

# The Journal

OF THE

## Jamaica Agricultural Society.

---

The more people do the more they can do; he who does nothing renders himself incapable of doing anything; while we are executing one work we are preparing ourselves for undertaking another.

---

VOL. XVII.

SEPTEMBER, 1913.

No. 9.

---

### BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.

---

The usual monthly meeting of the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society was held at the office of the Society, 11 North Parade, Kingston, on Thursday the 21st August, 1913, at 11.40 a.m. Present: His Excellency Sir William Henry Manning, K. C. M. G., C. B. (presiding); the Hons. D. Campbell, Geo. McGrath, R. P. Simmonds and S. S. Stedman; Wm. Harris Esq., Acting Director of Agriculture; Messrs A. W. Douet, A. C. L. Martin and the Secretary John Barclay.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been published and copies sent to each member of the Board were taken as read and confirmed.

Apologies for absence were submitted from Sir John Pringle, who had to attend a meeting of the Parochial Board in St. Mary the same day; Mr. Muirhead, Hon. J. R. Williams who was out of town, and Mr. Watson who had to attend a meeting of the Vere Irrigation Commissioners.

The following matters arising out of the Minutes were considered:—

(a) *Cotton Experiments* :—

The Secretary reported that ten cotton plots had now been arranged for as follows :—

*Manchester* :—Boussue, Great Valley, Marlie Hill, New Forest and Lititz.

*St. Elizabeth* :—Nain, Belle Vue, Ballards Valley, Bigwoods and Cross Roads.

He stated that he had visited these plots in company with Mr. Conrad Watson, that they were in course of preparation for planting and seasons permitting all should be planted before the end of the month. Opportunity was being taken to make comparative tests of Egyptian cotton, the variety being Sakellarides, with Sea Island cotton.

*Free Railway Carriage on Fungicides :—*

The Secretary asked that the Report of the Staple and Minor Products Committee with reference to the above might be left over until the following month.

*Protection of Birds and Fishes :—*

The following letter from the C. S. O. was submitted :—  
No. 11586/13 of 12th August, 1913.

"I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2753 dated the 21st ultimo and in compliance with the request made therein to transmit herewith a copy of the bill entitled "A Law to Consolidate and Amend the Laws relating to the Protection of Birds and Fishes."

2. I am also to forward the accompanying C. S. O. paper No. 11586/13 giving information on the subject of Regulations proposed to be made in the United States of America for the protection of migratory birds for the information of your Board of Management and for any remarks and suggestions they may desire to make.

(Sgd.) ROBT. JOHNSTONE,  
Asst. Colonial Secretary.

Mr. Simmonds suggested that the proposed Bill might be published in the newspapers and discussion invited on it. The Secretary was directed to suggest this to the Government.

*"Leaf Blister Mite of Cotton":—*

Letter from the C. S. O. was submitted as follows :—  
No. 8627/10527 of 16th August, 1913.

"In continuation of the letter from this office Nos. 8627/10527 dated the 10th ultimo, I am directed by the Governor to forward you the accompanying copy of a Government Notice containing a Declaration made in Privy Council under Section 2 of Law 35 of 1911 in regard to the Cotton Plant and the disease known as "Leaf Blister Mite", and also an Order made under Section 2 of Law of 1912 prescribing the conditions under which the importation of Cotton into this Island shall be permitted."

(Sgd.) P. C. CORK,  
Colonial Secretary.

(This Declaration and Order are published in another part of this JOURNAL.)

*Applications for Coconut Plants in West End :—*

The Secretary said he had been in correspondence with Mr. P. O. Williams at Negril and the Secretary of the Hanover Branch at Lucea with regard to their request that coconut plants be furnished for sale to the people there. He had pointed out that it was difficult to get growing coconut plants now, and that they did not travel well, could not stand much handling, so he had suggested that they might substitute at their request seed coconuts and this the correspondents had agreed to. He (the Secretary) said he was regularly supplying seed coconuts and if a grant was made by the Government he could easily undertake to furnish all that were wanted.

After discussion in which it was pointed out that there would be difficulty in controlling the distribution or sale of seed coconuts sent in quantity, and that growing coconut plants could be had at Haughton Estate in Hanover if required, the Board resolved not to recommend to the Government the sending of seed coconuts to the west end for distribution or for sale.

The following matters from the General Meeting were submitted :—

(a) *Firearms and Catapults* :—

The Secretary said he had been directed by the Half Yearly General Meeting to send on to the Colonial Secretary an enquiry as to whether catapults could not be included under the Law covering Firearms.

The President said he had been into the matter very carefully with the Attorney General and he had tried to get him to agree that the catapult could be called a firearm but he could not get him to agree to this view. Firearm included an air gun and spring gun and the position that he (the Governor) took up was that a catapult could be regarded as a spring gun inasmuch as there was a propelling force. The Attorney General said it might be possible to put a case before the Supreme Court to have the question determined but he (the Attorney General) did not think the catapult could be brought under the definition of a firearm. In England he was of opinion that the catapult was forbidden and he had asked the Attorney General to draw up a Law in line with the English Law. The Attorney General maintained that a firearm was a weapon which had a barrel.

Members of the Board held that if a catapult could not be considered a firearm under the meaning of the Law, then the Law might be amended.

The Governor said that the matter was not yet settled. He had sent back the papers to the Attorney General for him to formulate a Bill prohibiting the use of the catapult.

This was considered satisfactory.

(b) *Praedial Larceny* :—

The Secretary stated that this question had been discussed at length at the Half Yearly General Meeting, and he would now suggest that the matter be submitted to the Branch Societies for discussion and suggestions. He had also been instructed by the Half Yearly General Meeting to submit the matter of including mahoe and mahogany trees on the Schedule of the Praedial Larceny Law, and the matter of amendments to the Produce Protection Law to the Branch Societies; which he had done.

Mr. Stedman was of the opinion that some steps should be taken to amend the Produce Protection Law, and gave instances of how it was cumbersome to the produce buyers and practically impossible in some directions to be complied with. In addition it gave loop holes for stealing. He suggested that a Committee of the Society might be appointed to confer with the largest produce buyers who would be able to give very valuable information. If such a meeting was arranged a Law Officer of the Crown should attend the meeting.

Mr. McGrath spoke at length on the subject of praedial larceny and held that the system of "Authorized Persons" and district Constables who were paid by results, was not as efficient as the old system of having rural headmen of police who were selected from the best of the yeoman class and received a monthly subsidy of £1.

Mr. Campbell also spoke of the great prevalence of the stealing of cocoa in the pod, and he thought that the whole system of buying cocoa in the pod should be abolished.

Mr. Martin agreed that it would be useful to submit the subject of praedial larceny to the Branch Societies for discussion so as to get a systematic expression of their feelings on the matter.

The Governor spoke at length on the subject and he quoted from the Blue Book report for 1903-04 which showed that the rise and fall of arrests and convictions for praedial larceny varied with the state of trade there being more arrests and convictions in the hard years than in good years.

After further discussion the Governor said this matter of praedial larceny would be taken up by him earnestly. The subject had been brought up and discussed with vigour at the Half Yearly Meeting of the Society and he had noted the interest taken in it. He thought that the matter might be referred back to the Branch Societies as they might have a genius rise up and help them out of their difficulties.

The Secretary was accordingly directed to refer the matter to the Branch Societies for discussion. (Owing to the importance of this matter to every cultivator, we have published the discussion which took place at the Board Meeting in another part of the JOURNAL nearly in full).

The following letters from the C. S. O. were submitted :—

(a) *Cable sent to Sir Sydney Olivier re Banana Tax.*

No. 8888 29 July, 1913.

"In continuation of the letter from this office No. 8081/10685 dated the 23th ultimo, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that Sir Sydney Olivier, Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, London, has requested that the Jamaica Agricultural Society may be informed that he has received their Telegram, which was sent through this office on the 26th June, in regard to the proposed tax on bananas imported into the United States of America, and that he has been in communication with the Colonial Office on the subject."

(Sgd.) P. C. CORK,  
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary said he had been asked by some members of the Board who were also members of the Legislative Council to cable to Sir Sydney Olivier reminding him of the promise he had made at the Half Yearly General Meeting of the Society held in January, that whatever he could do as Secretary of the Board of Agriculture in England to help Jamaica would be done, and asking him to try and impress the Colonial Office that the proposed tax on bananas was much against the interests of Jamaica.

(b) *Citrus Fruit Industry :—*

No. 8888 29th July, 1913.

"I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1916, dated the 21st Ultimo, embodying a Resolution passed by the Moneague Branch Agricultural Society, asking that steps may be taken to enforce rigid supervision over the class of fruits being exported and in reply to transmit, for the information of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, the accompanying copy of a letter addressed to the Honourable and Reverend W. B. Esson, on the subject."

(Sgd.) ROBT. JOHNSTONE,  
Assistant Colonial Secretary,

No. 3444 17th July, 1913.

"With reference to the resolution moved by you in the Legislative Council on the 26th ult. to the effect that in the opinion of the Council it is desirable to prevent by legislation the shipping of imperfect and undesirable fruit, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that the desirability of the Government controlling the exportation of citrus fruit has been considered more than once, and in 1902 the Colonial Secretary introduced in the Legislative Council a Bill entitled "The Fruit Trade Regulation Law, 1902."

"It was proposed in the Bill to provide for the appointment of a Committee who were to be empowered to make rules to control the packing and exportation of all kinds of fruit grown in the Island, which rules when approved by the Governor in Privy Council, and after publication in the *Jamaica Gazette*, were to have the force of Law. Provision was also made for the registration and licensing of exporters and for Government inspection of fruit. The Bill was, however, rejected by the Council for the reason that it was thought to be too cumbersome, and liable to cause restrictions on the fruit trade.

"As an alternative to Government inspection and with the object of restricting as much as possible the exportation of immature fruit, a law (No. 9 of 1906: The Produce Protection Law Amendment Law 1906) was passed by the Legislative Council in that year empowering the Government to require all exporters and packers of any kind of the agricultural produce specified in schedule 5 of the Produce Protection Law 1903 to register one trade mark to be placed on every package of produce packed or exported by him and to prohibit the exportation of all produce not so marked.

"The particulars mentioned by you in the Council appeared to indicate that this law has not yet had the effect of preventing purchasers from taking fruit sent by unreliable shippers, but it may be assumed with confidence that the various trade marks will soon become well known to the trade and that unreliable shippers will be weeded out as they will not be able to dispose of their fruit.

"In 1910 Mr. E. J. Wortley, who represented the Island at the Toronto Exhibition in that year, in his report on the Exhibition, suggested that immature citrus fruit, shipped from Jamaica, should be required to be labeled "Jamaica Earlys." This suggestion was considered by the Governor in Privy Council, but it was decided that it would not be desirable to make such a requirement compulsory by legislation and no further steps were taken in this direction.

"I am to add that the Government is willing and anxious to provide any further necessary legislation on the subject, but has hitherto found the situation a very complex one. His Excellency would be glad, however, if you would be so good as to furnish outlines of any proposals you may have in mind for dealing with the situation."

(Sgd.) P. C. CORK,  
Colonial Secretary.

Mr. Martin said that Mr. Esson had called a public meeting of those interested in the citrus industry in the parish of Manchester, and their further consideration on this matter might be deferred until the result of this meeting was known.

This was agreed to.

(c) *Bovine Tuberculosis* :—  
No. 3444 31st July, 1913.

"I am directed by the Governor to request that you will be so good as to lay before the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society the accompanying copy of a Resolution which was passed at a Conference on Tuberculosis held in Trinidad in March last, together with copy of a letter from the Director of Agriculture, and to say that His Excellency will be glad to receive the remarks of the Board on the suggestion that measures should be taken to stamp out bovine Tuberculosis and to prevent its importation."

(Sgd.) ROBT. JOHNSTONE,  
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

This was referred to the Live Stock Committee.

The following letters from the Acting Director of Public Works were submitted :—

(a) *re Resolution from Spanish Town Branch :—*

No. 1111 17th July, 1913.

"Your letter of the 17th May to the Superintendent of the Rio Cobre Irrigation Works, forwarding a Resolution of the Spanish Town Branch of the Society advocating that supplies of a minimum of 1 Cubic Yard of water should be made from the Canal, has been forwarded to me by the Superintendent, and the matter has been under consideration by the Government. It has been decided that the present minimum of 5 Cubic Yards per hour, which was adopted some years ago on the recommendation of Mr. Richmond, shall be adhered to. A quantity less than 5 Cubic Yards, say 1 Cubic Yard, cannot be measured and would cost more to fix and regulate than any reasonable charge could cover.

2. The difficulty in keeping such a supply constant lies in the regulation of the discharging sluice, e.g., if the connecting pipe is sufficiently small to discharge only the 1 yard with a given head, it is liable to be easily blocked or the supply reduced to practically nil if the water level in Canal is lowered from any cause, and if the pipe be larger, any slight rise in the level or water in the Canal would increase the supply abnormally.

3. It is considered that for cultivation which necessitates tillage, a supply of less than 5 Cubic Yards is of no practical use. Most of the consumers of these small quantities who get any results from Irrigation have their supplies delivered several together over one notch, and they arrange the distribution among themselves, in this way one man at a time can get the benefit of his neighbour's water.

4. These circumstances have led the Government to consider it inadvisable that the present minimum should be reduced, as is suggested by the Spanish Town Branch Society."

(Sgd.) JOHN D'AETH,  
Actg. Director of Public Works.

(b) *Purchase of Home Grown Corn.*

No. 1111 5th August, 1913.

"In reply to your letter of the 30th ultimo, I have to state that the regular supply of corn for this Department has for many years past been imported, as repeated trials of the home grown product showed that a dependable and satisfactory supply could not be obtained.

2. Local grown corn is occasionally purchased by our Superintendents, when obtainable of satisfactory quality, and I have no objection to this being done, but I am not prepared to make any change in our main source of supply."

(Sgd.) JOHN D'ARTE,  
Actg. Director of Public Works.

The Secretary said this reply was in reference to a query from the Half Yearly General Meeting, as to why the native product should not be used by the Public Works Department. It was a matter which had been discussed over and over again, but it was a fact that our native supplies of corn from season to season could not be depended upon.

"Authorized Persons" :—

Letter from the Inspector General of Police was submitted forwarding a return of the arrests made by "Authorized Persons" under the Praedial Larceny Law during the quarter ended 30th June, 1913.

*Savings Bank :—*

Letter from Mr. Cradwick was submitted as follows :—

"I would ask the Agricultural Society to consider the advisability of influencing the Government to increase the facilities for thrift among small planters, and I would suggest that this could be done by establishing a branch of the Government Savings Bank at every Telegraph Office throughout the island."

It was thought by the Board that as Penny Banks were being established in connection with almost every Branch Society, and Loan Banks were being established in most districts, that these would serve the purpose meanwhile.

*Rubber Exhibition :—*

The Secretary submitted letter from the C. S. O. as follows :—  
No. 147, 14th August, 1913.

"With reference to your letter No. 147 dated the 26th June last, I am directed by the Governor to state for the information of your Society, that it has been decided that this colony shall not take part in the Bristol International Exhibition, or in the Rubber and Tropical Exhibition in London to be held in 1914.

ROBT. JOHNSTONE,  
Asst. Colonial Secretary.

*School Garden Competitions :—*

The Secretary stated that the entries for the Competitions for prizes in the growing of Cotton, Guinea Corn and Country Corn which had come in were very satisfactory. There was an extremely large number of entries for the Corn Growing Competition.

*Prize Holdings Competition :—*

The Secretary said that the judging for this Competition had been arranged as follows :—

St. Catherine, September ; Portland, January ; St. Thomas, February ; Trelawny, March.

*Affiliations :—*

The Secretary said that the Instructors Committee to whom five applications for affiliation from local Agricultural Societies were submitted, had recommended the following for affiliation : Crofts Hill (Clarendon) ; Mt. Felix (Portland) ; Seaford (St. Catherine). The applications from Brown's Town (St. Ann) and Ginger Ridge (St. Catherine) were not quite in order and so were held over.

*Shows :—*

Application for a grant from the Christiana Branch for a Show to be held in April 1914 was submitted.

The Secretary was instructed to reply that the grant would be given provided the usual rules and regulations covering grants to Shows were complied with.

The following resolutions from Branches were submitted :—

(a) Resolution from the Bath Branch (1) *re* the protection of "Authorized Persons", and (2) *re* establishing a nursery for raising coconut plants at Bath.

The first was referred to the Instructors Committee for consideration, and as regards the second it was not considered necessary as the best seed nuts in the Island could be had near Bath and each cultivator could easily lay down these nuts to sprout for himself.

(b) Resolution from the Frankfield Branch (1) *re* Service of trains Chapelton Branch Railway and (2) *Praedial Larceny*

It was considered by the Board that criticism of the passenger service of trains did not come within the jurisdiction of the Society, but the Secretary was instructed to forward the resolution to the Acting Director of the Railway.

The resolution *re* *Praedial Larceny* was held over until the subject came up for general discussion again.

*Instructors.*

The Secretary submitted a recommendation from the Instructors Committee for the establishment of an Experiment Ground of 5 acres at Clover in Mandeville where Mr. Palache lived, to be conducted by him on the following terms:—

To conduct experiments in the growing and classifying of native crops such as yams, sweet potatoes, cassava, corn, peas, beans and vegetables, and more especially experiments in the hybridization of prolific varieties of corn.

To write reports on all these experiments.

The Society to have the first call upon the seeds and plants which should be available for distribution in small quantities, but to purchase large quantities at prevailing market prices. Mr. Palache to give the land and his services free.

A grant of £100 to be made for this for the first year.

The arrangement to continue in force for one year certain, and after the expiration of that term to be subject to 6 months' notice on either side.

After discussion this was agreed to.

The usual Reports and Itineraries of the Instructors were submitted and directed to be circulated to the Instructors Committee as usual.

*Toronto Exhibition:—*

The Secretary asked for authority to transfer a sum at the credit of the Society's Exhibition Account representing the profits from the products sent to the Coronation Exhibition, London, amounting to £15 15s. 11½d. to the credit of the Toronto Exhibition account temporarily.

The grant for the Toronto Exhibition was so limited he could not pay all the small accounts here until the Exhibits at the Exhibition were sold and the proceeds accounted for. The authority asked for was granted.

*New Members:—*

The following new members were elected:—Theodore Williams, Rhodesia, South Africa; Gerald Vincent Lindo, Riversdale; A. Leo Hopwood, Rio Bueno; J. H. Lindon, Annotto Bay; Archibald Spooner, Hayes; R. E. Thomas, Guapiles, Costa Rica.

The Meeting adjourned until Thursday, 18th September, 1913, at 11.40 a.m.



**AUTHORIZED PERSONS.**

RETURN OF ARRESTS MADE BY "AUTHORIZED PERSONS" UNDER THE PRAEDIAL LARCENY LAW DURING THE QUARTER ENDED THE 30TH JUNE, 1913.

Parish.	Names of "Authorized Persons" who prosecuted.	Name of Defendant.	Offence for which prosecuted.	Remarks.
Kingston	Nil	Nil	Nil	
St. Andrew	Josiah Douglas	Lachlan Dorman	Unlawful poss. of Bananas	Discharged on
St. Thomas	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Portland	James Brown	Stephen Thaxter	do. Bananas.	Discharged.
"	W. Z. Buckley	Joseph Parkes	do. do.	7 days H. L.
"	Alfred King	David Kelly	do. do.	Dismissed.
St. Mary	Josiah Robinson	Jeremiah Bennet	do of Agricultural Produce	7 days H. L.
"	Ezekiel Brown	Zachariah Wentworth	do. do.	do.
"	Robert Forsythe	Adrian Martin	do. do.	4 mths. H. L. D. P.
"	Robert Forsythe	Wilfred Walters	do. do.	Discharged.
"	Alfred Hamilton	Nathaniel Hamilton	do. do.	30 days H. L. D. P.
"	Samuel Montgomery	Alfred Brown	do. do.	7 days H. L.
"	Samuel Montgomery	James Phillips	do. do.	do.
"	James Campbell	Ebenezer Dillion	do. do.	4 mths. H. L. D. P.
"	Jeremiah Gordon	James Campbell	do. do.	Discharged.
St. Ann	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Trelawny	Lucius Currie	William Campbell	Unlawful poss. of Yams.	3 mths. H. L. D. P.
St. James	Josiah Noble	Catherine Kerr	do. of Canes.	Discharged.
"	Josiah Noble	Nelly Kerr	do. do.	Investigating charge.
"	Josiah Noble	Maud White	do. of Cooanuts	do.
"	Josiah Noble	Charles Smith	do. Canes.	30 days H. L. D. P.
Hanover	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Westmoreland	Thos. Lindsay	Ann Miller	Unlawful poss. of Canes.	60 days H. L. G. P.
"	Amos Allen	Hubert Thomas	do. do.	do. H. L. D. P.
"	Andrew McFarlane	Frank Graham	do. Yams.	5 mths. H. L. D. P.
St. Elizabeth	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Manchester	Uriah Wright	Robert D. Francis	Unlawful poss. of Cassavas.	26 wks. H. L. D. P.
"	James Freckleton	Mahala Smith	do Yams & Cooes	Sent to Girls' Industrial School.
Clarendon	George Moodie	Wm. Raymond	Unlawful poss. of Bananas.	Discharged.
"	Roht. Rowbotham	James Simpson	do. do.	7 days H. L.
St. Catherine	Nil	Nil	Nil	

Inspector General's Office,  
Kingston, 13th August, 1913.

A. E. KERSHAW, Lt.-Col.,  
Inspector-General of Police.

## PRAEDIAL LARCENY.

The Prædial Larceny question was fully discussed at the meeting of the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society held on 21st August.

The Secretary stated that this question had been discussed at length at the Half Yearly General Meeting, and he would suggest that the matter be submitted to the Branch Societies for their discussion and suggestions. He had been instructed by the Half Yearly Meeting to submit the matter of including mahoe and mahogany trees on the Schedule of the Prædial Larceny Law, and he had done so. He had also submitted the matter of amendments to the Produce Protection Law to the Branch Societies.

The Hon. S. S. Stedman: I thought they had already discussed this question of prædial larceny.

The Secretary stated that the branch societies did discuss the matter; but their recommendations had then been very conflicting.

Mr. Stedman was of opinion that some steps should be taken to amend the Produce Protection Law. He had been approached by the heads of the fruit companies on the subject. Recently there had been a prosecution of the headmen of the company in whose names the licenses had been taken out; and it had been represented to him that these gentlemen would soon have nothing to do but to answer charges, in different parts of the island, against their buyers. These prosecutions had largely been the result of a book which had been issued, and which every one who had any knowledge of the banana trade knew could not be honestly kept. He thought the Government should collect the fullest information from the people who bought produce for they were willing to assist the ruling authorities to stamp out prædial larceny for it was in the interests of the colony to do so. If the Government failed to cope with the evil at the present time it was due to the cumbersome Law which existed in connection with the purchase of produce. Under the present system it was practically impossible to comply with the requirements of the Law and he thought a committee of the Society might be appointed to confer with the heads of the fruit companies who would be able to give very valuable information. He thought such a committee might be able to remedy the mistakes that occurred in connection with the Law from time to time.

The Rev. W. T. Graham said prædial larceny would not be stamped out until the Government tackled the source of the evil. They had a number of juveniles in different parts of the colony who were developing into prædial thieves and until they could check the "supply" they would still have prædial larceny rampant as ever. It was a very serious matter to the community but the fact remained that until they were able to provide against the youthful rogues and vagabonds who were growing up they would still have large numbers of prædial thieves in their midst.

Hon. George McGrath said: You will doubtless remember sir that at the recent half yearly meeting of the Society I suggested that the representatives of the various branch Societies give an expression of their views, as to the reported great prevalence of prædial larceny and the operation of the Authorized Persons I think, sir, I am right in saying—subject to your correction—that all the representatives that spoke, on that occasion on the subject bore testimony that the crime of "prædial larceny" was most prevalent throughout the country, and that the Authorized Persons should be instructed in their duties, which was always my contention at this Board. I hope that the circular recently issued by the Government to the Magistracy of the Island to assist to instruct the Authorized Persons in their duties, will have the effect so earnestly desired by the Government. I, however, fail to understand how the Magistrates will be able to reach these men other than the few who now and again bring a prisoner before them. They have no power to compel their attendance for the purpose of instructions, for the Authorized Persons are an independent body and are under no local head. I very much regret to see by the newspaper that some of these men have been acting illegally in my parish (St. Catherine) and that one case was so bad that the Authorized Person had to sell his only horse to compensate a respectable married woman for his illegal treatment of her.

With your permission sir, I would draw attention to a report of a recent meeting held last week of the Claremont Branch Society in St. Ann. I may mention that this is one of the most important branch societies in the island, having as its members several ministers of religion and some of the most intelligent men of St. Ann. The Custos of the Parish and Col. the Hon. E. Moulton-Barrett are much interested in this important branch. In that report it was stated:

"A report was given by the Committee appointed, *re* prædial larceny, and read as follows:—"We find that this crime is an increasing menace to the prosperity of our district. Many honest and industrious settlers are being seriously discouraged and large land owners also suffer from the depredations of the prædial thief. Our observation leads us to the conclusion that the sentences and prison discipline as carried out at present fail to remedy the evil. We recommend that arrangements be made to incarcerate prædial thieves under sentence of a month and less in the Police Stations of the island and that they be made to labour in the towns and villages where such Stations exist, especially in doing sanitary work; further, whenever a prædial thief is known to possess property, it should be made liable for four times the value of his depredation together with the cost of the prosecution, and that the amount of four fold the value should be paid to the parties from whom the goods were stolen. We strongly support the establishment of industrial schools in various parts of the island, we also recommend that Authorized Persons receive instructions in their duties."

These suggestions (continued Mr. McGarth) are all very well, but what I think is required is an active, regular and watchful paid body to let the depredators know that they are being continually watched by men that are appointed for that purpose. Besides which, sir, the body of Habitual Criminals now at large in the island require the watchful eyes of such a force. I have given much thought to this subject and, personally I think a return to the Rural Police Force would meet the requirements; this force was in operation from the year 1869 to 1899 when it was superseded by the District Constables on the ground of expense, as the preamble to the Law states.—14 years against 30 in favour of the Rural Police. These District Constables are paid by results and as they often have to leave their districts in search of work, necessitating a week's absence, at times, they are not always at hand when required. Many of them do not care about their appointments, saying it is not worth their while. The Rural headmen of Police were selected from the best of the yeomen class and received a monthly pay of £1. They had their own small freeholds with sufficient occupation to keep them at home where they were always to be found by those requiring their services. The Government supplied each man with a small red flag with a Crown attached, and this flag was always exhibited at the entrance gate to their houses as an indication of their presence and abode, and evil doers knew that they were always present to watch them and detect crime. This acted as a great deterrent to crime. Anyhow during the time of these Rural Police we did not hear of such depredations. This force was abolished at the time when it was considered necessary to reduce the expenditure of the colony. When this change was being discussed in the Legislative Council, I wrote to the late Mr. Arthur Levy, the then member for Manchester parish, and pointed out to him that it would be a great mistake to abolish the Rural Police and he replied to me, from the Chamber of the Legislative Council, saying that he fully endorsed my views but that the elected members as a whole were determined on a reduction of expenditure and this measure was comprised in their scheme of reduction.

I will only now mention, sir, that I propose in due course and before the meeting of the next session of the Legislative Council to move a resolution to appoint a Committee of this Board, to consider this change for the betterment and protection of the agricultural population and if it meets with favour to make a representation to the Government.

The Hon. Dugald Campbell said that he attended a meeting of the St. Thomas the Vale Society held on the previous day, and could say that it was the unanimous wish of the members present that mahogany and mahoe should be placed on the list of protected plants—the sooner the better, as a great deal of destruc-

tion was being done among these trees by stripping their bark. The subject of prædial larceny, and particularly the larceny of cocoa in pods was discussed at length, and it was also the unanimous desire of the meeting that something should be done to put a stop to the practice of selling cocoa in pods, particularly in the districts where there are large factories which buy cocoa in the pod. All kinds of persons took out licenses as buyers—Chinese and others. The Chinese would buy half-a-dozen pods at a time from children, and it was well known that many children had to sell these pods to get the money for their lunch. The parents, not being in a position to provide the children with money for their lunch tell them to sell the cocoa pods, and if these pods are not to be found in the fields of their mothers and fathers, the children get them from their neighbours. This practice of selling cocoa by children was almost universal, and was a great stimulus to stealing the pods; hence the consensus of opinion was that the system of buying of cocoa in pods should be abolished. Something should be done to remedy the prædial larceny evil, and he had to say that he had great sympathy with the remarks of Mr. McGrath.

Mr. A. C. L. Martin said that it was well known that prædial larceny was a great curse to the country, and was a great discouragement to honest agriculturists. He thought that the question should be referred back to the branch societies for suggestions as to what should be done, but before this was done they should get some assurance from the Government, that, if the Society made representations for the suggestion of prædial larceny, the Government would be willing to go forward and act on them. Something had to be done to stamp out the great evil. Prædial larceny was wide spread in Jamaica: detection of thieves was a difficult matter, and when thieves were detected and convicted the punishment meted out was no deterrent. In his opinion the present laws with respect to Prædial Larceny should be repealed, and a new Law dealing with the subject enacted. The punishment at present inflicted was no deterrent to the prædial thieves—the people did not care about the punishment—did not care about imprisonment. Drastic laws were needed to deal with the prædial thieves, the punishment being such as would act as a deterrent. But as he said, before they went further in the matter, he would like an assurance that the Government, would act on recommendations made by the Society, and not simply cast these aside.

His Excellency the Governor, who presided, said that since the last half-yearly meeting of the Society he had been collecting all the literature on the question that he possibly could. And he must say that it was very interesting. In the Blue Book report for 1903—04, the whole question of remedies for prædial larceny was discussed. It was there set out:

“The question of prædial larceny was, very closely discussed and investigated in this island during the time of scarcity which prevailed in 1899-1900 without any valuable new conclusion being arrived at. The law was amended, but I think it must be plain to any reflecting person that no methods of criminal law can, under existing present conditions in this island, prevent epidemics of prædial larceny in periods of scarcity. In periods of plenty it abates, and no longer attracts public notice. The class who then practice it are habitual thieves and vagrants, and can be dealt with by the criminal law. When prædial larceny increases in prevalence there is always an outcry for more flogging. It appears to me to require great credulity to believe either that greater resort to this punishment would counteract the evil or that it would be worth while to counteract it at the price to the community of the indulgence of this vindictive impulse. It is clear that the increased resort by the Magistrates to flogging in the case of second offenders is not checking it at the present time. Though floggings were being awarded nearly four times as frequently in the latter months of the year as in the year before, the tide of prædial larceny was still rising, and only the return of plenty will check it. My opinion is that the only general remedy for that part of such outbreaks is a primitive substitute for poor relief (in-door or out-door) will be found in the firmer establishment and wider diffusion of property, of the sense of property rights and family obligations and of habits of industry and providence in the adolescent population. The

habitual offenders are, as a rule, pretty well known to their neighbours, and their operations would be greatly restrained if public reprobation of them were more general and more effectually organized. Individually the Jamaica peasant objects to being robbed, but he does not object to other people being robbed strongly enough to combine with them to prevent it."

His Excellency continuing said: These were remarks made 10 years ago (Mr. Simmonds. And they apply to day). He would also like to read some figures relative to the question. In 1907-8 there were 3,476 arrests with 2,547 convictions, in 1908-09, 3,648 arrests with 2,510 convictions, in 1909-10 2,020 arrests with 1,303 convictions; in 1910-11 2,332 arrests with 1,547 convictions; in 1911-12, 2,082 arrests with 1,382 convictions; 1912-13 3,416 arrests with 2,369 convictions. The increase in 1912-13 really commenced in November when the hurricane took place. For the 10 years ending 1912 there were 1878 whippings, including juveniles, the average being 187.8 whippings per annum. In the year 1912-13 there were exactly 187 whippings, amongst these were 4 adults and 183 juveniles. In 1903, the year of the hurricane there were 4,044 arrests with 2,672 convictions so that it would be seen that there was always an increase of the crime following on disasters. He quite agreed with the speakers that juveniles were responsible for a great deal of the prædial larceny. Small boys and girls undoubtedly were sent out by their parents to sell the cocoa pods to get food because there was nothing for them to get at home. In the parish of St. Elizabeth, a sort of rescue home had recently been established which was already doing most excellent work in checking prædial larceny there. Children who would certainly become prædial thieves were rescued and put in the home, where they were well looked after, with the result, he was told, that thieving in Saint Elizabeth had dropped to a considerable extent (hear, hear). He entirely agreed that it was most desirable that the children, who otherwise would die of starvation—some of those he saw on his visit to the dry districts of St. Elizabeth some time ago, would have died of starvation but for the fact that they were taken into this home—should be taken into such homes and cared for. They could not ask the parishes to do this work. As the result of circumstances, it was beyond the means of the parishes themselves to take the matter in hand, but it was necessary that something should be done. Therefore he hoped that he would have the support of the Legislative Council next year in establishing in St. Elizabeth and in the southern district of Manchester, homes—which were in no sense penal homes—where these wretched children could be taken in and cared for by the State—to do on a large scale what was at present being done at the Institution in St. Elizabeth with the very small funds at its disposal. Some steps would have to be taken to have the children cared for, and the results already obtained, showed what an enormous advantage it will be to have these homes.

Now with regard to adults. It had been stated that grown up men convicted of prædial larceny should be flogged, but he was not inclined at the present time to the Government allowing such a thing to be done; because as stated in one paragraph of the report he had read, the effect of flogging seemed to be insufficient to check the evil. Flogging did not seem to check the evil—had very little effect on it—and he was not prepared or inclined to flogging as a remedy for the evil just now.

With regard to the point raised by Mr. Martin, that the proposals of the Society should be accepted by the Government and acted upon, he was afraid he could not agree to give the assurances asked for, and for this reason. Various proposals, some of them of a very drastic nature had been placed before the Government, and of course all could not be acted on. One suggestion was that convicted thieves should be placed in stocks. But he could not forget that they were now living in the 20th century. (Hear, hear). He had also seen it stated that women should be flogged. Well, they were still in the 20th century and he could not agree to this.

The subject was an extremely difficult one to deal with. It was not one that had arisen during the past year: as the figures he had read had shown, it had been going on for over 20 years. The evil arose during periods of hurricane and drought and fell during good seasons, and, as he said, it was a difficult problem to handle

At the same time, there might be among the branch societies some genius who might fall upon some idea which may be possible for the Government to take up. Therefore he agreed that the matter be referred back to the branch societies for suggestions, but these should not be of the drastic order. As he said, this might lead to their getting something on which they could work. He was quite prepared to agree that if a magistrate found an adult continually coming before him for prædial larceny, that it would be a right and proper thing to order a flogging, but whether flogging would have the effect of putting an end to the evil, he could not say, and the figures he had read did not support this belief.

He would refer to another matter—the question of stealing cocoa in pods, and also stealing the more important articles of agriculture generally. He would deal with cocoa pods first, because since the last meeting he had thought out something in regard to the matter. Roughly his scheme was this. The Agricultural Instructors must know in given districts who were the settlers who were growing cocoa—for example would be aware that "A" had an acre of cocoa and "B" a small patch and so on. Special forms could be given out by the Agricultural Department on which could be written "John Smith, of such and such a place cultivates one quarter of an acre, etc." Before "John Smith" was permitted to sell cocoa to a licensed dealer he would have to present this form which would be really his "selling license," on which would be a number clearly printed. On cocoa being presented for sale the buyer would ask the boy, girl, man or woman "where is your license to sell cocoa?" The seller would say, "here is my permission to sell, and the No. of the "selling license," and the quantity bought would then be entered in the book kept for the purpose. The sellers would be known by the number of their license, and as every Chinaman can put down figures, there would be no difficulty in making the entries as there would be no necessity to require the name of the vendors. The result would be that, if at any time it was necessary to check over the Chinaman's books the records would show (by the numbers) the amount of cocoa bought and the sellers. If it was thought that a vendor was selling more cocoa than his or her field could produce, the matter could be referred to the Agricultural Instructor for verification. If it was found that more cocoa was being sold to the Chinaman than could be produced on the estate involved, then one or two prosecutions should put a stop to the thefts. He put the scheme before members of the society for any remarks they might wish to make, but it seemed to him that that would be one way of dealing with the thefts of cocoa in the pod.

The Rev. Graham said he understood that 90 per cent. of the settlers in St. Mary grew cocoa and he thought that instead of these thefts being reported to the Agricultural Instructors they should be reported to the district constables.

Mr. Stedman said in view of the observations which had been made by His Excellency, the President he ventured to think that if His Excellency would communicate with the large cocoa merchants they would be able to submit valuable suggestions to him. He understood that there was a law forbidding the purchase of produce from children under 12 years but he did not know how far the law was being observed. The large cocoa dealers would be able to make suggestions that would be of material value to the Government.

The Hon. R. P. Simmonds was of opinion that if the Government were to raise the standard of the Produce Protection License it would have the effect of lessening prædial larceny. It should be made compulsory that every one who had a license should be able to read and write English and should keep a proper book. The amount payable for a license should be increased.

Mr. Dugald Campbell: At present a dealer pays £5.

Mr. Simmonds said then the value of the License should be increased to £10. They should also make it a term that all produce should be purchased in a real substantial building and not under a tree. There was no reason why they should not have one centre for the purchase of bananas and other produce. If this was adopted it would assist the police in finding out who were selling stolen produce, they would know whether a man was selling more produce than his cultivation could produce. They did not want the Agricultural Instructors, however, to act as policemen. It was the duty of the President or officers of the Society to give

whatever instructions that might be made necessary to the Authorized Persons, but they did not want the Agricultural Instructors brought into any matter that would make the people suspicious of their visits to their holdings, and would impair their usefulness.

The Hon. Dugald Campbell said he for one would not like to see the drastic measures suggested carried out, but the fact remained that these measures were suggested proved the seriousness of the present situation. There were thousands of cases that were never brought to notice. He was sure flogging was not a real remedy for prædial larceny; but he thought something could be done to put down the evil. To say that two or three thousand cases of prædial larceny as referred to in the report of His Excellency covered the ground of the evil, was not quite correct. Thousand of cases were not reported or ever dealt with. It was true that there were more cases of prædial larceny here during the periods of hurricane and drought, but the evil was with them all the time.

The President: Mr. Stedman suggests that the Government should consult with the large buyers of produce.

Mr. Stedman: Yes Your Excellency. I think the Government should get the opinions of the large buyers of citrus fruit, cocoa, bananas, etc. And I would suggest that the Law Officers of the Crown confer with them.

The President said he was desirous of getting any suggestion that would tend to lessen the prædial larceny evil. The fact remained, however, that during the past 10 years they had been endeavouring to stamp out prædial larceny but no means had yet been discovered to check the evil, and if any one in the districts or any part of the island could suggest any thing that would tend to lessen the evil he would be pleased to take up the matter. On these occasions different phases of the questions were mentioned; but they did not get very far in dealing with this serious situation.

Mr. A. C. L. Martin said the Produce Protection Law does not go far enough.

Mr. Graham suggested that a system of indenture might have the effect of lessening the number of cases of prædial larceny.

Mr. Simmonds said it was a notorious fact that prison was not a deterrent to prædial thieves. It was a well known fact that it was not a disgrace here for any one to go to prison. It was so with all classes, judging by the manner in which the person, who was convicted, was received after his liberation. The prison had come to be a sort of resting place—a home—for some convicts; and in his opinion a farm should be established in connection with their prison service where a prisoner would do so much work per day and after the cost of his maintenance was deducted and he was leaving prison, he would get the balance to his credit. The prædial thief would, therefore, see that it was a waste of time to steal and go to prison and he would do honest work outside.

The President said the comforts in prison life did not only exist in Jamaica. He had heard of a case in another country where a man was sentenced to three or four years penal servitude and when his time was up and he was about to be discharged he asked the prison authorities: "Why are you turning me out. What have I done?" (Laughter).

Mr. McGrath said one of the things which conduced to prædial larceny was the fact that the books of produce dealers were not properly inspected.

The produce buyers were anxious to get all the produce they could, but the police should be stirred to activity in inspecting their books.

The President said the matter would be taken up by him. The subject of prædial larceny was brought up at the half yearly meeting of the Society and it was urged that it was the produce buyers who had encouraged the thieving that was going on. He thought the matter should be referred to the branch societies for they might have a genius who might rise up and help them out of the difficulty.

It was accordingly decided to refer this matter to the Branch Societies for discussion and their opinions.

## COTTON.

## "LEAF BLISTER MITE"—IMPORTATION OF COTTON SEED.

On the recommendation of this Society, the Government has given power for the Inspectors of Plant Diseases to order to be cut down and destroyed any Cotton plants affected with "Leaf Blister Mite," or if this is not done they can do so. This is for the protection of the cotton industry.

The importation of cotton seed is also put under control,—a very necessary thing.

Hitherto, anyone could import cotton seed from any part of the world. Although any large quantity was subjected to a process of disinfection in passing the Customs, still a small quantity could come in without hindrance.

Now anyone importing cotton seed, must give notice and get permission.

## Gazette Notice—Thursday August 21st, 1913.

No. 421. 16th August, 1913.

The Governor directs the publication for general information, of the following Declaration in regard to the Cotton Plant and the disease known as "Leaf Blister Mite."

"The Governor in Privy Council on the 7th instant under Section 2 of Law 35 of 1911 declared the Cotton Plant to be subject to infective disease, and has also declared the disease known as "Leaf Blister Mite" (*Eriopyhes gossypii*) to be an infective disease within the meaning of the said Law."

F. L. PEARCE,

Clerk Privy Council.

12th August, 1913.

The Governor also directs the publication, for general information, of the following Order made under section 2 of Law 17 of 1912, viz. :—

"Order made by the Governor in Privy Council under the provisions of Section 2 of the Protection from disease (Plants) Law, 1912 (Law 17 of 1912), prescribing the conditions under which alone the importation of cotton shall be permitted."

Under the powers conferred by Section 2 of Law 17 of 1912. "A Law to prevent the introduction and spread of Plant Diseases. I, the Governor, in Privy Council do hereby Order and prescribe that the following conditions shall be the conditions under which alone the importation of Cotton into the Island of Jamaica shall be permitted :

- (a) The Importer shall obtain in advance the permission of the Director of Agriculture and shall notify him in advance as to any expected consignment of "Cotton."
- (b) No "Cotton" shall be landed from a ship except in the charge of an officer of the Department of Agriculture, who will deal with it by strict measures of disinfection.
- (c) The Director of Agriculture shall be responsible for the disinfection of all "Cotton" imported and shall have power to burn any consignment that is considered by him likely to be a means of introducing or spreading plant disease
- (d) No "Cotton" shall be delivered to the importer until the Director of Agriculture has issued a certificate that the consignment has been properly disinfected.
- (e) "Cotton shall be admitted at the port of Kingston only.

And I do hereby order that "Cotton" shall include any cotton lint or seed of any part whatever of the Cotton plant or of any plant of any species or variety of *Gossypium*.

W. H. MANNING,  
Governor



## SISAL HEMP.—Continued.

## CHAPTER 8.

## RECEPTION OF THE LEAVES, EXTRACTION OF THE FIBRE, SUN DRYING.

*Artificial Drying, Baling and Bagasse.**Reception of the Leaves.*

These as they come in from the field in bundles of 50, if they cannot be at once cleaned, must be put away under shade where the sun does not reach them. They must be so arranged that no leaf remains longer than 3 days or 72 hours from the time of cutting without its fibre being extracted. The sooner the fibre can be extracted from the leaves after cutting the better.

From this place the bundles are delivered to the suppliers who carry and put them on the stands in front of the machine and beside the operators.

*Extraction of the Fibre.*

Two men as operators attend to one machine and take their position; one takes a leaf off the stand, makes the smaller end fast with a small lever with which he manages to prevent the whole leaf being dragged in, it is then inserted in the machine, when a half of the leaf gets cleansed the other operator pulls it out and reverses it end for end putting in the remaining portion, finally drawing out and throwing aside the fibre contained in one leaf, managing at the same time a large brake acting on the scraping block which allows the free admission of the leaf and afterwards regulates the exact amount of pressure required to extract fibre without cutting; this although appearing lengthy is the active work of only a few seconds. The number of leaves which two men as operators will clean for a day of 8 hours at one machine driven by steam power, varies from 6 to 10 thousand, depending on the size of the leaves and the ability of the operators; eight thousand is considered a good task, and only for hands well experienced with a lot of practice. This part of the work is constant and rapid and one where the operator has to bring all his alertness into play.

One derives pleasure in witnessing the green leaves put into the machine and the next moment the beautiful white fibre drawn out.

I however understand that new and improved decorticating machines made by the Prieto Machine Co. of New York (whose Illustrated catalogues were kindly sent to me) have been introduced with great success in Yucatan since I left there, and have altogether superseded the old fibre machines.

The Prieto machines are represented to take in the leaves at one end and pass and reverse them automatically and deliver the clean fibre at the other end, doing away entirely with the necessity for special hands as operators whose work required them to be regularly trained and consequently demanded much skill.

According to the manufacturers, "Irene 51" is capable of decorticating up to 30,000 leaves per day of 10 hours, using an engine of 12 horse power which will suit a plantation of four or five hundred acres. The other machine, "La Estrella" is suitable for a plantation from 1,000 to 1,500 acres.

The changing device in the machine works in harmony with the entrance roller, and makes it impossible to clog the leaves when passing from one position to the other. The leaves enter the machine and are brought past the knife drum which cleanse half of the leaves.

In passing through the changing device the position of the leaf is reversed and carried automatically again past the knife drum where the part of the leaf which was not cleaned in the first operation is now cleaned and the fibre discharged.

Machines of these types worked to the complete satisfaction of the planters in Yucatan who stated that the machines more than fulfilled expectations and gave results never obtained before.

#### *Sun Drying.*

The fibre after extraction is taken and hung on the drying stands where it is allowed to remain in the sun attended to by turning until perfectly dry which takes a few hours. If the state of the weather prevents the fibre from being entirely dried in the sun it must be put in the drying house; in case of rain, an effort must be made to secure all the fibre in the house before the downfall, as rain water may so injure it by discolouring, (if the fibre is allowed to remain in heaps without attention) as to make it unfit for sale, resulting in loss. All the fibre after becoming dry must be taken to the press room.

Artificial drying is only necessary when the work goes on and there is no chance of having the fibre sun dried in consequence of the inclemency of the weather, or during long rainy seasons. It must at that time be hung in the drying house upon rails and these on tiers so arranged as to reach the roof that the house may take in a large quantity, allowing sufficient space from one tier to another and between the rails for the free circulation of air.

If required the house may be warmed by fire with as little smoke as possible to such a temperature so that the fibre does not take in moisture; this must be kept up until the hemp begins to dry or until the first return of sunshine, when it can be finished up in the sun. If the cultivator thinks this troublesome and desires to avoid it, he may suspend work until the return of fair weather which can be done without detriment to the crop. The fibre that remains for too long a time after extraction without being exposed in the sun or hung in the dry house is liable to become impaired in colour.

#### *Baling.*

This is conducted in the following manner:—

The exact weight of fibre for one bale according to the capacity of the press is first weighed off; this is done with every bale to have uniformity of weight.

One or two hands get inside the press, the fibre is handed to them by one or two others; it is laid out smoothly and straightly and about one-third of its length turned over to form a smooth head which is put flush to the head of the press, the long portion going the lengthway, the pickers standing on each layer in succession until finished, making an even bulk throughout, it is then levered or screwed down by hand or steam power, and corded across tightly with small cords made from the same hemp, after which the lever or screw is slackened and the bale thrown out ready for shipment.

The baling should not be done by flinging in the fibre making hills and holes, but neatly packed in order that the bale may have a neat and smooth appearance when finished which makes it pass for what it really is, hemp of first quality, as badly put up bales turned out rough and full of fringes, through their untidy appearance, although a hemp of first quality, is put down as 2nd class.

Bales vary in weight from 350 to 500 lbs. each, according to the desire of the planter. A bale of 350 lbs. is most convenient for handling and loading, etc.

Any fibre which may be damaged either through the leaves remaining too long after cutting to be cleaned or the fibre getting wet, or the result of over ripe leaves, all of which will produce spots and to some extent discolour it, must on no account be packed within the bale of white hemp, neither must it be made into cordage to cord up the bale, as it will in the first instance destroy the fame it ought to have, and in the second injure the appearance of the package. If the planter be wishful of exporting the damaged fibre he may bale and ship it as 2nd quality as is done in Yucatan.

It is by strictly observing and carrying through this part of the business that the fibre is so well received and readily purchased in the markets of the United States of America and elsewhere.

In the carriage of the bales of hemp from the plantation to railway or to port of shipment and on their embarkation they ought to be well covered and secured from rain as the fibre would be discoloured were it to get wet.

#### *Bagasse.*

The bagasse or refuse from the leaves must be taken away some distance West of the works, and should not be thrown around young trees or plants which are of use, as it tends to destroy vegetation; no grass grows where this refuse is put until its power is worn out. It must be spread out thinly to get dry so as to be burnt.

*(To be Continued).*

(The next Chapter deals with the Yield.)

— : o : —

### PRIZE HOLDINGS COMPETITION.

In judging the holdings of those who are competing, consideration will be given to the condition in which dwelling houses, out-houses and yards are kept, the quality and condition of the live stock, the state of the land and crops and the general methods of cultivation followed. In every case it is the actual work the competitor is doing that is taken into account, quite apart from any natural advantage the holding may possess, through good rainfall, rich soil and the fact that it is an old holding, the staple crops on which may have been planted by predecessors. No one need be deterred from competing because his land is poorer than his neighbours, or because his staple crops or fruit trees are not bearing, such as cocoa, coffee, etc. or because his buildings are new, or less commodious than other competitors. If he is making the most of his opportunities, he will receive marks in accordance. Marks are given according to the evidence of industry, and intelligent work by the competitor.

*Houses and Out-houses.*—These should be in a clean and orderly condition, showing that they are kept so regularly, and have not been merely prepared temporarily for the judges' visits. Of course some cleaning, extra brushing up and so on, for the inspection is permissible, but the judges will be able to see whether the cleanliness and tidiness are temporary instead of customary. Particular notice will be taken of the closet accommodation; a box of earth or ashes should always be kept in this. Whenever possible there should be a garden, where some of the vegetables (usually called "English") and flowers should be grown. A garden adds to the appearance of the place, and the use of green vegetables at the table adds to the comfort and health of the family.

*Stock.*—The number, kind and quality of the Live Stock must vary a good deal, according to the district, size of holding and the nature of the land which the owner possesses. But even when the land is very fertile and cultivatable, some stock should be kept as manure must be wanted at some time for some crops, especially garden vegetables, and milk is a necessity for the household. Eggs and meat for the household, are always wanted and so small stock such as fowls and rabbits should always be kept. In nearly all cases pigs can be kept to utilize the waste in the household, field, and garden,

Rabbits can be fed almost without expense, and the flesh of these animals is good for the table, especially for invalids, while they also provide manure for the garden.

Fowls are always a necessity. On many small holdings cows cannot often be kept, but milch goats can be kept for milk; and from these animals manure can be saved, and for this purpose they should be brought into a pen or shed at night.

*Crops and Cultivation.*—The two things chiefly aimed at should be to have as little waste land as possible. The crops grown should be as good as the natural conditions will allow. Land not yet utilized for cultivation, should be under pasture and a small piece of land reserved for growing wood, is permissible and recommendable, as wood in some districts is becoming scarce, but weeds, in such land, that might spread seed to the cultivation should not be allowed to grow. Good timber trees such as mahoe and cedar can often be planted on the larger holdings and these will be taken note of by the judges. Any land under pasture should be well fenced.

In districts where stock is usually kept and land is poor, pens and sheds for sheltering stock at night and thus saving the manure, are recommendable and will be taken particular notice of by the judges, as against leaving the stock out day and night.

*Drainage.*—Trenches or drains will be particularly taken into consideration on the heavy lands, and as much on the hill-sides as on the level. On the red soils drains are not usually necessary, but mulching is there considered a necessity.

## COCONUTS.

**COPRA.**—The manufacture of Copra is such an exceedingly simple and inexpensive operation that there would appear to be a good field for a much larger export of this valuable commodity from Jamaica than is at present the case. The smaller nuts, which under the present method of buying coconuts by the exporting Companies, are sold at unremunerative rates as well as those nuts which have become over ripe for exportable purposes, should without practically no diminution of the present exports make an appreciable exportable quantity of copra.

That it is possible for Copra from Jamaica to fetch as good a price as that from any other part of the world has been demonstrated by late sales which have fetched over £30 per ton.

Of course under present prices it would not pay to turn the larger grades of nuts into Copra, but I am convinced that there is a tremendous amount of waste which may be avoided if all the non-exportable at a profit nuts were used for this purpose.

I have gathered the following figures from one of the largest Coconut plantations in the Island and they are thoroughly reliable. 1,000 average nuts of good quality gave 330 lbs. Copra. 6788 average nuts gave of Copra one ton. 1,000 bone dry, non-exportable nuts, which are also not saleable to local people for making coconut oil gave 282 lbs. of first-class quality Copra.

Last year when grades were at their worst, 100 large nuts from a plantation in the east of Portland gave 46½ lbs. Copra while 100 small gave 36½ lbs. Copra. The latter were such as dropped through the gauge and would have to be sold two for one.

The charges on 1,000 nuts made into Copra shipped from Jamaica were 12/0½d. out of which freight cost 7/5. the total charges Jamaica to London were per 1,000 nuts 15/1½d. out of which freight was 7/5d., these charges include picking up, cartage, taking out of the shells, drying, bagging, B/L. and all charges.

It is believed that when this export reaches larger dimensions that the freight could be lowered as at present it is within 6/- per ton of the cost of freight on Cocoa, being 52/- per ton while Cocoa is 58/-, Cocoa being of course the much more valuable article being worth at present prices £70 per ton as compared with Copra at £30 per ton.

It is interesting to note that the Ceylon Plantations quote 3,700 nuts to make one ton of Copra while in Samoa 6,000 nuts are estimated to yield a ton of Copra. In both of these latter cases I presume both large and small nuts are used.

The process of curing Copra is exceedingly simple, in fact there is no process, all that has to be done is to take the meat out of the shells and dry it in the sun.

W. CRADWICK.

(For the information of those who do not know, Copra is the name given in commerce to the dried flesh or meat of the coconut. It is used chiefly for expressing the oil to make soap; the dry meal left being used for feeding cattle.)

In another case 1315 small nuts, too small for shipment, gave 589 lbs. Copra. A skilled man at the job can husk 1600 nuts in a day at 2d per 100, throwing husks away from him in another heap at the same time.—Ed.

THE JOURNAL OF THE  
AUTHORIZED PERSONS

---

It requires everyone concerned to do their utmost to make the working of Authorized Persons a success.

The Branch Societies have to do a large share.

First, they must see that only good men, likely to be interested in the work are nominated; preferably those who can read and write. These men ought also to be physically fit, and likely to be men of discretion and judgement.

It was to be looked for that there would be considerable trouble for the first few years in the working out of the idea of Authorized Persons.

Although the Law was passed in 1909, it was only two years ago, that Branch Societies really awoke to the necessity of making such appointments, generally, so the system has not had a very long test yet.

All the criticisms and debates on the subject have been of value. They have brought the subject of Authorized Persons before the public, and those who thought this scheme only a fad that would wear itself to death in a few years, and so did not concern themselves about it, are realizing that it is a serious scheme, one that can prove useful to obtain the results aimed at, if it receives the help and support of all concerned. And all who grow products are concerned.

There is always the disposition to avoid taking any trouble, and also there is a suspicion of anything new, or any new way of grappling a difficulty. It would be the poorest policy imaginable to throw up any scheme like this after a few years working, without its having anything like a serious trial.

If there have been failures, we can profit by the lesson of these to prevent them in the future; if there are weaknesses in the scheme, they can be remedied. There is hardly a Law in the Statutes, that after working a few years has not had to be amended.

It is the experience of the working out of any scheme or any Law, that brings out the weaknesses in it.

All that this scheme of Authorized Persons wants, is that all that are directly concerned in the proper working of it, will take it seriously.

The Agricultural Society is very much interested in this. We ourselves have taken the greatest interest in it, and so far as we are concerned, have worked to make it successful in results. But it has been hard to get interest taken in the details of the scheme and in the understanding of it.

First,—Branch Societies have not always been careful in selecting their men. They have not been zealous to see that their men properly understood the Law. This Law was published in October JOURNAL, 1909 and copies of it were sent to each Branch Society. Since then many new Branch Societies have been formed and copies have again been sent out. It should also have been part of the duty of the Agricultural Instructors to explain this scheme to Branches and give advice on it to those with whom they come in contact. Some did this, some did not. They must, however, do so.

The police who are next concerned in it, at first rather resented the appointment of Authorized Persons, not all perhaps, but most, and did not take much trouble in seeing that those appointed had their duties explained to them.

The Clerks of the Courts did not at first do much to facilitate the working of the Law. They have had a good deal of trouble because Authorized Persons themselves have not claimed their fees in a proper manner. Pains should have been taken to explain what was required, and the men not simply dealt with by a curt refusal to pay.

Clerks of Courts must have a certificate guaranteeing that such and such work has been done. It cannot be expected that the statement of Authorized Persons that they have done work can be taken without proof. The Law says that the local Agricultural Society can recommend payment for work done. The police can recommend it and the Justice of the Peace can also give a certificate to the Authorized Person who brings cases before him, of the nature of the work done. All Branches have not understood that they could give these certificates under the Law. Now that the Law has been published again and copies distributed to every Branch Society and Agricultural Instructor, they should be well up in it and should help in every way they can to make it run smoothly.

The Justices of the Peace have also been asked to interest themselves in this scheme. When an Authorized Person brings an arrested person before them, they can certify that the Authorized Person has done so much work.

The Agricultural Society has also suggested to the Government that a pamphlet be prepared, giving all information about this scheme, so that these could be issued to all parties more particularly interested in the working of it, viz. :—Branch Societies, Instructors, Authorized Persons, Police, Clerks of Courts and Magistrates.

—: o :—

#### OVERLOOK BEANS.

It will interest you to learn that some years ago when on the look out for proteid diet for my mules, which in Antigua are all stall fed, I came across the Overlook Bean which reached me from St. Thomas under the name of the "Horsebean." The beans I found grew very readily and were not subject to caterpillar attacks. I raised a considerable quantity of these beans, sent them to England for analysis and report by Professor Voelcker the chemist to the Royal Agricultural Society of England. He reported very favourably on them as animal food, they were high in nitrogenous bodies and so he said, free from poisonous matter. I then imported a machine to make flour from these beans to feed them to the mules and found to my surprise that the mules would not touch their food as long as the least suspicion of bean flour was mixed with; in fact they literally turned up their noses at the least smell of it. Do what I could, mix it with molasses, oatmeal etc., the mules would have nothing to do with it. Dr., now Sir Daniel

Morris, happening to visit Antigua I mentioned the matter to him and he said he was not surprised, as all the beans of that family are poisonous in the ripe state. They can be eaten green without harmful effects but if eaten when ripe, even after boiling, they produce fainting in the human being. I was talking over the matter with some of my mule minders when one of them told me he knew what I said was true. He admitted he had stolen some of the beans and taken them home and had them boiled for his family dinner and added that the beans "throw dem all pon de ground" and made them giddy and insensible. I do not know whether you have any Jamaica experiences of a similar nature in connection with these beans in a ripe stage. I believe the botanical name is "Canavalia Eusififormis." There is also a variety of this bean having the beans a bright pink colour and another brown bean variety which grows as a wild creeper in Antigua and the ripe seed of which is considered poisonous by the negroes.—ARCH. SPOONER.

Moreland, Hayes P.O.

—:o:—

#### THE GREAT VALUE OF EUCALYPTUS TREES.

These valuable trees are native of Australia and are being raised largely in other Tropical and sub-Tropical countries now.

They are not, however, grown much in Jamaica yet, although they are quick to grow, easy to grow, and provide wood that is good for posts, lumber and firewood.

We know of a tree planted from seed 10 years ago, which is as large as a Mahogany tree of 40 years of age, and a Mahoe tree and a Broadleaf tree of 20 years of age.

There are many kinds of Eucalyptus trees, suitable for different purposes.

The tree we speak of is growing at an elevation of 2,800 feet, on a clay soil. The variety of this Eucalyptus is "Citriadora." The leaves of this variety are scented and are used in different ways. When anyone suffers from a chronic cold he or she should sleep on a pillow stuffed with these leaves. A handful of leaves put in a jug, and boiling water poured on them and the steam inhaled, will cure a cold quickly. Put in the nests of setting hens the leaves will keep off lice. Even wood of this variety used for fowl roosts will keep off pests.

We wrote of other varieties in the JOURNAL for February, May and October, 1909.

There were *F. Globulus*, *E. Robusta*, *E. Rostrata*, *E. Botryoides*.

These trees should be more commonly planted. A row of them along the frontage of a property looks well and the trees are, as has been noted, quick growers and provide good wood, for fence posts, railway ties, bridge and wharf timbers, etc.



**BANANAS.**

The following are some interesting figures regarding the bananas exported from various countries to the world's markets. The United States being by far the largest consumers the imports into that country are shown separately.

## BANANA SUPPLY OF THE UNITED STATES, 1912,

Jamaica	..	..	..	15,467,918
Honduras	..	..	..	7,151,178
Costa Rica	..	..	..	7,053,664
Panama	..	..	..	4,581,500
Cuba	..	..	..	2,478,581
Nicaragua	..	..	..	2,270,100
Guatemala	..	..	..	2,017,650
Colombia	..	..	..	1,542,988
Mexico	..	..	..	817,006
British Honduras	..	..	..	557,160
Dominican Republic	..	..	..	304,000
Dutch Guiana	..	..	..	261,548
Others	..	..	..	17,246
Total				44,520,539

The world supply in 1911 as shown by the same records was :

Country.				Quantity.
Dominican Republic	..	..	..	404,000
Mexico (Frontera Pro)	..	..	..	750,000
Honduras	..	..	..	6,500,000
Costa Rica	..	..	..	9,309,586
Jamaica	..	..	..	16,497,385
Colombia	..	..	..	4,901,894
Panama	..	..	..	4,261,500
Canary Islands	..	..	..	2,648,378
Cuba	..	..	..	2,500,000
Nicaragua	..	..	..	2,225,000
Guatemala	..	..	..	1,755,704
British Honduras	..	..	..	525,000
Dutch Guiana	..	..	..	387,516
Others	..	..	..	250,000
Total				52,915,963

The words "world supply" are not strictly correct. Fiji grows large quantities of bananas and exports them to Australia and New Zealand; and North Queensland grows a considerable quantity to supply Southern markets in Australia, and these countries are not mentioned.

**THE JOURNAL OF THE  
KEEPING CORN.**

We have repeatedly published articles and paragraphs on the subject of the use of Bi-sulphide of Carbon, which is a chemical used for destroying weevils in corn, but still requests come to hand for information on this subject.

A good many growers would like to stock large quantities of corn from season to season if they could keep it safe from attacks of weevils. We stock large quantities of seeds in this office, not only corn, but different varieties of peas and beans, etc. for the convenience of planters, as it often happens that the new season crops are not ready when a good season for planting comes on.

We have to watch these seeds carefully, and use Bi-sulphide of Carbon on them at the first sign of weevils appearing.

Corn can be stored in ordinary barrels or in bins or in puncheons. These receptacles require to be covered. Bi-sulphide of carbon is a liquid gas, heavier than air, so that when a small quantity is placed in a barrel filled with corn, and the barrel is closed down tight, the gas sinks down, right through the corn, killing all animal life, but not injuring the vitality of the corn, for seed purposes unless the amount of Bi-sulphide used is excessive. For a barrel of corn, a convenient thing to put the Bi-sulphide of carbon in, is an ordinary tobacco tin. This should be placed on the top of the corn sunk a little way in the corn; to keep it from spilling over. About three teaspoonsful of Bi-sulphide placed in this is sufficient to kill all the weevils. For larger quantities stored, the proportion is about one pound of liquid to every hundred bushels of grain.

Care has to be taken in using Bi-sulphide of Carbon, as it is very inflammable. No light, not even a lighted cigarette, cigar or pipe must be brought near it. It is also a nasty smelling stuff, having an odour of concentrated essence of dead rats and when using it, one has to take a deep breath, hold the breath, and act quickly so as not to get a sniff of it.

Bi-sulphide of carbon costs 5d. per lb. at the Government Laboratory. It is sent out in 5 lb. air-tight drums which cost 4/5 each. The extra 2/4, which is the cost of the drum, will be refunded when the drum is returned.

-----: o :-----

**COMMENTS.**

**OUR EXPORTS.**—The total amount of products shipped away from Jamaica from 1st January until 30th June, half of the year compares poorly with previous years. This is the result of the drought last year and the storm of November last. Fortunately prices have been good for most of our products, better than in the last few years when we exported much larger quantities. Our best showing is in coconuts and as the effects of a long drought like that of last year affects the bearing of coconuts and the grade of nuts for a year after, each month now, with the good seasons we have had, as we get on in this year should see a greater increase over last year. As it is we have sent away for the half year a million and a half more nuts than for the first half of last year, and the prices have been, and are, high.

Of coffee we shipped less than half what we did last year, but again the prices have been good after a long period of depression. This year in most districts there is fine promise in the coffee crop and as it will be early, we should by the end of this year, pull up considerably on last year.

As the year for our exports now runs from 1st January to 31st December, instead of as formerly the financial year from 1st April to 31st. December, most of the coffee crop will probably still be in the Island at 31st December, so that the total figures then will not show how great the crop is and will swell next year's exports.

Cocoa is in the same position as coffee; we have shipped exactly a half of what we did last year, but the trees have now generally recovered from drought and storm (except in the West End), the seasons have been excellent for this crop, and the trees give promise of a very good bearing for the fall crop. Prices have been very satisfactory also. By the end of the year we should almost make up on last year, but it is next year's figures that will benefit from this year's crops in cocoa as well as coffee.

In our largest exports—bananas, we show a little over a half of what we exported last year; and we will not improve on this proportion this year. But, all going well, next year should see us back to our best figures if not a good bit beyond that total. The promise of a spring crop while not generally first-class, is so in most districts. In the West End and Central and Eastern districts it is excellent, in the coastal districts of St. Mary and Portland it is not so good.

Our Citrus fruit trade has been better than for many years back. Owing to the drought of last year, when trees got a check, leaves curled up and fruit dropped, then the heavy November rains, then a two months drought in the spring, then splendid seasons since, in the best orange districts trees have been put out of their ordinary and have been blossoming and bearing out of season. Indeed the same trees have had blossom and fruit in all stages on them. So that shipping has never stopped. The promise is for good fruit and plenty of it. We have been shipping large quantities to the United States again, sending there more in the last week of January indeed, than we did for the whole first half of last year. And there is extra good value in these oranges for us; prices for earlies are good. Altogether if the Tariff on our Citrus fruit going into the United States is reduced by half, there should be more money circulated in Manchester and St. Ann for oranges than has been for many years back.

Rum has got back to its old price and so we are up to our former figures in exports.

A total of 57,545 lbs. of cotton was exported against 10,217 lbs. last year. It isn't much and ought to be half a million pounds.

Ginger, Pimento and Sugar are not satisfactory in price. Our exports of sugar, so far, this year are hardly appreciable, but next season promises to be good. Our honey crop was poor last spring owing to the loss of bees in the November storm and this year many bee keepers have to breed up their colonies again, so though seasons are good for blossoms, there are not the bees to take off the crop.

Altogether the second half of the year will show far better results in every crop than from the 1st of January to 30th June, and next year if our good seasons continue and there is no set-back,

we should have a fine record of good crops. And with food-stuffs again plentiful, the food imports, flour and cornmeal especially, are dropping off greatly.

*Toronto Exhibition:—*

We reported in the last JOURNAL the number of packages and exhibits sent to the Toronto Exhibition. The number was 152. We shipped later by the "S.S. Sixaola," on the 14th of August, timed to arrive two days before the opening of the Exhibition, the following:—

17 Crates of bananas, 8 boxes of Grape fruit, 9 boxes of Navel Oranges, 2 boxes of Lemons, 1 box of Limes, 7 Grates of Pine-apples, 12 Crates of Mangoes, 1 Crate of Avocado Pears, 23 Cases of Banana Figs, and 1 case of 5,000 Cigars.

The Bananas were supplied by,— Sir John Pringle, K.C.M.G., the Richmond Branch, the Eliot Branch, and the Guy's Hill Branch, (St. Mary). The Grape-fruit came from E. W. Muirhead, Esq. Mandeville, and C. G. Silvera, Esq., Oracabessa. The Oranges came from E. W. Muirhead, Esq., Mandeville and John McPhail, Esq., Bog Walk. It is not the season for the best fruit, but fortunately some creditable samples were sent. We were very glad to be able to get Navel Oranges. J. M. Lewis, Esq., Yallahs, supplied the Limes. We got the Mangoes and the Pears ourselves on behalf of the Exhibition's Committee.

The catalogues had to be got up in haste, practically all the work was done in a week. A good many advertisers are now kicking because they did not advertise, but we could not wait until they could make up their minds; nor could we ask everybody who might have advertised. An advertisement in the newspapers asked for advertisements.

As was to be expected when done in such haste, some omissions occurred in the Catalogue. We cannot publish the lists of Exhibitors and exhibits as these would take up too much room.

We are put to a great disadvantage in being asked to do things such as running Exhibitions in haste, with very little say as to whether it is possible to do so creditably on the amount of money made available. It is not possible to get everything through satisfactorily in connection with an exhibition, unless at least six months notice is given. In this case the grant for Toronto Exhibition was not made until June and the money was not actually received by us until the 9th of July. For the credit of the country we have always tackled these matters seriously but we do not get fair play.

Longer notice ought to be given to prospective Exhibitors to prepare their products for exhibition as these come in season. Those who would like to exhibit are placed at great inconvenience to scrape up exhibits for us of products that are hard to be got out of their seasons.

The grant for the Exhibition was £200. It is not possible to do credit to the country or to our products at a large and important Exhibition like Toronto on £200.

**PROTECTION OF BIRDS.**—Stricter regulations are being brought into force in the United States for the protection of migratory birds. The open season allowed for shooting these has been reduced, and hunting allowed at the time of the year only when game birds are most abundant and in the best condition. *In all cases of doubt the benefit is given to the birds.*

We are interested in this last sentence as some of our birds are both friends and enemies to agriculture. There has always been a discussion about the Petchary for instance, especially our migratory Petchary. Beekeepers are certain that Petcharies prey upon bees and that in the mating season they cause considerable loss among Queen Bees. The loss of many Queen Bees in an apiary is of course very serious. Certain varieties of the Petchary were formerly under the first schedule of the Birds and Fishes Protection Law, that is, entirely protected throughout the year. In the amended Birds and Fishes Protection Law to go before the next session of the Legislative Council, all the Petcharies have been removed from this section. They are still however under the second schedule, and there is a close season for them from the 1st March to the 31st August. This is just the time however when the migratory Petchary which is the one that causes the loss among the bees, is here; the common name for this Petchary is "September" because it leaves here in September.

Another doubtful bird is the great Woodpecker. Woodpeckers are all insect eaters but the large variety also peck through cocoa pods to get at the sweet pulp around the cocoa seeds. If reference is made to page 226 of the JOURNAL for June 1910 however, it will be found that when Prof. Newstead opened some of these Woodpeckers he found the contents of their crop to consist of cockroaches and seeds of bitterwood so that the Woodpecker is undoubtedly also a friend to the planter even though it does damage to cocoa pods.

We believe in the maxim concerning birds—that in all cases of doubt the birds should get the benefit.

**RUBBER.**—An error of some importance appeared on page 41 of the July JOURNAL in the paragraph headed "Rubber." It is stated there that 170 trees were tapped which gave an average of  $5\frac{1}{2}$  ozs. of latex. This should have been  $5\frac{1}{8}$  ozs. of dry rubber.

#### *Praedial Larceny—*

We call the attention of members of the Society and members of Branch Societies to the discussion which took place at the last meeting of the Board of Management on the very important subject of Praedial Larceny, and in connection with this also the subject of amendments to the Produce Protection Law. We have published this discussion nearly in full so that members who do not see the daily newspapers, may know what took place.

There is no subject before the country at present of more importance than this one of Praedial Larceny, and to treat with the whole problem effectively is not simple, but may involve dealing with a good many subsidiary problems.

We ask all members of the Society to read this discussion carefully, and especially the Governor's quotation from the Blue Book Report of 1903-04 and give their views. Members of Branch Societies are asked to discuss the subject at length. We suggest that a special day should be devoted to the consideration of this matter, that it should be thought over carefully and discussed deliberately, so that any recommendations sent in might be of a reasonable and practical nature. We know that the feeling in some parts is very bitter concerning this kind of theft, and judge from the fact that very drastic proposals may be made by some of the speakers. We would ask however, that only recommendation such as can be carried out, be made.

#### *Banana Diseases—*

A special Bulletin on Banana Diseases by the Microbiologist, S. F. Ashby, B.Sc., has been issued by the Department of Agriculture. Every banana planter should get a copy.

PIGS.—There are for sale at present two imported pure-bred Poland China boars at £10 a piece. They cost a half more than this and having been now acclimated, they are worth more than what they cost to import. They have been in use one year. There are also for sale an imported pure-bred Poland China sow and some very good pigs of mixed breed for those who may want good stock. Or if any body wants to start out in pig breeding on a large scale they could have a pure-bred Poland China boar and sow and five good pigs—some of them in young to the boar—the lot for £25.

INSECT EATERS.—Seize and burn every catapult you see a boy with. If you do not see him use it on birds there is always strong circumstantial evidence that he is out with it to kill small birds which are nearly always useful as insect eaters. We have done so for years and a few months ago we burned a collection of catapults.

It is everybody's business to protect useful birds.—A swallow can catch thousands of small insects a day; a bat catches large insects such as moths, which lay eggs which hatch into caterpillars. We have seen boys amusing themselves trying to kill swallows and bats.

Sometimes bats become nuisances by making too much noise in the garrets of houses. Then they can be sulphured out and made to shift their quarters. Where they are not annoying any one, let them stay; they are insect eaters. We mean the small twittering bats. Rat Bats are destructive to cocoa; proved criminals in this direction. Remember toads are great insect eaters. If you raise your hives off the ground, they cannot get at the bees.

PARANAPH.—Wash floors regularly with this useful handy stuff, and fleas, jiggers, ants and cockroaches will find your house disagreeable.

PESTS.—Turn up Stock Notes for pests on stock. The hot month is the time for all house pests to be on the war path. Paranaph will deal with the above pests. Use Formalin for flies; E. X. O. for rats (and cockroaches). Put Ticky-tickies n all your tanks and ponds to eat the larva of mosquitoes; do not let any puddles of water remain on your premises,

**COWPEAS.**—It is stated in a report that the Virginia Truck Experiment Station found that ploughing under a crop of cowpeas in blossom, gave as good results in growing cabbage as the application of twenty tons of stable manure.

We should prefer the stable manure ourselves because it is all material added to the soil but it is costly compared with the growing of a green leguminous crop. One must consider nett results after taking costs into account.

When animal manure is scarce and grass for mulching is not available, a green crop should be grown and it is both mulch and manure; when mineral fertilizers are added to the peas and beans crop there is a largely increased growth and their manurial value is much enhanced.

**COCONUT DISEASES.**—The article on Coconut Diseases promised for this JOURNAL has been deferred until next month as further investigations are being made in different districts by the Government Microbiologist, and these may result in new knowledge.

**RATS.**—We have in stock, "Ratin" a Rat Virus prepared for use in the Tropics, price 6s. a tin. This is easily set and even if taken by only one or two rats will spread a kind of fever highly contagious possibly killing hundreds of these pests. This Ratin is highly spoken of in some other parts of the world.

"AUTHORIZED PERSONS".—Branch Societies sending up the names of men they have nominated for appointment as "Authorized Persons" must note that the names must be given in full, together with the districts they are to cover, and their Post Office addresses.

**INSTRUCTORS.**—Mr. Palache, the Agricultural Instructor, for Central and Northern Manchester and Central and Northern St. Elizabeth, retires from the work at the end of September.

In reply to our advertisement in the newspapers there were 16 applicants for the post, and five have been chosen to appear before the Examining Committee for examination as to their fitness for the position. The selection will be made at the end of September.

A new Assistant Instructor has been appointed, Mr. E. L. Mossman a son of the Instructor for St. Catherine. There were 57 applicants for this position, and 3 of the most likely were chosen to appear at Hope before the Examining Committee, with the result that Mr. Mossman was chosen. He will act as Assistant to Mr. Cradwick. He has had experience on various estates in the growing of cocoa, coconuts, bananas and sugar cane; and he also acted as Secretary of the Linstead Loan Bank.

**SPRAYING MACHINES.**—The Holder Spraying Machines mentioned by Mr. Cradwick in our July number, are certainly very effective for the spraying of cocoa and coconuts, and a large number has been ordered. Readers should refer to the advertisement of these spraying machines as printed in this issue.

**SHOWS TO BE HELD.**—Porus—at Porus, Manchester, December 4th, 1913. Stony Hill—at Stony Hill, St. Andrew, January 21st, 1914. Clarendon—at Chapelton, January 1st, 1914. Santa Cruz—at Santa

Cruz, January 1st, 1914. Rio Magno—at Rio Magno, St. Catherine, January 8th, 1914. St. Thomas ye Vale—at Bybrook, St. Catherine, April 16th, 1914. Christiana—at Christiana, Manchester, April—1914.

**PRIZE HOLDINGS COMPETITION.**—The judging for St. Catherine was timed to take place in September, which was rather early in the year seeing that the notices only went out in April, and it has been postponed until December which will give competitors more time to get ready.

**SHOWS.**—We attended a small Show at Enfield, St. Mary, held on Thursday the 14th of August. It was the first Show there and was only on a small scale. Considering that it came so soon after the storm and drought of last year, it was very well attended. The exhibits were not out in large numbers, but made a good appearance for a start. The Hon. S. S. Stedman opened the Show and the Instructors Mr. Wates and Mr. Hanson were present with Mr Barclay the Secretary of the Parent Society.

—:o:—

#### VETERINARY NOTES.

We often get questions submitted to us, but we are glad to say not often as many at one time as the following from a correspondent who evidently thirsts for information, which after all is a very desirable state to be in. We would not always like however to task the time of the Government Veterinary Surgeon quite so much as in this case:—

“Please answer the following questions for me. I am arranging and copying in a book all the Stock Notes found in the AGRICULTURAL JOURNALS. After doing this I am going to learn them off so that I may be able to help the settlers around.

Question 1.—When a horse has a heaving in the bowels and seems to have difficulty either by breathing or dunging what may be the trouble and how is it to be treated?

Question 2.—How are Texas Ticks known from other ticks? What wash for them has proved effective?

Question 3.—What may cause a horse to surfeit? What remedy for it do you recommend?

Question 4.—Under what conditions would you recommend the bleeding of an animal—say a horse?

Question 5.—What is the best remedy for worms in horses? How is the disease quickly noticeable?

Question 6.—After a calf has been effectively dosed for worms but looks thin what tonic would you give?

Question 7.—How would you treat “Stoppage of water in horses?” What’s the cause?

Question 8.—How to treat what is called “Blackwater in horses’ hoofs.” What may be the cause?

Question 9.—What are some of the troubles one may expect with a cow or a mare that *has just given birth*? How to deal with them?



Question 10.—What assistance should be offered a cow or a mare that experiences difficulty in giving birth?

Question 11.—How to treat a horse with a bad stake (a) in the belly, (intestines protruding) (b) in thigh?

Question 12. Under what conditions can the broken leg of a calf or colt be cured? (That is set);

Awaiting the courtesy of your kind reply and apologising for troubling you.

Answer to Question No. 1.—Heaving of the abdominal region is a symptom of so many abnormal conditions that it is difficult to say just what the writer has in mind.

“Heaves” in horses that are otherwise in good condition, that is, animals that have no indication of fever usually manifested by a rise in temperature above 101 F., an acceleration of pulse above 40-45 beats per minute, a general depression of spirits and a fickle appetite, is a chronic disease of the lungs. The air-sacks in the lungs due to previous lung disease or to over-exertion when physically unfit have lost a great deal of their contractile power which aids in the expulsion of air from the lungs. This condition throws extra work upon the muscles of expiration and causes the “heavy” condition of the abdominal muscles.

In some other cases the circulation to the lungs is impaired by some organic disease of the heart with the result that the action of the lungs is subnormal.

Again any disease of the lungs or chest cavity usually causes the animal to keep the muscles of the chest as quiet as possible and by compensation to use the muscles of the abdomen to an abnormal degree, and this in a sense would produce a heaving condition of the abdomen.

For the first named condition—“true heaves”—the treatment consists in nutritious diet and an abstinence from bulky foodstuffs; therefore, easily digested grain such as crushed corn and steamed oats should be fed and hay instead of grass. In addition the following powder may be given in the grain feed.

Powdered Nux Vomica	ozs. ii,
Sodium Bicarbonate	ozs. iv.
Sodium Sulphate (powdered)	lb. i.
White Arsenic	gr. xx.

Mix well and pass through a fine sieve. Give one ounce in feed morning and evening.

Question II.

As it is very difficult to distinguish the various species of ticks in Jamaica which according to Prof. Robert Newstead are nine in number, I cannot do better than refer the writer to the Bulletin of the Department of Agriculture Vol. 1. No. 3, both for descriptions of the various species and also for a review of the methods employed in their control.

Question III.

Surfeit in horses usually results from some form of indigestion. It often appears on horses that have been accustomed to stable-life and feeding and are suddenly without any preparation turned out in rich grass. They often gorge themselves and, if worked whilst in this condition, are very liable to surfeit.

Treatment consists of a drench of half a pound of sodium sulphate and two ounces of sodium bicarbonate dissolved in a quart bottle of tepid water. This drench may be repeated in 6 hours. The animal meanwhile should have no grain but bran mashes and small allowances of ripe grass. If there is intense itching of the blotches on the skin, sponging the body over with a solution of one pound of bicarbonate of soda in five gallons of water will allay the irritation and lessen the inclination of the animal to rub himself sore. A little cocoon oil applied to the places that peel, will keep the skin from drying and aid the return of the lost hair.

#### Question IV.

In cases of sudden congestion such as

1. Inflammation of the brain from sunstroke.
2. In cases of staggers due to congestion of the circulation to the brain.
3. In congestion of the lungs following over-exertion.
4. In acute laminitis or founder of the feet.

#### Question V.

Put the animal on a course of 2 qrts. warm bran mashes for 2 days. Then starve for 18 hrs. prior to the administration of medicines for worms.

#### Remedies.

1. One dram doses of tartar emetic dissolved in a pint of water. Give three such doses after intervals of 4 hrs. and follow 4 hrs. later with a purgative dose of alves (5 drams—6 drams according to size of animal.)

2. 15 grains of thymol in bran morning and evening on two successive days, so that animal receives 60 grains of thymol in the course of one treatment. This method may be repeated two or three times after intervals of 2 weeks. Such thymol powders prepared with sugar are obtainable at the Govt. Laboratory.

The presence of worms in horses is quickly discovered by the presence of a whitish fuzz about the anus. This fuzz is nothing more than the dried juice of a worm or of worms that have been pulped out of their case when they are being voided by the horse.

#### Question VI.

The best treatment is a liberal supply of milk and if the calf is over 4 months old supplement this with some grain feeding such as a quart of bran mixed with a pint of cornmeal. Give this morning and evening. As a tonic powder the following mixed with the grain will tend to improve the appetite and the tone of the digestive tract.

Powered Gentian	3 ounces.
Bicarbonate of Soda	4 ounces.
Powdered Ferrous Sulphate	1 ounce.
Powdered Willow Chareval	2 ounces.

Divide into 20 powders after all ingredients are thoroughly mixed and give one powder in feed or shaken up in a quart bottle of water morning and evening.

In the drenching of calves it is important to use a narrow-neck bottle as it enables them to swallow more easily.

## Question VII.

In cases of stoppage of water in horses first examine the sheath to see if accumulations of sebum do not interfere with the easy discharge of the urine. Next examine the end of the penis for similar accumulations in the cul de sac into which the urethra opens. Removal of these, if present, often helps the animal in the normal discharge of urine.

In other instances warm applications to the back (loins) and warm soap sud (weak) injections into the rectum bring about the reflexes attendant upon urination.

As an internal remedy give as a drench two drams of tincture of belladonna, one ounce of sweet spirits of nitre in a pint bottle of cold water. This may be repeated in 3 hours. For after-treatment give a heaping dessertspoonful of potassium nitrate in a bucket of drinking water once daily for a week.

The cause may be the accumulations as referred to before, or a spasm of the neck of the bladder. This trouble most frequently results from exhaustion followed by a chill.

## Question VIII.

Blackwater in the hoofs of horses is the same thing as pus in other parts of the body. It is black when it occurs in the hoof because the horn-cells of the hoof which are liquified in the process of pus formation are deeply-pigmented cells and thus impart a dark colour to the liquid portion of the pus.

The cause is the penetration of the horny case of the foot by some foreign object such as gravel, nails, thorns or it may result from a bruise of the sensitive structures under the sole by a stone gathered in the cup of the hoof whilst travelling or when animals are worked in hard rough roads without shoes.

The treatment consists in opening up the sole at the sensitive place and allowing the black fluid to escape. Then soak the injured hoof in a warm antiseptic bath made by adding a teaspoonful of Jeyes' fluid to each pint of warm water. Allow the foot to soak for a couple of hours, then remove and place in a warm bran poultice which has been prepared with Jeyes' fluid solution of the strength of one teaspoonful to the pint of hot water.

When the lameness has passed away, shoe animal with a leather pad under shoe having previously tarred the sole with some Stockholm tar or Barbadoes tar.

## Question IX.

The troubles attendant upon parturition may be many. The two most common immediately after parturition are 1. Continued labour pains causing straining with the danger of an eversion of the uterus. 2. Retention of the after-birth or "cleansings."

1. The presence of the placenta often produces the first, especially if it is adherent only in part. If gentle traction will bring it away it should be removed as early as possible, but the application of much force is dangerous, as severe hæmorrhage may be produced or the uterus may be invaginated.

The straining which follows parturition, if not excessive, is a normal function. It is the process by which the animal gets rid of the after-birth and uterine fluids that are naturally cast off as a sequel of parturition.

Should the straining be very severe and threaten bad results a manual examination of the genital passage should be made to ascertain the presence or absence of some abnormal condition.

As medicaments powerful nerve sedatives are indicated such as  $\frac{1}{2}$  of an ounce of chloral hydrate dissolved in a quart of gruel or thin starch water and given as a drench, or one ounce of tincture of opium and an ounce of sweet spirits of nitre in a quart bottle of tepid water.

Sometimes a weight such as a bag of sand placed over the loins lessens the tendency to continual straining.

#### 2. Retention of the after-birth.

This structure is passed usually an hour or two after parturition or it may be retained for a day or more.

Two forceful or too early removal of the placenta is dangerous. Keep the external genitalia of the animal clean by frequent baths with weak Jeyes' fluid solution. At the time of each bathing pull the dependent portions of the placenta gently and thus gradually aid in its expulsion. Put packs of hot salt on the loins and give the animal a warm bran mash and follow this in 4 hours with half an ounce each of oil of turpentine and fluid extract of ergot, shaken up in a quart of milk (the cow's own milk will do nicely).

Often retention of the after-birth is due to an exhausted condition of the uterus after the labours of parturition, and what ought to be induced is a stimulation of the organ. This may be promoted by massage of the flanks on both sides with a liniment composed of two ounces each of water of ammonia, spirits of turpentine and spirits of camphor. During the day give a pound of sodium sulphate in a quart of water as a drench.

Animals should be prepared for parturition by a lessening of their diet for a week before the event and their bowels got into a mildly lax condition by proper feeding.

#### Question X.

When parturition commences don't be in too great a hurry to render assistance. The percentage of normal deliveries is much greater than the abnormal.

After the so-called "water-bag" has passed out and yet events are very slow in coming off, then a normal examination may be made to discover if there is any mal-presentation. The "water-bag" is the natural dilator of the genital passage and it should be allowed to perform its part in delivery of the fœtus.

If the animal is exhausted give some stimulant such as aromatic spirits of ammonia one ounce in a quart bottle of water to which is added a couple of ounces of rum. Following this give manual assistance by traction on the fore-limbs of the fœtus applying force when the dam makes attempts to help herself.

If there is any mal-presentation the fœtus should be forced back into the uterus and placed in the normal presentation.

#### Question XI.

1. A stake through the abdominal wall causing a protrusion of the intestines is in all but very rare cases fatal. Horsekind are highly

susceptible to peritonitis and even if the viscera are returned and the wound sutured and bandaged, the result is almost certainly fatal. If treatment is attempted the viscera should be thoroughly cleansed with warm salt and water (a teaspoonful of salt to the pint of water) then again bathed with a warm solution of boric acid (a teaspoonful to the pint of water). After this cat-gut sutures should be inserted through the muscles and peritoneal lining of the abdomen placed about a quarter of an inch apart, then the skin sutured with strong silk sutures and finally antiseptic packs of cotton supported by a bandage (broad) placed over the wound.

2. A stake wound in the thigh should be examined for the presence of any fragments of the stake, the tract of the wound should be given free opening through the skin and the passages of the wound syringed out 3 or 4 times daily with carbolic acid solution 1-80 of water. All wound discharges should be expressed as rapidly as they form and to this end frequent bathing with warm water and a little walking exercise materially helps. The application of warm lamp or whale oil also aids in keeping flies away and in keeping the tissues from becoming tense and hard.

#### Question XII.

Fractures of the bones of the legs of calves offer more prospects of recovery than is the case in foals. Calves move about less and are less resistant to treatment. In addition an imperfectly healed fracture in a calf is not so serious a defect as the same condition in the foal because the latter is of value only for locomotion.

Treatment of fractures by splint dressing and adhesive bandages are worth attempting in calves and foals when situated below the knees and hocks. Fractures of the other bones of the limbs because of the large groups of muscles surrounding the bones are not easily fixed by splints and bandages. Often, especially in cattle, recovery with the formation of a false joint results, even when no interference is attempted, but the affected animal always has a limb.

STEPHEN LOCKETT, V.S.

—:o:—

### POULTRY NOTES.

#### CONSUMPTION OF FOWLS AND EGGS.

There are over 850,000 people in Jamaica and if we take it that three-fourths of this number are of an age to eat eggs or are egg eaters,—some people may not eat eggs at all,—we get approximately 637,500 people, but for convenience in figures say there are 600,000 human beings here who eat eggs more or less regularly. Plenty of families consume, between the eggs taken with the coffee in the morning, occasionally eggs at breakfast and dinner, together with eggs in puddings and cakes, enough to balance those who eat eggs occasionally; and then in the tourist season there is a still larger consumption, hard boiled eggs and egg sandwiches being a usual lunch put up for eating when travelling, and bacon and eggs is a frequent dish among tourists for early breakfast.

Thus when we can figure on a consumption of 600,000 eggs per day in Jamaica we are quoting a low number. And when we con-

sider the number of fowls sold for use on steamers, and in hotels and lodging houses, besides the ordinary family consumption, fowl being the most frequent dish on the country table, we can estimate on 600,000 people eating a minimum of one fowl per week.

At this rate there are over four million of eggs per week for use in Jamaica or two hundred millions a year. If there are 600,000 fowls consumed a week that is two millions four hundred thousand fowls every four weeks and in a year over thirty millions.

This estimated consumption of eggs a year at a low average value of  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. each, represents £625,000. The estimated consumption of 600,000 fowls a week or 31,200,000 a year at an average weight of 3 lbs. each having an average value of 6d. a lb. represents £2,340,000.

\* \* \* \*

The following record of Black Orpington hens at Newcastle has been sent us:—

Chickens raised—80% of eggs set. The best hen laid her first egg on the 3rd April; during that month she laid 18 eggs; May, 22 eggs; June, 23 eggs and up to 22nd July 15 eggs. The others are not quite so good but not far off. In March each hen averaged 16 3 eggs; April 13.7; May 14.9; June 17.7.

\* \* \* \*

A correspondent writes:—“I note that my hens have a sickly appearance, the eyes getting swollen, and in some cases, closed. No other symptom of sickness is seen, save the swollen and partly closed eyes. Would this come in as yaws or fowl sick?”

(Sgd.) E. A. G.

Neither; it is Roup which was dealt with in last JOURNAL.

\* \* \* \*

**FOWL TICKS.**—A lady sent us a young cock suffering from cramp; it had lost the use of its legs. We suspected the cause immediately and on examining the thighs, and the bare parts of the body underneath the wings, and on the crop, found numbers of fowl ticks. We recommended these parts to be anointed with the sulphur kerosene and lard paste so often recommended in this JOURNAL, a few doses of quinine to be given, and a search to be made in the wood work of the fowl house for ticks. Of course the ticks were found in quantities especially under the bark on the wood used in constructing the house. Strong Paranaph was used to get rid of the ticks.

Whenever a case of so called cramp occurs, especially in a fresh addition to the poultry yard, suspect ticks. Fowls accustomed to the attacks do not take fever and lose the power of the limbs; in bad cases also the power of the neck, unless ticks are in great numbers on them.

These fowl ticks are spreading, especially in towns. Look out for the pests and destroy them. They take a lot of destroying too.

\* \* \* \*

Bumblefoot is caused by deep bruises, the prolonged bruising and irritation resulting in an aggregation of corns or callouses. The

affected part of the foot is hot, painful and swollen and the fowl moves about with great difficulty, avoiding any pressure upon the foot.

Fowls that roost upon perches are susceptible to this disease, as in flying from the perches they often alight heavily, causing injury to the feet. For this reason high roosts are very undesirable, and low roosts are always preferable and more satisfactory in every respect.

Vigorous scratching in search of food is another cause of bruising the tender portion of the foot and bringing on this affliction. When the fowl is lame, with heat and swelling about the foot the injury may be suspected and should be given some treatment, to prevent, if possible, the forming of an abscess, which is very liable to occur. When the disease is allowed to run there is frequently great suppuration and the joints may become affected from the spreading of the disease.

To reduce the inflammation and swelling hold the foot in water as hot as can be borne by the hand for half an hour, adding hot water from time to time to keep it at the right temperature. The hot water treatment is very soothing and effectual and tends to reduce the swelling. Then paint with tincture of Iodine.

A hot poultice is also very good and if the swelling becomes large and soft it can be punctured or cut into and the matter let out. The foot must then be bound up with a cloth to keep dirt out.

—:o:—

#### SEASONABLE HINTS.

**IRISH POTATOES.**—There is still time to market the potatoes held in stock; the Halifax potatoes do not come in until October. As luck would have it, the potatoes lifted in July are not keeping so well as usual owing to the excessive heat.

In the hills a barrel or two of the home grown potatoes can be planted for home use. We are importing new seeds at the end of October for planting in the lowlands say up to 1,600 ft. In the cooler elevations the winter crop does not bear well. All those who desire to plant in November, after the heavy rains (if they come) should order seed from us now.

**CORN.**—Fairly good crops have been taken in, but what grain is on the market does not represent the crop, as small growers have depended upon their corn fields for food since July and there has been a large consumption of corn in the household. Between the corn crop and the mangoes, sales of flour and cornmeal in the shops went down materially from the middle of July. Those who wish to keep over as much corn as possible should read the article on keeping Corn, page 26.

Unfortunately, Bi-Sulphide of Carbon is not within the reach of the average small settler, and it is not a stuff that Branch Societies can co-operate in getting, as it cannot be handled easily. In small quantities, however, corn will keep better in the cob, if hung up on the rafters. Another way is to get corn bags, and dip them in brine—such as the water in a herring or pork barrel, dry them and

store corn in them, by dropping the sackfuls in a barrel. The salt keeps the corn free from weevils but it does not keep off rats; hence the sacks should be put in a barrel.

The seasons have been fine for "fall" planting. We have very good seed in hand, both yellow and red.

**COTTON.**—Now is a good time for planting. Some small growers plant the seed too deeply. If the soil is damp, an inch of soil on the top well pressed down is right. Last year we saw weakly plants fighting through three inches of soil and of course the seed was blamed.

No good cotton can be grown without care.

We can supply Sea Island seed. Egyptian seed is only sent out to a few selected places where we are promised that the crop will be sent to us, so that it may be kept apart from any Sea Island.

**BANANAS.**—It is only in the hottest lowlands that there is much growth of bananas after October, until March; in the cooler parts even at 1,000 ft., there is little growth worth speaking of after the middle of October. We are having excellent banana seasons on the whole, but not quite generally. Where bananas are a bit behind, now is the best opportunity to push them. This can be done by clearing out drains, putting in extra ones where they are not enough; a good forking where the ground is hard below; suckering out where two or more large stems are keeping each other back, and of course where it can be had, applying manure. Bananas should always be timed to grow so much that they should be looking to shoot in October, except on the best soils on irrigated land when a month later would do.

What about suckers for 1915? Many are slow to realize yet how slowly ratoon bananas in a field grow. And the cooler the climate and the poorer the soil and the thicker the shade the earlier they should be left. On some places we have seen, suckers about knee high were all pruned out in July and August, not one left; yet these are what we should have left for 1915 "spring" fruit. To leave the selection until October is too late unless in the hottest places. In the cooler parts "peepers" of April if not touched yet should be selected now that the strongest and best placed can be seen.

For next year 2,000 feet and over planting of bananas should be done now. Lower down but where the location is cool, lands should be begun to be prepared in October. At 1,600 ft. to 1,000 ft. January is late enough for planting to make sure. Only in the hottest places with the most fertile soils can March planting bring fruit in from March to June in the following year.

Do not be too late this planting season.

—o—

Thrice happy must we think the man,  
With optimism blest;  
He looks around with sanguine eyes,  
"All things are for she best."

—:o:—

Oh happy is the man who is,  
Content with very little;  
The mangoes on the trees are his.  
He wants no other "vittle."



## BRANCH NOTES.

**East Portland** — A meeting was held in the Manchioneal Government school-room on Aug. 2, 1913. There were only 11 members present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The motions of Messrs Lennox and Allwood were not discussed as the movers were absent. The Secretary read a paper on the banana for which a vote of thanks was tendered. A resolution *re* Landlords and Tenants was moved and seconded. Mr. E. A. Sherwood spoke in support of it. The Secretary asked certain questions concerning the Resolution. These being answered he moved an amendment which was seconded and carried unanimously. The amendment read: Whereas it is very grievous to tenants who have cultivated lands, rented from landed proprietors to be turned off at short notice before their crops come to maturity. Be it resolved that the Government be approached through the Parent Society and the member for the parish that a law be made whereby the small cultivator may be sure of reaping his crops or if he is to be turned off before they come to maturity that the landlord be made to pay him the value of his crops. At the next meeting to come off on the 1st Saturday in September the President will deal with the proper methods of reaping and curing bananas so that they be put in the market in good condition. The meeting then adjourned.—ERNEST R. WALLACE, Secretary.

**Labyrinth, (St. Mary).**—The monthly meeting was held in the schoolroom at 5 p.m. on Tuesday August 5th, 1913. The chairman was absent being ill. The Secretary then took the chair protem. Present 21 members. The meeting began with prayer. Before the reading of the last minutes nomination had to take place. The following officers were elected: two Vice-presidents and an Asst. Secretary. Messrs. Sam Hyatt, and Theodore Jackson were nominated as first Vice-President Mr. Hyatt was elected. Messrs. Horbet and Alex. Moncrieffe were nominated as second Vice-President. Mr. Alex. Moncrieffe was elected. At this stage Mr. Hyatt took the chair. Nomination was next made for an Asst. Secretary. Three were nominated, Mr. Morris was elected.

After the election, the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. At this stage Mr. Hyatt moved that a letter of sympathy be sent to the Chairman. The Secretary was asked to do so. Matters arising from minutes were discussed. Next came the business of the corn-competition. The members who intend going in for this competition were asked to bring in the fee not later than the 31st August. All present agreed. It was also made known that the half bushel of corn ordered from the Parent Society was to hand. It was agreed by all that payment should be made out of the funds of the Society. The prizes with regard to the competition were discussed. The prizes will be awarded according to the amount of money raised. Next business was the purchasing of the ram. This ram will cost 30s. Promises were made that by the 31st August the money will be to hand. After a few minor matters the meeting terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.—Q. ALPHONSO GORHAGEN, Secretary.

**Whitehouse, (Westmoreland).**—The monthly meeting came off in Kings School on Tuesday, Aug. 5, 1913. Mr. Logan McLeod was voted as Chairman of the meeting, the President and Vice-presidents having been called away on urgent business. Present 22 members and several visitors. Meeting opened with prayer, and the Secretary read the minutes which were confirmed. Correspondence was submitted, and a "Talk on Tobacco" followed. There was an instructive and enthusiastic discussion on the different points of the "weed" as a crop to be cultivated; all agreed on the method suggested for the preparation of the land before sowing the seed. The Chairman's topic was punctuality and the members also heartily joined in its discussion. In agriculture punctuality, is of vital importance. The Corn Show and Competition next had attention. The details were decided on, and the Instructor, Rev. Jones, and R. E. Towzalin, Esq., will be asked to be the Judges on September 2nd. For next week the discussion—"Yam *versus* Corn—which is more profitable" was agreed on. Mr. Titus Williams of Congress paid his fee and became a member. Singing the national anthem brought the meeting to a close.—M. HEWITT, Secretary.

**Brown's Hall, (St. Catherine).**—A meeting was held in the schoolroom here on Wednesday, 6th August, 1913. Though not the date for the monthly meeting there was a large attendance. Among those present were Messrs. George Thomas, Vice-President, E. A. Tomlinson, Secretary, H. L. Mossman, J.P., Instructor, and 10 other members. The Secretary read letter from the Hon. L. J. Bertram, C.M.G., Commissioner for St. Catherine, acknowledging receipt of resolution re extension of main roads. Other correspondence was dealt with. Mr. Mossman having found it convenient to be present at the half yearly meeting of the Society held in Kingston last month, was good enough to give a full and interesting report of that meeting. For this he was very heartily thanked. The Instructor next explained very clearly and fully everything in connection with Prize Holdings Competition, the judging of which is to take place in September. He had the day before visited the holdings of all those who were competing, but for the benefit of all others he dealt fully with each item for which marks were allotted. Several members spoke on the prevalence of prædial larceny. Mr. Thomas said public flogging would serve as deterrent. All questions were satisfactorily answered, a few other matters dealt with, and a most interesting and profitable meeting was brought to a close with the singing of the National Anthem.

E. A. TOMLINSON, Secretary.

**Cambridge, (St. James).**—The first ordinary meeting since 1st May, was held in the Court House on Wednesday, 6th August, 1913, at 3 p.m. The Rev. J. A. McIntosh, President, Messrs. Kerr, Myers, Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer, Secretary and 17 other members were present. Messrs. Harrison and Briscoe, Agricultural Instructors, were also present. Mr. Briscoe was heartily welcomed as the new Instructor for the district, and compliments paid also to Mr. Harrison. Both suitably replied. Mr. Philip Grey was elected a member. The Secretary submitted a list of members which was revised, and a Committee was appointed to determine who among the old members have paid in their subscriptions and send a true list to the Parent Society, and to call on backward members to pay up, failing which, their names will be taken off the roll. Miss Davis' prize money was handed over to Mr. Harrison to be given her. It was pointed out that no one had as yet used the Plow and Harrow. It was decided that the proposed entertainment be fixed for the Public Holiday. Mr. Kerr suggested that in addition to ordinary routine business, debates on Agricultural subjects and interchange of thought generally, be introduced into our meetings, and also that demonstrations by the Instructor on meeting days in near by fields would be helpful. All agreed. A Resolution was moved and carried re the distress existing in the district. Letters were read showing that both Mr. Dodd and His Excellency the Governor had refused the use of the Railway Waiting Room for meetings. It was decided to hold them in the Court House and to this end the date was changed from Thursday at 5 p.m. to Friday at 1 p.m. It was decided that the affiliation fees due should form the first demand on the funds of the Branch. Mr. Myers gave notice to have the question of Authorized Persons discussed at next meeting. Mr. Arnold suggested that a new Secretary be appointed as he may have to leave the district for employment before next meeting. It was decided to appoint an Assistant Secretary to succeed him if need be, and Mr. E. S. McAdam was elected. The next meeting was fixed for Friday, 5th September, at 1 p.m. in the Court House.

**Cambridge Woodford, (St. Andrew).**—A meeting was held on the 7th August, 1913. There were present seven members, and the Acting Secretary. The President being absent the Vice-President, Robert Nelson, presided. As usual the meeting was opened with prayer. Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Letters of acknowledgment from Messrs. Barclay and Briscoe re Resolution passed by this Society bearing on Mr. Briscoe, the Agricultural Instructor's removal from our district, were read. The receipt of the affiliation fee from March 1913-14 was presented. Mention was made that a copy of the yearly account of this Branch Society was sent up, though it does not appear in the JOURNAL. The Authorized Persons connected with this Branch are to be specially notified to attend the next meeting to consider the duties of their

appointment. At this point, the names of the present members of the Society were read. Through many local circumstances it was agreed that the Society will continue to hold its meetings at its accustomed place, until further arrangements can be made. The owner of the premises willingly agreed to this. A letter of the 2nd August, 1913, from the Secretary of the Parent Society, was duly considered. This Society agrees:—1 That Mahoe and Mahogany may be added to Schedule (a) of Prædial Larceny Law 4 of 1909. 2 That indiscriminate buying of cocoa pods ought to be restrained. Meeting was adjourned with prayer.—D. ADOLPHUS SMART, Secretary.

**Spanish Town (St. Catherine).**—The regular monthly meeting was held at the Government Boys' school, Monk St., Spanish Town, on Wednesday evening the 13th August 1913, when the following members of the Branch attended: Messrs W. Gentle, vice-President (occupying the chair), Everard Lopez, Secretary, U. N. Brown, Assistant Secretary, E. Thomas, Geo. A. Richardson, T. A. Robertson and David Kepper. A letter was read from the Secretary of the Parent Society, in reply to correspondence from the local society urging that a minimum quantity of one cubic yard of water (instead of five cubic yards) should be made available for small consumers taking supplies from the Rio Cobre Irrigation Canal, and forwarding copy of a letter from the Hon. Director of Public Works stating the impracticability of the proposed change owing to the difficulty to fix and regulate each such small supply and its prohibitive cost. On the Assistant Secretary's motion, seconded by Mr. Thomas, it was agreed to defer the consideration of the matter until the next meeting when it can be more fully discussed. The Secretary read a Circular from the Secretary of the Parent Society asking the Branch's opinion as to whether or not it was necessary that (1), the Produce Protection Law should be revised—referring at the same time to the larceny of cocoa in pods by children in many districts—and (2), mahoe and mahogany barks be added to Schedule (a) of the Prædial Larceny Law 4 of 1909, seeing that these barks are extensively used in the making of ropes and for staining floors. On the motion of Mr. Robertson, seconded by Mr. Richardson, that portion of the Circular referring to the revision of the Produce Protection Law was deferred for consideration at the next meeting of the Branch Society. With regard to the latter part of the circular letter, on the motion of the Acting President, seconded by Mr. Thomas, it was resolved: "That the Secretary reply to the Parent Society intimating that the Branch is of opinion mahoe and mahogany barks should be placed on Schedule (a) of the Prædial Larceny Law 4 of 1909 to ensure their protection against wholesale destruction or depredation—seeing that they are being much used for rope making and floor dyes, whilst there are other barks which can be easily obtained locally and much less valuable and used for the same purposes." A letter was read from the Secretary of the Parent Society with regard to the appointment of Messrs Alfred Benjamin and John Behardo as "Authorized Persons" under the Prædial Larceny Law. It was agreed to let the appointments stand. A few minor matters were dealt with and the meeting adjourned until 10th September proximo.

EVERARD LOPEZ, Secretary.

**Claremont (St. Ann).**—A meeting was held on the 9th August, 1913. There were present: Rev. A. W. Geddes in the chair, twenty-five members and the Secretary, F. P. Alexander. The following business was transacted: (1) The meeting is of the opinion that the number of produce buyers should be reduced, that the licensing fee should be raised, and that the books of produce buyers should be regularly inspected by some one appointed by the Government to see that sellers' names are duly recorded. (2) The meeting is satisfied that children do steal cocoa-pods and sell them to local shopkeepers, and recommends this method of buying cocoa should be restricted. It is also of the opinion that it would be an unwise step to abolish the selling of cocoa in pods as this would

create a hardship on those who cannot cure the beans properly, and in the very wet seasons even on those who can cure properly and that it would tend to deteriorate the quality of cocoa for export. (3) The meeting recommends that trumpet, mahoe and mahogany bark be added to Schedule (a) of the Prædial Larceny Law. (4) Report of Prædial Larceny Committee: The committee appointed to consider the subject of prædial larceny has come to the following conclusions, which are recommended to the consideration of the Parent Society.

(a) We find that the crime is an increasing menace to the prosperity of our district. Many honest and industrious settlers are being seriously discouraged, and large land-owners also suffer from the depredations of the prædial thief.

(b) Our observation leads us to the conclusion that the sentences, and prison discipline as carried out at present, fail to remedy the evil. (c) We recommend that arrangements be made to incarcerate prædial thieves, under sentence of a month and less, in the police stations of the island, and that they be made to labour in the towns and villages where such stations exist; especially in doing sanitary work. (d) Whenever a prædial thief is known to possess property, it should be made liable for four times the value of his depredation, together with the cost of the prosecution, and that the amount of four-fold the value should be paid to the parties from whom the goods were stolen. (e) We strongly support the establishment of industrial schools in various parts of the island. (f) We recommend that "Authorized Persons" should receive instruction in their duties.

Signed, Percy Fox, J.P.; A. W. Geddes, Vice-President; H. F. Sharpe. On the motion of Mr. C. N. Heming, seconded by Mr. M. A. Harvey the report was adopted.—F. P. ALEXANDER, Secretary.

**Avocat, (St. Mary).**—The regular monthly meeting was held on Saturday the 9th August, 1913. The attendance was very good. In the absence of the President, Rev. P. Hayser, Mr. Joseph B. McLarty, one of the Vice-Presidents presided. The minutes were read and confirmed. Matters arising out of the minutes were dealt with, after which the Secretary presented and read a circular letter from the Secretary of the Parent Society *re* Produce Protection Law, Buying of Cocoa in pods, Native Bark, etc. These were discussed freely, and the following Resolutions passed. 1 That in view of the fact that the Authorized Persons and District Constables are local officers of the Crown for the suppression of Prædial Larceny, this Branch respectfully ask the Government through the Parent Society to give both these officers the power to examine the local Produce Dealers' Books as is now done by the regular police. 2 That the buying and exchanging of cocoa in the pods by the local shopkeepers have been the means of fostering prædial larceny to a great extent. This Branch therefore respectfully begs to approach the Government through the Parent Society with a view to the discontinuing of the granting of a licence to the shopkeepers to buy cocoa in pods. 3 Be it resolved that in view of the fact that the intelligence of the Peasant Proprietors of this country is improving, and that the Parent Society is encouraging better household accommodation that the Government be asked through the Parent Society to add Mahoe and Mahogany Bark to Schedule (a) of the Prædial Larceny Law 4 of 1909. After a few minor matters were dealt with the meeting adjourned.—EMANUEL NESBITT, Secretary.

**Main Ridge, (Clarendon).**—This Branch held its monthly meeting on Friday, the 8th August, 1913. Meeting commenced with prayer. Present the President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary and twelve members. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Discussion arising out of minutes. The Secretary urged on the members the need and usefulness of the Society, to make every effort in their power to make the Society strong, especially those who are in arrears, as the shilling spent in this cause is the most valuable one. A Committee was formed to see those in arrears, and report at the next meeting. *Re* Produce Protection Law. It was the united opinion that this Law be revised, and that Mahoe and Mahogany be added to Schedule (a) of the Prædial Larceny Law 4 of 1909. A debate for next meeting, "The Cow or the Horse which is the more useful to us," Mr. Barnett will lead for the cow and Mr. Piper for the horse,

Date next meeting, September 12th, place, Comfort. New members, Miss L. E. Simmons, John Austin, Chapelton P.O. Singing of the Doxology, brought the meeting to a close.—H. A. ANGLIN, Secretary.

**Mt. Industry, (St. Andrew.)**—A meeting was held on the 8th of August. Mr. H. G. Richards, the President presided, and among others were present Mr. A. P. Hanson, agricultural Instructor and Mr. Alex. Carey of Glengoffe. After reading the minutes of the last meeting and some communications from Mr. Barclay which called for discussion, the president suggested that these be postponed for the next meeting. He then welcomed Mr. Hanson and called upon him to address the meeting. The Instructor said that he was pleased to return to this district and he will endeavour with the co-operation of the cultivators here to improve agricultural methods. He spoke on plant diseases and on the "Canker" of the "Cocoa tree" (He had earlier in the evening demonstrated on this in a field). He also spoke on the Prize Holdings Scheme. His helpful address was very much appreciated and his next visit is being looked forward to with pleasure. Mr. Carey also addressed the meeting. He asked for the co-operation of this Branch in the coming Glengoffe Show. The President assured him of this. It was agreed to recommend Mr. R. Quire as an "Authorized Person". The meeting adjourned to the 5th of September.

R. S. SIMMON ANGLIN, Secretary.

**Hanover.**—The third quarterly meeting was held at the Court House on the 9th of August, 1913, commencing at 1 p.m. There was a fair number of members. The President, J. Hartley Duff, Esq., M.A., presided. R. C. Somerville, Esq., (Agricultural Instructor) was also present. The minutes of the last quarterly meeting held on the 10th of May and also those of a special meeting held on the 24th of the same month were read and confirmed. The President said that he was sorry that for some time now he was unable to attend the meetings, owing to other important duties. He desired to thank the Society for re-electing him as President, and he would endeavour to do his duty. He was very much indebted to the Rev. D. A. Rothnie for so ably filling the chair in his absence and for the useful part he had taken in the work of the Society. An apology for absence from Mr. Rothnie was here tendered by the Secretary. As arising out of the minutes of the last quarterly meeting the question of yam cultivation in Hanover was taken up and fully discussed. Mr. Somerville said that with regard to the cultivation of an acre of yam which was brought up at the last meeting with reference to his article on the matter there was only one point that might be modified, and that was as regards the cost of yam sticks. He went on to deal with the method employed by the yam-growers. He thought that the practice of planting yams in a crowded manner was a bad one. Several questions on the subject were put to Mr. Somerville, all of which he satisfactorily answered. As arising out of the minutes of the special meeting the Secretary gave the substance of His Excellency the Governor's reply to the memorial sent up from that meeting. A Circular letter was read dated August 2, 1913, from the Secretary of the Parent Society asking Branch Societies to discuss and get the opinions of the small agriculturists on (1) the buying of produce—whether revision of the Produce Protection Law is needed, and the practice of buying cocoa in pods; and (2) whether Mahoe bark and Mahogany should be added to Schedule "A" of the Prædial Larceny Law 4 of 1909. The President presented the matters to the meeting seriatim and each underwent thorough discussion. Mr. Somerville said that buying cocoa in pods was the better way, as the small cultivators found it difficult to cure their cocoa properly. He suggested that the law should require that "Authorized Persons" as well as rural constables be allowed to inspect the books of produce buyers. This he thought would meet the case. It was agreed to submit this suggestion. With regard to the revision of the Produce Protection Law. Mr. Somerville suggested and the President supported that licenses should be granted only to responsible persons who would be scrupulous to see that they buy produce from honest people. The President spoke strongly on the subject of Prædial Larceny. He thought it was a blight on the country. He thought there should be a law requiring a

seller of produce to be identified by some person known to the produce buyer ; also that there should be a larger number of "Authorized Persons." Two persons were nominated as "Authorized Persons." With regard to section 2 of the letter from the Secretary of the J.A.S. it was agreed that Mahoe bark and Mahogany dye should be included in Schedule "A" of the Prædial Larceny Law 4 of 1909. Mr. Somerville moved that a part of the amount to the credit of the last show be utilized to organise a Prize Holdings Competition in December next, as it would act as an incentive and encouragement to the small settlers who were still suffering from the effects of the hurricane of November last. The President seconded the motion. The Rev. J. M. McDonald and the Secretary supported it. The motion that £12 should be allotted to the competition was unanimously carried. A committee was appointed to carry out arrangements for the competition ; the first meeting of the committee to be held at the Court House, Lucea, on Saturday the 23rd inst. at 12 o'clock noon. It was pointed out that since the hurricane there was a scarcity of cocoanut plants, and the Secretary was instructed to write asking the Secretary of the J. A. S. if he could send a supply of 20,000 plants for sale. Mr. Somerville referred briefly to cocoanut diseases. It was decided to ask Mr. Somerville to give at the next meeting a lecture on cocoanut diseases. This Mr. Somerville readily consented to do. The financial statement showing £9 to the credit of the Society was presented by the Secretary and Treasurer and adopted.

The meeting then adjourned.—S. FRANKLIN WHITE, Secretary.

**Morant Bay, (St. Thomas).**—The regular monthly meeting was held at the Parochial Board Room on Wednesday the 13th August, 1913. Present J. M. Prince, Esq., in the Chair, 8 members and the Secretary. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Letter was read from the Secretary of the Parent Society, *re* the appointment of Messrs. T. A. Cowell and N. Rose as Authorized Persons for this Branch. Also a circular calling upon this Branch to state its opinion as to whether it is necessary to place Mahoe and Mahogany bark on the Schedule of the Prædial Larceny Law. Also to know if under the Produce Protection Law cocoa pods are being bought to any extent as it tends to encourage prædial larceny among children ; the subject was deferred for next meeting when it is hoped to have a full discussion. A letter was read from the Acting Colonial Secretary, conveying His Excellency's thanks to this Branch for letter and Resolution received *re* the proposed tax on bananas in the United States. A letter was also read from Mr. Daniel McCoutie, an Authorized Person attached to this branch complaining that he has performed duties and has not been paid although applications for payment have been made by him to the Clerk of the Courts and the police. The Secretary was instructed to write to the Clerk of the Courts and find out from him the correctness of the complaint and to ask why he was not paid, and whether the claim would be reconsidered. Mr. J. F. Kelly proposed Mr. Daniel McCoutie as a new member, his proposal was accepted by the meeting, and Mr. McCoutie was elected a member and paid his subscription. Three other members paid their subscriptions. Mr. Kelly asked that the discussion on Banana Fig Factory in this parish be deferred until a better attended meeting. The meeting was adjourned till Wednesday, 10th September next.

S. J. BLACK, Secretary.

**Glengoffe, (St. Catherine).**—The regular monthly meeting was held at Grateful Hill on the 14th August, 1913. There was quite a large attendance. Among those present were : Alex. Carey, Esq., presiding, and about 87 other members. The minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed and three persons were proposed as members. Correspondence was read. (1) From the Secretary J.A.S. granting permission to hold Show. (2) From the Secretary J.A.S., acknowledging receipt of affiliation fee. (3) A communication *re* proposed law to prohibit selling of cocoa in pods, was mislaid by the Secretary, and will be discussed at the next meeting. It was moved and seconded that the meeting be held on Tuesday evening, instead of Thursday. This was carried. The Committee appointed to draft Rules gave their report which was adopted. The Secretary also informed the meeting that he had invited the Mt. Charles,

**Above Rocks, Mt. Industry and Brainard Branches** to co-operate with this Branch in holding a Show. The President said he was at Mt. Industry's last meeting and he had given them a cordial invitation to co-operate. An animated discussion took place as to the Show ground. The President explained the reason for the change of ground. The fact that the May meeting had sanctioned it was accidentally omitted in those minutes and on the motion of the Rev. Sherlock the omission was made right. During the meeting a letter was handed the Secretary from the Above Rocks Society, asking for further information before they could co-operate. The Secretary was instructed to reply. The Secretary was instructed to find out the date of the Bybrook Show, before fixing our date. The meeting adjourned to the 1st Tuesday in September.—THOS. E. DODD, Secretary.

**Above Rocks (St. Catherine).**—The meeting was held on the 14th day of August 1913. There were present: Mr. Hanson, the new Instructor, the President and Vice-presidents and about sixty members and visitors. The minutes of last meeting were read. Mr. Waugh asked that the change of date proposed at last meeting be correctly inserted. This was done. Moved and seconded that the minutes be confirmed. The Instructor was introduced by Mr. Pusey, who spoke in high terms of his capabilities. Mr. Hanson then addressed the meeting informing the members that he intends to proceed more by way of demonstrations than by lectures at meetings. He gave some very useful hints on the cultivation of cocoa and bananas. The President thanked him in the name of the meeting. The Instructor pointed out that he cannot be here on the second Thursday. The meeting was then fixed for the second Wednesday. Mr. Waugh asked that the committee on rules meet and draft the rules for the guidance of the Branch. The petition for a J. P. was read. Mr. Waugh moved and Mr. Galloway seconded that it be endorsed. This was carried. Messrs Frankson and Sutherland of Parks Road were elected as new members. In reply to Mr. Barclay's letter this Branch is of opinion that the Law granting License for the purchase of cocoa in pods should be abolished. The suggestions contained in the second part of his letter were unanimously agreed with. The correspondence regarding the coming Show in connection with the Glengoffe Branch was discussed. The debate proposed at last meeting was postponed. It was agreed that members be allowed the use of tools for two weeks at a time. The National Anthem brought the meeting to a close.—FRED. DENNIE, Secretary.

**Maldon (St. James).**—The regular monthly meeting was held on the 15th of August, 1910. There were present: Rev. R. G. Chambers in the chair, Mr. E. Harrison, Agricultural Instructor, the assistant Secretary and a fair number of members and visitors. In the absence of the Secretary, Mr. A. A. Robinson acted. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. An item re procuring of grape fruit plants from the Montpelier nursery brought much discussion. A letter from the Secretary of the Agricultural Society re cocoa pods and mahoe and mahogany bark was read. After some explanation the Society unanimously agreed that the selling of cocoa pods in so far it encourages stealing among children was pernicious, and that the destruction of mahoe and mahogany trees was not to be allowed, therefore they should be added to Schedule (a) of the Praedial Larceny Law. A suggestion of holding a Show in the district was put forward and was well received by the members, consideration of the same was deferred. There was some talk about Crown lands. It was suggested that the Government let the land on easy terms to responsible individuals. The Instructor suggested that at the next meeting a debate on the profitableness of cocoa and coffee. A vote of thanks was given to the Instructor for his help at the Social. A like vote was accorded to Mrs. A. Chambers and others who helped to make the Social a success. National Anthem was sung.

S. C. REID, Secretary.

**Southfield (St. Elizabeth).**—A regular meeting came off on August 15, 1913, presided over by Mr. L. C. Hibbert, Vice-president. Mr. A. P. Hewitt who promised to address the meeting on Bee-keeping did not turn up. He will be asked to do so at the next meeting. The meeting decided that 12s. should be

taken from the funds of the Society to buy seed corn from the Parent Society for the members. The Instructor spoke encouragingly of "Manning Home" and the meeting expressed the desire that it may become a permanent Government Institution as from next year. A circular was read from the General Secretary of the Jamaica Agricultural Society (a) *re* revision of the Produce Protection Law, (b) *re* the proposed addition of mahoe bark and mahogany to Schedule (a) of the Prædial Larceny Law 4 of 1909. (a) was not discussed as there was no local complaint about same. (b) was discussed and the meeting strongly recommended the insertions of the articles named in Schedule (a) of the Prædial Larceny Law 4 of 1909. The Instructor informed the meeting that the order was sent on for cotton seeds for those who requested same. The meeting then adjourned.—J. J. MILLER, Secretary.

**Chesterfield, (St. Mary).**—This branch met on the 19th Aug., 1913. The President and Vice-president being absent, Mr. E. Hunt was voted to the chair. There were present eight other members and the Secretary. Mr. F. S. Grant suggested that the Society might buy a grind stone for about 20s. The matter was discussed at length. It was finally decided to buy a stone for 16s. each member to subscribe a 6d. towards the cost: the subscriptions to be laid on the table at the next meeting, Mr. Peccoo was instructed to buy the stone. Rules and regulations to govern the use of the stone would be laid down at next meeting. The partly finished discussion on pig and goat was entirely abandoned, as the parties directly connected, therewith continue to be sick. Mrs. Joanna Peccoo moved that the Society buy a lamp, as its meetings are being held at night. It was decided to buy a lantern. The secretary was instructed to draft some new rules for the Society and submit them at the next meeting for discussion. Mr. Chas. Roberts suggested the starting of a penny bank in connection with the Society. It was decided to deal with the matter at the next meeting. The National Anthem was sung, and the meeting stood adjourned.

VIVIAN HAGUES, Secretary.

**Whitehall, (St. Thomas).**—A meeting of this branch was held in the school-room on the 20th Aug., 1913. There were present A. H. Hoare, Esq. Asst. Instructor R. J. McLean, Esq., Vice-president. L. Anglin Barrett, Esq., Secretary, the Asst. Secretary and eighteen other members. In the absence of the President the Vice-president took the chair. He then called on the Secretary to read the minutes of the last meeting. These were read and confirmed.

The Secretary suggested at the last meeting that a "Duplicator" should be bought by this Society for its own use. Everybody agreed and it was acquired for 17s. 6d. and was immediately put into use. All the members are very pleased with it. Six new members were elected. The next item was the reading of the correspondence from Mr. Barclay. It was proposed and seconded that both the mahogany and mahoe plants should be placed on Schedule "A" of the Prædial Larceny Law. Correspondence from Mr. Wates was read by Mr. Hoare. The latter then spoke of the expected visit of Mr. Barclay in September and asked that as many of the members that can be present at the next meeting D.V., should try to do so. It is a great pleasure to have an Instructor like Mr. Hoare amongst us. He takes a great interest in the Society, and is a very energetic worker. He has been a boon to the cocoa growers especially. Mr. B. U. Johnson then spoke of the Banana Fig Factory. The members at first fell in heartily with the ideas; but they do not seem to be very willing now to go further with it. Subscriptions amounting to 6s. were received; and the meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

ETHEL J. E. RYAN, Asst. Secretary.

**Pedro Branch, (St. Ann).**—The annual meeting was held at Waltham on Thursday evening, 21st inst. There were present Rev. T. Whitefield, President E. Crosskill and July Simpson, Esqs., Vice-presidents, E. Arnett Esq., Agricultural Instructor, 40 other members and 20 visitors including some ladies. The meeting opened with hymn and prayer. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. Philip Johnson was enrolled as a member. The



annual Report was read by the Secretary, and the following are extracts of same:—There have been eight regular and three special meetings, and all were well attended. The membership is 52. Resolution re Foot Bridge over the Waterloo Forging and a Parochial Road through Spring Hill, have been sent to the Parochial Board but nothing definite has been done. The Society has purchased a grind stone and a spray syringe for the use of its members. A Loan Bank has been formed but it was thought advisable not to apply for loans under existing rules. The hurricane of November last year has given a great set-back to the district, but things are improving. A local show is anticipated. The President has taken a very special interest in the working of the Society and the large membership is mainly due to his efforts. Prædial Larceny has decreased wonderfully owing no doubt to the appointments of "Authorized Persons." The appointment of officers for the ensuing year was next dealt with. All were re-elected. Nine persons were elected members of the Managing Committee. Mr. Arnett then gave a very earnest and instructive address. He showed what co-operation can do and how the district could be improved. He gave instances of how other districts were going ahead and the Pedro District should not be behind. He spoke also of the usefulness of sending regular reports of our meetings to the Secretary of the Parent Society. The "Authorized Persons" present were further instructed in their duties. A very hearty vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Arnett for his very helpful address. A letter from Mr. Barclay re "Revision of Produce Protection Law, etc.," was deferred for next meeting. A resolution thanking the Rev. G. Turner and the officer of the Waltham Church for the use of the schoolroom for the holding of Agricultural meetings was passed and the meeting adjourned in the usual way.

W. J. FRANCIS, Secretary.

Bath, (St. Thomas).—The usual monthly meeting was held in the Bath school-room on Thursday the 21st August, 1913. There were present J. Hamilton, Esq., (in the Chair) Messrs. L. A. Wates and A. H. Hoare (Senior and Assistant Agricultural Instructors) seventeen members, the Secretaries and visitors. The correspondence was read between the Secretary and the Acting Director of Agriculture. The letter from the Clerk of the Parochial Board on the subject of a market for Bath was read also a copy of the letter from the Clerk of the Bath Corporation to the Clerk of the Parochial Board on the same subject. The Parochial Board expressed its regret that having approached the Directors of the Bath Corporation with a view of obtaining as a gift, the site recommended by the Agricultural Society, and having been refused the same, it did not see its way to acquire by purchase the only other site in the town mentioned by the Society, in view of the limited estimated revenue of a market at Bath. The Secretary was requested to write to the Directors of the Bath Corporation asking if they would not reconsider their decision. A letter from the Colonial Secretary's Office was read acknowledging receipt of a letter from the Society regarding the resuming of work on the proposed new road from Bath to Port Antonio stating that no funds are now available for the resumption of work, and that for the future it will be conditioned on the state of the public finances. Read circular letter from the Secretary of the Parent Society asking whether the Produce Protection Law should be revised so as to affect the buying of cocoa in the pod, seeing that so much thieving is carried on in this connection, by children as well as by adults. As no one traded in cocoa here in this way and as the Branch was not aware of any complaint, it could not recommend any action thereon. On the other subject mentioned in the letter, the meeting thought that Mahoe and Mahogany should be protected by Law, and a resolution to this effect was moved and seconded and agreed to. In the matter of the Banana Fig Industry the Secretary read letters from Mr. M. H. Edwards, Secretary of the Banana Fig Co., Ltd., and from Mr. B. U. Johnston. Mr. Johnston who had been asked to come over and address the meeting, was introduced. He spoke briefly having been forestalled he said, by the information contained in the letters from the Secretary of the Banana Fig Co. The meeting considered the matter thoroughly and decided to leave it entirely to the discretion of individual members whether or not they would take out shares. The Chairman moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Johnston, seconded by the Secretary and carried unanimously. Mr. Johnston replied. The meeting adjourned to the 18th September, 1913.

G. R. GROVES, Secretary,

**Gibraltar (St. Ann).**—The monthly meeting was held on the 22nd August, 1913. There was a fairly good turn-out of members. The President, Mr. R. S. Barnett presided. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Five new members were enrolled. Correspondence from the Parent Society was read. With regard to mahoe bark and mahogany it was the unanimous opinion of the meeting that these should be added to Schedule (a) of the Prædial Larceny Law 4 of 1909, as these trees serve very useful purposes. With regard to cocoa buying in pods, the members were not in a position to express an opinion as this is not a cocoa growing district. The "Authorized Persons" reported very favourably of the district, as no case of prædial larceny has occurred within the last six months. Much dissatisfaction was expressed at the action of the St. Ann's Parochial Board, *re* a street in Gibraltar. On the 21st January of this year the Board made a definite promise after the petition was sent them stating that "the matter will receive [their] attention when the allotments to the different roads are being made in March"; and up to the present time nothing has been done although repeated representations were made to the Board. This part of St. Ann is very much neglected. It was decided that the matter be placed in the hands of one of the members of the Board to be dealt with at the coming meeting. The members were desirous of knowing what seeds and plants could be obtained free through the Parent Society, and the Secretary was instructed to make enquiries. The subject of a cart road passing through Somerton was again brought up. This district is a rising one, and some of the best holdings in the Parish are to be seen there, but the people are very much "handicapped" for want of a cart road. A largely signed petition was sent to the Board some time ago, but they replied saying that funds are not available. It was then agreed that representations be made direct to the Government. The matter of a corn mill for the Society was deferred to the next meeting. The meeting then adjourned after the singing of the National Anthem.

J. B. MORRISON, Secretary.

**St. Paul's (Westmoreland).**—The usual monthly meeting took place on Monday 25th August, 1913 at 7 p.m. There were present: B. E. Smith, Vice-President, presiding, the second Vice-president, the Treasurer, the Secretary. Mr. R. C. Somerville, Agricultural Instructor and sixteen other members. After the reading and confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting the Treasurer, Mr. Liddon Segre, was asked for his report. This was adopted. Arising out of the minutes was the question of procuring a suitable boar pig or billy goat for the use of the Branch. Owing to the financial condition of the Society, it was decided to lay this over for the present. The question was brought up as to why monthly meetings have been so irregular. It was pointed out that this was in a great measure due to members themselves. It was not possible that the Instructor could attend all the meetings. The correspondence dealing with the Produce Protection Law and that referring to "the Authorized Persons" gave rise to hearty discussion. Mr. Somerville moved that Messrs William Broomfield, Reuben Blake and William Woodly be appointed as Authorized Persons pending the approval of the authorities. This was seconded by Mr. Smith. The Secretary was instructed to write to the Parent Society giving the views of the Branch. A discussion took place on the question of Prædial Larceny. Mr. Somerville led off and he was supported by two other members. The Secretary spoke forcibly on the subject and said that the punishment meted out to the convicted parties does not serve as a deterrent to stealing. It was decided that the Secretary write to other Branches, soliciting their co-operation and suggestions. Messrs. Joseph Spence and Samuel Austin were elected members. The Instructor at this stage congratulated the members on the work they were doing and encouraged them to greater effort. Mr. Salmon urged the members to be regular and punctual and to co-operate with each other. It was moved by the Secretary and carried unanimously that all future meetings be held bi-monthly. The date for next meeting being October 27th, 1913. At next meeting some important matters will be discussed. With the singing of the National Anthem, the meeting terminated.—R. A. SALMON, Secretary.