

OUR NEWS BUDGET FOR OUR SATURDAY SUBSCRIBERS

MONDAY

ANOTHER MERCY FLIGHT — On Tuesday, March 22, Mr. Elton Woodside brought his aircraft down on French River and took a patient to Prince County Hospital.

The only solution to the problem of putting the City streets in good order is re-laying and re-surfacing" Councillor J. D. Stewart, chairman of the Street Committee, told the meeting of the City Council on Friday night, a meeting in which the estimates for 1949 were passed.

Deteriorating of the permanent streets which were laid in 1919 is now a well known fact and Councillor Stewart stated they have now outlived their permanent and must be re-surfaced in some instances and entirely re-laid in others.

The following clipping has been received by Mrs. Myrtle MacPhail, Long Creek, from her sister, Mrs. T. E. Stretch of Inglewood, Calif., announcing the death of her son Alvin Stretch. He was born at Long Creek, Feb. 8th, 1911, and passed away March 13th, 1949.

This is the clipping: "Funeral services for Alvin C. Stretch, 38, of 4648 West 64th Street, Inglewood, were held at 1 p.m. today at the Colonial Chapel of the Hardin and Planagan Mortuary, 635 South Prairie Avenue, with the Rev. Edmund Krueger, pastor of the Lutheran Church of Peace, officiating.

Interment followed in Inglewood Park Cemetery. "Stretch was a native of Prince Edward Island, Canada, and had made his home in Inglewood for the past 24 years. He was a veteran of World War II, United States Air Force. He served with the 37th Fighter Squadron for two and one-half years overseas and had been awarded Presidential Citation and three bronze battle stars for participation in the Tunisian, Sicilian and the Naples-Foggia campaigns.

"He leaves to survive, his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Stretch of Inglewood; one daughter, Margaret Suggs, of San Fernando; and two sisters, Myrtle Snow of Inglewood and Irma Powers of Los Angeles."

Expressing his appreciation of the resolution sent from the Provincial Legislature to Ottawa last week, seeking aid for Island fishermen and families, Mr. S. H. Burhoe, president of the P. E. I. Fishermen's Federation reported an "indefinite situation" at the Ottawa meetings of the fishing industry last week.

Mr. Burhoe said that things looked pretty black at first. West Coast fishermen objected to East Coast fishermen seeking aid from the Fisheries Prices Support Board. The resolution from the East to this effect was thrown out by the resolutions committee of the Fisheries Council by the West Coast delegates.

However, Murray MacLeod of Port Elgin and Mr. Burhoe spoke in the debate on the floor; and the feeling is that they put their points across.

In summing up, Mr. Stanley Lee, vice-president of the Board, answered various West Coast criticisms. He was acting for Mr. Stuart Bates, Deputy Minister of Fisheries, who was absent through illness. It was felt by the East Coast delegates generally, that something may come of their efforts.

The next and final long distance training flight of the specialist navigation course now nearing completion at the R.C.A.F. station, Summerside, will commence on April 23rd, when the two Lancasters, Zenith and Polaris, will take off for Whitehorse, in the Yukon and two weeks Arctic flying. Leaving Summerside at 8 a.m., they will stop overnight at Edmonton and complete the trip the next day.

On May 7th, they will return to Summerside, a flight of approximately 3,000 miles, which is longer than the non-stop flight from Sacramento, California, which was successfully completed in January.

A fire, which was discovered about nine thirty Saturday night badly damaged the store of Mr. J.G. Johnson at Elmsdale. It was shortly after the store had closed for the day when a passing motorist noticed the flames through a window. He quickly gave the alarm and the Fire Department from Alberton covered the three-mile distance from the town in time to save the building although considerable damage was done to the stock by fire, smoke and water.

A large crowd gathered and they assisted by forming a bucket brigade. The fire was confined to the interior and at no time did it break out except through the heat breaking windows.

