Canada From Coast to Coast

Fredericton, N.B.—A total of 28 028 acres were planted to spring wheat in this province during 1921, producing 441,400 bushels according to the Provincial Department of Agriculture. Other agricultural statistics were: Oats, 284,728 acres, yield 6,905,000 bushels; barley, 8,898, 175,700; buckwheat, 49,812; hay and clover, 625,-875; 16,192,000; hay and clover, 625,-000 tons from 694,497 acres; and turnips, 17,745 acres, 6,202,000 bushels.

Halifax, N.S.—The Bluenose, Nova Scotia's champion of the international schooner race, left last week for Ponce Porto Rico, on her first trip to a foreign market, with a cargo of fish. In her hold were 600 casks, equivalent to 1,800 barrels of fish.

Sydney, N.S.—It is reported that a new and modern machine shop is to be erected in Sydney shortly by the Dominion Steel Corporation. The most up-to-date machinery is to be installed, adequate to attending to all repairs required in the plant, coal mines or railway. This will mean additional industrial activity and a swelling volume of employment.

Quebec, Que.—The production of honey in the Province of Quebec has more than doubled in the last seven years. From 1,500,000 pounds in 1914 the annual output has grown to 3,800,-000 pounds in 1921. There were in the first year of the war only 3,200 farmers interested in the production of honey whilst to-day the number of producers is 6,300, according to the chief of the Honey Production Branch, Provincial Department of Agriculture.

Montreal, Que.—In the total volume of grain into Montreal port from May 1st to December 1st, the rail route exceeded the water route by eleven million bushels in the biggest grain year the port has ever experienced. According to the Montreal Board of Trade 64,559,360 bushels of grain arrived by lake boats as compared with 75,557,069 bushels by rail in the same period. The grand total of grain by boat and rail reached the enormous aggregate of 140,036,445 bushels of all grains, a volume in excess of all other Atlantic ports combined from Halifax to Philadelphia and Newport News, including the port of New York.

Ottawa, Ont.—Canada's potato crop for the past season amounted to 110-895,000 bushels, according to the Dominion Fruit Commissioner's November report. The total value of the potato crop to farmers was estimated at $85,677,000. In the yield per acre Ontario averaged 103½ bushels, as against 152 bushels last year; Quebec 162½, 185½; Nova Scotia 163¾, 203¾; New Brunswick 216¾, 198; Manitoba, 166½, 92½. Alberta and Saskatchewan also show increases.

Ottawa, Ont.—With an average bank savings per head of population in the vicinity of $170, Canada is said to lead the world in this respect. At the end of October 31, 1921, savings deposits amounted to $1 367,929,274.

Winnipeg, Man.—Within the past year 71 different enterprises were started in Winnipeg, aggregating an investment of $1,000,000. Among them were factories for the manufacture of linen, garden implements, cabinets, electric appliances, lamps, chemical products, radiators, wood carving, brooms, cigars and caps.

The Pas, Man.—Speckled trout, identical with those found in the Nipigon River, have been caught in the Kettle rapids on the Nelson River. This, it is expected, will have the effect of diverting some tourist traffic from Ontario to Northern Manitoba. The fish are said to be plentiful and of a good size

Regina, Sask.—It is reported that wheat receipts of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Co. for the past season total 22,000 000 bushels. This is 3,000,000 bushels more than last year at this time.

Regina, Sask.—The area sown to fall rye in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta this year is about 100 per cent. greater than the area sown last year. The figures for 1920 and 1921 are 236,155 and 544,483 respectively.

Edmonton, Alta.—The story of a pronounced disability disclosing itself as a valuable asset comes from the Smoky River country along the line of the Edmonton Dunvegan and British Columbia Railway. Engineers of the road had ceaseless trouble in maintaining the approach to the crossing of the river owing to the continual sliding of the clays of which the banks are composed. Now it appears, after examination, that these clays, of which there is an enormous quantity, are valuable for the manufacture of brick and tile drain, and may in time give birth to an industry, the traffic of which should compensate the railroad for some of the trouble it has experienced.

