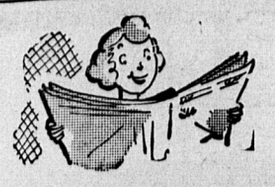

A Page for the MODERN FARMER

- NEWSY NOTES -

By AGRICOLA

AS I LOOK BACK (2)

Life in Old England three quarters of a century ago seems perfectly idyllic when one compares it with the "alarums and excursions" of the present day. In the rural districts we lived pre-eminently a home-life, and at the end of the day we found our amusements "at our fireside." Nothing strikes me more forcibly than the change which has come over this one particular.

We lived half a mile from the village, and the household consisted of five persons, my grandfather, an aunt, and a small boy whose parents were dead (meaning myself) as well as two maid-servants. (A gardener came three afternoons a week to see to the garden). The family was in easy circumstances though not wealthy, and the house had eight rooms, all with fire-places, for the Northumbrian winter was sometimes very severe. For a blessing we were near a mine, whence it was easy to procure coal. But think a moment: if a fire was needed in the bedroom say, that coal had to be tugged upstairs in a coal-scuttle or bucket, by main strength. Or if one wanted a morning or evening bath, the water had to be carried up to the bedroom in a heavy can (something like what we call a "sprinkler") and poured into a hip-bath, hauled out from its lair in the closet; for there were no regular bath-rooms those days. Almost every thing was done by human labor, that is now done by mechanical means, even to the washing of the clothes; which goes to show why such a small family was obliged to keep two "servants."

Everybody was heavily overdressed, according to modern standards; whether it was necessary or not, I cannot pretend to say, though there may have been an excuse for it in the good old-fashioned winters of long ago. But it made big "washings," and gave the Northumbrian rhymesters a chance to vent their feelings in homely verse:—

Of a' the plagues a poor man meets
Alang life's weary way,
Thor's nyen amang them a' that beats
A rainy weshin' day;
For it's thump! thump! souse! souse!
Scrub; scrub away!
Thor's nowt but glumpin' i' the house
Upon a weshin' day.

The clothes went into a big "poss-tub" instead of a washing machine, and the dirt was beaten out of them by means of a "poss-stick," a kind of wooden dasher weighing several pounds, and having a cross-handle to wield it by. It was a good imitation of the "one-man beetle" (for repairing roads) mentioned by Shakespeare; and it says a good deal for the staying power of those old Northumbrian heroines that they could thump! thump! for hours at a time.

One of the elementary needs of a household is an abundant supply of water. We had three ways of meeting the demand. The rain water from the eaves-trough was led into a large zinc tank just under the roof, whence it was piped to the back-kitchen sink: but this supply was for obvious reasons, not to be relied on. Better was the supply from the brook which ran through the corner of the garden, and was used for most household purposes except drinking or cooking. The drinking water was carried from a pretty little spring, flowing from a domed structure which served to keep cattle from fouling it. But it was at least half a mile away, probably more! The folk who used the "well" as they called it, had evolved a proper equipment for carrying the water. From the blacksmith they procured an iron hoop about 30 inches in diameter, made of stout round iron. The water-carrier laid the hoop on the ground, and stepped into it, while holding a water-bucket in each hand. The hoop was lifted and placed on the buckets on the inner side of the bail handles. A rope, with an iron hook on each end, ran across the shoulders of the bearer, and these hooks were attached to the bucket handles. When the bearer straightened up, the whole rig was lifted from the ground. The rope took the strain from the arms, and the hoop kept the buckets from the legs. To prevent splashing, a thin disc of wood floated in each bucket. Our two servants brought in four buckets, which was usually enough for the day's supply of drinking water.

Why didn't we put down a pump? Well, in a mining district, if there happens to be an underground stream, it goes down into the nearest mine instead of flowing horizontally as ours do. Our spring or well was a solitary exception, and seemed to have its origin in a hill to the northward: and it served a large community too. Pumps had been used for centuries in other parts of England, but would have been a failure in our region. As the County Councils acquired more authority, they carried water-mains along all the public roads and forced householders to lead branch-pipes into all private houses. Then they banned the use of all springs and well, in the interests of the public health. But that was long after the time I speak of.

