

PROSPECTS FOR BIG APPLE CROP COMING SEASON

Fruit Growers, After Three Poor Years, Expect a Good One.

EXPERT ADVICE

On Insecticides, and Crops—Fertilizer Delay Hampers.

Toronto Report.—Ontario fruit growers played in exceeding hard luck last year.

As President F. A. Sheppard said at a recent session of the Provincial Fruit Growers' convention, the apple crop of Ontario was almost a failure in 1917, in fact, fruit, from peaches all the way to berries, there was in no case over half a crop, and in some cases not over a 10 per cent harvest was gathered, and, in the face of all this, transportation cost more than before, many of the supplies used doubled in price, and labor was both scarce and costly. Notwithstanding all this, President Sheppard said, growers will enter the new season with undiminished courage.

One difficulty, however, faces growing fruit at the beginning of the season—delay in getting manure. Most of the Niagara-to-Oakville growers depend on Toronto for manure, and deliveries are away behind. President Sheppard said that out of 40 car orders for his section, only three had been delivered: Mr. J. B. Fairbairn said he had ordered four cars six weeks ago, and none has yet been received; Mr. W. H. Bunting, with ten cars on order, is also without delivery. Since the practice is to put the manure on the land before pruning begins, further delay will be a serious matter for growers.

Another handicap on growers this season is in the high price of poison sprays. Prof. Caesar said that arsenate of lead, in 100-pound drums, is likely to cost 20c to 25c per pound in paste form, or 30c to 40c in powder. This is about three times the price ruling before the war.

NEW POISON SPRAY.

Arsenate of lime, or, as it is sometimes called, arsenate, is only 15c to 18c in paste form, and 20c to 25c in powder. The arsenate of lime, Prof. Caesar said, has given good control with biting insects, and is more convenient to use with lime or sulphur than arsenate of lead; but, used with water alone, it will severely burn foliage, while arsenate of lead will not. Prof. Caesar destroyed almost every leaf on a pear tree in this way.

As to codling moth which probably will not be very bad this year, Prof. Caesar thought it might do, in using arsenate of lead, to use 1 1/2 lbs. of paste or 3-4 lb. powder to 40 gallons in spraying apples and pears for moths. If only one spray is given this year the most important is the one just after blossoms fall; the next in importance is just before bloom.

Regarding dust spray, Prof. Caesar said he had secured good results from this, and good results had also been reported from Nova Scotia, New York and Michigan in an ordinary year, in well pruned orchards; this will give good results generally if well applied, but under conditions favorable to scab it is not equal to liquid spray.

PROMISING NEW FRUIT.

Mr. W. T. Macoun, horticulturist of the Ottawa Experimental Farm, said Red June, a new early apple tested by him, is a good shipper, and Stayman Who Sap, a "sport" of the original Winesap, is a larger and better than the original apple of the name. Melba and Joyce, seedlings of the McIntosh, come in August and September, respectively, and are both good apples. Omaha and Emerald new plums, created by hybridizing Burbank and Wolfe, are both excellent. The first named, a red plum, comes in August, and the latter, a red and yellow in September. Portia and Oleria are two promising new varieties in strawberries.

LET SMALL ORCHARDS GO.

Mr. D. Johnson, Dominion Fruit Commissioner, ventured the opinion that the apple crop will not be a large one this year. This opinion was based on the fact that so many of the smaller orchards have been neglected since the war began. In fact, Mr. Johnson said, if fruit was only one line of general farming with him he would give his main attention to other lines at present. At the same time, he said, he believed well cared for orchards will give profitable returns this season, because of special efforts being made to educate consumers to the use of fruit and vegetables rather than other lines of food.

Dealing with potatoes, Mr. Johnson said there was an estimated surplus of 2,000,000 bushels in Prince Edward Island alone, but owing to the breakdown in transportation, much of this surplus will probably be fed to stock. The surplus in New Brunswick, he added, has been largely absorbed in meeting the demand from New York and Boston.

LOOKS FOR LOW PRICES.

Mr. J. G. Anderson, of Lucknow, in a letter sent to George Hodgkiss, said that after three poor crops of apples the prospect is for a fairly large one this year with low prices. He expressed regret because the high prices asked for Nova Scotia apples last fall had resulted in considerable quantities of apples being still on hand.

Prof. Caesar said he believed the failure of last year's apple crop was largely

owing to trees having been robbed of vigor by insect infection of the leaves in 1916. As a result of neglect in 1916, and previous years, he believed many small orchards would disappear.

DAY OF PROFITEER GOING.

"A system of licensing for both wholesale and retail trade has come to stay, and the day of the profiteer has passed," said Mr. J. E. Hastings, of the Food Controller's office. "No drastic regulations are contemplated, but something will be done to regulate prices. The wholesaler will not be prevented from stocking up to meet his normal requirements, but speculative profits will not be allowed. Dealers who buy on board cars at shipping points will also be prevented from refusing consignments, on arrival without good cause. The licensing system will not be destructive but constructive, and is merely a means to permit of prompt regulation of prices."

Mr. A. W. Peart, in the report of the Historical Committee, quoted from a diary of the late James Duran, the fact that 500 peach trees had been set out in Niagara township in 1814. That probably marks the beginning of commercial peach growing in Niagara district.

Mr. Peart said that the names of members, or sons of members, who have enlisted for the war, should be recorded in the report of the association.

The suggestion was adopted on motion of Past-President Grant and Mr. Bunting. Three lists of names will be included in their honor roll: those who enlisted, those who have died, and women who have served as nurses. Members of the association are to be requested to send names for the roll to Secretary P. W. Hodgkiss.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED.

Dr. Grant, R. B. Whyte, Elmer Lick and W. H. Bunting were appointed on the Resolution Committee.

Messrs. A. Onslow, A. W. Peart, and Carpenter were named as a nominating committee.

The financial statement showed receipts from members fees, \$332.30, and \$1,700 from Legislative grant. The balance on hand is \$1,350.61, compared with \$480.87 last year.

GIRLS ON FRUIT FARMS.

Dr. Riddell, Superintendent of the Trades and Labor Board, in an address last evening outlined the work of the girls on the fruit farms of Ontario last year. He said from fifteen to eighteen thousand workers had been put on the farms last year. They had taken up the work largely in patriotic grounds, but they could not be expected to subsist on this, and he was sure there would be some settlement of the wages problem. He stated that 54 per cent of the girls earned four to seven dollars per week last year, and had to provide for their own board. He thought the farmers might help in the matter of camps so as to reduce expenses in this direction.

In the course of the discussion which followed Dr. Riddell's address, some of the farmers present declared that it would be impossible to increase the wages of girls this year as it would dislocate the whole of the farm labor market, as everybody would be demanding increases.

Farmers from London, Clarkson, Newcastle and other districts spoke very favorably of the work done by the girls, and stated that they had secured good profits from their fruit crop.

MANY CHILDREN MEET DEATH IN CONVENT FIRE

Infants' Department of Montreal Grey Nunnery Gunned.

30 KNOWN DEAD

And the Death Toll May Reach Double That, It is Said.

Montreal Report.—The lives of at least 30 little children were blotted out shortly after 8 o'clock to-night by fire in the fifth, or top, story, of the west wing of the Grey Nunnery, on Guy and Dorchester streets, and it is feared that the loss may be double that figure. Thirty-eight charred bodies were found by the firemen at 10:20, when the top section was still smouldering, and it is known that while firemen and soldiers were engaged in rescuing many to die as the flames and smoke drove to rescuers from the building. The property loss is not excessive, as the blaze was practically kept to the one floor. The fire started near the tower, supposedly from the used as a dormitory for the infants being cared for by the nuns, and the lower part of the west wing was occupied by returned sick or wounded soldiers.

The loss of life amongst the children in the infants' Home Department is ascertained to be about 30, but firemen, at 10:20 when the building was still smouldering, found the charred bodies of 30 children. It is feared that many more perished.

All the other inmates of the big building are believed to have escaped. These include the nuns, nursing sisters, returned wounded or crippled men and women, to the number of about a thousand. They scattered in various directions, so that it may be some time before there can be a roll call.

A number of the soldiers were removed to hospitals, practically all the ambulances having been called into service in connection with the fire. None of the babies suffered injury through the fire or the consequent confusion, and within half an hour of the outbreak all of them had been removed to places of safety and comfort. There were about two hundred of them. Sixty of them were taken to the Kibaki Club and the others were distributed among the military hospital on Drummond street, the Royal Victoria, Western and Montreal General Hospitals.

The ages of the inmates of the Nunnery ranged from two or three days to almost a hundred years. Many of the babies whose lives were destroyed in the fire and smoke were but a few days or a few weeks old. The elderly inmates were housed in another section of the Nunnery, and were not immediately affected by the fire.

AUSTRIAN RULER IS OPTIMISTIC

Issues Manifesto On Ukraine Treaty.

Taking It as Forecast of a Peace.

Amsterdam, Cable.—The Austrian Emperor has issued, at Vienna, the following manifesto:

"To my peoples: Thanks to God's gracious will, we have concluded peace with Ukraine. Our victorious arms and the sincere peace policy which we pursued with indefatigable perseverance have shown the fruit of a defensive war waged for our preservation.

In common with my hard-pressed peoples, I trust that after the first conclusion of peace, which is so gratifying an event for us, a general peace will soon be granted suffering humanity.

Under the impression of this peace with Ukraine, our glance turns with full sympathy to the aspiring young people in whose hearts the feeling of neighborly love has become operative, and which, after bravery exhibited in numerous battles, also possessed sufficient readiness to give expression by deed before the whole world to its better conviction.

It thus has been the first to leave the camp of our enemies in order, in the interest of the speediest possible attainment of a new and great common aim, to unite its efforts with our strength.

Having from the first moment mounted the throne of my exalted forefathers, felt myself one with my peoples in the rock-like resolve to fight out the struggle forced upon us until an honorable peace was reached, I feel myself so much the more one with them in this hour taken for the realization of this aim. With admiration for and affectionate recognition of the almost superhuman endurance and incomparable self-sacrifice of my heroic troops, as well as of those at home who daily show no less self-sacrifice I look forward with full confidence to the near and happier future.

May the Almighty bless us further with strength and endurance, that not only for ourselves and our faithful Allies, but also for entire humanity, we may attain a final peace."

The semi-official Nord Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung says: "Thus far his proposals amount simply to an intention to compel the world to sign an Anglo-Saxon peace, which would not be lasting, but would represent the tyranny of England and the United States."

President Wilson's latest address, Vienna newspapers believe, is calmer in tone than his earlier declarations, and, perhaps, may make possible the continuance of the exchange of ideas, but they think the contents of the speech hardly are calculated to bring peace nearer. The Neue Freie Presse considers that is a mistake in extending Count Czernin, and insists that Czernin and other Ministers should always made clear that any attempt to interfere with Austria-Hungary's international policy would be inadmissible.

GERMAN PRESS ROASTS WILSON

Say U. S. President Aims to Split Germany.

Call Him "The Poisoner" and a Trickster.

Amsterdam Cable.—As was to be expected, the insinuating organs of Western Germany savagely comment on President Wilson's address. The Rheinische Westfällische Gazette, under the caption of "Wilson, the Poisoner," says: "They are talking to save their necks—Wilson, Lloyd George and the toothless tiger in Paris. With lawyers' tricks they are trying to humbug their deluded peoples. It is impossible to take President Wilson seriously."

Assuming haughty contempt, this newspaper proceeds to prove to its own satisfaction that President Wilson failed in what it terms his three objects, namely, to lead the British with tales of inexhaustible American resources, to try and split Germany and Austria-Hungary, and to play off the Reichstag majority against the military party.

"President Wilson has had no luck," the newspaper continues. "We can tell him that a complete accord has just been arrived at between Germany and Austria-Hungary, the effects of which will become patent ere long."

The newspaper concludes by enumerating all the misdeeds the United States is supposed to have committed against Spain and sundry South American republics and sundry South.

The Dusseldorf Nachrichten says: "After reading the address we have given up hope that our readers will be able to make head or tail of what President Wilson really wants. He never has spoken more vaguely or confusedly. The only thing clear is that by flattering Count Czernin (the Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister) he wants to isolate Germany and then isolate all the strong forces within Germany. President Wilson's address does not mitigate the Versailles declaration one whit. He blasphemously invokes divine judgment. That judgment surely has spoken. Our soil is enemy free, while the Czar and four other Kings sit

MAY DEPORT THE RUSSIAN ENVOY

"Ambassador" of Bolsheviks Active in Britain

And Authorities Consider Expelling Him.

London Cable.—The authorities are considering the activities of Maxim Litvinoff, the Bolshevik representative in London. Although he has not been recognized by the Government, Litvinoff has been issuing among munition workers pamphlets bearing the seal, "The Russian People's Embassy," which, the newspapers assert, are incitements to revolution.

In the House of Commons to-day, Noel Pemberton-Billing (Independent), asked whether Litvinoff was to be deported as an undesirable alien. The Home Secretary replied that the matter was receiving his attention.

It is recalled that Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik Foreign Minister, recently protested strongly that the British and American Ambassadors in Petrograd had tried to interfere in Russian politics, but that Sir George Buchanan, the British, and David R. Francis, the American Ambassador, declared that these charges were unfounded.

BULO PASHA TO GIVE LIFE FOR TREASON

French Court-Martial Finds Man Accused of Aiding Germany Guilty.

QUICK VERDICT

Co-Defendant Gets Three Years, and One in Italy Sentenced to Die.

Paris Cable.—Bulo Pasha has been convicted and sentenced to death for treason. The prosecutor yesterday asked the court to condemn him on the fact that Bulo received money from Count von Bernstorff, the former German Ambassador at Washington, through Adolph Pavenstadt, the former head of the Amstuck banking house of New York, even though the money was not used against France.

The court-martial deliberated for only fifteen minutes.

Darius Porchere, an accountant, who was a co-defendant, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment.

Filippo Cavallini, another co-defendant, who is under arrest in Italy, was sentenced to death, although he is not within the court's jurisdiction.

ARGUMENT FOR DEFENCE.

When the trial opened to-day Albert Salles, the attorney for the Levanthine financier, took the floor to make a final plea for his client's life.

Following a brief exposition of the abhorrence generally felt at the charge of treason, Attorney Salles declared the trial of Bulo Pasha had raised distinct doubts as to his guilt, and that it was his (Salles') task to change them to a certainty of his client's innocence.

The attorney then charged an "abominable press campaign against Bulo" by being largely responsible for the almost general belief in France, prior to the trial, that his client was guilty, and added that hardly ten men convinced of his innocence could be found in the country.

This press campaign, he asserted, had been deliberately plotted by Senator Charles Humbert, former owner of Le Journal, after the Senator had failed to induce Bulo to sell back the stock in Le Journal at half the price Bulo had paid for it.

CRITICISED AUTHORITIES.

M. Salles went lengthily into Bulo's personality and severely criticised the authorities, including General Dubail, military governor of Paris, for what he termed the "prejudgment of the case before it ever came to trial. He declared that the principles of elementary law, which presupposes a man innocent until proven guilty, had been disregarded.

The attorney scored the prosecutor, Captain Mornet, and Captain Bouchardon, of the Paris military court, for raking up Bulo's past, and insisted that the prisoner was not on trial for bigamy or theft, but for treason.

"So far as this court-martial is concerned," he said, "Bulo Pasha was born in 1914."

Then followed a scathing arraignment of all those prominent men and women, once glad to be Bulo's guests, who had now deserted him.

M. Salles, in closing, was impressing as he pleaded: "Do not condemn Bulo Pasha to satisfy public opinion. Do not condemn him to satisfy public passion. Do not be guilty of a miscarriage of justice that will be bitterly regretted in after years."

Bulo appeared to be depressed during the latter part of M. Salles' address.

The speedy return of the court-martial came almost as a greater surprise to the crowds in the courtroom awaiting the verdict than the actual sentence of death itself, which had been predicted from the outset.

Bulo took the announcement with apparent calm, but Porchere, who had sat throughout the trial stolid and stupid in appearance, was visibly moved, though whether at his own escape from his patron's fate or at the sentence imposed upon Bulo, was not easy to determine.

The crowd made no demonstration, but filed noisily from the courtroom, discussing the verdict.

The Porchere case went to the court after a brief summing up, Porchere being pictured by his counsel as an innocent intermediary, who if he had done anything against the nation, had done it unknowingly.

Neither defendant availed himself of the opportunity to make a final plea. Bulo returned to his cell.

Awed by the soldiers, with fixed bayonets, those who gathered in the courtroom refrained from all demonstrations, but the great crowds outside the court emitted a terrific roar and cheer of approval as word of the sentence reached them, plainly showing the favor with which the sentence of death found among the French people.

