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Miss Macphail's Letter

It has been an eventful week. All the leaders spoke in reply to the address from the Throne and on Wednesday the Prime Minister introduced the trade treaties. Once the "debate in reply" is disposed of Parliament will devote its whole time to the treaties. It would seem best, then, to leave the detailed review for another week.

The address in reply was moved by the youngest member of the House of Commons, the recently elected member for Athabasca, Alberta, Percy G. Davies. Mr. Davies made a very interesting and eloquent speech in which he took some time to prove to his satisfaction that the trend of agricultural trade was encouraging. The speaker was a newly elected French member, Georges P. Laurin. I regret to say I could not follow his speech. It is a great pity that all the members of the House of Commons do not understand both languages.

The Rt. Hon. Mackenzie King, leader of the Opposition, spoke at considerable length. He believed that the Conference agreements should have been available to the House at an earlier date. He was also critical of the legislation on the railway situation being drafted before the report was before the House and digested. If the intention is to create a new board of trustees for the system, he urged that labour as well as capital be represented in it. He made a plea for proportional representation or the alternative vote, claiming that the method of voting we now use often resulted in minority candidates being elected.

Upon unemployment Mr. King enlarged. He quoted from the Prime Minister's speech to show that just after the present Government took office the Employment Service Council placed the number of unemployed in Canada at 200,000 and pointed out that the number of unemployed was now certainly 500,000 and probably 700,000. He criticized at length the Government's lack of policy in regard to unemployment and renewed a suggestion made by him two years ago that unemployment should be taken care of by a national committee, that there might be no overlapping. He criticized the Government with the South Huron by-election and pointed out that the Liberal majority had been increased from 349 in 1930 to 1,589 in 1932 and he advised the Prime Minister to profit by the lines of Kipling, "We have had a jolly good lesson and it serves us jolly well right."

It was surprising to hear Mr. King say: "A problem next in importance to and probably equal to that of unemployment is that concerning banking, credit and currency. Are not questions of price levels, of purchasing power, of credit and interest, those which are receiving most attention today in public discussions in this and other countries?" It would be natural then, Mr. King thought, to expect Government to bring forward a policy on banking, currency and credit, but the speech from the Throne only told of the postponement of the revision of the Bank Act for another year, until after the World Economic Conference. Mr. King has hitherto persistently refused to consider monetary reform seriously. In conclusion he moved an amendment stating that the Liberal party reserved any expression of views on the merits of the trade agreements until they were tabled and studied, and regretted that the Government had no unemployment policy other than the dole, and deplored the Government's obvious endeavour, by the postponement of the revision of the Bank Act, to avoid consideration by Parliament of the all-important subjects of banking, currency and credit.

The Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett, launched a bitingly sarcastic attack on Mr. King's speech, describing it as a feeble effort and as one reflecting spleen over the success of the Conference; stating that the Liberals had done everything to make it difficult to hold the gathering; referring to the opposition leader's cheering over the South Huron results, the Prime Minister retorted that "two hundred South Hurons would not put the Hon. gentleman in power." Hardly a day passed, the Prime Minister said, that some man did not say to him or to some member of his administration how thankful he was that this government is in power at this time and not "that party over there!"

Mr. Bennett justified the position of the Government in regard to unemployment. He claimed that Mr. King's plan for a national committee was impossible under the British North America Act. "There are at times," he said, "complaints that we should pay larger sums of money. Well, we have no desire to undermine that high courage, that resourcefulness and ability of our citizens to emerge out of difficulties, strengthened by trials as by fire."
The Prime Minister spent a good deal of time on monetary policy. He stated that his Government in this regard and that is "We will stand for sound money; let there be no misapprehension about that. There may be scattered throughout

the country soap-box orators, communists and socialists who will endeavour to arouse the passions and prejudices of the people and who will carry to them the tale of new nostrums and remedies that will cure all the economic evils of the day."

