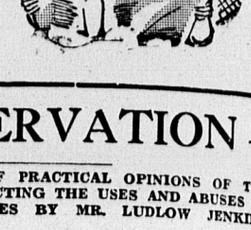
A Page for the MODERN FARMER



- NEWSY NOTES -

By AGRICOLA

Farming in England

When England had become a great manufacturing country about the middle of the nineteenth century, the position of the English farmer was an enviable one. The rapid increase of the urban populations under the factory system, furnished with an almost unlimited market for his products, and although he suffered somewhat under Free Trade, the rest of the world had not yet organized sufficiently to offer him serious competition. It was the happy period when, if a landowner was forced by some difficulty to sell a portion of his estate, a farmer was able to produce his "old stocking" filled with gold to buy it. (In those times farmers were scared of banks and with good reason; as you will gather if you read "Hard Cash" by Charles Reade, a book in your Public Library). That was the Golden Age of English Agriculture.

Since then a change has come over the scene. Other countries all over the world now cater to the British market: beef from the Argentine, mutton form New Zealand, pork from Denmark, Germany and Canada (the former temporarily interrupted), dairy produce from Denmark, Ireland, and even Russia, compete with the produce of the British Isles. Grain from Canada, Australia, (and Southern Russia at times) all on the grand scale, have depressed the price of the native product, without, however, being of any benefit to the distant farmers who raised the grain. Distribution and transport get the lion's share, and the overseas farmer, by his acquiescence in this, has reduced the standard of living for himself; and his English cousin must meet his competition with much the same result.

The war has not improved matters to any great extent. The British Minister of Agriculture had sound ideas in the main, but too many other departments did not play up to him. For instance he urged the farmers to keep more livestock, a matter essential to the maintenance of soil fertility, as well as a source of food. So the farmers complied only to find that the Ministry of Food allowed the price of feeds to go up roughly 100 per cent. while the increase in price that the farmers were allowed for their own produce was limited to about 20 per cent. (This situation is not unknown on this side of the Atlantic.) When the British farmer found he could no longer afford food for his animals he just had to sacrifice them, and it is said that hundreds of farmers lost their livelihood by this mismanagement.

In a hasty effort to increase the food-producing capacity of the farms, the Minister asked farmers to plow up an extra 2,000,000 acres of old pastures. To encourage and help them he announced a bonus of 2 pounds (about $8) for every such acre plowed. This remarkable feat was duly carried out, though the winter was the worst on record and for more than three months it was impossible to go on the land. The Minister thinks that the harvest from these old grasslands will save the transporting of 2,000,000 tons of food from overseas: the farmers admire his enthusiasm but smile at his figures, which presuppose a yield of one ton of grain to the acre. Thousands of farmers will be surprised if they get half a ton to the acre out of their old pasture lands.

A critic says "The Minister should have devised means by which cheap money would have been ready to relieve the merciless mortgages, help the farmers buy equipment, pay labor, and get the work done. Money is the root of all their troubles; they are squeezed dry. Nothing but financial assistance, instantly, can help." This black picture is probably overdrawn, but what a contrast to the good old times!

If There Be Prophecy—

The belief that certain individuals are able to foretell the future is co-eval with the existence of mankind. In the elaborate Neolithic temple of Tarxien, in Malta, there are underground chambers with mouthpieces opening into the main hall, whence, it is supposed, the oracles made known the will of the gods. When we enter the realm of written history the record is clearer. The Babylonians, Assyrians, Chaldees, and Egyptians had their seers and interpreters of dreams, and the old Hebrew writings are full of the visions of their prophets.

Four hundred years before Christ was crucified, Socrates, the Greek philosopher, said (and Plato recorded it in his "Republic")—"The perfect righteous man will be scourged and bound, and at last after suffering every kind of torture, he will be crucified."

Forty years before Christ was born, the Roman poet Virgil wrote his fourth eclogue, wherein he predicted that a Savior would be born of a virgin and that the world would be happier for his coming. "Come then, O Son of God, God's Mighty Heir. Thy reign begin, the hour is nigh."

