

THE WEEKLY ONTARIO

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W. H. MORTON, Business Manager. J. O. HERITY, Editor-in-Chief.

THURSDAY, JULY 22, 1920.

A FRENCH-CANADIAN MARKET

Last Saturday morning it so happened that the writer was in the town of St. Johns, Province of Quebec. The town is located twenty-five miles south of Montreal in the center of an excellent agricultural district and contains about 3,000 inhabitants.

As we had to take our departure by a somewhat early train we arose at five o'clock. The market-place was located immediately across the street from our hotel. Even at that unearthly hour several waggons were backed up to the walks with produce ready for sale. By six o'clock every available inch of space, both on the outside market square and within the building, was occupied. It is only fair to state, however, that the town, as indeed nearly every town and city in the province, has adopted daylight saving. But even at that the marketing was being done a full two or three hours ahead of the time for such business in Belleville. Not only were the sellers there with the goods at six o'clock but the buyers were around looking over the produce and carrying away the bargains.

Jean, Jacques and Pierre are early risers and thrifty in all things. Up here in Ontario, where we know a great deal more than the benighted sons of France, who inhabit Quebec, we do things in a different way.

For instance when the farmer has a fat "critter" ready for market he no longer attempts to butcher himself as his grandfather used to do. Amateur butchering is not now considered good form, you know, in rural circles. When the Thurlow farmer has a fat steer ready for market, he sells the steer to the drover. The drover does no butchering but ships the animals in cattle cars to Toronto where the steer is resold to the Harris Abattoir or the William Davies Company or other large slaughtering firms where butchering is carried out by wholesale. The steer is then butchered, quartered and shipped back to Belleville, where it is resold to the retail butcher who sells to the ultimate consumer or else sells to the restaurant keeper who resells to the final consumer.

The steer was not improved by its journey to Toronto and the quality of the beef was not improved by the trip back to Belleville. Though the butchering is rather more artistic at the extensive Toronto abattoirs than can be expected from local executioners.

But the point we wish to bring out is here. First the honest farmer must have a profit and he usually earns all he gets for he has all the work of rearing the animal from infancy to maturity. Then the drover must have pay for his time and trouble in driving bargains with the farmer, driving the animal to the shipping point and expenses of travelling to and from Toronto and the risk of declining markets must be allowed for. The men at the Toronto stock yards are not working solely for purposes of recreation, as was brought out at an investigation that has not altogether faded into oblivion. The railroads come in for theirs with freight in the two directions and finally the retail butcher must earn an honest dollar by way of profits on sales to his customers.

The point is here, gentle reader, when you buy a piece of steak at the retail butcher stall you have to put up for four profits, first, the farmer's, second the drover's, third the packing-house magnate's and fourth the retail butcher's, without mentioning double railway freight. Poor, ignorant Jean Baptiste, unacquainted with the ways of modern business, simply eliminates the drover, the railroad, the slaughter-house millionaire and the retail butcher. He flavellises on his own account and combines in himself the functions of them all.

At St. Johns we saw no professional butchers or regular butchers' stalls, in or around the market. But we did see, perhaps, a hundred French-Canadian farmers having for sale on the tables inside the market an extensive and tempting array of fresh pork, veal, beef and lamb. The work had it by a big majority. The offerings

were mostly a single carcass or part of a carcass by each individual. The meat was all cut up in convenient sizes for sale.

The prices, we found, were very reasonable, though not unreasonably reasonable. Therefore the practice of these unschooled habitants had a double advantage. The producer received a much higher price for his goods than he might otherwise do and the ultimate consumer benefited likewise by the elimination of flavellism on intervening transactions.

The thrift of the French-Canadian was shown in another direction. There were abundant offerings of wild red raspberries, clean and fresh in appearance. The price asked was seventeen cents a quart. Few berry boxes were visible. Some late strawberries were noticed. The sellers were asking twenty cents a box. New potatoes had appeared. The price was \$1.60 a peck. For fresh eggs the dark-eyed sales ladies were demanding half a dollar per twelve. We noticed a particularly fine appearing lot of yearling chickens. The man in charge told us the price was "two dollar."

