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MONDAY, JUNE 12, 1922

OUR AGRICULTURAL WEALTH

The monthly commercial letter of the Canadian Bank of Commerce for June gives some interesting statistics among them, estimates of the agricultural wealth of Canada and of each of its provinces. The agricultural wealth of the Dominion, including land, buildings, implements, live stock and animals on fur farms is \$6,831,022,900. The agricultural wealth of Prince Edward Island is put down at \$75,491,000; our agriculture production is \$21,431,000; animals on fur farms \$3,730,000; live stock and poultry \$8,524,000, and land and farm buildings \$41,806,000. The total value of animals on fur farms in Canada is placed at \$5,824,000 of which Prince Edward Island holds \$3,730,000 or over a million and a half more than in all the rest of Canada.

Our agricultural wealth amounts to nearly \$1000 for every man, woman and child in the province; each of us owns over \$40 worth of silver foxes, a hundred dollars worth of live stock and about \$500 worth of land and buildings. While many of us cannot at a moment's notice place our hand on the amount there is consolation in the fact that we have it among us and generally speaking, that we can have all of it that we can make use of.

Other interesting facts are given in this letter among them the growth of some of our western provinces. For instance the total agricultural wealth of the province of Saskatchewan is \$1,513,146,000 while that of the province of Ontario which was a full grown province long before Saskatchewan was heard of is \$1,887,892,000 and of Quebec \$1,288,813,000.

Referring to the industrial and commercial outlook a more hopeful feeling is expressed regarding conditions especially in eastern centres. A number of manufacturers in Western Ontario find that the amount of goods manufactured during the winter is not sufficient to supply the demand and there is a general speeding up giving promise of more employment.

A HARDSHIP

We have received a number of complaints from farmers who have had their fences—especially wire fences—taken down during the winter to make roads through the fields. In the case of ordinary rail fences farmers consider it little trouble to repair the damage in the spring. In the case of wire fences it is entirely different. The cutting of the wires loosens up and practically destroys the fence through its whole length. In many cases the cutting is done without the knowledge of the owner who if consulted before hand, could have it so arranged as to cause little damage.

While the Act is somewhat obscure on the subject it would appear that the overseer who, in the first place, orders the opening of the fence is expected to close it in the spring when the roads are no longer to go through the field. The following is the clause of the Act dealing with the matter: Clause 61 (c) That during the winter season where in the opinion of the Inspector the highways are impossible and he deems it necessary for the convenience of the travelling public that winter roads may be temporarily opened up apart from the main highway through the adjoining fields or by-ways, then and in such case the Inspector shall have power, and he is hereby empowered to open up, free and clear of any compensa-

tion such roads through such adjoining fields, or by-ways from the main highway for the benefit of the travelling public, doing no more harm to the fields, or by-ways, so to be opened for such temporary roads than is absolutely necessary provided however in such cases such temporary roads through fields or by-ways shall be discontinued between the first day of April and the fifteenth day of December in each and every year." (The punctuation is as in the original).

It would appear that if the Inspector has power to open and to discontinue the road through the field he can discontinue it only by replacing the fence. In any case it is an injustice to put the owner of the field to the expense of rebuilding probably several chains of a fence opened for the benefit of the public.

FIRE LOSSES

A bulletin just issued by the Canadian Fire Prevention Association states that Canada's fire losses in 1921 amounted to \$45,000,000 the heaviest fire loss so far recorded for any single year in the history of the country. The bulletin urges co-operation in the matter of precautionary methods and places the blame largely upon individual carelessness.

There is no doubt that much of the fire loss is attributable to individual carelessness; there is no doubt also that much good can be done by cooperative measures for fire protection but this does not solve the question; it goes much deeper than this and the fire loss is only an incident in a long and complicated series. Carelessness in the matter of fire presupposes carelessness in other matters and our fire losses are but a fraction of the total losses attributable to carelessness—if carelessness is the proper word to use.

When we see daily a number of children hanging by the branches of ornamental trees by the street sides; playing "tag" and dodging in and out among automobiles on the street, chasing each other over flower beds on private grounds, throwing stones regardless as to whose windows are broken, then we may realize that our co-operation, to be effective, must embrace other things than fire protection.

Academic discussion of the seriousness of fire losses and the necessity of being careful, is about as effective as the sermon that emphasizes the wickedness of non-attendance in church; those who need the advice are not there to hear it. We need co-operation in the matter of law-enforcement; co-operation in insisting upon the proper training of children so that they may not grow up into men and women whose carelessness and disrespect of law shall be a menace to the community; we need co-operation in upholding the sacredness of law, the value of property and the rights of others.

In this city we have had numerous fires within the past few months. No one knows how they originated but there is a suspicion that some of them at least originated from electric wiring. No one knows whether they did or not and that is the pity of it. We need co-operation among our citizens to demand that there shall be such an inspection of wiring that we shall know whether our city is or is not likely to be burned over night.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Present prospects indicate that this will be a record season in the lobster business. Many sections report very large catches and lobsterers of good average size.