Swiftly the news of the coming execution of Bulo Pasha spread through the city. Col. Voyer had not yet completed reading the sentence when the cheers of the multitude from outside drowned his voice.

The court-martial was unanimous in condemning Bulo. It stood for a time four to three against the conviction of Porchere, but finally compromised, six to one, on conviction on the charge of "commerce with the enemy," carrying a lighter sentence. The judges deliberated only a few minutes, and as they filed into the room it was easily discernible that Bulo Pasha's fate was sealed.

An appeal will be entered on a technicality, but the general trend of com-

ment heard in legal proceedings political circles in: "With Bulo's death, Bulo is the."

USED GERMAN MONEY.

Paul Bulo Pasha's conviction was one of the first of the "intelligence" cases of the court-martial. Bulo Pasha was charged with having capitalized the company that owned the Paris newspaper Le Journal with money obtained from the Germans.

Bulo Pasha was an instrument of German propaganda, one of the first to find exposure in the French investigation of 1917, and his name has come to be used as typifying the entire system of "Buloism" by which Germany strove to break down the French morale and install a desire for peace by spreading the idea that Germany could not be beaten, and that it would be well to make the best terms possible with her as soon as they could be arranged.

It had been charged that Germany, in attempting to bribe French politicians and leaders, and to induce French opinion by subsidizing newspapers in France or founding new publications to disseminate the spirit of pacifism or defeat, devoted a sum of money in the neighborhood of 10,000,000 marks. Bulo, himself, was said to have had the use of a fund of more than \$1,500,000 to be used in attempting to corrupt the French press.

Darius Porchere, a co-defendant with Bulo Pasha, who was sentenced to three years' imprisonment, is a business agent who was charged with receiving correspondence relating to the affair as an intermediary of Bulo Pasha.

ITALIAN IMPLICATED.

Filippo Cavallini, who was judged by default and sentenced to death, is a former member of the Italian Chamber of Deputies. He was charged with having introduced Bulo Pasha to Abbas Hilbi, the former Khedive of Egypt, and with having facilitated the negotiations.

FRENCH WHEAT.

Bright Outlook for Big Crop This Year.

Paris Cable.—The condition of winter wheat in the departments of France which give the largest yields is reported by an expert who has just finished a tour of inspection to justify the most optimistic hopes of the 1918 crop. Nowhere did the frost do any damage, and the prospects are good for a greater crop per acre than in any year since 1914.

Preparations for spring seeding are well underway and it is probable the acreage will exceed that of last year by nearly one million. There is an equal increase in the acreage of winter wheat over 1917.

LIFE IN GERMANY IS INTOLERABLE

Middle and Lower Classes Are Desperate.

Commercial and National Morality Dead.

London Cable.—Of exceptional interest is the latest review of conditions in Germany by a well-informed authority. Conditions in Berlin at the end of 1917 are described as "absolutely awful."

Another informant, a woman who visited Berlin in November and December, writes: "The middle and lower classes in Berlin were past caring what happens so long as they have peace at once. They were suffering horribly, and the only word to describe conditions in Berlin is famine. Berlin was dark, cold and unspeakably wretched.

"For most people there was hardly any light, warmth, clothing or boots, and a terrible lack of food, while the linen worn by both sexes was abominably dirty because there was no soap. Another significant factor was that abandoned men were prohibited from returning to the capital from the front so as to prevent a revolution.

"The people hate the Government. To further the last war has the whole place was plastered with pictures of von Hindenburg, but within a few hours all had been torn down. I was to a dinner, which was crowded with soldiers who burst into roars of laughter at sight of the Crown Prince. I also heard, from a very good source, that the Government did not yet know how they would feed the people during March, April and May."

Children are the greatest sufferers. They show serious signs of under-feeding. The decline in the number of children must be causing great anxiety to the German Government. Millions of young people are being killed or permanently incapacitated for useful work, and there is an alarming decrease in the birth rate, especially in the large towns. One of the most significant causes is the general decline of commercial and national morality. Calls of patriotism and the orders of the Government are disregarded; profane, theft, bribery and corruption thrive in all classes. The state of Germany is summed up in the striking statement that for the first time in its history the great miseries of life have been reduced to the lowest level of discomfort and misery.

Claude-Mabel has such good hair. I think, don't you? Claude-Mabel is so careful with her hair. She is very particular when she goes to bed at night. More American.