

CHAPTER VIIITURN OF THE CENTURY

From the establishment of the Aberdeen mill in Fredericton, in 1894 and on, Donald Fraser, Junior, made his headquarters in this city, where under the direction of his father, he and his brother Archie gave the major portion of their time to the management of the Aberdeen mill operations. In the period from 1896 to 1904, Donald Fraser's two sons and William and Tom Matheson, who were to become increasingly more active in the Fraser interests, were to marry and establish their homes.

In 1898, Donald Fraser Jr. married Mary Tennant, daughter of James Tennant of Woodstock, who was born in Glasgow, Scotland in 1870, and they made their home on Government Lane in the Fraser home built for them not far from the site of the Aberdeen mill. After the death of Mrs. Donald Fraser (wife of the founder,) in 1896, Donald Fraser had made his home with his son, Donald, Jr. and his wife in this Fredericton home.

In 1902, Archibald Fraser married Agnes Dunbar, daughter of Alexander and Matilda Dunbar of Woodstock, thus bringing closer together the two families already bound by the deep interest of their native lands, and through the business associations of Donald Fraser and Alexander Dunbar. Their first home was in Cabano, where the interest and activities of Archibald Fraser was so importantly engaged in the management of the Cabano mill. Two of the only remaining early settlers of Cabano, Mr. and Mrs. V.J. Jackson, who still live there and who were there in 1902 at the time of the marriage, told of Archie bringing his wife to Cabano as a bride, and the good times all of the early residents had there as young people.

In 1896, William Matheson was married to Hannah Elizabeth Wallace in Fredericton,

They moved to Cabano in 1898 and were among those congenial young couples who made up the settlement at that time. However, their happiness was to be short lived, as Mrs. Matheson died at an early age, leaving three small children, Cecil and two small girls. ~~██████████~~ In 1902, William Matheson married his ^{wife's} sister's [?] wife, Mary Elgiva Wallace. In 1903 Mr. Matheson took charge of the newly opened office of Donald Fraser and Sons in St. John in the Canada Life Building. This office was established for the purpose of handling the heavy Trans-Atlantic trade which consisted of large shipments of deals from Aberdeen mill in Fredericton.

In 1904, Andrew Brebner, who was at this time in charge of the office of Donald Fraser & Sons at Cabano, married William and Tom Matheson's sister, Cecilia Mackay Matheson, knitting closer the bonds already strong through mutual native backgrounds and business interests.

During the period from 1900 on, Donald Fraser the founder, was beginning to enjoy the growth and undeniable success of his early efforts, and to be somewhat relieved of the strenuous responsibilities, which his two sons were sharing in more and more,

Other expansions were occurring to enhance the success of the Fraser interests.

Activities were continuing at the River de Chute mill (which was sold in 1909) the highly successful Aberdeen mill and operations in Cabano were in full swing; the St. John office was established; the Muniac Mills were active, and Donald Fraser began to look around for further opportunities for expansion.

As all the limits in Temiscouata County were not on the watershed with an outlet to Temiscouata Lake, a sawmill was built in 1902 at the mouth of Baker Brook, situated about twelve miles northwest of Edmundston, New Brunswick in the Province of ^{MB} ~~Quebec~~, for the purpose of manufacturing logs from the headwaters of Baker Brook.

This site had historic significance to the lumbering world for it was here that the Glasiers had built a sawmill in the early days. In April 1904, Donald Fraser & Sons were seeking incorporation as the Baker Brook Mill Company, for the purpose of erecting a dam and sawmill on the Baker Brook, because it was a tributary on the headwaters of the St. John River, where they had valuable timber limits amounting to somewhere around 70 million feet of lumber. The only available mill site was owned by a Van Buren, Maine Firm, who wanted four thousand dollars for the site. Fraser's offer was one thousand dollars. Being unable to agree on the price, the matter was submitted for legislation, agreeably settled when the original bill was withdrawn from legislation and another, prepared by the Attorney General after a conference with the conflicting interests. The second bill was passed. Under the terms of this settlement, the Government acquired the Baker Brook settlement from the Van Buren company purchase (or expropriation) and leased the site to the Fraser's, at an annual rental of two hundred and fifty dollars. The Fraser's also acquired by purchase the right of flowage upon the adjoining properties. Upon agreeable settlement of the matter, Donald Fraser & Sons proceeded to erect their power dam and sawmill at Baker Brook and began sawing lumber for the mill the following September. The lumber, for export, was shipped over the Temiscouata Railway to deep water terminus of Rivere de Loup. This bill also authorized the Government to acquire the Baker Brook water power and to lease it to the intending manufacturers. The bill was general in its provisions and did not apply to water power in any part of the province.

