

# The Micmacs In Early Times

Excerpts from a work by Nicholas Denys, first Governor of Acadia, published in France in 1672 and translated by Dr. William F. Ganong for the Champlain Society. — Continued from last Tuesday.

Their needles are of bone, and they make them pointed as awls by dint of sharpening them. They pierce the bark, and pass the root from hole to hole for the breadth of the bark. This being finished they roll them as tightly as they can that they may be easier to carry. When they strip them off the wigwam to carry them to another place, since they are dried from the fire which had been made there, they heat them again in proportion as they heat, they are rolled up; otherwise they would break through being so dry.

At the present time they still do it in the same way, but they have good axes, knives more convenient for their work, and kettles easy to carry. This is a great convenience for them, as they are not obliged to go to the place where were their kettles of wood, of which one never sees any at present, as they have entirely abandoned the use of them.

As to their marriage, in old times a boy who wished to have a girl was obliged to serve the father several years, according to agreement. His duty was to go a hunting, to show that he was a good hunter capable of supporting well his wife and family. He had to make bows, arrows, the frame of snowshoes, even a canoe — that is to say, to do the work of men. Everything that he did during his time went to the father of the girl, but nevertheless he had use of himself in case of need.

His mistress corded the snowshoes, made his clothes, his moccasins and stockings, as evidence that she was clever in work. The father, the mother, the daughter and the son all slept in the same wigwam, the daughter near her mother, and the son on the other side, always with the fire between them. There never occurred the least disorder.

The girls were very modest at that time, always clothed with a well-dressed hose skin which descended below the knees. They made their stockings and their shoes of the same kind of skin for the winter they made robes

expired, it was of the marriage of the boy came to the girl, and asked her to please to them. The girl was favorable to it, it was then necessary to learn from the two parties concerned if they were content therewith; and if one of the two did not wish the marriage, nothing further was done. They were never compelled. But if all were in agreement, a day was chosen for making a banquet; in the meantime the boy went a-hunting, and did his very best to treat the assembly as well as to roast as a boiled meat, and to have especially an abundance of soup, good and fat.

The day having arrived, all the relatives and guests assembled, and everything being ready the men and older boys all entered the wigwam, the old men at the upper end near the father and mother. The upper end is the left when entering the wigwam, and a circuit is made passing to the right. No other woman entered save the mother of the boy. Each one having taken his place, all seated themselves upon their buttocks, like Apes, for that is their posture. The bridegroom brought in the meat on a huge bark dish, divided it, and placed it on as many plates as there were persons, as much as they could hold. There was in each plate enough for a dozen persons. He gave each one his plate, and they devoted themselves to eating.

The bridegroom was there also with a great dish of soup, which he gave to the first one that he might drink his fill. He, having sufficiently quenched his thirst, passed the dish to his neighbor, who did the same. When it was empty it was filled again. Then having drunk and feasted well, they took a comfortable posture.

The oldest of them made a speech in praise of the bridegroom, and gave an account of his genealogy, in which he was always found descended from some great chief ten or twelve generations back. He exaggerated everything good they had done, as well in war as in hunting, the spirit they showed, the good counsel they had given, and everything of consequence they had done in their lives. He commenced with the most ancient, and, descending from generation to generation, he came to a conclusion with the father of the bridegroom. Then he exhorted the bridegroom not to degenerate from the worth of his ancestors.

Having finished his speech, all the company made two or three cries, saying "Hau, hau, hau." After this the bridegroom thanked the mother, promising as much, and more than his ancestors; then the assembly gave again the same cry. Then the bridegroom set about dancing; he chanted war songs which he composed on the spot and which exalted his courage and his worth, the number of animals he had killed, and everything that he aspired to do. In dancing he took in his hands a bow, arrows, and a great shaft in which is set a bone of a Moose, sharply pointed, with which they kill animals in winter when there is a great depth of snow.

This sort of thing they did one after another, each having his song, during which he would work himself into a fury, and seemed as if he wished to kill somebody. Having finished, the entire assembly recommenced their "Hau, hau, hau" which signifies joy and contentment. After this they commenced again to eat and drink until they were full. Then they called their wives and children who came not far off; these came and each one gave him his plate from which they proceeded to eat in their turn.

