

AN EXPERIMENT ON POTATOES BEING CARRIED ON AT THE LOCAL EXPERIMENTAL STATION

The development of new varieties of potatoes by breeding methods has never been attempted on as comprehensive a scale in Canada as has been the case in the United States and in Europe. For several years, the Fredericton Experimental Station has realized the importance and necessity of embarking upon a potato-breeding policy, but it is only recently that conditions have been such as to render such a policy possible.

In the summer of 1932, a small beginning was made by making a few artificial crosses between Green Mountain and Katahdin, a recent introduction by the United States Department of Agriculture, and reputedly resistant to mild mosaic.

In the summer of 1933, this work was largely extended and a large number of crosses made, utilizing our common commercial varieties and several resistant varieties as parents. Open-pollinated seed balls were also collected from the variety Katahdin. Seed from this material was sown in hotbeds during April of this year, and as a result, approximately 25,000 seedlings have been raised and transplanting is now under way in the fields.

A Complex Problem

In the meantime, the complexity of the problem has been emphasized and organization has been completed whereby a co-operative project, involving the Horticultural Division of the Experimental Station and the Laboratory of Plant Pathology, has been

approved by headquarters at Ottawa, and the work is now proceeding under a committee composed of C. F. Bailey as Chairman, D. J. MacLeod as vice-chairman, L. C. Young as secretary and L. Howatt and C. H. Godwin as additional members. Naturally, this experiment is being carried on with the close co-operation of the interested Divisional Chiefs at the Central Experimental farm, namely Mr. M. B. Davis, Dominion Horticulturist, and Dr. H. T. Gussow, Dominion Botanist, and also D. E. S. Archibald, Director of Experimental Farms System.

Fortunately, both Dr. Gussow and Mr. Davis were able to arrange their official visit to Fredericton for the same time this year. This enabled the holding of a meeting last week of all those interested in this project, and considerable headway was made in the formulating of a definite potato-breeding policy for the future.

Various breeding centres in the United States will be visited by members of the local committee during the summer months. Dr. Gussow may also visit several of the more important stations in Europe. In this way, the experience of the investigators in many parts of the world will be made available, and should prove of great value in the drafting of the final policy.

Important Matter

The importance of developing new varieties of potatoes, possessing desirable horticultural characteristics,

and at the same time, resistant to the various common potato diseases is apparent. It is estimated that spraying for late blight costs the farmers of New Brunswick approximately \$400,000 a year. The toll exacted by the ravages of the various potato virus diseases can hardly be estimated. It is true that owing to the efficiency of the Potato Certification Service, these diseases have been kept under control, and farmers are able to purchase Certified Seed of a high standard. Nevertheless, this must be looked upon as a temporary remedial measure, and as a complete solution to the problem. Tuber diseases such as scab and rhizoctonia are also of great importance. Each year, approximately 10 per cent of seed potatoes are turned down, failing to pass inspection, owing to scab alone. The difficulty of developing a soil condition, favourable to the growth of clover without a consequent increase in the amount of scab, is a very acute problem in any potato area. The production of a scab-resistant potato would help to solve many general farm problems in these districts.

The complexity of a potato-breeding program is evident. It is the intention of the Fredericton Potato-Breeding Committee to eventually evolve, as conditions permit, a policy whereby resistance to the various virus diseases, resistance to late blight and resistance to tuber-diseases, will all be taken into consideration. The production of an early potato, similar to the Irish Cobbler, but with shallow eyes, will also come in for attention. In the immediate future, however, work will largely be centred upon resistance to mild mosaic and resistance to late blight.

CANADA DAY AT THE CHICAGO WORLD'S FAIR

Attractive Features Will
Be Presented on Monday,
July 2nd.

Canada Day at the new World's Fair will be celebrated July 2 it was announced by Clarence W. Farrier, chief of the Events Division of the Exposition. The ceremony will fall on the observance of Dominion Day. The holiday usually falls on July 1, but because of the fact that the First is a Sunday the legal holiday will be held on Monday, the Second.

The program arranged by Fair officials for the International Ceremony which will be held in the Court of States at 3 P. M., will feature the Wesley United Choir of Fort William, Ontario. Under the direction of Arthur K. Putland, the choir will render a program of semi-classical and secular selections.

The choir has been featured several times on the national network of the Canadian Radio Broadcasting Commission and also over radio stations in Duluth, Minneapolis and St. Paul.

Invitations have been extended to Mayor Edward J. Kelly of Chicago, Rufus C. Dawes, president of the Fair, representatives of the Chicago Canadian Club and members of the Rotary Club and the Kiwanis by Mayor R. B. Pow of Fort William. Lewis Bernays, British Consul General in Chicago, has already accepted an invitation to the ceremony.

The Wesley United Choir will fill other engagements in Chicago over the week-end they are here. The list of their local engagements is as follows:

SUNDAY, JULY 1st.
11:00 A. M.—Morning service at University Chapel.
4:00 P. M.—Vesper Service at Fourth Presbyterian Church.
6:45 P. M.—Supper concert at International House.
9:15 P. M.—Guest artists with the Edison Symphony orchestra over W. E. N. R.
MONDAY, JULY 2nd.
3:30 P. M.—International Ceremony Court of States.
7:30 P. M.—Concert of English music, English Village, Century of Progress.
TUESDAY, JULY 3rd.
12:15 P. M.—Dutary Club luncheon.

LORD LONSDALE CAN DRAW THE LONG BOW WELL

New York, June 14—Lord Lonsdale's story of holding up a stage-coach when he was a wild young cow-puncher in the West in the 1870's has provoked some comment in the New York papers. Under the title, "Two Gun Lonsdale," the Post tonight reviews the story the Earl told a group of radio performers in London last week and expressed a strong note of suspicion.

In an article entitled Lord Lonsdale a Raconteur, the Sun recalls that Prince Von Buelow, late German Chancellor, wrote in his memoirs "He is the greatest liar in England."

The Post observes that if Lord Lonsdale remembers Denver as a one-shack town his memory is remarkable indeed. The city of Denver was founded in 1857, the year of the Earl's birth, that papers says. By the time Lord Lonsdale, then known as Hugh Cecil Lowther, arrived there it was a city of 5000 population and the railroads had been running into it for years.

The Sun recalls other stories told by the Earl. He is reported to have shown a reporter a picture of himself dressed in bearskins and said to him, "Do you know who discovered the Klondike?" The answer was "no." And the good Earl answered, "well, it was by discovery."

The Sun also reports that at the laying of the corner stone of a boxing stadium at Liverpool, Lord Lonsdale told of having knocked out John L. Sullivan in his youth.

Another need of the times is a speedometer that will show on the outside of the car so witnesses won't have to guess.

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