

Strange But True

By F. E. MacArthur

A French lady recently died at the age of ninety. Her will contained this provision: "I leave to my doctor, whose care and wise prescriptions have made me live so long, all that is contained in the old oak chest of my boudoir. The key of the chest will be found under the mattress of my bed." The heirs were in a dither. The fortunate Doc arrived. The chest was opened, and found to contain pills, all the drugs and poisons, still intact, which the medical man had given his patient for twenty years back.

A nail inside one's boot can be a sore-stirring thing. One of the best definitions of fate that I have ever heard was given recently by a farmer who said: "as near as I can figure, it is feeling perfectly sure of a thing when you have nothing to back it up."

These scientists will never let honest folk alone. Some of them now predict that each of ours is cooling off, and that, in excess of time it will become a solid mass of ice. Said another, "we are getting a few inches nearer the sun and will eventually fall into it and get burned to a cinder. What is more probable, we won't have any earth if scientists keep making and using larger hydrogen bombs."

Here are a few amusing blunders taken from an old Irish newspaper. "On the edge of a small river in the county of Caven, there is a stone used to be a stone with the following inscription cut upon it: 'When this stone is out of sight it is not safe to ford the stream.' But the above is almost if not quite surpassed by the post erected some years ago by surveyors of the Kent roads in England: 'This is the bridal path to Faversham. If you can't read this, you had better keep to the main road.'"

The following is from the latter portion of an extremely affectionate poetical epistle, addressed to an Irish girl. I'm yours to command, both in weepin' and laffure; I'm awake all the night, that of me I may dream; I'd hang myself now, if you'd marry me after And though I may change, I'll ever be the same.

And a Dublin advertisement informs us that a doctor has taken a house in Libbey Street, where the deaf may hear him at all hours; but as his blind patients see him every day from ten to four, they must come at some other time.

This bill was actually presented by a veterinarian to a farmer living near the coast of Galway. "For entirely curing your black horse that died, immediate payment is requested of one guinea." A correspondent some years ago, told the story of a pole, standing hard by the lighthouse at Holmes' Hole and chosen as a memorial for three men who were killed by lightning while out in a small sloop. The cedar pole bears this epitaph:

Here lies three friends who in their lives Were never known to rankle; Homes' hole, cedar pole, Crankle, crinkle, crankle.

The last line is supposed to describe the wreathing bodies of the three after being struck by lightning. Note the surprising confusion of pronouns in the following, from an English tombstone:

Him shall never more come back to we, But we shall surely one day go back to he, And here is a famous English weather couplet: A Saturday's noon and a Sunday's bull, Never got good nor ever kind.

The ludicrousness of this kind of mispronunciation may be seen to good advantage in this stanza of George Washington and the apple tree:

There once lived a planter With son, his only love; To whom, upon his birthday A brand new axe he giv.

The fellow who can see sermons

in running brooks is most apt to go and look for them on the Sabbath day when trout are biting.

Economy is wealth — the Montreal woman, who found an infant in a basket on her front porch steps, took the baby to the Salvation Army home, but saved the basket for marketing.

We owe more to poor children than we think. Columbus was a poor boy, often hungry. Franklin used to buy a penny roll and eat it alone. Dr. Livingston learned latin from a book on his loom while at work.

Mark Twain told in one of his lectures that a bear could hug seven times as hard as a man, and that every time a circus visited that town every girl present made eyes at Bruin and hid him so much attention that he got confused and blushed.

Betrothal and marriage in Poland have a queer twist in that a bride proposes to the would-be groom, and he goes to her home, carrying with them a loaf of bread and a jug of wine, and a silk handkerchief. When shown into the best room the friend asks for a glass of wine. If it is produced he takes it. If not, then he departs as it is understood by the refusal that their proposal has not been accepted. But when the desired wine is brought, then the friend drinks to the girl's parents' health, and they ask where the girl is. The mother then gets her and the friend gives her the wine to drink. If she puts it to her lips the proposal is made at once. But if it is the vogue to refuse the wine several times before finally drinking it. Then the friend brings out the silk handkerchief and ties the young people's hands together, after which it is tied round the girl's head, and she wears it as a sign of betrothal until her wedding day.

After the wedding wheat is thrown over their heads, then picked up and sown if it happens to be spring; if it bears good fruit the young couple will prosper. Dancing, singing, and games are kept up until the "wee sma' hours," when the young folk are accompanied to their room. The wedding festivities last for several days and nights without let up after which the wedding visit begins, commencing with the older residents of the district.

A woman's features are less disfigured by her age at 60, than by her rage at 20. There is very little that we do in the way of helping our neighbors that does not come back in blessings to ourselves.

TRACADIE C.W.L.

The monthly meeting of the Tracadie sub-division of the C. W. L., was held on July 4, with an attendance of 24 members. The Reverend Director, Fr. K. C. McMillan, opened the meeting with the "League Prayer."