Although the population at St. Johns is almost exclusively French we had no difficulty in making them understand English. We had learned in previous tours of Quebec that the natives understood English far better than they did our broken badly pronounced French. We therefore have given up making an exhibition of ridiculous book French and very rarely indeed, even in the remotest parts of the province, have we had any trouble to make those with whom we tried to converse understand.

We confess that we have a great liking for the French-Canadian, especially in the rural parts where he is unspoiled by contact with bargain-hunters, bolshevists and profiteers. He has a genuine hospitality, openness of heart and unaffected courtesy that are hard to resist. He is willing to live and let live.

THE GREENEST SUMMER YET

The editor has just returned from a tour of nearly 1,500 miles through Ontario and Quebec. In the light of that experience he now feels safe in predicting that Ontario will have one of the finest grain crops in her history. The bumper crops of 1915 will probably surpass this year's return, but in 1915 heavy rains at the maturing season lowered the standard of the grain and spoiled the straw.

It is remarkable at this season of the year to see the fields as green as in early May and the pasture-lands still putting forth an abundant growth of grass. In a dairy section like that around Belleville the importance of rich pasturage can scarcely be over-estimated.

Col. Ponton reports that the fall wheat he harvested on July 13th is heavy, bright in color and free from rust and smut. We believe that conditions will be general in this district and characteristic of all kinds of grain. The long, well-filled heads are already bending low from their weight. Practically every variety of crop, with the possible exception of hay, should yield better than an average, and even hay will not fall far below its usual record.

From our observations we would state that Belleville is the centre of a large district that will be favored with the finest crops to be found anywhere in Ontario or Quebec Provinces. During the months of April and May a drought prevailed over eastern Canada. But the condition of the soil was such that the spring grain germinated and made a fine growth, with only the moisture left in the soil from the winter snows.

The drought was broken in this district a week or two sooner than in western Canada, or even at Toronto and a full month sooner than was the case in Quebec. We ascertained during our tour through Quebec that dry weather continued there almost to the first of July. Since that time abundant rain has fallen but its arrival was too late to make much difference in the hay crop which is relatively far more important there than it is in Ontario.

We journeyed all through the much-talked of Eastern Townships, with Sherbrooke as their center of population. It is a district characterized by high hills and deep valleys, in contrast with central Quebec, which is an almost unbroken plain. The Eastern Townships form an excellent agricultural section but they are still very much inferior to the district around Belleville. The buildings generally betoken a degree of prosperity that is superior to that of most parts of Quebec but they have not reached the stage of development to be seen in the better communities in Hastings and Prince Edward.

In the Eastern Townships, as in all other parts of Quebec, the farms are infested with weeds to a degree that is unknown in Ontario. Wild mustard, the white daisy, the buttercup, the blue devil, the perennial sow thistle and other weed enemies give to the fields and meadows a ragged appearance. The French habitant is not a skillful agriculturalist and his Anglo-Saxon neighbors in Quebec are little better.

Farmers in Ontario should be warned in times of fodder scarcity that they run a risk in the importation of hay from Quebec. If they do they will be almost certain to contaminate their clean fields with some of the most persistent weed pests known to man.

But the point we wish to bring out is that in Belleville district, or Central Ontario, is especially favored this year and has every prospect of crops that will fill the hearts of the producers with gladness.

The advantages of mixed farming, such as is practiced here can readily be seen this year. One or more branches of farming may fail to bring good returns, but the deficiency is more than likely to be made up by large yields in some other lines.

Distant pastures look greenest, but when everything is considered, the rising generation, which is sometimes prone to seek a future in distant parts, will do well to consider that this section of Canada offers exceptional features and gives equal promise with any other part of the Dominion or the United States of prosperity and advancement.

The present summer has probably been the greenest, take it all through, within the memory of living man. At this season we almost invariably have pastures burned brown and leaves withering and turning yellow. Instead of that we still have superb growing weather, with cool nights and bright sunshine through the long days. Those who have gone to summer resorts are complaining of the unpleasantly cool nights which produce chills and rheumatism and many resorters are leaving for home. But the cool nights, bright days and moist soil are bringing along a crop of spuds that will, in a few days, make the \$1.60 a peck demand look about like thirty cents.