Calgary, Alta.—Calgary gardeners have demonstrated that the pessimistic prophets of twenty years ago were lacking in vision in respect to certain flowers, such as dahlias. The first dahlia show has just been held in the city and nearly 2,000 blooms were entered. Some of these were from six to eight inches in diameter and the hues were particularly vivid and gorgeous.

Vancouver, B.C.—Twelve lines of steamships are now passing through the Panama Canal regularly, carrying British Columbia produce to the Atlantic ports of the Americas and to the United Kingdom and European ports. Two-thirds of the prairie grain arriving at the Calgary elevators during the past week were for shipment via the port of Vancouver. During the whole of last season's grain shipping period, only 16,000 tons of grain passed through this port. Already this season 50 000 tons have been received and shipped from here.

Vancouver, B.C.—A timber limit at Chilliwack is reported sold for $600,-000 by Alex. McLaren, of Buckingham, Quebec, to Westminster Mills. The property has been held by the McLaren family for 32 years. McLaren still has extensive holdings on Vancouver Island. The deal is one of the biggest of the year.

"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."

Effect of Irish Free State on British Trade

A despatch from London says:—Lord Aberconway, one of the most prominent figures in the British shipbuilding and coal industries, says:

"The Irish Free State, even with an exceptionally low income tax, would not offer any attraction to British or foreign capital. The British income tax will sooner or later be lowered, while Southern Ireland will not be able to get along without a pretty high income tax. The Irish Free State will not have any adverse effect upon British trade."

Queen Mary's Card Bears Betrothed's Portraits

A despatch from London says:—A Christmas card of rather novel character was used by the Queen. Instead of taking the conventional form, the card is headed "The Royal Romance." Of buff-colored board, it contains portraits of Princess Mary and Viscount Lascelles, and below is attached a small calendar bearing the words, "With good wishes, 1922."

Armaments Race Ends.

On Thursday, December 15, 1921, the Race for Armaments came to an end. The greatest single aim of the Conference on the Limitations of Armament was reached when Balfour for Great Britain, Hughes for the United States and Kato for the Japanese Empire set their names to the text of the Three-Power Naval Agreement, fixing the naval ratio and the status of present and future fortifications in the Pacific.

There have been shiftings, compromises and concessions; but all these have been within the iron limitations of the great principles laid down in the name of the United States by Secretary Hughes on November 12. As it was set forth on that day, the 5-5-3 ratio stands. For so long as the world's three great naval Powers keep faith and their pledged word, naval forces will not be increased above the fixed tonnages that are set down in the Three-Power Agreement.

It is more far-reaching than that. Japan and Britain and the United States will stop pouring millions into the fortified islands and naval bases of the Pacific. Japan will not fortify Formosa against an attack from the Philippines. The United States will go no further with frowning Corregidor or at Cavite. Britain will halt where she is with her Hongkong and Kowloon areas of defence.

The bold outlines of the Hughes plan emerge intact from the grind and hammering of the conference. The 5-5-3 ratio is unshaken, although Japan saves her sentiment-financed Mutsu, built from the yen and sen scraped from the pockets of her poor. The United States keep the North Dakota and the Delaware; and England, to keep the three-Power balance true, may build two super-Hoods of a definitely limited tonnage.

The one place where the Hughes plan was dented and bent is in the provisio that for as many as three, and possibly for six years, England's navy yards may work upon the two new "Hoods." The U. S. yards may work for some months yet upon the 90 per cent. completed North Dakota and Delaware. Then the hammers will be stilled. As for Japan, it would appear that she has built the last capital ship she may build other than for agreed replacements.

The race has stopped. Building can go so far and no farther. The navies of to-morrow will be defensive navies; the sea bases of to-morrow will be defensive bases. The strong hand of world opinion has made tself felt and has halted the world's navies where they stood, will scrap sixty-eight capital ships and wipe from the ocean a total of 1,861,643 tons of fighting craft.

This is the world's greatest achievement for peace in all its long and crowded history. Let the pessimists croak and the prophets of evil find such consolation as they can. This thing has been done. The Conference has justified the great hopes and met the great issue that summoned it into being.

VISCOUNT MORLEY.

Veteran Home Ruler in the House of Lords, and twice Secretary for Ireland, who at the age of 83 moved in the House of Lords the adoption of the Irish Peace Treaty. It was his first appearance after seven years of silence.