They have thus developed into a custom the recital of their genealogies, both in the speeches they make at marriages, and also at funerals. This is in order to keep alive the memory and to preserve by tradition from father to son, the history of their ancestors, and of their greatest qualities, something which would otherwise be lost to them, and would deprive them of a knowledge of their relationships, which they preserve by this means; and it serves to transmit their family alliances to posterity. Of these matters they are very inquisitive, especially those descended from the ancient chiefs; they sometimes claim for more than twenty generations, something which makes them more honoured by all the others.

They have thus developed into a custom the recital of their genealogies, both in the speeches they make at marriages, and also at funerals. This is in order to keep alive the memory and to preserve by tradition from father to son, the history of their ancestors, and of their greatest qualities, something which would otherwise be lost to them, and would deprive them of a knowledge of their relationships, which they preserve by this means; and it serves to transmit their family alliances to posterity. Of these matters they are very inquisitive, especially those descended from the ancient chiefs; they sometimes claim for more than twenty generations, something which makes them more honoured by all the others.

## Princess' Senior Lady-in-Waiting To Accompany Her On Canadian Tour



The Hon. Mrs. Andrew Elphinstone, senior lady-in-waiting to Princess Elizabeth, is one of four employees who will make the trip to Canada with the royal couple in October. In the busy whirl of activities facing the Princess when she lands with the Duke of Edinburgh in Quebec Oct. 2 the assistance of Mrs. Elphinstone will be invaluable. As social adviser and companion to the Princess, who is godmother to her daughter, Rosemary, right, much of her work will be behind

the scenes, planning wardrobes and procedures for the day. Since the royal couple are expected to visit industrial and defence production plants and navy, army and air force stations, changes in costume will frequently be demanded. In the selection of outfits, Mrs. Elphinstone's guidance must be irrefragable. Timing is another important factor, since, on many days, the two friends will have little time to discuss habits in the rush to maintain schedules.

## A Country Garden

By Mrs. Gordon MacMillan

The poetry of earth is never dead: When all the birds are faint with the hot sun, And hide in cooling trees, a voice will run From hedge to hedge about the new-mown mead; That is the Grasshopper, he takes the lead. In summer luxury,—he has never done With his deliriums; for when tired out with fun He rests at ease beneath some pleasant weed. The poetry of earth is ceasing never: On a lone winter evening, when the frost has wrought a silence, from the stove there shrills The cricket's song, in warmth increasing ever, And seems to one in drowsiness half lost The grasshopper among some grassy hills.

—Keats.

The lovely shell-pink single Rose named Dainty Bess is one of the most perfect roses in the garden, and it is very fragrant. Single Roses have an appeal which enthalls many by their artistic beauty. More and more gardeners include Single Roses for their simple beauty in the garden. Single Roses also lend themselves exceptionally well to cutting, and when properly arranged in a suitable container they present a picture, the like of which is not easily obtained with most other flowers.

This rose has lived over the severe winters here in the garden with a billing up of good earth, and has had many sprays of perfectly formed shell-pink roses with crimson stamens. I would like to have many of these roses in the garden.

Sidalcea, Greek Mallow, is a native of North America and a true Mallow with the distinctive, admirable flowers of that large family, which has representatives all over the world, and claims such species as the tropical Hibiscus and the better known Hollyhock. The Mallows are a genus of the family Malvaceae, from the Latin, malva, mallow, which is also the origin of the word mauve, as many of the flowers are rose-purple. Sidalcea is a hardy herbaceous perennial with the appearance of a small Hollyhock. There are many of these perennials in the garden and they are lovely now blooming at the same time as the Phlox in different colors.

The open saucer-shaped blooms are borne on spires rising from two to four feet high and in this good growing season they are reaching new heights.

The plant was first sent to England in 1838, but the possibilities of development were not exploited until recently. The name Sidalcea is from side, an old Greek name for a kind of Mallow, and alkea, strength or healing virtue. They make very graceful tall flowers for decoration, and they come in several colors, and claim such species as the pink and silver pinks and shades of these colors. The Oleander is covered with the fragrant rosy pink flowers and is doing much better in a warmer spot than usual to the south of the house. I have found that if the gardener can find a suitable place for certain plants they seem to be very much lovelier.

"The sound of summer is everywhere—in the passing breeze, in the hedge, in the broad-branching trees, in the grass as it sways; all the myriad particles that together make the summer, are in motion.

