

Lucy Maud Stories Recalled In Book

By NEIL A. MATHESON
Provincial-Farm Editor

I CAME across an interesting story told by Lucy Maud Montgomery when I was reading a book loaned to me by my good friend, Jim Campbell of Park Corner. The girl who became the Island's best known writer—for her Anne books and others—was teaching at Bideford, she said, and was boarding at the Methodist parsonage. It's charming mistress flavored a layer cake with anodyne liniment one day. "Never shall I forget the taste of that cake, and the fun we had over it," Miss Montgomery reported. But the mistake was not discovered until tea time. And here is the humorous part of it. "A strange minister was there to tea that night, and he ate every crumb of his piece of the cake. What he thought of it, we never discovered. Possibly he imagined it was simply some new fangled flavoring," was the observation.

'Wonderful Dream' Came True

"THE DREAM I dreamt years ago at an old brown desk in school, has come true at last, after years of toil and struggle," Lucy Maud wrote after a publisher finally accepted Anne of Green Gables, her first book. "The realization is sweet," she observed, "almost as sweet as the dream."

Bloody Story Of Pirate Ship

THE STORY of Cape Leforce which Lucy Maud told in new to me. France and England were at war and French privateers invested the Gulf. One of these was commanded by a captain named Leforce. ONE NIGHT the captain and his crew came ashore and the captain and his men tried to come to a satisfactory division of the booty. The captain and the mate quarreled and it was arranged that they should fight a duel at sunrise. But in the morning, as the ground was being packed out, the mate suddenly raised his pistol and shot Capt. Leforce dead. "I don't know whether the mate was ever punished for his deed. Probably not," she observed, then added "It was merely a brief sentence in a long page of bloodshed."

Travel Limitations In Early Days

I LIKE, too, Lucy Maud's reference to the restrictions on travel in the days of her girlhood. This should be of particular interest to all readers who never experienced the limitations of travel with a horse and wagon. Her travels as a girl consisted of "an occasional trip to Charlottetown, and another to Uncle John Campbell's at Park Corner—this was Jim's father. "These were my only excursions beyond my horizon line, and both were looked on as great treasures", she wrote. And listen to this: "The trip to Park Corner was of comparatively in frequent occurrence, once a year and perhaps twice—it was 15 miles. The trip to Charlottetown was a very rare treat, once in three years," she wrote. "It loomed in about the same proportions then as a trip to Europe would now, or even before the war", she observed. She wrote the series of stories in the 1920's, and she had reference to the First Great War of 1914-18. And the pace of travel has increased indescribably since those days of 80 years ago.

Marco Polo Fastest Sailing Ship

THE MARCO POLO, she wrote was the fastest sailing vessel ever built. She was condemned in England under the Pilsnall bill. Her owners evaded the bill by selling her to a Norwegian company. Then they chartered her to bring a cargo of deal plank to Quebec, and old story tells me. On her return she was caught in a furious storm out in the Gulf, sprung a leak and became so waterlogged that the captain determined to run her on shore to save crew and cargo, one story relates. "That day we had a terrible windstorm, and suddenly the news spread that a vessel was coming ashore. Every one who could rushed to the sandy shore and saw a magnificent sight; a large vessel coming straight on before the Northern gale with every stitch of her canvass set, it was said. She grounded about 200 yards from the shore. As she struck the crew cut the rigging and the huge masts went over with a crash that was heard for a mile above the roaring of the sea. The next day, the crew of 20 men got ashore and found boarding places about Cavendish. It was their special delight to get into a truck wagon and go galloping down the road, yelling at the top of their voices, she wrote.

Wooley Heads, Thick Lips

OF THE MANY nationalities among the crew she was struck particularly by "two Tahitians whose wooley heads, thick lips and gold earrings were a never failing joy to us." The crew were in Cavendish for weeks, as there was a great deal of red tape over the affair. The captain was "a delightful, gentlemanly old fellow who was idolized by his crew", she wrote. Interesting too is her recollection of "the night the crew members were paid off. They saw "with eyes as big as owls, the parlor table covered with gold sovereigns which the captain paid out to the men. Never had we imagined there was so much wealth in the world," was the writer's comment. The wreck occurred, apparently, when Lucy Maud was eight year old. Many things about the Marco Polo were controversial. It was charged by many veteran seamen that the captain deliberately wrecked the ship by driving her ashore with her sails filled with wind. I know nothing about seamanship but I have since read opinions by veteran mariners—the late Capt. John Read of Borden was one—who explained that one why the Marco Polo captain did what he did, these men in their opinion this was not the case. There were sound reasons.

Ontario Man Is Remanded

Richard William James Murray, 18, of Stroud, Ontario, was charged with obtaining the sum of \$92.00 by false pretenses, with intent to commit fraud, appeared before Provincial Magistrate James B. Johnston, QC, in Provincial Magistrate's Court yesterday morning.

