

A TOUCHING STORY OF THE PRINCE OF WALES

At the edge of the village between two daisy fields, a little girl, arms filled with the blossoms she had gathered, scampered to the side of the road and watched the approaching car wide-eyed and wistful.

The Prince ground in his brakes. He motioned theurchin to come to the car, but she shrank back. He called out, "Won't you give me a flower?" she asked.

"I mustn't, sir," the child replied. "They are for my party." "Oh, we are having a party, are we? And what kind of a party is it?" "It's my birthday party, sir," the child explained. "I'm seven years old today, I am, and I'm going to have a party at my house."

"Well, then, just one flower in honor of your birthday," insisted the Prince. "See, I'll buy it from you."

The child looked at the coin hungrily, but stubbornly shook her head. "I couldn't sell one, sir. But if you'll come to my party I'll give you one."

The Prince was not to be bested. "It's a bargain!" he exclaimed. He set her down in front of her house and assured her he would be on hand if she'd persuade her mother and father to keep the party going "a little bit later," so he could get there.

There was an early function that evening, and by nine o'clock the roadster was headed north toward Readlett. No one expected the stranger would keep his promise, except the little girl.

Before ten o'clock the stranger, with a companion—who was Wing Commander Louis Greig, a bosom friend, and the comptroller of the household of the Duke of York—stood at the cottage door. The child herself ran to let them in. Proudly she guided the one to whom she had promised a daisy into the centre of the parlor and displayed him to her birthday guests, youngsters and their elders.

Names weren't called for. The older folks made the strangers feel at home. The older sisters giggled at the young man in such wonderful evening clothes, and their mothers and fathers said audibly that he would be a very nice young man. The strangers declared the punch the best they'd ever tasted. They marvelled at the skill of the older sisters at the real old-fashioned waltz. The younger of the two strangers was especially attentive to the little birthday hostess, and was very particular about the daisy she put in his button-hole.

Someone—one of the women—suddenly exclaimed: "Drat my bloomin' senses if the young man he don't look like someone we know, he do; maybe it's like the Prince of Wales, now!"

Everybody laughed, including the young man.

"How'd you like to see this Prince of Wales," he asked the little hostess. "When I grow up mother says she'll take me up to London to see him, sir," she replied earnestly.

When he said his solemn goodnight and voiced his birthday wishes, the younger stranger handed the seven-year-old hostess a package.

"It's to remember me by," he said. When the roadster had disappeared down the road, the child must have opened her package at once, to find a bright hair ribbon and a photograph in a silver frame. It was a photograph of the young stranger, but in the picture he was all dressed up in a uniform, with medals on his breast. There was writing in the corner. Perhaps it was one of the parents who read to the child:

"To my little friend in memory of her birthday party. Edward Prince."

THE DEHYDRATION OF FRUITS

Marked Progress Being Made in Perfecting Processes for Preserving Fruits and Vegetables.

In developing Canada's natural resources two things are interlocked—efficient production and conservation through economic utilization.

For example, every fall complaints are heard that while fruit rots in the orchards, people in cities and in other parts of the country suffer from lack of fruit, and the succession of seasons of glut and seasons of famine is so common as scarcely to excite comment. In these instances it is not production but utilization which lags.

The Dominion Department of Agriculture, of course, engaged with both parts of this problem, and on the utilization side is making a close study of dehydration of fruits and vegetables. To carry on the large amount of experimental work which must be done toward the perfecting of dehydration processes, the department has installed three plants for further study of suitable varieties, dehydrating methods and costs, marketing, etc.

These plants are (1) a laboratory plant at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, (2) a two-tunnel commercial plant at Grimsby, Ont., and (3) a semi-commercial plant at Pentecost, B. C. Last year a product of outstanding excellence as to quality and marketability was produced and much valuable information as to methods of processing was obtained. These three plants are being operated to a still higher capacity this year, and at the end of the season it is hoped that much information and material will be available to guide the establishment of improved dehydrating plants conducted on a commercial basis.

Dehydration is a modern and improved method of drying fruits and vegetables. It is an improvement over the old kiln-drying method, inasmuch as the product retains to a high degree its natural colour and flavour. The product is "re-freshed" very easily by soaking from twelve to twenty-four hours and may then be treated in a similar method to the fresh article.

