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L. O. L.—Markdale L.O.L. No. 1045 meets in the Orange Hall, Markdale, at 8 o'clock p.m. the first Thursday in each month. Visiting brethren cordially invited. A. E. Colgan, W.M.; Elgin McFadden, Rec.-Sec.

A. F. & A. M.—Hiram Lodge No. 490, G. R. C., Markdale, meets in the Masonic Hall, Reburn Block, at 8 o'clock p.m. the second Thursday in each month. T. Stewart, Cooper, W.M.; A. E. Colgan, Secretary.

R. B. K.—Victoria Preceptory No. 282 meets in the Orange Hall, Markdale, at 8 o'clock p.m. the third Thursday in each month. Visiting brethren always cordially welcomed. A. E. Colgan, W.P.; J. E. England, Registrar.

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OWEN SOUND

## News and Information for the Busy Farmer

Furnished by the Ontario Department of Agriculture

Hon. Thomas L. Kennedy and Dr. G. I. Christie made a trip last week to the States of the Central West for the purpose of visiting agricultural colleges in that area, as well as a number of Vocational Agricultural and Home Economics Schools. Ontario's problem in this regard is now before the minister and he is seeking some helpful information.

**Farm Underdrainage Profitable**  
It cannot be too often pointed out to the farming public that drainage is not only immensely beneficial to farm crops, but from a financial standpoint may be definitely profitable.

Quoting from Bulletin 360, a new publication put out by O. A. C., we find that "From a financial standpoint underdrainage can be considered as a long time investment—and unlike many other long time investments it will often pay dividends sufficient to return the original capital in two or three years." The benefits to be derived from underdrainage are enumerated in full in this bulletin which is exceptionally well illustrated. Full information is given on how to tile and how to construct outlets, tables for calculating the size and number of tile needed, and the cost of excavating being provided also.

The bulletin may be obtained by writing to the Publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Parliament buildings, Toronto.

#### Overseas Apple Market

Mr. Andrew Fulton, overseas representative of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, has returned to Toronto after spending seven months in the European markets. This closes his second season in his position. During the past winter and spring the proceeds of sales made by him amounted to \$210,000, which represents an increase of 300 per cent over last year's results. One of his chief objects is to create a cash market for Ontario apples. During the past season 15,000 barrels were sold in Europe and 50,000 or more could have been disposed of if they had been available. The cash prices set by the growers themselves were obtained in every instance. Future prospects are most promising, but there is need for definite steps to standardize the pack in order to assure buyers of a uniform quality.

Central packing houses and cold storage facilities, such as those in Norfolk County, will contribute greatly towards establishing Ontario grown apples in the European market. Fruit of uniformly high quality was sent overseas from the Norfolk plant during the past year and it commanded a premium of from 75c to \$1.50 a barrel over ordinary prices. The government supervised packing house at Newcastle also made a reputation for itself by the packing of straight lines of dependable quality.

#### Fertilizer on Potatoes

Seed potatoes of pure variety and free from disease are the first requisite to a good quality crop. The soil must be well-tilled and friable, well supplied with plant fibre or organic matter so that air circulation may be at its best and water-holding capacity at its highest. Pointing out that the crop must have a large supply of suitable plant food, O. A. C. officials refer to potato fertilizer tests conducted in 1930 which gave an average increase of 53 bushels per acre where an adequate amount of fertilizer was used, over parallel sections without fertilizers. The best results were obtained with 2-12-6 with manure or clover plowed under and 4-8-10 where there was not a supply of green or barnyard manure. The amounts used were about 725 pounds per acre. The average yield from 37 tests of 4-8-10 fertilizer was 249.5 bushels per acre, as compared with 178.2 bushels per acre from check plot, or a gain of 71.3 bushels per acre from fertilizing. With potatoes selling at \$1.00 a bag, the net gain, after deduction of fertilizer cost, was \$30.13 per acre. Growers are cautioned not to drop the seed pieces of potatoes immediately upon fertilizers, or the latter will rob the seed potatoes of their moisture and injure their vitality. Fertilizer should be mixed with soil before dropping potato seed pieces.

#### Marketing Board's Powers

Duties and powers of the newly-appointed Ontario Marketing Board, as defined in a special Act passed at the last legislative session, give an adequate picture of the aims and objects of the board. Firstly, it will make a general survey of agricultural conditions and keep a tabulation of all information obtained; it will collect information regarding soil, climate, etc. to aid in determining the adaptability of the various counties for any particular class of farming; it will make recommendations as to packing, marketing and transporting of any agricultural product and will seek the best marketing facilities for this purpose; it will diffuse information regarding the best methods for increasing produc-

tivity of soil and the production of any particular class of produce; it will encourage proper methods of manufacture, preparation and packing of dairy products for marketing in Ontario and elsewhere; and generally it will promote the interests of the agricultural industry in Ontario as deemed expedient. The Marketing Board is a new departure, instituted in accordance with the desire of departmental officials to improve marketing practice in the agricultural industry. Hon. T. L. Kennedy has frequently stressed the fact that marketing of Ontario farm produce is one of the big problems today and he hopes that this board will inaugurate a new era that will mean a tremendous saving to Ontario farmers.