French Doctors Sever Tie in Siamese Twins

A despatch from Paris says:—With the presentation this week to the Academy of Medicine by Dr. Le Filliatre of "Susanne," a healthy eight-year-old child, was produced living proof of a successful operation performed eight years ago to separate Siamese twins.

While Madeleine, the other twin, died following the operation, Dr. Le Filliatre explained that death was due, not to the severing of the connecting organ, but to a fatal malady.

The operation, which was performed three months after birth, was made extremely difficult by the presence of numerous blood vessels in the connecting tissue, and the fact that organs of the two infants were intertwined, the hepatic tissue joining the livers of each.

One Country Where U.S. Dollar Below Par

A despatch from Geneva says:—Switzerland is the only country in the world where the United States dollar to-day is below par. The dollar was quoted at five francs 12 centimes on the Geneva Bourse.

The normal rate before the war was five francs 15 centimes. The highest rate after the armistice was signed was five francs ninety-nine centimes.

The Search for Oil in Mackenzie District

"The open season of 1921 in the Mackenzie River oil fields has come and gone," writes Mr. F. H. Kitto of the Natural Resources Intelligence Branch of the Department of the Interior, who has spent the past two seasons in the Mackenzie District. With the cessation of activities, that were pushed with feverish haste during the short summer months of continuous daylight, comes an opportunity to review the progress and development that has been accomplished, and to weigh the situation in the light of additional knowledge gained.

On the whole, in general terms, an atmosphere of disappointment is evident. To the casual observer the field has proved below par and therefore a failure. Such snap verdicts are to be expected—in fact they cannot be avoided. The tendency to over-estimate and "boom" that was so rampant last winter and spring could not fail to produce a reaction. Whether or not the field will ultimately prove fruitful, the facts that its location is far distant from markets and that systems of transportation will be difficult and expensive to establish, prohibit an immediate return from any capital invested.

The usual army of cheap adventurers that gather on such occasions has been eliminated, and only the seasoned veterans or recruits with sufficient stamina and financial backing remain. The action of the Canadian Government in framing new regulations that will insure the development, and not the "wild-catting," of this resource and in authorizing the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to refuse right of entry to parties without material means of combating the severe elements and living conditions of the district, or of others of questionable intentions though raising a storm of protest at the time, is proving effective.

It now becomes evident to the thinking man that the returns from this source, if any, will be slow in appearing, and that the work of prospecting and developing will not be spectacular. There is, however, no reason to feel disappointed. There is no more excuse for a re-action now than there was for a boom last spring. The fact is, there never was any justification for jumping at conclusions of enormous returns. Only a beginning has been made and serious prospecting is hardly yet in full swing. The field has by no means been tested, and those in a position to hazard a sane forecast are exceedingly optimistic.

The summer has resulted in emphasizing two main features—the magnitude of the task of developing the oil resources, as already referred to, and the great possibilities, more within the reach of the man of limited capital, of discovering valuable deposits of placer gold, gold-bearing quartz and silver, lead, zinc, copper and iron ores. A large number of prospectors, attracted to the district by the publicity resulting from the discovery of oil, and finding themselves unable to participate in its development, have spread to the north, east and west in search of minerals offering quicker returns. Already several promising discoveries have been reported, and it is just possible that directly or indirectly the oil stampede may result in the opening up of one of the greatest mining areas of the north. Among these prospectors are found some of the most experienced men of the Klondike and other famous fields.

Interest, of course, focuses on the Imperial Oil Discovery Well, located at a point on the right bank of the Mackenzie River about 45 miles below Norman. Late last fall a gusher was reported to have been struck here at a depth of about 885 feet. Wild stories were circulated as to the tremendous volume of oil encountered. To be brief, as it now stands, this well remains the only one yet brought in, and in place of being a prolific gusher, is a rather insignificant little producer. However, it actually does produce and a very high grade of oil at that, though in limited quantities. It is reported that the Imperial Oil are installing at this well five storage tanks of 4,500 gallons capacity each, and a gasoline distillation plant with a capacity of from 150 to 200 gallons per day and are distilling gasoline for the local river trade. These figures may be exaggerated. True, the Imperial Oil have a small plant and some tanks, but perhaps not of this capacity. There is as yet neither the available oil to produce the quantity of gasoline mentioned nor the local demand for any such amount.

