

Developmnet Potato Export Market

THE WARDEN OF YORK COUNTY THE HOST AT AN ENJOYABLE FUNCTION

Hon. A. C. Taylor is Hopeful of Agricultural Outlook

Able Speech by Minister

Community Spirit of Harvey and Stanley Comes in for Praise

Featured by the presence of four members of the Provincial Cabinet and members of the executive of the New Brunswick Union of Municipalities the annual Warden's Supper at the Waverley Hotel last night proved a most enjoyable function. The guests numbered 125 and included members and officers of the York County Council, county officers, representatives of the City Council and of the Town Councils of Marysville and Devon and others. The long tables were appropriately decorated and presented a most inviting appearance. Warden Coburn presided and proved himself a genial host. Major J. S. Scott, secretary treasurer of the Municipality, efficiently discharged the important duties of toast master. Others at the head table included Hon. A. C. Taylor, Minister of Agriculture; Hon. J. B. McNair, Attorney General; Hon. A. P. Paterson, Minister of Education and Municipal Relations; Dr. C. C. Jones, president of the U.N.B. Rev. John Linton and E. C. Atkinson.

Following Grace by Rev. Mr. Linton, an excellent four course dinner was served in a manner which reflected great credit on the Waverley Hotel and its capable management.

A well arranged toast list brought forth a number of excellent speeches, the most impressive of which was that of the Minister of Agriculture who dealt with the work of his department, making special mention of the success which was achieved in finding a new and profitable market in the Argentine Republic for 240 barrels of New Brunswick high grade seed potatoes. He called attention to the fact that the shipment representing a product of New Brunswick farms, was equal to six trains of forty cars each or one train a mile and a half in length.

Other speakers included C. F. Bailey, Hon. J. B. McNair, Ald. Ray Forbes, Mayor F. H. King of Woodstock, Mayor T. H. Whalen of Newcastle, Coun. F. O. Creighton of Woodstock, Dr. C. C. Jones and Ald. F. S. Mundle.

A male quartette composed of Douglas Cochran, Arthur G. Bailey, C. L. Holcher entertained the proceedings with a number of appropriate selections.

The Toast List

The Toast to His Majesty King George VI, proposed by Major Scott was drunk with musical honors.

Major Scott congratulated Warden Coburn on his elevation to that high office and thanked him for conferring upon him the honor of toastmaster.

Rev. John Linton the acting Chaplain, was introduced as the first speaker and responded with a spirited address. In a happy vein he said the clergymen had their troubles, and illustrated the point with some amusing anecdotes. He said he was glad to live in such a great country as Canada and felt safe in saying that York county was a great County. The reverend gentleman's remarks were heartily applauded.

Coun. Dobie of Devon in a well considered speech proposed a toast to the Dominion of Canada. He referred to the great expansion made by the Dominion since Confederation and said that it was now regarded as one of the most important units of the British Empire. He hoped that the day was not far distant when that strip of land known as the Labrador Coast would become part of the great Dominion. He referred to the great mineral development in Canada in recent years and predicted rapid development along other lines.

The toast met with a hearty response, the company joining in the singing of O Canada.

C. F. Bailey, superintendent of the Fredericton Experimental Station, made a fitting reply to the toast. He said that the gloom which had prevailed in Canada during a long period of depression had been supplanted by a most pronounced feeling of optimism. He quoted statistics showing to a marvellous increase in the growth of Canada's trade during 1936. Referring to the mining industry, he sometimes wondered what Canada would have done without it during the depression. Gold produced in Canada in 1936 was valued at \$133,000,000 and the total mineral output of the country during the year was estimated at \$320,000,000. The year 1936 was not a good year for agriculture because of drought in Ontario and the West, but enhanced prices had increased the value of the output by \$83,000,000 as compared with 1935. He said that

the New Brunswick crop yield in 1935 was valued at \$4,500,000, which while not large compared with the yield of all Canada, was \$4,000,000 more than the value of our crop in 1931. Mineral production will have to increase some yet to catch up with agriculture. He regarded agriculture as the mainstay of New Brunswick, and it was worthy of further development. It would require a lot of hard work, he said, but it would have to be done if the province was to take its proper place. He spoke a good word for Hon. A. C. Taylor, who was carrying



HON. A. C. TAYLOR Minister of Agriculture, who spoke at the York County Warden's Dinner last night

out most progressive policies. He was pleased to note that the York County Council had interested itself in agricultural education. York was a fine agricultural county and capable of great development.

Ex-Warden Harry Morrison, in a neat speech proposed a toast to the province of New Brunswick. He said he was proud of his native province and its splendid scenic and sporting attractions. The names of Hon. A. C. Taylor and E. C. Atkinson were coupled with the toast.