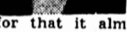
The sap moves the trees, the pollen is pushed out from grass and flower, and yet again these acres and acres of leaves and square miles of grass blades—fifty they would cover acres and square miles if reckoned edge to edge—are drawing their strength from the atmosphere. Exceedingly minute as these vibrations must be, their numbers perhaps may give them a volume reaching to the aggregate to the power of the ear. Besides the quivering leaf, the swinging grass, the fluttering bird wing and the thousand oval membranes which innumerable insects whirl about, a faintly resonance seems to come from the very earth itself. The fervour of the sunbeams descending in a tidal floodings on the strung harp of the earth.

Humming Birds are very busy in

## DOROTHY DIX SAYS—

### Man Underfoot Better Too Much Than Too Little Of Mate's Society

DEAR MISS DIX: My husband and I have been married nearly five years. I am 50, he is 60 and is retired. He is very good to me, but here is my problem. You know how a woman hates to do housework when her husband is constantly about the house. If he goes out into the yard, he runs in and out asking me what I am doing. Even if I'm sewing, he likes to stand over me and see what's going on. He makes me so nervous and I haven't the courage to tell him so. I do much like to have a little privacy, but I have none. He gives me everything I need for myself or the house, but I would like to get out with other women for a change.



ANSWER: You have so much to be thankful for that it almost seems flying in the face of Providence to carp over seeming trifles. I do know, however, just how you feel and realize the importance you place on having time to yourself. To have reached your years and have a devoted husband around the place is an ideal that most women would give anything for. By 50, a woman usually has either become widowed, divorced, or has a wandering husband for whom the family hearth has no allure. Compared to these situations, yours, I know you will agree, is most enviable.

HE LOVES YOU TOO MUCH Your husband's only fault is that he loves you too much—if that is possible. Don't risk losing this devotion by hurting his feelings. You'll be exultantly sorry if you do. You must make an effort to see your position objectively, and accept it. Since you apparently have plenty of spare time, why not devote some of it to a charitable cause, which will accomplish the double purpose of getting you out of the house without causing ill-will, and doing your good turn for the day? Loneliness is a far worse plight than lack of privacy; be thankful it is not your lot!

DEAR MISS DIX: Recently I met a young lady whom I like very much. I see her once or twice a week and we write each other often. She writes about moonlight and romance, and has expressed this in a letter to a mutual friend. This friend claims the young lady should not have such romantic thoughts at her age, which is 34. Is this true? I am 40.

ANSWER: Who dares put an age limit on moonlight and roses.

Continued on page 8

## Modern Etiquette

By Roberta Lee

Q. When a married woman is writing a note of thanks for a gift presented to her and her husband, should she sign both her husband's name and her own?  
A. No. She should sign her name only, but she should mention her husband's name somewhere in the note, as "Harry and I wish to express our deep appreciation, etc."

Q. What is the proper way to extend invitations to a bridal shower?  
A. These may be telephoned, written on a visiting card, or sent on the printed shower cards available at all greeting-card counters.

Q. What is the correct thing to say when someone apologizes over the telephone for getting the wrong number?  
A. "Certainly," or, "That is quite all right."

## Cook's Corner

WHOLE WHEAT DOUGHNUTS

1/2 cup shortening, 1 cup sugar, 2 eggs, well beaten, 1 cup milk, 3/4 teaspoons baking powder, 1/2 teaspoon salt, 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg, 1/2 teaspoon lemon extract, 4 cups fine whole wheat flour.  
Cream shortening and add sugar until very light, then add eggs and lemon extract. Sift one cup of flour with the salt, baking powder and nutmeg, and add alternately with milk to the first mixture. Add enough more flour to make a soft dough which can be handled. Chill for an hour. Roll half an inch thick on a lightly floured cloth or board. Too stiff a mixture makes tough, dry doughnuts with cracked crusts. Fry in deep, hot oil (about 365 F.) until brown and drain on brown paper. Dust with confectioner's sugar.

the garden these days, and they have been here since early June but I have never seen their nests.

## The Hummingbird

The sunlight speaks, and its voice is a bird; It glimmers half-guessed, half-seen, half-heard, Above the flowerbed, over the lawn... A flitting dip, and it is gone, And all it lends to the eye is this—A sunbeam giving the air a kissing.

—H. Kemp.

## Better English

By D. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "Did she skate any while she was there?"  
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "mesmerize"?  
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Nonchalance, nuptial, nicotine, nonpareil.  
4. What does the word "dissidence" mean?  
5. What is a word beginning with "l" that means "a kind of eyeglass"?

## ANSWERS

1. Say, "Did she do any skating while she was there?" 2. Pronounce first syllable mez, not mess; accent first syllable. 3. Nonpareil. 4. Disagreement; dissension. "There were signs of dissidence among the people." 5. Lorgnette.

