A Page for the MODERN FARMER

- NEWSY NOTES -

By AGRICOLA

FROM CLYDE RIVER

I have just received a nice, chatty letter from Clyde River, and as the writer does not forbid, I am going to share it with my readers: — "Dear Agricola: Will you please add my name to those wishing for a cutting of your 'Golden' Niobe Weeping Willows?' I like trees, shrubs, plants and flowers and can even see beauty in a field of weeds.

Among my prized possessions is a Linden (or Lime) tree that, a few years ago, I carried for miles. Now it is almost as tall as I. Also, some years ago, with 'hopes of moth (and moth-ball') free blankets, I carried two Cedar trees—one quite small, and a bigger one—from away up in Prince County. (Queer they are not native of Queens?).

"I grow with varying results, a few annuals (hardy!) and am also gathering together as many perennials as generous friends and an average farmer's wife's pocket-book allow. And although my gardening is usually left, for the most part, to a kindly Providence, as necessarily I must care for my plants and flowers 'on the run', in decent summers they do remarkably well.

"I enjoy very much and profit from your writings in 'The Guardian,' and I know your articles must be a great help, not only to farmers' wives, but also to teachers who must prepare Nature Study notes from inadequate text-books.

"Thanking you, and with every good wish, Sincerely, Mrs. George M. Dixon." (Enclosed is also a request for cuttings to be supplied to Mrs. Boyd MacQuarrie, of Hampton. Cuttings will be forwarded as soon as the weather moderates.)

The Golden Niobe Weeping Willow was originated at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, by the late Dr. Macoun, who sent me cuttings as a gift. In distributing cuttings of this willow, I seek to perpetuate the memory of a good man in every sense of the word; and one to whom Canadians are more indebted for advances in horticulture than they generally realize.

The "Golden Niobe," being a derivative of the White Willow (Salix alba), often seen about old farmsteads, is likely to be long-lived and to grow to a large size.

Like my correspondent, that keen observer Francis Bain saw that the "White Cedar" (as we call it) was confined to Prince County. He attributes this to its liking for peat swamps which are more abundant there. Its proper name is the Eastern Arbor Vitae (**Thuja occidentalis**), the true White Cedar being found southward from the State of Maine. The Arbor Vitae will grow in any suitable position with a ground-water supply. Many years ago, in the horse and buggy days, I was driving down the Union Road when I noticed a row of these superb trees growing by the roadside. I got out to have a look at them, and saw that somebody had thrown a disused fence-post over one of the lower branches. Investigation showed that the branch, being pressed down to the soil, had thrown out roots, so I removed the post, severed the branch, and took the rooted cutting home. It was a fair-sized tree when I left that part of the country. Evidently it is possible to multiply evergreens by "layering", as the process is called.

My correspondent had a vision of a cedar-wood chest as the ultimate result of her foray into Prince County. Alas for the vanity of earthly hopes! Even if the chest materializes, the moths won't care a cent. It is the aromatic wood of the Red or Virginia Cedar, that puts them to flight, and that, by the way, is not a Cedar at all but a juniper (**Juniperus virginiana**)! And it has no relation to our so-called "juniper" which is a Larch (**Larix laricina**).

"CANADIAN NATURE"

No. 3, Vol. 2, of Canadian Nature, one of the best Nature Study magazines that I know of, came with the mail today. It is the magazine that every teacher in Canada has been looking for, and its new subscription rate of $1 per year brings it within the range of the flattest pocket-book! Of particular and practical interest is the "School Page" conducted by Mr. J. A. Partridge, Public School Inspector of Milton, Ontario. Directions for blueprinting, picture studies, and Nature Walks, are some of the themes dealt with in this page. There is a colored plate of the Showy Lady's Slipper, an Orchid found in the cedar and tamarack larch) bogs of our Province, and four small colored pictures of the American Goldfinch, the Chimney Swift, the American Crow, and the Spotted Sandpiper, all common local birds, with the exception of the Swift which seems to be rare now. The place of honor must be given to the "Puddle Troubadours of Spring", which is an exposition of the life-history of the toads and frogs, and which contains many curious facts not generally known. There are six pages illustrating edible mushrooms and poisonous toadstools. I have pointed out "Canadian Nature" as indispensible to teachers; on second thoughts I conclude that every Canadian parent owes a copy of this admirable magazine to his children. It is issued by the Whittemore Publishing Co., Toronto.

