

Seeking Ontario Family With Rare Eye Disease

TORONTO, (CP) — Federal health authorities in Ottawa are trying to find 47 members of a French-Canadian family which has passed a rare eye disease causing blindness down through seven generations, it was reported here Wednesday.

An Ontario government spokesman said a blind pension application from a 34-year-old man prompted an investigation of the family.

There are 1,500 living members and 28 of them are known to have Lebers disease, an inflammation of the optic nerve which causes blindness, officials said.

The genealogical record of the disease indicates another 47 members of the family have it. The disease is hereditary, occurring only in men. It is transmitted by the mother.

The record of the family comprises the most extensive genealogical record relating to a specific disease ever reported in medical literature, an official said.

A letter received from Ottawa by Welfare Minister Cecil said federal health authorities traced

the family back to two sisters married near Montreal about 1830. "The children of one of the sisters were all girls. The other sister had children who, presumably had Lebers disease. From this married couple we have been able to build up a genealogical which now contains some 1,500 living members. One or two new cases are turning up every year." Many members of the family live in the Ottawa district.

In Ottawa, an official of the health department said the search has been in progress for at least 10 years. It was started when a member of the family applying for a blind pension was found to have lost his sight by the disease.

The official said the department is anxious to locate all members of the family suspected of having the disease in an effort to determine its cause and find methods to prevent it spreading. There was no known cure at present.

Ottawa, an official of the health department said the search has been in progress for at least 10 years. It was started when a member of the family applying for a blind pension was found to have lost his sight by the disease.

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Georgetown

Mrs. Mabel Hearn is visiting relatives in Halifax, N.S.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Cullen of Midgill, motored to Georgetown on Sunday, September 4th where they were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F.J. DeLory.

Mr. and Mrs. Melburn Ross and family of Clyde River were visitors to Georgetown on Sunday Sept. 4th where they were guests of Mr. Ross' father, Mr. Melville Ross.

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Stevens of Charlottetown were weekend visitors to Georgetown.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald King and daughter who are spending the summer in Tracadie, were weekend visitors to Georgetown.

Mr. and Mrs. Angus Currie of Halifax, N.S., motored to the Island recently, and were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Lavandier.

Mrs. Rufus Clory has entered the Charlottetown Hospital and all wish her a speedy return to good health.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fraser and family of Charlottetown motored to Georgetown on Labor Day, where they were guests of Mrs. Fraser's mother, Mrs. Minnie Raffuse.

Miss Gertrude Fitzgerald left on Tuesday, Sept. 6th, for Charlottetown where she will enter the Charlottetown Hospital as a student nurse.

Miss Helen Murphy left on Saturday, September 3rd for Toronto Ontario, where she will be employed.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald MacDonald of Cardigan left late last week on return to Toronto, Ont.

Miss Clair Roche, R. N., who has been vacationing with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Roche, left recently on return to Boston, Mass.

Recent guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Llewellyn were:— Mr. and Mrs. Ray Byers and daughter Rhonda Ann of Atleboro, Mass., Mr. and Mrs. Lor Longtoy and son David of Newport Rhode Island.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Donovan and daughter Jean of Pictou, N. S. motored to Georgetown on Friday, September 2nd where they visited.

MORE POLISH PER TIN

Mr. and Mrs. Earle MacDonald, Lorne Valley, were guests of Mrs. MacDonald's parents Mr. and Mrs. George Jay Sunday, September 4.

Miss Isabel Birt, Charlottetown, spent the holiday weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Birt.

Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Thorp arrived from Gorham, N. H. on Monday to spend their holidays visiting relatives and friends. They are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Rogerson.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward and Mrs. Alton Jay were hostesses to the ladies of Pisquid East Women's Institute Thursday evening, Sept. 1, with a good attendance of members. After routine business was completed an interesting nut contest was put on by Mrs. Frank Kelly, won by Mrs. Howard Jay and Gidays Birt, drawn by Mrs. Jay. A delicious lunch was served by the hostesses and a social hour spent.

Miss Georgie Dover resumed her duties as teacher in Mount Stewart School Thursday, September 1.

Miss Juanita Jay, Charlottetown spent the weekend and holiday with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jay. She was accompanied by her friend Miss Jennie MacDonald.

Mr. Leith Woolridge, accompanied by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Woolridge, motored to Eureka, N. S. during the holiday weekend. They were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Woolridge.

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PRIZE WINNERS

John and Willard MacDonald, Head of Montague, proudly displaying their prize-winning standard bred mare and foal at the Dundas plowing Match Wednesday.

Mrs. Maurice Donovan, they also motored to Cape Traverse, where they visited relatives.

Misses Gloria and Paulette Condon of Murray Harbour North were recent guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Llewellyn.

Mr. Richard DeLory, civil engineer with the Ontario Hydro Commission on the St. Lawrence Seaway project at Cornwall, Ontario, was a weekend guest of his parents Mr. and Mrs. F. J. DeLory.

