

# FREE SCHOOLS IN P. E. ISLAND

## Education System Excellently Supervised With Compulsory Attendance Between Ages of Seven and Thirteen

(By H. H. Shaw, Chief Superintendent of Education.)

SINCE 1877 Prince Edward Island has operated a free school system of education under the direction of a provincial Board of Education, which consists of the Executive Council, the Principal of Prince of Wales College, and the Superintendent of Education.

Attendance at school is compulsory between the ages of seven and thirteen years. The Province is divided into 480 school districts, each having an area of approximately four square miles. Each district is governed in school matters by three trustees, one of whom is elected annually. The district must provide the building and equipment and supplement the teacher's salary by at least a minimum amount as provided by the Public School Act, according to the class of license held by the teacher, the balance of the salary being provided from provincial revenues.

The Province maintains for the training of its teachers the Prince of Wales College and Normal School. Academic training is given in this institution up to two years of University work; while the Normal School provides training along professional lines.

The teachers are graded into third, second and first classes, the lowest class having academic qualifications of Grade Eleven, or University matriculation standard; the second class a standard of one year extra, and the first of two years extra.

The local supply of teachers has generally been sufficient, although the salaries have at all times been comparatively low.

In each school district the work may be carried on by one or more teachers according to the number of pupils, but even in the one-room school the course of study extends over ten years of work, and pupils pass from these schools into Prince of Wales College, graduates of which fill the professions at home and many continue their education in Canadian and foreign universities with great distinction.

As a preparatory school for the university Prince of Wales College has always taken high standing. This is due not only to the excellence of the training given there, but also to the splendid material drawn from the farm homes throughout the Province. Practically every district contributes students who find their way into the larger universities.

As Prince Edward Island is an agricultural Province, every effort is made to encourage the study of agriculture both in the schools and college. In the elementary grades nature study is an important part of the curriculum and develops into agriculture in the higher grades.

### Assistance to Schools.

Through the assistance of the Department of Agriculture School Fairs and various stock clubs have been organized in all rural communities.

In connection with the schools an active interest in the improvement of school surroundings and school furnishings has been created by the formation of Women's Institutes, which are also subsidized by the Department of Agriculture.

The health education of the pupils is being carefully supervised by the Canadian Red Cross Society. The nurses supplied by this organization, working in conjunction with the Women's Institutes, have done very much towards improving the hygienic conditions of the public schools; and though country districts are slow to adopt the comforts and improvements provided by modern science, yet, under the stimulus of these women, a great improvement is being effected.

A decided impetus in the beautifying of schools has been given by the Canadian Horticultural Society, which for several years has given a silver cup for the rural school accomplishing the greatest beautification of its grounds and surroundings. The effect of this on those districts where the beautifying of schools has taken place is reflected in the improvement of the condition of all the homes in that community.

In addition to the common public school system we have St. Dunstan's University, a Roman Catholic institution of high educational standing. Students are in residence from all parts of the Province and from neighboring provinces. St. Dunstan's is affiliated with Laval University, and the graduates of the former write the examinations for the degrees in Arts given by the latter institution.

# The Cradle of Canadian Confederation



## Where Confederation Was Born

Room in Legislative Building at Charlottetown, P.E.I., where the first Conference was held. Left, Tablet commemorative of the event.

**INSCRIPTION**  
"Unity is Strength. In the hearts and minds of the delegates who assembled in this room on September 1st, 1864, was born the Dominion of Canada."  
"Providence being their guide they banded better than they knew."  
"This tablet is erected on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the event."

### Mural Bronze Commemorating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Charlottetown Conference, Sept. 1, 1864.

The fine tablet on the wall of the old Council Chamber at Charlottetown, was placed there in the year 1914, commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of a Conference, which was called for the purpose of considering a union of the Maritime Provinces. Sir John Macdonald and his colleagues heard of the proposed meeting and asked permission to attend. Permission being granted the statesmen from Canada brought with them the idea of a larger union.

In 1914 it was the intention to hold a celebration in Charlottetown and to unveil the tablet, as the chief feature of the occasion, but unfortunately the outbreak of the War caused the cancellation of all arrangements.

The tablet is the work of Hamilton McCarthy, of Ottawa, a sculptor widely known throughout the Dominion, some of his work being the Sir John monument at the head of University Ave., Toronto; a number of monuments on the Hill at Ottawa and the South African monument at Charlottetown. McCarthy was not commissioned until June 1st, 1914, and the tablet was in position by the 10th of August.