The Baker Brook mill which was incorporated in 1904 as the Baker Brook Manufacturing Company, operated until destroyed by fire in 1922, but it was rebuilt and continued to operate until a second fire in 1928. In 1907, Andrew Brebner left Cabano to take charge of the Baker Brook mill and its operations. He lived there in the summer, but continued to spend the winters in Cabano, supervising woods operations.

as well as the Cabano mill activities.

In opening the valuable timber limits in the Baker Brook area, this arrangement added to the already successful export operations being carried on from the Aberdeen mill in Fredericton and the Cabano mill in Cabano, the products of the Baker Brook limits being for Trans-Atlantic shipment.

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For several months during the Spring and Summer of 1905, Tom Matheson was away from the Fraser activities. In March of that year, he went to British Columbia to cruise Cedar Valley Limits for his brother, William and himself. In May and June, he worked for the Bangor and Aroostock Railway Company as jobber. However, in 1905 he was back in Cabano working with Archibald Fraser, and it was at this time that Donald Fraser put the responsibility of a controversy regarding the quality of lumber being shipped from Cabano to a firm in Belfast, Ireland, directly on the shoulders of two young men, sending Archie Fraser and Tom Matheson to Belfast in connection with a lawsuit this firm was bringing over the matter. It was a memorable trip for Archie and Tom and a successful one in more ways than one. Tom Matheson speaks of it accurately and in detail today, more than forty years later. Not only was the lawsuit won, by Fraser's by the convincing evidence offered by the two men, but the firm which brought the suit questioning the quality of the products being shipped from Fraser's, discontinued their business the day after the court decision was handed down.

Another important outcome of this trip was that it was while Archie and Tom were abroad, that they met a man in Glasgow, Scotland by the name of George Weston, who owned a pulp mill at Rivere du Loup, P.Q. an electric light plant at the same place

and timber limits on the St. Francis River. Arrangements were made that these limits be cruised by Archie and Tom, and this they did when they got back to New Brunswick in October 1905. On their recommendation, in November of the same year, Donald Fraser purchased the St. Francis timber limits from George Weston, and with his two sons, the two Mathesons, William and Tom and Andrew Brebner, incorporated as the F & M Lumber Company (Fraser & Matheson) with Archibald Fraser elected as President, Andrew Brebner, Vice President and William Matheson, Secretary and Treasurer, and Tom Matheson, Manager. All six were named members of the board.

This expansion in 1905, when the F & M Lumber Company was formed, marked the beginning of Donald Fraser & Sons taking anyone outside of their immediate family into their business ventures. Thomas Matheson had commenced working for Donald Fraser in 1892, William Matheson in 1894 and Andrew Brebner in 1900. The added personnel to participate in carrying on the rapidly growing responsibilities attendant to the rapid and broad growth of the Fraser activities, added greatly to the efficiency of all further expansions of the Fraser interests. The three became Directors of the existing companies and later participated in other management posts, and William Matheson became secretary of the existing companies.

Following the purchase of the St. Francis Timber Limits, the F & M Lumber Company operations included operations at Whitworth in Temiscouata County at two sawmills along the Temiscouata Railway. Along with the titles, woodlots were acquired in the township of Whitworth, Armand and Demers. Tom Matheson was made manager of the Whitworth Mills. One of the mills was destroyed by fire a year later, on New Year's day in 1906. However a new mill was built that Spring. This was only in

operation for four years when fire again destroyed it in 1909. In 1909 Tom Matheson married Oualis Demour. Going back to the Whitworth mills, the second mill rebuilt after the fire of 1909 continued to operate until 1918.

In 1915, the F & M Lumber Company also developed the sawmill property at Estcourt on Lake Pohenegamook in Temiscouata county for sawing logs on the lower St. Francis River and its tributaries. This was also operated under Tom Matheson's management and he lived there until 1926, when he joined the important and fast-growing operations by then established in Edmundston. In this interval between 1917 and 1926, too, he was in charge of three other mills on the limits of the F & M Lumber Company, - these were the Sully, Lac Chamarch and East Lake mills, the latter 95 miles up the river from Edmundston and then 10 miles back from the river in the heart of the Quebec forest. The annual capacity of East Lake was 10 million feet b.m. In 1923 the Quisibis mill property was acquired. It was operated successfully until 1940 when it was sold. From 1933 to 1936, Tom Matheson was also superintendent of this mill.