THE YEAR WITHOUT A SUMMER

The year 1816, I read in a recent "Quiz", was known as the Summerless Year, and it briefly stated that snow, in greater or lesser quantity, fell in Vermont in every month from January to December.

It was a year of unparalleled distress all over this northern continent. The Montreal Herald, the principal Canadian newspaper then, is woeful reading. "Dreadful storms of rain and hail" it says, right to the end of August. It turned intensely dry during the first few days of September, but a severe frost on Sept. 11th, cut down the potatoes and corn, and left the oats fit only for cattle feed. On the 26th and 28th frosts still more severe completed the ruin. Potatoes were only half a crop in Quebec and all grains were below normal; even hay was so short that year that cattle owners were obliged to kill off and salt down a larger proportion of their stock for which there was no feed.

"A state of emergency and distress exists," proclaimed Sir John Sherbrooke, Governor-in-Chief of the Canadas, as he issued a decree removing the tariff upon all foodstuffs. The change did not bring much relief, for though the southern United States had fair crops in some lines, the northern States were as badly off as was Canada. North and east of the Hudson River, Indian corn did not reburn as much as had been planted in the spring; hay was not quarter of the normal crop, and wheat was a total failure. With transportation still in the primitive stage, and further disorganized by the war which had just concluded, there was little movement of foodstuff northward, so that both countries were obliged to rely upon Europe for supplies. Canada awaited ships loaded with Irish pork and potatoes, while the Philadelphia Gazette told of the U.S. seaport towns depending on imports of beef, pork, and potatoes: "even molasses is coming from Scotland," said the Gazette.

To add to the distress, thousands of immigrants had moved to the United States in the last years of the Napoleonic wars, and these poor people found their new home in worse condition than the lands they had just left. The British Isles do not seem to have been so badly affected, as far as crops were concerned, but they were suffering from a great post-war depression and political unrest, which interfered with their efforts to help the western continent. France and Germany had a partial failure of their harvests, and the other states of Europe had not recovered from being over-run during the long drawn out war.

Such was the misery of two continents in that memorable year. What was the cause? You may or may not believe in the sunspot theory, but on looking up Wolf and Fritz's tabulations (which I copied out many years ago) I find that 1816 was a maximum aurora year, and 1817 a great sunspot year. Such periods occur roughly at 11-year intervals, but there must have been some longer cycle (of which we suspect much and know little) which was super-imposed on the 11-year cycle to give the year without a summer.

OF INTEREST TO FARMERS

In an address given at Moncton, Mr. W. H. McEwen gave some statistics which no public man, as yet, has attempted to controvert. He says in effect:

(1) The agriculturist produces **one-half** of the total raw material of the nation.

(2) He produces **one-quarter** of the total commodity production.

(3) He is responsible for **one-third** of Canadian exports.

(4) Farmers (and their families I presume) comprise **one-third** of the population of Canada.

But — (5) collectively they get only **one-twelfth** of the national income.

The Democracy which we are defending surely never contemplated that 33 per cent of our population should be compelled to exist on 8 per cent of our national wage bill, for a nation having so large a proportion of its population in an under-privileged condition, is in a state of "unstable equilibrium." Greece, the most cultured and one of the mightest nations of antiquity, fell mainly because of the great proportion of under-privileged "helots" or serfs within her borders.