This company is now drilling on the opposite shore from Discovery Well, on Bear Island, in midstream, on a line between these points, and at a point near Bear rock, a few miles below Norman. A crew of drillers will winter there and continue operations as long as possible.

The Imperial Oil were drilling also last year at Windy Point, on the northwest shore of Great Slave Lake. The continuation of this well proved disappointing during the last summer. Salt water was encountered and later a granite formation was reached. Beyond this depth the prospects were considered worthless and the well was therefore abandoned.

The Fort Norman Oil Co., one of the newer concerns, showed a remarkable ability to speed up work, and on a location in the vicinity of Discovery Well drilled a hole to a depth of upwards of 1,500 feet. An unsuspected dip in the formation has been proved here, as Discovery is less than 900 feet deep. Indications of bringing in the well were reported good, but, owing to lack of casing operations, had to be suspended for another season.

This is about the extent of actual work done, though a few minor attempts might be recorded. Considerable staking was done along the Mackenzie River in the Norman field, as well as on both north and south shores of Great Slave Lake centreing on Windy Point, Pine Point and Hay River. Leases acquired under the terms of the old regulations were sold for as high as $35,000 and are still in demand though at reduced figures. New leases are almost going a-begging for purchasers.

Indications point to an active era of drilling during the season of 1922, by the Imperial Oil, who may have from five to eight rigs at work, and the Fort Norman Oil Co. These concerns should prove up the Norman field next year. A syndicate of Montreal men, who have secured extensive holdings on Hay River, a few miles above its mouth, on the south shore of Great Slave Lake, have stated their intentions of actively prospecting their ground during next season. There will possibly be a few other concerns represented, and more tangible results are hoped for inside the next twelve months.

Though another year is not likely to be ushered in by the excitement that marked 1921, it is not improbable that it may witness material advancement over anything yet accomplished. The public should not be surprised or stampeded at reports of fabulous discoveries, nor disappointed if new findings are not immediately forthcoming. It is generally conceded that even with the most gratifying successes development must of necessity be slow. It is also well to bear in mind that a scattered advance guard of silent men are searching out the secret hiding places of other minerals and may be heard from at unexpected places and times. An underlying tone of confidence in the future of this great district is expressed by those whose qualifications fit them to be the best judges.

THE UNOCCUPIED LANDS OF CANADA

Lists Available of Areas For Sale in Maritime and Prairie Provinces.

One of Canada's chief needs, in fact her most important requisite, is the increased use of the unoccupied lands, now held in private ownership.

Due to absent proprietors, or lack of information as to the conditions under which the property may be acquired by prospective settlers, the land continues in an unproductive condition, notwithstanding that much of it is more or less contiguous to railways.

With a view to bringing the owners of land and enquirers together, the Natural Resources Intelligence Branch of the Interior Department is compiling and publishing lists of such unoccupied lands in the several provinces. These lists give such information as name of owner and his address, location of the property, price and terms on which it can be acquired, quality of soil and area available for cultivation, distance from railway, etc. So far as possible the information has been secured from the owner or the agent for the property, with a view to maximum accuracy.

Lists of unoccupied lands have been issued for Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, and these lists may be had on application to the Natural Resources Intelligence Branch, Department of the Interior, Ottawa.

CONSTABULARY AND SINN FEIN IN FIGHT

Six Republicans Killed and Twenty Wounded While Battling With Police.

A despatch from Belfast says:—Six Republicans were reported killed and 20 wounded in a battle between Sinn Feiners and constabulary in the mountains of County Tyrone early on Wednesday morning.

Alleged Republicans Tuesday night made a raid near Limavady, County Londonderry, capturing 15 men and marching them off. Early Wednesday morning special constabulary from Tyrone, while scouring Sperrin Valley, came across a body of men with the captives. The police gave battle and chased the Republicans into the mountains, both sides firing as they ran.

It was during this engagement that the Republicains suffered their heavy losses. The captives were released and the police captured five Sinn Feiners during the fight.

A kindly feeling is the touch that never hurts.

REGLAR FELLERS—By Gene Byrnes