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Potato Breeding Activities

The potato crop, long considered as New Brunswick's most important cash crop, is now being made the object of special investigation in a cooperative project, conducted jointly by the Experimental Station and the Laboratory of Plant Pathology at Fredericton.

The annual loss to potato farmers, due to the ravages of such diseases as mosaic, leaf roll, late blight and scab, is enormous. It is the object of these investigations to develop new varieties of potatoes possessing resistance to one or more of these diseases.

Although a large amount of this work must of necessity be done during the summer months, there are certain angles of the project, capable of investigation, during the winter weather. As a result, the greenhouses at the above institutions are now a scene of activity with many different phases of the potato breeding problem being studied.

A number of varieties of potatoes are being grown, and the blossoms pollinated by hand, as they occur. In this way, a much larger number of crosses can be obtained, than if dependence is placed entirely upon field pollination in the summer. Owing to the shortness of the day at this period, the use of electric lights is being employed to lengthen the daylight period.

A large number of seedlings, resulting from crossing made only last September, are being grown and will be tested in the very near future for resistance to late blight in a specially prepared chamber. In other sections of the houses, a large number of seedlings, resulting from crosses made in 1933, are being tested for resistance to mosaic. Studies are also being conducted to determine if it is possible to force varieties, which normally fail to produce flowers or if so in relatively small numbers, to flower in profusion.

These are only a few of the subjects being investigated at the present time at the two institutions. Officials in charge are optimistic as to the outcome of these investigations, and feel that much valuable information in connection with the potato-breeding project will be obtained during the current winter.

Budget Ideals

"No nation has a real budget any more," says Paul Mallon. "Necessity or convenience prevents it."

This statement, we believe, is scarcely accurate. Great Britain has the same sort of budget today she has had for years. It may be argued that it is not "real" because it does not include payments on the debt owed to the United States. But it is certainly real in that it estimates, about as accurately as human foresight permits, the receipts and expenditures for the year, three months before the year begins. The 1934-35 budget closed with an excess of receipts of about \$38,000,000. Sometimes the guess is more nearly accurate than that.

Japan's budget is also pretty honest; the Japanese financiers neither fool themselves nor try to fool the people. Unlike France, Japan does not balance her budget on paper by under-estimating expenditures and over-estimating receipts. Nor do the Netherlands. The budgets of the Scandinavian countries are as real as budgets can be.

The Germans and Italians know just as much about their budgets as Hitler and Mussolini want them to know, but presumably the leaders have figures which show them accurately how their nations stand, and are able to make fairly reliable estimates. The Russians are sticklers for accurate figures for their own purposes.

What Mr. Mallon means by a "real" budget is, of course, the table of estimated receipts and expenditures which is verified by experience during the budget year. Such a budget is impossible; it is the ideal. Great Britain comes closer to it than any other nation.

January Unemployment Situation

Data tabulated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics show that industrial activity in the last fifteen years has invariably declined at the first of January, there being an average decrease of about seven points in the crude index of employment from December 1 to January 1 in the years 1921-1935. The customary contraction was predicted at the opening of the present year, but on the whole this involved a smaller-than-average number of workers. The persons released from the staffs of the 9,409 firms co-operating at January 1, 1936, numbered 52,374, or about 90 per cent of the average for the years since 1920. The reported payrolls were reduced from 985,481 at December 1, 1935, to 933,107 at the date under review, or by 5.3 per cent. This decline, however, exceeded that recorded at January 1 of last year, when there was a falling off of 4.4 per cent from the preceding month.

The following shows the unadjusted indexes as at January 1 in the sixteen years for which data are available:—1936, 99.1; 1935, 94.4; 1934, 88.6; 1933, 78.5; 1932, 91.6; 1931, 101.7; 1930, 111.2; 1929, 109.1; 1928, 100.7; 1927, 95.9; 1926, 90.7; 1925, 84.9; 1924, 89.8; 1923, 87.3; 1922, 78.8 and 1921, 88.8.

As is customary at the time of year, the contractions in many instances resulted from shutdowns for inventory and over the holiday season, with the anticipation of an early resumption of activity. The experience of the last fifteen years shows that usually there is a partial recovery from the general losses recorded at the beginning of January.

