

Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

There were curious customs in Ireland as late as a century ago. Duelling was then in vogue, all insults being settled by force of arms instead of the law. Some towns and villages boasted duelling clubs and strange but true, there was the Abduction Club, an association which was formed in the south of Ireland, the members of which found themselves under oath to help each other in carrying off young girls. When a young female was thought worthy of being carried off, the members drew lots or tossed a coin for her. The members of this unique club were mostly the younger sons of poor but respectable families. They went by the name of "Squirens" and dressed in red waistcoats, lined with narrow lace, tight leather breeches and top boots.

The forcible abduction of a woman was an outrage, but an outrage so agreeable to the spirit of the times and so congenial to the ardent and romantic character of the people that it was considered an achievement creditable to the man and a matter of exultation to the girl.

Parents who resented this method of coming by a woman found themselves minus their daughters some dark night, thanks to the boys of the Abduction Club.

As early as 1634, a statute was passed for punishing members of the Abduction Club. This proved

ineffectual, and in 1707, abduction was made a capital crime. The law which provided that the offender was not liable to punishment, if the woman abducted him, so that the girl in most cases mounted the horse first, and assisted her lover to a rear seat in the saddle. She then galloped away with the man of her choice, stopping at the nearest church to get the nuptial knot tied. Nearly always the girl would manage to get a word to her lover as to the most convenient time and place for forcibly abducting her.

A memorable case occurred in the Edgeworth family—a name Maria Edgeworth of literary celebrity. Capt. Edgeworth, a widower with one son, married a widow with one daughter. The children became very fond of each other and in due time asked the consent of their parents to be married. Both refused. The young lady was an heiress, and the penalty for abducting her was death. But the girl was bound to have her man. So she got a fleet-footed horse, seized her boyfriend and galloped off with him to the nearest priest. The abducted youth put on a great act and those who witnessed his cries and kicks testified that he was indeed abducted by the female.

However, several hangings resulted from the abduction of females before this silly old Irish custom died out.

Among our industrious and frugal forerunners it was a maxim,

that a young woman should never marry until she had spun herself a set of body, table, and bed linen. From this custom, all unmarried women were termed spinsters—an appellation they still retain in all law proceedings.

Many men of genius were good writers but poor conversationalists. Peter Corneille could wield a mighty pen, but as a conversationalist he never attracted any attention. Nature, who had lavished on him the gifts of genius had forgotten to blend with them her more ordinary ones. He did not even speak correctly that language of which he was a master.

Descartes, whose habits were formed in solitude and meditation, was usually silent in mixed company, and the same could be said of Joseph Addison. He preserved a rigid silence among strangers. La Fontaine was spoken of as being coarse, heavy, and stupid. He could neither speak nor describe intelligently anything he had seen, but when he wrote he was the model of poetry.

Isocrates, celebrated for his oratorical compositions, never could be persuaded to utter a single word on a public platform.

After man came woman, and she has been after him ever since.

A terrible warning to brain workers is found in the life of Sir Winston Churchill. It is his daily habit to drink brandy, to smoke several big fat cigars and to stay up half the night. Had he kept away from these frivolities he might have gone down in history eminent in the literary and political world, and might also have retired at a time of life when most men take to their rocking chairs, instead of filling the shoes of prime minister at the youthful age of 77 years.

What nonsense it is to say it is unhealthy to sleep on feathers—ever eat an old hen, and see how tough she is?

Dying words of celebrated persons:

"Kiss me, Hardy—I thank God I have done my duty." —Nelson.
"It is small, very small indeed." (Clasping her neck) —Anne Boleyn.
"Don't let that awkward squad fire over my grave." —Robert Burns.

"Let not poor Nelly starve." —Charles II.
"I wish you to understand the true principles of government. I wish them carried out. I ask nothing more." —Harrison.

CORDOBA, Spain, (AP)—An overturned lamp set fire Monday night to dried palm fronds being prepared in a small shop for Palm Sunday. Four children were burned to death.

Hampton and Vicinity

Profound regrets of the many relatives and friends of Mrs. Basil C. Holm are extended to Mrs. Holm in the very distressing accident sustained when struck by a non-stop car driver, while walking, with her husband, on the left side of the T. C. Highway on return from a brief visit at the home of a near neighbor. As a result of the accident, Mrs. Holm, a resident of this district, best wishes are accorded to Mrs. Holm for her early return to health, following the medical and nursing treatment being received as a patient in the P. E. I. Hospital.

Mr. Richard Ferguson, student at Dalhousie University, has returned to resume his studies following an enjoyable week-end visit among relatives and friends, guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Ferguson.

