

## MOTHER'S DAY

Sunday, May 14th

Sons and daughters far away like to mark Mother's Day with some message of greeting and affection.

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## DR. KNIGHT ADDRESSES THE CANADIAN CLUB

Canadian Biological Board's  
Work—Lobster Industry  
Chiefly Referred to.

A review of the scientific work of the Biological Board of Canada, as carried on at the Atlantic biological station was given by Prof. A. P. Knight before the Canadian Club in the Hotel Frontenac on Wednesday evening. His discourse was confined to the lobster fisheries in particular, and he showed that, as a result of investigations carried out under his direction the government was able to abolish the lobster hatchery, thus saving \$35,000 per year, and by educating the fishermen, preserve a profitable industry that was fast being destroyed. This most satisfactory condition was not brought about by the direct solution of the economic problems presented in the study of biology, but as a consequence of purely scientific research.

In the course of his most interesting address Dr. Knight gave examples of the two classes of problems that engage the attention of the board which is composed entirely of volunteer workers. The lobster industry is, of course a commercial pursuit and the canners are looking for the rewards. One great fault in the business was the absence of standardization. Lobsters were packed in salt pickle running from two per cent. to twelve per cent. solution. In order to determine the proper solution it was necessary to deal with the problem as a purely scientific one and at Queen's University he had an analysis made of the blood and flesh of lobsters to ascertain the amount of salt naturally present in the animal. It was thus found that the pickle in coming lobster should not be stronger than three per cent., nor weaker than two per cent. Better canned lobsters was the result. "This is an example of our work in pure science and it will give you better results than if you work with purely economic objects," declared the speaker. Other aspects of our scientific research include life-history, growth and food of fish; faunistic work; biochemistry; bacteriological; hydrographic, and physical and chemical study of sea water. A large number of papers were given to the government last year.

### Diseases in Fish.

The diseases of fish are frequently traced to their food for this is a cause of infection in the same manner that human beings contract disease from polluted food. The herring and haddock are especially subject to infection from bacteria. In order to appreciate the far-reaching results of disease or the restrictions in food supply, the speaker told of the records kept since 1820 by the Hudson Bay Company of the receipts of the pelts of fur-bearing animals. It was found that every year the number of pelts fluctuated; the number of rabbits increased or decreased, and just as the supply of rabbits fluctuated, so did the number of animals that lived on rabbits, such as the lynx, fox, etc. For just as food is scarce or plentiful so is the animal population, the kingdom of man affording no exception. "I visited the hatchery at Peta-wawa in Prince Edward County in September and there saw a little green plant growing in the water of the hatchery upon which the water fleas fed. They were trying to raise trout but the trout would not eat the water fleas, and they put in 22,000 fingerlings and fry to feed the large trout to get eggs. What was really the matter in this case was the absence of a natural link in the chain that would provide food for the trout there, viz., minnows that eat the water fleas that feed on the little green plant. This is an example of the economic problem in biology."

### Lobster Hatcheries Abolished.

It was costing the government \$35,000 to maintain the two lobster hatcheries, and in 1916 I was asked to make an investigation. I checked the output of the hatchery at the Atlantic station showing the intake of eggs and the output of fry. There were 72,000,000 lobster eggs taken in and 42,000,000 fry put out. This was in the first week of July. At the end of three weeks 80 per cent. of the eggs were dead or were dying and the government closed the hatcheries and sold the buildings. A campaign of education was started among the fishermen who were clearly shown that if they were to have any industry they had to take care of the mother lobster. They had been taking the mothers and ruthlessly destroying them, some fishermen making from \$400 to \$1,500 in a few weeks. Today there is an entirely different aspect. Fishermen will not hesitate to prosecute any found destroying the mother lobsters, and the result is that there never were so many lobsters to be seen under four years of age in the water and about the shores. It is only four years since this has been done and we have a greatly increasing supply simply by enforcing the laws. "Legislation cannot do what education will do. For forty years the government tried restricted legislation—fines and jail did not amount to anything. I have found that prohibition and restrictive legislation is no good. You must have education. We saved the government \$35,000 per year and we got only \$26,000 with which to carry on our work."

Dr. Knight told of the beginning of the Atlantic station at St. Andrews, N.B. It was really due to the initiative of the late Dr. Grant of Queen's University. The first government grant was \$2,000 and the station was built on a stone that visited different parts of the coast. To-

day the biological station possesses a plant worth \$70,000 including buildings and equipment. He promised on another occasion to give an address on fish hatcheries.

A hearty vote of thanks was tendered to Dr. Knight on the motion of Rev. Dr. Kingsley who paid a glowing tribute to the speaker which voiced the feeling of the whole club. Captain, Rev. W. E. Kidd, M.C., announced that on May 17th the 21st Battalion Club was giving a dinner to commemorate the return of that unit from the war. The club desired to erect a fitting memorial to its fallen members and the co-operation of all other clubs in the city was requested. He invited the members to attend with their wives. The speakers will be Sir Arthur Currie, and Hon. G. P. Graham, minister of militia.

## MATTERS TAKEN UP BY THE BOARD OF WORKS

Committee Appointed to In-  
vestigate Smoke Nuisance  
at Fair Grounds.

The regular meeting of the Board of Works was held on Wednesday afternoon, with the following members in attendance: Alds. Graham (chairman), Richardson, Cohen, Smith and Sargent.

A representative of the firm of Roddy & Monk was present, and asked the city to release them from the contract which they had obtained to supply powdered stone used in the surface sheet asphalt pavement. The company tried to purchase a machine suitable to grind the stone, but could not get one unless it invested \$12,000 and this would not be a paying proposition.