Tom Matheson retired from active business September 30, 1938 at the age of 65 years having worked forty eight years for the Fraser Companies from his first position at the age of 17 to his various important posts in the companies operations through the intervening years.

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In the year 1902, Fraser's commenced to acquire interests on the Tobique River at Plaster Rock (so called because of the large formation of gypsum on the East bank of the Tobique River where it was located, which, in the early days furnished the material for plaster). The manner in which this occurred, furnished another instance of confidence earned by Donald Fraser through his natural integrity and the success

of his early activities. Now the Royal Bank, to whom he had gone for financial banking in 1898 to finance the later successful Cabano operation, approached him concerning a proposition to take over the Hale and Murchie interests of the nearly insolvent Tobique Manufacturing Company with a sawmill at Plaster Rock. This the Frasers decided to do, and Archibald Fraser was appointed Managing Director of the Tobique Manufacturing Company. An early minute book recording a directors meeting in the strong, legible handwriting of William Matheson, Secretary records the first directors meeting of the company held in Woodstock at which the first record of operations was recorded: "

"Resolved, that the Tobique Manufacturing Company permit Messers Donald Fraser & Sons to lumber in what is known as "railway lands" held by this company under lease for the coming winter, they paying such rates of stumpage as are fixed in such railway leases and also paying this company for the supplies and other materials used or expended in the operation on said lands up to the present time at cost price, and said Donald Fraser & Sons to pay their Company a reasonable sum for the use of houses or other property used by them in said operation in a memorandum of the lease of the above on the said terms to be prepared and executed by the Vice President under the seal of the Company." Shortly after this entry in March 1906 the capital stock of the Tobique Manufacturing Company was taken over by Frasers ~~Company~~ and the name changed to the Fraser Lumber Company, Limited.

A news item from the Fredericton Gleaner of May 1904 gives an idea of the stream-driving activities of Plaster Rock at this time, as well as the extent of employment both at this location and at Cabano. It reports:

"Donald Fraser Jr. of Donald Fraser and Sons, has returned from the scene of his

firms driving operations along the streams of the Tobique. Mr. Fraser reports that conditions for driving are good, there being plenty of water and lots of snow in the woods. The firms five crews aggregate in the vicinity of 500 men and have made good progress and expect to be incorporation limits in a few days. Messers Fraser have about as many men again employed in their operations on the Cabano."

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By 1905, the Fraser operations had grown from the original River du Chute and Muniac mills to the Baker Brook mill, the Whitworth operation and the extensive operations at Plaster Rock, Cabano and Fredericton. In August of that year occurred an event which was equally a loss to the Fraser interests and the city of Fredericton. About six o'clock on August 11, the Aberdeen mill, together with a tremendous amount of lumber stacked in the mill yards was completely destroyed by a devastating fire. It was called by the Fredericton Gleaner "The most disastrous from the viewpoint of ^{money} value that had ever visited Fredericton, approached only by the conflagration of 1850. " This newspaper went on to graphically describe the fire as follows:

"The fire raged from six o'clock on August 11 until midnight and continued to smolder on all through the night. The loss of the mill and lumber in the yards was complete. For a time, it was greatly feared that the fire would spread to the property in the city. Glass in the windows of the nearby homes of Messers Alex McLean, McGuire, Green and Peterson was cracked by the heat and much of their furniture was damaged by hasty removal. Every effort was required to save the company's large boarding house and offices."

"It seemed a miracle that the fire claimed no lives for the fire originated on the first floor of the mill beneath the clapboard machine. What ignited the flame is not known, whether an overheated journal or friction of a wood pulley or how the first spark was ignited. The men working near the clapboard machine saw a volume of

flames shoot upwards and then rush through the mill with a roar that was terrific and an incredible speed. So fast did the flames seize on the oily timbers and dry shavings that one hundred men in and about the mill barely had time to escape with their lives. There was no opportunity for many even to seize their coats and vests from nearby pegs and many of the employees lost clothing which contained valuables. Not all could get out of the doorways and windows and the slip back of the mill was used as an exit. As it was, some of the men had their hair and whiskers singed. It was feared for a time that all might not escape, but finally all who had been working in the mill were accounted for."

