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**NORVAL**

**St. Paul's Vestry Held at Rectory**

The Annual Vestry Meeting of St. Paul's Church, Norval, was held on Tuesday evening, January 30th in the Rectory. The meeting opened with prayer and the reciting of the Apostles' Creed. Mrs. Wilson Allardy was appointed Vestry Clerk and the Rev. J. E. Maxwell acted as chairman. Following the reading of the minutes reports were read by the Rector, the financial reports given by Mrs. Harold Gollop and the Parish Hall report by Mr. Warwick Coupland.

In the ensuing discussion it was suggested that the Wardens investigate the possibility of increasing the insurance on the Church buildings and also make plans to have the Rectory painted during the coming year. It was the opinion of the meeting that a well should be drilled for the parish hall and a pump installed in the kitchen, that it should be painted and roofing repairs made as soon as possible. The Vestry also decided that due to the difficulties under which the Hall was operating at the present time, with the increased costs of hydro, fuel, caretaker, etc., that a straight charge should be made for the rental of the Hall and that the Hall Committee should be increased to six members to assist with the general duties involved in renting the Hall. The attention of the Vestry was also called to the fact that the Church was badly in need of a new aisle and Chancel carpet, that a fund has been established for the erection of a fence along the front of the Church property and the restoration of the original lighting fixtures in the Church was also considered.

During the election of officers which followed Mr. Warwick Coupland was appointed Rector's Warden

for the ensuing year and Mrs. John Rawlins returned as Peoples' Warden. Sidesmen—Walter Fidler, Michael Rushmer, Warwick Coupland, William Finamore, Arthur Burton, Sam White. Parish Hall Committee—Mrs. Harold Gollop, Mrs. G. Shering, Mrs. W. Allardy, Messrs. W. Finamore, W. Allardy, W. Coupland.

General regret was expressed by the Vestry at the absence of Miss Prairie Maguire who is at present in Regina owing to the illness of her father.

At the conclusion of the business meeting, the Benediction was pronounced by the Rector and a social hour enjoyed by all present.

A successful rummage sale and sale of home baking was held in the Parish Hall on Saturday and the entire proceeds were turned over to the carpet fund. The Guild hope to have another such sale before Easter as many fine articles arrived too late to be included in the first. Those responsible for the various tables included Mrs. W. Fidler, Mrs. A. Barnett, Mrs. J. Rawlins, Mrs. G. Shering, Mrs. Harold Gollop, Mrs. Wilson Allardy, Mrs. Victor Hazel, Mrs. Sam White, Mrs. J. Maxwell.

**Increase Pay Rates Township Employees**

The rate of pay for officials and road employees of Nassagaweya Township was increased at a meeting of the township council on February 6th.

C. J. VanGoosen was appointed a delegate to the Grand River Conservation Authority. The resignation of D. Fraser as pound keeper was accepted and John Small was appointed to that position.

An agreement was made with Nassagaweya Women's Institute for the purchase of chairs for the town-

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**FARM NEWS**

**Honey Bees Increase Alfalfa Production**

In the mid twenties, alfalfa seed production was a major cash crop in the counties of Peel, York, Halton and part of Wentworth County. For several years yields of ten and twelve bushels to the acre were not uncommon and when the writer was secretary for the Peel Alfalfa Growers in those years, the estimated average yield for Peel County was seven bushels per acre. Along about 1927 the crop failed and ever since alfalfa seed production has been a spasmodic and mediocre side line. Many theories have been advanced for this failure on the part of alfalfa to set seed in worthwhile quantities. Commercial fertilizers in various combinations have been applied; trace elements applied as dusts and sprays; gates and logs have been dragged over the fields with a view of aiding in tripping the individual florets, etc., etc. All failed in getting the desired results and today we find alfalfa seed in short supply and a price of 70c a lb. and up being asked for the "King of Legumes". For several years a Legume Seed Committee has been working on the problem. This Committee includes entomologists, bacteriologists, soilmen, crop men, bee men, and biologists. The problem has been attacked from many angles and many theories have been exploded, but at least some progress has been made.

Last year the committee sent one of their number, namely Prof. G. F. Townsend of the Dept. of Agriculture to Arizona, California, Utah and several other Western States, to study their methods. Prof. Townsend brings back a story which is almost unbelievable. Yields of 1200 to 1500 lbs. of alfalfa seed per acre are not uncommon, states Prof. Townsend. It is too long a story to reproduce here. Sufficient to state it involves cultural practices, spraying for control of certain insects, pollination, and harvesting.

A major portion of the story centres around the use of honey bees as pollinators. Prof. Townsend reports a personal visit to one farm with 300 acres of alfalfa, where they were using over 2000 colonies of bees for pollination purposes. He further reports that in 1949 three fields were chosen, one of 40 acres, and one of 20 acres. Seven colonies of bees per acre were used in the first, 5 colonies per acre in the second, 2 colonies per acre in the third, with the following yields: 1400 lbs. per acre; 900 pounds per acre; 370 lbs. per acre. In 1950 the number of colonies per acre was reversed. In the 40 acre field 2 colonies per acre were used; in the 30 acre field 3 colonies per acre were used only they were changed every week. In the 20 acre field 7 colonies per acre were used. The following were the results in production — 560 lbs. per acre; 1200 lbs. per acre; and 1250 lbs. of seed per acre respectively. Much more could be added regarding their program but the above perhaps is sufficient to arouse one's interest, and we shall look forward to the results of similar tests tried out here in Ontario.

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