TUESDAY

ISLAND SWINE QUALITY — Prince Edward Island swine continue to qualify in Advanced Registry. Mr. H.W. Clay, Senior Live Stock Fieldman, Dominion Department of Agriculture has just received from Ottawa the following list of sows qualifying: (name of sow, owner's name and score in that order in each case.) Beachville Alma 5B, Kenneth A. Coffin, Marshfield, 50-120-90; Prolific Belle 4A, Adrien Arsenault, Wellington, 50-116-89; Easter Dawn 9Y, Wm. D. Heaney, New London, 65-106-86; Prolific Belle 9B, C.P. Gallant, Wellington, 40-109-83, The Fort Queen 9A, Edward MacGougain, Malpeque, 55-111-75.

The death occurred at Kensington on March 16, 1949, of Mr. John William Walker at the age of 76 years, although in failing health for some time it was not until the previous Thursday that he showed a change for the worse. He was born in Kelvin Grove and resided on the old Walker Homestead until 1943, when he retired and moved to Kensington, in 1902 he married Lucy Ann Clark who survived him and who so patiently and tenderly cared for him during his illness. He is survived by his two daughters, Jennie (Mrs. Alton W. Anderson, St. Eleanor's), and Miss Mae at home, and two sons, Isaac at Kensington and Albert, Saiter Street, Halifax, N. S., besides three grandchildren. He was the last remaining member of the family of the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward Walker of Kelvin, his two sisters (Jennie) Mrs. C. W. Quigley and (Lucy) Mrs. Henry Bynon, having preceded him several years ago.

The late Mr. Walker was very highly respected for his honesty and integrity, his devotional spirit was quiet and unobtrusive but decided and real, he being one of the oldest members of the Kensington Presbyterian Church, and seldom missed a service until laid aside through illness.

The funeral was held on Saturday afternoon, March 19th, and was largely attended by relatives and friends, after a short service at the house by his pastor Rev. James McGowan, the remains were taken to the Presbyterian Church, where the funeral service was held. Hymns sung were "The Lord's My Shepherd, Take Comfort Christians, Oh God Our Help In Ages Past, and Asleep in Jesus.

The pallbearers were Messrs. Harold Laird, James Campbell, Crawford Pickettes, Alexander Hiltz, David Clark and Edmund Stavert.

Beautiful floral tributes covered the casket.

Interment was in the family plot in the Kensington Cemetery, Mr. Joseph L. Davison was the funeral director.

PASSED AWAY IN PARK AVENUE—Mrs. (Rev.) Alfred E. Hooper of Rochester, N. Y., passed away in Park Avenue Hospital on Sunday, March 20, 1949. She was a native of Greece, Greece, and had formerly resided in McEwen. She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. George Mason of Rochester, Mrs. Ira Wilder of Garden City, L. I., one son Claude E. Norwalk, Connecticut. Two brothers, Rev. L. C. McEwen of Minnesota, U. S., Newton J. of St. Peter's. Her husband predeceased her three months ago.

Funeral services for the late Mr. J. LeRoy Holman were held yesterday afternoon at two o'clock from his residence on Summer Street, Summerside. Rev. K. G. Sullivan, pastor of Trinity United Church officiated and also conducted the committal service at the People's Cemetery. During the service Mr. Richard Henthorn sang a favourite hymn of the deceased, "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere."

The coffin was banked by a wealth of magnificent floral tributes which had come in from friends and business houses in various parts of Canada. Following the ceremony members of the staff of Holman's store formed two rows from the steps of the house to the hearse and the wreaths were passed out till each person held a wreath. The coffin was then carried from the house down the aisle bordered with beautiful flowers.

The pallbearers were Messrs. John E. Campbell, Heath Strong, W. Arthur Allen, Charles I. Peters, Alex. Horne and E. P. Foley.

The prize list for the Public Speaking Contest sponsored by the Prince Edward Island Junior Farmers' Federation has been announced by the executive. Lloyd Martin, Cherry Valley, president; Don Anderson, St. Peter's, past president; William Cairns, Free-town, vice-president; and Ralph Rayner, Mt. Herbert, secretary.

The Charlottetown Rotary Club has presented the Provincial Trophy. This is an inscribed silver tray valued at \$25.00. Winners and runners-up of the three County Contests will compete for this trophy. The winner and runner-up of the Provincial Competitions will represent the Province at the Maritime Winter Fair and possibly at the Dominion Junior Farmers' Public Speaking Contest next fall.