Mr. Gardiner, speaking for the farm group, pointed out that the farmers of his district were netting only 28½ cents a bushel for Number 1 Northern Wheat, while the Australian farmer, in a country of unsound money according to the Prime Minister, was receiving two shillings and six pence per bushel for his wheat, equivalent to 54 cents in our money. And on top of that, the Australian Government is paying a bonus of 4½ cents a bushel, putting the Australian farmer in a much more favourable position than our farmers in Canada. The Argentine is another country of unsound money and these two, Australia and the Argentine, were the only two wheat-exporting countries to increase their acreage last year, by a million acres each. Mr. Gardiner dealt at some length with the organization of the present system, the capitalistic, competitive, or industrial system. He showed that it had solved the problem of production and had done more for the masses of the people than any other social system, but to keep it working successfully it had to constantly expand, more and greater markets must be found. In 1921 the automobile business had expanded to absorb large amounts of purchasing power and there had been also the electrical and radio development. These three enabled us to overcome the depression of 1920-21. Since that time our machinery production has been very much improved; purchasing power to enable the people to buy is the great need. Mr. Gardiner asked the House to imagine a country with one-fifth of its population on relief when that same country had 130 million bushels of last year's wheat unsold, with at least 550 million bushels for this year ready for market.

Mr. Coote moved the amendment for the independent groups in a strong speech on monetary reform which I will deal with at some later date. We added to the Liberal amendment the following sub-amendment:

"And urges that the Dominion control of currency and credit should be so exercised as to provide and maintain sufficient purchasing power to:

(a) Raise the price of agricultural products and other primary commodities to an equitable level in relation to the cost of production and the settlement of outstanding liabilities, public and private;
(b) Increase consumption, thereby stimulating industry and providing employment for our people;

"And that the issue of this currency and credit should be based upon the natural wealth and productive capacity of this country, not as at the present time, upon one single commodity, gold and that its volume should be determined by the goods and services to be dealt with, and the legitimate requirements of the people;

This House is further of the opinion that this step should be taken in the immediate future, pending other fundamental changes, and as an integral part of a system of planned economy, which is becoming generally recognized as essential, in order that the natural wealth and productive energy of this country may be utilized to provide a satisfactory standard of living for all our people."

Agnes C. Macphail.

News and Information for the Busy Farmer

Furnished by the Ontario Department of Agriculture

Western Ontario Leads
The County of Wentworth now leads Canada in the production of high-quality hogs. For the past seven months, 90.6 per cent. of all the pigs marketed from that county graded "select" or "bacon", the two top grades.

The seven leading counties are in Ontario. Waterloo was second with 89.8 per cent., Brant 89.1 per cent., Perth 88.2 per cent., Huron 87, and Wellington and Oxford both 86. Perth County, well up in quality, was the heaviest producer with 54,706 head in the seven months.

The Buckwheat Crop
Buckwheat is assuming greater importance as a crop in some counties in Ontario, particularly in the central and eastern districts. This grain is sown later than others and thus escaped the effects of dry weather in June this year, while growing conditions in August were good. Statistics show that in 1931, Simcoe, Northumberland, Ontario and Durham counties each had more than 10,000 acres of buckwheat. Southern counties such as Essex, Lincoln, Wentworth and Halton, where truck gardening and fruit growing prevail, have relatively small acreages.

gin shortly. According to a special concession by the Customs Department at Ottawa this machinery is entering free to help establish the new industry. At the outset the plant will have a capacity of 300,000 bushels. About 5,000 acres of soy beans have been sown in Kent County which should provide about 100,000 bushels.

Heavy rains and flood damage in North Manichuria has reduced the soy bean crop prospect to 70 per cent. of the 1931 crop in that country. The production will be in the neighborhood of 4,000,000 tons, compared with 5,760,000 tons harvested last year. This may result in a demand for soy beans from the United States.

Ontario Farm Products Week
High expectations are held for Ontario Farm Products Week which begins Oct. 17th and continues until Oct. 22nd. Mr. James B. Fairbairn, Deputy Minister and his assistants have been working hard to ensure its success and no stone has been left unturned. Merchants and business houses in all towns and cities are co-operating splendidly, with the result that Ontario farm products will be displayed as never before. The slogans being used are: "Ontario Farm Products are Freshest and Best" and "If the Farmer Can Sell We Will Buy."

