



Thrifty Citizens IN ALL WALKS OF LIFE

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SEVEN MEN IN MOTOR LAUNCH AS THEY WAIT FOR HELP

This is a story of seven men who set sail in a motor launch for a trip on the lake on Wednesday afternoon. The launch named "Oberon," behaved in a fashion far removed from the meaning of its name. Oberon was a mythical king of the fairies, and it is said a king can do no wrong. But this one did, for when four miles out in the lake the motor, in the parlance of the day, "conked" out leaving the passengers members of the St. Regis Hotel orchestra flat. Reporters informants, one of the orchestra, said that they played selections while waiting for assistance under such trying circumstances but did not say if they played before the motor went dead. If they did it would be quite possible that the ancient and

mythical king did not care for modern music and showed his displeasure in the only way he could. Assistance did not come before the launch had drifted across the lake before a strong north breeze and it came because of the watchful eyes of the crew of the Life Saving station. They noticed that the S. S. Cayuga had changed its course and sent out a speed boat to find out the reason. It was then that they found out the reason. It was then that they discovered the Cayuga steaming around the motor launch. Superintendent Hilliard Lang and Second Officer Dewy Robinson then towed the boat in. The orchestra was due to broadcast and they arrived to find that another orchestra had been put on the air. Life savers said that had they not been noticed the boat would have dri-

fted far out into the lake before the breeze. "I don't think we were in any danger" the orchestra member said "but it certainly wasn't very nice."

LARGE DOGS ARE MOST DANGEROUS

Chief Shane has declared war on unlicensed dogs and is advocating a \$25 license for police dogs. This followed an attack on a citizen by two of the animals. Not the first on record, by no means. The main trouble with dogs is that probably 60 per cent of the people who own them do not understand them. It takes time and patience to train a dog, and the large animals, particularly should never be kept in a town or city unless properly and systematically exercised or kept in a yard.

Naturally, a community of two-legged animals cannot be sacrificed for a community of four-legged ones, and as the majority of the two-legged can not properly control the four-legged there have to be measures taken.

In the old days there was an argument for keeping dogs in this community—they were largely used for teaming.

But dog teams in Kirkland Lake these days, and what dog teams are comparatively few in number there are, do not appear to be entirely composed of police dogs, or that assortment of breed which falls under the category. As a matter of fact, it is the large mongrels mostly unneared for which are the most dangerous.

It is hard on the few real dog trainers in town who keep their large beasts under good control, to have to pay such a heavy tax, but certainly something has to be done to eliminate the danger and nuisance which at present exists.

At the same time all animal lovers who feel sorry for the animals who through no fault of their own but for lack of training and care become dangerous and a nuisance. There is to the extremist, a parallel in the bringing up of children.

SIR CHARLES SAUNDERS

The death of Sir Charles Saunders in the city of Toronto the other day naturally recalls the story of Marquis Wheat and the contribution made to grain growing particularly in Western Canada by this eminent Agricultural experimentalist. Sir Charles Saunders has lived quietly in the city of Toronto for some fifteen years as he was compelled to retire from active work in connection with the Dominion Experimental Farms on account of ill health, and so for some time has not appeared actively in connection with Agricultural matters.

The Honourable Duncan Marshall, Minister of Agriculture, was acquainted with Dr. Saunders and particularly with the work of the development of Marquis Wheat on the Western plains. Mr. Marshall went west in 1905 and it was two years later in 1907 that twenty-three pounds of the newly discovered Marquis Wheat was sent to the Dominion Experimental Farm at Indian Head so that it might be multiplied on the Prairies.

In 1929, when Marshall was preparing an Agricultural publication, he visited Dr. Saunders at his home in Toronto and succeeded in getting from him the only interview which the Doctor has ever given with regard to Marquis Wheat and the part he played in it, nor has Dr. Saunders written anything, at least that has yet been published, with regard to his work in this matter. Mr. Marshall arranged with Dr. Saunders to have M. W. L. Smith, the well-known Agriculture Journalist in Toronto, visit him at his home and write the story.