There will be five prizes presented in each of the three Counties.

The winner in each County will be awarded a "Go-op" mantle radio (value \$40.00). The King's County radio is presented by the Morell and St. Peter's Co-operative Societies; Queen's County by the Vernon River and North River Co-operatives; and Prince County by Tignish, O'Leary and Wellington Co-operatives.

Three Anso "Clipper" cameras (value \$150.00) are presented as second prizes by the Guardian

Publishing Company.

The Charlottetown Kiwanis Club has donated three Waterman Fountain Pens as third prize in each county.

A Webster Collegiate Dictionary will be presented by St. Dunstan's University Extension Department to each of those placed fourth in each county.

A fifth prize in each County is an EverReady 3-cell flashlight and batteries presented by a "friend."

WEDNESDAY

MARITIME PROVINCES TRADE — The Bank of Montreal Business Review of March says: Wholesale and retail trade continues quiet; stimulus is expected from payment of refundable taxes. Collections are fair to good with requests for credit increasing. Manufacturers report reduced operations, with layoffs in several sections. Potato shipments are slow, farmers being unwilling to sell at prevailing prices. Fish stocks are light, prices firm and demand satisfactory; landings in February were small due to severe storms. Lumber operations are making favourable progress under ideal conditions. Completion of contracts with Britain for around 130 million feet of spruce and fir from eastern Canada has stimulated the industry, although prices are down \$5 per M feet from last year. A high steel production continues, about 90 per cent. of rated capacity. Nova Scotia coal production continues to increase. The Dominion and Provincial governments have announced the construction of a bridge over the Strait of Canso to start in the spring at an estimated cost of \$13.5 million.

On the afternoon of March 16th, 1949, there passed peacefully away into rest one of Kensington's most highly respected residents in the person of Mr. John W. Walker in the 77th year of his age. Deceased had been in failing health for some time, but was able to be around till about three weeks before his death, and from then he gradually weakened despite medical attention and aid that loved ones could do, he passed away on the above mentioned date. The late Mr. Walker was the only son of the late Edward Walker and Sarah Glover Walker of Kelvin where he lived till about five years ago when he sold his farm and moved to Kensington. He was well and widely known and will be missed by a large circle of relatives and friends. He was one who always took a deep interest in the welfare of the community and the church and was always ready to give of his best to every good cause. He was a loyal member of the Presbyterian church and held office on the Board of Managers for many years.

He leaves to mourn his sorrowing widow nee Lucy Clark, two sons, Isaac of Kensington and Albert of Halifax, N. S. (who was at his bedside when he passed away) and two daughters, Jennie, Mrs. Alton Anderson, St. Eleanor's and Miss Mae at home.

His funeral was held on Saturday, March 19th and was largely attended. A short service was held at the home where the near friends and relatives were present. The 23rd Psalm was sung and prayer by his pastor, Rev. James McGowan. This was followed by a very impressive service in the Presbyterian church. The hymns were "O God Our Help", "Take Comfort Christians" and "Asleep in Jesus."

The pallbearers were Crawford Pickett, Harold Laird, Edmund Stavert, Alex. Hiltz, David Clark, James A. Campbell, There were a number of beautiful floral tributes from the family and near friends. Interment was in the family plot in the People's Cemetery, Kensington. The funeral arrangements were conducted under the efficient service of Mr. Joseph Davison.

LOCAL ARTISTS REPRESENTED — Four local artists are represented in the exhibition of paintings by Maritimers now on display at the Harris Memorial Art Gallery here. The artists are, Mrs. Freda Creelman, Mrs. Mabel McCullough, Mrs. S. Isabel Fraser and Mrs. Gass MacKay. The exhibition will continue until Sunday.

FUNERAL AT NORTH WILTSHIRE — The funeral of the late Mr. Howard Balderton was held from his residence at North Wiltshire yesterday afternoon. The service was conducted by Rev. H. Christie and Rev. Donald Nicholson. Interment was in North Wiltshire Cemetery. The pallbearers were, William Coady, Stirling MacLean, Walter Deacon, William Cullen, Cecil Campbell and Henry Godfrey.