Weekly Crop Report
The mangel and turnip harvest in Bruce, Dufferin and other counties is reported to be decidedly above normal. Most fall wheat now has a good top and is in promising shape, the numerous rains having been helpful to its growth. The sugar beet crop in Middlesex yielded a high tonnage, while potato acreage and yield per acre is down this year. Durham has mangels so large in many cases that the keeping quality may be affected. On the whole the root crops are excellent. York County has had a good crop of corn. Lambs are in excellent condition in Lanark and should grade higher than ever this year.

A Street Parade
Arrangements are under way for a street parade in Toronto during "Ontario Farm Products Week", October 17 to 22. This was the announcement today of J. B. Fairbairn, Deputy-Minister of Agriculture, who is personally directing the activities of that week.

Mr. Fairbairn said that the date of Wednesday, October 19 had been decided upon. Also, that the parade will be made up of trucks entered by farmers in the Toronto district, retailers including chain stores, wholesalers, dairies, bakeries, and others having a connection with the farm products industry.

The thought was expressed by the Deputy-Minister that little persuasion was necessary in getting individuals and organizations to enter the parade, all of these being more than willing to co-operate in any movement designed for the general welfare of Ontario.

White Grub Outbreak
White grubs at the rate of from 300,000 to 1,000,000 per acre are present in fields of timothy sod and threaten serious damage to crops in 1933 throughout the northern half of the counties of Glengarry, Stormont, Dundas, Grenville and Leeds and the southern portion of Prescott, Russell, Carleton and Lanark according to a forecast by Mr. G. H. Hammond of the Federal Entomological Branch.

The prospect of crop losses from white grubs in infested districts in 1933 is extremely serious, according to officials, who state that cropping of infested land during next season must definitely take white grubs into account if losses are to be avoided. At the best there is bound to be some damage but if the known information is utilized the probable loss can be reduced to a small portion of that assumed by the numbers of insects in the ground in many districts.

The losses can be cut down (1) by reducing the numbers of grubs in the land; and (2) by selecting the crop to be grown upon a given piece of land with its resistance to injury and the white grub population of the field in mind.

Apple Crop Down
Recent estimates of the commercial apple crop show a decrease of 10 per cent. in production throughout Canada as compared with 1931. This means a decline of approximately 364,000 barrels. The British Columbia crop alone indicates an increase about 28 per cent. above that of last year. The greatest decrease is shown in Ontario, where the crop is expected to be 30 per cent. lower than in 1931. The number of barrels last year was 975,000, while only 680,000 barrels are expected this year in this province.

WARNING TO FARMERS
At the present time reports are coming in to the Department that oats are selling at \$1.60 to \$1.80 made are selling at \$1.60 to \$1.80 per bushel, while the finest registered seed oats grown in Ontario can be purchased at less than half the price.

Farmers should take warning from the experiences of others. Losses caused by this form of exploitation by certain unscrupulous

firms probably run into thousands of dollars yearly.

Not so many years ago salesmen actually sold wheat represented to be from King Tut's tomb to Ontario farmers at prices ranging from \$3 to \$6 per head. If this grain had actually come from the tomb of Egypt's famous king it would have been several thousand years old, and even the common mustard, which is credited with being the most retentive of life of all seeds, cannot hold life within the seed more than fifty to seventy-five years.

In February, March and April of 1932 nearly a carload of a little-known and inferior variety of oats was sold in a well-known section of Central Ontario at \$1.35 to \$2 per bushel. These oats were marked Grade 3, which is the lowest grade that is permitted to be sold under the Federal Seeds Act, and a grade that is not suitable for seed at any price, let alone at prices four to eight times higher than the ordinary market price for good Ontario No. 1 oats of recognized standard variety.

Government institutions, such as the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, the Kemptville Agricultural School, the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, the Ridgeway Experimental Farm, and the Experimental Station at New Liskeard, test out all the known varieties of all kinds of grain commonly grown in Ontario and recommended for planting only those varieties proved to be high yielders and adapted to Ontario soils. Farmers who follow the results of experiments of these institutions do not as a rule give away hard-earned cash to smooth-tongued salesmen who are full of promises and never operate in the same district twice.