"Although the mill was splendidly equipped with fire fighting apparatus, several lines of the hose in each floor being attached to a powerful steam pump and with hogsheads of water and innumerable pails about, so quickly did the flames spread that not a finger could be raised to stay the progress of the raging fire from basement to roof."

"The flames escaped to adjoining immense piles of lumber and shingles and laths, in the yard and the terrific heat caused by the dry burning lumber caused wood hundreds of feet away to leap into flame. The nearest hydrant to the scene of the fire was opposite the old Government House about a quarter of a mile away, and it required all of the available hose to stretch one line and then it did not reach within one hundred yards of the mill. Many citizens were disposed to criticize the feebleness of the water supply, but when it is remembered that the water main on Government Lane is only four inches in diameter, that from the hydrant was reduced to a two and a half inch hose, and that was again divided by a Siamese coupling, the wonder is that there was any pressure at all. ^{At} The pumping station the pressure was kept at 90 pounds while for a fire in the town or on Queen Street, the pressure was run up to 80 pounds and 70 pounds for a fire in the back portion of the city. The normal water

pressure was forty pounds. In addition to the Fredericton fire department, which responded quickly and made a noble effort to stem the flames, the nearby Amoskeag steam fire engine which was kept at nearby Morrison's mills, was obtained by a number of former firemen. A four horse team was sent for the engine; but when it arrived and had been placed on the bank of the river on the upper side of the mill site, an hour or more was lost in securing hose. About all of the city's hose was in use and that which was on the Fraser premises would not fit the engine. However by valiant service, the big boarding house, so greatly endangered by the flames, was saved."

"At one time, about nine o'clock, apprehensions were held that the city was in danger as the wind seemed to be veering so as to carry the cinders over the building at the West End, and incipient fires were started at several places in Wilmont Park, but were stamped out. By 10 o'clock, all danger of further spread of the fire was passed but many hundred people remained on the scene until after midnight, the St. John River was dotted with craft of every kind from which occupants viewed the scene. The firemen remained at their posts all night playing two streams upon the embers and water continued to be poured on the smoking ruins all of the next day. The loss of the mill and lumber in the yard was so complete the field was left as bare as it was before the mill was ever there. All that remained were mounds of ashes. In the lower yard was piled all of this season's cut of boards, about 60,000 dressed clapboard and 100,000 shingles, as well as a lot of plank and special dimension stock ready for shipment to the South American market. In the ordinary course of events all of this lumber would have been shipped the previous month, but at the request of the buyers, it had been held. Two steamer loads had already been shipped and another vessel was still in St. John to be loaded the

following Monday. Among the spectators of the fire was a gentleman who had come to Fredericton to see about the shipment of lumber. He remarked that he might as well go home,-- there was now nothing more for him to do. In a shed near the river bank were stored about \$10,000 worth of finished box shooks no part of which was saved. A liberal estimate of the lumber in the yard was three and a half to four million board feet, valued at an average of \$12 per thousand. The probably loss on lumber and other stock destroyed was \$80,000 and the total loss, approximately \$100,000. About one half of the loss was covered by insurance, it being a policy of the firm to keep its mills and lumber well insured and never less than one-half of their market value."

"At the time of the fire, none of the three Fraser men were in Fredericton. Mr. Donald Fraser was in St. John and received the news by wire. He arrived on an evening train two and a half hours after the fire had started. Donald Fraser Jr, was at Plaster Rock and Archie Fraser who was at the Cabano mill, arrived later in the evening. "

"Because of the large amount of local employment attendant on the Aberdeen mill operations, Donald Fraser was questioned concerning the probability of the firm rebuilding the mill. He indicated it would be impossible to decide anything at once, since it would be impossible to get a mill running again this season and arrangements would be made to have the company's logs sawn in St. John with the hope that they would be able to fill the contracts they had made! This was done, and the Aberdeen mill was never rebuilt. During the First World War, the Aberdeen Mill Site was Military District Headquarters from which troops were sent out. Today the old boarding house and office is a Children's Home, which it has been, since shortly after the fire in 1905.

