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**News and Information for
the Busy Farmer**

Furnished by the
Ontario Department of Agriculture

Clipping the horse that has a heavy coat makes work easier for both horse and attendant. Grooming is not always as thorough as it might be even with a clipped horse to say nothing about the one with a long, heavy covering of hair.

Too big a rush the first day of seeding may break the heart of the young horse that is unaccustomed to work. Even the mature horse that has been idle all winter feels the strain of the first few days on the soft ground. Bring them to a full day's work gradually.

School Fairs
School Fairs are being continued throughout Ontario by the Ontario Department of Agriculture. This spring, however, the pupils of the rural schools will not receive seeds as they have formerly and special judges will not be provided, but the Department expects School Fairs to be carried on much the same as in the past. The Agricultural Representatives, therefore, will require the co-operation of various people to assist in planning any necessary changes and to assist with the judging at School Fairs.

Plant Raspberries Early
When starting a raspberry patch or plantation the planting should take place very early in the spring, before the canes have budded out. This enables the plants to go forward without much shock. It is important that the soil be carefully prepared and well fertilized if one is to secure abundant crops.

Two general systems of planting are equally popular. With the bill system the plants are set about four feet apart each way, while if the hedge row system is used the distance between the rows should be about six feet, in order to provide plenty of room for cultivation. If the plantation is of considerable size, the best method to adopt is to run a furrow and set the plants in this. For a small plantation the hills may be opened with a spade with equal success.

As a rule there is greater danger of shallow planting than of setting the plants too deep. The crown should be at least four inches lower than the level of the ground in such a manner that the row of plants is in a depression. Cultivation later on will level up the soil. In setting the plants the earth should be tramped firmly above the roots so as to ensure proper contact between the soil and the small roots.

Farm Horses Come Back
The present low price of oats and other feeds in contrast with the higher costs of gas and oil required in tractor operation combine to indicate that the horse is rapidly regaining favour as a medium of farm power. The next few years will likely see a revival in horse breeding and the use of heavy draft horses on the farms of Canada, both east and west. Under present conditions horses can be bred and reared cheaply and when they have reached working age, the charges for depreciation, fuel and repairs are surprisingly low, for the self-oiling engine has nothing whatever on the self-repairing heavy draft horses.

How to Use Fertilizers
Experience shows that fertilizer broadcast on top of the soil will not give nearly as good results as will the same fertilizer drilled into the soil. The exact placing of fertilizers must be determined for each general type of soil. Fertilizer drilled into the soil for grains gives better results than an equal quantity of the same fertilizer broadcast and worked into the soil. For grain, the tube application, as accomplished by the ordinary grain drill fertilizer equipment, gives satisfactory application up to 400 lbs. an acre. For potatoes fertilizer should be sown on either side of the seed pieces, neither above nor below them. For turnips and mangels grown on the drill, broadcast the fertilizer on the land just before drilling it up. For beans and peas, special care should be taken to prevent seed and fertilizer coming together. Two very important points in fertilizing all crops are: 1. Get the fertilizer down into the damp soil. 2. Don't let much of it come in contact with the seed or seed piece.

Current Crop Report
Perth County shipped a carload of purebred Holstein cows to the U.S.A. recently, selling around the \$100 mark. A Grain Club in Oats has been organized for the Junior Farmers of Perth and has a membership of 72. Preparations in Kent and Norfolk Counties indicate that the tobacco acreage this year will be about on a par with that of 1931. Alliston branch of the Central Ontario Potato Growers' Ass'n marketed a quantity of Canada Fancy potatoes recently. These are being put up in 15-pound bags and are retailing in Toronto at 18 cents each which nets the growers about 45c per 90 pounds.

A report from Temiskaming district states that approximately 200

herds of cattle have been tested for T.B. during the past winter with less than 1 per cent. reacting. Farmers in Wellington County are worried about their seed oats and many will use seed oats from the 1930 crop, which is most unusual. A similar scarcity is reported in other counties too.

There appears to be a more general interest in the sowing of registered seed and the growing of registered grain this year than ever before. Down in Renfrew County last year they had the largest number of registered seed growers on record and the number will likely be increased in 1932. Most of the seed-cleaning plants have been running steadily for some time and one or two of the plants running nights to keep up with the demand for cleaning.

Improving the Appearance and Value of Farms by Planting
A farmer can improve the appearance and increase the value of his farm in 10 to 20 years by spending a few days in the spring planting trees and shrubs around the farm buildings. A cash outlay is not necessary, as he may procure native trees and shrubs in neighboring woods and along the fence-rows. The trees should be placed to give a setting for the buildings, rather than hiding them. Their ultimate size should be kept in mind in order that they will be spaced properly, and will not be too close to the buildings.