The following description will, it is hoped, even in a small measure, convey some of the great wealth of historic detail to be found in the tablet:—

At the top centre is the Imperial Coat of Arms, superimposed upon the folds of the Union Jack. The Crests of the uniting Provinces appear in each of the four corners. Top, left—Ontario; top right—Quebec; lower right—New Brunswick; lower left—Nova Scotia. Bottom centre—the former conglomerate Coat of Arms of Canada, and in the centre of the tablet is the Coat of Arms of Prince Edward Island—the great oak of Britain and the small sapling representing the Colony, under which appears the motto "Parva sub Ingenti"—thereby indicating an Imperial connection.

The names of the delegates appear on the ribbon in the margin and a herald is announcing the event. The wording is considered exceptionally appropriate. The line reading "Providence being their guide" is from Milton's Paradise Lost, and the words "They banded better than they knew," from Emerson; writers of the old world and the new, centuries apart. Rt. Hon. Mackenzie King used these words as the text for his Jubilee oration, during the celebration on July 1st, last year.

The five figures on the left of the tablet represent Statesmen from the Provinces concerned at the time of the Conference. Left: Sir John Macdonald, from Ontario; Sir George Cartier, from Quebec; Sir Leonard Tilley, in the centre, from New Brunswick; Colonel John Hamilton Gray, from Prince Edward Island, and Sir Charles Tupper, from Nova Scotia. Tupper was recognized as the greatest orator of the group and is pointing as if saying "Unity is Strength." The pickaxe and the fish nearby indicate the great industries of Nova Scotia.

Colonel Gray, the second figure from the right, holds the Roman symbol of unity—the Facis, four staves bound together; four Provinces united through the medium of the Conference of which Gray was Chairman.

In the centre, Sir Leonard Tilley is holding a scroll bearing the word "Dominion," as according to tradition, he it was who, after reading the Scriptures, quoted, "Thy Dominion shall extend from sea to sea." This was at the time of the drafting of the British North America Act, when there was some doubt as to what name to give the new Union. Sir Leonard was staying at the Westminster Hotel in London, where the delegates from Canada held their meetings during the drafting and passing of the Act.

Cartier, the second figure from the left, holds the torch and the sword of Justice, thereby indicating that at the time of the conquest the French were permitted to retain their law. Sir John holds the symbol of Medicine, and at his feet there is a scythe, a sheaf of wheat and a locomotive.

The excellence of the sculptor's work has been the subject of much praise, and it is hoped that the "Confederation Room" at Charlottetown will as time passes become known throughout the length and breadth of the Dominion.

The table around which the delegates sat is a treasured possession, and is of great interest to large numbers of visitors who annually visit this historic site.

There is a something about the Chamber that carries the visitor to a hilltop, from whence he views with admiration the work of those far-seeing Statesmen, who "banded better than they knew," and one looks forward with courage to the future toward that destiny, the attainment of which is so near and dear to the hearts of all Canadians.

in the consumption of fluid milk and creamery butter, largely due to the continued improvement of quality of the latter, and to the very rapidly increased consumption of dairy products among the Asiatic races and those of the South American republics, there is an insistent demand for the best quality of pure bred heifers. Several hundreds have been shipped from Canada, many of them from the Maritime Provinces to Trinidad and other islands of the West Indies. An order for 32 pure bred heifers was recently received by breeders in the Maritime Provinces for shipment to one of the islands of the West Indies, where pure bred cattle had never before been used.

In view of these new markets we feel that every Maritime farmer should raise all the dairy heifers that he can properly develop on his farm.

### NEW WHEATS

Garnet's Increasing Popularity and Performance Tribute to Experimental Farm Scientists.

Mr. L. H. Newman, Dominion Cerealist of the Experimental Farm, has just returned from an extensive tour of Western Canada. During the trip practically every wheat growing area was visited, and conditions generally found to be excellent. The newer wheats, Reward and Garnet, are holding the attention of the western growers.

Some 467 farmers are this year testing Reward wheat. The variety is reported to have done well, though actual figures on yield, etc., have not yet been compiled. Mr. Newman stated that it had been impossible to determine anything definite with regard to this variety's rust resisting qualities because there was practically no rust in Manitoba, and very little elsewhere.

Particularly good are the reports on Garnet wheat, one of the originations of the Experimental Farm. Writing on the subject of this remarkable wheat early last year, the Dominion Cerealist stated the history of Garnet wheat is almost an

## PRINCE OF WALES COLLEGE



## The Tourists Own Paradise

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the finest flavored lamb in the world, can be had in season. The numerous hotels and private rural residences which cater to the tourist traffic have a high reputation for cleanliness and comfort. There are several fine bathing beaches on the Island, and the summer hotels in these places are widely patronized.

