

MODERN METHODS IN THE CANADIAN SUGAR BUSH



Modern System of Gathering



Maple Syrup arrives at Salisbury Plains



The Old Way



Tapping

New Evaporating System



Putting in the Spout

The making of maple sugar and syrup has become but a memory in the recollection of residents in many of the older parts of Canada. The industry is still, however, an important one over large areas in Quebec and to a less extent in Ontario and the provinces down by the sea. Sugar making from the maple, which is confined entirely to this continent, had a very early beginning. Before the advent of the white man the Indian had learned to extract and concentrate the sap of the maple tree. On the approach of spring the trees were gashed, with the tomahawk, in a slanting direction and beneath the opening made was inserted a wooden chip or spout to direct the fluid drop by drop into the receptacle resting on the ground. The sap was caught in a birch bark dish and boiled in earthen kettles. The small quantity of dark, thick syrup thus made was the only sugar available to the Indians and is stated by early writers to have been highly prized. The early settlers from the Old Land learned from the Indians the art of sugar making and indeed followed for many years their crude methods of manufacture. Even yet primitive equipment and methods are stated to be used in back sections of the country that turn out their annual crop of dark, inferior syrup and sugar.

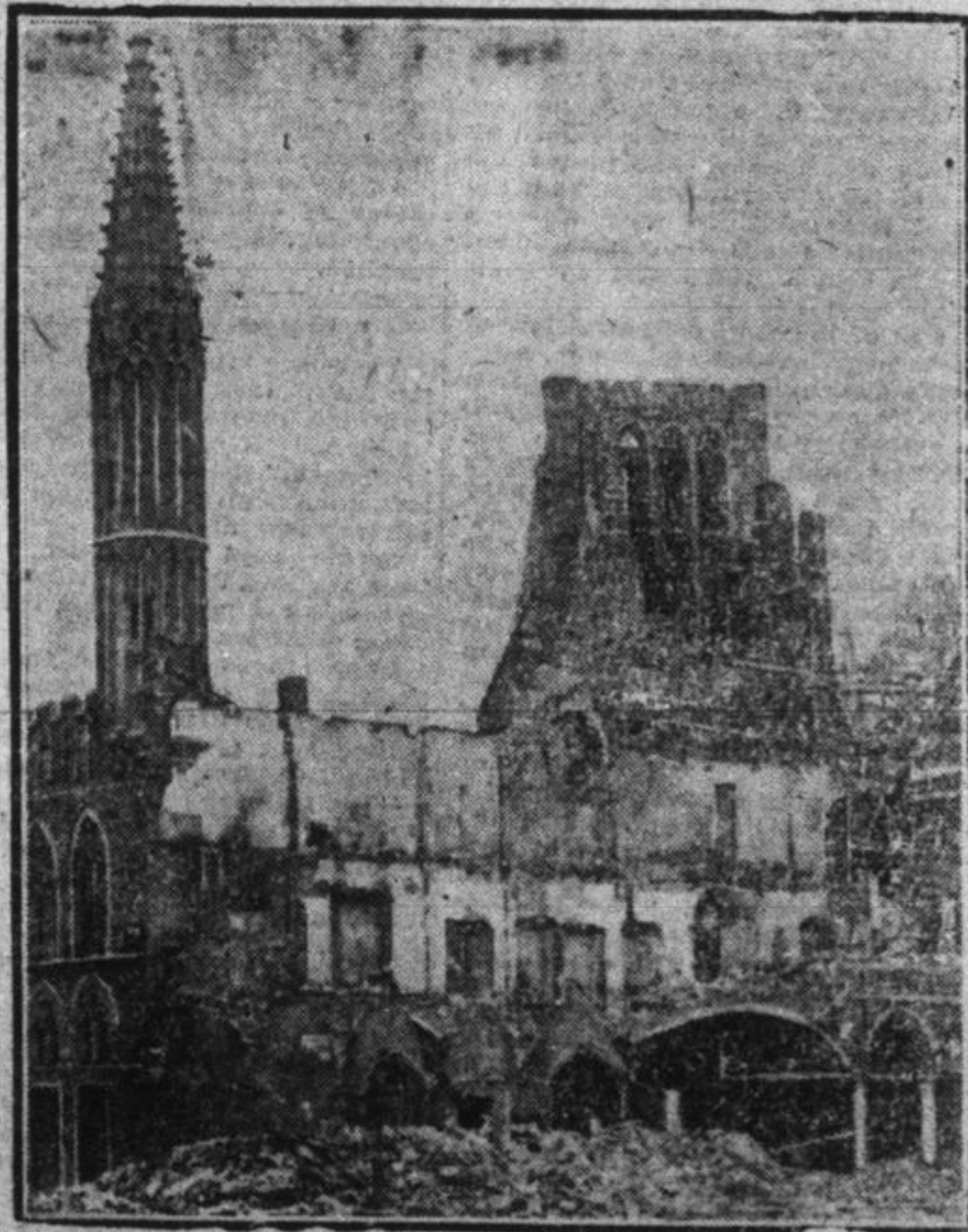
For perhaps a century the white man followed very closely the primitive methods of the Indian save the substitution of iron or copper kettles for vessels of clay or bark. In the early days before the timber acquired much value the tree, the sap was caught in wooden troughs and conveyed in buckets on the shoulders with a sap yoke to a central point to be boiled. No sugar bush was fully equipped without snowshoes which were frequently found necessary in gathering the sap. The boiling was done in large iron kettles suspended from a pole in the open woods in a sheltered location with no protection from the sun, rain or snow or the ashes, falling leaves, moss and bits of bark that were driven about by the wind.