The most pronounced curtailment was in construction and manufacturing. The loss of the former, involving nearly 25,000 persons, was unusually large, having only twice been exceeded at January 1 in the last fifteen years, viz., at the opening of 1930 and 1932. The reverse was the case in factory employment, from which some 23,300 men and women were released, or a little more than two-thirds of the average reduction in personnel at the beginning of January in the years since 1920; however, this shrinkage was greater than that noted at January 1, 1935, which was the smallest on record.

SNAPSHOTS

If, as it is alleged, witnesses and accused in the Lake murder case are being "grilled," this should be stopped. This is an United States scheme and is not in accordance with British justice. If the R.C.M.P. are guilty of the charges made by Mr. Lambert then the sooner the province gets rid of the R.C.M.P. the better. Mr. Lambert's charges should be investigated fully, in justice to the police and for the satisfaction of the public.

The Housing Act scheme introduced and passed through the Provincial Legislature last session has been very properly held up. This scheme was hatched by certain real estate owners in the City of Saint John. The province was to pay fifty per cent of the cost of repairing certain old shacks and the City of Saint John was to pay the other half. Outside of certain parties in Saint John the thing was of no benefit to anybody. But the Attorney General properly refused to hold the bag and the scheme is off.

It is said that a leading young men's boarding house will not give the boarders an egg if they are late for breakfast. Perhaps they have only one or two eggs. Why not get some of these China eggs?

The superintendent of the C.P.R. replies to the chairman of the Transportation of the Board of Trade that the matter of the Chipman-Minto Saturday train to Fredericton will be taken up. He should take it up at once. We want it for the winter months. So step on the gas, Mr. C.P.R. man.

A correspondent writes us asking what they do with all the ashes in hell? That's some question. But we think that part of the punishment is that the residents who would like to sleep on Sunday morning have to get up and carry out the ashes. There may be a better guess, but this is ours.

A radio has been invented that will toast bread. Great for those women who entertain the afternoon bridge clubs.

A leading resident of the county who is in the city today wants to know where the forty five cents voted for the prisoners' board goes? We can't say just now where it goes. We know where it does not go.

Tomorrow is ground hog day. Half the winter is gone.

Hon. Dr. Hanson writes that he is swimming and sitting in the park. He would not sit up in Wilnot Park very long this weather. Here's a good time "R. B." It's coming to you.

Tilley Gov't Put Province in the Hole

(Continued from Page One)

ive government were in power for the first eight and one half months, and Premier A. A. Dymally, and his Liberal administration for the last three and one half months. On March 1 last, Hon. A. J. Leger, provincial secretary, treasurer brought down the budget for the Tilley government.

While declining at the present time to discuss in detail the financial situation of the Province, Hon. C. T. Richard, Provincial Secretary-Treasurer, termed the condition a sad mess.

Mr. Richard declared that the appropriations for the entire fiscal year all were spent before he and his cabinet colleagues assumed control of the finances of the province. The new government, after taking office, was swamped with accounts for expenditures incurred during the summer months, the majority of them in the department of public works, he said.

"We do not assume responsibility for the expenditures. We have to deal with our own financial year which began on November 1," he said.

"We are facing a hard crisis," Mr. Richard continued. "We want to balance our budget. We cannot do it this year, but with the help of everyone we can next year. We expect every man, woman and child to help us."

"We must forget politics now. We are going through some hard times and I give this frank expression that we want everyone to co-operate, to put heart and soul wholeheartedly into the thing. We want all to be united. There is no more need of Liberals and Conservatives now that the election is over."

Mr. Richard indicated that he would discuss in detail the finances of the province during the coming session of the Legislature.

PARISH CHURCH

4th Sunday after Epiphany, February 2nd. Holy Communion, 8 A. M. Morning prayer, 11 A. M. Sunday School, 2:30 P. M. Evening prayer, 7 P. M. The Rev. W. J. Bate will preach in the morning and the Rector in the evening. The Mission will begin on Monday, February 3rd.

Defence Counsel in Lake Murder Trial Objects

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Magistrate Lang said that any such charge must be properly laid before him in proper form, and stated that that was the right of Mr. Lambert if he wished to.