Do not jump to the conclusion that our servants were unhappy or overworked. The "going to the well" was a break in the monotony and a chance for gossip and adventure, as it had been since the time of Rebekah! And one thing showed that the place was a coveted one: when one of the servants left to get married, it was a sister or a cousin who applied for the vacancy. These servants came from Cumberland, and their dialect, so different from ours, was a constant source of interest and amusement to the small boy aforesaid, who quickly learned to speak it like a native. The servants were treated as if members of the family (even to medical care), with one exception; they had their meals in the front kitchen, while we used the dining-room. It was the custom of the day and place, and was not accounted in any way derogatory to the servants. They repaid our kindness with a loyalty which resembled what one reads of among the Highland clans, and which seems to have disappeared towards the beginning of the present century when an intense devotion to self took its place.

In opening this series of reminiscences I began with the door-bells; but there was an older method of announcing a caller still in use in a few places when I was a boy. I refer to the "knocker". It may be necessary to say that this was a hinged metal "striker", attached to the door, with which the caller beat a tattoo announcing his arrival. Much could be written concerning these peremptory gadgets, but I will confine myself to two instances. When I first arrived in Charlottetown, I was shown a "knocker" on the door of a house in what I believe was the west side of the city. It was said to have some historical interest, but to my great regret I made no record of it at the time, and now the whole thing has escaped my memory. Can any reader supply a note about this knocker (or rapper, as some called it? If I am not mistaken it was in the shape of a garland or chaplet.

I go far afield for the other instance. It is the huge bronze knocker on the north door of the great Norman Cathedral at Durham, England. This "Sanctuary Knocker" was a monstrous head of a rather tigrish appearance, from whose jaws depended a big ring that acted the part of the "striker". The head was hollow to accommodate a lamp, and the eyes were filled with crystal, long destroyed, but the flanges still remain. The knocker is believed to date from A.D. 1152, and is the chief survival of the privilege of Sanctuary which the church once possessed. This privilege was based upon the cities of refuge ordained in Numbers 35, 11; and any criminal who reached and seized that ring ahead of the "avenger of blood", was able to claim the protection of the church from the secular law, until the matter was properly straightened out. Two monks occupied a chamber over the door, night and day, to receive such as sought sanctuary. Old writers give some very curious accounts of the "refugees", but enough has been said of the matter, for the present.

LUPINS AS SOIL IMPROVERS

The yellow lupin (Lupinus luteus) has, for at least a century, been used to improve the worn-out lands of France; and so I sent across for some seed to see if it would adapt itself to our rather harsher climate, and to study it in other ways. As it is an annual there was no trouble in getting it to germinate, and soon I had a row of bushy plants, from 18 to 24 inches high. Had they been plowed down at this point they would have greatly added to the humus contents of the soil. There was more to the lupins than that, however; on digging a couple of them up, the roots were seen to be thickly studded with clay-colored tubercles, as large, and almost as round, as marbles. These nodules are the homes of countless hosts of bacteria which extract nitrogen from the air and put it into the ground; thus, without any expense to the grower, enriching his soil with a dressing of the most costly of all fertilizers.

When finally they broke into bloom, it was easy to see that they were a "species", lacking the stateliness of the garden lupins. The spikes were short and of a bright buttercup yellow, but the delightful scent more than made up for the deficiency in height. That year only about half the seed was ripe before the frost struck in; a very usual event when a plant comes from a country where the season is longer. This, however, gave me a start for the next year, and by a process of selection the percentage of ripened seed has steadily grown till the unripened seed is practically negligible.

That fall I saved a few of the root-nodules, dried off the surface moisture, and corked them down in a wide-mouthed bottle, which was stored in a frost-proof closet. By next spring they had turned to a snuff-colored powder, which I mixed with water and used to "inoculate" the seed before sowing. Most legumes grow better if inoculated, and many kinds of suitable bacteria are on sale commercially.

Though the experiment was a success, as far as growing the lupins was concerned, I never got round to making a practical use of it. Prof. E. L. Eaton, (at that time connected with the Experimental Station, Charlottetown), last year, dealt with that aspect of the matter in an excellent magazine article which I have pleasure in briefly summarizing:—

Lupins are more suitable for acid soils than are clover, peas, beans, or soybeans; and his experience was, the richer the soil, the poorer the lupins. Sandy soil gave good growth. Early seeding is preferable as the plants are not easily injured by frost. When lupins are grown to be plowed down, the plowing should be done late, as early plowing tends to cause rapid decay and loss of nitrogen.