#### Sow Alfalfa Seed

In their seeding program this year, dairy farmers particularly should not overlook the fact that there is a large supply of Ontario-grown alfalfa seed available and at the lowest prices of many years. A large part of the new seedling, therefore, can be made economically with alfalfa, while a few pounds of alfalfa seed per acre should be included in all seeding mixtures. The dry summer was responsible for failure of much of last year's new seedling and the outlook for a scarcity of good quality next winter. Seeding a few acres of alfalfa without a nurse crop will help to supply this deficiency.

#### Farm Loans

The recently issued report of the Agricultural Development Board showed that since the board was established in 1922 over \$35,000,000 has been loaned, upwards of \$6,000,000 has been paid back on capital, and the total amount outstanding at the end of the fiscal year was \$29,454,834. A big increase in the demands made for services of the board was noted in the fall of 1929 and has continued ever since. This was reflected in the report for the year ending October 31, 1930, which showed an increase of over two millions in the aggregate of loans granted. W. B. Roadhouse, chairman of the board, remarks that to some extent this reflects general economic conditions which have adversely affected agriculture, but that for the most part this is not new indebtedness, the bulk of it being made up of mortgages held previously by corporations or individuals. Further, over fifty per cent of the amount due was paid as due during the year, an evidence of the stability of Ontario agriculture even under the most trying conditions.

#### Attack Pasture Problems

Plans for extensive research on the pasture problems of Ontario were made at a conference of representatives of the various interested Departments of O. A. C. recently. The Deputy Minister of Agriculture attended and assisted in outlining the project. A committee of Departmental head, was appointed to make a preliminary survey of pasture conditions in the province. This party will start out shortly and will visit a number of sections throughout the province.

Research projects will cover different phases of the problem such as grasses, fertilization, best utilization and management, the control of weeds, the elimination of insect parasites, diseases, etc. A number of experiments on pastures are now under way at the College and in other parts of the province. These will be supplemented and new phases of the work will be undertaken. It will be readily seen therefore, that every effort is being made to secure the best and most profitable development of the pasture lands of Ontario.

#### Miss Macphail's Letter

The enormity of the offence of the eleven members who refused to vote was blazoned in the daily press from coast to coast but not their complete vindication which came later. The debate in the house on Mr. Henri Bourassa's motion "Upon division a member is not obliged to vote," proved beyond shadow of a doubt that the eleven members were keeping the rules. The speaker's ruling was incorrect. When the Prime Minister stated that unless the members voted he could ask the Sergeant-at-Arms to tap them on the shoulder and escort them from the House, he was wrong.

In 1906 the British House of Commons revised its Standing Orders and adopted the following rule:—"A member is not obliged to vote."

In 1927 the Canadian rules were revised adopting Standing Order No. 1 which states: "In all cases not provided for hereinafter or by Sessional or other Orders, the usages and customs of the House of Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as in force at the time, shall be followed so far as they are applicable to this House." This matter of voting is one not provided for by sessional or other orders. The Rt. Hon. Rodolph Lemieux was right when he ruled twice in the last Parliament that a member could sit in while the vote was taken and not vote. The Rt. Hon. Mr. Bennett speak-

ing after Mr. Bourassa moved that the word "not" should be struck out of the motion then to read, "upon a division a member is obliged to vote." This stirred resentment in his own ranks. It disturbed the time-honoured customs of pairs. If one member is away he can arrange for a pair in the House—the pair does not vote, though he sits in while the vote is taken. Mr. Bennett did not push his amendment. In his speech he mentioned that the British system of voting was much more rapid than ours and held out some hope for a change from our long, tedious system of calling the members one by one to the British system of the members filing into the "Aye" and "Nay" Lobbies, through a turnstile, being counted by the tellers as they do so. The press gave prominence to this feature only. Nothing was said about the Speaker's mistake.

A resolution introduced by a Manitoba doctor, favouring a measure of state medicine, provoked an interesting discussion. He took the stand that "Canada's health is essentially Canada's wealth." Much has been done to prevent epidemics of smallpox, cholera, diphtheria and typhoid fever. Other diseases had been lessened but much yet remained to be done. Many ill people could not afford to be made well. Other members in supporting Dr. Howden gave the cost of sickness in Canada at \$311,000,000 a year, 93 per cent of which was borne by the individual.