## Household Scrapbook

By Roberta Lee

### For the Children

Try spreading an old sheet on the floor for the children to sit on when they are cutting paper dolls. This will save their clothes as well as the rug, and the scraps can be easily gathered up in the sheet when they have finished playing.

### Fresh Bread

Soft, fresh bread can be cut into very thin slices, and without the least difficulty. If the bread is placed in the refrigerator and thoroughly chilled before slicing.

### Fruit Stains

Sprinkle some dry salt immediately on a fruit stain, and it will seldom become permanent.

## How Can I...!

By Anne Ashley

Q. How can I remedy insomnia?  
A. A very effective remedy for producing sleep is to stew spring onions in coarse brown sugar, and take one teaspoonful before retiring. This will not only produce sleep, but is very healthful.

Q. How can I prepare a good toilet water?

A. An excellent toilet water can be made by mixing two ounces of elder flower water with an equal quantity of distilled water.

Q. How can I remove mildew that has formed on shoes which have not been worn for a long time?  
A. Rub the spots with petroleum ointment. After a little rubbing, the marks will disappear.

## I WAS JUST THINKING

(Sandy Todd in Weekly Scotsman)

This load-shedding business is becoming serious. Up to now it had not affected me, and I was inclined to take a lenient view of the shortcomings of the British Electricity Authority, just as I have always been prepared to make allowances for British Railways. After all, they are both just learning the business yet.

Power-cuts in my area have been hitherto confined to an hour in the morning when sensible people are in bed. That was all right, but the other day the blow fell in the late afternoon. The Electricity Authority shed their load right in the middle of an article I was trying to write, and the effects were disastrous.

That is one of the occasions when the use of the well-worn cliché about being plunged into darkness is permissible. As far as I was concerned, it was a mental blackout as well as an electricity

blackout. The fleeting thoughts that were about to be transferred to paper vanished, and I haven't heard from them since.

My "emergency lighting" consisted of candles unearthed from a cupboard. How they happened to be there at all is a mystery, but it was evident that a good stock had been laid by someone who had no great faith in upstart inventions like gas and electricity. Many literary masterpieces, I have no doubt, have been written by the light of guttering candles stuck in empty bottles, but a modern office does not lend itself to the use of candles, guttering or otherwise. Empty bottles are so hard to come by these days.

The balancing of lighted candles on a desk without making a bonfire of one's MS. is an acquired skill, and it takes time. So much time, in fact, that before my "emergency lighting" system was functioning, the power had been restored again.

Profiting by this experience, I am ready for the next power-cut. It has brought home to me at last that the dividing line between the twentieth century and the Dark Ages is no thicker than a copper wire.



# AUGUST FUR SALE PRICES

Save you from 10% to 25% on the regular price of any FUR COAT in our large selection of 1951-1952 styles. More than that when our present stock has to be replaced the new prices and additional tax guarantees you even greater saving during this ANNUAL AUGUST EVENT.

BUY NOW at great savings. BUY NOW from the largest stock of the season. BUY NOW on easy terms. BUY NOW and save real money.

FREE storage and insurance on your purchase until wanted.

# island furriers

FOR THE BEST IN DRUGSTORE NEEDS Shop At Hughes DRUG CO. LTD. "Prescriptions Accurately Dispensed Since 1874" PHONE — 3060

## Anne Adams Patterns

CLASSIC! TERRIFIC!

Joyful news! This is a TWO-PIECE! You can wear these handsome separates together as the smartest casual you ever had, or with other separates to give them the brand new Fall '51 look! Pattern 4630 in sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20; 40. Size 16 blouse, 1 1/2 yards 35-inch; skirt, 3 yards.

This pattern is easy to use, simple to sew, is tested for fit. Has complete illustrated instructions. Send Thirty-five Cents (35c) in coins (stamps cannot be accepted) for this pattern. Print plainly size, name, address, style number.

Send order to ANNE ADAMS, c/o The Guardian, St. Front St. West, Toronto, Ontario.

### Morning Smile

SMH Hurts

In a discussion on women's styles in an American quiz show, an elderly man was one of the contestants. He was asked: "I suppose you are old enough to remember wasp waists?" "Remember 'em," he exclaimed, bitterly. "That's when I got stung."

### PARENTS LOVE HIM

Kindergartens were founded in Germany by Friedrich Froebel who regarded children as plants requiring constant attention.