

FOR FARMERS, STOCK BREEDERS AND GARDENERS

Statement Urges Farm Work Is Stabilization Of Prices

(Canadian Press Cable) LONDON, July 8.—Stabilizing of prices of commodities within the British Empire with an invitation to foreign nations to co-operate is urged upon the government as part of its policy for the Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa tonight by a point statement of the Federation of British Industries and the General Council of the Trade Union Congress.

Declaring it would be fatal to approach the conference in any narrow spirit or with objectives limited to inter-Empire preferences, the statement expresses the conviction that general world revivals can create conditions in which the countries of the Commonwealth and others may again become fully prosperous.

At the same time the statement urges all possible efforts should be made at Ottawa to secure intra-Empire agreements.

"The signatories to the statement," it proceeds, "wish to see the conference endeavor to give a lead towards ultimate all-round relaxation of restrictions on trade. As a first step everything possible should be done to facilitate the easy exchange of goods between the different nations of the Commonwealth."

"Secondly the signatories hope the decisions of the conference will be such as will facilitate international action designed to bring about a recovery in the level of wholesale prices. They hope to see agreement among the nations of the Commonwealth with the object of establishing a 'sterling area' within which there could be great stability of prices, with other conditions mentioned above for encouraging the exchange of goods."

"If such agreement is reached we would be glad to invite other nations seeking a similar objective to join us in enlarging the area over which price stability and freedom of exchange would operate."

The statement which, naturally, carries the full authority of British industry and labor generally, also urges the conference should devote attention to the fullest exploration of the possibilities of a conscious flow of the investment power of the Commonwealth towards the development of the resources of the Commonwealth.

Finally the signatories to the statement express the hope steps will be taken at the Imperial Conference to encourage wise planning of production throughout the Commonwealth, including the development of complementary production schemes.

Life Work For Woman Novelist

NEW YORK, July 6.—(By The Canadian Press)—"I am not a literary person. My career is the plantation." Thus did Julia Peterkin, on a recent visit to New York, explain her aversion to literary tests and the atmosphere which surrounds authorship.

Tall, red haired, the author of Scarlet Sister Mary and Bright Skin shakes hands with a working woman's grip. "When I married," she said, "I was thrilled at the life ahead of me. I saw servants and parties; but I soon realized my responsibility."

"Here was a community expecting me to be considerate and truthful and fair. If the price of cotton went down, I must plant more acres in asparagus. The people must be fed and clothed and provided with work."

One of the big moments of her life was when she escaped the fear that on her husband's southern plantation she was so far away from the world that her life would not count. "I suddenly knew that wherever you are, life is going on, and you cannot be out of it."

Feminism as such does not interest her. She holds an old fashioned conception of woman's sphere, recommends the advice of the old colored nurse who cared for her husband as a boy: "Honey, when you walk with your husband, even if the path is broad, always walk behind him."

Crop Report Is Encouraging

(Canadian Press) MONTREAL, July 7.—"Cool weather and heavy, fairly general, rains in the Prairie Provinces have promoted good growth of all crops," states the weekly telegraphic crop report of the Bank of Montreal, issued today. "What is now heading out over the entire prairies with Manitoba the furthest advanced, and prospects for a good crop are quite encouraging," the report continues. "In Quebec the indications are that the hay crop will be under average; continued favorable weather is benefiting other crops. In Ontario all crops are progressing satisfactorily, and the outlook is for heavy yields except in the eastern section, where conditions are average. In the Maritime Provinces favorable weather is promoting good growth. In British Columbia indications are for above average yields of crops generally, details follow:

Maritime Provinces:—Grain crops continue to progress satisfactorily. Potatoes show good growth and other root crops are doing well. Apple orchards give promise of an average crop. Pastures are in good condition.

EAST BIDEFORD SCHOOL

The examination of East Bideford School was held on Thursday afternoon, June 30 with a good attendance of parents and visitors. Mr. Foster Sharpe acted as chairman.

The examination was conducted by the teacher, W. J. MacDonald. A short programme of choruses, songs, recitations and instrumental music was also well carried out. The marks in the grading exams were on display for inspection by those present.

An interesting feature of the examination was a geography match on Maritime Provinces for Grades V and VI as well as a match on history and current events for Grades VII, VIII and IX.

The following prizes offered by the teacher were awarded: 1—Department, won by Mayme Ellis, 2 Attendance, won by Ruby Murphy and Evelyn Murphy, 3 Neatest work book, equally merited by Mayme Ellis and Evelyn Murphy—drawn by Mayme Ellis, 4 For obtaining public school certificate, won by John MacKinnon. Two certificates were also presented: 1—Grade VIII Public School certificate to John MacKinnon, 2 First class physical drill certificate awarded by Inspector Gillis to the school.

