

# The Kingdom of Canada

By J. S. EWART, K.C.

## ARTICLE II.

"What about war? Are we self-governing as to that?" Most certainly we are. Let me remind you of the attitude of our political leaders on several occasions. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has said, not only in parliament but at the conferences, that although, as a matter of international law, Canada is at war when the United Kingdom is at war, yet that Canada must determine for herself, in every case, whether or not she will actively participate in the war. She may, of course, be attacked and be obliged to defend herself, but, apart from that contingency (one to which every nation is subject), Canada can do as she pleases.

Mr. Borden has arrived at the same result, but by a process. He has declared that obligation to participate in British war without having a voice in the control of British foreign policy would not be—

"a tolerable condition. I do not think the people of Canada would, for one moment, submit to such a condition." (a).

Having so declared, Mr. Borden presented his principle to the British government in the summer of 1912, and he has told us that Mr. Asquith

"explicitly accepted the principle." (b);

but at the same time declared that "responsibility for foreign policy could not be shared by Great Britain with the Dominions." (c).

Mr. Borden clearly indicated what that meant:—

"It has been declared in the past, and even during recent years, that responsibility for foreign policy could not be shared by Great Britain with the dominions. In my humble

opinion, the adherence to such a position could have but one, and that a most disastrous result." (d).

—a result which (as he said at a subsequent stage of his speech):

"is fraught with even graver significance for the British Islands than for Canada." (e).

We have not a share in the control of foreign policy; we cannot get it; and Mr. Borden says that under such circumstances, Canada would not tolerate having to contribute to Imperial defence. No declaration of self-government can be clearer than that. Put into Mr. Doherty's language it amounts to this:—

"What I desire to point out is that, under our constitution, there is no obligation on the part of Canada, legally or constitutionally speaking, to contribute to the naval forces of the Empire, and that position will continue to exist so long as the United Kingdom alone has exclusive control of the foreign affairs of the Empire." (f).

It is satisfactory to know that this freedom from obligation is fully admitted by British statesmen. Proof of this fact may be found in the first volume of "The Kingdom Papers," at pages 180 and 266.

### The British Empire

If I have satisfied you as to the completeness of our self-governing authority, the next question is: What is now our true constitutional position? Originally we were entirely, and, until recently, we were partially under the control of the Colonial office—the office which has the care and management of the colonies. Now we are free from

that control. Constitutionally, what does that mean? Legally, in what manner must we express the relation which now exists between us and the United Kingdom? Formerly, our rank was that of a colony; we were a part of the possessions—the domain—the Empire of the British people. They had authority over us. Their parliament made laws for us. Their government issued orders to us. Their Foreign office made treaties for us. We were part of the British Empire, guided and controlled by Imperial authority. What are we now?

We are not, at all events, part of the British Empire. That is not only clear, but is, by thinking men, fully admitted. An empire is

"an aggregate of subject states ruled over by a sovereign state." (g).

If we are a "subject" state, we may be part of an empire; and if we are "ruled over" by any sovereign state, we are part of the empire of that state. But we are neither "subject" nor "ruled over"; and we are not, therefore, part of the possessions or empire of any state. Having complete powers of self-government, we cannot permit ourselves to be spoken of as though we were a "subject state ruled over by a sovereign state."

Quite naturally, men who, in past years have (correctly) spoken of the British Empire as including Canada, hesitate to accept this idea. They are ready enough to affirm our self-government; but they dislike the change of nomenclature which that self-government necessitates. They glory in the fact, but see separation if not treason in its descriptive language. They approve everything that has happened,

and object only to the constitutional phraseology necessitated by the occurrences. They resent the word colony, but hesitate to adopt its necessary substitute.

### Imperialists' Views

Acceptance of that, too, will perhaps be aided by quotation from various Imperialists. What can be more satisfactory, for example, than this from Lord Milner, now the chief of Imperialists:—

"The word empire has, in some respects, an unfortunate effect. It, no doubt, fairly describes the position as between the United Kingdom and subject countries, such as India or our Central African possessions. But for the relations existing between the United Kingdom and the self-governing colonies, it is a misnomer, and with the idea of ascendancy, of domination, inevitably associated with it, a very unfortunate misnomer." (h).

Some years ago, before we commenced to manage our own foreign affairs, Sir Frederick Pollock, one of the best of living English jurists, said:—

"Leave the conventions alone and look at the facts, and we find that the 'self-governing colonies' are, in fact, separate kingdoms having the same King as the parent group, but choosing to abrogate that part of their full autonomy which relates to

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- (a) Hansard, 24 November, 1910, p. 227.
- (b) Hansard, 5 December, 1912, p. 677.
- (c) Ibid., p. 677.
- (d) Ibid., p. 677.
- (e) Ibid., p. 693.
- (f) Hansard, 24 Feb., 1910, p.
- (g) The new Oxford dictionary.
- (h) Standard of Empire, 23 May, 1908.

# Raspberry Culture in Northern Manitoba

By W. J. BUCHEN, Valley River, Man.

Raspberries in Manitoba need never fail in results at their harvest time. I have tried a dozen or so different varieties for the last few years and find that success in growing raspberries is largely a question of variety. There is no use in everybody trying this experimental work, or what is the use of newspapers and writers presenting their findings to the reading public.

