

Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

The dullest child can ask more questions in five minutes than the wisest parent can answer in a lifetime.

Do you know that four of the neighborliest towns in the world lie right at our back door. These towns are St. Stephen and Milltown in New Brunswick and Calais and Milltown in the state of Maine. Four towns, two of each in a different country, and separated only by the International Boundary line between Johnny Canuck and Uncle Sam, a boundary line that is spanned by the bridges over the St. Croix river.

And just these towns carry out the good neighbor policy to a point that should make other neighboring small towns want to emulate their example may I inform my readers of the unusual fact that the water supply of Calais and Milltown in Maine, and of Milltown in New Brunswick, comes solely from the Canadian town of St. Stephen, while the gas used by the people of St. Stephen is piped from Calais on Uncle Sam's side of the river. What's more, all four towns get their electric power from Milltown in New Brunswick.

And that isn't all, for the five departments of Calais and St. Stephen work together in the event of a big blaze in either town, and strange but true, the same spirit of cooperation is in effect between the towns of Milltown in New Brunswick, and Milltown across the border. And now we come to the most amazing part of this unique setup of 4 border towns: one of Uncle Sam's daughters could give birth to a baby in Canada and the child would still be an American citizen, for one hospital in St. Stephen serves the four towns. All an expectant mother has to do when crossing the border is to notify the emigration officials that she is going to the St. Stephen hospital to give birth to her baby. If she neglects to state her case specifically the new baby will be Canadian born.

The Canadian towns join in celebrating the 4th of July and the American towns celebrate Dominion day.

Many cross the bridges each day to work in another country. What one town lacks its neighbor across the border provides. So, you see, these four towns know the real meaning of the word "neighbors." For this most interesting data I am indebted to a resident of Summerside, who, incidentally, informs me that he has been a subscriber to The Guardian for 50 years.

Of all musical instruments the violin is most enduring. Pianos wear out; wind instruments get battered and old-fashioned. All kinds of novelties are introduced into flutes, but the sturdy fiddle stands on its own merits. Age and use only improve it, and instead of new ones bringing the top prices as in the case of other instruments, it is the old violins that command the fabulous prices.

The fruit of man's labor is often snatched away by the hand of fate when it is just dropping, ripened into their mouths. Other men come into the world hopelessly destitute of the "knack" for get-

ting ahead at anything. The farmer who thinks he is making a good bargain when others know that it is a bad one; the school teacher who does not know how to win the confidence, or inspire the enthusiasm of his pupil; the minister whose "ways" antagonize the congregation when he takes the most pains to win their good-will, such persons are found everywhere. They do the best they know how, but they don't succeed. And since it is an experience that is common to so many, we must conclude that the yoke of poverty and defeat is often better for us than any worldly success could be. Blessed are they who pile up riches and sit on lofty thrones, or achieve world fame, did not find a place in the Beatitudes — does not, in fact sound much like them.

Here's an old superstition having to do with the human eye. Very quiet eyes, that impress and embarrass one with their deep repose, signify self-command, but also great complacency and conceit. Eyes that shift about constantly while their possessor speaks denote a deceitful, disingenuous mind. Eyes in which the white has a yellowish tinge and is streaked with reddish veins denote strong passions. Very blue eyes indicate a mind inclined to coquetry; gray eyes signify intelligence; greenish, falsehood and a liking for scandal; Black eyes, a passionate, lively temperament; and brown, a kind, happy disposition.

It is common for elephants in their native state to break branches from trees with their trunks and then use the branches too shoo off flies.

What is sheer madness to one mind is science to another. After all is said and done we can't get away from the hard, cold facts that there lurks in some secret corner of almost all of us some impossible superstition — an excess of faith over knowledge, a love of tradition rather than fact. Most of us own to some little thread of what might be called madness. But fortunately all the people who air different views from us are not considered ripe candidates for a mental institution; nor are those who believe in the interventional wickedness of governments; nor those who see everywhere the ending of the world; nor those who hold that they are better than their fellow man. Yet when such differences are discussed by those who are not in the same train of thought, the other fellows talk seems to be the veriest moonshine.

EARNSCLIFFE C. W. L.

The annual meeting of the "Star of the Sea" C. W. L. was held in the chapel on May 2, with an attendance of 14 members and four visitors. The president, Mrs. Bernard Doyle, occupied the chair, and opened the meeting with the League prayer.

The president gave an interesting report of the year's work followed by the treasurer's report. The election of officers took place, with the following results: President, Mrs. Bernard Doyle, re-elected; 1st vice president, Mrs. Joseph Morrissey; 2nd vice president, Mrs. Alphonse Morrissey; 3rd vice president, Mrs. Josephine Morrissey; secretary - treasurer, Mrs. J. J. McNis; Councillors, Mrs. James Murphy, Mrs. Jos. A. Murphy.

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Agricultural News

ported. Red Cross blood donor clinics were assisted and a good volume of Red Cross sewing was done by Institutes.

There are many other spheres of activity in Leadership training, Adult Extension work, Handicraft Van Services, Broadcasts, Junior Activities, etc.

High praise should be extended to all those who participate in this worthwhile work. Encouragement should be extended in all areas where groups are not organized.

The following is a brief outline of some of the activities which will take place in the immediate future.

Junior Work

I should like to bring to your attention some of the Provincial Institutes plans for junior and senior summer activities. At the present time we are busy visiting each of the 35 sewing clubs in the province, the purpose of these visits is to assist and encourage the girls in the completion of their work and to arrange dates for Achievement Days — sometime during May or June when the completed work will be judged and awards made. We would urge all sewing club leaders and members to have all their work completed and ready for judging in good time.