But we have been told that 25 per cent of our own farmers are successful men; this statement has, in times not long past, been made by gentlemen of both political parties, and this seems to place the matter beyond doubt. And if some are successful farmers, why not all? Are we to believe the other 75 per cent are incompetent? The matter admits of some analysis. At the head of the successful ones I place those men who, having been left "well off", have improved their patrimony by native shrewdness and business ability. They deserve their success, because during the long period of thirty years I have seen too many instances where the inheritance has been scattered to the wind by careless or intemperate living. Again, success has been attained by taking advantage of a near-by market, such as the supplying of dairy products to an adjacent town. This offers an opportunity, be it noted, to only a limited extent; and the great majority of farmers can make no use of it. A few farmers are classed as successful because to their legitimate business they add such side-lines as the buying and selling of produce, machinery, fertilizer, and the hundred-and-one things that farmers must have. Others make their mark in raising superior breeds of live stock and so forth. Through all this list there runs a limitation: we cannot all be dairymen or dealers in machinery. The remaining 75 per cent, by the very nature of the situation, are debarred from entering into competition.

They may not be among the "successful ones" of the foregoing list, but the great majority of our farmers, as I see them, are hard-working and competent men. As in every other trade or profession there are misfits from one cause or other, but at a guess these do not exceed 4 or 5 per cent. That agriculture is depressed is not due to any fault in the production end, but to the fact that farmers "will not stand together", as one of our legislators tells us. Real co-operation—"each for all, and all for each"—is the remedy we need.

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WEEKLY LIVESTOCK MARKET REPORT

An improved demand for cattle of export weights and quality was reflected in the stronger prices paid during the past week, particularly in the west. Values gained 25c to 50c, with the largest upturn uncovered at Winnipeg. Toronto, on the other hand, was dull throughout, despite better prices prevailing at Buffalo, and dropped off 25c to 50c. Calves lost 50c to $1.00 at Toronto, made a little gain at Montreal, and elsewhere held about unchanged. Hogs dropped a further 25c at all markets, while lambs gained 25c on the light run at Toronto.

Eastern Cattle Steady to Lower

Cattle trade was dull at TORONTO and the market left about 200 head unsold. Weighty and butcher steers were down 25c, and heifers 40c. Cows and bulls lost 25c, and fed calves finished with a loss of 50c. Weighty steers closed up to $7.25, with top quality for export at $7.35, while butcher steers closed at $6 to $7. Prices were fully steady at MONTREAL on an active market, and steers sold up to a practical top of $8, and butcher cows up to a high of $6. MARITIME prices held firm on the better grades of cattle, but a plentiful supply of fair and common types had a depressing influence on these grades. Choice steers sold up to $7.40.

Western Cattle Sell Higher

Demand on export account lent fairly good support to the western cattle trade. The better classes of shipping steers moved up 25c to 50c at WINNIPEG. One prime lot of ten teers, averaging around 1100 lbs., topped at $8, and other suitable export steers sold between $7 and $7.50. A strong demand featured the cow trade, with the best of the offerings going at $5.00 to $5.50. Replacement cattle were in good demand at an advance of 25c, fleshy feeders making $6.25 and above. The trade could use more good quality stockers at the moment to fill orders. Most other western markets showed an advance in prices, and CALGARY paid $6.75 to $7 for good butcher steers, and $7.25 to $7.50 for choice. The practical top on steers at EDMONTON was $7 and some really choice kinds made $7.25. High prices paid at PRINCE ALBERT and MOOSE JAW were $6.50 and at SASKATOON and REGINA, $6.75.

United States Market

Canadian steers sold on off car weights at Buffalo made $8.25 to $8.75, and fed and watered sales $7.50 to $8.65. Considering the price decline at Toronto, there appeared to be a fair margin in favour of the American market, as witnessed by the fact that a half-dozen loads of cattle were taken off the Toronto market for export to the United States. St. Paul quoted good Canadian steers from $9 to $9.75, and good cows up to $7.

Exports to the South during the past week totalled 3,430 beef cattle 216 dairy, and 2,253 calves. Shipments from January 1st to April 25th inclusive amounted to 31,448 beef, 2,639 dairy, and 14,639 calves, compared with 62,258 beef, 3,209 dairy, and 22,123 calves in the same period last year. Exports from April 1st to April 25th, under the second quarterly quota, were 12,093 beef cattle as against 27,783 in the same period of 1939.