With much regret is chronicled the death of Miss Estelle Thomas, widely known and respected lady of Tryon, on March 30, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Thomas. Sympathy is extended to the surviving relatives, particularly the aged mother, in their time of sorrow and bereavement.

The late Mr. Isaac Ives, whose death occurred at Hunter River on March 30, was a gentleman intimately and widely known in every part of the Province. Born at North Tryon, he became the proprietor of the large factory containing saw, shingle, planing, moulding and sash and door factory, owned and operated by his late father, Mr. Thomas Ives, now operated by his grandson, Mr. Everett Ives. Many attended the funeral services. Interment was in the Church of Scotland Cemetery.

Relatives and friends here of Mrs. Jack Gillis, Borden, regret to learn of her recent illness, and desire to convey best wishes, from the medical treatment being received, for an early restoration to good health again.

School hockey team have reported the defeat of Westmoreland school team by the score of 6-1, on March 30, and that the game with Bonshaw school team on April 2, resulted in a tie, in Crapaud rink.

Many district residents attended the funeral services for the late Mrs. Bert Stordy, at her late residence in Crapaud, and in St. John's Anglican Church on April 3. The late Mrs. Stordy leaves,

wishes her husband and children a wide circle of relatives and friends, to whom sympathy is extended in their sorrow and bereavement.

Funeral services at the Chisholm Funeral Home for the late Mr. Donald Howatt, whose occupation for many years brought him in close touch with many friends from near and far, were largely attended by relatives and friends, whose sympathy is extended to the bereaved in their time of sorrow and bereavement.

A fine gathering of relatives and friends of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Alexander Inman, participated in the presentation of a post-nuptial shower and an evening's entertainment held in Hampton Hall in their honor, on April 2. Presentation of useful and beautiful gifts attested to the popularity of this young couple, accompanied by the best wishes of the givers, for a long and happy married life. Mrs. Inman was formerly Miss Audrey Cudmore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Cudmore of Hampton.

Mrs. Charles E. MacEachern, who has been visiting her son Murchison, during a part of his illness, has returned to her home at Rice Point.

—C.E.

TO REBURY KHAN'S BONES

TOKYO, (AP)—The bones of Genghis Khan, Mongol conqueror of the 13th century, have been returned to Inner Mongolia for reburial, Peiping radio said today.

A broadcast said the Nationalists made off with his bier when the Communists were overrunning the mainland in 1949 and took it to Tsinghai Province in the Far East, where the Reds found it.

STOP in here and see the

BROWNIE HAWKEYE FLASH OUTFIT

Details in the **BIG KODAK AD**



Sea Cadets Can Earn \$100 Bonus

TORONTO, (CP)—Some 350 Canadian sea cadets can earn a \$100 bonus by completing special seven-week training courses this summer, D. W. Cathers, chairman of the National Sea Cadet committee said Friday.

Courses include communications, engineering, quartermaster, Naval airman and bandsman training. They will begin July 5, at Point Edward, Stadacona, Cornwallis and Shearwater bases in Nova Scotia, and Comox in British Columbia.

To be eligible, cadets must be 16, physically fit and have attended a sea cadet camp.

MEADOW BANK MISSION BAND

Meadow Bank Mission Band held their April meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Victor MacPhail when the parents and friends of the children gathered for a social evening.

Beverly led the meeting which opened with singing and a call to

worship Miriam read the Scripture and Ruth read a prayer. Mrs. L. H. Drake told an interesting story and the offering was taken. John and Millard had recitations. Verna and David put money in the Birthday Box. After the singing of "Jesus Loves Me" and a prayer by Verna, a pleasant time was spent in games. A delicious lunch was served by the hostess.

MILBURN SCHOOL

Grade VIII—1. Emmett DeCoursey.

Grade VII—1. John MacKay; 2. Margaret DeCoursey.

Grade VI—1. Sheila MacKay.

Grade IV—1. Marjorie Robbins; 2. Preston MacDonald; 3. Colleigh MacKay.

Grade III—1. Joyce Robbins.

Grade II—1. Spurgeon Robbins; 2. Arthur Flynn.

Grade I—1. John Pyke; 2. Irene Flynn.

Highest average in senior grades, Sheila MacKay, 96%.

Highest average in junior grades, Spurgeon Robbins, 95%.

Perfect attendance: John Pyke, Arthur Flynn.

Teacher: Mrs. Helen Cobb.

RENNIE'S ROAD SCHOOL

(March Report)

Grade X—1. Arthur Gallant.