STRAINED RELATIONS

A critical situation has arisen between Sweden and Finland over Sweden's attitude toward a delegation from the Aland Islands which represented to the Swedish Government that the population of the islands desired self-determination on the basis of a referendum. After a sharp exchange of notes between the two governments a battalion of Finnish troops has been landed on Aland and encamped near Mariehamn.

The Finnish government has arrested two leaders of the Aland deputation on a charge of high treason.

Sweden has despatched a note to Finland urging the Finnish government to consent to a plebiscite by which the population of the islands would decide whether they shall belong to Sweden or Finland but it is understood the Finnish government is unshaken in its determination to oppose any such measure.

Official opinion here is that Finland's attitude is based upon the assumption that the initiative for separation of the Alands from Finland was taken in Sweden, whereas, it is declared, the agitation began with Alanders who based their right of self-determination on historical grounds and upon principles recognized by the League of Nations.

The Finnish government has announced that it "absolutely rejects all such claims as are irreconcilable with her sovereignty over the Alands, which Sweden recognized without reservation."

The Aland archipelago, in the Gulf of Bothnia, consists of 30 inhabited islands, with a population of 24,000 of whom 12,000 reside on Aland island, the principal town of which is Mariehamn. The islands formerly belonged to Sweden but were taken by Russia in 1809. The Finnish government holds that the political importance of the islands is so great that no Finnish government could cede them to a foreign power and the united with Sweden they would constitute a constant source of danger to Finland.

EUGENIE AND THE EMPIRE

The passing of the ex-Empress Eugenie is not likely to excite much sympathetic feeling in France. Fifty years have passed since Napoleon fell into German hands, and his wife and child fled to England to escape the fury of the French mob, but there has been nothing revealed since then that softens the picture of the degenerate, dissolute court of this political adventurer and political adventuress, who, by their intriguing and scheming, led their country into a disastrous war, and sowed the seeds of hatred and national jealousies that fruited in the recent great European war.

Napoleon III, like his great uncle and namesake, was ambitious to found a dynasty in France. He sought a wife in the royal courts of Europe, but the princesses drew their skirts about them and refused to recognize him. It was then that he married Eugenie, a lady whose parentage would scarcely bear scrutiny. She had beauty and the social graces that were demanded by a court, but neither she nor the emperor had the ability to discriminate be-

tween those entitled to recognition and those who were merely self-seekers. The consequence was that the court was infested with penniless adventurers, newly-rich bankers, stock jobbers, political schemers of all kinds, not to mention gamblers and crooks. The description which Nicholas Murray Butler recently gave of some of the supporters of Gen. Leonard Wood might be applied to the court of Napoleon and Eugenie. Napoleon's chief adviser was his illegitimate half-brother, a cool, cynical man of fashion, completely master of the under-currents of Parisian politics, business and society.

It is to the credit of the French people of the time that they were not deceived by Napoleon or by Eugenie. The emperor was regarded properly as a charlatan the empress as an upstart. The Royalists stayed away from court, and the middle classes and peasantry tolerated the empire because it acted as a bulwark against the revolutionary socialism which they feared would seize their savings. Professor Schapiro, in his history of Europe, says that "under the great Napoleon these two elements, the peasants and the bourgeoisie, had combined against the old nobility; under his nephew they combined against the working class."

A court like that of Napoleon, brilliant with a forced brilliancy, was the ground in which seeds of war quickly matured. Napoleon himself regarded a war policy as essential to his ambition, but his practice was to associate himself with allies; in case of victory he could claim the credit, and in case of defeat he could put the blame on the others. In 1854 he joined England and Turkey in making war on Russia. In 1859 he joined Sardinia in a war on Austria. In the early sixties he intervened in Mexico, and supported the Austrian Prince Maximilian and his Carlotta in their tragic effort to establish monarchy in the new world. Unfortunately for Napoleon and for France, his last war had to be fought without an ally, and against a power whose strength he sadly underestimated. The circumstances leading to the Franco-Prussian war are familiar. The perfidy of Bismarck has been much dwelt upon by historians, and well deserves the utmost condemnation for all time, but even Bismarck's forging of the Ems telegram would not have brought on war had there not been a reckless war party in the French court. This war party was headed by the Duke of Garmont, minister of foreign affairs, and by Eugenie. They prevailed upon the emperor and his prime minister, Ollivier, to make unreasonable demands upon King William, and his refusal was used by Bismarck to make "a red rag for the Gallis bull." A few months later Napoleon was a prisoner, and his consort a refugee in England.