At this time of year most folks are thinking and planning for gardens. We have received inquiries from twelve different centres who are interested in organizing Garden Clubs this spring. Seeds have been ordered and the Women's Institute Branch in co-operation with Extension Workers in the Department of Agriculture are hoping for the successful completion of the Garden Club Project in 1954.

Drama Festival

The last week in May we will hold our Provincial Drama Festival in Charlottetown. Already plans are made for play offs and adjudication in rural areas. We are asking Institute members to support the efforts of the Drama Association in promoting better plays in our Province. Prof. Shaw of the University of New Brunswick will adjudicate the finals this year. Your attendance at these plays will help provide a broader program for next year. And a special reminder to Institute. Has your group joined the Musical Festival Association or the Drama Association this year?

If not please send your group membership fee now. Remember, both these organizations began in the Women's Institutes.

Handicraft Van

The Women's Institute Handicraft Van, with Miss Rose Marie Brown and Miss Marie Taylor as instructors is at present at Albany where 24 ladies from Albany Rural and Albany Village Institutes are receiving lessons in sewing, leather craft, weaving and other crafts. At the completion of this class the van will be moving to Dundas. This is a wonderful service to our rural women and deserves every support. The Van will be on display at many of the District Conventions where our members may meet the instructors and view the equipment.

Conventions

The District Convention begins this year on June 10 and concludes July 2. It is important for District Executives to meet soon if they are to plan well organized, well-balanced programs at these conventions. Contact your speakers in plenty of time, and give them exact time and place of meeting and topic on which you wish them to speak. This information will help both the speaker and program committee.

Let us all co-operate to have our 1954 District Conventions the best ever. In a few days each Institute on Prince Edward Island will be receiving a copy of the new constitution, which after a great deal of preparation and with the approval of the Minister of Agriculture is being sent out for your study. We are asking each local Institute to carefully read this constitution and be prepared to discuss it at District Conventions. The final voting on this new constitution will take place at our Annual Convention.

The dates for the Annual Conventions are July 8 and 9th at Prince of Wales College, Charlottetown. The new president of the Federated Women's Institute, Mrs. W. J. Adams of Ethelton, Saskatchewan will attend and I'm sure she'll have an interesting message for our Institute members. Dr. Helen Abel of the Federal Department of Agriculture is our special guest speaker.

In addition to Mrs. Adams and Dr. Abel interesting demonstrations, discussions and entertainment have been planned so let us have delegates from every one of our 321 Institutes. The third week in July has been set aside for the Senior Short Course for

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4-H Food and Sewing Club members.

Of course no mention of summer activities is complete without a word about our Handicraft Exhibit, which is held in conjunction with Old Home Week. The dates this year are August 9 to 14th. Each year the quality of the exhibits has been improving and this year we look forward to even better and more varied handicrafts. Prize lists have been sent to all previous exhibitors and I should like to remind you it is not too early to plan for this exhibit now.

And here is a suggestion to all local Institutes. Do plan to have one of your summer meetings take the form of a picnic or social get together at one of our many island beauty spots. Just forget your work and cares for one day and meet in a spirit of fun and relaxation. You will give everyone and your members will get new enthusiasm to continue their work for Home and Country.

Junior Club's

The Coronation Club of Fortune Bridge met at the School March 3rd. Eighteen members were present. The President, Ruth Dixon, occupied the chair. Morris Deacon, Kings County Fieldman, gave a talk on "Warble Flies" and "Feeding Calves." The members were invited to Fred Aitkens for the next meet which will take the form of a judging class.

The Milton Ayrshire Calf Club met at the home of club member Catherine Gillis on May 4. The meeting opened with the roll call and the repeating of the club pledge. Catherine Gillis gave an excellent talk on "Judging of Cattle." The club leader, Mervin McNis, conducted the project study and Morris Deacon, Kings

County Fieldman, conducted a quiz on the lesson. The members agreed to sponsor a dance on May 24 for the benefit of the club. The next meeting will be in the form of a judging class on May 18 at Harold Leslie's. It is expected that the Gowan Brae Club will be present for this meeting.

The Silver Stars Dual Purpose Shorthorn Calf Club of Rollo Bay East held their monthly meeting at the school May 7. The President, Marianne Chaisson, occupied the chair. Twelve members were present and a discussion on the breeds of cattle was led by Kings County Fieldman, Morris Deacon. The members decided to hold their next meeting at Edwin Peters.

The Sea Crest Calf Club met at the home of Janet Mann, Indian River, April 16. In the absence of the President the vice-president, Earl Lockerby, presided. The meeting opened by repeating the 4-H pledge. Roll call was responded to by 16 members. One visitor was also present. It was decided to hold a card party in Malpeque Hall on Wednesday evening, April 21, for the purpose of raising funds for the Club. Committees were then appointed to look after the score tallies, prizes, advertising, lunch etc. The members were informed that assistance in obtaining a calf could be obtained by getting in touch with the Fieldman. The next meeting is to be held in Hamilton Hall on Friday evening, May 14, at 8 p. m. The roll call is to be answered by giving a name for a calf. Following the adjournment of the meeting a delicious lunch was served by Mrs. Keith Mann assisted by Janet. The evening recreation consisted of games although many of the members listened to the final game of the Stanley Cup finals.

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