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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. Wm. Johnston, W.M.; Elgin McFadden, Rec.-Sec.

A. F. & A. M.—Hiram Lodge No. 490, G. R. C., Markdale, meets in the Masonic Hall, Return Block, at 8 o'clock p.m. the second Thursday in each month. Visiting brethren cordially invited. Chester Rodman, W.M.; A. E. Colgan, Secretary.

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**News and Information for the Busy Farmer**

Furnished by the Ontario Department of Agriculture

Cow testing is very important. Not all cows that give milk are profitable. The only way to make sure of these unprofitable cows is by the systematic use of the milk scales and the Babcock test.

Only land that will respond to should be cultivated at all. There are many thousands of acres in Ontario that will not produce farm crops profitably and should be reforested without further waste of time and energy. Every farmer can secure this year any number of trees for reforestation purposes by applying to the Forestry Branch at Toronto. Application forms are available at your local agricultural office.

**Soil Must be Right For Use in Hot-Beds**

"The soil used in hot-beds should be the best for the purpose that it is possible to obtain," states an official of the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. The success or failure of a highly prized crop may depend to a very large degree upon the attention given to the proper preparation of the soil. Soils that are too fine in texture will not drain properly, and such a soil, while it may be amply rich in plant food, may lack only the addition of a little sand to make it satisfactory. On the other hand, a deficiency of humus will have a tendency to allow the soil to compact, which is likely to prevent even root development, and also does not permit of a proper distribution of moisture through the soil.

**Sow Clean Seed**

A recent survey shows that weeds were responsible for a total loss of between 150 and 200 million dollars in Canada last year. The direct loss in crop actually displaced or killed out by weeds was over one hundred millions, while the remainder was made up of freight charges for carrying weed seeds along with grain, clover and other crops, loss of moisture, depreciation of farm value due to weeds and the increase in cultivation necessary where these soil robbers were present. To mitigate this loss, the land must be cleaned up. Careful pre-seeding cultivation will clean up ordinary fields, while partial summer fallow and the sowing of smother crops like buckwheat, rape and turnips are recommended for very bad patches of such tenacious weeds as twine and sow thistle. A clean seed bed, plus clean clover seed and clean seed grain of a high standard of purity and germination, will give a big increase in yield over the other kind at practically no more cost. Only clean, plump, vigorous seed, tested and approved by Government authorities, should be used.

**Barley For Horses**

Barley can be economically used for feeding horses in grain mixtures up to 25 per cent. It gives best results with horses at work and the inclusion of bran or a feed of alfalfa, or alfalfa and timothy hay, will prevent any of the undesirable results attributed to this grain. When well boiled, with the unabsorbed liquid taken up with bran, with the addition of a cup or so of molasses and a pinch of common salt, or a tablespoon of Glauber's Salts, barley forms one of the best conditioning feeds for a horse, fed two or three nights weekly, or even each night for a period.

**Ontario Farm Statistics**

A considerable decrease in the number of horses and cattle on Ontario farms and an increase in the number of sheep and poultry featured the farm statistics just released in connection with the 1931 census. The following comparisons between 1931 and 1921 are given:

	1931	1921
Horses	578,333	669,048
Mules	411	119
Cattle	2,487,824	2,633,562
Sheep	1,035,158	978,892
Poultry	1,379,943	1,386,081
Bees, Hives	23,587,885	16,503,697
	113,476	84,571

**Woodlands Important**

Scattered woodlands through the countryside besides supplying the owner with cheap fuel and logs help the general living conditions of the owner and his neighbors. They help to control the flood danger and act as reservoirs that augment the water which appears as open springs or flows as underground streams that are tapped by the wells. They are effective windbreaks and beautify the countryside.

Provision should be made for the replacement of the old trees which will eventually be cut or die of old age. If it is decided to keep a field in bush. This may be done by natural reproduction or by planting. Many woodlots have no natural production because they are pastured. The stock browse the seedlings each year as they germinate, break and mutilate the saplings, pack the

soil and injure the roots of the large trees. Continued pasturing means the gradual depreciation and the eventual disappearance of the woodlot.

A new crop of seedlings will be appearing this spring and will be destroyed, as in former years, if a fence does not keep the stock out.

The fence may be fastened to the trees by first nailing a wooden strip to the tree and attaching the wire to the strip. If shade is desired in the pasture field, some of the trees may be left there.

