THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1919

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

The report of the Commissioner of Agriculture, tabled last week, is of more than ordinary interest. Dealing as it does with abnormal conditions due to four years of war, the changes incident to such conditions and suggestions for the reconstruction period that is to follow, the report is historic as well as educative and it is hoped a sufficient supply has been printed to make it generally available among the farmers.

The year was one of unusual prosperity, and the report deals with the causes resulting in this prosperity; exceptionally good crops and the causes which combined to produce them; exceptional prices and the reasons for these. The only exception to the good crops was the potato crop which was somewhat lighter than usual, largely because of blight and the potato beetle.

Embodied in the report is an excellent article by Mr. J. L. Tennant, Inspector for Prince County, dealing, among other matters, with the possibilities of the seed potato industry, the markets available for it and the necessity of producing clean, sound stock true to type, properly graded and packed and free from disease.

An excellent article is also contributed by Mr. J. E. McLarty on the work in Rural Science and rural education. There is much in this article to lead to serious thinking in connection with the future of our schools.

A particularly interesting and illuminative section of the report is "Suggestions re Education in P. E. Island." This embraces the whole scheme of our present school system pointing out its weak points in the matter of rural education, improvements recently effected and suggestions for further improvement. A resume of what has been done in the matter of school fairs, home projects, poultry clubs, etc., is given and a number of the best essays in the various contests are given.

A list of the school fairs held throughout the province is also given, showing the number of pupils participating, the attendance at each, the number of prizes awarded, and other interesting information. The interest shown in this new feature of our school work is most gratifying and shows that the school fair has come to stay as a part of the practical education of our young people.

The Women's Institute also came in for well deserved praise. The work done by these organizations during the year, especially in connection with the war, is most creditable and their influence upon school and community life has also been most beneficial.

The usual report on grain competition is also given, together with the score made by each competitor.

A new and valuable feature in this report is "Agricultural Statistics" compiled with the assistance of the teachers throughout the province. The concluding paragraph in this report is significant and important:

"It is gratifying to note that the results obtained in P. E. Island were the best of any province in the dominion and, had it not been for the suspicion of a number of farmers that these cards were distributed to secure information for the purpose of taxation, a much higher percentage of returns would have been received. As this method of gathering statistics is to be followed, we trust that farmers will realize that it is to their advantage to supply all the information."

THE FOX BUSINESS.

It is particularly gratifying to learn once again that at the recent fox sales in New York the highest prices for silver fox fur were realized by Prince Edward Island pelts. This information is furnished in a private letter from Mr. Chester McLure, who is attending the fur sales and purposes also attending the sales at St. Louis, which open on the 28th inst. At this latter sale it is estimated that ten million dollars worth of furs will be offered. In this big sale also, Prince Edward Island will have an opportunity of letting the world know what has been and can be done in the production of silver fox fur.

The gratifying result achieved at the New York sales is due in very large measure to the extra care given during the past year, not only to the rearing of foxes but to the preparation of the furs for market and this care, if judiciously followed up, will bring yet better results. There has been a decided forward move in the fox business during the past year or two due to the influence of the Fox Breeders' Association and the Fur Sales Board. Mr. McLure has made a thorough study of the fur market and its requirements; he has learned from personal attendance at the different markets and by personal interviews with leading fur men just how much fur the market can stand, what quality of fur is in demand and he knows the value. This information he has communicated to the breeders and they, too, are learning the business.

As a result of this forward move and with stricter attention than ever to the rearing and selecting of foxes, to the preparation of the pelts for market, and to co-operative methods both in care and in marketing, there is undoubtedly a bright future in store for the fox industry in this province. Those who have the right kind of stock should carefully develop it; those who have worthless or even indifferent animals should do away with them and all should pull together in a determined effort to be in a position to supply a very large proportion of the world's fur and that the best.

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Managers, P. E. I.