As the root hairs that take up food from the soil are at the end of the roots, care should be taken to preserve as many of these root hairs as possible. When moving trees in dry weather, the roots should be protected by wet burlap or blankets.

In planting, the hole should be sufficiently large to take the roots without cramping. Rich loam should be well worked in around the roots. Some of the branches should be removed to offset the loss of roots, and in pruning, the final desired shape of the tree should be kept in mind, such as the distance the lowest branch should be from the ground.

The white elm, sugar maple, red maple, red oak, white ash, and white oak are fine trees for planting in all parts of Southern Ontario. The soft or silver maple should not be planted extensively as it has very brittle wood which breaks badly when exposed to heavy winds and ice storms.

The native sumach and dogwood make attractive shrubs for planting around the grounds. Early spring is the best time to plant trees in Ontario. Chances of success will be lessened greatly if left until late spring, as growth will be quite active and the moving will be a greater shock to the tree.

Miss Macphail's Letter

The budget debate is dragging along until Tuesday. The Whips have agreed that the division will come on that day. As is usual, the debate has been longer than was anticipated, but the debate on the budget provides an excellent opportunity for the members to discuss some particular grievance that cannot be brought up at any other time. After the first few days the debate commands a slim house; the members who have made their speech can do nothing more in the house except listen until the vote takes place and many of them seize this opportunity to attend to work outside the Capital city, either personal or public.

I was given the opportunity of addressing a distinguished group of the citizens of Detroit. The women lawyers of that city entertained the judges, of whom all except one are men, at dinner at the Dearborn Inn, just opposite the Ford Airport. Since it was suggested that I speak on any subject I wished, I thought it worth while to make use of the opportunity offered to discuss present economic conditions and more particularly finance and trade obstructions. They were a delightful group of people, so generous and friendly; at the head table they had placed more Britishers than Americans and the Canadian flag was given as prominent a place as their own.

During dinner I had the opportunity of visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Hughes-Hallett. Mr. Hallett is the British Consul in Detroit. To my surprise I found that while Canada has a Minister Plenipotentiary in Washington, in the person of the Hon. W. D. Herridge and Trade Commissioners scattered over the whole of the United States, much of the Canadian work falls to the lot of the British Consuls placed in the different centres. Our Trade Commissioner deals with matters of trade only and the many tangles over immigration regulations, liquor laws, etc., are for the most part, solved by the Consul. It would seem that our Trade Commissioners should be given the authority of consuls and their scope would then be enlarged to include all Canadian-American disputes localized in their particular centre.

A marked change has taken place in the mental attitude of the American people; they are beginning to realize that they cannot isolate themselves from the rest of the world as successfully as they once thought they could. They see, too,

that the huge debts which Europe owes them were lines of credit established by these European countries in the United States to enable them to buy American goods. These goods were then selling at high prices and by asking them to pay back now as much as they borrowed in the days of booming prosperity, means actually that they would be paying back two and three times as much, since money now buys much more than it did in war times. They also see that the European countries concerned can only secure gold by trading goods which they have for gold, and since the gold countries (France and United States) will not exchange goods for gold, it is quite impossible for the debtor countries to pay the United States in gold and since the United States will not accept payment in goods, the debt, under the circumstances, cannot be paid. Many who a few years ago swore by tariffs, are doubtful about their power to bring prosperity and others have gone completely against them.

General conditions in Detroit are very bad. Three large businesses went into the hands of the receiver the day of my visit (though not on that account). It was rumoured too that Mr. Ford was withdrawing his new eight cylinder car from the market; I could not learn why, but the short time that it was on had had the effect; I was told, of slowing down very considerably the work of General Motors. I walked through downtown parks, or squares and saw hundreds of idle and poorly dressed men sitting in the sun.

On my way back from Detroit to Ottawa I stayed over part of a day in Toronto and acted as chairman for the Maurice Hindus lecture in Massey Hall. I discharged my duties as chairman so badly that I wasted half the night thinking about it instead of sleeping. Maurice Hindus is possibly the greatest authority on Russia on this continent. Born in the great plains of Russia, Hindus came to United States when a lad of ten. He was educated in American schools, graduated from Colgate college and afterwards took post-graduate work at Harvard. He obtained his degree of Doctor of Literature. It was natural that the great revolution of Russia should interest him tremendously; he has made twelve trips to Russia since the revolution and is now preparing to go again. He has approached his study of that great country scientifically. He told his audience that he tried not to allow personal discomfort which he of course had to suffer, to influence in any way his view of the great experiment in social reconstruction. "If I could not get a hotel to sleep in, I slept in a barn and if there was no barn, I slept on good mother earth, and it troubled me not at all," said Mr. Hindus.

