

Strange But True

By F. H. MacArthur

The old lynch law of the United States was carried out in the following manner. The wrong-doer was dragged to a stout-limbed tree and mounted on a mule. One end of the rope was knotted under his ear, with the other end securely tied to the tree. Then a blow would send the mule galloping away, leaving the culprit hanging by the neck.

Each person in Canada pays \$225 a year for food, \$285 in federal and taxes and \$340 in Provincial taxes.

Some of the land in lower New York City is now worth approximately a million dollars per acre, and only buildings of great height will make it possible to earn a rent which is in proportion to its great cost.

In our Colonial times churches were not heated, and each family had foot-warming stoves about 6 inch square in which live coals were placed. The stoves or pans with holes in the top and bottom; were enclosed in casings of metal and they had handles to carry them from place to place.

Our pioneer mothers cooked the family dinner in large pots and kettles hung by cranes over the coals of the fireplace. Bread and cakes were baked in outdoor ovens.

It may surprise you to know that more candles are used today than at any time in history and they are turned out by machinery by the millions of dollars worth every year. There is a candle factory in Cincinnati which makes three hundred thousand a day!

The cities of New York and Chicago use over sixteen hundred million gallons of water daily, and the average city daily consumes more than three barrels of water for every man, woman, and child in them.

John Winthrop, the governor of the Massachusetts Colony, brought the first table top to America in 1633.

Jim Wilson and Claude Millard of Peterborough, Ont., went fishing recently. Jim caught a night-hawk and Claude a cat. Claude left his fishing rod on his veranda, heard it fall, and found one of his neighbor's cats gulping down the minnow bait. Jim was using a buckfoot fly for pickerel bait when down flew a night-hawk and grabbed it.

Catching cats on fishhooks is not uncommon here—in fact it is too common. There ought to be a law against drowning surplus cats in our brooks and rivers. Besides being unsanitary it is a disgusting sight to fish one of these half-dead animals from a stream.

Australia's nuggets surpassed in size those of any other goldfield in the world. "The Welcome Stranger" nugget, found at Dunally, Victoria, in Feb. 1869, weighed 2,283 ounces; the "Welcome Nugget" from Ballarat, June, 1858, 2,217 ounces; and "Blanche Barkley" from Kingover, Victoria, August, 1857, 1,741 ounces. Many others weighed more than a thousand ounces and received familiar names from their owners.

Two galvanized steel highway culverts were dug up by the road machine in front of Cornwall post-office two years ago. Some time previous to this they disappeared from the roadside and were reported stolen.

The \$64 question is how did they get buried in the center of the highway?

19-year old Nellie Huffman of Burke County, N. C., twice "doomed" defies death and wins diploma.

Nellie was stricken by infantile paralysis when she was only three. Doctors gave her only a year to live, but strange to say she made a miraculous recovery. Then in 1943 she was again stricken by the same dread malady. Taken home to die for the second time, Nellie rallied and soon was getting around on crutches. Considering her handicap Nellie has won a diploma and says she will not accept defeat.

Hope To Forecast Fish Location And Quantities

OTTAWA, Jan. 7.—(CP)—Canadian fisheries scientists hope soon to be able to tell commercial fishermen well in advance where the best catches may be found and whether fishing will be good in any given year.

Latest results of research on such forecasts was outlined Monday by Dr. W. R. Martin, a senior biologist with the Fisheries Research Board of Canada, which opened a four-day annual meeting.

By studying changes in climate and fisheries, the scientists hope to predict future trends and in some cases already had had real success, Dr. Martin indicated in a paper. Such predictions would be of considerable economic importance because uncertainty of catches affects the stability of the industry.

As an example of long-term forecasting, based on climatic changes, Dr. Martin cited the Diaby, N. S. scallop fishery. The present increase in abundance and catch of scallops off Diaby was forecast by the Fisheries Research Board on the basis of knowledge of temperature of the water when those scallops were spawned.

Outstanding forecasts have been made by Danish authorities as a result of investigations in the cod fishery of the Northwest Atlantic, off Greenland, Dr. Martin said.