Dr. Saunders always claimed that he had a good start in connection with Marquis Wheat because not only had his father, Dr. Wm. Saunders director of the Dominion Experimental Farms, created several new varieties of wheat by crossing and selection, but Charles Saunders had the advantage of being the son of Wm. Saunders and so as a lad had studied with his father the problem of producing an earlier hard wheat.

Another man needs to be mentioned in connection with Marquis-Wheat Dr. Angus MacKay, Superintendent of the Experimental Farm at Indian Head. Dr. MacKay had been extremely anxious to secure a new variety of wheat with as good milling qualities as Red Rye Fyfe but which would ripen a week or ten days earlier and so escape some of the damaging frosts which seemed to arrive a short time before Red Fyfe ripened on the Prairies.

In this farming struggle on the Saskatchewan Prairie it is interesting to note in passing that Angus MacKay was finding soil drifting problems back as far as 1889, and was doing a lot of tree planting in

order to stem the tide of the dust storms only to find that the soil was blown off the roots of the trees and so today on this farm these roots can be seen exposed like so many winding snakes above the ground.

To secure a new variety of wheat by crossing is a reasonably simple process and it is also comparatively easy to make rough selections from the crossings. One of the difficulties, however, is to get a new variety that will not revert to type but will remain fixed and will also be up to quality. It was in 1887 that Dr. Wm Saunders became head of the Experimental Farms and sixteen years later his son Dr. Charles E. Saunders, officially entered the service at Ottawa, but before that time he had been doing a lot of work with his father.

As Red Fyfe was the best hard wheat then growing upon Prairies it naturally formed part of the parentage of practically all they were making. Laboratory tests were somewhat difficult to make in those days and Dr. Charles Saunders said he had to use very ordinary methods in making his tests. He began in 1903 to test the value of the crosses that had been handed over to him by his father. He decided that the best way to test the elasticity of the gummy substance of the wheat was to chew it into gum and then see how far it would stretch. He declared that in the winter of 1903-4 he chewed wheat into gum than all the boys in a dozen rural school sections who, in those days, found a cheap and somewhat satisfactory method of producing gum. In all the wheat that he thus chewed he found a variety, which he and his father named "Marquis", to be the best of the lot, and so they began to multiply the grains of Marquis in a small way as only a few were available. He had also then to determine the milling and baking qualities of the new wheat.

Miniature milling and baking outfits were built and the greatest possible care was taken to make the baking tests absolutely accurate. In all these tests Marquis easily led the lot, and in some cases the volume of bread produced from Marquis Wheat was from fifty to seventy-five per cent over the poorer kinds. Having thus decided that Marquis would make good bread, that it had high milling qualities, that it was an early ripener, and that it stood the gum chewing test better than all the others, they began the multiplication of this wheat, and as before remarked, 23 pounds of it was sent to the farm at Indian Head in 1907, and the following year another lot was sent to the Brandon Experimental Farm.

The story of Marquis Wheat from there on has been one continued series of successes. At first fears were expressed that it would not remain fixed and that a few years might change it back to some of the waste from which it was produced, but perhaps there has been no wheat produced anywhere in the world that has remained as firmly to its type as has Marquis Wheat.

There were early frosts in the west in 1907, 1908 and 1909 and these heavy losses through freezing made everybody anxious to get Marquis wheat which would mature from



a week to ten days earlier than Red Fyfe or other varieties which were being used. Mr. Marshall says he harvested his first crop of wheat in 1909. It was fall wheat and it was frozen, and such an experience made it easy to understand how everybody wanted to get the wheat that was earliest.

Marquis was not the only wheat produced by Sir Charles Saunders as he has also given to the farmers Prelude, Garnet and Reward. Prelude and Garnet produced a somewhat dark flour and, for that reason, have never been extremely popular. Reward is a cross between Prelude and Marquis and is a trifle earlier than Marquis and has very good milling qualities as well. Dr. Saunders expressed the opinion in 1929 that Reward would be a very dangerous rival to Marquis.

In any event this practical Agricultural Scientist has made the greatest contribution to wheat production of any man who has lived within our time.