Minister of Agriculture

Hon. A. C. Taylor, replying to the toast, after extending congratulations to the Warden, said that he would confine his remarks to agricultural matters, taking it for granted that most of his listeners were men of the soil. Those engaged in other lines of business had come to recognize the far-reaching importance of agriculture and all were glad that progress was being made and conditions were improving. While prices had not yet reached the point to be desired there had been a marked improvement in 1936 and 1935 and some previous years. He said that the value of the farmers' dollar during the depression had declined to 45 or 50 cents. To illustrate his point he showed that grain now worth \$1 was only worth 47 cents to the farmer in 1932. There had been corresponding increases in the prices of butter, potatoes and other commodities. While the goal had not yet been reached it was satisfactory to know that they were pulling out of the depression. He was safe in saying that if a farmer in ordinary times did well to make a living, and even if he made nothing on his capital invested, he could get along, but it was desirable that he should derive a profit from his labors.

Quality Improved

The Minister went on to say that he was greatly encouraged by the great improvement in the quality of farm products. For instance, creamery butter made in 1936 was away ahead of any previously produced in this province. The proper grading of cream had stepped up the quality. At times the province would be able to support butter and would no longer be under the handicap of having it ungraded. Poultry and hog products from the Saint John Valley were found to be of high quality. The farmers of that section were co-operating with the agricultural department in an effort to improve the quality of bacon hogs. At first hogs marketed at Moncton had been of a low grade but a small premium paid by the department on graded hogs had brought

about a decided improvement, with the result that last year animals from the Saint John Valley had graded as high as 97 per cent. To bring along such results the Minister said it was important to have the co-operation of all.

The Potato Trade

Referring to potatoes the Minister said there was a time when the New Brunswick product commanded a premium in the markets of the Dominion, but now they were in second place with Prince Edward Island in the lead. The reason was that New Brunswick was not putting up the product that it should. Prince Edward Island was trying its best to boost its market and New Brunswick should do the same thing by seeking to improve the quality of stock.

An Export Market

The government recognized the great importance of developing an export market for potatoes and felt that something could be done to attain that end. After a thorough investigation, followed by a previous trial shipment, the government last fall had made a shipment to Argentina of 50,000 barrels, which had brought a return of over a quarter of a million dollars to the province. He was hopeful of an increased demand next year, as he had received word that the first cargo had arrived at its destination in excellent condition. He considered it of the utmost importance if the market was to be held, that the quality should be kept up. It might surprise those listening to him to know that 50,000 barrels of potatoes for shipment would load a train one and a half miles long or six trains of forty cars each.

Live Stock Centres

The Minister complimented the Warden on coming from a section of the county noted for its fine community effort. He had attended a Jersey field day at Harvey and it was the best show of its kind he had ever seen in Eastern Canada. They could link Harvey with Stanley in the north as a stock producer. Both these places were looked upon as outstanding centres for high class stock, and had made shipments to Upper Canada and the United States. If other places can put forth the same effort at stock improvement there would soon be many Stanleys and Harveys in New Brunswick.

A Fine Province

He said he considered New Brunswick one of the finest little pieces of land to be found outdoors. There were great possibilities in agriculture for the province, but he believed the agricultural department could accomplish but little unless the farmers got down to business. He was satisfied that if all did their part New Brunswick would not only supply its own needs but could put farm products in the markets of the world. He was glad to know that the York County Council planned to assist young men to attend the agricultural school, an institution conducted jointly by the Federal and Provincial departments. All should remember that the boys of today would be the farmers of tomorrow and should be given every encouragement. Some fine examples of citizenship was exemplified in the boys who attended the agricultural school. The provincial department of agriculture was at the service of farmers, and while it might not do much for individuals it could assist groups.

In closing he wished the Municipality a successful year and extended congratulations in what had already been accomplished in York County.

Mr. Atkinson Speaks

E. C. Atkinson, president of the Fredericton Board of Trade, also replied to the toast. He heartily congratulated the Warden, whom he was sure as a Scotchman would look after the financial interests of the County. He thought Hon. Mr. Taylor had outlined an ambitious programme for the province and he felt sure that it would be successfully carried out. He hoped that the County Council would give consideration to an improved market building for the city, which was a necessity too long neglected. He had no doubt that the future of the province was bound up in agriculture, but wealth must also come from the forests, if the province was to take its proper place. He believed that one of the needs of the province was a sane immigration policy, and that the right sort of people should be put on our land. Many of the difficulties in Europe are due to overcrowding, whereas in this country we have millions of acres of land awaiting settlement. He considered increased production was essential if Canada is to continue to go forward and pay its bills. In company with the Mayor of Fredericton he would leave shortly for Europe and was hopeful of being able to find a market for forest products, especially pulpwood. New Brunswick was a fine province and a splendid type of citizenship, and all should work together regardless of party for the common good. All should back up the government and if it failed in its duty, then the people could attend to its case at the polls.