### Opportunities for Settlers.

Prince Edward Island also offers splendid advantages to settlers of the right kind. It is eminently adapted to dairying, poultry and hog raising, and market gardening. Well organized co-operative societies afford a channel for the remunerative sale of Island products. Among these the Potato Growers' Association and the Co-operative Egg and Poultry Association are outstanding. Our products have acquired a high reputation at home and abroad, and our marketing opportunities are developing every year.

The class of settlers most needed in Prince Edward Island are those with from £1,000 to £3,000 of ready capital to invest in farming land, stock and machinery. There are opportunities for purchasing splendid farms at moderate prices. Encouragement and assistance is given by the Dominion Department of Agriculture as well as by our own prominent farmers, whose cordial co-operation and advice is of great value to beginners.

Another attraction for settlers with some capital to invest is the silver black fox industry. The ranching of these animals has become one of the most important activities of the Province, and it has proved a lucrative side-line to the general farmer as well as to the larger ranchers who annually ship to the London and Montreal markets pelts valued at many thousands of dollars.

### Fine Camping Sites.

Almost anywhere throughout the Island the motorist will find satisfactory camping sites, within easy reach of pure drinking water and farms where fresh food supplies can be purchased. The motor traffic to the Province this year has greatly increased, and this feature of the tourist traffic is a hopeful indication. We have suffered to a considerable extent in the past on account of our isolation as an Island province, but modern transportation facilities are overcoming these drawbacks and the future of Prince Edward Island, commercially and otherwise, is a promising one. Every advance in transportation methods means additional benefits to our population, and especially is this so with respect to the shipment of our various agricultural products.

epic in the realm of scientific achievement. It reveals a story of almost half a century of patient but determined effort, replete with discouragement and disappointments but rewarded ultimately by definite and indisputable gains.

In 1914 Garnet wheat was included in the regular variety test-plots at the Experimental Farm. In 1919 it was tested at the Experimental Farms in the Prairie Provinces. In 1925 the Branch Farms were able to sow 320 acres from which was produced about 9,700 bushels. In 1926, some 6,954 bushels of Garnet seed were offered to Prairie farmers with a 4 bushel limit. Some 2,826 farmers, including 862 soldier settlers, secured 2 to 4 bushels lots and this together with seed from increasing test samples by two or three seed growers made a grand total of some 14,000 bushels, or enough to seed 12,000 acres.

This year Garnet wheat was observed in all parts of the west. The section east of Prince Albert and north of Grande Prairie is practically a Garnet country. It is an early maturing variety, and produces a high proportion of grain to straw. This season serious frost in Saskatchewan on August 22 damaged the immature wheat, but Garnet demonstrated its ability to mature before the frost. It usually ripens a day or two before Ruby, and 3 or 4 days ahead of Marquis, and 3 or 4 days before Reward. This variety has also behaved well under drought conditions.

In 1903 it was reported wheat would never grow in the Peace River country. This year Garnet was being cut there on August 21st, crops were more advanced in the Peace River district than further south, and some of the west's finest crops were seen there. Dr. J. H. Newman driving through the Rio Grande section of the Peace River on Aug. 22nd, were able to identify 31 varieties of wheat, and of these 16 were Garnet, 7 Marquis, 5 Huron, 1 Turkey Red, 1 Ruby, and 1 Reward. This indicates the way in which Garnet wheat is spreading in the west. As an early maturer and good yielder it has no equal, and once more the Experimental Farm Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture must be credited with an epoch making contribution to Canadian agriculture.

Radio lectures broadcast from a distant point are being used in some English schools in connection with class room lessons.

# Potato Industry on the Increase

## Climate and Soil Ideal for Potato Growing—Output of Seed Potatoes for 1927 Was 1,250,000 Bushels

(By J. W. Boulter, Secretary P. E. I. Potato Growers' Association)

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND has the reputation of producing the finest quality of potatoes in America. This is due partly to the soil, fertile, free from stones, and of sandy loam formation,—which is particularly adaptable to the growing of this crop; and also to climatic conditions, which are such that the potato comes to maturity quickly and develops a peculiarly fine flavor.