If the woodlot is very open and the owner does not wish to wait for natural reproduction, or the trees now on the woodlot are not desired in the future crop, he may secure trees free from the Ontario Forestry Branch. Apply to the local Agricultural Representative or the Forestry Branch, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, for tree application forms and literature.

**Trim the Raspberries**

Trimming of berry bushes is a very important task. In the early spring the canes of red raspberries should be cut back a little at the tops. Some of the canes have branches and these should be cut back to a length of almost ten inches. The thick canes bear the most fruit. Thin out the canes in the hedgerow so that they will stand about six inches apart. If the plants are left in hills, leave about eight canes to a hill. In the case of black raspberries, the stand of canes in the hills had best be left undisturbed, but they should be cut back more severely than reds.

**Women's Institute as an Educator**

Twelve hundred Women's Institutes in the province usually give some consideration, during March and April, to formulating a program for next year. The Institute year ends in April, and the educational program for the following twelve months is usually completed in May or early in June, printed copies being placed in the hands of the members. The general practice is to have an address, paper, or demonstration of real practical value to the housewife, at each meeting. Most branches aim to have something to see, or something to do, for all concerned at these gatherings. The following is a good example of one such meeting:

**Motto—The Doors of Opportunity are Marked "Push and Pull."**

Roll call—"A Canadian Product, Where Found and How Used."  
Canadian Vegetables—Their Food Values.  
Canadian Vegetables—Ways to Serve.  
Canadian Apples versus Imported Fruit.  
Discussion and Recipes.  
Paper—"Famous Canadian Women."

**Two Humorous Recitations.**

Community Singing.  
Social half-hours with afternoon tea at the close.  
The opportunity to hear from women of experience of methods which have proven effective, and to take in the discussions, have added materially to the efficiency of country women in the housing, clothing and nutrition of the family.

Where the Department of Agriculture supplements the efforts of local groups with literature on foods, health, etc., and provides instructors for Short Courses, it will readily be seen that the Institutes are of real educational value to the rural women and girls.

**Miss Macphail's Letter**

The 'blank cheque' bill has at last been given a new lease of life. The authority conferred on the cabinet by parliament last session giving it absolute powers to deal with unemployment and farm relief and to maintain peace, order and good government, terminated on the 1st of March. The government was asking for an extension of this power until the 1st of May and now at last, after a strenuous opposition, the government has won its point. The whole conflict has been over a question of procedure—whether, with parliament in session, the power of parliament should be vested in the cabinet. Just when the debate was coming to an end the closure was moved and this appeared to have the effect of prolonging the debate.

The closure of course carried and then came votes on the first, second and third readings of the bill. When the bill was in the committee stage, closure was again moved. It was the first time I have ever seen a closure applied in committee. Everybody is glad to be rid of the same wearisome subject week after week and the members are looking forward to the budget pronouncement on Tuesday, April 5th.

Before it was known that the Easter recess would be so brief, I had promised to go to Niagara Falls to assist a business women's organization to raise funds for charitable purposes by speaking at a public meeting. When I knew the House would be sitting on the day chosen, the advertising for the meeting in Niagara Falls was out. It seemed a shame to put them to an expense

that they could not afford and so I kept my appointment with them and missed the vote on the closure, which I very much regretted. The meeting in Niagara was successful from the point of view of the promoters. Five hundred people attended the meeting which was held in the ballroom of the beautiful hotel, "General Brock." I was the guest, during my brief stay, of Mr. and Mrs. Griffiths. Mr. Griffiths was born in Flesherton but left there when four years of age. Their apartment in the General Brock looked out over the falls.

Speaking of missing votes, I hear I am accused of deliberately withholding the vote on the ten per cent. cut on salaries. That vote came early in the day on which the Prime Minister entertained us to lunch to meet the Rt. Hon. Winston Spencer Churchill. I was the only woman present and the gathering was a very large one, including members of parliament, senators and press men.

The Minister had treated his guests to very excellent cigars and while the odour of one good cigar may be pleasant, the same can scarcely be said of hundreds being smoked at the same time in a crowded room. While I am usually indifferent to cigar smoke, it on this occasion gave me a severe headache. The luncheon came to an end just at three o'clock and I decided to go for a walk, hoping the fresh air would clear the headache. I was gone exactly thirty minutes and when I came back the vote was over. There had been no indication that it would be first thing on after the Orders of the Day. However I had said I would vote in favour of the ten per cent. reduction, and since the government has a majority of thirty, the fate of the measure was not affected by my absence.