GOOSE SHOOTING

Sir,—We have noticed in your paper lately something on goose shooting. The one I take exception to is in your issue of the 4th inst, signed "Old Sportsman." This man, I should judge, intends to live in the U. S. A. in the near future, as he seems very anxious to save those wild geese for the Yankees, as no doubt they are the only people who will benefit by closing our spring shooting. Does old sportsman know that wild geese lay not before they are four years old? A few, but very few, lay at three years old. I have been goose-shooting for the past twenty years in the spring of the year, and my belief is we never shoot the laying geese in the spring of the year. The laying geese go north and do not stay here. I for one have to shoot in the spring of the year, as I cannot get time to do so in the fall, and most people are the same. At time of spring shooting the roads are so bad there is very little to be done and a few days of goose shooting is very nice.

"Old Sportsman" claims the geese will be no more in a very few years. This is not so, as last fall we had more geese here than for the past few years. Now, if "Old Sportsman" intends going to U.S.A., for goodness sake let him go, and shoot all he can; but let us have a little sport here also. If this goose shooting is stopped in spring it will only be a very few years before we are not allowed to shoot at all. Another matter I would like to mention is that you cannot slaughter geese in spring as he claims. He makes the statement that when geese come in spring of year the bays are all frozen over, so that they have only a very small hole to feed in, and this is full of shooting rigs. In my experience in Tracadie Bay about all the shooting is done on ice some distance from water. After geese have been fired at once or twice they are well able to take care of themselves, as they go out on the sea ice and remain there all day and come in to the channel to feed. After dark no more of those are killed. We have then to depend on some new geese coming; otherwise pick up and go home.

I trust our shooters will take this matter up and see we are not deprived of our just rights, so as a few sports in U.S.A. will benefit by it.

I am, sir, etc.,

JUST A LITTLE SPORT.

Mount Stewart, P.E.I.

More Information Necessary

Sir,—In looking over Thursday's Guardian I saw an article under the head line "Some Good Holsteins" signed by "Dairyman." I along with a great many more farmers have been listening to his testing, weeding and breeding for a lot of years, only to get lost in mist, and Mr. Dairyman's letter has only put us further off the track. There are a few points I would like if he would clear up and give us a chance to find ourselves.

We would be indebted to Mr. Gibson or Mr. Dairyman if they would explain how some of these herds tested at homo make such great showing in their own stables and Mr. Dairyman recommends all farmers to practice this as the only way to success. Now if I were to practice this and get the results most of them show on paper I would be without corresponding results at the factory. I would like to know where the leak is. I believe I would end up by kicking the scales to pieces as they would only be fooling me when I could not sell the goods. After reading this article over and totaling up the amount of fat Mr. Gibson got from their three cows that have passed the R. O. P. test it made me think about such a lot of money and I looked over the annual statement of the Dunstaffnage Butter factory of which Mr. Gibson is President and where he sends all his cream. I was surprised on finding the total amount of lbs of fat supplied by his whole herd compared with the total of the three cows in the paper. According to the factory statement his whole herd gave less than 100 lbs. more fat than the three cows were credited with in the paper. Now knowing his large herd I said "weed, feed, breed, keep tab"; and Mr. Gibson believed in giving calves skim milk after fourteen days. I said there must be some mistake, perhaps, Mr. Dairyman put the wrong figures in the paper but Mr. Gibson will explain for those who have been considering for years this breeding and testing and keeping records.

What was the average of his heard per cow of butter fat he sent to the factory fifteen years ago compared with the factory showing for 1918? I see by the factory statement for year 1914 his cows produced 618 lbs. more fat than in 1918. I hope Mr. Gibson will clear this up and help us that are looking at it from the dollars and cents point of view to find ourselves.

I would like to draw Mr. Dairyman's attention to a patron of the same factory who neither breeds nor tests. He has a herd of four cows and according to 1917 statement from the same factory they averaged him $127 per cow which is more than any pure bred herd ever did at Dustaffnage factory and it would be interesting to hear what this Patron attributes his success to as all the farmers know he has the goods without knowing how he gets it. Thanking you Sir in advance and I hope you will print this as it may help many farmers in doubt and don't care to throw their hard earned money away on said high producing cows as the most of us have to depend on the factory test for our living.