This Province did not always have the reputation it enjoys today for good quality of potatoes, although it has been producing this product in great quantities for many years. It was not until the Dominion Division of Botany, through its plant pathologist, sought for potatoes free from disease that Prince Edward Island was discovered to possess the necessary conditions under which disease-free potatoes could be produced. With careful supervision the farmers began growing potatoes that would certify under the regulations laid down by the Department at Ottawa. From a very small beginning in 1918 the interest increased, markets were obtained, and the product gave such entire satisfaction to the growers in countries which must of necessity import seed, that the expansion of the market area was very marked. Notwithstanding the fact that the growing and grading of certified seed requires great care and attention, it proved remunerative to our farmers because of the enhanced value of the product.

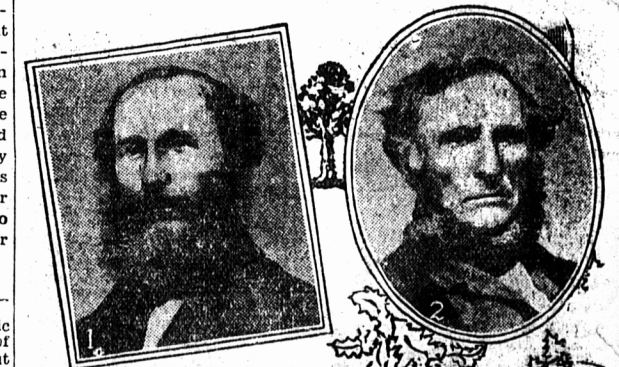
This work was encouraged through the organization of the Co-operative Potato Growers' Association, through whose efforts the quality of the seed was advertised, demonstrations conducted and thus new markets were yearly opened.

So great was this development that from a few cars marketed in 1920 the business progressed until in 1927 over 1,250,000 bushels of certified seed were sent out of the Province for seed purposes. In addition to this the market for table stock potatoes has greatly increased. The quality is such that in almost every market a premium is paid for Prince Edward Island seed over that of any other potatoes.

The acreage of potatoes this year is practically 52,000 acres, 32,000 acres of which are for certification, and thus subject to field inspection by Federal inspectors.

The possibility of making Prince Edward Island a restricted area for the eradication of constitutional potato diseases as it now is a restricted area for the eradication of bovine tuberculosis is now suggested by our Dominion pathologists.

## Prince Edward Island Fathers of Confederation



- (1) Col. the Hon. JOHN HAMILTON GRAY, President Executive Council, P.E.I.
- (2) Hon. GEORGE COLES, M.P.P., P.E.I.
- (3) Hon. EDWARD PALMER, Attorney General, P.E.I.
- (4) Hon. A. A. MACDONALD, M.L.C., P.E.I.
- (5) Hon. T. HEATH HAVILAND, M.P.P., P.E.I.
- (6) Hon. EDWARD WHELAN, M.P.P., P.E.I.
- (7) Hon. WILLIAM H. POPE, Colonial Secretary, N.S.

# The P. E. Island Dairy Industry

## Shows Gratifying Increase With a Most Encouraging Outlook for the Future.

(Furnished by the Department of Agriculture.)

Live Stock Superintendent that a considerably increased number of dairy calves has been raised during the past year. As the large majority of these were sired by high class dairy bulls, we can confidently look for a pronounced increase in the yield per cow when these calves develop to maturity.

Encouraging Future. With the splendid prices now available for good dairy cows—a demand which has every indication of being permanent—and with the very profitable prices now current for hogs, we confidently look for a very pronounced increase in our dairy cattle population. This system of farming which in the past has proved profitable to our Island farmers will continue to be increasingly so in the future, as the keen demand which now exists will provide a profitable market for all surplus dairy heifers which can be raised.

There is a cycle in the rise and fall of the prices of any class of live stock. This, due to the rapid increase possible with these animals, is three years for hogs; for dairy cattle it extends over a period of over fifteen or sixteen years. Considering the continued increase

in the consumption of fluid milk and creamery butter, largely due to the continued improvement of quality of the latter, and to the very rapidly increased consumption of dairy products among the Asiatic races and those of the South American republics, there is an insistent demand for the best quality of pure bred heifers. Several hundreds have been shipped from Canada, many of them from the Maritime Provinces to Trinidad and other islands of the West Indies. An order for 32 pure bred heifers was recently received by breeders in the Maritime Provinces for shipment to one of the islands of the West Indies, where pure bred cattle had never before been used.

In this regard it is encouraging to note that notwithstanding the tempting offers received for all classes of dairy cows by foreign buyers and the reduction of dairy herds on account of the increased number exported during the past year, due chiefly to better breeding and feeding and the culling out of poorer individuals, the increased production per cow has more than made up for the loss due to the number exported. It is also encouraging to learn, from personal con-