

THE CALL OF THE WILD

(By Nellie L. McClung)

This has been a slow, reluctant spring at the Coast—a niggardly begrudging spring, which let us have an occasional bright day, but followed it with sombre skies and scouring winds.

Yet in spite of all, the daffodils came, lighting their bright candles, not only in the cultivated rows, but in the grass and on the headlands, and even in the gloomy woods.

An Exquisite Flower

Daffodils have a courage and hardness that warms the heart even more than their exquisite beauty. This year they have been frozen, beaten by ferocious winds, their delicate trumpets filled with snow, but they go on blooming and sending out their delicate fragrance.

Unlike any other flower I know they grow in loveliness after they are picked. You can bring in a bowlful and think you have all the same kind, just yellow daffodils, but in a day or two you will find you have some with longer trumpets, some with pale cream sepals, some with a flare, a twist in their sepals; some with burnt orange edging on the trumpet, and all of them have grown larger. With care they last ten days in the house and even then seem to fade gracefully away. And they are able to look after themselves, growing anywhere without care, it seems.

And I like daffodils and tulips because they will grow in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, where flowers are appreciated to their full value. It is only those of us who have done without flowers who really love them. Women who have sat up at night with a few geraniums to keep them from freezing, who have put newspapers

between them and the window glass every cold night, who have carried them from the east window to the west to catch the last glint of sunshine—they know what a treasure even one blossom can be when the whole landscape is locked in the icy clutch of winter.

There's too much going on outside now for any one to accomplish much indoors. Indeed the outdoor life always shines adventurously when compared with the monotonous round of dishwashing and dusting. The men of our family, a few weeks ago, took out thirty old cherry trees with a stump puller and dynamite. I watched them through the window, setting the blast, lighting the fuse, running back to safety—and then the explosion—earth, rocks, and tree shooting up in a great black fountain, while I indoors washed brown rice six times at the sink, and set it in the oven to cook in salted water, to which would be added milk, two eggs, raisins and sugar in due season.

Tang of Outdoor Life

I can understand the indignation felt by a tired woman on the occasion of her husband coming home gaily whistling. She rebuked him for his lightness of heart by telling him life was easy for him—he could afford to whistle. "I had to work all day in a stuffy, hot kitchen, cooking and washing," she said, "and you had nothing to do but dig in a nice cool sewer."

And now there's cleaning and burning going on all along the roadside, with a great leaping bonfire of billowing smoke, shot through with flames when the dead branches are piled on and the smoke climbs into the trees behind, and hangs in grey

veils against the green branches, and chipping sparrows sit on the fence posts and drill the air with their sweet piping, and sky-larks are calling on all the world to forget their troubles and rejoice with them.

From our windows now we look down a gentle slope where the gold of the daffodils flows like a tide that rises and falls. Bands of pickers, broken at the waist like jack-knives, gather the blossoms in flat boxes and carry them away on their shoulders, as epaulettes of pure gold, leaving only a few gray blossoms among the green; but they are hardly gone from the field until the tide begins to rise, and you can almost see the green turning to gold again.

Beyond the daffodils, now that the underbrush is cleared away, we look into the dim recesses of the wood, black as a bear's cave, for there in all its green coolness lies the undisturbed, unspoiled forest, whose high tree-tops sway gently in the wind. There in the high branches birds are building their nests well above the danger line, and all around the shy little wild things go about their affairs unmolested.

I wish every one in the world had easy access to a bit of virgin forest or a kindly swamp, or some place where there is no trace of man's depredation. There is a comfort and healing in its clean earthy odors of the woods, its strange orderliness and its feeling of freedom, that atones somewhat for the insolent pressure of human life.

"All Good Things Are Free"

Thoreau, who understood and loved the wild woods as much as any one ever did, writes: "All good things are wild and free. I love to see domestic animals assert their native rights—it is an evidence they have not lost their original wild ways, as when my neighbor's cow breaks out of the pasture early in the spring and

boldly swims the river, a cold, grey tide twenty-five rods wide."

Thoreau would have loved the 36-hour-old calf, whose story is still told in this neighborhood. He broke away from his owner, who had come to bring the wandering cow and her calf home, broke away and ran to the top of a high cliff over the sea, jumped into the icy water, swam fifty yards to a rock, and climbed up on it. It took three men with a rope to capture him even then, and reduce him to his humble station.

This love of the wild and of freedom sings a strange tune in our veins these days, and makes the silence of the wood eloquent with meaning.

GRANITE HILL

GRANITE HILL, June 1—The memorial service conducted by Rev. T. D. Bell for the late Mrs. Sadie Kitchen was largely attended by relatives and friends.

Miss Annie Trafton, Riley Brook, is spending a few weeks with her uncle, Cromwell Trafton and Mrs. Trafton.

