

FRUIT GROWERS ASSOCIATION MET IN THIS CITY YESTERDAY

Two Very Helpful and Enthusiastic Sessions Held, One in Afternoon and One at Night—Splendid Exhibit Shown—Prize Winners Complete—Prof. Macoun of Ottawa and G. H. Vroom, Dominion Fruit Inspector, Nova Scotia, Were Present and Gave Splendid Addresses.

Yesterday afternoon the first meeting of the Fruit Growers' Association opened in the Prince of Wales College. Before the meeting opened Prof. Macoun and Fruit Inspector G. H. Vroom judged some of the exhibits and finished them afterwards.

The meeting opened by appointing J. F. Johnston, Long River, chairman in the absence of Rev. Dr. A. E. Burke, president.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved. The reports of the Sec'y-Treas., and auditors were read and approved. They showed a balance on hand of one hundred and eight dollars.

The secretary read some letters from nurserymen in Ontario showing that several would furnish a stock at a saving of at least one half to the buyer.

Prof. Ross in reporting on model orchards stated that he visited them late in the season. He thought these orchards should be inspected several times each year to spray and prune them. He said that the Commission intended going into the matter more fully this evening.

Prof. Macoun of Ottawa was then introduced and addressed the meeting on "Hardy Varieties of Fruits." He defined a hardy plant as one with power to adapt itself to its environment. Currants, gooseberries, raspberries, strawberries and cherries are perfectly hardy here because they have been developed in cold climates.

He defined ten different kinds of winter killing of trees. Sun scald so common here may be prevented by surrounding the trunk with wood-veneer or common white building paper. He said that when this Province can grow such fine apples as those shown comprising King, Baxter, wealthy, Alexander and Gravenstein we need not worry about varieties. His address was replete with information.

Mr. Vroom said the best way to kill canker worm is to put some sticky substance on the trunk of the tree in November to catch the female in climbing the tree. Spraying is a tedious way of keeping them in check. Then followed a general discussion in which nearly all took part giving their different experiences in trying to make a success of their different orchards.

Some said cultivation finally killed the trees and the best way was to mulch. Others said they planted clover but objection was taken to this because clover needs and takes too much moisture from the soil and thus robs the tree. A very good plan suggested was to sow the clover late in the summer after the trees had got a start and when about six inches high cut it and leave it as a mulch. As it was getting late the meeting adjourned at eight o'clock.

- PREMIUM LIST. Best ten varieties of Commercial Apples 1. John Robertson. Best five varieties of Winter Apples. 1. John Robertson, 2. A. A. Moore. Best Plate Alexander. 1. A. A. Moore, 2. J. Robertson. Best Plate Baldwin's. 1. J. Robertson. Best Plate Banks. 1. J. Robertson. Best Plate Blenheim. 1. J. Robertson. Best Plate Ben Davis. 1. James G. Hughes, 2. A. A. Moore. Best Plate Bishop Pippins. 1. A. M. McRae, 2. A. A. Moore. Best Plate Fallwater. 1. J. Robertson. Best Plate Golden Russet. 1. E. Wood, 2. James G. Hughes. Best Plate Gravenstein. 1. A. M. McRae, 2. J. Robertson. Best Plate King. 1. James G. Hughes, 2. J. Robertson. Best Plate Mann. 1. A. E. Dewar, 2. A. M. McRae. Best Plate Ontario. 1. A. E. Dewar, 2. A. K. Henry. Best Plate Ribston. 1. J. Robertson, 2. A. E. Dewar. Best Plate Red Russet. 1. J. Robertson. Best Plate Spy. 1. E. Wood, 2. A. A. Moore. Best Plate Stark. 1. J. Robertson, 2. John Johnston. Best Plate Wagner. 1. A. E. Dewar, 2. Henry McGregor. Best Plate Wealthy. 1. A. E. Dewar, A. K. Henry. Best Plate Peewaukee. 1. J. Robertson, 2. E. Wood. Best new and promising Commercial Apple 1. A. A. Moore, 2. J. Robertson. Best new and promising Dessert Apple 1. E. Wood, 2. J. Robertson. Best Plate any other variety. 1. J. A. Moore, 2. J. Robertson. Best Plate Pears. 1. W. C. White. Best Plate Cranberries. C. R. Dickson.

Basket apples not less than 8, or more than 16 quarts. 1. J. A. Moore. SPECIAL PRIZES. Special Prize by James Paton & Co. For best barrel of King Apples \$5.00. 1. J. Robertson.