The members were treated to a copy of two splendid addresses which had previously been given at the first Regional meeting of the C.W.L., held at St. Stewart's, the C.W.L. first paper is an address by the Provincial President of the C. W. L., Mrs. Lorne Noonan; the second paper is on "Child Guidance in the Home," by Sister M. Winnifred C. S. M.

Father MacMillan commented favourably on both papers, stating that each paper contained much food for thought. He told the members that it would be well to take the time to study both papers individually because he considered each address a masterpiece. The Reverend Director then talked seriously with the members as to their obligation in belonging to a national organization such as the Catholic Women's League.

He asked the members to say the Rosary for the success of the C.W.L. in the parish. "If, said Father MacMillan, we pray together and work together we will accomplish much for God and Canada, and receive the Blessing of Almighty God besides." Fr. McMillan brought the meeting to a close by reciting the League Prayer.

To Teach Highland Music, Dances At P. E. I. Summer School



Major Calum Ian MacLeod

Prince Edward Island's first summer school in Highland dancing, piping and Gaelic instruction will be held this year from August 16 to 28 inclusive in Prince of Wales College, under the sponsorship of the Caledonian Club of Prince Edward Island.

The school will give any child who is fond of music or dancing an opportunity to get expert instruction in learning to play the bagpipes and dance the popular Highland dances. There will be classes for beginners and advanced pupils. Instruction will be given in chant classes for beginners anxious to learn the pipes and on the bagpipes for more advanced students. There will also be instruction in the steps of the Highland Fling, the Sword Dance and the Seann Tribuhas for novices wishing to learn the Highland dancing and more advanced instruction for those already familiar with this type of dancing.

The Caledonian Club has been fortunate in obtaining the services of qualified teachers in both classifications. The instruction in the chanter and bagpipe classes will be given by Major Calum Ian MacLeod, formerly of Scotland and now Gaelic advisor to the adult education division of the Nova Scotia Department of Education. He will also conduct Gaelic classes for the two weeks in the evenings for those wishing to learn Gaelic instruction.

Former Dance Champion

The dancing classes at the Caledonian Club summer school will be conducted by a former Highland dancing champion of Canada, Mrs. Douglas MacGowan of Montague. Mrs. MacGowan, the former Beth Watson of Toronto, comes to the summer school with special qualifications as a dancing teacher. She began her dancing career at the age of four when she first took up dancing as a pupil of the late



Mrs. Douglas MacGowan

Donald D. MacPherson, Pipe Major of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders and Professor Bertram.

In addition to instruction in Highland dancing, Mrs. MacGowan also studied bagpipe music. At the age of 12 she became the champion girl piper of Canada having won the distinction at the Centennial Games at Toronto. She topped her Highland dancing career by becoming medalist at the Canadian National Exhibition.

A proficient musician, she also studied ballet and dramatics and during the last war volunteered for service with the citizens' committee for troops in training. After making two nation wide tours entertaining the troops with the Citizens Committee she went overseas with the Auxiliary Service entertaining Canadian troops in the United Kingdom and on the continent.

During the past year, Mrs. MacGowan has trained several dancing classes in Montague.

Native Gaelic Speaker

Major MacLeod was born March 12, 1914, in Kintail, Ross-Shire, Scotland, educated at the Inverness Royal Academy and Edinburgh University at Edinburgh he specialized in Celtic languages and French. He is a native Gaelic speaker and commenced piping when 10 years old, was Gaelic Youth Movement leader in Scotland for four years; Provincial Mod Adjudicator and National Mod Adjudicator, Scotland; crowned Bard of Scotland at National Dundee Mod in 1937; double blue in Athletics and Shinty (Edinburgh University); judge of piping, Gaelic singing and Highland dancing in Nova Scotia; served Overseas in World War II in British Intelligence Service for nine years.

Major MacLeod's present appointment is Gaelic Advisor, Adult Education Division, N. S. Department of Education since 1950.



Murray River

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Buell and children, Erma, Curtis and Dale, from Halifax, N.S., are spending their holidays at the home of Mr. Buell's mother, Mrs. Mary A. Buell, Murray River.

Miss Donna Moore, Dartmouth, spent the past week-end with relatives in Murray River.

Mr. and Mrs. Byron Sharp and children, Billy and Betty, Montague, N.E., are spending their holidays with Mrs. Sharp's mother, Mrs. M. M. MacLeod, Murray River.

Mrs. Alfred MacWilliams and children of Eldon, are spending a few days at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Herring, Murray River.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnett White, St. Catharines, Ontario, are spending their holidays at the homes of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred White, Murray River, and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Cahoon, Murray Harbour.

Mr. and Mrs. Hammond Nicolle, Charlottetown, recently spent a few days in Murray River, guests of Mr. Norman MacLeod.