Anyone who had read his three books, "Broken Earth," "Humanity Uprooted" and "Red Bread" did not from the lecture get much new material; some, it is true, but they profited greatly by coming in contact with the vivid personality of Maurice Hindus. He is young, energetic, sincere and intensely interested in his subject; then too, the spoken word is always more revealing; it is alive, vital. The spirit of the speaker reaches the hearer as it cannot the reader. Mr. Hindus sketched the revolution from its beginning. The group of highly trained tacticians who had a plan for social reconstruction; the peasants with their great land hunger, were the two determining factors in the revolution. In 1917 the peasants seized the land and the tacticians began to work their plan. During the revolution the landlords had been driven out or killed off; almost no one was left on the land who could, or did, farm expertly. The quantity of agricultural produce fell off and the need for food in the cities increased. The Soviet government sought to meet this need by the taking of food stuffs and the creating of great collective farms and the peasant struck back by burying his wheat in the ground, using as much of his own product as he possibly could and killing great quantities of livestock. The Soviet government then, according to Mr. Hindus, removed the element of force, said to the peasants "only come into the collective farming scheme if you wish. We will not take your product. Do not kill your livestock," and from then on, while the peasant was induced in every possible way to go in for co-operative or collective farming, he was not forced to. Gradually however, the peasant gave up private ownership in the land until today 70 per cent of agriculture has been collectivized. In Mr. Hindus' opinion the Russian revolution would have followed almost exactly in the steps of the French revolution if the peasants had become deeply rooted in their own land. The French peasant is one of the most conservative men on the earth and he is a political force which all French governments must reckon with. The Russian peasant, according to the speaker, is becoming less and less, rather than more and more, conservative. It is a tragedy for the older people on the land who can never fit themselves into the new ways, but the young people like the new method.

The Russians are an undisciplined people; they dislike going to work at a certain time; they know almost nothing twelve years ago about machines or machinery, consequently they have mishandled many of their fine machines and have been in many cases unable to operate a factory after it was built and ready for operation, but year by year they are learning to do these new things. They are throwing a terrific amount of energy and determination into the task; they are doing without a great many things. Maurice Hindus does not believe that this generation of Russians will attain a comfortable standard of living, but he does believe that their children and their children's children will. Orthodox religion is dying out, but the family, he said, was enduring and in the country divorces were few though in the cities there were many. This was the second lecture Mr. Hindus has made in Toronto this year.

It is now rumoured that parliament will adjourn within two weeks time. This is only made possible by the shelving of the Radio Commission's report and the report of the Royal Commission on the railroads and transportation until the Fall session. It is thought that the 1933 session will meet for a month or two before Christmas, then carry on again after the holiday is over. I think a great deal is lost by not acting on the reports of commissions during the session in which they are brought down. The members of the committee are "up on their toes" on the subjects they have been investigating; the house is soon made familiar with the subject by those who are experts and desirable action seems to me more likely to result. Two other committees have been sitting steadily, the one investigating the conduct of three senators, W. L. MacDougald, Andrew Haydon and Donat Raymond in connection with Beauharnois scandal. This committee has brought down a majority report in which it names these three Senators and says that their "actions were not fitting or consistent with their duties and standing as Senators of Canada." The other committee mentioned above had been examining into some of the appointments made by the Civil Service Commission, and two of the commissioners particularly have been subjected to a grilling examination.

No really new matter was introduced in the budget debate this week. Mr. G. G. Coote of MacLeod, Alberta, in his speech said that the depression was due to a collapse of the price of commodities, particularly basic commodities; that this collapse of prices was caused by the shortage of gold, which was really due to the gold standard. "Prices are the ratio of gold to commodities when gold is scarce, the price of gold rises and commodity prices fall. The gold standard depressed prices to the point where England, the mother of the gold standard, was forced to abandon her child. Canada being on a gold standard has suffered the full force of this world deflation, although it was inaugurated principally in France and United States." Mr. Coote said that the Canadian Prime Minister who was acting as Minister of Finance at the time Great Britain went off the gold standard should have followed her lead. Canada should, he said, have been one of what is termed the block of sterling countries, Britain, Sweden, Norway and Denmark and a few others. If our money was on the same level of value as British money we would be getting 60 cents more on every 2's worth of goods sold in Britain and for some months we would have received \$1 more on every \$1. The pound sterling sells for \$6 in Australian money and for only \$4.18 here. It is clear then that Australia can sell for less on a British market

and still have more in their own currency.