English sympathy was decidedly with Germany during the war, but the English people received the royal refugees with consideration. Napoleon died in England three years later, and his widow made her home there for the rest of her life. She had been provident enough to amass a huge fortune during the heyday of the empire, and this was transferred to England. It has been stated that the whole of the fortune estimated at thirty millions has been left to the church.

THE PRICE OF POTATOES

Many people are peevish
 About the price of potatoes,
 But not I.
 After I have hoed five hundred hills,
 In baked soil,
 Under a broiling sun,
 And killed six hundred devilish bugs,
 Or maybe seven hundred and fifty,
 I feel that the potatoes I raise
 Are worth about
 A dollar apiece.
 So I give my grocer a terrible shock
 By smiling when he mentions the price,
 And paying it without a murmur.
 I hear other people saying
 That the wearing of furs is
 Unethical.
 I used to feel that way
 Myself
 But after I have replanted three times
 The rows of Golden Bantam
 From which I hoped to harvest an
 Early crop, I think of a moleskin coat
 With unalloyed pleasure.
 It would use up so many moles.
 Yes, indeed,
 A garden is
 Quite educational!
 —Chicago Tribune.

HOUSE AND HOME

A house is built of bricks and stones,
 Of sills and posts and piers;
 But a home is built of loving deeds
 That stand a thousand years.
 A house, though but an humble cot,
 Within its walls may hold
 A home of priceless beauty, chain
 Love's eternal gold.
 —Nixon Waterman.

MADOC

Mr. Don Kinlock, of Oshawa, has been the guest of his parents recently. Mr. W. G. Luxton, of Hancockburn was a caller at The Review Office on Monday.

Mrs. F. E. Seymour has returned to Madoc after spending the winter in New York.

Miss Helen Huggins, of Toronto, was the guest of Miss Emma Wellington, over the week-end.

Mrs. Paul Jenkins, of Norwood, and son, Mr. E. Keating, of Toronto, were holiday visitors in town.

Mr. Crozier Moore, of Campbellford, spent the week-end in town with his sister, Mrs. J. A. McCoy.

Mr. James Howell, of Montreal, is visiting Mrs. R. Diamond and other friends of this vicinity.

Mrs. A. E. Smart and her two sons, Wilmot and George, are holidaying at Newmarket at Mr. Smart's home.

Miss Saddle Davis, of Peterboro, and Miss Blanche Pringle, of Melrose visited at the home of Mr. G. Hurman on Sunday and Monday.

Messrs. Harry, Everett and John White, of Edmonton, have been called home to attend the funeral of their mother, which took place yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Haggerty, of Belleville, visited their grandson, Mr. R. Wellman, on Sunday and Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Bristol and Mr. M. Bristol attended the funeral of their sister, Mrs. Graham, of Belleville on Monday.

Misses Maria and Helen Orr, of Toronto, are spending a few weeks in town with their mother, Mrs. Wm. Orr.

Mrs. Sam McGuire and little son, of Belleville, spent the week-end in town with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John McDonald.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Wannamaker, of Stockdale, and Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Rossbach, of Stirling, were guests of their aunt, Mrs. J. Caverly, this week.

Mrs. Clayton Drummond and daughter, Irene, of Bancroft, have been visiting Mrs. John Osborne, for the past week. Mr. Drummond was in town for the celebration on Monday.—Madoc Review.

DESERONTO

Miss Sadie Maloney left on Saturday to spend her holidays in Ottawa.

Claire Malley leaves shortly on a canoe trip through the Muskoka district.

Clarke Watson, Miss Ross and brother, returned to Schenectady this week.

Mr. Ernest Vanalstine has been under the doctor's care with an attack of pneumonia.

Mr. Edgar Irwin has been seriously ill this past week. Latest reports indicate a change for the better.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Clarke of Belleville were guests of her parents Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Topping, Sunday.

Mrs. J. Gendron and son, Richard, spent the holiday in Bobcaygeon with her sister, Mrs. H. J. Gendron.

Mrs. J. St. Louis and Miss Emma St. Louis are spending a couple of weeks with relatives at Toronto and Sarnia.