Misses Agnes and Margaret Pettipas and Mr. and Mrs. George Dartmouth, N.S., were recent visitors to Murray River, guests of Mrs. Tena Stymeist.

Miss Margaret Herring has returned to Halifax to resume her duties as nurse-in-training, after spending her holidays at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Herring, Murray River.

Miss Elva Hooper, Montreal, and her niece, Miss Nancy MacPherson, Ottawa, are spending their holidays at the home of Miss Hooper's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Hooper, Murray River.

Miss Eunice Clarey, Murray River, is spending her holidays at the home of her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Bohner, Lunenburg, N.S.

The Misses Rosemary and Rebecca Goebel, Charlottetown, are spending some time at the home of their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Watson White, Murray River.

Mrs. Ben Steniford and daughter, Mrs. Harry E. Foster and two children, Charlottetown, are spending the summer at the Riverview Cabins, Murray River.

Master Andrew Clarey, Murray River, is spending his holidays at the home of his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. George Clarey, Whim Road.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Keenan and Mr. Duff, Pownal, are visiting in Murray River, guests of Mrs. Addie MacCannell.

Mrs. Blanch Hollinghurst, New York, is spending her holidays at her summer home in Murray River.

Mrs. Ella Hyde and son Aidon, Rhode Island, are visiting in Murray River, guests of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Lowe.

Mrs. Stirling MacKay, Murray River, is spending a few days in Pictou Island, N.S., guest of Mr. and Mrs. Ford Keenan.

Mr. and Mrs. George O. White-way, Murray River, spent the past week-end in Greenhill, N.S., guests of their son-in-law and daughter.

FRANCETOWN ROAD W. M. S.

Thursday, July 26, 1954 The Guardian Page 11

Mrs. Charles Proude entertained the members of the W. M. S. and visitors. This being the twenty-second anniversary of the society, we had as our welcome guest speaker Mrs. Hazen Howard of Cornwall, who is the president for the Island.

The meeting was called to order by the president Mrs. E. Kent and the meeting was led by Mrs. Vincent White.

The opening hymn was "Hark The Voice Of Jesus Crying". This was followed by a trio by three members. Mr. H. Hardy led in prayer. The meeting was favored by a duet by Ann and Louise Proude, "Praise Him". The two scriptures were read by Mrs. Ivan Sentner and Mrs. Emmerson Kent. This was followed by a quartet of four members.

Mrs. H. Hardy gave a reading on "No half way around". This was written by an Island poet, and was followed by a selection by the choir, "Living by Faith". A duet was beautifully rendered by Mrs. White and Mrs. Hardy with Mrs. Fred Coles at the organ, "Have You Counted".

An address was given by Mrs. H. Howard who chose as her part the forming of the W. M. S. on the Island by Miss Jean Forbes, and about her trip to the conference.

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin MacDonald, Mrs. Martin MacKay, Wood Islands, spent last Tuesday in Murray River, guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gavin MacLeod.—C.D.

KILLED BY SHOVEL
OTTAWA (CP) — Walter Jean-Louis, 25, was fatally injured Wednesday when the scoop of a heavy steam shovel fell on his back as he worked on a sewer excavation. Fellow workmen said the shovel was not in use and that a cable holding the scoop apparently slipped.

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SPECIALS FOR WEEK-END

CHUCK ROAST, Young Beef, lb. 37c
BOILING BEEF PLATE, Young Beef, lb. 29c
CORN BEEF LEAN PLATE, lb. 29c

FOR THOSE QUICK DINNERS ALREADY COOKED

Burns' CHUCK WAGON DINNERS, 15 oz. can 38c
Clark's IRISH STEW, 15 oz. cans, 2 for 75c
Swansdown Egg Noodle CHICKEN DINNER, 1 lb. cans, 2 cans 69c
Deville

LOBSTER FOR SANDWICHES, 3 oz. 49c
CLOVER LEAF SALMON, 1-2 lb. tins 25c
RADIO PEAS, 15 oz., 2 for 39c
GRAVES WAX BEANS, 20 oz., 2 for . . . 39c
Aylmer

CREAM STYLE CORN, 2 for 39c
SNOW'S PEANUT SPREAD, 9 oz. bot. 27c
JAVEX, 1-2 gal. bottle 53c
Campbell's

SOUPS, 20 oz. size, 6 for 99c
FLOOR WAX, Liquid, Quarts \$1.00
Campbell's or Aylmer

PORK & BEANS, 2 cans 35c
Colgate's

CHLOROPHYLL TOOTH PASTE, 1ge. . . 35c
Palmolive

RAPID SHAVE, large 89c
TOMATOES, pkg. 25c
CUCUMBERS, large, 2 for 25c
HEAD LETTUCE 19c

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