Special Prize by Prowse & Co. Ltd. For best barrel of Gravenstein Apples \$5.00. 1. J. Robertson. Special Prize by Moore & McLeod For best barrel of Wealthy Apples \$5.00. 1. J. Robertson.

Special mention was made of a box of Wealthies exhibited by J. A. Moore and a box of Baxters exhibited by A. A. Moore. Special Prize by Beer & Goff For best barrel of Northern Spies \$5.00. 1. J. Robertson. Special Prize by Jenkins & Son For best box of Gravenstein Apples \$1.50. 1. J. Robertson.

The evening meeting opened with the vice president, D. J. Stewart of Aftons Ferry, in the chair. After a few remarks the chairman called on J. A. Annear for a paper on "Orchard Experience." It was a very interesting and helpful paper. He spoke on having low trees as the disadvantage in cultivation are far exceeded in spraying and picking. He advised having the orchard protected by woods so as the snow would not break the trees.

He also spoke on pruning. He said as the young tree to be set out has been deprived of a large number of its roots so the leaf system has to be cut down in order to make a balance. If the leaf system passes off the ordinary amount of water and the remaining root system cannot supply that water then the tree may die out but if it does survive it will never be as thrifty as the same tree as it would have been if it had been pruned.

He said he had no trouble to grow the fruit but his only trouble was to dispose of it. As yet he did not know any way out of it. John Newson then spoke about the height of the trees. He said if they were not sheltered they would have to have a higher stalk to prevent them being broken down by the snow.

Prof. Macoun said that the matter of height should be decided between the fruit growers themselves. Mr. Vroom, Dominion Fruit Inspector, then told of a plan to make a market for the fruit. It was a plan of co-operation. A number of fruit growers should get together and make a brand that would in a few years become so well known and reliable that fruit buyers would be seeking their fruit and not the fruit growers seeking for a market. By this plan several buyers would probably seek out this brand of fruit and thus competition would raise the price.

Prof. Ross said that people all over the Province last fall had apples rotting on the ground and didn't know what to do with them. He thought they should be educated as to what to do with their fruit. He said the cost of Nova Scotia apples plus freight, etc., were sold here for \$3 and that farmers of this Province wanted that much or they wouldn't sell them at all, how much less could a buyer buy them here for \$3 pay freight on them to Nova Scotia and probably have to sell them there at \$4 to make any profit. They couldn't be sold at all for probably Nova Scotia herself could supply just as good an apple at \$2 a barrel. He said the people of this Province needed to be educated along this line.

A. E. Dewar then spoke on the cost of barrels for packing and estimated that a carload from Ontario would cost about 22 cents a barrel and would have to be put together when they got here. J. Johnston said that the Len Davis apples are not much better than turnips and for it he would supply a Stark apple also an Alexander. He said an orchard must have some shelter from wind and snow. A. E. Dewar said that in Mr. Annear's report he said to plant the trees from 30 to 40 feet wide in his orchard he considered 20 feet as plenty. Some discussion took place and Prof. Macoun said that the farmers could decide the distance for themselves. J. A. Moore then spoke on different varieties requiring more or less space. The Baxter of which he is a large grower do not need more than 20 feet as they grow up and do not spread much. But he said if one is going to grow Baxters they must spray and keep spraying and if this is too much trouble for anyone then don't grow them. He always found them hardy and good. A. E. Dewar thought they were not too hardy and his were somewhat subject to sun scald.

Question read—Do mice girdle plum trees. Mr. White replied saying, Yes! He then asked Prof. Macoun if there was any new hardy variety found in the experiments at Ottawa. He replied that the department had really found none but probably would soon, but he said not to get into new varieties but to stick to what was known to be reliable here.

Question read—Are model orchards as they are managed in this Province of any benefit? Mr. White replied, that if they were put in the hands of unskilled orchardists they were no good.

J. A. Annear said they were of much good if they were used right. He had been much impressed for the way in which he kept his. The Graysonstons, Baldwins and Ontario had done out but all the rest were thriving well. He thought the farmers ought to be taught by example how to prune, spray and keep the orchard.

Hon. S. E. Reid then spoke on the model orchard business. He said he would refuse to undertake the setting out of model orchards again. He said the work had been well done and the only trouble was the dynamite on some trees. Several other orchards besides Mr. Annear's were doing well. He spoke of the orchard on the Provincial farm hoping that out of the 40 or 50 varieties set out probably next summer they would be able to give out some results. He referred to the present meeting to be more than the ordinary pow wow and that men of experience were together to tell real experiences and that was the only way to learn the best.