Calf Prices Variable

Good and choice calves dropped 50c at Toronto, closing at $10 to $10.50. Common and medium grades were down $1. Montreal, however, was steady to 25c higher, good calves selling from $7 to $7.50. Winnipeg was strong, with some southern competition, and best veals sold between $7.50 and $8.50. Good veals were $8 to $8, odd choice $9.50 at Calgary, while Edmonton was unchanged up to $8.50. Tops at Prince Albert were $7, Moose Jaw $8, and Saskatoon $7.50.

Hog Market Takes Further Drop

Hog prices showed a general decline of around 25c. Toronto paid $8.25 for bacons off trucks, or $11 dressed. Montreal was at $8.65 for bacons fed and watered, and Winnipeg closed at $7.75. The off truck closing price at Calgary was $7.50, at Edmonton $7.50, Prince Albert and Saskatoon $7.45, and Moose Jaw and Regina $7.50. Slaughter hogs at Vancouver ranged from $8.15 to $8.90.

Toronto Lambs Higher

The Toronto lamb market was up 25c, with $11 paid for good westerns as well as for good local fed-lot lambs. A few spring lambs sold between $7 and $11 each, to $10 each. Winnipeg was unchanged, with good lambs eligible to make up to $10. Calgary paid a top of $9.35, Edmonton $8.75, Prince Albert $7.75 and Saskatoon $8.60.

CANADIAN HONORED

NEW YORK —(CP) —Reginald Stewart, conductor of the Toronto Promenade Symphony will conduct the New York Symphony Orchestra at Carnegie Hall March 5 in one of a series of special concerts.

- CONSERVATION -

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

POISON ACTIVITIES OF THE U. S. BIOLOGICAL SURVEY:

The U. S. Bureau of Biological Survey has been transferred from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of the Interior. This brings hope that the Secretary of the Interior will institute a full investigation of the poison activities of the Survey. The Biological Survey is known in this country and, to our shame, in many places abroad for its destructive activities. It is characterized by hatred of wild creatures, and is teaching the people of the nation, and especially our youth, animosity toward animals and birds that are harmless and of significant use to man. Dr. Harold E. Anthony, Curator of Mammals, American Museum of Natural History, declares the Survey to be "the most destructive organized agency that has ever menaced so many species of our native fauna."

The problem is one that involves the whole profound study of ecology, the relation of living creatures to each other and to their environment. It is not a problem concerning merely the destruction caused by one species or another; it is a problem of the balance of all living things; a matter of vital interest to all citizens, for our very bread depends on the maintenance of ecological conditions, or to put it more simply, on the balance of nature.

But where ecologists fear to tread, the poison squad of the Survey has rushed in to spread hatred and death.

We recommend that the Secretary of the Interior appoint a committee of competent scientists to inquire into the poison activities of the Biological Survey. This can be done with a minimum expense to the government. Many prominent scientists have protested vigorously against the poison practices of the Survey, and the prominent institutions to which they belong doubtless would gladly release them for work on such a committee.

Meanwhile, the Wild Life Division of the National Park Service has been transferred to the Biological Survey. The reason given for this transfer is that the work of two organizations can in this way better be unified.

But the purposes of the two bureaus are directly opposed No better government service exists for the protection of wild creatures than the Wild Life Division of the Park Service under the direction of Mr. Victor Cahalane, while the Biological Survey seeks to destroy the very animals that the Wild Life Division is engaged in protecting. It is a law of physics that when two such opposing forces meet, one or the other must be consumed. The Biological Survey is powerful because it has access to vast appropriations. We believe that only a cleaning-up of the Survey can save the Wild Life Division of the Park Service. Then the high purposes of the Wild Life Bureau might become the standard around which can be built a Biological Survey in which ecologists may be proud to serve. Recalling that David overmastered Goliath, we are hopeful.

The Anti-Steel-Trap League, Mrs. Edward Breck, President, recently has put out a pamphlet, New Hope for the Biological Survey which will be sent free on application to Anti-Steel-Trap League, Washington, D. C. This pamphlet is a recapitulation of the Emergency Conservation Committee pamphlets: The U. S. Bureau of Biological Survey, It's Alive! Kill It! U. S. Bureau of Destruction and Extermination, and Poison for Our Wild Life—and by the same author.