Receipts of eggs were considerably higher than for the previous week, partly due to a hold-up in last week's deliveries due to storm but mostly to the increase in production throughout the Province. Mr. F. M. Nash, supervising poultry product inspector, reported yesterday in the Dominion Department of Agriculture egg and poultry market report. There appears to be a general increase throughout the Maritimes as local dealers report that present volume on these markets is in excess of consumer requirements, the re-charge continued. To poultrymen on P. E. I. this means a market for a large proportion of our eggs must be found in other than Maritime consumer centres. The only other outlets are the drying plants to be converted into egg powder for the British market or to be placed in cold storage to fill the storage egg contract with the United Kingdom. The filling of either contract means a reduction in the paying price for eggs, however, it has been decided to store eggs in preference to shipping to the driers as the returns are greater. No one likes price reductions, however, we can be thankful for the fact that due to the heavy consumption of eggs throughout the Maritimes, our prices remained above export levels for approximately three months longer than last year. Dealers commented moving eggs to Great Britain in January of last year.

THURSDAY

CRAPAUD HOMESTEAD SOLD — Bidding was brisk and good prices were realized at the auction sale of the estate of the late Fred MacDonald, Crapaud, Saturday last. The old homestead was sold to Wilmot MacDonald, Crapaud, for \$5,200. Another 50 acres was purchased by Frank Myers for \$1,200. A herd of 20 cattle went under the hammer. Shorthorn grade milk cows were knocked down at prices ranging from \$170 to \$119. Beef cattle ranged from \$191 to \$111. Five calves sold for \$68 each. W. H. Beaton, Charlottetown, was the auctioneer.

OVERFLOW AUDIENCES — The film presentation of "Coloths" which was shown at the Prince Edward Theatre yesterday afternoon and evening, was attended by overflow audiences who were warmly appreciative of St. Paul's Church laymen's organization in bringing this great picture to Charlottetown at this time. The dramatic intensity of the sacred scenes were heightened by the elimination of all unessentials, by superb artistry in filming and direction, and by extraordinarily sensitive and sincere acting. The picture was shown free of charge to school children yesterday afternoon.

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FRIDAY

ART CENTRE QUIZZ — Parents and teachers who are interested in child art will have a chance to quizz Miss Frances Johnston, director of the Art Centre program here, next Tuesday evening when she holds an open discussion on the topic "The Why and What of Child Art." About 700 of the city school children have attended classes at the centre with a total attendance reaching into the thousands. As well, hundreds of children outside Charlottetown have been following the Art Centre's Radio Art Class and Miss Johnston is hoping to visit some of these rural children during the summer. Examples of work done by both city and rural children will come under discussion Tuesday evening as well as the work of the Egyptian boys and girls which is currently being displayed in the centre. The meeting will begin early at 7:30 p.m. in order that anyone who wishes to leave in time for another engagement may do so.

ORAINED IN CALGARY, ALBERTA — During a recent Ordination service held in the Tuxedo Park Church of Christ, Calgary, Alberta, Russell Harvey Carr, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Carr, Spring Park Road, Charlottetown was ordained into the Christian ministry. Russel Carr was formerly a member of the Central Christian Church in Charlottetown, having left here to enroll in theology in Alberta Bible College in Calgary. His many friends wish him the greatest measure of success in the work to which he has been called.

FUNERAL YESTERDAY — The funeral of the late Mrs. J. D. Timmins took place yesterday morning from her late residence in Mt. Stewart to St. Andrew's Church where Requiem High Mass was celebrated by the pastor, Rev. Terrance Campbell. Rev. Kenneth McPherson and Rev. Kenneth MacMillan were present at the Mass. The pallbearers were D. L. Mullen, W. L. McLeod, Donald J. MacDonald, McLeod Douglas, Reginald Dunn and Addison Coffin. Interment took place in the family plot in the church cemetery where services were conducted by Father Campbell.

A destructive fire occurred at Port Hill on Wednesday afternoon when the residence of Mr. Donald Miller was burned to the ground. The fire broke out about one thirty in the afternoon and the cause has not been determined, although it is surmised that it was started by a spark from the house chimney. Mr. Miller had just left home to go to his father's when he saw the neighbors hurrying to his home. By the time he reached his house against the fire had made such headway that it was impossible to save it, although all the furniture was saved.