"Experience is a good teacher, but the lessons come high" is a true statement. The young man of today is the heir of all the ages of experience since history has been recorded and it is the part of wisdom to profit by the experience of others. The reason of my writing is to give those who do not wish to experiment in this country on the raspberry question the benefit of my experience.

### The Varieties

The first raspberry we had was the Turner. It is sweet and soft—too soft for commercial handling. It makes a rank growth of cane and unless protected freezes back more or less every year.

Our next raspberry was a black one, the Oldir. It was not recommended to us for hardiness by A. P. Stevenson, Dunston, Man., from whom we got it, and so we protected it and with protection it lives and bears large crops of sweet luscious berries. I picked over a quart of the best blackberries I ever saw off one bush, about four feet long, last August. It is worth the care it needs. Cover it with earth towards the end of October. Strawey manure is sometimes sufficient, but not always.

We got the "Miller," a red raspberry from the warmest part of Ontario, and it lived and prospered without protection right from the start. This would seem proof that hardiness cannot be acclimatized out of a plant by growing in a favored location. I have never seen a plant frost killed here, nor seen any advantage in covering with earth or

manure, except of course for the fertilizing value of the manure.

The berries are large, fine shaped and good flavored; they ripen early and continue a long time, and yield heavier than any other variety on the place. The bush is slenderer than any other and thus could be easily bent down for covering if it were transplanted to a severer district than this. We have decided to increase our acreage of this variety.

Minnetonka Ironclad is a very hardy variety, with bigger canes than the preceding. The winter of 1912-13 we covered alternate bushes, and altho the covered plants leafed out to the tip the sooner, yet in results we saw no appreciable difference. The berries are large and fine flavored, but after being tested do not as yet yield here as well as the Miller. It is worthy of further trial.

The Sunbeam is a production of Prof. Hansen, of South Dakota Agricultural College, and is claimed by many to be the hardiest yet. It is a cross between a Dakota wild raspberry and the purple raspberry, Columbian. It shows the Columbian blood on its big strong canes, yet differs from that variety by its suckering habit. We covered alternate plants the winter of 1912-13 and those that were standing never recovered from the devitalizing influence of our climate, right up to the tip, as the Minnetonka did. The berry is very soft and tart. Frankly I do not like them in any way.

The Columbian is a purple raspberry and is large in bush and fruit. I have seen pictures of this in selling agents' outfits, with the fruit being gathered from a chair or step-ladder. It grows in a curve from six to ten feet long, usually resting its tip on the ground, and the rather undersized writer, always so far at least, has reached down for the berries. They are large, of a fascinating flavor and bear here till frost kills the young berries.

They need earth protection in winter and are worth it.

The Golden Queen and Cuthbert might almost be described in one breath. The Cuthbert is somewhat the hardiest. Both are of very best quality, if anything the Golden Queen is indeed Queen Quality. They must be protected.

The Herbert might have been included with the above paragraph. It is first quality, prolific, but not hardy here. It was a distinct disappointment to the writer, who has had them frozen back worthless year after year if left standing for the winter.

There is also a good variety called the King. They are perfectly hardy here, fruiting to the tip without any form of protection. The berries are rather large, of good quality and fairly firm for shipping. I consider the King our second best variety. I have knowledge of a nursery agent asking thirty-five cents apiece for plants. Half a dozen for that price would be fair value.

We are testing quite a few others, but are not prepared to express our opinion on their merits at present.

### Planting

It might be as well now, having picked on a variety, to consider how to plant the new patch. If one is planting, say a half acre or more with a view to commercial returns, I would advise giving them plenty of room between rows and plants about eighteen inches apart in the row. The chief drawback of this commercial patch is that for the first and second years you get no returns, except the pleasure of useful employment, but the third year, if good cultivation has been given, a crop that lives right up to your most ardent expectations. Now, it is of the possibilities of catch-crops these first two years, that I would write:

I would first manure and plow the land and harrow till firm. Then stake it out six feet or preferably seven feet between rows and plow a furrow. Then take a bunch of canes over the left arm, roots downwards, and plant in this furrow, about eighteen inches apart. The reason for thick planting is to get a thick hedge-grow quickly. As I go along I take a cane by the top, put the roots, well spread out, close to the land side of the furrow and draw in with the boot some of the loose land. The rest of the loose earth may on completion of the patch be filled in with hoe or horse cultivator.

After this is finished I take the hedge shears and walk astraddle of each row clipping off every cane below my knees. The purpose is to make the plants throw their strength to the roots, so as to make them send out underground runners to send up that lot of canes next year from which we anticipate a bumper crop in the third summer. We have found neither fungous nor insect enemies to raspberries in this country.

Now, if the new plants are six feet apart between rows one can grow potatoes, tomatoes, cabbages or celery between them the first year. Seven feet apart will be the best for celery as we plow it again in the summer before planting, after giving a heavy coat of well rotted manure. However, growing these vegetables is another story and we will stand by our raspberry patch. Raspberries need a sweet, well drained soil, but manure never hurts them, if used in moderation. We have manured and broken off the old canes at one operation. Fill up a sleigh load of manure and drive astraddle of the row, on a not very frosty day, and the canes that have passed their day of usefulness will snap off. Throw off the manure behind and if your variety is not hardy let it be put on thick enough to bear them down. This will prove the best paying operation in the fruit garden.