The natural question is: Why does not the National Association of Audubon Socities with its great wealth, and the many rich humane societies lead this fight? They are too busy solicitating money for their expensive overhead. And they do not like to make enemies. Fighting demands strenuous effort, and is often most uncomfortable.

Let us write to Mr. Ickes, so that he will know that he has the power of public opinion behind any reform that he may have in mind. Mr. Ickes is a sincere, militant conservationist. It is not conceivable that he should tolerate in his department a bureau a part of whose activities is devoted to the destruction of wild life. We should as soon expect to find, baited a steel-trap on his door-step.

Education is Needed

In the matter of conservation education we are both encouraged and discouraged. Conservation, that is practical biology and ecology, is a recent study. High school and college students are absorbed by it. We know this from the constant, urgent demand for our publications that come from all parts of the country. (Alas! that these hungry students must often be denied. In their name, we beg for contributions for new editions of "Framing" the Birds of Prey, Finishing the Mammals, and other pamphlets now out-of-print). But many older people, considering themselves already educated, and so, fit to lay down the law, often make ignorant statements. We give three examples:

An article in Nature Magazine, February, 1940, voices the typical complaint on the lumber interests and the so-called sportsman. It speaks of the conservation of forest areas "that locks up the timber and wild life from supplying certain practical needs of mankind." But the best use for outstanding virgin timber is to permit it to grow through coming ages as it has grown in the past, for the highest enjoyment of mankind, and to protect the watersheds — for our bread depends literally on the protection of our soil. And how does one "lock up" wild life? No cat-proof fences surround the National Parks. The high school boy knows that parks and sanctuaries are reservoirs of wild life, contributing their overflow to surrounding lands. Such cant as that quoted is foreign to the spirit of Nature Magazine as we have known it in the past, and is signed, not by the editors, but by Mr. Arthur Newton Pack.

Mr. Robert W. Canfield is humanely agitated about feeding ducks in winter. On Long Island, he instructs us, according to the New York Herald Tribune, "due to the fact that there is no shooting (in January) they (the ducks) have not been frightened south." Mr. Canfield is a Harvard graduate, but believes that ducks migrate south when frightened with guns. What amusing speculation this suggests — Why do swallows go south? What makes the ducks return north, now that spring shooting is no longer allowed? We should like to ask, "What effect does artificial feeding have on the migratory instinct of ducks?" — but that is a high-school, not a kindergarten question.

It is difficult to express (politely) our reaction to ignorance combined with cruelty. What can we say, without being rude, to the following statement?

Mr. Hugh Gibson, Minister to Belgium, Minister to Brazil, says in his book Rio, page 218: "A Brazilian fazenda is an ideal place to indulge one's taste for slaughter . . . even when you drive about in a Ford, you do it with a shotgun in the crook of your arm, ready to pick off such stray animals as may be encountered, or best of all dispose of a hawk whenever you get near enough to one to render this public service."

It is "taste for slaughter," such as Mr. Gibson's, which, we believe, perpetuates war. We wish our Ministers might be ministers of peace. It is also desirable that they represent the policies of our government departments. The Department of Agriculture teaches the value of hawks, and encourages their preservation. I have written to the Superintendent of Documents, asking that U. S. Department of Agriculture Circulars Nos. 61 and 370, Food Habits of Common Hawks and Hawks and Owls From the Standpoint of the Farmer be sent to Mr. Gibson, and charged to the account of the Emergency Conservation Committee.

(To Be Continued May 11)

Presbyterian Members Announced

MONCTON, May 3 —After a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Interprovincial Home it was announced that the Presbyterian members of the board of governors for the present year would by Rev. Dr. C. M. Kerr, of Halifax; Rev. Dr. Frank Baird, of Chipman, N. B.; Rev. O. J. St. Clair Jeans, of Saint John; Rev. Murray Y. Fraser, of Springhill, N. S., and W. Clark Elliott, of Sussex, the latter two to be designated members of the Executive Committee.