The fire brigade from Tyne Valley responded to the call and aided by neighbors of Mr. Miller were able to prevent the fire from spreading to any of the adjoining buildings, although a high wind was blowing at the time.

It was learned last night that the loss was only partially covered by insurance and as Mr. Miller had recently renovated the interior of his home, the loss was considerable. Mr. Miller could not be contacted last evening and his father could not estimate what the loss would be.

Following several years of failing health, Mr. John W. Walker passed away at his home at Kensington at the age of seventy-six years, on Wednesday, March 16th, 1949. He was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward Walker, Kelvin Grove and had lived on the homestead, where he was a successful farmer and prominent citizen until his retirement when he located in Kensington.

He is survived by his wife, the former Lucy Clark who tenderly cared for him in his illness, and by his family of two sons and two daughters, Mrs. and Isaac at Kensington, Jennie, Mrs. Alton Anderson at St. Eleanor's, and J. Albert at Halifax; also four grand children as well as a wide circle of friends and other relatives.

The funeral was held on Saturday from his late home where a short service was held to the Presbyterian Church where he had been a faithful worshipper for so many years and which was filled to the doors with friends who had gathered to pay their last respects to one who was loved and respected by all who knew him.

The service was conducted by his minister, the Rev. J. A. McGowan who read the 81st psalm, a passage which had been read on more than one occasion of significance in three generations of the Walker family. For his text he chose words from verses five and six: "Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night, nor for the arrow that flieth by day, nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. He likened the arrow that flieth by day to fleetness and carelessness of youth. The destruction that wasteth at noonday was compared to the prime of life when man may waste his energies and resources even more than in youth. The terror by night could be the fear of age and death. The thought presented was that a living faith in the Almighty could so stabilize a life that it would be free of such evils. The hymn chosen was, "The Lord's My Shepherd," "O God, Our Help in Ages Past," "Take Comfort, Christian" and "Asleep in Jesus."

The pallbearers were Messrs James A. Campbell, Edwin Stavert, David Clark, Alex. Hiltz, Harold Laird and Crawford Pickett. Many beautiful flowers covered

Hunters' Corner

(Continued from Page 7)

the opening day and passed up an opportunity to secure my limit. I don't want to convey the impression that ducks were that scarce.

12 years ago in late August I stood on the margin of Pisquid Pond between Curtis Creek and Donnelly's spring and watched the evening flight stream into the rice beds. The wind was southwest and the ducks came hooking in with wings cupped barely clearing the spruce trees. Windrow after windrow of blacks, barely 50 yards apart, came rooking in till I was dizzy trying to count them. I estimated in excess of five thousand ducks came into the Pond in a half hour. One doesn't see flights

the casket. Burial was in Kensington People's Cemetery. —Bur.

SHOW BEEF HERE — Of the 40 head of cattle of the three beef breeds which Canada Packers bought at the Martin Spring Show and Sale 21 are to be slaughtered on the Island today and will be on display to the public all day next Tuesday, Mr. Joe McGrath of Canada Packers said last night. The beef will be distributed to the stores for the Easter trade.

BIRTHS

OLEMENTS — At Prince Edward Island Hospital on March 26th, to Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Clements, a son, weight 10 lbs. 7 oz. REDDIN — At the Charlottetown Hospital on March 26th, to Mr. and Mrs. John Reddin, Southport, a son.

CARTER — At the P. E. I. Hospital on March 25th, to Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Carter, City, a daughter.

BRUCE — At the P. E. I. Hospital on March 27, 1949, to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Bruce, a daughter.

GALLAGHER — At the Prince County Hospital on March 24th, 1949, to Mr. and Mrs. James Gallagher, Kensington, a daughter, Mrs. Luanna.

MOUNTAIN — At the Prince County Hospital on March 15th, 1949, to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mountain, Kensington, nee Ruth Stavert, a daughter, Linda Ruth.

MACGREGOR — At the Souris Hospital on March 25th, 1949, to Mr. and Mrs. Harold MacGregor, East Beale, twins, boy weight 8 lbs. 15 oz. Girl weight 7 lbs. 12 oz.