Socrates and Virgil, though heathen writers, saw a vision of the Great One who was to come; and if some of the details are inaccurate, that does not affect the general statement.

In reviewing the ancient prophecies, one notices, first, that the prophets were not in their usual frame of mind at the time they foresaw the future. "I was in the spirit" says one; "my eyes were opened", says Balaam, clairvoyant to time and space; "the heavens were opened and I saw visions" says a third. The priests at Delphes, and other heathen shrines produced an exaltation of spirt by narcotic drugs, before they delivered their oracular prophecies.

When, however, these singular visions began to be entrusted to the written page, a number of difficulties made their appearance. It is rarely that an eye-witness of some recent event can repeat its details without mistake; and when the subject is a dream or vision there is a greater tendency to error. Socrates tells of the 'perfect righteous man' that his eyes were put out before he was crucified—a detail perhaps connected with the crown of thorns. Virgil says of the virgin birth that when it takes place there will be no need of world commerce for every fruit will grow in every country. Seneca, tutor to the Emperor Nero, foretold that "There will be a time in which Ocean shall relax her bounds and an enormous continent will appear. Neptune will unveil new worlds and Iceland will no longer be on the edge of the world." In this he suggests that America is next to Iceland, an inaccuracy which however does not invalidate the general truth of his prognostication. It would seem that in all prophecies we must make allowances for errors.

Another difficulty is this: the seer, looking down the long corridor of time, sees objects which he can neither comprehend nor name, and observes customs utterly unlike anything in his experience. So Ezekiel, by the river of Chebar, sees "creatures" which he describes at great length without being able to place them. From his vision we gather that they were able to rise from the ground and fly straightforward with a sound like "the noise of great waters," and with the swiftness of lightning. They had wings and wheels, and something strange, whose garb proclaimed him a spirit or ghost, directed their movements. To us this seems commonplace, but to Ezekiel so marvellous that he comes back to them in the 10th chapter, where he concludes they were "cherubims."

The last of the great prophets, St. John, has recourse to a symbolism which has proved perplexing to many generations of interpreters. Standing on the seashore at Patmos he saw a "beast" arise from the sea, having ten horns, which are afterwards explained as a confederation of ten "kings" or rulers, who had no kingdom till given power by the "beast." The beast bears also seven heads, one of which is wounded to death, but recovers and becomes so powerful that no nation is able to withstand it in war. (Revelation 13, 4). This head (or nation) persecutes the saints, i.e., the religious people of whatsoever race, and conquers "all kindreds, tongues and nations" (13, 7); which is perhaps an overstatement, seeing that the saints finally triumph. Another beast, this time "out of the earth", increases the influence of the first one, and causes all who oppose it to be slain.

The prophet tells of the wonders performed by the second beast; that it is able to make fire "come down from heave on the earth," a feat only too familiar in these days, and foretold, long before, by Ezekiel (39,6). But "have patience", he says (Rev. 13, 10), "He that slays, shall be slain". This exhortation is so needful that it is repeated (14, 12). It seems the prophets vision is not a long-continued consecutive picture, but a series of separate views of the one event—the final war between the forces of evil and the King of Kings. The great destruction of marine life (such as has never been seen in any previous war); and also of shipping, is prefigured in the 8th chapter, 9th verse, but the old riddle of the number "666," is still unsolved.

NOTES ON ISLAND PLANTS

The Hypericaceae

The time is fast approaching when my readers who are interested in the study of Botany, may again take the field, and I therefore hasten to resume the notes on our plants, the results of many years research.

The genus **Hypericum** has about **200** species distributed in the temperate regions of the earth and a few more amongst the mountains of the warmer parts. They have medicinal properties: some are drastic purgatives, while others are astringents and tonics. These properties reside in the essential oils which fill the pellucid "dots" and black glands, that bestud the leaves and flowers. One of the distinguishing features of the genus is that the stamens (which are usually numerous) are often arranged in three or five "bundles". Our four species of St. John's-wort—the popular name—are weeds; but some of the other species have been adopted into the garden in Britain, notably **Hypericum calycinum**, the so-called "Rose of Sharon," which has yellow flowers, 3 or 4 inches across.