An early improvement was the substitution of the sugar for the case in tapping, coppered buckets took the place of the birch bark "cans" or hewn sap troughs, while the kettle gave way to the modern evaporating tank made famous by the name of Grimm. During the past few weeks along the lines of the Canadian Pacific in Quebec and Ontario farmers have been busy with the tapping of the maple trees and year by year the industry is growing in importance, but at the moment it is confined to Quebec, Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. It is estimated that the industry represents an annual valuation of nearly two million dollars and is carried on by 55,000 growers, but the increasing value of maple wood has led to the removal of lost its romantic side. "Sugaring off" at sugar camps in the woods is still looked forward to by young and old, who regard the event as a social feature affording rare enjoyment. In well-organized camps the gathering of the sap with buckets has been superseded by the horse, while where very large areas are covered sap is conveyed to the sugar house by metal pipes. Considerable interest is centred around the modern evaporator and it is through the kindness of the Grimm Manufacturing Company of Montreal that we are able to reproduce these pictures demonstrating the evaporator in operation. The evaporator is an advance on the old kettle and the sheet iron pan and is designed for rapid evaporation and economy of fuel. There are several makes, all are on the same principle. The pans have corrugated bottoms and partitioned off to give a zig zag course to the sap; also equipped with a float feed which allows fresh sap to flow in as rapidly as the water evaporates. The sap enters at one corner, and by a zig zag course flows from 80 to 100 feet before reaching the outlet at the other end. The sap thickens as it flows, and has to remain in the last compartment only a very brief time before it has reached the consistency of syrup.

A HAPPY COINCIDENCE

During the second empire in France two country gentlemen, M. Recardier and M. Gallipeaux, met at the chateau of the former, and while discussing some fine old wine Gallipeaux said to his friend: "Where is your son Louis?" "Travelling." "Your daughter also is travelling. She will be at home for the autumn ball. It will be her entrance into society." "My son will be at home about that time. I am looking forward to his coming with pleasant anticipations. He has not been here for ten years. When he was twelve years old I put him to school in Geneva. From there he passed to the university, and since then he has been travelling. But why did you ask about my son?" "I will tell you. It would give me great pleasure, and I should consider myself highly honored to unite our families in the marriage of these two young persons." "Just what I have been thinking of for some time," replied the other. "How old is your daughter?" "Marie is twenty." "And Louis is twenty-two." "It was then and there agreed that the youngsters should marry. That was a time when parents in France arranged marriages for their children. When Louis Recardier returned to the parental chateau his father met him at the door, and the two were locked in each other's arms. They

chatted for some time, when the father said: "Louis, it is now time that you settled down at home. I am getting lonesome in my old age and want you with me. I desire also that you should bring a wife into the house and that I may have a grandchild in whom to be interested. I have arranged a match for you with the daughter of an old friend of mine, and it is expected that the marriage shall take place very soon." The young man's face spoke plainly that this was an unwelcome news to him. He made no reply for some time, and when he did it was quite a backset to his father. "My dear father," he said, "I have always obeyed you and will continue to do so save in this one thing, (he pointed to his chest) I do not approve of our ancestral custom of parents choosing mates for their children. I am a believer in love and that marriages should be made for love." "But my word has been pledged. To tell my friend that you will not marry his daughter would be an insult." "Not since I have never seen her." M. Recardier argued a long while with his son without effect. The young man had met a girl in his travels and had fallen in love with her. His father was wrapped up in him and would not break with him. A letter was dispatched to M. Gallipeaux announcing that the match must be abandoned. Naturally the latter was much incensed that his daughter should be refused and wrote his old friend a very curt reply. Louis Recardier's falling in love was one of those cases where persons of opposite sex are drawn together at sight. Louis had attended the opera one evening at Milan, and



THE CLOTH HALL OF YPRES.