Royal Marriage to Unite the Balkans

One thing the Great War proved was the futility of depending upon royal alliances to maintain national alliance. The only royal marriage that seemed to carry on in the war and exert influence was that of King Constantine of Greece to the sister of the ex-Kaiser. This union did much to prolong the war and bedevil Greek politics, and its evil effect has not yet been wholly dissipated. But in the Balkans the idea survives that a royal marriage will do much to draw together the nations represented. There is no doubt that the belief that the Little Entente will be greatly strengthened lies behind the union today of King Alexander of Serbia and Princess Marie of Roumania. We trust the prognostications of the Balkan statesmen to this effect may prove correct. If it has peace, Jugo-Slavia should become one of the most powerful nations in Europe, ranking behind only France, Germany and Russia. War might reduce it to its original elements and even shatter these.

True Love Match? Of Course.

Naturally the Queen of Roumania protests that the marriage is not one of political convenience. "Even among kings and princesses," she says, "there is such a thing as love at first sight. That is what happened in this case." But this is not the first romance of King Alexander. He first desired to marry Grand Duchess Titania, daughter of the late Czar. It is known that the Prime Minister of Serbia laid the matter before the Czar in 1914, but it is not known whether the Czar did not think the young prince a suitable match or whether the marriage would have gone forward but for the great interruption. At that time Prince Alexander, although he had distinguished himself in the Balkan war of 1912, was no such important person as he is today. He was then the heir apparent to the crown of Serbia, which had come to his father as a result of a horrible murder. Today he is the ruler of a powerful nation. The prince had been rather a sickly youth, given to reading rather than to the martial exercises his countrymen delight in, but the Balkan war did much to improve his health, while the great war made a man of him.

A Fighting Prince.

It was he who ordered the mobilization of the Serbian army, and he led it with great gallantry. He was severely wounded in the fighting around Belgrade and narrowly escaped capture at Nish. Several attempts were made to assassinate him both when he was regent and after he had become king. It was while he was lying in a Paris hospital suffering from appendicitis in 1921 that he met the princess who is to become his wife, and if he was from the first strongly attracted by her it is not a matter of wonder since Princess Marie (pet name Mignon) has been known as the prettiest princess in Europe. Her photographs show her to be a girl whose beauty would attract attention even if she were a commoner and that is something that could not honestly be said about several alleged beautiful princesses. She inherits also much of the grace and gaiety of her mother, who is one of the strongest personalities to be found in European royalty.

Educated in England.

At one time the name of the princess was associated with that of the Prince of Wales. She had been educated in England and her mother was a granddaughter of Queen Victoria. The young people

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers

From the W. S. Louson collection

WAVE AND TIDE

On the far reef the breakers Recoll in shattered foam Yet still the sea behind them Urges its force home. Its chant of triumph surges Through all the thunderous din— The wave may break in failure, But the tide is sure to win! The reef is strong and cruel, Upon its jagged wall One wave—a score—a hundred. Broken and beaten fall, Yet in defeat they conquer, The sea comes flooding in, Wave upon wave is routed, But the tide is sure to win! O mighty sea! thy message In changing spray is cast; Within God's plan of progress It matters not at last. How wide the shores of evil, How strong the reefs of sin— The wave may be defeated, But the tide is sure to win.

Notes By The Way

It is related that a poor and humble curate once had the privilege of taking breakfast with his patron, the lord of the manor, on which occasion boiled eggs were served among other breakfast foods. His lordship after a time noticed that his guest was not making such progress with the hen-fruit before him as might have been expected, and remarked, "I fear, sir, that you have got a stale egg, let me order another!" To which came the reply, "Oh no, my lord, parts of it are very good indeed."

It was thus with our valued evening contemporary in regard to the sales tax, which when it was imposed by the Meighen Government was esteemed as a very bad egg indeed. It was regarded as quite unfit for human food at Ottawa and in the sanctuary across the square at that time. But since that time Premier King and Mr. Fielding have not only discovered that the "bad egg" of other days had improved with age, which is quite contrary to precedent in such cases, and in the Fielding budget, they not only found "parts of it very good indeed" but they actually swallowed it whole and called for more.

Yes, they swallowed the sales tax bad egg at a gulp and called for more by adding 50 per cent thereto, thus taking to themselves and giving to the dear people each and all a bad egg and a half all round. Our contemporary seems still a little in doubt, but obediently follows its party leaders, though at some distance. It finds the bad egg to be not quite so bad as it had once represented it to be. In reality it falls back upon the excuse of the unfortunate guest above referred to, that it is not so bad as it might have been. And the one thing good about it, and the only thing in our contemporary's opinion is that there are certain things which the bad egg has not touched.

The bad-egg sales tax does not, and has not touched the butter nor the cheese, the flavor of which it might have contaminated, we are told. That might have been a fair excuse for removing the egg from the table and for making imported butter and cheese more accessible, but the Fielding tariff does neither of these things. Duties are not removed from butter or cheese or meat or vegetables or from other foodstuffs, although such removal was promised to the deceived electors.

were often in each other's company but it is presumed the sentiments they excited in each other were merely cousinly. It is to be noted, too, that the Prince of Wales, as the most eligible young bachelor in the world, has had his name sentimentally connected with that of every marriageable princess in Europe as well as with several girls who are not princesses. Later on it was rumored that the princess was to become the bride of King Boris of Bulgaria. This was officially denied by the courts of both countries, and about the same time it was denied that King Alexander would become the husband of Princess Sophie, daughter of Prince Emmanuel, a member of the Bourbon-Oriental family. But after the meeting between the slowly convalescing king and Mignon, the rumors were followed by no denials and within a few months of their meeting there was an official announcement.

