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Editorial

J. Lally

On August 12th, I received a letter from Edwin Lambert, a boy at the Fairbridge Farm School at Molong, he writes: "As I have been chosen to be the Canadian correspondent, it gives me the greatest of pleasure to tell you some of the news of the Molong Fairbridge Farm School." A full copy of the letter will be seen in this issue.

All friends of Fairbridge will be pleased at the forging of this new link in the chain which binds together the members of the fast growing Fairbridge family in Canada and Australia.

We regret having lost another of our Fintry correspondents, Tom Turner. We are grateful to him for his service to the Gazette and we wish him the greatest success at his first employment.

Message from Mr. Gordon Green

London,
June 30th, 1939.

Dear Children,

I felt very unhappy as I was travelling home, when I found that I had not had time to fulfil my promise to the Editor of your Gazette that I should write something for him to publish. I feel less unhappy now that I hear you have had a letter from Her Majesty, the Queen. And such a beautiful letter! I can quite imagine that when you print that very sweet message you will find garlands all round the border of it. There is this you must remember, too: anyone who receives a message from such a gracious lady as our Queen must continue to be worthy of her notice and her good wishes. It is not pretty to boast, but if you say with pride: "We are the Queen's Fairbridge children," we shall excuse you the boast if you live up to your fine words.

Well, now, I thought you looked lovely - all of you - and it is not very difficult for me to believe that when the Queen says: "How are my Fairbridge children?" someone near will be able to say: "Just as good as they looked when a certain visitor from London went to see them in May."

Now that I have paid you that compliment, I can as an old friend, tell you other things I thought of as I hurried home. I had not long before been talking to your Mum - yes, yours and yours and yours. (I have quietly pointed my finger at each one of you.) Talking to your Mum made me think of my own Mum - a lovely old lady in Australia. She is really an old lady now and a little put out because the doctor tells her she is not as young as she was and so must be a good and obedient child. (I hope you can understand that upside down state of affairs.) I should like to confess to you that when I was your age, I had not told myself the most important secret that I had one of the best Mums in the world. Part of the secret is that she has played the best game I have ever watched played by any mother. (Now it is my turn to boast!)

I mean she has always played like a champion for her side, so to speak. This means that her time and thought and work and talents and prayers were for her children. Another part of the secret is that my bad ways made her slightly afraid that I might 'let down' our side. I wonder sometimes how many headaches I gave her and how many games I spoilt and lost for her. That wondering gives me the idea that I should give you the tip - to make sure that your Mum never has a headache because you have failed to bowl straight or been off your stroke, or

any of those bad things that spoil the game for everybody concerned. Yes, you fine boys and girls, your first business is to keep the cottage decent and every day to make it a happy place. Mr. Logan and the rest of us who love you, and who are watching you climb the hill by the tracks we have pointed out to you, know for certain that if you keep the cottage merry (and clean) and your Mum delighted, you will be all right when you go out to work. And then our friends in Canada will see what Fairbridge children learn from their Mum.

As I got further on my journey and was passing through New York I thought once again what lucky children you are to be living in that lovely place. Keep it lovely, please!

(Sd.) Gordon Green.

Pintry News

Tom Turner

In the early part of this month, Mr. and Mrs. Logan paid a very short but sweet visit here. On looking for something to do, Mr. Garnett suggested they go up and see old Scotty (an old prospector up in the hills). When they went up there they were lucky to find him out of bed, so he took them up a hill opposite his hut and showed them some sheep grazing. When they left again for Fairbridge, Mr. Gray gave them the first three boxes of cherries to take back with them.

Mr. Stanley Taylor has been appointed packing-house foreman for this season. He seems to be popular among the boys.

Swimming seems to be the only word on everyone's lips after work at nights. The boys go in the Lake three times a day, once in the morning before breakfast, again after work at four o'clock and finishing the day off with a swim after supper for about an hour. Sunday is devoted mostly to swimming.