A paper on the "Poor Advantages of Exhibiting Fruit at the Provincial Exhibition" was read and will be discussed at this morning's meeting. Prof. Macoun then spoke on top-grafting in relation to hardiness. He said grafting was done let to improve the fruit, 2nd to get the trees to come into early bearing, 3rd to avoid sun scald and 4th to see whether top-grafting increased hardiness. The

experience is that it does not make hardiness to any degree. He said a tender grafted tree might stand for some time but a severe winter might kill them all out. It said it was very interesting to know how the stock affected the graft. In grafting the flow of the sap is somewhat checked and the wood ripens earlier. There has been no case proven where the stock will change the taste of the fruit. In answer to whether a tender graft would cause the stock to become more tender Prof. Macoun said yes! and that it would change the shape of the roots somewhat also.

Mr. Gill then spoke along an experienced line as to what varieties he had grafted and found to be all right. A. E. Dewar said that he had not found his that way. The meeting then adjourned to 9 o'clock this morning.

ANOTHER FATAL RAILWAY SMASH

FORT WILLIAM, Dec. 8.—(Special)—As the result of a collision C. P. R. Engineer Noble and Fireman Osler were killed.

The dead men were on a switch engine which collided with a freight behind. Caught in the wreckage and horribly mangled, before the engineer jumped he reversed his engine, which shot back down the yard, colliding with several freight cars and causing a second wreck. Both dead men were married and each had one child.

CHICAGO MARKETS. CHICAGO, December 8.—(Special)—Dec. Wheat 101 1/2 Dec. Corn 62 1/2 Jan. Pork \$14.40 Jan. Wheat 103 1/2 Jan. Corn 59 1/2 May Pork \$15.42

STORE BURNT WITH CONTENTS

ANDOVER, N. B., Dec. 8.—(Special)—The general store of Porter and Sons was totally destroyed by fire with its contents this morning.

The adjoining building occupied by Sloat's pool room and residence was also burned. The Porter firm had \$2,500 insurance on the building. The loss on their stock, on which there was \$150 insurance will be heavy. Sutton's hardware store adjoining had a very narrow escape. Sloat had \$500 insurance.

CIVIC SCANDAL IN MONTREAL

MONTREAL, Dec. 8.—(Special)—Another civic scandal was unearthed by Alderman Robinson who will present documents to the City Council, showing that the new fire and police station in the east end, specified to cost twenty six thousand eight hundred dollars has been constructed so one fifth of the value was abstracted.

The graft started with the purchase of land and was continued in the construction, all the architect's plans being certified as carried out according to specifications by the civic officials.

LAYMEN'S MISSIONARY MOVEMENT OPENED WITH A GRAND BANQUET

An Excellent and Elaborate Spread Set Before the People. Three Representatives of the Movement, P. F. Moriarty of Halifax, Mr. Wilcox M. M. P. of Windsor N. S. and U.S. Consul-General Wilbur of Halifax Were Speakers.

The banquet in St. James' Hall last evening to inaugurate the Laymen's Missionary Movement in this City was most enjoyable and largely attended. The four tables looked lovely with their exquisite napery cut glass, silver and flowers and much credit is due the ladies in charge for their exquisite taste in arranging them and for the supper which was such a decided success, so perfectly was each plan laid that no delay was noticeable and the young lady waiters were most attentive. After supper Premier Hazard, who kindly took the place of Governor McKinnon who was unavoidably absent owing to the death of a relative, efficiently performed the duties of chairman.

Addresses detailing the inception and growth of the Laymen's Missionary Movement, the opportunities for work afforded, and the duty that confronts the Christian church of today were delivered by the visiting delegation, viz.—P. F. Moriarty of Halifax; Mr. Wilson, M. M. P. of Windsor, N. S. and U. S. Consul-General Wilbur, of Halifax. Lack of space prevents a detailed report of these speeches. They were forceful, practical and earnest, and of that character that carried conviction to the minds of those present, that the aim of the projection of this movement, viz.—The evangelization of the world in this generation was possible, and not a utopian idea, if the membership of the Christian churches realized in its fulness the obligation resting upon them.

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BABY CARRIAGES ARE PROHIBITED

MILVER FALLS, Dec. 8.—(Special)—An order just issued prohibits baby carriages from crossing the bridge into Canada. It is ordered also that the bridges be fumigated at regular intervals. There is a rumor that all persons will be prohibited from entering the country via the bridge.