I am Sir, etc.

FACTORY PATRON

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Louson

GUARD YOUR FRIENDSHIPS

Friendship is worth taking a deal of trouble about. We should remember the apostle's command: "Hold fast that which is good." Thoreau said: "The only danger in friendship is that it will end." Correspondence and conversation and social courtesies are the ways in which we throw guards around our friendships lest they end. A boy or girl who loses a friend for want of a letter now and then is like a man who loses his money for lack of a pocketbook. He is losing a very precious thing for lack of a very little expense and trouble. Let us be careful that we do not go through life with holes in our pockets through which our friendship slips.

How much a little word of praise will keep a fellow going!
How much a little compliment will keep the sunlight flowing!
A word of cheer will do it too.
So fellow man and woman.
Let's try today along the way
To be a little human!

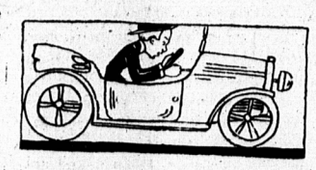
How much a comforting remark will do to keep one steady!
How sweet the heart responds with song and always up and ready!
A word of praise a word of cheer,
They have a mighty power
To lift the spirit out of gloom,
The same as any flower!

HINTS FOR THE MOTORIST by ALBERT L. CLOUGH

ENGINE "FALTERS" AT HIGH SPEED

H. M. Y. writes: My Ford pulls the hills well enough and I have little fault to find with it when running slowly, but when I try to get it above a certain speed, it misses, sputters and will not go any faster. Where is the trouble most likely to be found

Answer: The following are a few of the possible causes: The timer may be so worn that, while the roller makes reliable connection with the contact segments at low speed, its track is so uneven that, at high speed, it tends to jump and no longer

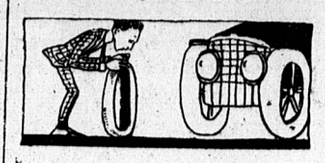


makes infallible contact with the segments. Some of the valves may be inclined to stick in their guides, owing to roughness or warping of their stems and they may fail to seat in time when the speed exceeds a certain value. Weakness of some of the valve-springs may aggravate this behavior. It is also barely possible that the gasoline line is somewhat obstructed and not quite enough fuel can be supplied to keep the mixture up to normal strength, when the engine is drawing charges fast. You better inspect the timer, test the valves and their springs and see that the gasoline pipe is clear.

TESTING SHOE FOR WEAK SPOTS

W. W. G. asks: How can I tell whether an old casing has yet developed any special points of weakness. I don't want to put any casing in service, if it is likely to blow right out.

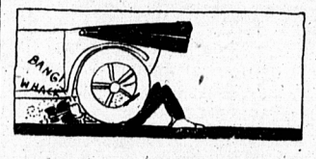
Answer: By feeling it over with the hands, you can detect any bad fabric break that will soon lead to a blowout. By turning the casing wrong side out and bending the wall at all points with the hands, one can readily detect any limp place, where one or more canvas piles have actually broken or are far on the the way to failure. If you carry this examination all around the inside circumference of the casing and find the fabric wall, firm and spring, at all points, it is probable there is no weak spot yet developed.



CLEANING MUFFLER

O. W. B. asks: What is the best way of cleaning out the muffler? I am giving my car a general overhauling and am told that this should not be neglected.

Answer: The only effective way of cleaning the muffler is to take it entirely apart and scrape the surface, but sometimes it is difficult to do this because all the joints become burned and rusted tight. Some scale and soot can usually be dislodged by tapping the muffler all over vigorously with a hammer, while the engine is run with considerable throttle and very late spark, so as to blow out the material that becomes loosened. It used to be a common practice to remove a muffler and place it upon a fire, built out of doors, until it became red hot and then to hammer it all over and empty out the scale, but this method is not to be recommended. We doubt if your muffler requires attention unless it is pretty old and has been used with an engine giving a very oily or sooty exhaust.