Some varieties of lupins, says Prof. Eaton, contain a bitter alkaloid which makes them unpalatable to live stock; but European plant-breeders have evolved a strain which is free from this bitter flavor and the seeds form a satisfactory protein substitute for part of the fish meal or meat scrap ration for poultry, etc. "One farmer in Nova Scotia grew around 100 bushels of sweet lupins in 1938 and reports excellent results as fed in mixtures to cattle."

A series of experiments was carried out to determine the value of plowing down lupins where potatoes were to be grown the following year. In the spring 1,000 lbs. per acre of 0-8-10 fertilizer was applied to the potato land and the following results came to light. The land from whence lupins had been harvested the previous year, produced 233 bushels of potatoes per acre; the land where the lupins had been plowed down the previous fall, gave 251 bushels per acre. Land with no lupins, but with the 0-8-10 fertilizer, gave only 161 bushels of potatoes. The results of all the experiments went to show that the potatoes secured as much nitrogen as they needed, from the residue of the lupins.

A blue lupin (Lupinus angustifolius) has also been used in Nova Scotia with some success; but Prof. Eaton is careful to point out that the final place of these plants in the farming program of the province can only be settled by farmers themselves after further years of experience. As I said of soybeans "It is one thing to grow a new field crop, and quite another thing to make the best use of it when you've grown it." All beginnings are difficult, is an old classical saying.

LIME AS A PRESERVATIVE

There seems to be a hint worth taking, in the experience of a farmer who had some trouble with his chimney. It was on the "centre peak" of his roof, and owing to the use of bad mortar on the first occasion, was rebuilt twice in a comparatively short space of time. At each rebuilding a certain amount of mortar rolled down the roof; which of course always happens! The rain washed it in, and in effect, had automatically whitewashed a stripe of shingles from the chimney to the eaves. When later the roof had to be renewed, the shingles were found to be greatly decayed—all but the whitewashed strip which the farmer estimated would have been good for another ten years. As times go it is costly (and going to be more so) to effect repairs, and anything which will lengthen the life of material, well deserves consideration; especially when the means are simple and cheap. We should not perhaps, like to see our roofs sparking white, but the lime-wash could be colored with umber, ochre, or burnt sienna, all earthy materials furnishing shades of brown or yellow. Little has been attempted so far in coloring limewash, but our folk are beginning to experiment it is pleasant to note, and as time goes on they will evolve better technique and materials.

WEEKLY LIVESTOCK MARKET REPORT

Ottawa, April 18

SUMMARY

Cattle prices were inclined to be irregular during the past week. Buyers were endeavouring to erase some of the gains made in the previous week, and steers and heifers sold from 10c to 25c lower at major markets. Cows, on the other hand, proved to be the bright spot on the market and sold 25c stronger at Toronto. Better prices on United States markets served to take a greater number of Canadian cattle across the line. Calves were steady to stronger under a keen export demand. By the end of the week, however, most of the gains made at Montreal were wiped out. Lambs were generally steady, except at Winnipeg where an advance of 25c was recorded, due to scarcity of supplies. On receipt of advice from the United Kingdom, that no immediate increase in bacon supplies from Canada would be required, the hog market reacted downward. Closing prices were anywhere from 25c to 60c below the high time of the week.

Eastern Cattle Markets

Butcher cows made an early gain of 25c at TORONTO and held it to the close. At the same time, however, steers and heifers dropped 10c to 15c under a fairly heavy offering. Weighty steers so'd generally up to $7.25, with one top lot at $7.40 while butcher steers and heifers closed at $6.25 to $7, with tops at $7.25. The high on butcher cows was $6. Cattle prices at MONTREAL were about 25c higher, and demand was good at the increased prices. Good steers sold mostly at $7.50 to $7.75, with a top of $7.90 recorded. Cows made up to $6. Light receipts of the better grades of cattle created a keen demand and held prices firm on these in the MARITIMES, and good to choice steers brought $7 to $7.50. Prices softened, however, on heavier marketings of plain and fair types.