Time and again these "too good to be true" new varieties have been investigated by Government officials and have been found to be some standard variety sold under a new name. This scheme of exploitation is very old. Perhaps a word of warning to the unwary will very largely check the practice and save the farmer thousands of dollars.

Britain Buys Barley
Receipts of Canadian barley on the British market for the past five or six weeks are as follows: 1596 tons for the week of August 16; 1249 tons for September 2; 1337 tons for September 16; 1069 tons for September 23; and 396 tons for the week September 30.

Horseshoe Pitching
One of the features of the Royal Winter Fair again this year will be the horseshoe pitching championships for all Canada. In addition the final competitors to decide the championship for the county and rural fairs in Ontario will be held at the Royal, open only to winners at agricultural fairs in 1932. The Ontario Athletic Commission is again sponsoring these competitions and the rules of the Dominion Horseshoe Pitchers' Association will govern the contests.

Seed Industry
The seed growing industry in Canada has been gradually developed and improved during the period of the past thirty years. It now embraces the production and improvement of approved varieties of cereals of pedigreed stock, the production of forage crop seeds, and the production of field root, garden vegetable, and flower seeds. It is estimated that in 1931, 3,710 farms were producing seed crops subject to federal inspection, and that around 12,000 persons were engaged in the production and marketing of the improved seed.

Honey Prices Going Up
Honey producers throughout the Province are considerably gratified with the recent steady rise

in price for their products. As a result of heavy exportations totalling over one quarter of a million pounds in September alone, the domestic price has risen from a cent to a cent and a half, and most producers are now refusing to sell for less than six and a half cents per pound net. With reports of further heavy export shipments going forward in October, large beekeepers are watching the situation with keen interest. Meanwhile smaller producers are preparing to take advantage of an improved domestic market, which now freed of the pressure of large individual lots of honey, has lost most of its former bishness.

Ontario honey is now handled through a commercial sales promotion representative, and is bottled and sold under the industry's own brand and trademark. In this way its identity is retained through to the consumer and every advantage taken of the powerful "buy British" sentiment in Great Britain.

Ontario Rutabagas Shipped To New York City by Water
The Ontario Marketing Board reports that 2,000 bushels of Ontario rutabagas are being shipped by water from Oshawa to New York immediately. This, it might be stated, is the first occasion upon which Ontario rutabagas have been shipped to New York by water.

Mixing Infected Potatoes
Increases Marketing Cost
J. T. Cassin, Ontario Marketing Board, says that, if the portion of the potato crop infected with late blight rot is mixed with the remaining good potatoes, the entire lot will become affected. This, of course, calls for a needless picking over of potatoes, a practice which does not reconcile itself with the policy of cutting down marketing costs.

Definite Export Market
If Quality is Right
According to Garnet Duncan, Ontario Marketing Board, only two car loads of calves have been exported to Buffalo during the past month. Mr. Duncan states that there is a definite market for a much larger number, providing the quality is right. Little more than 10% of calves being offered, however, meet export requirements. Mr. Duncan said that fully 50% of the animals offered, while being of suitable type lacked proper finish.

Weekly Crop Report
Harvesting of mangels and turnips is well advanced, with excellent yields of both being reported from many parts of Western and Eastern Ontario. A considerable percentage of rot is found in the potato crop, particularly in districts where systematic spraying has not been followed up. This year men who followed the instructions for proper growing of potatoes are going to benefit materially. From Dundas County comes a report that owing to restrictions recently imposed by New York State, requiring cattle to be from Bang's accredited herds, the export business in dairy cows has been practically killed. Algoma district reports a good yield of potatoes, from 100 to 150 bags per acre. From Temiskaming comes word that all livestock are in splendid condition owing to good pastures, but that farmers are finding it necessary to cut down on the number on hand owing to the light hay crop and also due to the fact that they have been unable to save their harvest.