Our common St. John's-wort, **H. perforatum**, is a pernicious weed, difficult to extirpate, says Gray; and he adds, the juice is very acrid. The petals are deep yellow, black-dotted along the margin. The stem is much branched and gives off slender stolons at its base. The Dwarf St. John's wort, **H. mutilum** frequents low ground, and is an annual, with flaccid stem and partly-clasping 5-nerved narrowly ovate leaves. Unlike the previous species the stamens number from five to twelve.

Another annual, the Canadian St. John's-wort, **H. canadense**, is found from Newfoundland to Manitoba and south into the U.S.A. This has linear, 3-nerved leaves, rounded at the tip. The Marsh St. John's-wort, **H. virginicum**, common in low ground, is noticeable from its crimson tone. It is stoloniferous; and usually has nine stamens in three bundles. Not very tall—less than a foot high in specimens under my observation—the most conspicuous feature is the cluster of red-purple oblong capsules crowning the nearly unbranched stem.

The Cistaceae

Or Rock-rose family is sparsely represented in North America and but two members appear in our flora. Some of the foreign genera, such as **Helianthemum** and **Cistus**, are showy garden plants: one, the Alpine Rock-rose, **H. alpestris**, suits our climate well, giving an abundance of white flowers, like single roses, in early summer.

The Downy Hudsonia, **H. tomentosa**, is found on our sandy beaches. Its general appearance and densely-tufted and intricate growth has gained it the name of "False Heather," but its five-petalled, yellow flowers distinguish it from the heaths. The other member of the family is the Large-podded Pinweed, **Lechea intermedia**, identified for me some years ago by Prof. Herbert Groh, of Ottawa. This Pinweed is fairly common on dry ground, on roadsides and elsewhere, and gets its name from the little globose pods on long stalks, which irresistibly remind one of the common "stick-pins". I can find no economic or official properties ascribed to our two members of the **Cistaceae.**

Little Chats On Farm Management

Variation in Farm Earnings

One of the striking facts revealed by farm surveys is the wide variation in yearly earnings from farm to farm. This has been demonstrated again by a project recently undertaken by the Economics Division, Marketing Service, Dominion Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Agricultural Economics Department of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. Detailed records of the farm business year ending May 30, 1938, were secured from 266 operators of hog-producing farms located in Eastern, Central, and Western Ontario, including records from the Counties of Leeds, Lanark, Grenville, Wellington, Waterloo, Perth, Kent and Lambton.

The range in farm earnings for the year was greatest in the Kent-Lambton area. Here the variation between the highest farm, which had earnings of $4,316, and the lowest farm, which lost $1,234, was $5,550. The earnings of the 74 farms visited in this area were distributed fairly widely between these two extremes, with an average for all farms of $986. However, it is significant fact that at least one farm had earnings approximately $3,500 above the average, and a considerable number had earnings one, two, and three times greater than average.

A similar variation in earnings from farm to farm was found in the Central and Eastern areas visited. On 107 farms located in the Counties of Wellington, Waterloo and Perth, the average earnings for the year was $1,096, with a range of over $3,000 between the highest and lowest farm. In the Leeds-Lanark-Grenville area, the earnings of 85 farms ranged all the way from a low of (Minus) $645 to a high of $3,068.

How then can the fact be accounted for that in each of the three areas visited, some farms were highly successful and some relatively unsuccessful? The answer to this question lies largely in the individual farm business manager himself. By carefully comparing and analyzing the yearly records of the 266 farms, it has been possible to isolate the factors chiefly contributing to financial success in farming. The first essential is to build up a sufficiently large volume of business consisting of a well-balanced and efficiently managed crop and live stock program. A small farm business, no matter how skilfully managed, cannot be very profitable because the difference between receipts and expenditures will not be large, and labour and capital will not be put to its most effective use.