CAREW — At the Prince County Hospital on March 28th, to Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Carew (formerly Margaret Montgomery) a daughter, Marilyn Margaret. Weight 9 lbs. 10 oz.

MULLIGAN — At the Prince County Hospital on March 25th, 1949, to Mr. and Mrs. Emery Mulligan, Emerald, a son, weight 8 lbs. 1 oz.

COLES — At P. E. Island Hospital on March 28 to Mr. and Mrs. James H. Coles, City, nee Vera MacKinnon, a daughter, Sandra Paulette.

MACNEILL — At the P. E. Island Hospital, March 28, to Mr. and Mrs. Reginald MacNeill, North Rustloo, a daughter, 7 lbs., 9 oz.

TOOLE — At the Charlottetown Hospital on March 26, to Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Toole (nee Shirley McQuaid), Green Road, a daughter, Mary Luella.

FARQUHARSON — At the home of Mrs. N. W. MacKinnon, Southport on March 28th, 1949, to Mr. and Mrs. Russel Farquharson, nee Isabella MacKinnon, Mt. Herbert, a daughter, 11 lbs.

MARRIAGES

OAKES — McAUSTRAN — On Saturday March 26th, 1949 in Toronto by Mr. Albert Joyce, Evelyn Elizabeth daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William A. McAulran, Heathcote, Ontario to John Alton Oakes, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick T. Oakes of Kinkora, P. E. I.

DEATHS

CROZIER — At Darnley, March 27, 1949, Mr. Ray Crozier, age 45 years.

HOOPER — The death occurred in Park Avenue Hospital, New York, on March 20th, 1949, of Mrs. (Rev.) Alfred E. Hooper, formerly Clerk, P. E. I.

MACEACHERN — At Nine Mile Creek on Sunday, March 27, Mrs. Frank MacEachern, aged 74 years.

BALDERSTON — At North Wiltshire on Monday, March 28th, Mr. Howard Balderston in her 80th year.

TIMMINS — In the Charlottetown Hospital on Monday, March 28th, Mrs. J. D. Timmins of Mount Stewart in her 61st year.

HORTON — At Johnston's River, March 30, 1949, John H. Horton in his 90th year.

HARDING — At Darnley, March 31, 1949, Robert J. Harding, age 87 years.

MORRISON — At the Charlottetown Hospital Thursday, March 31, Philip Morrison of Georgetown Royal in his 78th year.

like that at Pisquid Pond in August and September any more.

There are still sizable evening flights of ducks come into Pisquid Pond prior to the opening days in 1947 and 1948 in any one evening was approx two thousand. Till admit that's a lot of ducks, but my previous checks covering the whole province show the same downward trend. I find the flight at Pisquid Pond a pretty accurate barometer of the ducks in Queens and Kings counties. When we have no ducks anywhere else we'll have them at Pisquid Pond and if the time ever comes that ducks cease to make their evening flights into the rice beds at the Pond...we'll have no local ducks left.

I'll admit I didn't realize how far our ducks had travelled on the downward trail till I checked on my records. Those changes come so gradual at times their full portent is not realized till one commences comparing notes and compares the present with the past. My old Diaries sure brought back memories. 20 years ago the beavers built a large dam in wild swamp country where the boundaries of Waterville and Avondale merge.

The stream on which the dam was constructed was slow flowing as it meandered through a long stretch of alder swales flanked by a heavy spruce forest and the terrain was so flat it had barely enough slope to carry the water on its way to the Pisquid River. This when the embankment was completed it backed the water up till the dam covered a stretch over a mile in length.

It proved to be ducks paradise. Birds on their way to Pownal Bay and St. Peter's Island flats after spending the night at Pisquid Pond dropped into this haven to sun themselves all day with fresh water right at hand as well as a change in food should they wish to do some dabbling on the side.