The accused, through his attorney, D. Frank Sigsworth, elected trial by a judge without jury, and was remanded to November 25 at 2.30 for preliminary hearing before Magistrate Johnston. John P. Nicholson, QC, acted for the prosecution.

A warrant for the arrest of Glen Martin Gamble, Crapaud, was issued when he failed to appear on a charge of causing a police officer to enter upon an investigation for reporting that an offence had been committed when such offence had not occurred.

FIRM CONSORTIUM
BONDON (Reuters) — Three of Britain's biggest electronic firms have formed a consortium to design and sell earth stations for use in conjunction with communication satellites, it was announced Wednesday. The consortium, consisting of Associated Electrical Industries, General Electric, and Plessey, has already tendered for building a new, cable and wireless receiving station in Hong Kong.



PRIZE WINNER

Jo Aberdein models "Miss Slick Chick," a white turkey feather-bikini with matching hat, on a London street Wednesday. A Yorkshire woman designed and made "Miss Slick Chick," which won first prize in the "featherosity" section of the annual Poultry Feather Hat competition staged today in the British capital. (AP Wirephoto by cable from London)

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P.E.I. FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

Notice of County Annual Meetings

Queens County—Tuesday, November 22, 1966—Birch Court.
Prince County—Thursday, Nov. 24, 1966—United Church Centre, O'Leary
Kings County—Wednesday, Nov. 30, 1966—United Church Hall, Souris

ALL MEETINGS AT 8.00 P.M.

These meetings will have a minimum of speech-making and every opportunity for those present to take part in small group discussions. Feature attraction, Mr. Keith Kennedy in an illustrated talk on Russia. Agriculture is starting to move, keep the Federation moving with it.

P.E.I. FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

Supplementary Budget Presented In N.B.

By JOHN MOSHER
FREDERICTON (CP)

Spending on New Brunswick's municipal reform program for its first three months from Jan. 1 to March 31 is estimated at more than \$27,000,000. This was revealed in the legislature when Finance Minister L.G. LesBrisay presented a supplementary budget covering the quarter-year costs of implementing the government's plans to take over major services from municipalities and abolish county councils.

The province will administer and pay for education, health, welfare, justice, assessment and tax collection.

Mr. DesBrisay announced that children's clothing will be exempt from the sales tax, reversing a decision to tax this for the first time when the levy is doubled to six per cent Jan. 1. The original proposal, involving an annual rebate of at least \$4 per child, came under opposition attack.

He estimated \$21,827,950 for ordinary account operational spending and \$5,329,213 expenditure on capital account. However, deducting previous appropriations and items no longer required, the total additional net expenditure was set at \$19,342,400. Subtracting expected revenue

from net additional expenditure of \$15,898,000 on ordinary account would leave an ordinary account deficit of \$1,841,000. Last April's main budget for the fiscal year ending next March 31 forecast record spending of \$201,940,623 and revenues of \$190,869,592.

The finance minister said the budgeted sales tax, real property and municipal tax levies and increased amounts under the Canada Assistance Act. He expected the first three-month period will produce an additional \$3,750,000 from the sales tax.

Education takes up most of the budget and includes about \$12,000,000 for operating costs and more than \$4,000,000 for school construction. To enable a uniform teacher's salary scale, more than \$1,000,000 will be spent for salary increases.

Mr. DesBrisay said the net debt will increase by nearly \$4,000,000. At the time of the main budget presentation in April the net debt was reported as \$152,000,000. He termed the latest increase a transfer of debt from municipalities to the province.

Five health regions, eight judicial districts, 13 district welfare offices and 35 regional revenue offices are planned, in addition to appointment of a

municipal electoral officer. Legislation provides that all municipal and school board elections be held every two years on the second Monday in June.

Ken. Legion Holds Service

KENSINGTON — The Remembrance Day service at Kensington was held in the Legion Home and was conducted by the Rev. W.A. Paterson, of Margate United Church, who is Protestant Padre of the Legion. Rev. E.J. Flander, St. Mark's Anglican Church, addressed the large gathering on The Christian Attitude to Existing War.

Rev. Gordon MacBeth of Kensington United Church, and Rev. Dr. L.P. Callaghan, Roman Catholic Padre read the lessons.

Address Students At New College

George W. Cheverie, Manager of the Charlottetown Canada Manpower Centre, left today for Dartmouth, N.S., where he will address students at the new Atlantic Manpower Staff College. This Staff College had been established by the Department of Manpower and Immigration, the first course commencing on November 14. The objective of the Staff Col-

lege is to create a regional centre where both new and present will have the facilities and the opportunity to further their preparation and development employment counsellors. Mr. Cheverie is expected to return to Charlottetown by this weekend.

TRY OUT BUS

MONTREAL (CP)—A British-built bus will be tried out this winter by the Montreal Transportation Commission, the MTC announced Wednesday. The bus, a Leyland, has been specially designed and constructed to the specifications of the MTC for operation in the Canadian winter. It will be used on regular city routes throughout the worst months of winter.

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