During the period of the Military Service Act there were 465,000 voluntary enlistments; of these 45,000 were stricken off the rolls as medically unfit and of the balance, Sir Arthur Currie stated, one hundred thousand went overseas who were physically unfit for service at a cost to the country of \$150,000,000. The numbers of mothers who died in child-birth in 1926 was given at 1,314. The high death rate of children was commented upon. The Hon. Murray MacLaren, Minister of Health, said he believed that the people of Canada were beginning to accept the idea that we should have some plan of state medicine. The Conservative member for Selkirk, J. H. Stitt, stated that the newer sections of Canada were especially in need of an extension of medical service. "At the beginning of my campaign I learned that in certain parts of the riding, all the children were born without the attention of a doctor or mid-wife. As a consequence, infant and maternal mortality is simply appalling." A pamphlet of the Canadian Social Hygiene Council was quoted from to the effect that half of all disabling illness could be prevented. The resolution was defeated.

Unemployment insurance was given some prominence. A plan by which the workers, the industry employing them and the state, contribute, is regarded favourably in some sections of the house. But in a time of unemployment the workers cannot contribute. Considerable time was devoted to reviewing further agricultural conditions, particularly in the West and exception was taken of the statement made by the Prime Minister in the house.

Public works estimates have occupied a good deal of time. The debate on these estimates is usually lengthy and uninteresting to the house as a whole. Only one individual in the house knows intimately each locality. It is impossible for the whole house to know whether the Post Office Rimouski is extravagantly large or whether \$5,500 is enough to complete the building in Sturgeon Falls. Mr. Beaubien, the Liberal member for Provencher, Manitoba, took two hours in the house in an endeavour to extract from the Minister of Public Works the \$10,000 necessary to build a Post Office in the leading town in his constituency, which office does a yearly business of \$1300. A member with a bent for figures estimates that for the approximately \$400,000 yearly expenditure 50 years would be required to pass the estimates, working in the Commons a six-hour day, a five-day week, with no holidays, if every \$10,000 required as much discussion as Mr. Beaubien's.

A group of thirteen students and their professor, Charles W. Lightbody of St. Lawrence University, New York state, visited the Parliament of Canada for two days this week. Professor Lightbody came from Saskatchewan and is a Rhodes Scholar. I had the pleasure of having lunch with the group in the Parliamentary restaurant. They were studying the history and the government of Canada and believed that a visit to the capital city would assist them. Among the students was the son of Owen D. Young, the author of the Young Plan. We had an hour's discussion in my office after the lunch. It was a stimulating experience.

India has been very much in the eyes of the Empire recently. Canadians are particularly interested in their struggle for self-government within the empire since our own dominion has been a pioneer in that field. Then too, we are following our much-liked Viscount Willingdon as he goes there to take over the arduous duties of Governor-General. In an endeavour to understand the mind of the two leading Indians,

Rabindranath Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi, I have been reading "Letters to a Friend" by Tagore, written to his friend C. F. Andrews; and Mahatma Gandhi's own story, abbreviated by Andrews. It is fortunate that the closest friend these two great Indians have, at any rate outside their own ranks, is this Englishman, Andrews. Tagore is first of all a poet, but he is also an educator. All his letters show his deep interest in the school which he founded near Calcutta. His love for India and things Indian is great. He suffers with his humiliated countrymen, but so universal a soul could not stop with the borders of his own country and his spirit reaches out over the whole world in understanding and sympathy. Yet, great soul that he is, he gets lonely away from home and he has many reactions common to the rest of us. To try to raise funds for his school, which he hopes will be international, and will also stress the things of the spirit rather than those of the material world or even of the mind, he made a trip to the United States. On a day of a great national festival, he is lonely for India, and in his letter to Andrews he says he is trying to console himself that something big and great is going to be the outcome of his effort. "But deep in my heart I know that simplicity of life and endeavour makes for real happiness. When we realise in some measure our ideal of perfection in our work it matters very little what its dimensions are." It is a comforting thought.

On one occasion the poet was chiding himself for leaving his home to go far across the sea. He should have been content with love, the love of his fellow-countrymen, but he commented, "the mischief is that ambition does not fully believe in love, it believes in power. It leaves the limpid and singing water of everlasting life for the wine of success." I like his description of New York—"All about me is a desert of crowds, the monotony of the multitude. Man is drowned in his own deluge." He believes that materialism has prevented western people from reaching happiness. "These Western people have made their money but killed their poetry of life. Wealth can only multiply itself and attain nothing." Though his land had suffered at the hands of what he calls the English nation, he has kind things to say about Englishmen. "A land should be judged by its best products, and I have no hesitation in saying that the best Englishmen are the best specimens of humanity in the world." "With all our grievances against the English nation, I cannot help loving your country, which has given me some of my dearest friends. I am intensely glad of this fact, for it is hateful to hate." Tagore's sympathy was with Mahatma Gandhi in his spiritual appeal against force and his passionate devotion to the service of the poor.

Agnes C. Macphail.

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### COURT OF REVISION

Township of Euphrasia

Having adopted the Assessment of 1930 for the Township of Euphrasia as the assessment for 1931 a Court of Revision will be held at the township hall, Rocklyn, on Friday, May

8th, 1931, commencing at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, when the necessary changes and adjustments will be made. Those interested are asked to attend or to notify the Clerk or any member of council of necessary changes in the roll.  
N. L. Curry, Clerk.

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