At the conclusion of the examination the visitors were treated to chocolates and the pupils to oranges by the teacher, after which the singing of "God Save the King" brought the meeting to a close.

There is no surer way to friendship than the honest and sincere appreciation of the good qualities and merits of others.

A Snail In A Bottle

(Vancouver Province) In Vancouver, a short time ago, a judge and jury at the spring assize occupied themselves for a day or two with the case of a mouse in a bottle. A Vancouver citizen had purchased some root beer. He and a friend had drunk of it and both had become ill. They blamed their illness on a dead mouse found in the bottle and sued the manufacturer for damages. They were awarded contemptuous damages—\$1 each. The jury said in its verdict, quite plainly, that, in its opinion, the action should not have been brought.

In London, about the same time, five law lords were hearing an appeal from a Scottish court involving a snail in a bottle. The case was much the same as the one which was argued in Vancouver. A Glasgow woman had purchased some ginger beer and become ill after drinking it. A snail was found in the bottle. The woman sued the manufacturer for \$500. The Scottish court dismissed the action and the woman appealed to the House of Lords. There the court divided. Three of the learned judges decided the woman had a case and gave her the damages she sought. The other two dissented.

It may be thought that the spectacle of five great jurists deliberating solemnly over a snail in a bottle is more ridiculous than edifying. But, in giving judgment, Lord Atkin stated that he did not think a more important problem had occupied their lordships in their judicial capacity. The question, he said, was whether the manufacturer of an article of drink sold by him to a distributor in circumstances which prevented the distributor or the ultimate purchaser or consumer from discovering by inspection any defect, was under any legal duty to the ultimate purchaser or consumer to take reasonable care that the article was free from defect likely to cause injury to health. His judgment was that the manufacturer was under such legal duty.

The law is proverbially said to take no notice of small things. But the law decides when things are small and when they are great, and in the case of the snail in the bottle a great principle was involved, that the manufacturer of foods owes a duty to the consumer of those foods. He must exercise care that the foods are not injurious. It is an important decision in these days when almost everything is bought in packages, and the manufacturer's warranty must be taken.

The Rat Kangaroo

(Winnipeg Free Press) The great interior of Australia has revealed to the world an animal curiosity which scientists had regarded as extinct for 90 years. It is the plain rat kangaroo Caloprymnus campestris, or, to give it the name by which it is known to the natives, Calocanta. Mr. Finlayson, curator of mammals at the Adelaide Museum, gives this description of the animal, which is perhaps even more curious than the kangaroo:

Imagine a little animal about the bulk of a rabbit, but built like a kangaroo, with long spindly hind legs, tiny forelegs folded tight on its chest, and a tail half as long again as the body, and not much thicker than a lead pencil, and you have it in the rough. But its head is different from that of any kangaroo or wallaby—short and blunt and wide, with little close-set ears. It is uniformly colored a clear pale yellowish ochre exceeding like the daylilies and flood plains where it lives.

Mr. Finlayson captured specimens of Calocanta in the Diamantina country, one of the most weird areas in Australia, about a thousand miles north of Adelaide.

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GEO. MACDONALD. 200-4-18-32-41.

Stars of the Summer Night. Almost due south about 9.30 p.m.

NEWSY NOTES

(Mrs. Thrale, authoress of the following poem, was born in 1741 and died in 1821. She is well known to readers of Boswell as the friend and hostess on many occasions of Dr. Johnson.)

THE THREE WARRIORS

The tree of deepest root is found less willing still to quit the ground; 'Twas therefore said, by ancient sages, that love of life increased with years so much, that, in our latter stages, when pains grow sharp and sickness rages, the greatest love of life appears. This strange affection to believe, which all confess but few perceive, if old assertions can't prevail, be pleased to hear a modern tale.

When sports went round, and all were gay on neighbor Dobson's wedding day, Death called aside the jocund groom with him into another room; and, looking grave, "you must," says he, "quit your sweet bride, and come with me."

"With you! and quit my Susan's side? With you!" the hapless husband cried; "young as I am, 'tis monstrous hard! Besides, in truth, I'm not prepared; my thoughts on other matters go; this is my wedding day, you know." What more he urged I have not heard, his reasons could not well be stronger; so Death the poor delinquent spared, and left to live a little longer.

Her yet, calling up a serious look—his hour-glass trembled while he spoke—"Neighbor," he said, "farewell; no more shall death disturb your mirthful hour; and, further, to avoid all blame of cruelty upon my name, to give you time for preparation, and fit you for your future station, three several warnings you shall have before you're summoned to the grave. Willing, for once, I'll quit my prey, and grant a kind reprieve; in hopes you'll have no more to say, but when I call again this way, well pleased the world will leave. To these conditions both consented, and parted, perfectly contented.