In this study the most successful farm managers were those with live stock above average in numbers and quality, supported by a cropping program featuring yields above varieties of crops. Lack of success was generally due to failure to conduct operations on a sufficiently large scale, or as a result of poor crop yields and non-productive live stock

Canadian Garden Service 1940

By GORDON LINDSAY SMITH

No garden is too small for a path. Indeed the smaller the garden the greater necessity for something of the sort because traffic of little and bigger feet will be much heavier, wear and tear on lawn more severe.

But the garden walk has a beauty value also. When properly laid out to wind leisurely around clumps of shrubbery and trees, towards some focal point like swing, trellis, arbor or table, it adds beauty, mystery and spaciousness to the most modest garden layout.

Most pleasing materials for garden walks are flagstones. These are broad, flat, thin slabs of any soft stone, usually found in abundance around certain river beds.

The stones are sunk flush with the ground and at least an inch and a half of grass is left between edges. Sometimes after the sod is cut out the exact shape and depth of each stone, a little sand is added to the bottom of the hole, for drainage and to make the walk firmer. Built in this way the lawn mower will run right over the pathway.

Other permanent walk materials are sand, cinder or brick.

Lengthening the Season

Even the most citified person will admit that there is nothing to equal the taste of vegetables that have just reached the proper maturity and are fresh from the garden. But far too few people with plenty of vegetable garden right at their door get the full benefit of this freshness. In most cases there are a few meals of green peas, baby carrots and beets, new potatoes and corn, and that is all. Either the rows are finished or else there is nothing left but peas, beans and corn which should have been eaten days or weeks before. With a little foresight and planning, however, these unfortunates could just as easily have had really fresh vegetables coming on all through the summer. They could extend even the green pea season to over a month, could have fresh corn from early summer until almost Christmas.

There are two ways to achieve this objective. First, the planting season can be spread over several weeks. Experts advise making at least three sowings of practically all vegetables, the first a week or so before the regular time, the second at the regular time and the third a week or ten days later.

Secondly by buying early medium and late maturing varieties, still more length can be added.

Take corn for instance. It is now possible to secure Golden Bantam types that are weeks earlier than the original Bantam and it is also possible to get later than normal maturing Bantam. Still further extension of the corn season is possible through adding some of the late white type of garden corns to the list. Some of these if planted well into June will come along just before frost. Indeed if stalks and all are cut and stored away out of frost cobs can be picked away into late fall.

Transplanting

Success with transplanting depends on plenty of water. Of next importance will be shade and stimulant. Moving a plant is something like an operation for a human being, and the larger the specimen the more necessary the attention. With shrubbery and trees often main roots are cut and the shock is severe. Half a pail of water after setting out is not too much for such big things, and the watering should be repeated two or three times a week, if a quick start is wanted.

With ordinary annuals and perennials liberal watering is also advisable and shelter from hot sun for the first few days. Some pick-up in the way of quickly available commercial fertilizer will help at this time, merely a pinch for small things like tomato plants or asters, and perhaps up to a couple of handfulls for shrubs and trees.

Care should be taken in the use of any chemical fertilizer that it does not actually touch roots or foliage. In the dry state it is liable to burn. Experts usually play safe and dissolve the fertilizer in water before applying.

Worth While Shrubs

(Experimental Farms News)

Everywhere in Eastern Canada lilac, honeysuckle, mockorange and hydrangea are planted, but really there is a great variety of shrubs which grow well but which are not used because so few people know them. In the colder districts most people have stopped trying to grow forsythias because the common ones rarely bloom above the snow line, writes R. W. Oliver, Division of Horticulture, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. Recently a species of golden bell called Forsythia ovata which appears to be hardy at Ottawa has been introduced, its pale yellow sunshine warming the days late in April, a few days earlier than F. intermedia.

Another early bloomer which needs more attention is Viburnum Carlesii. It is not so robust as the more common Snowball, but its early clusters of pale pink blooms amply repay the trouble for giving it a sheltered location in the sun. It has a lot of rural cousin viburnums that deserve a place in the shrub border of the larger gardens and all of them do nicely in partial shade.