"This boy has been grilled and grilled," commented Mr. Lambert and this drew a remark of reprimand from Mr. Bridges, who with H. W. Hickman is appearing for the prosecution, that such was not the case.

Magistrate Lane then summoned an adjournment of one-half hour in order that Daniel Bannister might be examined by a doctor.

When Mr. Lambert was addressing the court he also remarked "Frances Bannister was taken to the scene by R. C. M. P. constables too, which was most irregular."

Following the half hour adjournment court resumed with Daniel apparent fit, as he sat on the prisoners' bench. His illness was stated to have been due to a weak spell. Dr. Landry said he felt the accused now fit to continue at this time, but he could not say as to a further attack.

Mr. Lambert then asked that his charges be fully investigated.

Would Be Welcome

Mr. Bridges said he would welcome an investigation, if the charges were properly made. He added Inspector Bird would also welcome such an investigation into the charges by Mr. Lambert.

Magistrate Lane said the hearing must go on and any investigation by the attorney-general would come after the hearing.

Mr. Lambert submitted that the boys were not getting a fair hearing as press publicity about grilling and statements might prejudice people's minds against the accused. He asked that the magistrate order the accused be left alone by persons in future. The magistrate said he would give his decision on this prior to adjournment, and ruled that the case continue.

Earl O'Brien was then called to the stand to allow Mr. Lambert to complete his cross examination.

The trading between Arthur Bannister and Lake you spoke of, when was that, Thursday or Friday nights Jan. 2-3?" asked Mr. Lambert.

"That was Thursday night," witness answered.

Witness then again reviewed the trading, as he told yesterday in his direct examination.

Continuing, the witness said: "I usually took my own grub. Friday morning, Jan. 3 I got some potatoes from the Lakes. I cooked them in Lake's house. That was all the food I got from Lake. I had my own tea. I took three tins of sardines, too. I do not think Arthur Bannister had any food with him. Lake lived in only a small cabin at Rock Out, which is about one mile below Pacific Junction. Lake moved to the house that was burned, last year, I think. First time I was to the house was the first of last fall as far as I can recall. I was up there hunting. Can't recall how long I stayed. I am sure I was there."

Mr. Lambert questioned the witness at some length concerning his visits to Pacific Junction and the Lakes' home. He also asked several questions concerning what sort of game witness was hunting for.

"Albert Knapper and I went up to Pacific Junction looking for game about the middle of the hunting season. I remember seeing Lake at that time. He was cutting wood. I do not know if I was in the Lake house that time or not. I must have been up there seven or eight times hunting last season," continued the witness.

Stayed Two Nights

Witness explained to Mr. Lambert the various times he was to Pacific Junction during last season hunting.

"The only times I can recall staying over night was on two occasions," said witness.

There was some discussion between the magistrate and Mr. Lambert concerning Mr. Lambert's questioning about the many trips of O'Brien to Pacific Junction.

"The witness said yesterday he saw the Lake baby every time he was up there," said Mr. Lambert, "and yet he stayed there but two nights."

"I did not say that," insisted witness. "I said I did not see the baby every time I was there."

Mr. Lambert then asked for the plan of the interior of Lake's cabin drawn yesterday by the witness. He questioned witness regarding the plan.

Counsel argued over Mr. Lambert's method of questioning, but the cross-examination continued and defence counsel asked, "How do you know the head of Lake's bunk was as indicated on plan, if you were inside the house only a few times?"

"I saw Lake lying on the bed," "I saw the alarm clock when I was in the Lake home and I marked it on the plan yesterday. Nobody told me to put the alarm clock, or other things, in the plan. I have been in the bedroom in the Lake house. I do not recall ever seeing baby's crib in the kitchen. I do not think anybody was in bed, in the bedroom, when I was in the room."

Mr. Bridges re-examined the wit-

Our Legislative Union Endangered By Latest Move

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It is to be noted that because of conditions peculiar to themselves the Provinces left the power to change the Confederation Agreement in the custody and control of Westminster.

The recent proposal to transfer the amending power to the Parliament of the Dominion, might conceivably be carried out without any material alteration in the federal system, without any real impairment of the sovereignty of New Brunswick and without altering her status as a self-governing Province of Great Britain. But such a development does not seem consistent with the notions of the proponents of change.