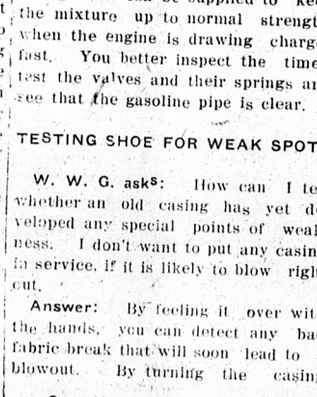
Questions of general interest to motorists will be answered in this column, space permitting. Address Albert L. Clough, care of this office.

Prosecution of Kaiser Is Still in Doubt

PARIS, April 19.—The plan of the Council of Four, to have Belgium prosecute the Kaiser on the charge of responsibility for the war, is meeting with objections which are again bringing up the whole subject for revision. Concerning the political offenders, it is stated that a tribunal is not necessary, and would be ineffective owing to the legal immunity of political offenders. Therefore it is maintained that the action against Napoleon furnishes a precedent for the determination of the Allied course as a general measure of policy. In the case of Napoleon there was no trial, but he was confined on the island of St. Helena as a general measure of policy for the tranquility of Europe.

Situation in Egypt Continues Serious

PARIS, April 19.—Newspapers here feature reports as to the gravity of the Egyptian situation, and it is said that there is great concern among British authorities over the Nationalist movement. Despatches state that mutinous conditions prevail at Cairo, Alexandria and Port Said, there being several mysterious deaths in connection with the disorders. The insurgent leaders demand that European officials resign, that English citizens leave the country, and that a Mussulman Empire be founded with a Caliph at Cairo.



Summer Furs to be worn this Easter

MR. RETURNED MAN buy your Sister or somebody else's Sister an EASTER remembrance of your HOME COMING.

She will always remember the EASTER that her SOLDIER BOY came home, by her EASTER SUMMER FUR.

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NEW SUMMER FURS

Made from Fox, Mole, dyed Fox and Mink, Black Hudson Seal, Kalensky, Moleskin, Sable, Brown Lynx, Red Fox, Natural Coon, etc., etc.

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The Muffs can be put aside and taken care of at our risk till fall. But the neckpiece can be worn all summer.

This is an unusual showing and simply a foretaste of a variety which is unusually large. Prices that will suit all purses.

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Every man and woman is eligible, whether now entered in Contest or not. He or she has an equal opportunity to secure this valuable prize, as votes already issued for candidates will not count towards the winning of this valuable prize. Only subscription ballots issued during the next two weeks will count for this prize. All votes issued for this prize will count for the Automobiles and Pianos at the

HOW THIS PRIZE WILL BE WON

To the candidate (regardless of district limitations) to whom the greatest number of votes are issued on paid-in-advance subscriptions only, between midnight Saturday, April 19th, and 10 p.m. Saturday, May 3rd, will be given this special prize.

Every candidate starts even for this special prize, as votes issued prior to midnight Saturday, April 19th, do not count for this prize, but all votes issued on paid-in-advance subscriptions during this period of two weeks will not only count for this prize, but will also count for the winning of the Grand Prizes and the district prizes of the Automobile and Piano Contest. Votes clipped from The Guardian will not count for this prize, but will be accepted and will count for the district and grand prizes.

It will not be necessary for candidates to deposit ballots in the ballot box to win this prize, as the winner will be arrived at by his or her total votes for the period of two weeks as recorded at the contest department and not by the ballots deposited in the ballot box.

REMEMBER—All eligible men and women are invited to enter the contest now and compete for this valuable prize, even though they do not care to continue, and try for the other prizes.

Everyone starts even, so one person's chance is the same as another's.

An Opportunity for New Candidates and Late Starters. Get Busy Now and Win This Valuable Prize.

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