Snowball, high bush cranberry, wayfaring tree, withe-rod, arrow wood are all useful large shrubs in their place. The first two have fallen into disfavour because the leaf rolling insects attack them so frequently but these attacks can be beaten off with a spray gun full of nicotine sulphate during the spring before the leaves are fully out.

Another large group of rather informal shrubs that need more frequent planting in the shrub border is made up of the various rose species. Harrisons yellow has been a favourite for years and the rugosa roses have been used quite frequently but there are a dozen other species and hybrids whose floral display is lovely and whose foliage adds interest to the shrubbery all season. Several of these hybrids have been produced at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. They need no more attention than spiraea and add greatly to the variety of the garden.

For dry spots, at the Farm, the larger Siberian peas have been used for a long time but there are two fine leaved shrubs of this family seldom seen but much more ornamental, Caragan Loerbergii, a variety of the tall growing Siberian pea-tree, has finely cut light green foliage and a gracefully arching habit that makes it very interesting throughout the season. The dwarf pea tree, Caragana Pygmaea, with a little attention from the shears, forms a neat, low, ball of fine green misty foliage all year and a wealth of deep yellow flowers in early June.

Another shrub with delicate foliage is Tamarisk. Most varieties have killed in winter but T. Pentandra is pretty hardy and very attractive. Shrubs of this sort are particularly useful in small areas as their fine foliage creates the illusion of distance.

While on the subject of finely cut foliage, the cut leafed variety of the red Elderberry should be much more commonly used. When planted in a group so that it will fruit well, this shrub has everything, gracefully arching branches, purple fea-

(Continued On Page 12 Col. 7)

occur during the fall, winter or spring, but is most prevalent during early spring, when the snow is melting. In the early stages of the disease, areas of turf become covered with a white cottony growth. Later, on drying, these areas become grayish in color and if the damage is severe the grass is killed. Breaking up the white cottony growths as they appear by raking, or brushing with a stiff broom, will reduce the amount of injury to some extent.

As soon as the soil is dry enough to permit work the lawn should receive a thorough raking in order to remove the winter's accumulation of debris and to comb out any dead grass that may be present. Any weeds that can be detected should be removed at this time. Thin and bare areas should then be thoroughly scarified by raking and reseeded with suitable grasses. A mixture consisting of four parts, by weight, of Kentucky bluegrass and one part of Colonial Bent is highly satisfactory for reseeding in most locations. Up to 5 per cent of White Dutch clover seed may be added to this mixture if desired. The seed may be covered by lightly raking the soil or by covering very lightly with screened top soil. It may be necessary to water newly seeded areas occasionally since the soil should not be allowed to dry out until the seedlings become well established. When watering, a very fine spray should be used in order to avoid uncovering the seed and washing it away.

The lawn should receive one rolling in the early spring to counteract any heaving, which has occurred. The time when this operation may be carried out effectively depends on the condition of the soil. If the soil is too dry the roller will have no effect and if too moist rolling will cause the soil to puddle.

If winter damage has resulted from poor drainage it will be necessary to correct this condition. Shallow depressions in the lawn may be corected by topdressing with compost or good top soil. In the case of larger depressions it will be necessary to lift the sod, build up the area to the desired level with good top soil and replace the turf. Unsatisfactory underdrainage may be corrected by laying a suitable system of tile drains.

The most common cause of poor lawns is low soil fertility. Adequate fertilization is a very necessary part of a suitable lawn maintenance programme. The application in the early spring of 8 to 10 lb. per 1000 square feet of a 10-6-4 or a similar complete fertilizer is recommended. There are a number of good lawn fertilizers on the market which will produce satisfactory results if applied at the recommended rates. The fertilizer should be broadcast uniformly over the lawn at the first signs of active growth. It is necessary to water the fertilizer immediately after application in order to avoid burning the leaves.

The purpose of all spring operations is to encourage a dense, deep-rooted, healthy turf which will withstand summer heat and drought and compete with summer weeds. The necessity of starting lawn work as early as possible, therefore cannot be over-emphasized.