I stumbled upon it on a sunny October afternoon and it harboured ducks by the thousand. Its hard to believe but my shooting partner and myself had two opening days all to ourselves. We agreed on a certain procedure. No boats were to be launched and no shooting after ten o'clock in the morning. We took our sport from pass shooting as the ducks out across a finger of high ground, known as Juniper Point, that jutted out into the dam about 200 yards south of the embankment. Our shooting didn't disturb the ducks at quarter mile, and farther, to the south of us. We also made it a point not to fire at large flocks preferring singles and pairs. We limited our shoots to one a week.

This was too good to last. The second year a party of Charlottetown gunners got wise to the set-up toward the end of the season. They immediately resorted to the use of boats and from then on there was only one days shooting of any consequence — the opening day.

One such shoot still lingers in my memory. In 1935 the opening day came on Monday, September 2nd. (No shooting allowed on Sunday) The spot I picked was about 600 yards south of the Juniper Point on the north fringe of a flag bordered patch of open water. I pushed the boat into the reeds where I faced the flight and could drop the birds in the open water to my rear where my Springer spaniel could have an easier job retrieving them.

We all had agreed on a zero hour. The law allowed one hour before sunrise but it was too dark at that time. We compromised on a half hour. I waited in the pre-dawn darkness experiencing the thrill that only duck hunters know. It still lacked 20 minutes before the zero hour and I could barely distinguish the spires of the spruce against the slight glow in the east when out of the gloom in front came a rushing, tearing sound of wings and the air around me was filled with the hurtling bodies of ducks.

I sat in the stern, it wasn't safe to stand up, and felt my cheeks fanned by the air currents caused by countless beating wings. One duck brushed my shoulder with her wing tip as she attempted to alight in the boat. She came to rest on the water a scant two feet from where I sat. Old Jack, my faithful Springer, and veteran of many a duck hunt, couldn't take it any longer and lunged over the side of the boat after the prey. He missed by inches and nearly upset me into the drink.

Ducks kept piling in, one wave after the other, till there must have been over a thousand settled within a one hundred yard radius of my hideout. Then from far off to the Nor-east came a ripple of gunfire — the Pisquid Ponders had gone into action. I could trace the course of the ducks on an invisible map. A few minutes later the guns at Pisquid river and Clark's creek began to boom. Wisner's lay about a mile off to the west and north. I kept my ears open and shortly came a few scattered shots that blended into a steady rumble of gunfire — Wisner's was under attack.

Fraser's Beaver Dam was still cloaked in silence. I could distinguish the outline of a hundred or more ducks in the open water behind me. Some of them were within 15 yards of the boat. They

sensed trouble and were frozen into immobility — a forest of long necks craned and motionless. The zero hour was only seconds away and I felt a sharp pang of regret. At that moment if I had had the show to myself I'd have pulled out and left the birds in peace. It seemed a shame to force those ducks into circulation and have them run a gauntlet of guns again and again.

The suspense was getting unbearable. Then a few hundred yards to the north came the sharp crack of 12 gauges — Dennis, Ferguson and Spillet had opened up. A big black, its feet outstretched, came coasting in. An incoming shot always was my specialty. The Winchester swung up and followed through till the muzzle cleared the ducks throat. I felt my shoulder jar to the report and heard the soft striding shrike home with a soft spout.

The duck folded up and landed in the water behind me with a solid smack. For a single stunned second there was silence. Then came a roar like a score of Model T Fords warming up at the same time — the air was black with ducks.

I held my fire a few minutes to let the flight steady down. I heard my partner's Ithica crack off to my left front and a moment later heard the loud impact made by a falling duck. The sharp reports of the 12 gauges to the north were punctuated at intervals by the boom of Simon's 10 gauge and his hearty laugh and exclamation following the shot: "I rooked that one." Simon was quite a character but shooting was not one of his strong points. He couldn't rock a cradle — not with a shotgun.

My partner and I had our limits of 10 each in less than one hour. Old Jack done his part and we never lost a duck. We pulled out at 7:00 a.m. The others made a day of it. They were hunting without a retriever and were unable to find a big percentage of their birds.

That my readers was duck shooting in the 1930's and before. Well we ever get it back is the sixty-four dollar question. Personally I don't think so — not public shooting at any rate. We still have a pretty fair duck population but if the downward trend continues for another 10 years when will we stand in line to the present sport of duck shooting.

Whether or not a closed season is