It is a fact well-known to the medical profession that an increase in fruit consumption is always attended by a higher health standard. Many parts of the Dominion, however, such as the northern portions of Central Canada and a large part of the Prairie Provinces are not fruit-producing areas and transportation and cold storage problems render the supplying of fresh fruits to such districts a difficult matter, especially so from the fact that many of our fruits have a very short season. Dehydration has a distinct field here.

The use of dried fruits and vegetables in the older settled areas has remained fairly constant, the supply from year to year depending entirely upon the relative prices of the fresh product

and the quality of that product available for drying. It is only where the quality of dried products has been maintained at a very high standard, that there is any evidence of increased consumption. In the non-fruit-producing areas, the consumption of dried fruits is increasing somewhat but this increase is by no means as large as it should be.

Looking at the domestic field dehydrating, when the details have been worked out, promises several important advantages. It will prevent the loss through gutting of markets, so that the surplus which would otherwise go to waste in a week will be available for the year, and it will also prevent loss by extending markets for tender fruits from places near at hand to inter-provincial and distant parts of the country which desire them and stand ready to purchase. It must be remembered that these are not one-sided benefits, but that both consumers and producers—in fact the whole community—benefit equally.

In spite of the large quantities of fruit grown in Canada, and notwithstanding the large amounts of kindred dried fruits produced, we import from the United States huge amounts of medium and high quality dried and dehydrated fruits which might readily be grown and processed in the Dominion. For example, during the months of March and April this year, we imported 3,500,000 pounds of dehydrated prunes and plums, over 25,000 pounds of dehydrated peaches, and nearly 250,000 pounds of dehydrated apricots. The total value of these dehydrated fruits imported into Canada last year amounted to over \$1,000,000. Had these fruits been grown and dehydrated in Canada, that money would have been kept within the country, and there would have been stimulated, in addition, a much greater consumption which would materially assist in the solution of our marketing problems, and in permanently upbuilding certain parts of the fruit-growing industry.

In brief, modern dehydration promises to be a material aid in solving the problem of broadening our markets and increasing our consumption of fruits and vegetables. It means a saving of large sums of money now being sent to the United States in payment for dehydrated and fresh fruits, and in so doing, it will assist in stabilizing the line of agricultural activity, improving our standards of living, and the general health of the Canadian people.

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TRANSMISSION GEAR SLIPS

After a car has seen considerable service—something sooner—trouble may develop from a failure of the transmission gears to remain in engagement until neutralized by the operator. For instance, second speed may be thrown in, on a steep hill; but before the need of using it is past, the gears may slip out of engagement, the engine racing and the car out of engine control. Under normal conditions, when the shifting fork is moved into one of the speed positions, the sliding gear is shifted into mesh with the stationary gear concerned, by a fork, until their teeth engage completely, and when this position is reached a retaining device automatically acts to hold them precisely in this correct relation.

This latter is spoken of as the "gear lock," but it is not positive in its action, as this would prevent shifting back to neutral. It is merely a stationary spring plunger, the V point of which, when the correct operative position is reached, enters a V shaped slot in a slide, which moves with the gears that are being shifted. Little force is required to unseat the plunger in the slot and unlatch the gears, so that it does not move the gear fully into position, the lock does not act, and there is nothing to retain the mesh, and if the plunger becomes stuck in its disengaged position, if its point is worn off round or if its spring mechanism becomes weakened, there is insufficient locking force to be proof against unmeshing tendencies and the gears may slip apart. In case one or both of the two gears have become badly chipped or burred so that their tooth contact is no longer true, pressures may develop tending to throw them out of mesh

when heavy loads are being carried. It sometimes happens, too, that it develops between the bear shafts and their bearings, particularly end shafts, which permits a slight "shuck" back and forth of the sliding gear and its gears, with the result that locking device fails to hold and disengagement occurs. By removing the transmission cover and the shifting housing, it should be possible to inspect the gear shafts, to check upon completeness of the engagement on each speed, to examine the locking plungers for spring pressure, freedom of action, etc., and to determine whether there is excessive end or radial play in the shafts.