Robert Milligan, one of the old-timers, wended his way last week to the Belleville castle for the aged. Such is life.

Mrs. J. P. Charlebois of Toronto, who has been with her brother, T. C. Maloney, has returned to her summer home Collingwood.

Mrs. S. Allen will leave shortly on a visit to her daughters in the west. Mrs. Allen plans to go by train to Sarnia, and sail to Fort William from there.

Misses Margaret and Alleen Gendron returned from Bobcaygeon with their aunt, Mrs. J. Gendron, and intend spending a couple of weeks' holidays in Toronto.

Mrs. A. A. Richardson of Montreal was the guest of friends in town and returning to the city was accompanied by Mrs. Haggerty, who will visit other relatives there.

Mrs. Walters of Rochester, N.Y., who was a guest of Mrs. Antoine Deforge, returned home on Monday.

Mr. Joseph Sove of Rochester, N.Y., visited Mrs. A. Laforge recently. He also was the guest of friends in Napanee and Trenton.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Keith have moved to Oshawa where they will make their home in future. Deseronto loses a good family; Oshawa gains one. Mrs. Keith was here this week shipping her household effects.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Claus and little son, Bernard, of Hamilton arrived in Deseronto this week. Mrs. Claus and son leave shortly on a visit to old home scenes in England.—Deseronto Post.

It Hates Pain Away.—There is no ailment so efficacious in overcoming pain as Dr. "Thomas" Electric Oil. The hand that rubs it in rubs the pain away and on this account there is no preparation that stands so high in Public esteem. There is no surer pain-killer procurable, as thousands can attest who have used it successfully in treating many ailments.

L. O. F. P. A Big

Victoria Park Scene of Sports

Despite untoward conditions, the field day at Victoria Park under Court Moira No. Order of Foresters fied success. The cleared away short hour and it was crowds were finding park. By the time started, there were and people on the Rednersville band organization, less furnished the mus- ternoon and even men wear a naty, makes them present apes.

Sports of all kind in on the park. from the bay made pleasant.

The winners of Boys' race 14 years

- 1—A Workman.
- 2—Albert Oramp.
- 3—G. Barriage.

Young Men's Race:

- 1—G. Malden.
- 2—A. Frith
- 3—W. Asselstine.

Married Men's Race

- 1—J. M. Tufts.
- 2—J. Black
- 3—J. A. Noble.

Swimming Race:

The course was at The prize winners swam and neck and to the two of the race, the doubt.

- 1—W. Asselstine.
- 2—W. Saunders.
- 3—H. Artis.

Ladies' Nailing Co

- 1—Mrs. Seams.
- 2—Mrs. Hillman.
- 3—Mrs. Calberry.

Soap Race:

The ladies were pr soap they picked up

Married Ladies' Rac

- 1—Mrs. G. T. La
- 2—Mrs. F. E. Co
- 3—Mrs. J. R. Cal

Single Ladies' Race:

- 1—M. Lynch.
- 2—Rita Hunter.
- 3—G. Sager.

Girls' Race, 14 and

- 1—Celina Lynch.
- 2—Jennie Storms.
- 3—Lena O'Neil.

Peg Race:

- 1—Mrs. J. R. Cal
- 2—Mrs. P. Fisher
- 3—Mrs. E. T. Lav

Sack Race:

- 1—J. Semark.
- 2—W. Sanford.
- 3—J. DeTourneau.

Smoking Race:

- 1—G. A. Nobles
- 2—E. Baldrce.
- 3—J. Ranfield.

Round Race for Lad

- 1—Mrs. E. T. Lav
- 2—Mrs. F. E. Co
- 3—Mrs. J. R. Cal

Water Race:

- 1—W. Asselstine.
- 2—H. Kellar.

100 Yards Dash (un

- 1—Wilfrid Sanford
- 2—Arthur Babcock
- 3—F. Kerr.

A tug of war bet

F. team of nine men resulted in two straight "All Comers," who with cigars.

The greasy pole of long drawn out. The slips into the water. Thur Babcock slipped the end and picked ticket. Hundreds wat

The baby show was twenty-six mothers sh seven infants, there the competition. Th were a very fine look ing to the judges, a good citizens some d they were very quiet judged. The prizes we lows: