

NEWSY NOTES

By J. A. Clark, D.Sc.

NIAGARA FALLS

When the glacial ice cap over North America receded, a very large lake known as Agassiz formed, with an outlet down the Mississippi valley. Later, as the ice melted away, it left the series of great lakes which are drained by the St. Lawrence River. Lake Ontario, which is 326 feet lower than Lake Erie, is joined to the latter by the Niagara River, which flows north for 35 miles between these lakes. There are several islands in this river, the largest of which is Grand Island, some miles above the falls.

The Niagara Falls are the best known of any of the great waterfalls of the world. There are falls that have a much greater descent and that have a much greater volume of water flowing over their crest, but for majestic setting and its location near the centre of the North American continent, Niagara Falls are unique. The American Falls are a fairly straight alignment of crest about 300 feet wide, with a normal depth of water of from two to four feet, dropping down a precipice of 187 feet.

The Canadian or Horseshoe Falls, which is by far the more majestic, has a fall of 156 feet and a deep curving crest of more than 2,500 feet, from which it gets its name. In 1784, the crest curved well down the river from Goat Island, but by 1842, the crest had retreated 470 feet, forming the great Horseshoe Falls to the west of Goat Island. During the next 164 years, the crest moved 240 feet further up the river. Since the turn of the century, the diversion of water for power purposes has lessened the erosion, but in less than two centuries the Horseshoe Falls have receded 865 feet.

The International Boundary Line between Canada and the United States is now within about 100 feet of the crest of the Horseshoe Falls; from this point it turns at an angle and crosses the western point of Goat Island to the centre of the Niagara River below the falls. In order to reduce erosion and preserve the beauty of Niagara Falls, a large scale program of remedial work was needed, and the Niagara Diversion Treaty was signed by the United States and Canada in 1950, authorizing these necessary remedial measures.

It is proposed that these measures will contribute to the effective use of the Niagara River for power production purposes, and provide for an unbroken crestline of water over both falls. Agencies were then appointed to undertake this work; for the United States it is a corps of engineers from the U. S. Army, and for Canada, it is the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario. These agencies started this work in December, 1953.

The engineers of both countries have worked in close and effective liaison in making hazardous surveys of the river. They have designed and tested models of the

Niagara River bed above the falls. By excavations on either side of the Horseshoe Falls, an even depth of the river flow will be spread all across the crestline from shore to shore. This will greatly reduce the volume of flow and erosion at the centre of the Horseshoe, and should greatly enhance the beauty of the falls. A fill is also to be made near the western point of Goat Island, that will assist in retaining the shape of the falls.

The building of control structures and breakwaters in the river above the falls will spread and direct the flow evenly toward the crests of both the Canadian and the American Falls, so that they may retain their scenic beauty while permitting the authorized use of water from the Niagara River as arranged by treaty.

It has been estimated that the fall of water between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario is capable of generating a total of about 6,000,000 horse power of energy. The mass of water is estimated at about 15,000,000 cubic feet per minute, which sweeps over the limestone crest of the falls, wearing them away a few inches a year. This volume of water falling over the precipice, sinks, and does not come to the surface again until it is about two miles down the river, and near the point where turbulent rapids toss the water about a much greater extent than above the falls. These rapids culminate in the upper whirlpool, further down, a sharp turn in the river hurls the water against the Canadian bank, so that it sweeps around in a gigantic circle, until it gains exit at right angles to its former course.

About a mile of smooth water below the base of the falls permits the steamboat "Maid of the Mist" to make trips with visitors to view a close-up of the cataract, every 15 minutes throughout the day for the summer months, and 30 minute intervals at other times.

While the scenic views of Niagara in summer are magnificent and extraordinary, it is in winter that the true glory of Niagara appears. A great ice bridge forms below the American Falls. Giant icicles form from the mists about the cataracts, which glisten and reflect prismatic colours in the sunshine. Then at night, when groups of giant coloured searchlights keep throwing their beams from place to place, they turn Niagara into a fairland of colour and beauty for the numerous spectators.

Checked March Of Army Worms

TORONTO, (CP)—A. H. Martin, director of field crops branch, Ontario department of agriculture, said Friday the relentless march of army worms has been checked and Thursday's rainfall has somewhat eased the drought situation.

Estimates of crop damage in the month-long drought run as high as \$40,000,000. He said reports from farmers indicated that the worms, which have caused "hundreds of thousands of dollars damage," are being controlled. Farmers are using poison bait and dust sprays to combat the pests.

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First To Fly Solo



First of his course to fly solo, Alan MacLeod of 60 (Charlottetown) Squadron, Royal Canadian Air Cadets, has his tie clipped in traditional manner by his instructor, Don McClure. Alan is one of eight air cadets currently attending a six-week flying scholarship course at Moncton Flying Club.

Watchers Jim Shepherd, Don Northrup, Moncton; Ken Milton, Summerside; Maurice Gaudet, Summerside; and Arthur Farmer, Chief Flying Instructor.—(Staff photo by Curtis—Engraved by Moncton Engraving Co.) Alan is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leith MacLeod, Longworth Avenue, and a student at Prince of Wales College.

Directors Piqued About Omission

SASKATOON, (CP)—Directors of the Saskatoon golf and country club are piqued about the omission of club pro Pat Fletcher from the Canada Cup team. Fletcher, first Canadian winner of the Canadian Open tournament in 30 years, was bypassed by the cup selection committee for Canadian Professional Golfers' Association lister Stan Leonard of Vancouver and Jules Huot, pro at Montreal's Laval Sur-La-Lac club, scene of the Aug. 20-22 Canada Cup matches.

WHEATLEY RIVER W. M. S.

The July meeting of Wheatley River W. M. S., met at the home of Mrs. Cora Ling on July 27. Mrs. Theo Sellar was devotional leader. Theme of the service was "Our Family and the World." Call to worship and Hymn "For The Beauty of the Earth" opened the meeting. The general Thanksgiving Prayer was read in unison. Scripture reading was taken from several verses of the New Testament read by Mrs. Cora Ling. The leader led in a reading from the Missionary Monthly, "If ye know how to give good gifts to your children. Love has always been one of the greatest gifts." Hymn "Far Round the World Thy Children Sing Their Song," read in unison.

Suitable reading on the program was given by Mrs. Harry Ling, Mrs. Harold Buntain and Mrs. Harold Chandler. Roll call was answered by eight members repeating a verse of Scripture containing the word "Saviour."

No new business was taken up for August. Several members offered to help with the cleaning of the manse at Hunter River. Ten sick and friendship calls were made. Mrs. Harry Ling invited members to her home for the next meeting.

Benediction and prayer for our missionary closed the meeting. Refreshments were served by the hostesses.

Card of Thanks

Mr. Ellis Lacey and family wish to thank sincerely Rev. K. C. MacPherson, Rev. K. C. MacMillan, the Rev. Sisters and nurses of the Charlottetown Hospital, the Hennessey Funeral Home, Drs. G. G. Sheppard, C. Coody, relatives, friends and neighbors for their recent sad bereavement; also all who gave Mass cards, spiritual bouquets, enrollments, messages of sympathy and floral tributes.

Floral Tributes

Pillow—The Family Wreath—George, Betty and Linda, Kensington. Wreath—Bessie, Harold, Wilfrid Blooming Point. Wreath—Mr. J. Ken Lacey, Charlottetown. Spray—Mr. and Mrs. Ted Lowther, Amherst, N. S. Wreath—Swift Canadian Co., Charlottetown.

Enrollments

Enrollment in the Association of Mary Immaculate, Mrs. Ethel McDonald, Charlottetown. Enrollment in the Association of Mary Immaculate, Mrs. Basil McDonald, Tracadie Cross. Enrollment in the Fathers of Our Lady of Mercy, Mr. and Mrs. Emile Charron, Lynn, Mass.

Sympathy Cards

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Vartebeade, Boston, Mass.

IN MEMORIAM

MRS. ELLIS LACEY

The community of Blooming Point and surrounding districts were shocked to learn of the death at the Charlottetown Hospital on May 26th of Mrs. Ellis Lacey, nee Mary Etta MacAulay.

The deceased had been in failing health for the last two years. All that medical skill and untiring care and love of family and friends could suggest was done, but in vain. She was a woman of sterling character, always courteous and obliging, ready and willing to assist the sick or needy at any time. In short, to know her was to love her.

She leaves to mourn a grief-stricken husband and two sons, namely, George at Kensington, Raymond at home; also one brother, George MacAulay of Vancouver, B.C., and one sister, Florence, Mrs. Adrian Keenan, Charlottetown.

The funeral, which was very largely attended, was held on Tuesday morning, May 11th from her late residence to St. Bonaventure's Church, Tracadie, where requiem Mass was celebrated by Rev. K. C. MacPherson. Rev. Kenneth MacMillan was present in the sanctuary.

The pall bearers were Alex McDonald, Lawrence Smith, James Kelly, Andrew McInnis, Daniel Kelly, John D. MacDonald. Interment took place in the Catholic Cemetery, Tracadie. Service was conducted by Father McPherson. May her soul rest in peace.

Mass Cards

Husband George and Betty Raymond. George MacAulay, Vancouver. Florence and Adrian Keenan. Rita and Evelyn Keenan. Mrs. Etta Titosky and family, Comour, Alberta. The Sisters of St. Martha, Charlottetown Hospital. Miss Margaret McDonald, Tracadie.

Mr. Leo A. McDonald, Ch'town. Mr. and Mrs. Reg Casford, Charlottetown. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph McIsaac, Tracadie Cross. Mr. Alex and Miss Sarah McDonald, Afton Road. Mr. and Mrs. Leo MacDougall, Charlottetown.

Miss Elsie Doyle, Charlottetown. Miss Helen O'Hanley, Ch'town. Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Lacey, Tracadie Cross. Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Lea and family, Charlottetown. Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Kelly, Blooming Point.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. McDonald, Blooming Point. Mr. and Mrs. J. Reginald McDonald, Charlottetown. Mr. and Mrs. James Hughes and family, Tracadie. Mr. and Mrs. J. R. O'Hanley, Charlottetown.

Mr. and Mrs. William F. McDonald, Tracadie Cross. Mr. and Mrs. J. Alex McDonald, Blooming Point. John McIsaac, Tracadie Cross.

Mrs. James MacPhee, Ch'town. Mrs. Mary MacDonald and family, Blooming Point. Mr. and Mrs. F. Power, Tracadie Cross. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bradley, Charlottetown.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph MacIntyre, Bedford Station. Mr. and Mrs. Jerry McDougall, Charlottetown. Mr. and Mrs. Andrew McInnis, Tracadie Cross.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank MacIntyre, Charlottetown. Mrs. John Morris, Ch'town. Mr. James McIsaac, Tracadie Cross.

Mrs. Ronald O'Hanley and Loretta, Mt. Stewart. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Currie, Charlottetown. Mr. and Mrs. Bernard McQuaid and family, Tracadie.

Mr. and Mrs. Terence McKenna, Baldwin's Road. Mr. and Mrs. Stephen McDougall, Blooming Point. Mrs. G. Guy Scott and Lorraine, Charlottetown.

Mr. and Mrs. R. J. McDonald and family, Blooming Point. Mr. and Mrs. John D. McDonald, Blooming Point. Mr. and Mrs. William Kelly, Blooming Point.

Misses Theresa and Eileen McKearney, Mt. Stewart. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Baldwin Baldwin's Road. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Power and family, Tracadie Cross.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lappin, Charlottetown. Mr. John R. Lund, Scotchfort. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Smith and family, Tracadie Cross. Mr. and Mrs. Merrill MacAliduff, Charlottetown.

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS

CONNECTED WITH

Silver Fox And Mink Farming

Imports of Russian furs into the United States were slashed about 57 per cent in 1953. The value of Soviet fur shipments was \$7,087,913 as compared with \$12,203,668 in 1952. Russian squirrel was one of the few furs that maintained its importance in the American market. The value of 1953 shipments to the United States was \$3,776,000. Second in importance was Russian sable which entered the U. S. A. to the tune of \$1,358,700 last year.

At this week's Leningrad auction the Russians will offer some 30 varieties of fur pelts, a reduction in numbers from those offered a few years ago. There has been a continued decline in imports of Russian Persian lamb to the United States with Southwest African Persian lamb getting the call. The reason stated is that Russian skins have deteriorated in quality in recent years and they are in no position to compete with the lighter weight Southwest African Persian lamb skins. Russian sable continues to reign as one of the high luxury furs in the United States, limited though the supply is. A total of approximately 40,000 pelts with the value given above came to the United States in 1953.

Cash sales in Canadian department stores in the first quarter of this year were approximately the same as for the same period of 1953, while installment sales were 7 per cent higher. Total cash sales up slightly by one per cent. Cash sales totalled \$131,400,000; installment purchases totalled \$30,700,000; charge sales totalled \$42,300,000.

At a meeting of the United Mink Breeders' Association held in Milwaukee July 22, past president, Arthur MacArthur of Jaynesville, Wis., told 50 U.M.B.A. members that the dark mink crop will be lower this year because it is harder to raise dark pelts. U.M.B.A. members themselves have been cutting the number of dark pelts they produce. At the morning meeting they set sales dates and gave contracts to the New York Auction Co., and the Hudson's Bay Company.

Swears and Wells, one of the world's largest retail furriers operating more than 200 stores throughout the British Commonwealth, has opened their 6th Canadian store in Montreal. The 500 square foot operation comprising selling salons, fitting rooms and factory for custom made garments, is situated at 1450 St. Catherine St., Montreal's main shopping artery. The site was obtained by the company buying out Grande and Marchand, Ltd. retail furriers.

Here are a few tips from A. H. Leonard, Purina mink manager, on how to increase profit profits. "The mink is an old German proverb which says: 'The Master's Eye Fattens His Cattle.' If the same who wrote this had been a mink rancher, he probably would have written instead, 'The Master's Eye Grows Exceptional Pelts.'" While you and I can't control the price of pelts, we can do something about producing pelts that are top important sales and increase bank account. The prize-winning pelt or the highest average at a sale is the result of a lot of little things well done. Looking after these small details really pays off.

Fox example, if a number of mink fail to eat well at night, the good rancher is out trying to find out why early the next morning. The wise, the top rancher knows, almost by a sense, the day before a mink gets into a something wrong. He is ready to act before he loses valuable pelts. The producer of outstanding quality pelts watches the storage dates on his meat and fish to prevent rancidity. He carefully checks the quality of meat, meat products,

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Burgess Bedtime

be taught how to use them. The young chuk simply couldn't sit still long. He couldn't sit there and do nothing while that dreadful dog was making the sand fly up above. He found where there had once been another hall opening into that bedroom. It was pretty well filled up now. He didn't know where he led to, but it led somewhere away from the danger of being caught by that dog down in his home. He began to dig. He kicked the sand and the little stones behind him. It filled up the entrance to that hall, or tunnel. Perhaps the dog would not see it. With these he dug away the sand and earth in front of him, and with his hind feet he kicked it and pushed it behind him.

That was the beginning of a great digging match. Flip the terrier was digging in, and Buster Chuck was digging out. Buster knew that Flip was digging in, but Flip did not know that Buster was digging out. Each was digging the best he knew how. Every few minutes Flip stopped to get his breath. He backed out of the hole and rested. Now and then he backed then he would go down in and make his paws fly again as he made the yellow sand pour out behind him. As a matter of fact he was working hard for little result. Perhaps if he had known what a long way he would have to dig to get to the end of that tunnel, he would not even have started to try to dig that chuk out.

Flip had dug in only his own length so that the tip of his short tail was still outside when he came to a big rock buried in the ground. At first he didn't know what it was. He almost wore his toenails off digging at it. You see, that old tunnel went around that rock. But Flip didn't discover this because he filled up the tunnel just there with loose sand. He backed out and lay down to rest for he was tired. He decided that he really didn't want that chuk after all. He would go look for someone easier to catch.

Young Sisters Burned To Death

VANCOUVER (CP)—Three young sisters were burned to death Wednesday when flames roared through their two-storey frame house in the city's east end. Dead are Roberta Waddell, two months old, and sisters Marvis and Amelia, 1 and 2 respectively. Their mother, Mrs. John Waddell, saved two young boys from a similar fate, but was unable to fight her way to the three other youngsters.

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