Western Cattle Markets

Cattle trade proved very spotty at Winnipeg. Cows advanced fully 25c but butcher steers and heifers worked 15c to 25c lower. Moderate deliveries after Monday served to check any appreciable decline. The market continues sensitive to daily volume of receipts. The better grades of steers made $6.75 to $7 at WINNIPEG, and most other slaughter steers from $6 to $6.50. The trade could use more stockers if they were offered at the moment. Feshy feeders sold at $6 and above. CALGARY was active on a light supply, with good butcher cattle fully 25c stronger. Good butcher steers made $6.50 to $6.75, and choice lights $7 to $7.50. EDMONTON was active at firm rates and paid $6.75 to $7 for good to choice light butcher steers. Elsewhere, prices were steady to a shade firmer, with top steers at PRINCE ALBERT and MOOSE JAW making $6.50, REGINA $6.60, SASKATOON $7, and VANCOUVER $7.25

United States Market

Buffalo absorbed over 1,000 Canadian cattle last week-end at prices estimated to be 25c to 50c above the previous week. Sales were mostly on off car weights at $8.50 to $9.75, with a top load at $10. This week's sales of Canadians were on a fed and watered basis at $7.75 to $9. Monday's and Tuesday's sales were 25c lower than the previous week-end, but nevertheless looked about 15c to 25c better than prices ruling at Toronto. Latest quotations from St. Paul placed good heavy Canadian steers at $9, and a load of bulls at $6.60.

Exports to the United States during the week consisted of 3,286 beef cattle, 221 dairy, and 1,214 calves. Totals to date this year are 28,918 beef, 2,423 dairy, and 12,383 calves compared with 57,788 beef, 2,913 dairy, and 19,872 calves in the corresponding period of 1939. Exports from April 1st to April 18th, under the second quarterly quota, were 8,663 beef cattle as against 20,313 in the corresponding period of last year.

Calf Prices Stronger

A good export demand kept calf prices strong at Toronto, and choice veals made $10.50 to $11, with a few $$11.50. Montreal gained 50c in the early part of the week, but lost most of it by the close, when the bulk of the sales were made between $5.50 and $6.25. Winnipeg was higher, with the top at $8.50. The high point at Calgary was $9.50, Edmonton and Saskatoon $8.50, Prince Albert $7.25, Moose Jaw $7.50, and Regina $8.

Hog Prices Close Lower

Hog prices early in the week returned to the levels which had prevailed for a considerable time past, but information received from the United Kingdom, to the effect that no immediate increase in bacon supplies from Canada would be required, served to send prices to considerably lower levels by the close of trading. At Toronto, bacons closed at $8.50 off trucks and $11.25 dressed. Similar declines were recorded on direct deliveries to packing plants throughout Ontario. The bulk of the hogs at Montreal sold at $9.40 for bacons, fed and watered, but the tone was much weaker by the close, with prices not definitely established. Winnipeg worked down to $8 for bacons, fed and watered; while Calgary closed at $7.90 off trucks; Edmonton $7.75 Prince Albert and Saskatoon $7.70; and Moose Jaw and Regina $7.75. Shipments hogs at Vancouver brought $8.75.

Lambs Generally Unchanged

Lamb receipts were light at Toronto and prices unchanged at $10.75 for good westerns and locals. Montreal paid up to $10 each for some early spring lambs. Winnipeg was stronger on a small supply and had good lambs at $9.75 to $10. Calgary had a few lambs at $9.25, and tops at Edmonton, Moose Jaw and Saskatoon were $9.

CATTLE MARKETS

TORONTO moved a supply of 6,067 cattle, with butcher cows holding a gain of 25c, while steers and heifers closed 10c to 15c down. Opening trade was active but the market slowed before the close. Weighty steers were mostly $6.75 to $7.25, a top lot $7.40, and butchers closed at $6.25 to $7, with tops at $7.25. The high on butcher cows was $6. Cattle prices at MONTREAL were about 25c higher, and demand was good at the increased prices. Good steers sold mostly at $7.50 to $7.75, with a top of $7.90 recorded. Cows made up to $6. Light receipts of the better grades of cattle created a keen demand and held prices firm on these in the MARITIMES, and good to choice steers brought $7 to $7.50. Prices softened, however, on heavier marketings of plain and fair types.

MONTREAL sold 1,740 cattle at an advance of 25c. Steers made $5.50 to $7.90, with good ones mostly $7.50 to $7.75. Heifers ranged from $4 to $7, butcher cows from $4 to $6, and canners and cutters from $3 to $3.75. Bulls were $4.50 to $6.25. Milch cows ranged from $50 to $90 each.

MARITIMES: Prices held firm on a short supply of good cattle, and best steers brought $7 to $7.50, medium to good $6 to $6.75, and others down to $4. Heifers were 25c to 50c below steer prices. Cows sold firm, with good at $5 to $5.50, fair to medium at $4 to $4.75, and canners and cutters $2.50 to $3.25. Heavier marketings of plain and fair cattle with little demand, resulted in easier prices on these grades.