Mr. Irving MacDonald returned on Saturday, September 3rd, from a visit to Halifax, N. S., where he was the guest of relatives.

Mr. Jerome Condon, who is employed in Toronto, Ontario, was a visitor to his home in Georgetown during the Labour Day weekend, Rev. R.W. and Mrs. E.R. McVicar and two children who have been guests of Mrs. McVicar's parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Stewart, left recently on return to their home in Shubenacadie, N. S.

Mrs. Mary Stewart, Charlottetown, was the weekend guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Stewart.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Currie and family of Charlottetown are vacationing in Georgetown as the guest of Mrs. Currie's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John C. Gotell.

Miss Patsy Walker of Charlottetown was a weekend guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lavers.

Miss Anna Prosper, Miss Bernice Cullen, Charlottetown.

Mr. and Mrs. Healey, U. S. A., and Mr. and Mrs. Jervis Campbell, Sept. 7.

Miss Alice Kelly, Pt. de Roche, spent the week of Sept. 4 with her sister Mrs. A. Handrahan.

Miss Marian Rogerson spent a few days of the week of Sept. 4 with her sister Mrs. E. dward Cullen, Charlottetown.

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Murray River

Miss Leona MacKinnon and Mr. MacKenzie of Pictou, N. S., were recent visitors to High Bank, guests of Mr. and Mrs. Rueben Moore.

Miss Joan Sharam, has entered the school of nursing at the P.E.I. Hospital. Joan's many friends in Murray River wish her success in her new career.

Mr. Harold Moore, Hopewell, N. S., spent the past week at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rueben Moore, High Bank.

Mrs. Harold Hayden, (nee Joan Rankin) has returned to Wolfville, N. S., after spending a week at the home of her brother-in-law and sister Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Keenan, Murray River.

Pte. Maynard MacDonald, Camp Gagetown, and Mrs. Moore, Charlottetown, were recent visitors to Murray River, guests of relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Gosbee and daughter Marjorie, Halifax spent the past weekend in Murray River, guests of Mrs. Gosbee's mother, Mrs. Sadie MacLeod.

The many friends in Murray River, of Mr. Milton MacKay, Beach Point, are sorry to hear that he is a patient in the Montague Hospital.

Mrs. Max Walters, Mont Joli, Quebec, was a recent visitor to Murray River, guest of her grandmother, Mrs. Sadie MacLeod.

The many young friends of Master Sandy Clements, White Sands, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Clements, were sorry to hear of his accident on his first day in school when he fell and broke a leg.

Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Gosbee, Halifax, N. S., spent the past weekend in Murray River, guests of Mr. and Mrs. Art Gosbee.

Miss Dorothy Derby, London Ont., is spending her holidays at the home of her mother, Mrs. Marjorie Derby, White Sands.

Mrs. Mary D. Deans, Little Sands has returned to Keene, New Hampshire.

Miss Lillian Glover, Halifax, spent the holiday weekend in Murray River, guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Glover.

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Gowan Brae And Bear River Achievement

The Gowan Brae and Bear River 4-H Calf Clubs held their "Achievement Day" at the Eastern Kings Exhibition Grounds, Souris on September 7th. Bob Pierce, Kings County Fieldman organized the classes which were judged by Mr. L.W. Roper of the Federal Department of Agriculture. The following are the results of the competition:

GOWAN BRAE: Judging - 1. Jeanette MacDonald; 2. Anthony Mullally; 3. Danny MacDonald; 4. Cecil Howlett; 5. Inez McCormack; 6. Norbert MacDonald.

Showmanship - 1. Leo MacDonald; 2. Doreen MacCormack; 3. Howard McGillivray; 4. Earl MacDonald; 5. Oswald McGillivray.

Efficiency in years work - 1. George MacKinnon; 2. John Hughes; 3. Jackie O'Keefe; 4. Margaret McLaugh; 5. Danny Sheehan; 6. Norbert MacCormack.

Calves - 1. Leo MacDonald; 2. Doreen MacCormack; 3. Howard McGillivray; 4. Earl MacDonald; 5. Oswald McGillivray.

Yearlings - 1. Mickey Mallard; 2. Doreen MacCormack; 3. Jean Mallard; 4. Oswald McGillivray.

BEAR RIVER: Judging - 1. George MacKinnon;

Sands are spending some time in London, Ontario and while there they attended the wedding of their daughter, Miss Betty Lou, to Mr. Seaman Glover, formerly from White Sands, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Glover.

Mr. and Mrs. William Hodgson and son Michael, and Mrs. Olive Giddings White Sands, recently spent a few days in Halifax, and Pictou, visiting with relatives.

Mr. Junior Strickland, Murray River is attending Vocational school in Charlottetown.

Miss Ruth Stewart, has returned to her home in Vancouver after spending a holiday in High Bank, guest of Miss Sally Stewart, CD

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Lorne Valley

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2. Danny Sheehan; 3. Jackie O'Keefe; 4. Catherine Chaisson; 5. John Hughes; 6. Margaret McLaugh.

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