Repairing Winter Damage To Lawns

(Experimental Farms News)

Lawn owners are advised to start work on their lawns as soon as possible after the snow has melted in order to repair the damage which has occurred during the winter. Winter injury may result from many causes including winter-killing due to extreme cold, insufficient snow cover for the protection of the sward or the use of unadapted grass species, smothering by ice or water lying in depressions in the lawn surface, heaving caused by freezing and thawing and disease, advises J. H. Boyce, Division of Forage Plants, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

The disease which causes injury during cool weather is known as snowmould. This disease is caused by a fungus which grows only under cool, moist conditions. It may

WEEKLY LIVESTOCK MARKET REPORT

Ottawa, May 9th

SUMMARY

The cattle market followed a trend opposite to that of a week ago. Eastern prices were strong to 50c higher on steers and heifers but the west, under the influence of discouraging reports from American markets, worked lower, particularly on shipping material. Winnipeg did, however, gain about 25c on light to handyweight butcher cattle, due to a drop in supplies. The calf market had good support from the south and Montreal advanced 25c, with other markets selling steady to strong. There was little or no change in the hog or lamb markets.

Eastern Cattle Prices Stronger

With a lighter run of cattle on hand, TORONTO advanced 35c to 50c on steers and heifers. Weighty steers closed generally up to $7.75, with one load for export making $8, and butcher steers and heifers finished off up to $7.50. Prices on good cows and steers were firm at MONTREAL but plainer kinds were no better than steady. The practical top on steers was $7.75, and an odd sale was made up to $8. Good cows rated $5.50 to $6. Prices in the MARITIMES were unchanged, with good to choice steers quoted up to $7.50.

Western Prices Weaken

Lower markets to the south were reflected in weaker prices for good shipping steers at WINNIPEG and most sales were fully 25c easier. The better end of the export steers made $7.25 to $7.50. Light to handyweight butcher cattle on the other hand, carried good strength and late sales were around 25c higher, with desirable steers closing at $7 to $7.50. CALGARY closed 25c to 50c lower on most butcher classes. The range on best butcher steers was $6.50 to $7.25. EDMONTON was also down 25c to 50c, with the practical top on steers at $6.75. Top steers at PRINCE ALBERT, MOOSE JAW and SASKATOON made $7.00; REGINA $6.50; and VANCOUVER $7.50.

United States Market

The Buffalo market was about 25c better than the previous week but the advance in prices at Toronto left the margin about the same. Sales at Buffalo this week were made at $8.10 to $9 off cars weights, and at $8.25 to $8.50 f. & for steers and heifers of mixed w., with a couple up to $10. St. Paul paid $8 to $9.25 for medium to good Canadian steers, and $8.50 to $9 for good heifers.

Exports to the United States during the week totalled 5,099 beef cattle, 234 dairy, and 2,101 calves. Exports from January 1st to May 9th were 41,695 beef, 3,138 dairy, and 19,062 calves, compared with 83,778 beef, 3,639 dairy, and 27,779 calves in the corresponding period of 1939. Exports of beef cattle under the second quarterly quota from April 1st to May 9th amounted to 22,340 head as against 46,303 in the same period last year.

Calf Prices Strong on U.S. Account

Veals sold up to $10.50 at Toronto, with a few tops at $11, while Montreal gained 25c after Monday markets. Good veals were mostly due to buying for United States $8, with a small number making up to $8.50. Winnipeg also benefitted from southern orders and sold good calves at $8 to $8.50. Tops at Calgary and Edmonton were $9; Prince Albert $7; Moose Jaw $7.50; and Saskatoon and Regina $8.

Hog Market Steady

Hogs continued at last week's price level of $8.25 for bacons off trucks, or $11 dressed, at Toronto. Montreal showed a little easiness, with the bulk of the bacons making $8.50, and a few sales on Monday up to $8.60. Western centres generally held steady, Winnipeg paying $7.75 for bacons f. & w., Calgary $7.25 off trucks, Edmonton also $7.25, Prince Albert $7.45, Moose Jaw and Regina $7.50, and Saskatoon $7.45. Heavier discounts were placed in effect on sows and extra heavies at most markets.