For the real purpose of the new movement is to set up a new Constitution in the form of a Statute of the Canadian Parliament, which would entail very serious and far-reaching consequences.

Under the new scheme New Brunswick would lose her status, enjoyed since her foundation in 1784, as a Province of Great Britain and would become simply a territorial division of Canada.

Her sovereignty would disappear. The intention to give to the Parliament of the Dominion power to invade the legislative field of the Provincial Legislatures, provided two-thirds of the Provinces agree, can mean nothing less. By no stretch of the imagination could the Legislature of New Brunswick be held to enjoy sovereign rights when it might be shorn of its powers without its consent.

The Conference established by the Province in 1867 would cease to exist. The federal system of union then adopted and which led to the creation of the Dominion of Canada at the hands of the original Provinces, would be replaced by a system under which these Provinces would become in a new hierarchy the creatures of the Dominion Parliament.

The Legislature of New Brunswick would, in its relations to the Canadian Parliament, be reduced to a position similar to that in which a Municipal Council stands in relation to the Provincial Legislature.

In other words we would find the Provinces in a new legislative union, a system which the original Provinces rejected in 1867 in no uncertain terms.

In view of these various considerations New Brunswick has not wavered in her original refusal. At the recent Committee meeting her representatives did however advance certain tentative suggestions with a view of opening up with other fields of discussion.

For instance we stated that we were prepared to embark upon a full study of the B. N. A. Act in order that any changes, which the Provinces agreed were necessary, might be incorporated in a revised Statute to be enacted by the British Parliament.

We further stated that, if it seemed desirable to limit the matter, our study could be limited to Sections 91 and 92 of the Act, being the sections which determine the division of legislative power between the Dominion Parliament and the Provincial Legislatures. Any new division of powers agreed upon by the Provinces could then be approved by an amendment to the Act at Westminster.

None of our suggestions met with any support. Apparently they are not in line with the plans now on foot to bring about the subordination of the Provinces.

Urges New Paths For Education

(Continued from Page One)

were incapable of appreciating them or neglecting them as uninteresting, ever has there been so vast a mistake. Dr. M. A. Oulton was chairman. Among those present were Dr. C. C. Jones, president of the University of New Brunswick; Dr. A. S. McFarlane, chief superintendent of education, and J. W. Sears, registrar of the U.N.B. Short addresses were given by Mr. Justice Harrison, Judge McInerney, Dr. McIntosh, and Dr. A. S. McFarlane.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH
Services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Morning subject, "Church's Business." Evening subject, "Second Thoughts." Sunday school and Bible class at 2:30 p.m. Rev. George Telford, M.A., B.D., minister.

VATICAN CITY, Feb. 1—Pope Pius XI is suffering from a slight chill it is announced. The Pope's doctors declared that they were not disturbed by his condition. He is not confined to his bed, they said, and plans to grand audiences tomorrow.

ness who said, "There were two or three chairs in the Lake cabin. After breakfast, Friday, Jan. 3, Arthur went with me to look at my second lot of snares. He was out of my sight only about one half hour that Friday morning. I cannot recall all the times I was at Philip Lake's. That is, the time of year, I cannot recall. I saw the Lake baby girl, Betty, several times. By several times I mean three or four times," concluded the witness.

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CHURCH SERVICES

Brunswick Street Baptist Church
11 a.m., public worship. 2.30 p.m., Sunday School and Brotherhood. 7 p.m., public worship. The pastor will preach at both services. Gerald W. Guioi, pastor.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Rev. George E. Ross, D. D., minister. 11 a.m., public worship, subject "Who Cometh after the King." 12.15 Sunday School and Bible class. 7.00 p.m., public worship, subject, "Enlarging the Kingdom, how and by whom." Special service for the children, Feb. 9th, at 11 and the monthly service for students and all young people, Feb. 9th, at 7 p.m.

Wilnot United Church
John W. Bartlett, minister, 11 a.m., Public worship. Sermon, "Seeing the Shadow." Tomorrow is the day the ground hog is supposed to forecast the weather for the next six weeks. The morning service will be broadcast over CFNB. 7 p.m. evening service. Theme: "Can it happen in Fredericton?" This sermon is suggested by Sinclair Lewis' new and startling

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