Attending the session were Rev. Dr. W. R. Hibbard, of Rothesay; Rev. C. G. MacKenzie, of Sackville; Rev. Dr. J. A. Ramsay, Rev. J. J. Alexander, and D. A. McBeath of Moncton, and Dr. S. H. Prince of Hallax, president of the Institution. Reports received showed the work of the Home to be progressing satisfactorily.

The institution suffered a loss in the resignation of George A. Bulmer, farmer and male officer for several years. He has joined the Air Force. Tribute was paid to his faithful work by Miss Barabara Walker, superintendent of the home, in her monthly report.

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Little Chats On Farm Management

PLANS FOR SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS YEAR

A large business turn-over during the year adds substantially to the possibility of securing good earnings from the farm business. This is one of the outstanding findings of both the dairy and hog farm management studies made in Ontario during the year ended April 30, 1938. These studies were conducted cooperatively by the Economics Division, Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, and the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph.

To illustrate the point that volume of business is very important, an example is here quoted from the analysis of the business of 258 farmers who shipped milk for manufacturing purposes. The milk producers, who built up their total farm receipts to $30 per adjusted acre, had average operator earnings of $1,288 as compared with earnings of only $54 where the total receipts per adjusted acre were less than $13.

As high operator earnings are sought by all farmers, the problem is to attain high receipts per acre. A budget of anticipated expenditure and revenue for the coming year should be prepared. Under expenditure, in addition to such current outlays as wages of family and hired labour, feed and seed purchases, repairs, threshing, taxes and some other items, add sums to cover depreciation of buildings and machinery, interest on capital or mortgage or both, as the case may be. At the bottom of this long list of expenses wages for the operator, calculated at such rates as may be considered a fair remuneration for his labour and management should be set down. The list of anticipated revenue includes the expected receipts from the dairy herd; milk and milk product sales and sales of cattle and calves; revenue from crops, hogs, sheep, poultry and other enterprises, each considered separately. All estimates of revenue should be made on a conservative basis.

If the operator is worth the wages he has allowed himself, the total of the revenue should equal or exceed the expenditures. Seldom does a farm budget balance on the first trial, and most frequently one will need to seek means whereby the receipts may be increased. Additional live stock or crops may have to be considered or changes in farm practices may haveto be made to obtain higher production per cow, hen, acre or other unit.

The carefully prepared and written budget approach to the business of the year thus reveals before the year's work begins what may be expected under normal conditions. Should the prospective net returns, as calculated, appear unsatisfactory in the first trial, try again There is still time to make changes in the plan before the business year it too far advanced. This method has been found to stimulate business turnover in agriculture, with consequent improved net returns, just as it does in urban industry.

MARSHFIELD SCHOOL

The following is the Honor Roll of Marshfield School for the month of April:

Grade XSr. 1, Dorothy Gibson; 2. Helen Dennis.

Grade X Jr.—1. Eleanor Mill; 2. Ferne Mill; 3. Beth Gibson.

Grade VIII—1. Athol McBeath; 2. Allison Scott.

Grade VII—1. Alva Muttart, Lois Scott and Bell MacWilliam (equal). 2. Olga Scott; 3. Gladys Thompson, Waldon Boswell and Freeman Strickland (equal).

Grade VI—1. Isobel Gibson; 2. Peter Black.

Grade IV Sr. —1. Bessie Thompson.

Grade IV Jr. —1. Roy Boswell; 2. Jackie Carr; 3. Irving Boswell.

Grade II —1. Wilma Scott and Arthur Jenkins (equal); 2. Edison Strickland; 3. Eva and Ward Thompson (equal).

Grade I (a) —1. June Gibson and Lela Muttart (equal).

Grade I (b) —1. Keir Boswell, Donald Wood and Charles Frizzell (equal).

Grade I (c) —1. Marion Lilly; Kathrine Murray and Shirley Dennis (equal).

Grade I (d) —1. Marjorie Scott.

Perfect attendance: Peter Black, Jackie Carr, Dorothy, Beth, Isobel and June Gibson, Arthur Jenkins, Eleanor and Ferne Mill, Alva Muttart, Lois and Wilma Scott, Roy Boswell, Edison Strickland, Charles Frizzell.