Miss Pauline Ellegood, Dumfries, spent the weekend with her grandparents Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Hanson.

Charlie Stillwell spent Tuesday in Fredericton on business.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Brown, Saint John, spent a Sunday recently with Mrs. Brown's mother, Mrs. Sarah Hagerman.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Fox are receiving the sympathy of friends in the recent death of their infant daughter.

Wesley Sinnott spent Sunday evening with C. W. Stilwell.

Aulden Kelly spent Sunday evening in Dumfries, with relatives.

Mrs. James Hagerman and daughter Della spent Sunday afternoon with her mother, Mrs. Annie Parent.

EGGS 25 P. C. OF WEIGHT OF ATLANTIC SALMON

Interesting Data Obtained Incidentally in Course of Work by Fish Hatchery Staffs.

Taken individually, the eggs of an Atlantic salmon are not very big—about the size of a buckshot—but collectively they make up, on the average, nearly 25 per cent of the weight of the spawning fish. Or, at all events, that is what was indicated by examinations made by the Fish Culture Branch of the Dominion Department of Fisheries.

In 328 fish which were handled, ranging in size from three and a half pounds to thirty-six pounds before the eggs were removed or, as the fish culture people put it, before the fish were "stripped," the spawn was found to weigh 901 3-8 pounds in the aggregate or 24.04 per cent of the weight of the fish and eggs.

The information as to the loss of weight in the Atlantic species through egg removal was not gathered, however, because it would have immediate importance but because no opportunity is lost to obtain data bearing on the life of the fish. It was possible to ascertain facts as to weight loss in the course of ordinary hatchery operations and at no added cost.

Of the 328 salmon which were taken into account in the examinations 204 were handled at the retaining pond in connection with the Fisheries Department's hatchery at Saint John, N. B., 109 at Allens Lake pond in Yarmouth county, N. S., and the other fifteen at the Matapedia River, which flows in Quebec and northern New Brunswick. Although there were fish of all sizes from three and a half to thirty-six pounds in the total number, those weighing between ten and twenty pounds made up the largest group.

At Allens Lake pond the average low in weight through the stripping was 24.96 per cent. At St. John the spawn from the 204 fish which were handled weighed 535 1-8 pounds, which meant that its removal brought a weight loss of 23.71 per cent. On the Matapedia the fifteen salmon weighed 282 1/2 pounds before they were stripped and in the stripping they lost sixty-four pounds or 22.65 per cent.

All of the eggs taken from the fish were used, of course, along with a great many thousand others, for the fish born from them later on are now swimming about in various hatchery purposes. Some of the liters.

MORE ATLANTIC FISH SENT TO THE U. S. LAST YEAR

Railway freight and express traffic in Canadian fresh, frozen, and smoked fish in 1935 dropped slightly, though the decrease was only 210,000 pounds, as compared with the 1934 traffic, leaving the year's total at \$1,941,100 pounds. Atlantic coast shipments increased by 716,300 pounds, roundly stated, but the traffic from British Columbia points was less by 927,100 pounds than in the year before.

The figures have been made up from reports supplied the Dominion Department of Fisheries by the railway companies. The freight reports show fish sent by freight made up 58,813,400 pounds of the total—odd figures being disregarded—and express traffic amounted to 23,127,600 pounds.

The gain in the Atlantic coast business was attributable to increased shipments to the United States, which at 14,607,100 pounds, were greater by more than 1,065,000 pounds than they had been in 1934. Traffic from the Atlantic area to central and western Canada, however, was not quite as large as in the preceding year, falling by 148,000 pounds to 33,088,500 pounds. For some reason which is not clear freight and express shipments of Atlantic fresh, frozen, and smoked fish to points within the Atlantic area itself also decreased.

British Columbia fish people, on the other hand, increased their railway shipments to points within their own province, though not by very sharply. The fish shipped by freight and express from the Pacific province to prairie communities and to Central Canada—of course, it may be kept in mind that the reference is only to fresh, frozen, and smoked fish much, and to points in the prairie and central provinces but the traffic to the United States decreased quite and the figures take no account of such commodities as canned salmon, which is British Columbia's most important fisheries product and is shipped in large quantities—amounted to 9,921,300 pounds, or 370,100 pounds

MINISTER HEARS SUGGESTIONS OF YOUNG LIBERALS

One Delegate Proposes All Women Quit Their Jobs in Favor of Men, Who Then Could Marry Them.

Failure of the previous administration to deal with the problem of unemployment on a long range basis was the reason for the apparent lack of action by the present administration in dealing with this problem, Hon. Norman Rogers, minister of labor, told members of the Twentieth Century Liberal Association, assembled at the Chateau for the second national gathering last week. Mr. Rogers led a round table discussion on "Employment and Youth" at the afternoon session. The convention opened yesterday morning with delegates from all nine provinces of Canada in attendance and concludes in the afternoon.