Well Matched.

As to the suitability of the match there can be little question. The princess is a charming girl of 22, by no means too young to undertake her important responsibilities, and the king is a man of 34, who has proved his manhood on the field of battle. There is certainly material here for romance, heightened by the fact that the countries which are thus supposed to be drawn closer together were allies in the war and suffered together. The air of romance, too, will be heightened by the traditions of the Serbians concerning marriages, royal as well as plebeian. When the King of Roumania reaches the gates of Belgrade, he will be met by King Alexander and the Mayor bearing a golden tray with bread and salt as a pledge of Slavic amity and hospitality. When the bride enters her new home she will carry with her a loaf of bread and a jug of wine, symbols of joy she is to bring to the king. She will carry also articles of clothing for herself and her husband, for it is a Serbian custom that the bride provides not only her own trousseau but wedding raiment for her husband. She will then kiss an appropriate male child to indicate her desire that their first-born may be a boy.

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What was promised these deceived electors has been refused them by Mr. Fielding. What they have got is 50 per cent more of bad eggs.

The budget debate was not ended last week as had been hoped and expected, but the end may be reached today or tomorrow. In the meantime there has been great trepidation in the government ranks. The Toronto Globe's Ottawa correspondence makes this clear as told in its issue of Thursday last. We quote: "Again to night election talk was heard in the Liberal lobbies. The members were going over their positions in the event of the government being defeated. Possibly it was intended that some of the gossip should leak into the Conservative and Progressive ranks. It is obvious that few Progressives and fewer Conservatives want to go to the country at the present time. However it was said that most of the arguments in favor of going to the country came from Quebec.

Although the Globe correspondent counts confidently on a majority of 10 to 12 for the government he finds it prudent to add that "there are still uncertain elements in the situation." The uncertain elements appear to be that "enough Conservatives may abstain from voting." If the Progressives do not to ensure a government victory. In any event, the Administration is facing a close call, and appear to be relying entirely upon the reluctance of members to face an immediate election to give them any majority they may obtain.

The Progressives are especially disappointed with the Fielding budget. Also with other things, as Mr. Meighen told them in his speech: "These hon. members came down to Parliament with hopes high and strong. They came for a wheat board—they came to a Liberal Government for a Grow's Nest Pass Agreement—for a reduced cost of living—for their tariff platform. And they will go back and have to say: No wheat board, nothing of that; no Grow's Nest Pass agreement, nothing of that. Cost of living? Worse than nothing there—increased and heavily increased, on all the people of the country. The tariff? Nothing there. The Hudson Bay Railway? Nothing there. All nothing." It will be a sorrowful home-coming for the Progressives of Prairie land. But Quebec is pleased. The Quebec leaders have got what they wanted.

SHOTS WIFE IN FAMILY QUARREL

Robbinston, (Me.) Man Kills His Wife in a Row Over Step Son. CALAIS, June 11.—Arthur Crowell aged 51, shot his wife Margaret, aged 50 through the head

with a 32 calibre revolver, she died instantly. Both are natives of North Perry, Me., but were employed in the sardine factory at Robbinston, nine miles from Calais, where the sad tragedy occurred at 4 o'clock today. Both had been married before and the dead woman had a son and daughter by her previous marriage. He has a son by a previous marriage. Crowell was married to the woman now dead last October. She was the widow of Gus Seavey of North Perry. Her son is an epileptic and did not work, which caused Crowell to complain frequently, and this gave rise to many family quarrels. Conan Doyle says all women in the next world are 25. He has a pretty good idea of heaven after

Crowell is described by a neighbor as a good sort of a fellow, but the possessor of a quick and violent temper, which got the best of him today when he committed the terrible deed that stirred the town of Robbinston into a high state of excitement. He is alleged to have made the remark that he would shoot the officers if they attempted to arrest him, but Deputy Sheriff Frank Robbinston captured the murderer at the point of a gun and brought him to Calais, where he is now under guard and will be later given a hearing.

You Need Not Be Extravagant

Another season has come. It seems but yesterday since we were all preparing for last Spring, but low and behold, here is another Spring at hand, and our Furnishing Department is overflowing with bargains in shirts, underwear, ties, collars, gloves,—everything men want, to make them comfortable. With Spring, comes an obligation service to yourself. It is a time when the purse strings must be loosed and the small change put in circulation. We do not expect any extravagance in buying. You do not need to be extravagant if you buy your furnishings from us. What we do expect, and what every person should do, is to buy what you need. In other words, let it be your motto to buy from us what you need, but buy carefully. Suits made to order from \$37.00 to \$56.00. Ready-to-wear from \$25.00 to \$55.00.

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