We have just finished cherry picking and packing. Notwithstanding the broken weather, the quality and pack was excellent. The number of crates of cherries for 1939 is: Kings 400, Lamberts 450, and Royal Annes, which went to the cannery, 4,425 lbs. The boys, along with the men, were picking and a good report has gone to their credit.

The haying at High Farm is in full swing with the temperature about 94 degrees.

The pigs are now doing very well, the last addition being a litter of nine, all thriving. A new piggery which was started early last month is nearing completion. Most of the cement which was put in was mixed by the trainees and all the lumber was cut and milled on the ranch.

All the boys, George White and myself went to the North Okanagan Regatta on July 27th and a good time was enjoyed.

Captain Dun-Waters went on a short vacation to his log cabins up in the hills last month and had quite a good time.

Extract from the Life of Kingsley Fairbridge

One of Kingsley Fairbridge's proudest achievements at Oxford was his defeat of the Hon. J.H.F. Grenfell in 1909 in the light heavy weight boxing University competition. He was given his Blue and represented Oxford vs. Cambridge in the Inter University boxing. He gives a very interesting account of the Grenfell fight in his autobiography. In describing the knock-out he writes "No more deliberately planned hit was ever delivered."

Because of Kingsley Fairbridge's keenness on boxing it is fitting that all Fairbridge boys are taught the manly art.

Kingsley Fairbridge greatly valued his three Oxford years. "But not for the gold of Ophir", he writes, "would I exchange one hour of that Oxford life. A score of faces flit through my memory and bring back the glory of those days; and for all time I give thanks to Allah and to Cecil Rhodes."

Farm News

Cows

The herd has been increased in the month by 4 heifer calves. We now have 52 head of cattle of which only 2 are bulls, Warrior and Duke.

Outside Work

Haying has been completed with a good yield despite the early unseasonable weather. We have yet a second crop of alfalfa to be cut. We gathered 110 tons of hay (approx.)

Letters to the Editor

The following is an extract from a letter to the Editor from John Logan: "Congratulations on the first number of the Fairbridge Gazette. I was lucky enough to be sent a copy here and want to tell you how much I enjoyed reading it. I think it is a very fine effort indeed, and you and the rest of your staff deserve the great credit for having proved such good journalists. . . . It is difficult to say which of all the features I enjoyed most, but I think Arthur Cain's classification of Fairbridge slang was perhaps the most amusing piece to me."

Frank Todd, in a letter to the Editor, describes the life and work at Fintry as follows: "We started work today and have pretty well got on to it. Our rising time is 6.30 A.M., we wash, get dressed and make our beds; there is a bed inspection at 7.05 and breakfast at 7.15. After breakfast we report to the packing house for regular duties and finish at 11.30. In the afternoon we work from one to four o'clock. The evening is spent in various ways, swimming being the most popular recreation.

We are at present thinning apples which we are told will keep us busy for three weeks then we are going to work on the cherries, pears and plums. For work like this we use ladders that are fairly high. Twelve foot ladders are the ones used by the boys."

All Fairbridgians in employment are sent a copy of the Gazette and the following letter of thanks has just been received:

c/o Dr. J.U. Coleman,
Duncan, B.C.

Dear Jimmy,

I just wish to thank you for sending me a copy of the Fairbridge Gazette. It was very kind of you and I appreciate it very much.

Well just let me thank you again.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) Florrie Cowans.

The following is a letter from the Canadian Correspondent at the Molong Fairbridge Farm School.

Fairbridge Farm School,
Molong, New South Wales,
19th June, 1939.

Dear Editor:

As I have been chosen to be the

Canadian correspondent, it gives me the greatest of pleasure to tell you some of the news of the Molong Fairbridge Farm School.

The populace here consists of 84 children, 70 boys and 14 girls and we are eagerly awaiting the arrival of 14 more children on 29th June. They will be initiated with all due ceremonies.

A village council has been formed to decide any matters concerning the welfare of our increasing village. This has been composed of the Principal, the Headmaster, and all precepts approved of by the councils.