Lamb Market Unchanged

Lamb prices held steady at Toronto at $11.25 for westerns and some from local feed-lots, while some spring lambs sold as high as $10.25 each. Spring lambs at Montreal made up to $8 each, but the bulk were common and too light and many sold as low as $4 each. A handful of spring lambs sold up to $13 at Winnipeg, while a few yearlings made as high as $9.25 at Calgary, and Edmonton had a few spring lambs at $12.50.

CATTLE MARKETS

TORONTO weighed up 4,668 cattle, almost 1,000 head fewer than in the previous week. Opening trade was slow but there was a virtual scramble for steers and heifers by the close. Weighty steers closed at $6.75 to $7.75, with a load for export at $8. The close on butcher steers and heifers was $6.50 to $7.50 while butcher cows were down slightly at $4.25 to $5.25, and a few tops at $5.50. Canners and cutters finished at $3 to $4, and bulls were steady at $5 to $5.75. Fed calves advanced 50c to a closing range of $7.50 to $8.50. Stockers and feeders were also active and firm at $5.50 to $6.75. Good milkers and springers held steady at $75 to $85 each.

MONTREAL prices were firm on good cows and steers but plainer kinds of cows held barely steady. Sales totalled 1,394 cattle. Good steers made $7.25 to $7.75 an odd top animal $8, and others sold downward to around $6. Heifers brought $4 to $7, with an odd fat yearling at $7.50. Good cows were $5.50 to $6, but mostly $5.75, and common down to $3.75, with canners and cutters $2.25 to $3.75. Bulls sold from $4.25 to $5.25 for common quality, and from $5.50 to $6 for butchers. Milkers were $40 to $80 each.

MARITIMES: Cattle offerings were mostly fair to medium and prices were unchanged. Good to choice steers made up to $7.50, medium to good $6 to $6.75, and others down to $4, with heifers 25c to 50c below steer prices. Butcher cows sold at $4 to $5.50, and canners and cutters between $2.50 and $3.50.

CALF MARKETS

TORONTO calves were steady at $10 to $10.50 for choice, with a few tops at $11. Common lights sold downward to $5.

MONTREAL sold a small number of veals at a top price of $8.50, but good quality were mostly $7.50 to $8, and mediums up to $7. Most of the calves were only plain to fair and sold in mixed lots at $5.50 to $6.50.

The Dominion hog run was 110,461, compared with 65,447 head in the same week last year. Total to date: this year, 1,707,858; last year, 1,191,945.

TORONTO continued at $8.25 for bacons off trucks and $11 dressed.

Closing prices for direct deliveries to packing plants at HAMILTON were $10.90 to $11 for the basic grade, dressed, delivered, and $10.60 plus transportation.

MONTREAL bacons were a shade easier. A few Monday sales were at $8.60 for bacons f. & w., but later the price was $8.50, or $8.75 Rail grades were $11.30.

MONCTON $11 delivered.

SHEEP AND LAMB MARKETS

TORONTO lambs remained steady at $11.25 for western feedlots and for some locals. Common to medium fed lambs were $8.50 to $11. Spring lambs sold at $7 to $10.25 each. Sheep were steady from $3 for culls up to $7 for good light ewes.

MONTREAL had spring lambs at $4 to $8 each, and sheep $4 to $6.50 per cwt.

EXPORTS OF BACON & HAMS TO UNITED KINGDOM

Weight of Wiltshires and cuts leaving packing plants for export, week ending May 3rd, 1940, 7,024,969 lbs.

CONSERVATION

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

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AUDUBON SOCIETIES: NO ORGANIZATION OF CONSERVATIONISTS

The continued ineffectiveness of the National Association of Audubon Societies is partly explained by the fact that it has never organized its members for work. When, as a member, I open a letter from the National Association of Audubon Societies, I do not find opportunity for training and service in conservation work. I find, almost invariably, a request to buy something, or a plea to give money to this wealthy organization whose last Treasurer's report showed vested funds of $1,707,492, and an income of $182,181. Only a relatively small part of this large income goes into active work for bird protection; yet a smaller amount goes for the animal protection for which the Association is also incorporated.