THE TIME ZONES

"What time is nobody knows; one man's guess is as good as another's," says the author of "Standard Time and Time Zones in Canada." Many philosophers and poets have exercised their genius on that very question, and found many answers; but to all Time is an infinitesimal sector of Eternity, which each holds precariously, striving meanwhile against manifold spiritual and physical evils.

The time with which the booklet concerns itself is that which is used in "writing the history of the things that are past," or "in planning or predicting the things that are to come." So that the two "times" treated of are Local Time and Standard Time. The early settlers in Canada used a "moon mark" on the floor or the wall, and so obtained their own local times, which would necessarily differ as one went further west. As faster means of travelling were brought about by railway development, so many different local times became exceedingly inconvenient.

For instance, at one time a traveller, in going from Halifax to Toronto, had to change his watch at Saint John, Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, and Toronto. In England this inconvenience was corrected by using the local time at Greenwich Observatory as the time to be observed throughout the whole country. Obviously such a course could not be followed in the Dominion, since the use of a single time across the country "would have brought 12 o'clock in some localities several hours before or after noon." Canada extends over one quarter of a complete circuit of the globe, and morning at the Atlantic may be still midnight at the Pacific. It became necessary to devise six "time zones," all of which are described, but only one of which—Atlantic standard time—affects our province.

Atlantic standard "which is the local time at the 60th meridian (running near Sydney, Cape Breton), is four hours less than Greenwich, and is used throughout: N. S. P. E. I., N. B., and parts of Quebec and the N. W. Territories. That is, all these regions have agreed officially to consider it 12 noon standard time when it is 12 noon by the sun on the 60th meridian. Charlottetown being about 3 degrees west of that meridian, will be celebrating high noon (Standard time) just 12 minutes before the sun proclaims it on the dial. Georgetown is 11 minutes before the sun, and Tignish 16 minutes: in the same manner.

The booklet gives tables for ascertaining local time to standard time, for a great number of towns and localities in Canada, but what is even more interesting are the tables of sunrise and sunset, throughout the year, and in all latitudes from 40 to 60 degrees.

There are very many problems connected with the subject of time and this little book forms a fitting introduction. It is to be had, free, from the Department of the Interior.

Last week we reviewed the Hydrogen Ion scale and noted its applicability to acid, neutral, or alkaline substances and solutions, and in closing the article showed how the pH value of a sample of soil showed how much lime it required per acre. That, of course, was but one out of the thousands of uses of the pH value but it is one which will appeal most to the farmer, and a brief explanation of the way in which the value is found, will prove interesting.

The simplest apparatus for making acidity tests is the Kenny Indicator Field Set. This consists of three vials of indicator solutions—methyl red, bromothymol blue, and cresol red—and three empty vials for making the tests. These test vials are filled with the soil to a certain mark; rainwater is added, and one drop of the indicator solution. When the soil settles, the color of the clear liquid is compared with a color chart which accompanies the set, and the reaction of the soil can be read off directly. A special pamphlet tells how to change the soil to the necessary point. The price (\$5) brings this set within the reach of everyone.

PH VALUES (Continued)

At this time of the year, one may observe a constellation which in form resembles a great lily with its 'cup' leaning towards the west. This magnificent and well defined cluster of stars, which is visible only in the summer time, is part of the constellation Scorpio, the ninth constellation in the Zodiac; and it contains the ruddy star Antares, the only star of the first magnitude in the group.

Ares is the Greek name for Mars, and Antares therefore means "against Mars"; that is, a rival to Mars. Both stars—Mars and Antares—have the same reddish tinge, but there is no rivalry between them in any other respect. For one thing, Antares is a double star, and of singular beauty when viewed through a telescope of four or five inches aperture. The components are then seen to be a fiery red star of the first magnitude, and only three seconds (angular measure) distant, a bright emerald star of the seventh magnitude.

Such a star might be expected to appear often in classical literature. Research justifies the belief. The Arabs, great astronomers in the olden times, called Antares "the Scorpion's heart"; and the Roman stargazers in after times adopted the title by calling the star "Cor scorpionis." Its peculiar fiery color led the ancient Chinese to name it "The Great Flame."

In 1860 a new star appeared just north of Antares and lasted for only a month. It was very brilliant and quite overpowering the light of the stars in its vicinity. As these "new" stars only appear where there are dense star-clusters, it is considered that such phenomena are produced by the mutual destruction of two colliding stars. And near Antares is the first "black hole" discovered in the heavens by Sir William Herschell. As far as can be seen, it is a spot entirely devoid of stars.