SWISS HOUSEMAKER'S PRIDE

Thrift is one of the outstanding virtues of the Swiss. It is displayed in their forestation and in their methods; but nowhere is it more employed than in their housekeeping. The shiftless housewife is almost unknown in Switzerland, and ignorance of the duties of home-making on the part of a young woman is looked upon as practically inexcusable. Housekeeping, these sober-minded Swiss regard as one of the highest and most productive of the arts, and they are anxious that the young girls shall be carefully taught and imbued with the true spirit of the calling.

There are several large schools of housewifery in Switzerland, and all of them of a remarkable degree of excellence. A visitor just returned from the part of the world says that the activity in these schools was past describing. The students are mostly boarders of the age of 17, and the whole household routine is gone through every day, including mending, washing, cooking, and the care of infants and manly duties. The day begins at 7. After breakfast the day's menu is decided, and from 10 to 12.30 every one is either preparing lunch or doing household work. Avoidance of waste, even in the matter of water, is insisted upon. The girls take it in turn to cook different dishes, to set the table, to serve, and to wait. Diplomas are given and competition is keen. From first to last the thoroughness and importance of their work is impressed upon the girls by the presents of the schools, these holding that the domestic help when it is really needed, as for instance, for women with young children, will hardly be solved until the girls, without distinction of social class, are obliged scientifically to learn how the work of a house is best done, and why.

This in itself does much to remove the stigma from domestic work, and the mistaken idea that anything else requires more wit than housekeeping. A better understanding, too, must inevitably exist between mistress and maid, when both have undergone the same training.

A FABLE FOR GROUSERS

The king was discontented; There were "thistles" in his shoes— A fact on which he vented. "Now, show me," pleaded the man whom fate belabors. "For I truly wish to see A man whom fate belabors. As my fate belabors me."

He looked out at the window With a dark and angry eye. And lo, in rags and tatters, Went a vagrant slowly by. His boots were burst and dusty, And, interpreting the sign, The king remarked: "I'm answered! For his lot is worse than mine."

The vagrant, though quite healthy, Was complaining: "Let me see A man whom fate belabors. As my fate belabors me." And lo, upon a paving Near to which his footsteps came, He saw a patient beggar. Who was feeble, blind and lame.

The vagrant's heart expanded, Self-reproof subdued his care; And raised on stronger shoulders Was the load he had to bear. To him who begged for pity, His last coin he did resign With: "Here is one whose burden Is a greater load than mine." —John Lea, in The Boy's Own Paper.

RULES OF THE ROAD

"The custom of observing 'rules of the road' dates back to pack horse days," says an English exchange which gives the following bit of history on this interesting subject: In very early times, before proper roads existed at all, the traffic of the country was borne by long strings of horses tied in single file, each carrying its separate load—this arrangement being the only one which would suit the narrow tracks that took the place of our present roads.

The leader horse was guided by its "driver," who naturally walked on its left so as to keep his right hand on the rein. When meeting another string of horses, he naturally stepped to the left.

This circumstance gave rise to our accepted rule of the road, and we retained this unwritten rule when, later, carts and coaches came into use.

In most other countries conditions were different and the question of a rule did not arise till the road era, when postillon-driven horses were able to drag along the lumbering coaches of the day. The postillon naturally rode the left-hand horse so as to have his right hand clear for the management of the other animal, so that on passing anything he would drive to the right in order to be able to make sure that the wheels cleared.

We also had our postillon age, but by this time the old pack-horse rule had become accepted, and being a conservative people, we saw no reason to alter it. Most of the continental nations, on the other hand, beginning in the postillon day, naturally adopted the right-hand rule of the road.

TEA CADDIES AS TREASURES

When the tea drinking habit was introduced to Britain tea cost five pounds, and often more, a pound, and tea caddies were elaborate and exquisite things of ebony and ivory, satinwood and marquetry. Boiling water used to be brought to the table by the serving maid, and the mistress would turn to her beautiful box to bring out the leaves.

Nowadays many a family caddy is merely the grocer's colored tin. However, if you happen to possess an old tea caddy you are entitled to be proud of it as an antique treasure.



WHERE MARINES HAVE LANDED TO PROTECT SHANGHAI The Bund in Shanghai shows modern China at its best. This is the finest street in the metropolitan city of China and it is to protect this section that foreign marines have been landed to take up defensive positions on the boundaries of international settlement. The fighting Chinese factions outside of Shanghai have been warned against any action that would endanger this quarter.

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