When the Liberal government came into power it found a great lack of statistical and general information on unemployment which was absolutely necessary before a solution could be found, Mr. Rogers said. The government had to take steps to find this information, this had been done and was being done, he said.

Important Decision On the basis of information collected the important decision to close relief camps had been made. It was felt that one of the evil results of these camps was to encourage the transient movement, he said.

It might have been possible to do something spectacular in an attempt to give an impression that the unemployment problem was being solved, said the minister. But this would have been of little value. It was a great problem. There was no single solution. It must be attacked from various angles. It must be regarded as a long-range problem and one in which any valuable suggestion would be welcome.

He had been impressed with the existence of what was sometimes referred to as "remote control" in handling unemployment relief, said Mr. Rogers. In the past the unemployment problem had been fought, not on nine provincial fronts, but on 4,000 municipal fronts. One of the objects of the new unemployment commission was to co-ordinate the effort to give it a unity and to thereby add to its strength. A scattered uncontrolled effort was not as effective as a systematic controlled effort, he said.

Courage and Vision

There were grounds for encouragement in the fact that Canada was a young country and has not lost the pioneer spirit. "We have enough courage and vision in this country to assist the government, for the government can't do it alone, to restore the morale of the people, to assure interest in the problem and to resolve to work with others in the solution of the problem", Mr. Rogers said.

Replying to statement from a Toronto delegate that employment office in that city sends out inefficient men, Mr. Rogers said criticism of the employment offices sometimes was justified. The employment system was overburdened and when requests for men were received, it frequently happened that the greatest nuisances were sent out rather than the best qualified men. Replying to another delegate who suggested that the British North America Act had impeded the federal Department of Labor, because of its inadequacy, Mr. Rogers said there was no doubt the act was framed without any clear understanding of the complex industrial problem that have come in recent years. He referred to the lack of a uniform standard of labor code for the provinces and said the industrial migration some times was into a province with a low standard of living. It ought to be to a higher standard instead of deterioration into lower standards, Mr. Rogers said.

The Advance Guard In closing the discussion, Mr. Rogers said he always thought of the Twentieth Century Association as the advance guard of Canadian Liberalism. He concluded by stating he never had attended a round table discussion which showed such lively, satisfactory and constructive discussion.

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more than were shipped to those markets in 1934.

The British Columbia shipments to the United States during the year were over 1,318,000 pounds less than in the preceding year, or 15,078,400.

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The Bank of Canada is authorized by the Minister of Finance to receive applications to subscribe in cash for:

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Thirty-year 3 1/4 per cent. Bonds, due June 1, 1966

Callable on or after June 1, 1956

Issue Price: 99.00% and accrued interest, yielding over 3.30% to maturity.

Proceeds will be used for general purposes of the Government of Canada.

Payment to be made in full against delivery of interim certificates on or about June 8, 1936.

The Bank of Canada is further authorized to receive applications to convert Dominion of Canada Bonds, maturing in 1936, into:

Four-year 1 1/2 per cent. Bonds, due June 1, 1940

Issue Price: 99.50%, yielding 1.63% to maturity;

OR

Thirty-year 3 1/4 per cent. Bonds, due June 1, 1966

Callable on or after June 1, 1956

Issue Price: 99.00%, yielding over 3.30% to maturity.

Bonds accepted for conversion will be valued at the following prices, which are inclusive of adjustments for accrued interest:—

1 1/2% BONDS DUE SEPTEMBER 15, 1936100.32%
2% BONDS DUE OCTOBER 15, 1936100.44%
5% BONDS DUE NOVEMBER 15, 1936101.83%

Bonds accepted for conversion will be exchanged for interim certificates and the resultant cash adjustment made in favour of the subscriber, on or after June 8, 1936.

Holders of bonds accepted for conversion will, by reason of the cash adjustment and the interest payment on the new investment, receive at least the equivalent of the interest return which would have been received on the converted bonds until maturity.

Bonds will be dated June 1, 1936. Principal and interest will be payable in lawful money of Canada. Interest will be payable, without charge, semi-annually on June 1 and December 1, at any branch in Canada of any chartered bank.

Denominations: 1 1/2% Bonds, \$1,000
3 1/4% Bonds, \$500 and \$1,000

Applications may be made to the Bank of Canada through any branch in Canada of any chartered bank or through any recognized dealer, from whom copies of the official prospectus containing complete details of the issue may be obtained. All subscriptions will be subject to allotment.

Subscription lists will open on June 3, 1936, and will close as to cash subscriptions, and as to either maturity or both in the case of conversion subscriptions, with or without notice, at the discretion of the Minister of Finance.