CALF MARKETS

TORONTO calves were strong on a keen export demand. Choice veals made $10.50 to $11, a few up to $11.50, and common lights down to $6.

MONTREAL calves were uneven. By Tuesday, good veals were $7.50, tops up to $8, but at the close most sales were between $5.50 and $6.25 and averaging about $6.

HOG MARKETS

The Dominion hog run was 89,086, compared with 72,899 in the same week last year. Totals to date: this year, 1,406,489; last year, 991,422.

TORONTO bacons opened at $9 off trucks and $11 dressed. The close was $8.50 and $11.25. Sows were $6 dressed or $4.50 off trucks.

Prices for direct deliveries to packing plants were lower at the close, HAMILTON paying $11.25 to $11.50 for the basic grade dressed delivered; MONCTON paid $11.15 delivered.

MONTREAL bacons were mostly $9.40 f. & w., $9.50 off trucks, and $12.40 dressed. The close was weak and prices were not established.

SHEEP AND LAMB MARKETS

TORONTO lamb prices were steady at $10.75 for good westerns and locals, with culls down to $8. A few spring lambs brought $5 to $11 each. Sheep were steady at $3.50 to $7. Receipts were light, with only 1,000 westerns included.

MONTREAL had odd early lambs at $8 to $10 each. Sheep were $3 to $6.

EXPORTS OF BACON & HAMS TO UNITED KINGDOM

Weight of Wiltshires and cuts leaving packing plants for export, week ended April 13th 1940, 3,881,023 lbs.

Canadian Garden Service 1940

By GORDON LINDSAY SMITH

Variety of Flowers

Not even in oil painting is it possible to get the range of color offered any amateur gardener in a few ten cent packets of flower seeds. It is this ininite variety plus the satisfaction of creative work which makes gardening so fascinating.

There are varying hues impossible to describe, there are different textures, heights, seasons of blooming. In the tiniest plot one can have an enormous range. By adding a few stones and easing up on the loose in one corner one may have a rock garden; by excavating a hole, lining with concrete or by merely sinking a crock flush withthe surface of the soil, lo, we have a lily pool.

One can do wonders with flowers alone, but still more amazing results will follow where we combine flowers skillfuly with grass, winding walks, shrubbery and bits of stone work. In this combining, however we must take care not reproduce a jungle. Flowers and shrubbery must not be so crowded that they become spindly and weak.

Little flowers must not be hidden by tall things like full size marigolds, cosmos or zinnias. Beds must be so arranged that we can keep down weeds and remove fading foliage. Above all we must remember that unless we are skilful, it is best to use a fair amount of lawn as a foreground for our flowers. Lawns are almost vital in creating garden pictures.

Good Seed

It is impossible to over emphasize the importance of good seed. Other factors may be beyond control but the gardener has absolute check over this foundation. Weather, soil and location may be ideal but without good seed, specially selected to suit Canadian conditions, the garden is going to be a failure.

Grass Likes Cool Weather

Grass makes its most rapid growth in the cool weather of spring and fall. On this account lawn work of a new or repair nature should be carried out just as soon as the soil is fit to work.

After digging, the ground should be allowed to settle for a few days at least, and then levelled again. It is advisable to repeat this process several times. The top soil should then be raked fine and on a windless day the grass sown at a liberal rate, once across and once lengthwise. This double sowing insures an even distribution. It is always best to get a good mixture of high quality packaged grass seed blended by expert Canadian seedmen.

No Hurry

The beginner is warned against too deep, too early and too close planting of vegetables and flower seeds. Nasturtiums, peas, beans, corn and such large seeds should go in about an inch or so and be planted at least three or four inches apart. Tiny seeds like alyssum, poppy and onion are merely pressed into the soil. Before sowing mix with a little sand to help spread the sowing more evenly.

Window Boxes

Even the apartment dweller is able to satisfy a gardening ambition when it comes to window boxes. This sort of gardening is highly intensive with many more plants to the square foot than would be grown under ordinary conditions. This means that very rich soil should be used and in addition a fairly frequent application of chemical fertilizer during the season. Being exposed on all sides to drying winds, a thorough watering once a day of the window box is advised.

The box stained green or brown, or painted to match the house trim, should be as long as the window and should be arranged so that the top of it is almost flush with the window sill. There must be holes in the bottom to provide drainage, and also a layer of gravel, cinders, broken crockery or similar material for the same purpose.

