the people that continuing this splendid school of theirs would not cost them any more hardly than going back to the old way. And then, by their own admission, he did not allow enough for the repairs to the old school houses vacant for three years and the increased wages of teachers.

He estimated the cost of running the school with one teacher less—which Principal Hamilton said was possible—as follows:

Salaries of teachers	$2,000
Van drivers	2,800
Other expenses	700
	$5,500

Of this amount, Dr. Inch said $3,000 was absolutely certain with seven districts and an average attendance of 150 it would amount to $2,400, but counting upon $3,000 the people would have to raise $2,500. Now Sir William Macdonald would give them $1,200 a year for three years, and that would leave them $1,300 to raise in the seven districts.

Prof. Robertson's talk was plain, frank and appreciated by everyone, and when the vote was taken informally to show the sentiment of the meeting the crowd of ratepayers rose to their feet in approval almost to a man.

The vote gave great satisfaction to Dr. Inch and Prof. Robertson, and there were frank expressions of opinion that both the government and Sir William Macdonald had done all and more than could be expected from them.

Miss Sterritt, the domestic science teacher, and her pupils won warm praise from those who enjoyed the supper she prepared, and Prof. Robertson and Dr. Inch expressed their appreciation in warm terms.

Prof. Robertson remained until next morning to enable him to have a conference with the teachers, and Dr. Inch returned to St. John by a late evening train.

CARLETON COUNTY MAN DISAPPEARS; INQUIRY ORDERED

Florenceville, April 15—There is something of a sensation around about Oakland in this county. As a result Deputy Sheriff Foster with a posse of men is making an investigation, acting under the direction of the attorney general. Back of Oakland is a place which is popularly known as Rogue's Roost. Here lived a man named Henry Lawson, who was married to a woman named Cullens. Other families by the name of Cullens lived round about. As late back as the early days of February Henry Lawson left his home, or at all events disappeared. Since then nothing has been heard of him and certain stories implying the possibility of foul play have been talked about and hence the steps now taken to investigate the matter. The deputy, A. R. Foster, came out on the train today, and from him the information was gleaned that he was acting under orders to make a thorough investigation. He has telegraphed to all points and can find no word whatever of the unfortunate man. Lawson's wife admits they had a falling out, but claims it arouse over her husband's inability to support her. Others say the row was more serious. Lawson is a man about fifty years of age, weighing about 150 pounds and was very poorly clad when last seen. The sheriff expects to spend two or three days in the locality of Oakland, and will thoroughly search the woods and prosecute a searching enquiry generally.

Guysborough Woman Dead at 109.

Guysborough, N. S., April 16—At the home of her son, George Armsworthy, near Queensport, this county, the death occured on Thursday last, of Mrs. Hannah Armsworthy, relict of James Armsworthy in the 109th year of her age. The deceased, whose maiden name was Hannah Butler, was born on the 15th September, 1798, at Little Bras D'or, C. B. She lived for thirteen years with her grand-daughter, Mrs. William Meads. Three years ago she attended a wedding a mile from her place. The offspring of this long lived woman are numerous, there being many great-great-grandchildren.

Maine Woman Suicides.

Mechanic Falls, Me., April 16.—Despondent because of ill-health for a year Mrs. Amanda Shackley, wife of Henry Shackley, of this village, ended her life by drowning in the Little Androscoggin River, a short distance from her home, tonight.

She was sixty-four years of age, and leaves a husband, one son and two daughters.

STOMACH TROUBLES

To wrong action of the stomach and impaired digestion a host of diseases owe their origin.

When the food is imperfectly digested the full benefit is not derived from it by the body, and then stomach troubles start to appear.

Thus you become thin, weak, nervous and debilitated, energy is lacking, brightness, snap and vigor are lost and in their place come dullness, dizziness, loss of appetite, depression and languor. The great point is to get the stomach back into good shape again so it can properly digest the food, and the easiest, quickest and best way to do it is by the use of

BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS

Miss Lizzie Fullotte, Jacquet River, N.B., writes: "I was very much troubled with my stomach and did not know what to do. I consulted several doctors, got medicine from them, but all to no purpose, and was constantly growing worse. One day I had the good luck to meet with a friend who had been troubled in the same way as myself. My friend told me of the wonderful cure Burdock Blood Bitters had made with her and advised me to try a bottle. I did so, and what a happy change the first bottle made. I took two more and am completely cured, and I shall ever sing the praises of B.B.B."

Price $1.00 per bottle or 6 bottles for $5.00.

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The choking pains are caused by gases—a result of fermentation in the stomach. You may get heart palpitation that comes from gases distending the stomach and pressing against the heart. Nervoline acts like magic and relieves the distention, expels the gas, stimulates the stomach, increases the digestive powers. Every symptom is cured by Nervoline which has marvellous power in stomach and bowel disorders. Try a 25c. bottle—worth its weight in gold to every man, woman and child. Harmless and pleasant to the taste.

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