Agnes C. Macphail

A Bankrupt Railway

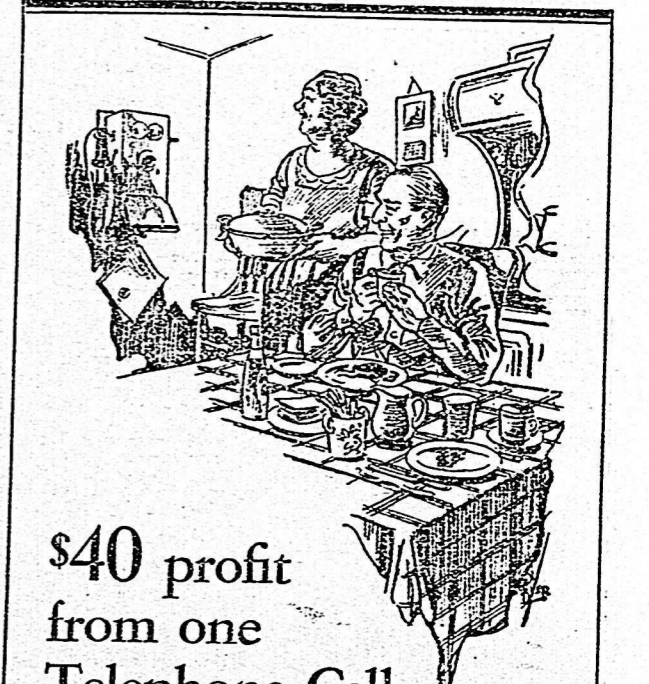
It was stated in Parliament last week that the Canadian National Railway is bankrupt and that the country is paying \$125,000 weekly to keep the lines functioning. This will be an eye opener to the people of Canada who pay this enormous deficit. A few years ago Sir Henry Thornton was given the job of managing the Canadian National Railway at a salary, which it is said, approximates \$150,000 per annum. He was said to be a financial wizard who would earn his enormous salary by pulling out of the financial hole in which it was then wallowing. The hopes of the generous men who engaged Sir Henry do not appear to have materialized; in fact the railway system has evidently got in deeper and deeper under his management.

The speaker who gave us the above information F. H. Pickell, Conservative of Brome, Quebec, advocated the sale of the system to the C.P.R. Even were that undertaken, it is doubtful if the C.P.R. or any body of men could be found who would purchase a concern which is costing the people of Canada a million and a quarter dollars every week to keep it in operation. Enormous salaries so lavishly handed out are, we believe, the chief contributing

agency in destroying the efficiency of our nationally owned railway. The complaint to-day is that wealth is being concentrated in the hands of a few, while the poor are becoming poorer. Our governments are contributing directly to this sort of thing by taxing to death the poor man's living, while paying high rates of interest to financial concerns and handing out yearly salaries equivalent to a sum which could only be saved by one person in ten thousand during a lifetime. No one government appears to be alone in this respect, but all appear to find it so easy to force the poor man to pay, that they seem to decide that it is unnecessary to even think of other methods of making the budget balance.—Fleisher Advance.

A Good Change

By an amendment to the Municipal Act, passed at the recent session of the Legislature, villages are now given the same power to govern hawkers and peddlers as was formerly enjoyed by towns and cities. The changing of two words in the bill gives a long felt want and enables them to pass legislation to protect against transient traders. The bill was introduced in the Legislature by T. P. Lancaster, M.P.P. for Peterboro County and Village Councils all over the province will be grateful that this seeming unfairness against the villages has been finally rectified.



\$40 profit from one Telephone Call

The local dealer had offered Jim Ross a price for his fat steers, but Jim was canny. He thought he ought to get a better price.

So he telephoned in to the stockyards — and found that beef had gone up two cents. He took his steers in that day and made \$40 extra profit. The telephone call cost him 35 cents.

No wonder Jim said to his wife that night when he got home for a late supper: "It's lucky we've kept our telephone."



**HOSPITAL MEETING
IN MARKDALE
Wednesday, 4th of May
at 8 p.m.**

A meeting to discuss the problems of the Markdale Hospital will be held in the Council Chambers in the Public Library Building on Wednesday evening, May 4th, 1932, at 8 o'clock, to which all are invited. The hospital is a community institution and not only those in the village but those from the surrounding country should be at this meeting.

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AUCTIONEER

E. H. WALDEN, Licensed Auctioneer for the County of Grey. All sales promptly attended to. Farm sales a specialty. Arrangements for sale dates may be made at the Standard Office or with B. H. Walden, Markdale.

FRATERNAL

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, 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. Visiting brethren cordially invited. Chester Rodman, 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. Geo. Banks, W.P.; A. E. Colgan, Registrar.

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