Percentage of attendance 87.2 per cent.

Mildred I. Coffin, teacher.

GREEN BAY SCHOOL

Honor roll for April.

Grade X—1. Alice Costello, 2. Evelyn McQuaid.

Grade VII—1. Noreen Costello, 2. Dorothy Graves.

Grade VI—1. Ralph Carragher, 2. Leo Carragher and Donald Currie, equal, 3. Mable Graves.

Grade IV A—1. Leo Costello, 2. Gage Currie.

Grade IV B—1. Rena Currie, 2. Louis Carragher.

Grade III—1. Loretta Costello, 2. Dorothy Costello.

Grade I A—1. Louis Costello and Joseph Cairns, equal, 2. Colin Currie.

Grade I B—1. Harris Ferguson, 2. Lorne Graves, 3. Lorne Cudmore.

Perfect attendance: Evelyn McQuaid, Alice Costello, Ralph Carragher, Leo Costello, Louis Carragher, Helen Cudmore, Lorne Cudmore, Dorothy Costello, Etta Costello, Rena Currie.

Helen Carragher, teacher.
(Patriot please copy)

WILMOT VALLEY SCHOOL

Report of Wilmot Valley school for March and April:

Grade IX—1. Wendell Huestis, 2. Kenneth Clark.

Grade VIII—1. Earle Clark, 2. George Huestis, 3. Eileen Waugh.

Grade V—1. Kenneth Huestis, 2. Mildred Curtiss, 3. Gordon Huestis.

Grade IV—1. Leigh Curtiss, 2. Joyce Clark.

Grade III—1. Marjory Huestis, 2. Gwendolyn Clark.

Grade II—1. Phyllis Hogg, 2. Shirley Agnew, 3. Beulah Jardine.

Grade I—1. Gerald Huestis.

Perfect attendance — Mildred Curtiss, Marjory Huestis.

Highest average — Senior — Kenneth Huestis. Junior — Gerald Huestis.

Teacher, Annie M. Dyment.

"EGG MONEY" HELPS PAY FALL BILLS

EVERY FALL, the bills pour in — bills for school clothes, school books, threshing, taxes, and a dozen-and-one more things. But every Fall, for years back, egg prices have climbed to their highest point for the whole year. A good many smart managers have been taking advantage of that fact to meet those Fall bills—they have a flock of good pullets laying right at the time they'll do most good to the pocketbook.

Can you start chicks in May, and have them laying by October—cashing in on those Fall prices? Yes, you CAN—if you start the kind that grow fast, and lay early.

For May, Buy Bray

Bray "Xtra-Profit" chicks have had a lot of steady, careful work put in behind them with just that point in mind—to make them the kind that will live well, grow fast, lay early, and keep on laying. "Xtra-Profit" isn't just a word with us; it's a *programme* laid out and followed systematically year after year—a programme that is reflected in Bray chicks. For instance:

Last May, Harlan Robbins, Cardigan, P. E. I., started 100 late May-hatched Bray New Hampshires. He raised all but 3 of them. In March, this year, he wrote: "I have a fine lot of pullets laying, and they have been laying since early Fall . . . . . best results I have had."

Yes, you CAN have Fall eggs to meet Fall bills, if you get the right kind of chicks, and raise them right.

BRAY HATCHERY, TRURO, N. S., or
Arthur H. Bryenton, Kensington; Francis Gardiner, Launching Place;
J. H. Campbell, Alliston; Waldo MacDonald, Bothwell;
J. Harry Green, Central Bedeque; Lloyd H. McEwen, Souris;
George Muirhead, St. Eleanor's; Mrs. George Myers, Hunter River;
Francis B. Trainor, Vernon River; Earl Diamond, Winsloe;
T. Taylor, Springfield; O. C. Johnson, North Tryon; or
W. I. Bowman, Hunter River; Elmer Waugh, Wilmot Valley.
W. K. Crafer, Kensington; Mrs. Basil MacDonald, Tracadie Cross;
Charles E. Worth, 226 Great George Street, Charlottetown.