Climate Changing

During the last 100 years the climate of the North Atlantic has been changing. Temperatures have increased, precipitation has decreased and for 25 years the changes have greatly affected the fisheries of these northern waters. Rising temperatures brought an enormous

increase in the abundance of cod off Greenland.

Back in the 1840s cod were abundant off Greenland but a period of cod scarcity followed from 1850 to 1915. By 1930 an important fishery again developed and it has continued to increase with vessels from nine countries including Canada now fishing in Greenland waters.

In 1950 nearly 2,000,000,000 pounds of cod were taken from the Northwest Atlantic and about one-third came from the Greenland area. A reversed climatic trend could wipe out this fishery and it is therefore important to the industry to forecast future trends.

Recent Danish investigations have shown that Greenland cod production is related to bottom temperatures just after spawning. They now can forecast the abundance 10 years in advance of the fishery, which depends on cod of a 10 years average age. Good year classes have been so predicted and no downward trend in the Greenland fishery can be foreseen.

Temperature is not the only climatic factor affecting fish abundance. Rainfall and the direction of prevailing winds are also known to be related to abundance and to catches. Further progress in making even longer term predictions of the future depends on the board's ability to forecast the climate. Canada's meteorologists and hydrographers are working toward this goal.

York Highlights

Miss Helen Lewis of Charlottetown spent Christmas in York.

Mr. Paul Sproule, who has enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force, spent Tuesday, December 30 in Summerside.

Miss Marlene Chandler of North Milton spent her Christmas school holidays in York, the welcome guest of her cousin, Miss Ferne Vessey.

The Misses Joyce and Earla Ling of York spent their Christmas holidays in Wheatley River at the home of their grandmother, Mrs. Will Bowen, and their cousin, Miss Donna Bowen.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Ling, accompanied by the Misses Joyce and Earla, attended the party held by the Social Club of the M. C. A. Maintenance, held at the Charlottetown Airport Saturday night, December 27th.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hardy of Pleasant Grove were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Mobbs recently.

Mrs. Peter Brodie of Charlottetown has been the welcome guest for Christmas and New Year's season of Mrs. B. A. Mallett, York.

Mr. and Mrs. William Crockett and little daughter Lenora motored to Orwell Cove at Christmas, the guest of Mrs. Crockett's mother, and brother, Mr. Willard MacPherson.

Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe MacDonald and daughter, Miss Elizabeth MacDonald, of York, were visitors to Charlottetown on Friday, January 2nd.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert MacElroy and the Misses Sue, Shirley, and Peggy and Master Lloyd MacElroy of Parkdale (formerly of New Brunswick) spent New Year's day visiting in York.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Mallett and little daughter, Miss Verna, York, motored to Stanhope on Christmas Day, the guests of Mrs. James MacLauchlan.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Vessey and daughter Beryl of York were entertained for Christmas at the home of her mother and brother, Mr. Charley Boyer of Covehead Road.

The many friends and neighbors of the congenial butcher, Mr. Leith Brown, are sorry to learn he has been confined to his home with the flu for a week, and all hope to see him out again soon.

Many friends in this community are sorry to learn of the continued illness of Mr. Fred Mobbs of Covehead Road, who has suffered a partial stroke some few weeks ago, and hope for an improvement in health. Mr. Mobbs is confined to his bed.

Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Allan, formerly of Georgetown, have taken up residence in York in their new home completed about a month ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Swat and Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Dux took up residence in Charlottetown for the winter months during the week of December 29th. Mr. Juck and Mr. Swat are employed in Charlottetown.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Ling, Messrs. Bonnell and Myron and Misses Joyce and Earla Ling motored to Wheatley River where they were delightfully entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Locksby Bowen for Christmas.

Miss Francis Vessey, York, has recently returned home after a very enjoyable and interesting trip to Ottawa, Ontario, the guest of her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Vessey and family. While there she visited many interesting places.

Miss Freda Newson of York and Miss Joan Dowling of Charlottetown, who are on the staff of Falconwood Hospital business section, enjoyed a delightful three weeks' vacation across the border. While there they visited relatives and friends including Mr. and Mrs. Chester Newson of North Chester, Massachusetts.