Dr. Saunders was retired with a substantial pension which was but little compensation for the greatness of his work, yet it was all that he desired. If Knighthoods were to be conferred on Canadians at all, that granted to Sir Charles Saunders would be the most highly approved. It has to be kept in mind that Dr. Saunders worked during a time when much less was known about the science of agriculture than is claimed at the present time, but we usually find that men who work out achievements such as he did have operated under more or less adverse circumstances. It was gratifying that Dr. Saunders, though never in very robust health, lived long enough to see the complete triumph of his work in producing the best variety of hard wheat grown anywhere in the world.

GRANTS ASKED FOR BURIALS

\$100 GOVERNMENT AID FOR PENSIONERS, MORTICIANS' PLAN

Provincial government aid will be sought for the suitable burial of old age pensioners, William Speer President of the Ontario Funeral Service Association said yesterday. A grant of \$100 will be asked for in order that the pensioners may be given "a decent burial without the humiliation of pauperization after death, which often faces the relatives of the dead," he said.

Officers of the association will interview Premier Hepburn as the result of a wire sent by the Premier to all association members asking for "full particulars" regarding alleged irregularities in Ontario hospitals in the releasing of bodies for burial. Mr. Speer explained that in the discussions at the sessions of the convention this week there was no question of any hospital being "under fire." It merely attempted to standardize the release form "in accordance with a drafted form of the Minister of Health," he said.

CONTROLLING SLUGS

Garden slugs are always most abundant in wet seasons or in situations. They emerge at night hiding during the day beneath the soil, and they feed chiefly on the undersides of the leaves of beans, lettuce cabbage, cauliflower and such like plants. The rasp off the epidermis of the leaves and where the infestation is heavy severe injury is occasioned. Like all other pests, these animals can be more easily controlled if remedial measures are applied when they are small and few in number. Accordingly the amateur gardener and the commercial growers whose crops are being attacked should give the matter immediate attention.

In Eastern Canada the slugs are controlled by dusting the infested plants with hydrated lime in the evening after the sun has gone down and the feeding commenced. Care should be given to the upper and lower leaves and the soil immediately surrounding the plants. Hydrated lime is effective only when in the form of a light dry powder. If it be-

comes hard when subjected to moisture, it is non-injurious to the slugs. Consequently a few light applications of the lime at intervals of three or four days is much more effective than one heavy dose. Another method recommended is to spray the plants with Bordeaux mixture.

EXPECT RECORD THROUGH AT PLOWING MATCH

More than 100,000 Canadians and United States agriculturists and their families and friends are expected to visit the 25th Annual International Plowing Match and Farm Machinery Demonstration to be held at Fergus Ont., from Oct. 12 to 15, it is announced by J. A. Carroll secretary manager of the Ontario Plowmen's Association under whose auspices the famous match is held each year, following a meeting of the committee in charge of arrangements for the huge event.

It is also announced that, due to the tremendous enthusiasm of the local committee at Fergus and because of the steadily increasing interest exhibited each year by plowmen-competitors and spectators, the prize list this year will total nearly \$5,000 considerably in excess of previous years' purses.

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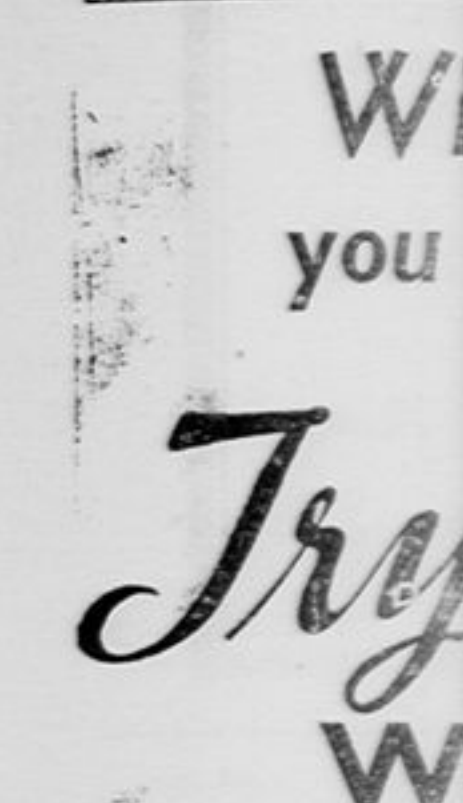
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