Along the front of window boxes are planted trailing Nasturtiums, German Ivy, Lobelia, Alyssium and similar plants, with Petunias, Ageratums, Begonias, Ferns, Geraniums and other plants especially recommended for this purpose farther back. Shelter from the sun for a day or two should be provided until the plants get established.

Seeds Vital

Seed, while only costing a few cents is vital to success. We must be sure that it will grow into flowers or vegetables suitable to our rigorous Canadian climate. It must be from pure strains, selected and packed by reputable dealers. Some flowers which will do well in the warmer climate of Southern England or the United States may prove a disappointment in Canada. The seeds may rot in our cool ground, or the plants may not reach blooming stage until the first frost threatens next September.

Even those seeds which we saved carefully from our own garden last fall are often a failure. They are likely to have become mixed with other flowers and poorly colored or shrunken blooms will be the result. If vegetables, strains may have become mixed or we may have unwittingly selected those from too late maturing plants

Seed saving is a job for the experts. Best commercial seed comes from special farms operated by professionals. When we get our seed from a reliable Canadian seed house, we do not have to worry, being assured that the picture on the packet represents the final result. If we follow the simple directions and give a little care.

Kitchen Gardens

In the kitchen garden at the door it is advisable of course to keep a plentiful supply of salad material like leaf and head lettuce, onions and possibly celery. The latter is set out in the garden as well started plants usually after all danger of frost is over.

For vegetable rows, there are small cultivators pushed by hand which will cultivate a plot 100 by 50 in well under an hour and these can be procured in larger size for horse or tractor.

NEXT WEEK—Variety in flowers, grass, don't rush.

—Canadian Seed Trade Association.

Fashionable women are wearing dresses plastered with gold braid. Their mufti has apparently been designed to put male uniforms in the shade. Such was not the case in previous wars!

- CONSERVATION -

A WEEKLY COLUMN OF PRACTICAL OPINIONS OF THE VITAL ISSUES AFFECTING THE USES AND ABUSES OF NATURAL RESOURCES BY MR. LUDLOW JENKINS, MARSHFIELD.

CONSERVATION—HOW IT WORKS

Notes, News and Comments

1939 was a year of hard work; we rejoice to record this, for we enjoy hard work. While engaged in an intensive campaign, we kept abreast of our other activities at the same time, in so far as we had money with which to carry them on. It was a happy year, for as we worked we felt the strength of our conservation friends behind us, and we took courage at every step because of the understanding help which they gave us, in money, in counsel, and in active participation.

Kings Canyon National Park

Our campaign for Kings Canyon National Park has been crowned with complete success. The Gearhart Bill to create the Park passed the House of Representatives on the 18th July, 1939, and passed the Senate on the 19th February, 1940. All credit to the able and active conservationists who worked for this bill. The story of the campaign is so interesting that we have written it out at some length. Campaigns such as this one demonstrate how conservationists, acting together, make conservation work.

At the opening of the campaign we published our pamphlet, The Proposed John Muir-Kings Canyon National Park. (The name of John Muir was afterwards deleted from the bill). This was printed twice, and more than 20,000 copies were distributed. We put out two leaflets, Save Kings Canyon from Power Dams and The Impending Ruin of Kings Canyon, and a one-page flyer, The Hart Tree, Redwood Mountain. Our correspondence was enormous. Somehow, it was taken care of with the help of one part-time stenographer. Much midnight oil was consumed. Seldom was Sunday a day of rest.

Olympic National Park

Another victory was won when, on the 2nd January, 1940, President Roosevelt proclaimed an addition to the Olympic National Park. You will remember that the bill establishing the Olympic Park gave power to the President to add a further 255,932 acres over and above the original 642,860 acres. The same group of obstructionists who tried to defeat the Olympic Park have been determined that the added land should not contain the most beautiful of the forests which the conservationists have insisted must be included in the Park. But the Emergency Conservation Committee continued to work for the inclusion of the finest areas of the forest, especially that of the Bogachiel and Hoh valleys. After a thorough survey, the President has proclaimed the addition of 187,411 acres of forested lands that round out the forest holdings already in the Park. The north shore of Lake Quinault is included. Best of all, 50,000 acres have been added of the unrivalled forests in the Bogachiel, Hoh and Queets valleys. The narrow corridor on the south bank of the Bogachiel was not included because the land is privately owned, and no funds were available for its purchase. The forest in this corridor contains magnificent Sitka spruce, and the lumbering of it would ruin the river valley. It is desirable that an exchange be made by the Forest Service for timber in another locality. We shall not fail to urge such a plan. The Forest Service cooperated in favoring the new additions, and has pledged itself to do all it can to save the south bank of the Bogachiel. The Governor of Washington did not originally favor the Olympic Park, but he has accepted the additions in fine spirit. We believe that his good sportsmanship will have its reward in increased prosperity that will come to his state through the park.