Canadian Garden Service 1940

By GORDON LINDSAY SMITH

By Gordon Lindsay Smith

Annual Gardens

It is amazing what one can do with annual flowers alone even in our relatively short Canadian climate.

Some seeds, like alyssum, nasturtiums and popples sown in May will be blooming in July. It is quite possible too to add weeks to our season of blooming by setting out well started plants of cosmos, asters, zinnias, marigolds, nicotine, etc., which will start blooming almost immediately.

Tenants, who move every year, or are afraid they might, can easily make gardens with annuals alone. For background instead of using perennial trees and shrubbery he selects from a good seed catalogue, big bushy annuals like dahlias, cosmos, african marigolds, and castor beans which will reach a height of three to eight feet by mid-July. These will furnish ample background for the hundreds of dwarf to medium height annual flowers which are listed in any seed catalogue.

To screen verandahs or unsightly fence, such things as scarlet runner beans, morning glories or hops will do the job in a few weeks.

Grow Vegetables Quickly

Tender vegetables are quickly grown. A check by dry weather or anything else invariably causes woodiness. To eliminate such danger experienced market gardeners push their plants along with frequent applications of commercial fertilizer. This must be applied carefully so as to be close to but not actually touching stems or roots.

Watering, of course, will also keep vegetable gardens growing in dry weather but where the luxury of a hose is not available one can keep things moving with cultivation alone. This conserves moisture in two ways, as any Canadian from the Prairie Provinces knows, it kills weeds that use up water and it checks evaporation by the sun. For this cultivation a small hoe is almost essential but there are other good tools as well. A little three fingered wire cultivator will work wonders around and under growing flowers and vegetables. A Dutch hoe which is shoved along about an inch under the soil will cultivate a hundred feet or so of perennial bed in thirty minutes.

Special Flowers

If a supply of cut flowers is wanted for the table, blooms with long stems that will keep well in water then horticultural authorities urge the planting of sweet peas, snapdragons, cosmos, zinnias, lupine, african marigolds, scabious, asters, single and double, verbena and salpiglossis.

For scent, especially in the evening a few nicotine, carnations, migonette, or stocks will perfume the whole garden.

Solid bed of annuals or big blocks in borders have exceptional appeal and these can be made up of petunias, phlox, dwarf marigolds, nasturtiums, verbenas or zinnias.

COVEHEAD ROAD SCHOOL

Honor Roll for Covehead Road School for the month of April:

Grade —1. Althea Dockendorff.

Grade IX—1. Margaret Wooldridge; 2. Clarence Wooldridge.

Grade VIII—1. Lorne Kielly.

Grade VII—1. Marjorie MacDonald; 2. Veda MacDonald.

Grade VI —1. Mary Webster; 2. Alden Dockendorff.

Grade V (a) —1. Carmen Dockendorff; 2. Marion Wooldridge; 3. Ellen Wooldridge.

Grade V (b) —1. Audrey Marshall; 2. Ernest MacMillan; 3. Jasie Power.

Grade IV—1. Keir Smith; 2. Edith MacDonald.

Grade III—1. Joyce Vessey.

Grade II (a) —1. Eva MacDonald; 2. Orville and Harvey MacDonald (equal); 3. Elsie MacDonald.

Grade II (b) —1. Dorothy Smith and Stewart MacDonald (equal); 2. Betty McEwen; 3. Kenneth MacDonald.

Grade I (a) 1. Shirley Vessey.

Grade I (b) —1. Annie Power; 2. Frank Webster.

Highest average in Senior grades, Althea Dockendorff 90.1 per cent.

Highest average in Junior grades, Annie Power 96.5 per cent.

Perfect attendance: Marjorie MacDonald, Audrey Marshall, Keir Smith, Eva MacDonald, Elsie MacDonald and Dorothy Smith.

Percentage of Attendance 80.2 per cent.

Thelma S. Smith, teacher.
(Patriot Please Copy)

MIDHURST, England —(CP) — Motorists in West Sussex were bewildered by a sign warning them of the "foundrous" condition of a road ahead. But they found there was such a word, meaning "miry, full of ruts and holes."

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