This historic edifice is already partially in ruins as shown by the picture from last fall's bombardment. It is again a shining target for the Germans. The town is a fire at several points.

In a box directly above him and so near him that he could almost touch her sat a young lady dressed whom he and him came an instantaneous spark of love. Louis could not keep his eyes off her, and she, conscious that they were always upon her gave him an occasional glance, while a faint blush and a restlessness of her fan showed that she was much affected. The next day Louis made an attempt to find the young lady, but was unable to do so. The reason of this was that she had departed early in the morning with a party with whom she was travelling. Louis had returned to France, being expected by his father, hoping to gain permission to set out again to find the girl with whom he had fallen in love at sight.

Nothing but to set out again to find the girl who had enchanted him. Finally his father consented that he should depart, provided he would first attend the ball which Louis agreed to the condition, attended the ball and was standing listlessly looking at the dancers when suddenly his heart came up in his throat. Who should call by him in the dance but the girl he had seen at the opera at Milan! Louis lost no time in securing an introduction, and when he heard the word "Mlle Gallipeaux" he smiled. He had refused to marry the girl with whom he had fallen in love! When M. Recardier was informed of the situation he ordered his carriage and drove at once to see his old friend, M. Gallipeaux. He was coldly received, but when he explained the cause of his son's refusal and that Louis was wrapped up in Marie her father was soothed and consented that the marriage should take place at an early date.

UNCANNY ACCURACY.

Gyroscope Rudder Fitted To Latest Torpedoes Ensures This.

A torpedo fitted with the newest type of gyroscope rudder is more deadly than a shell from the biggest naval gun; for the accuracy with which it glides through the water to its prey is almost uncanny. The gyroscopes keeps the rudders exactly as they are set before the torpedo is fired, and only by a swift, unexpected move can a ship at which a torpedo is aimed escape. The vertical rudders steer the torpedo, the horizontal ones keep it at its correct depth under the water. The torpedoes used in the British navy are of three diameters—14, 18 and 21 inches—and they vary in length from 15 to 18 feet. A torpedo is driven by compressed air, which first passes through the heater, acting through the engines on twin propellers fitted to the tail of the weapon. The propellers revolve in opposite directions, thus counteracting any tendency to turn right or left on the torpedo's part. The smaller propeller "unscrews" the safety catch of the striker while the torpedo is in the water. One of the newest types of British torpedo perfected by Lieut. Hardcastle, R.N., weighs 1,600 pounds, and is charged with 250 pounds of gun-cotton, which explodes on impact by means of an appliance fitted in the nose of the torpedo, and which is sufficient to blow a hole as large as a haystack in the side of a battleship. It has an effective range of about four miles. The gun-cotton is kept wet to keep it from exploding until actually struck. As soon as a torpedo hits its mark it explodes automatically, and there are only two methods of defense against it. One is to locate and shell the attacking torpedo boat or submarine; the other, to drop steel wire nets all round your ship. These nets means an infallible protection, however.

The Difference.

Toronto Telegram. Sir George Foster never rises to his feet without attracting votes to the Borden Government. Hon. Sam Hughes never rises to his feet without alienating votes from the Borden Government. Sir Robert Borden's great immediate need is a recipe for keeping Sir George Foster ON HIS FEET and of keeping Hon. Sam Hughes IN HIS SEAT.

Change Signals.

Winnipeg Telegram. "Now, Silas," said the speaker, "I want you to be present when I deliver this speech." "Yes, yes." "I want you to start the laughter and applause. Every time I take a drink of water, you applaud, and every time I wipe my forehead with my handkerchief, you laugh." "You better switch dem signals, boss. It's a heap mo' liable to make me laugh to see you standing up dar deliberately takin' a drink o' water."

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Mr. Avery Hyatt, blacksmith, St. Ann's, Lincoln Co., Ont., writes:—"I am a blacksmith by trade, and ten years ago became afflicted with paralysis. I could not walk or read or write, and could talk with difficulty, so that it was a hard matter to understand anything I would say. Being only a young man, I was nearly discouraged. Two doctors told me it was brought on by overwork, and that my case was hopeless.

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when the fifth was used I saw that I was getting better. By the time the 12 boxes were used I was cured. I am well and strong and working every day, thanks to Dr. Chase's Nerve Food.

This statement is certified to by Mr. Elmer J. Hodgkins, J.P.

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