The Guardian (July 2nd) gives a short paragraph about a mechanical device which has been installed in a cave near Paphos, Italy, for the purpose of "determining whether the moon confines its tide making to the sea." Prof. E. Schweyher of the Prussian Geodetic Institute says that it does not: it causes the earth's crust to stretch and recede, he thinks, and this machine is to prove or disprove the theory.

This theory is very like the view, most pertinaciously put forth in these notes, that the moon is responsible (and particularly when in conjunction with some other heavenly body) for disturbances, both in the earth and in the air—be sides its well known effect on the tides.

The gravitational "pull" of the moon must cause a continuous strain on the earth's crust and in my view produces the countless minor "quakes" which take place during the year. These quakes gradually produce a great degree of instability—usually along the line of a geological fault—which is resolved by a catastrophe when the moon's pull is reinforced by that of the sun or some of the nearer planets. Generally these greater earthquakes happen near new moon, i. e., when the sun and moon are in conjunction, and mostly during the months when the sun is nearer the earth.

As for disturbances in the air, there is usually a fall of the barometer at new and full moon, as my records for the past decade go to show; and this is accompanied by high winds, and, if the air is charged with humidity, by great rains. A "modern instance" occurred on July 3rd, the date of new moon; that same day seven persons were drowned by floods in Texas, and \$500,000 damage done, and, nearer home, 3,79 inches of rain fell in St. John, N. B.—which is an astonishing record. We also had rain on the 3rd and more on the 4th, and this "fall end" was accompanied by high wind. My gauge read (for the two days) 1.69 inches of rainfall—almost as much as the total for June, which was 1.90 inches.

It is very generally admitted that the diet of mankind requires a proportion of leafy "greens" eaten raw. Lettuce, of course, is the king of all such greens but in our climate it seems to develop late unless special cultural methods are employed. A fair substitute is the Chinese celery cabbage which grows like a weed, and becomes usable long before even cos lettuce. Of course there is nothing of celery about it except the name—its taste is rather turnipy; but I notice that there are many types under the specific name, and some of these are better flavored and more tender than others. Thus the Chinese cabbage is awaiting the attention of the plant breeder who

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thing better than the present strain. Another advantage of this plant is that it seeds freely from the first year's planting—which lettuce does not do here, at any rate.

"SAVE THE BIRDS" CONTEST (5th Prize)

Dear Editor:—My home is in Mount Albion on the same farm my father and mother, my grandparents and great grandparents lived. Our home is surrounded by a grove of trees several acres in extent and due to the way the birds have been fed and provided with nesting places for years, we have a great number of all kinds. Owing to the great number it is almost impossible to give an account of them, the chickadees especially, but there are several dozen of them. We were also favored with the presence of six brown creepers, which have become almost as tame as the chickadees and would feed on suet hung on the window casement without any apparent fear.

When your contest was commenced in the "Guardian" last year I started in feeding the birds and have continued ever since and have become very fond of them. Whenever we would get short of feed, we would get Papa to go to the butcher's and get some fat meat or suet, which together with whole oats of which the chickadees are very fond, (and it is amusing to watch them put the grain under their toes and get at the kernel.) Which comprises the only feed we have used.

Our feeding station is on the trees near the house and the house itself and has been visited continuously by two male and two female downy Woodpeckers but only one of the hairy ones and they continued to come until the present time, so that between all of them the station was seldom idle.

We have also been visited by four native Partridges which were rather wild compared with six we had last winter which became so tame they would feed with the hens, although it may be hard for your contest manager to credit that.

We have about eighteen nesting houses on our farm some of which have been occupied for years and Papa says to tell you that he has found out a very satisfactory way to make them which may be of interest to you. Our old method was to make a box with only a small hole in it and quite often we found that young ones would get smothered in the bottom, but seeing a swallow build in a mall box which had lost its door and raising her whole brood, we tried making a wide opening and we have had no trouble since.

We have a pair of Flickers or Yellow Hammer, a pair of Chickadees, several Woodpeckers and six pairs of Starlings occupying the houses last year and also a few Juncos appeared about the last of March. The English Sparrow is very scarce as my Papa and my Uncles keep them pretty well shot off.

Ruth Jenkins (Age 8). Mount Albion, P. E. Island. (A very interesting letter, and shows powers of observation which will make a doughty competitor some day. Keep on with your nature study, Ruth: you are cultivating a source of pleasure that will last all your life—Agriculture.)

This letter, written by Ruth Jenkins, age 8, is but a small testimony to the interest which is taken in the welfare of birds on the Jenkins homestead. Teacher, Mt. Albion. Son in college was applying pressure for more money from home. "I cannot understand why you call yourself a kind father," he wrote his dad, "when you haven't sent me a cheque for three weeks. What kind of a kindness do you call that?" "That's unremitting kindness," wrote the father in his next letter.

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