Toast to the City

Ex-Warden Nason in a few well chosen remarks proposed a toast to the City of Fredericton. The names

of Ald. Ray Forbes and F. S. Mundle were coupled with the toast.

Ald. Forbes in reply spoke of the close association between the city and county, and he remarked that only a few years ago the city gave the County a Warden in the person of Warden G. Gaynor, a native son of Fredericton. In closing he wished the Warden and the Council a happy and prosperous New Year.

Ald. Mundle replied in a pithy address. He agreed with Mr. Atkinson that a market building was needed in the city, and could assure them that the City was willing to go 50-50 on such a project. He told of an up-river farmer who said he could not afford to buy brick because he only received five cents a pound for his beef. His advice to him was to get the Councillors to help build an abattoir in Fredericton and they would then get ten cents a pound for beef. In singing the praises of the Scotch Ald. Mundle reminded his hearers that they were filling about all the high positions in the British Empire, and it was most fitting that the Warden of York should be able to claim that nationality as his own.

Coun. Norrad proposed a toast to our Educational Institutions. He stressed the importance of education and praised the work of our institutions of learning.

Dr. C. C. Jones

Dr. C. C. Jones, president of the U.N.B., replied to the toast in appropriate terms. He had listened with much interest to the remarks of Hon. Mr. Taylor, but as a Westmorland County man he was a little surprised to hear him bestow so much praise on the County of York. He congratulated the Warden on his election and thanked him for his kind invitation to be present. He pointed out that the University with its 300 students was worth \$300,000 to the City of Fredericton and no doubt was a factor in building up the splendid market which had been referred to. He did not agree with the statement of ten heard that a university course was useless as there was no work for graduates. Only recently he had received an application for three civil engineers but could find none unemployed. The forestry graduates of the U.N.B. were also steadily employed. He was proud of being a graduate of a rural school and was hopeful that something could be done for their better organization. Much might be done to help rural schools by having larger units. He was not keen on educating boys away from the farm, but would rather educate them to remain there. There was no danger of over-educating those who till the soil as their work was a great improvement.

A toast to the New Brunswick Union of Municipalities was proposed by Coun. B. O. Waugh.

Moncton's Mayor

His Worship Mayor T. H. King of Moncton was the first to respond. He had heard so much of York County that he had come to look upon it as a Garden of Eden. He hoped some day to be able to accept the invitation of his friend Mr. Scott to bring his wife along with him and spend a week in Fredericton. Passing on he spoke of the great importance of the work performed by Municipal bodies and said the government was assured of their hearty support in their efforts to make New Brunswick a better province.

Newcastle's Mayor

Mayor T. H. Whalen of Newcastle, who followed, said that Mr. Scott's praise of York reflected the glory of the great County of Northumberland. He remarked that York county took sportsmen to Northumberland to shoot game and catch fish and now they wanted a bounty paid on bears. As one brought up on a farm he was a great believer in agriculture but regretted that only three per cent of the provincial revenue was expended on this industry. He commended the speech of the Minister of Agriculture and was sure that the department would make progress under his able leadership.

Woodstock Heard From

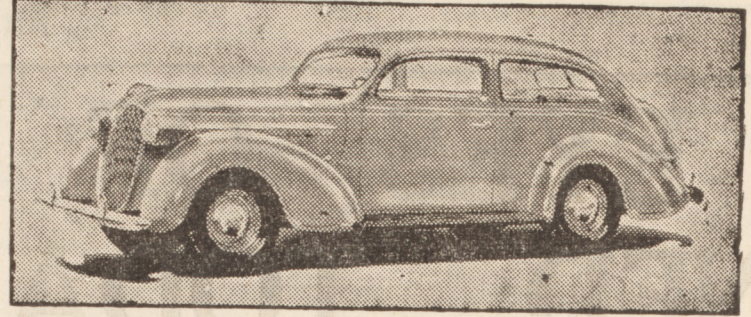
Coun. F. O. Creighton of Woodstock also spoke briefly, congratulating the Warden and returning thanks for his hospitality. Congratulating Hon. Mr. Taylor on his able speech he felt sure that the Minister would have the hearty support of the farmers of New Brunswick. He warmly praised the work of the Union of Municipalities which he described as a Municipal clearing house, Municipal problems were of great importance and must be considered and worked out. He believed that Municipalities should share the problem of relief as by so doing a home interest was kept up and expenses kept down.

Ex-Warden Howard Cameron in proposing the health of the Cabinet coupled with it the name of the Attorney General, Hon. J. B. McNair.

The Attorney General

Hon. Mr. McNair expressed pleasure at being present and congratulated his old friend Warden Coburn on the honor that had been bestowed upon him. He was sure that if the county finances were not in a happy state they would be that way before the close of his term of office. After relating some incidents to attest the thrift and resourcefulness of Scotchmen, and the infallibility of lawyers, (Continued on Page Seven)

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