Our sporting interests are not forgotten. We have entered for the junior hockey competition. We have won all the matches expect one so far this season and we hope to secure the trophy in our first season.

We had the experience of our Second Annual Molong Show. Among our many successful entries was the winning of the Champion Bull by our Bull "Napoleon" which also secured the championship at the Orange Show. Many of our cows were also very successful in securing first and second prizes.

Our school was officially opened by the Governor-General of Australia last November; there were also many other notable personalities present.

We should greatly appreciate any interesting news about your school.

Yours,
(Sd.) Edwin Lambert.

Employment

John Hunter has taken over the job at Prospect Jersey Farm formerly filled by Henry Brayfield who has returned to Fintry.

Pat Hood has joined John Hunter at Prospect Jersey Farm where they will be working together. We wish them the best of luck.

Geordie White left Fintry for his first employment with Mr. Clarence Howell at Barriere, on a Frontier Farm in the beautiful North Thompson Valley.

Tom Turner has been employed by Mr. Frank B. Elliott, of Shadowbrook Farm, Chemainus. Peter Forrest took over this job for three weeks until

Tom was ready to leave Fintry. He reported for duty on August 17th.

History of Cottage Names

The Farm School buildings take their names from benefactors or friends of the Society who have made some notable contribution to the welfare of the Society.

The Howard Mitchell gymnasium-Auditorium was the gift of the late Mr. Howard Mitchell of Halsway Manor, Somerset. The Farm School Dining Hall is named after Lord Kenilworth who gave a handsome sum to the Society. He also presented most of the pictures in Kenilworth Hall. Lumley Cottage is named for Sir Roger Lumley, Governor of Bombay, who was Chairman of our Society when our Farm School started. Douglas Cottage (present Farm School Hospital) and Pennant Cottage perpetuate the name of one of our noblest benefactors, the late Mrs. Douglas-Pennant. Liverpool Cottage takes its name from the Overseas League, Liverpool Branch, whose members have given generously to the Society.

More explanations of cottage names will appear in the next issue.

News Clippings

"Jock Stewart, fresh from Glasgow, learns plowing, "Canada style", behind a fine pair of Clydesdales. His instructor is Jim Spence. According to Harry Logan, Principal of the School, the demand for graduates of Fairbridge far exceeds the supply."

Toronto Star Weekly, July 15th, 1939.

"The Duke of Gloucester, who is President of the Society and took the chair at yesterday's meeting, referred to the fact that in Canada, the King and Queen were greeted by a party of 200 Fairbridge children--a greeting, he said, which must have had a special meaning for Their Majesties."

London Times Editorial, July 13th, 1939.

News in Brief

Mr. H. Mattin, logging operator from this district, has completed the clearing of the Church site. Messrs. Williams, Trerise & Williams, Contractors, began construction of the Church on August 7th.

Mr. W. J. Garnett paid a visit to the Farm School in July bringing with him his mother--a very charming lady. Mrs. Garnett, after spending several days at Fintry, has returned to her home in Somerset, England.

Mr. Harry Else, a coming farmer, is working at the Farm School with the trainees to learn a little about farming before he starts out on his own. The trainees feel honoured to have Mr. Else working with them.

On July 4th, Miss K. Boulton took over the duties of Girls' Sports Mistress, replacing Miss McAtee who left for her home in Ireland. The girls are continuing to play softball as their evening recreation.

Mr. A. Lincoln has continued to earn the gratitude of Fairbridge children by his frequent visits to cottages with his projector and films.

Opposite the main gate is a new Fairbridge sign post. This was donated by Col. A.A. Sharland. It was designed by Mr. Ross Lort, made by Mr. T. Marr and painted by Mr. Green.

Mr. Plows is helping Mr. Rogers with his duties for the summer holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Logan, Mr. Brown and Dick Speed visited Tom Speed in July at Beaver Creek. They found him well and enjoying his work there.