A further 68,521 acres remain to be added to the Olympic Park. A statement of the Regional Director of the Park Service leads us to hope that the park will be extended along the Queet's River valley to the sea, and will include a strip reaching to Lake Ozette on the shores of the Pacific.

Recreation

The Emergency Conservation Committee looks back with satisfaction on its campaigns which have added 6,000 acres of remarkable sugar pine forest to Yosemite Park, have protected the Olympic Forests in the Olympic Park, and which, through the creation of Kings Canyon Park, have saved the marvellous Big Trees of Redwood Mountain. Never has this country and the world needed the beauty of such places more than it does today. We cannot understand the resentment which some people feel when glorious forests are set aside to be forever protected and used for the highest benefit of mankind.

The people who for selfish reasons are opposed to national parks reiterate that forests are for the "use" of the nation, and should not be included in national parks, which are, so they declare for "recreation." But it is obvious that there is more than one kind of use, and more than one kind of recreation. The word recreation too often is narrowly restricted.

And recreation does not end with games, sports and the slaughter of wild creatures. The botanist, the zoologist, the ornithologist, have a right to their particular and higher form of recreation. The amateur naturalist who can call no species by its Latin name, but whose love of wild life makes a common language between himself and the shyest of wild creatures, has his right as a citizen to refresh himself, to re-create himself, in the environment of beauty, and above all of peace, that is necessary for his enjoyment.

For this higher and, to be practical, more economical and more efficient form of recreation, the ideal environment is a forest. Forest lands, if only for this reason, are preeminently suited to national parks. And the forest must be a virgin forest, if it is to give the highest recreational facilities. Only in their natural environment, developed by slow processes through the ages, can the relation of tree and stone, bird and beast, be truly enjoyed. In such forests can be found the peace that restores shattered nerves, that re-creates shattered lives. Physicians of today demand as a prime necessity for many of their patients the healing powers possessed by nature alone. The government acts logically in providing places for this healing of the spirit as it does in giving to the people hospitals for the healing of the body.

But people with interests wholly selfish spread the propaganda that national parks should include only high mountains, rocky crags, extended views, land generally unproductive. These things are exalted as "national park standards." The lumberman recognizes beauty in a forest only when it is expressed in terms of boardfeet, and asserts that the glory of the virgin forest does not rise to "national park standards." It would appear from the speeches and writings of some of these people that is is positively wrong to protect a virgin forest. The more remarkable the forest, the greater the wrong! According to a news item published in the state of Washington, I have been reported to the Dies Committee for "un-American" activities on account of the part I played in saving some of the virgin forest of the Olympic Peninsula.

Forests in the National Forests are indispensible to the nation in one way; forests in the National Parks are indispensible in another way. Each use of the forest is vital to the nation's welfare, and there is no conflict between the two uses. This is the thesis of the introduction by the Secretary of the Interior to our Publication No. 73, Our Nation's Forests. We hope that all our friends will read it.

(To be continued)

Ask your neighbors what Bray Chicks did for them. Then phone, or drop in.

W. I. Bowman, Hunter River.
W. K. Crafer, Kensington.
Francis Gardiner, Launching Place.
Mrs. Basil MacDonald, Tracadie Cross.
Waldo MacDonald, Bothwell.
Lloyd H. McEwen, Souris.
Mrs. George Myers, Hunter River
Earl Diamond, Winsloe; or
O. C. Johnson, North Tryon.
Elmer Waugh, Wilmot Valley.

NEWSY NATURE NOTES

By Stuart L. Thompson

PIONEER BUTTERFLIES

One bright Saturday afternoon recently, I made a trip to a sugar bush with some naturalist friends. We went to see that truly Canadian activity in action—the boiling down of maple sap into sugar and syrup—and, of course, to get a gallon fresh from the camp to bring home.

However, one cannot go to the woods on a fine April day without seeing some form of wild life. But it was not the birds, nor the odd squirrel, that interested us that day.