Grade VIII—1. Mary Gallant; 2. Sheldon Ford; 3. Vernon Matheson.

Grade VII—1. Rita Gallant; 2. Lucy Etta Gallant.

Grade VI Sr.—1. Earl Proctor; 2. Harold Gallant; 3. Everett Gallant.

Grade VI Jr.—1. Helen Smith; 2. Emmeline Gallant; 3. Paul Gallant.

Grade IV—1. Edward Gallant; 2. Louis Proctor.

Grade III Sr.—1. Shirley Matheson; 2. George Proctor.

Grade III Jr.—1. Francis Gallant; 2. Wilfred Smith.

Grade II Sr.—1. Roy Proctor; 2. Pauline Gallant.

Grade II Jr.—1. Velda Smith; 2. Rose Marie Gallant.

Grade I—1. Firmin Gallant; 2. Margaret Smith; 3. Heather Matheson.

Teacher—Mrs. Exton Bulman.

FAMOUS CAVES

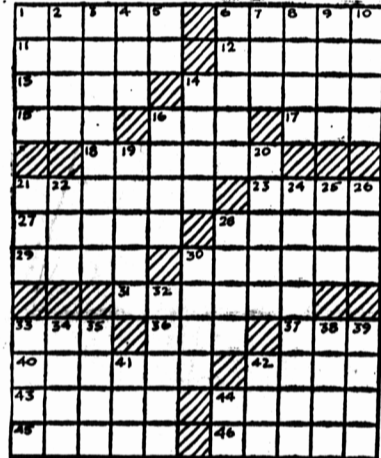
The Mammoth Cave in Kentucky has some caverns with ceilings 300 feet high.

DAILY CROSSWORD

- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|-------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------|---------------|-----------------------|----------|
| ACROSS | 1. Ugly old woman | 2. Protected place for raising oranges | 3. Bird's beak | 4. Type of coal | 5. Any long distance race | 6. One-spot card | 7. Ovens | 8. Exclamation of sorrow | 9. Little island | 10. Sharp | 11. Mandibles | 12. Additional amount | 13. Lift |
| DOWN | 1. Fellow | 2. Infrequent | 3. Seaport (Mo-rocco) | 4. Cutting tool | 5. A size of coal | 6. Any long distance race | 7. One-spot card | 8. Exclamation of sorrow | 9. Little island | 10. Sharp | 11. Mandibles | 12. Additional amount | 13. Lift |

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

34. Vend
35. Portico
36. Nuclio
37. Unroll
38. India
39. Indian
40. Japanese measure
41. Thorium (sym.)



DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it:
A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W

One letter simply stands for another. In this example A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

A Cryptogram Quotation
S V E M L M B K A M H Y I O B L I M K X M I M F A
E O A T B M H H S V E M I — K X V E H V E

Yesterday's Cryptogram: THREE MILLION PAUPERS... THESE ARE BUT ITEMS IN THE SAD LEDGER OF DESPAIR—CARLYLE.

C.N.R. TRAIN SERVICES

LV. CHARLOTTETOWN—
For Summerside-Borden 7:00 a.m., 3:30 p.m. dly. ex. Sunday.
For Murray Harbor 4:00 p.m. dly. ex. Sunday.
(Commencing May 1st will leave at 3:15 p.m.)
For Souris 2:30 p.m. dly. ex. Sunday. 7:30 a.m. Tues., Thur., Sat.
For Elmira (Lv. Souris) 6:45 p.m. Mon. & Fri.; 5:45 p.m. Tues. & Thur.
For Georgetown 2:30 p.m. dly. ex. Sunday.
For Tignish 3:30 p.m. dly. ex. Sunday.

LV. SUMMERSIDE—
For Charlottetown 7:15 a.m., 10:10 a.m., 2:45 p.m. daily except Sunday.
For Borden 7:15 a.m., 2:45 p.m. daily except Sunday.
For Tignish 6:15 p.m. dly. ex. Sunday; 12:01 p.m. Mon., Wed., Fri.

MONCTON - HALIFAX - SAINT JOHN
MONTREAL - TORONTO

Lv. Charlottetown 7:00 a.m., Summerside 7:15 a.m., daily except Sunday.
Through air-conditioned sleeper Charlottetown-Montreal, leaving Charlottetown 7:00 a.m.

CAR FERRY SERVICE
BORDEN - CAPE TORMENTINE

Four trips daily in each direction, leaving Borden pier at 9:10 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., and Cape Tormentine pier at 10:35 a.m., 2:40 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 9:00 p.m.

Atlantic Standard Time

CANADIAN NATIONAL



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