I am grateful to an editorial writer on the staff of a Toronto daily paper who pointed out that in discussing the common stock held by the Canadian life insurance companies I had written, "Of the common stocks held by all Canadian life companies, the North American and Sun Life are said to hold over 95 per cent." and that such a statement is misleading. The two insurance companies should not have been associated in such a statement. While the Sun Life has enormous investments in common stock, the North American Company has only 5.83 per cent. of its total assets invested in common stock, and if bank loan, Trust Company and consumers Gas Stocks, are excluded, the remaining common stock holdings of the North American Assurance Company represent less than one half of one per cent. of its total assets. I would be very sorry to have unintentionally done injury to the North American Life Assurance Company.

Since Easter recess for the schools of Ontario was much longer than the Parliamentary recess, it gave several members the opportunity of bringing their children to Ottawa and the children, whether small or big, are enjoying the experience. Two joyful little visitors are the son and daughter of Mr. Victor Porteous, M.P.

It has been a dull week but we are hoping that with spring and the budget things will liven up.

Agnes C. Macphail.

**Slats' Diary**

Friday—They was a tramp cum to the dore today and ast pa wood he-give him a Nickel for a sandwich but pa told him he sed. I dont care for a sandwich now I just got threw eating my Dinner so I do not care for no sandwiches.

Saturday—Mr. Stark ast me wood I hall in his coal from the st. to the seller for 2 Bits. They was about 4 tuns of it by the way it looked.

So I sed to him. I wood like to have the Job but they are so menny married men unempoyed now that I wood feel like a Skunk if I shud take suchy Job away from them.

Sunday—I et to peaces of dsivils fud cake after dinner today and Ant Emmy told me they was just more nales in my Coffing and I sed to her Well Ant Emmy how wood you like to drive a cuple more nales in my coffing. But I gess she diddent understand me. at lease she diddent do so.

Munday—Thelma Crude was here today witch has just married a fella and ma accused her of marrying her husband just becuz he was so good looking but Thelma sed. I diddent marry him just becuz he was good looking, he can also play the Saxafone wondrousfully.

Tuesday—Ant Emmy was a reading about the strike in the cold mines down in Pennsylvania an she sed she diddent blame the men for striking if they wood have been them.

Wednesday—Ma leckured Meose Taylor about providing for the future while he was cleaning up are yd. today and when he left he stole a \$ Bill from out of ma's Pocket book and went right down and put it into the Bilding & Lonz. I gess he nose how to take Advise.

men who owns the Cold mines dont try to hire sofe of the Asia Miners we read so much about.

Wensday—Ma had a letter from her sister which sed Unkel Nate had gone to his ever lasting rest. she thinks he is dead but pa told me he shot mebbey he had at last landed that partille Job he has ben after

for so long.

**Barred Rock Day Old Chicks**  
from Blood Tested Hens  
Eggs—weighing over 24 ounces per dozen—are supplied by an Ontario Breeding Station Flock which is under the supervision of the Poultry Dept., O. A. C., Guelph.  
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The Markdale Standard and The Farmers' Sun	\$3.00
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**The Markdale Standard**  
Markdale, Ontario

**CHAMPIONS TWO YEARS RUNNING**



This is the story of a great comeback, a long uphill battle and a final smashing victory that clinched a title for the second year in succession. Canadian Pacific Railway hockey team won the Railway-Telephone League championship in 1931, but this season it looked like a washout at the start for the title holders went down to defeat in the first three games and fans of little faith were predicting the cellar position. Then the comeback started. Little by little the team fought its

way upward, until it ended top of the heap. It was hard work, uphill work, but they never faltered until they were top of the league. As the leaders, they had the bye and the second and third teams fought it out for the right to meet them. Canadian Nationals came through against Bell Telephone and the play-offs were on, two games with goals to count. The first game was a one-goal each tie. The second and decider was Canadian Pacific all the way, with a four-to nothing victory and five

goals to one on the round. Thirteen thousand roaring fans cheered them on to the victory, the largest crowd at an amateur game, ever gathered together at the Forum, Montreal.

The lay-out shows the team and officials. Back row left to right, E. Moore, (president C.P.R. Recreation Club); Front Row—R. Boulanger; W. B. Pillage, (assistant coach) and S. T. Hallas. Inset, E. W. Beatty, chairman and president, Canadian Pacific Railway.