Earlier Western Market
Indicated For Ont. Carrots
"A real service to the fruit and vegetable producers is being effected by the Ontario Growers'

Markets Council", said J. A. Carroll, secretary, Ontario Marketing Board.

Mr. Carroll advised that, according to information from the Markets Council representative in the Prairie Provinces, an earlier market for Ontario carrots is indicated this year.

In order to be in a position to answer inquiries, and to place buyers in touch with sellers, the Council is sending out query forms, in an attempt to determine the quantity of winter vegetables available, and at what price producers are willing to sell.

"In my opinion," concluded the secretary of the Marketing Board, "growers who neglect to fill in and return these forms, are running the risk of allowing possible markets, for winter vegetables to slip from their grasp."

British Apple Market
Reporting on prospects for Ontario apples in the British market, Mr. Andrew Fulton, growers' overseas representative, states that there is no doubt that the new tariff against foreign apples provided for by the Ottawa Conference agreements, amounting to six shillings per barrel, will have a stimulating effect upon the market for Canadian apples, but that it is doubtful whether the full benefit of the tariff will be felt until the season is well advanced, probably not until next February. At present large quantities of Nova Scotia apples of a windfall character are being shipped to England and also large shipments of Virginia apples have been rushed over before the new tariff could come into effect. Therefore the general supply of apples from now until December will greatly exceed the demand and it will be difficult to realize satisfactory prices at the prevailing rate of exchange, which today means that £1 is worth only \$3.85. However, lighter arrivals and more remunerative prices are expected after the New Year and Mr. Fulton advises growers to hold back a good percentage of the best-keeping varieties to export only well-coloured, attractive varieties, as only outstanding quality can compete against the cheap fruit that is on the market and make satisfactory returns to the growers.

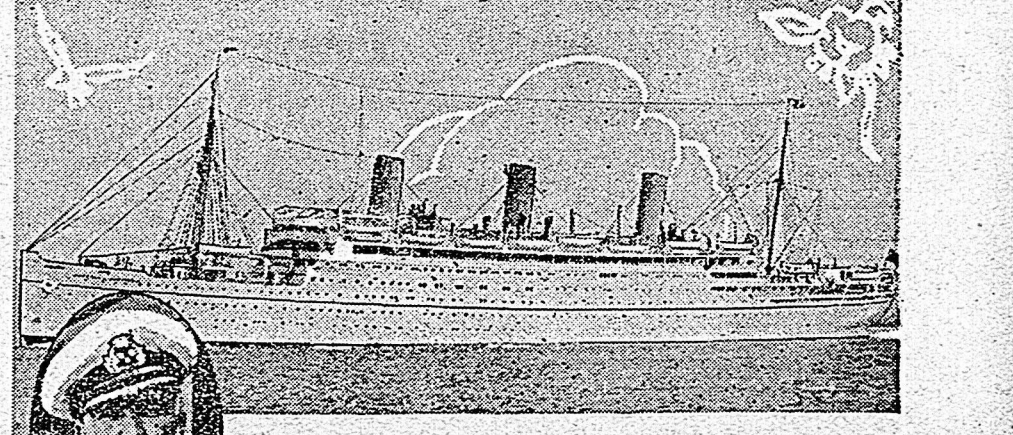
Mr. Fulton reports a ready market for well-coloured, good quality Scarlet Pippins, Jonathans and Snows, provided that they are properly packed and arrive in hard condition, and he looks for these varieties to sell as high as 27 or 28 shillings per barrel. Large quantities of Ontario pears have arrived in England in good condition. Ontario Bartlett's packed in hampers have been very popular. In conclusion Mr. Fulton warns that Certificates of Origin must be sent with all shipments.

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It is believed that the new rate will introduce the joys of winter cruising in sunny southern latitudes to many who have not been able to enjoy such a holiday before.

transportation was sold like merchandise, a recent announcement by the Canadian Pacific Steamships would have read something like this: "The Holy Land, Egypt, and the glory that was Greece for less than \$4.50 a day."
But it isn't done that way so winter holiday makers learned of