What caught our attention were several butterflies flitting about. Butterflies while there was yet snow on the ground! Yes, there really were! But not summer butterflies. Those we saw in the April woods were the pioneers of this group of beautiful insects.

As early as March after the weather becomes sunny we see the Mourning Cloak butterfly. His wings are broadly marked with rich chocolate brown, bordered by creamy yellow and spotted with pale blue. In a bold, swift, confident manner this hardy butterfly flits about from place to place, pausing to spread his wings in the sun as though he would like to drink in the spring sunshine. He cannot stay long in one spot. With a quick flit of the wings the insect is gone and next instant appears in another sunny place to pause and sun himself again. He seems to fairly revel in his freedom as a school boy might on his first holiday, impatient to make the most of it.

Another bold pioneer among the butterflies of spring is the Compton Tortoise shell. So different is this insect from the Mourning Cloak in color that no one could confuse the two. Instead of being chocolate brown with yellow borders, the Tortoise shell's wings are fantastically checkered and mottled with blacks, browns, umbers, and buffs, with an odd white patch here and there. His actions are much the same as those of the Mourning Cloak as he flits energetically about, thoroughly enjoying life.

Another butterfly we may see in the sunny leafless woods is a smaller companion of these known as Milbert's Tortoise shell. We can easily recognize this butterfly by a vivid broad band of orange-red which crosses both wings in a very striking manner.

How different in appearance are these three hardy insects! They bear no resemblance to one another. Even a fleeting glance reveals this as the butterflies flit here and there. But the moment we approach one of them for a closer view the alert insect ceases the lazy spreading of his wings and snaps them shut, and the butterfly seems to vanish from sight, for the undersides of the wings are dull and plain, resembling nothing more than the drab bark or the dead leaves of the forest on which the creature has settled. So with a simple flip of its wings the alert butterfly actually melts into the background and is gone.

TOBY JUGS

The origin of Toby jugs is the subject of an article by Mr. Bernard Hughes in the current issue of The Home Owner. "Tradition has it," he declares, "that this grotesque piece of Staffordshire ware was named after a notorious eighteen century drinker, Henry Elwes, nicknamed Toby Fillpot on account of his drinking 2000 gallons of beer out of a plain stoneware mug.

"Nearly all the old Staffordshire potters made Toby jugs; but it was Ralph Wood who is supposed to have thought of the idea. And it was a happy idea, too, for Toby became one of the 'best sellers' of the eighteenth century.

"It is not an easy matter to get a good Toby jug belonging to the eighteenth century, but when buying it is always well to remember that the lighter in weight they are the better. The old jugs were all made of the creamy old bone-paste, which is so light as to be noticeable when the article is lifted. Look also at the feet. Antique Toby jugs nearly always have hollowed feet.

"There are about two dozen varieties of figures known to the collector of Toby ware. There is Lord Howe, with red coat, purple waistcoat, and white trousers, seated on a chest; there is Lord Nelson, in blue naval uniform, standing on a green base, there is the Squire, seated with pipe and jug; the Convict, a very thin man in yellow stripes; there is the Hearty Good Fellow, in yellow breeches, blue coat, and striped waistcoat; and there is the Watchman, in long grey coat and black hat, with lantern in hand; and so on, including the One-Armed Toby and Toby's wife Joan, with brown bodice, yellow apron, and tall mob cap."

BROOKVILLE LIME

Will sweeten your Land making it grow Larger and Better Crops.

BUY NOW WHILE THE PRICE IS LOW.

$3.00 PER TON BULK.
$3.75 PER TON BAGGED.

In Car Lots of 30 Tons or more Delivered to your nearest Railway Point in P. E. I.

Take Delivery Early and avoid the Rush. Order today from the

Brookville Manufacturing Co., Ltd.
Brookville, Saint John Co., N. B.

Spring 1940 Mrs. H. G. S. Adams, Pres.

We also manufacture Burnt Lump Lime, Masons Lime, Hydrated Spray Lime, and Hydrated Land Lime. Prices and particulars furnished upon request.

CONVERT
YOUR OLD CAR
INTO A
HALLMORE TRACTOR
FOR ONLY THE PRICE OF ONE HORSE
It will pull a three bottom Tractor plough in sod in high gear . . . . .
POWERFUL — FAST — ECONOMICAL
HALL & STAVERT
34 Queen Street Charlottetown