"Is legislation watched, and the bad measures that constantly come up in the various legislatures warned against and opposed, as in the days of William Dutcher's activity?"

No The National Association of Audubon Societies is organized in but few states. It can scarcely lay claim to its title as an Association. New York, Pennsylvania, and all but a few other states, have no state Audubon Societies. We believe that the National Association of Audubon Societies is jealous of organization by states, for fear that such organizations might draw money and coveted publicity away from itself. But when we see the valiant work done by certain effective state Audubon Societies, we are the more sure that organization of conservationists is the means by which wild life protection will be accomplished. And to put conservationists to work is the way to organize them.

The quotation above is taken from Crisis in Conservation, by W. G. Van Name and the late W. De Witt Miller, curators of the American Museum of Natural History. In further criticism, these authors said: "Occasional splurges of ineffective activity and interminable advertisement of themselves and their organizations in order to maintain a continual flow of money into their treasuries occupies their time, and exaggerated overhead expenses and solicitation of more contributions consume the money given for bird protection. . . ."

This criticism was made ten years ago. It is true today. In the Association's last financial report are these items: Salaries of Office Staff (not including Field Representatives and Wardens): $59,593.74; Staff Expense: $4,030.51; Operating Expenses, Audubon House: $5,012.55. The cost of Audubon House was $118,173.

But, as pointed out by Drs. Van Name and Miller, "Many thousands who are giving their money as support are doing so, not because they want a big protection society but because they want our birds protected." Are these people getting bird protection, or are they paying for exaggerated overhead expenses?

What is it that paralyzes the Audubon Association? We believe that it a lack of enthusiasm for bird and animal protection at the head of the Association. Since the days of William Dutcher the Association's first President, it has had at its head men without any real interest in conservation, and lattermen without the time to give the direction of the Association affairs.

Dr. Robert C. Murphy, now President of the Association, is a man whose scientific interest in birds exceeds his interest in bird and animal protection. And he is a sportsman associated with those who kill birds for fun. He has a full time job, and must leave direction of the affairs of the Association to others.

And it should not be forgotten that it was while Dr. Murphy was Treasurer of the National Association of Audubon Societies that the profit from the sale of the skins of animals steel-trapped at the Association's Rainey Wild Life Sanctuary was entered in the books of the Association under the misleading heading "Rentals", and reported viva voce by Dr. Murphy at the Annual Meetings of the Association. The Directors and members condoned this fact when they elected Dr. Murphy President—but they can scarcely believe that Dr. Murphy has the burning zeal for wild life protection that should characterize the President of an Association for the preservation of wild birds and animals.

The Association needs a leader whose whole heart is in the preservation of wild life, one who inspires his associates to work with him, and who knows how to organize the membership for intelligent, active, aggressive campaigns for wild life conservation.

OUR WORK IS CONSPICUOUSLY SUCCESSFUL: WILL YOU HELP US?

We ask for gifts with which to carry on our work. The E.C.C. is encouraged about the progress of conservation. No one knows better than we the dangers that face wild life and environment through the avarice of business interests, and the selfishness of those who take pleasure in destruction. We are annalled at the way money given for the protection of wild life is too often expended in extravagant salaries and overhead. We have little respect for the weakness of "conservation" publications that are too fearful to tell readers the whole truth. We cherish no illusions concerning the forces of wild life destruction—but we are encouraged about the progress of conservation.

The E.C.C. is now ten years old. During the past ten years, while carrying on militant campaigns for the defense of wild life, we have worked to organize conservationists into a body, conscious of its own members and strength. With the help of friendly scientists, we have taught the truths of conservation, so that conservationists are in possession of sound arguments for the protection of wild creatures, and we have taught the political means whereby the aims of conservationists may be attained. No one who reviews the history of conservation in the United States for the past ten years but must pay tribute to the E.C.C. for the distinguished victories it has won. But most remarkable of its accomplishments is the awaking of the people. The movement for conservation is gaining strength, and conservationists may look forward with new courage to greater accomplishments in the future.

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