A community card party was held in York Hall on Tuesday, December 30th, when a small crowd played at three tables of progressive auction. The ladies' high scorer was Mrs. W. E. Hardy and the gents' high was Mr. Bonnell Ling. The condition of the roads after Sunday's snow storm

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Britain's State Crown Altered To Fit Queen

By Hugh Pitt

LONDON, Jan. 7.—(Reuters)—Britain's priceless Imperial State Crown is being dismantled and altered so that it will exactly fit the Queen at the coronation June 2.

The state crown was removed Tuesday from its closely-guarded showroom in the Tower of London and taken to the vaults of a gold and silversmith company. The imperial crown is normally worn by the Sovereign during the procession from Westminster Abbey after the actual crowning ceremony. It weighs 39 ounces and was made in 1838 for Queen Victoria.

Removal of the crown was in the utmost secrecy. Only the highest ranking security officers knew of its journey in a black sedan through 10 miles of London's traffic-packed streets.

The Queen actually is crowned with the 17th century Saint Edward's Crown, which weighs about five pounds. Its weight makes it unsuitable for the procession through London's streets. The smaller imperial crown is far more valuable than the Saint Edward's. It is topped with a large sapphire cut in the form of a rose, which came from a ring worn by Edward the Confessor, king of England in the 11th century.

In the centre of the headband is the famous Black Prince's ruby, given to "Black Prince" Edward by Pedro the Cruel after the Battle of Aljubarota, Spain, in the 14th century. The ruby was worn by Henry V in his helmet at the Battle of Agincourt against the French in 1415 and again by Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth Field in 1485. This was the last battle of the Wars of the Roses (a civil war) and it was in this battle that Richard was unhorsed and battered to death.

The crown also contains the second "Star of Africa" cut from the Cullinan diamond; a sapphire worn

by Mary Queen of Scots; and two large pearls, by tradition worn as earrings by Elizabeth I.

The entire crown is set with 2,783 diamonds, 277 pearls, 18 sapphires, 11 emeralds and five rubies.

No Easy Solution To British Slogan "Trade-Not-Aid"

By William L. Ryan

(Associated Press News Analyst) That "trade-not-aid" slogan comes, on his current trip here, is by no means the simple solution some of its backers would have one believe. The U. S. Congress is in a dilemma. Prime Minister Churchill and others contend that U. S. tariffs impede trade and hamper efforts by Allies of the U. S. to earn their own way. To cut loose from U. S. aid, they say, they would need sharp reductions in U. S. tariffs.

Many American small businessmen can be expected to bellow at the very thought of tariff cuts. They see in such a move an unfair advantage to foreign countries in such respects as lower costs of production, for example, through lower costs, and they see a danger in this to U. S. standards.

Yet to many Americans it seems patently unsound to continue doling out U. S. money to support the economies of other countries. Some responsible U. S. business leaders are arguing that the U. S. cannot have our high tariff walls and an end to economic aid abroad at the same time.

There are strong arguments on both sides. In order to keep its economy flourishing, the U. S. must engage in brisk international trade. In order to keep U. S. factories humming, there must be a lively world market, which means the U. S. can't afford to let great nations go broke.

Chairman George A. Sloan of the U. S. Council on Foreign Economic Policy sees the entire free world in its present dilemma because of the cumulative effect of restrictions in all parts of the

French River Notes

Mr. Fred Lamont, accompanied by Mr. Carman Thompson, spent Christmas with Fred's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Lamont, French River.

Mr. Robert Adams, who is employed in Summerside, spent the holidays at his home in French River.

Mr. Paul Paynter, accompanied by his brother Bunny, of Halifax, spent Christmas in French River.

Miss Isabelle MacRae, who is employed in Charlottetown, spent Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. MacRae, French River.

Miss Frances Jollimore, who is employed in Halifax, is spending some time at her home in French River.

Miss Beulah MacRae, who is employed in North Lake, is spending a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles MacRae, Spring Brook.

The people of French River and vicinity enjoyed a wonderful performance in French River Hall on December 22, put on by the teach-

er and pupils of Park Corner School. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lamont and little son, of Charlottetown, are spending a few days in Long River and French River.

—G.U.

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