Peggy Auton is at present in the Farm School Hospital recuperating from a serious operation.

Due, perhaps, to swallowing too many cherry stones, Eric Winchester was operated on recently for appendicitis in the Vernon Hospital. He has returned to Fintry and is doing well.

The Fintry Fairbridge boys played a cricket match against a Kelowna boys' team and were defeated by 138 to 32 runs.

Trainee Club

During the summer months the Club has decided to meet once a month instead of every week. The July meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Morton and the speaker was Mr. J. Morris Smith of Duncan. He gave an interesting talk on Fox Farming and answered a number of questions in the general discussion which followed. Katie Taylor, Vice-President, took the Chair, and Mrs. Morton served refreshments.

On July 26th, twelve members of the Club, Mr. Garnett and his mother, who were visiting the school at the time, Mr. and Mrs. Morton and Mr. Glennie, accepted the invitation of Misses Joyce and Shirley Gooding to a Beach Party at Maple Bay. The evening included swimming, roasting weiners and marchmallows and a sing-song. It was unanimously voted a very successful party.

On August 4th, Lt.-Col. M.V. Allen, of the Provincial Forest Service, gave a talk to the Trainee Club and all other children over twelve. Colonel Allen showed a number of interesting exhibits of Forest Products. In thanking the speaker, Mr. Logan said that he was sure that all present would remember the talk that they had heard as it was quite different to any of the previous lectures on Forestry that have been given at Fairbridge.

Everyone present was determined to do everything possible to prevent forest destruction.

Second Annual Flower Show

On August 19th, the Second Annual Flower Show and Fun Fair was held at the Day School. It was run by the Guides and Cubs, under the direction of Miss M.K. Broadhurst and Mr. A. Lincoln, and was opened by Mrs. Scurrah.

The competition for the largest Maple Leaf was won by Dan Brayfield.

The best collection of vegetables grown in a Fairbridge garden was won by Lumley Cottage. The best iced chocolate cake was won by Pat Webb and Peter Conlon, and Doreen Pleasant won the prize for the best cup cakes.

Any profit made at the Flower Show will go towards Guide and Cub funds.

Swimming Meet

The Annual Swimming Meet was held at the Koksilah River on August 26th. The boys and girls earned points for their Houses if they finished first or second. The Boys' Houses finished in the following order: Blues 20, Blacks and Maroons 19, Greens 5. The Owls led the Girls' Houses with 38 points, with Eagles 18 and Hawks 7.

Dan Brayfield led the boys with 9 points, followed by Keith Pritchard and Kenny Arnison with 4 each.

In the girls' class, Katie Taylor obtained 12 points with Ellen Duffy a close second with 11.

Arrangements were under the direction of Mr. Rogers.

Visitors

Dr. G. F. McNally, Superintendent of Education for Alberta, visited the Farm School on July 19th.

The three Conlon boys, Peter, Pat and Paul, of Lumley Cottage, had a thrill last week when their brother, Snowdon, arrived at the Farm School. Snowdon had hitch-hiked from Toronto and spent a week at Fintry on his way to the Farm School.

After spending several days at the Farm School, Snowdon is now working on a dairy farm in the district.

Members of staff and some of the English School Girls, including a number from Roedean School, who are on a tour of Canada, visited the Farm School on August 26th.

An Overseas Canadian Pacific Railway Tour Party paid a visit to the Farm School on August 27th.

Mr. Owen Dawson, Principal of the Boys' Farm at Shawbridge, P. Q., spent several days at the Farm School.

To date this month, 218 visitors have signed the Visitors' Book, from British Isles 26, Rumania 1, France 2, New Zealand 1, Panama 1, California 6, Oregon 1, Newfoundland 1, Yukon 1, Montreal 2, Ontario 6, Saskatchewan 2, Alberta 12, Vancouver 54, Mainland generally 9, Victoria 63, Duncan 19, other parts of Vancouver Island 11.