CRAZY LABORER KILLS HIS WIFE

WAKEFIELD, Dec. 8.—(Special)—Hiram Badger, laborer, went violently insane and during his frenzy killed his wife and little daughter. Then running down the street in the centre of the town he shot promiscuously into the stores. One bullet wounded a grocer's clerk in the leg. Badger was chased and finally captured by the townspeople.

THE PRESIDENT'S LAST MESSAGE

Reiterates His Previous Deliverances but in Milder Form—Two Great Newspapers Reply to His Calling Them Liars.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—(Special)—Roosevelt's final annual presidential message was read before Congress today. The President reiterates his convictions respecting government control of public utilities, but the language employed concerning corporations is not marked by his former indictive tones. He believes new legislation is required as the Sherman law is unsatisfactory. Railways should also be under government control. Legislation can do little towards a direct settlement of labor-capital relations, but it can accomplish much towards the betterment of labor conditions in the abolition of child labor and stock gambling, the creation of industrial savings banks and the application of a progressive inheritance tax. Reform of the judiciary is advocated and the President repeats his suggestions advocating checking the abuse of injunction powers. He urges a systematic conservation of natural resources, suggests a definite development of inland waterways and concludes with references to foreign and colonial relations.

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FATAL ACCIDENT FROM DYNAMITE

ST. JOHN, Dec. 8.—(Special)—A fatal accident occurred yesterday in connection with G. T. P. construction near Edmundston. One man was killed and another injured by an explosion of dynamite.

SCHOONER HAD VERY LONG TRIP

Was Forty-four Days From St. John to Boston Owing to Adverse Winds.

MORE PROTESTS IN NORTHWEST

TORONTO, Dec. 8.—(Special)—Four of the eight election protests in Ontario are expected to go by the board. They are the Liberal protests in Norfolk, Centre York, and Conservative in Welland and Ottawa.

SAYS EDITORS ARE LIARS

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—(Special)—The Indianapolis News joins the New York World in a scathing reply to Roosevelt concerning the Panama Canal scandal. These papers alleged that the Government paid forty millions to an American syndicate for the purchase of rights worth only twelve millions. Roosevelt promptly denounced the story as incorrect and signified the editors as liars.

McGILL AND TORONTO FOR RECIPROCITY

MONTREAL, Dec. 8.—At a meeting of the Medical Faculty of McGill, a proposition was endorsed for reciprocity in lectures between the faculties of McGill and Toronto Medical College. A further action will be taken a little later, and the movement may extend to other faculties.

BERLIN, December 7.—It is officially announced that the government will establish at Kienbau a high school for Chinese students at a cost of \$15,000. China has promised to subsidize the institution, and also to provide suitable scholars whose educational status will be acknowledged by admitting them to state examinations and state offices.

CONDENSED ADVERTISEMENTS

WANTED by Jan. 1st a second-class teacher for Covehead School. Supplement given. Apply to T. Ready, Sec'y. 12-931pd.

DECIDES TO OPEN AN OFFICE IN HULL

OTTAWA, Dec. 7.—The Civil Service Loan Association is to open an office in Hull, Quebec, to escape the drastic provisions of the Ontario law. Under the Ontario Act, a loan association has to be incorporated with a capitalization of \$300,000, and have a paid up capital of \$30,000. The Civil Service Association does not wish to go into business on such an elaborate basis. The laws of the Province of Quebec will enable them to carry on business as they desire until they can obtain federal legislation which will be applied for at the coming session.

ANOTHER BARGE REPORTED LOST

HALIFAX, Dec. 8.—A special despatch to the Chronicle from Port Europe, On Wednesday 5:00 came word Mulgrave says that the steamer Liberty from Prince Edward Island has arrived at Mulgrave and reported the loss of a barge on Saturday night. The steamer Decapo from Summerside for St. John's Nfld., with a cargo of produce has also arrived at Mulgrave and the loss of anchors and chains.

THE BRAVE SIMON TAKE POSSESSION

PORT AU PRINCE, Dec. 8.—General Simon, after proceeding around the city, accompanied by a body of troops, took possession of the National Palace and was received by General Alphonse, Commandant of the Guard, amid the acclamations of the people and soldiers.

MINARD'S LINIMENT CURES DISTEMPER

Minard's Liniment Cures Colds etc. The coldest registered last night was twenty two degrees. Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria. FAIR AND COLDER. TORONTO, December 9.—(Special)—Fresh westerly winds, fair and colder.