The Maxotire Company, Ontario street, was given permission to erect a gasoline pump in front of their place of business.

Ald. Sargent asked the board to build a new sidewalk on the east side of Earl street, between Victoria and Macdonnell street. The committee will ask the finance committee to supply funds for the building of a new sidewalk through Victoria park, from the corner of Albert and Mack streets, to Brock and Alfred streets.

William Dean was given permission to erect a porch at his house, 180 Clergy street.

A request was received from the Militia Department for the drain pipe at the foot of Barrack street, to be extended. The board decided that the best way of relieving the nuisance complained of was to have the department of public works dredge the slip.

A committee composed of the chairman, Ald. Smith, Richardson and the City Engineer was appointed to investigate the smoke nuisance from the city asphalt plant at the fair grounds. The city engineer reported that he had a scheme which might stop this nuisance complained of.

The city engineer was given authority to buy cold patching material at 18 cents per gallon, from the Imperial Oil Company.

### R.C.H.A. To Go To Camp.

The R.C.H.A., consisting of "A" and "B" batteries, and the Heavy Battery R.C.A., are planning to go into camp at Peta-wawa before the end of the present month. Indeed they may be away by the 15th inst. Already the engineers are engaged in inspecting the barracks occupied by the men and the staff. Lt.-Col. W. H. P. Elkins, D.S.O., will likely be in command. The trip to Peta-wawa will be made by rail, and the return by route march. The band will also go.

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John Pearson at Rest.

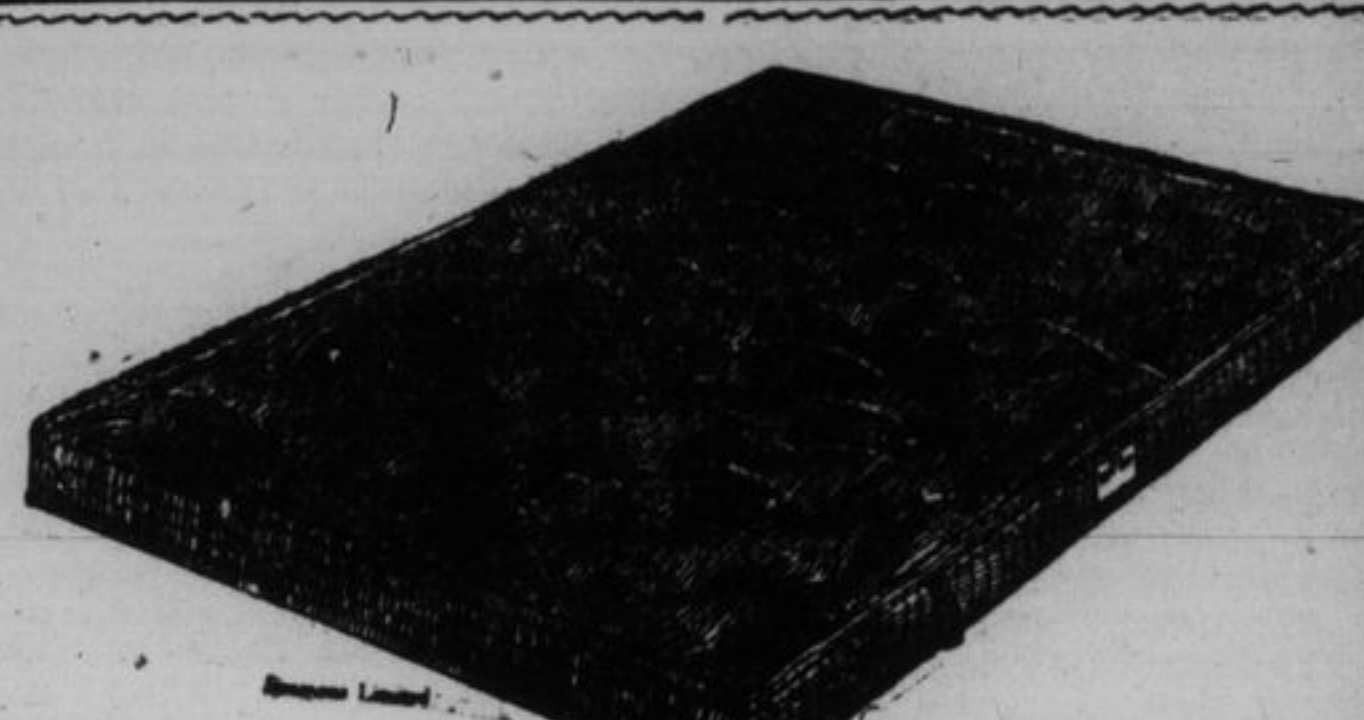
At the age of ninety-four years and six months, John Pearson, of Sheffield township, passed away on April 15th, at the home of his son-in-law, John E. Woodcock, Beaver Lake. Mr. Pearson was born in Hunterford, on Oct. 1st, 1828, of Dutch parentage. Much of his life was spent in Harlowe, and the last fourteen years he lived with his daughter, Mrs. J. E. Woodcock. He was a carpenter and boat builder by trade.

Postmaster Sets Time.

A despatch from Ottawa says: "Postmasters are allowed to follow daylight saving time in opening and closing post offices. It is announced by the Post Office Department."

Mrs. G. F. Purvis, one of the oldest residents of the vicinity of Lynx, passed away Tuesday afternoon at her home after an illness extending over a period of two months.

The government steamer "Scout" is placing the gas buoys from Northport to Brighton. She is under command of Capt. Barry. Marsh fires this side of Marmora village are causing great annoyance to the inhabitants of that section.



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