Following the Aberdeen mill fire in Fredericton, Fraser's closed their St. John office since this was no longer required to handle the Trans-Atlantic shipments of the Aberdeen mill at this terminal. William Matheson, who had been in charge of the St. John office went to Cabano to live in October 1905 and to make his headquarters for activities which were, by this time, Chief Accountant as well as Secretary of all Fraser Companies. With him, too, went young Roy Saunders, who had started working for Fraser's in the St. John office.

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Following the Aberdeen fire in 1905, Donald Fraser and his son, Donald Jr and wife moved to Plaster Rock where the latter built his home. Five years later, in 1910, Archibald Fraser and his wife and family moved to the Fraser house in Fredericton. In August of that year (1905) when Donald Fraser took over the management of the Plaster Rock division and all small portable mills along the Tobique, operations consisted of the manufacture of lumber, shingles and clapboard. Here, again, too, the Dunbar Clapboard machine was in use. Much of this production was for the New England and New Hampshire markets. There was also a dressing mill at Plaster Rock. As in Cabano, at Plaster Rock about 1912, piano sounding boards were manufactured from choice, specially selected spruce.

In the earlier days, much of the wood cut on the Tobique River had been destined for sawmills on the St. John River at Fredericton and St. John, N.B. Thus, to facilitate the driving, sorting and handling of wood cut on the Tobique, in 1895 the Tobique Log Driving Company was incorporated, the first Directors being George T Baird, George A. Murchie, Richard A. Estey, Adam A. Beveridge and Donald Fraser, representing Donald Fraser & Sons.

Regarding the Tobique River drives of long lumber which usually started in May and

must be completed by August in order to connect up with the St. John River drives, by 1910 there were from 800 to 1000 men working on the combined Miller and Fraser drives. Frasers would have from 15 to 18 million feet and Miller 5 to 7 million feet in the drive, approximately 1000 men being required for the combined drive. . . which gives some indication of the importance of long lumber in those days in New Brunswick.

By this time the community of Plaster Rock had a population of and contained a hotel and a boarding house, livery stable, the later being used for saddle horses to supply those who came to the Tobique River District. It was a great mecca for sportsmen from all over the United States and Canada in those days, for the fine Atlantic salmon fishing that today continues to attract fishermen from everywhere. Speaking of the hunting in that area in the early days, Mr. R.G. Macfarlane who is today head of all woods operations for Fraser Companies Limited and who had gone to Plaster Rock in 1910, tells of coming down to the station platform one morning and seeing 24 moose heads which hunters were taking back as trophies. As late as 1910, there were many moose, deer and bear there. However a forest fire that occurred in a nearby area in 1923 (not at the time owned by Frasers, though part of the properties today) and this fire had the effect of driving out practically all moose. Other large fires in the section destroyed the wild life over a period of years.

Mr. Macfarlane first worked in Plaster Rock for Frasers. In 1913, when the tragic drowning of his brother, W.C. Macfarlane occurred there, he was put in charge of the office work. He worked into the position of Acting Superintendent under Donald Fraser, Jr. and in 1915 became Superintendent continuing in that post until moved to Edmundston in 1930. From 1913 to 1917 he also was Treasurer of Fraser and Lumber Company. Over the intervening years he has become more and more active

in the supervision of woods operations of the company. In 1933 he was appointed Manager of Fraser Companies Limited and Restigouche Companies Limited lumbering and logging division in charge of all of these operations for the company, a post he today continues to head up in the organization.

In June 1914, Donald Fraser Jr. married Miss Katherine Macfarlane, daughter of the late Alexander Macfarlane, Dunoon Scotland and Mrs. Alexander Macfarlane of Kingsley and sister of R.J. Macfarlane.

Donald Fraser Jr. had, from the first been a very public spirited man, interested in anything concerning the welfare of the Province. One of his most outstanding activities was his work in relation to temperance. He was head of the New Brunswick Temperance Alliance which was very active at the time, and was particularly keen during his lifetime in leading the fight in the Province against the abandonment of prohibition for liquor control, working with the Lieutenant Governor of the Province, Hon. W.G. Clark in this cause.

In his own community, his interest centered around those in his employ and like his father, and brother Archie, evidenced interest in the welfare of those employed by the company. He was also a philanthropist who gave to worthy causes with no desire for publicity, contributing on a large scale to such organizations as the churches, the Salvation Army and too, in personal ways, helped many an individual, having financed several young men in their college courses.

One of Donald Fraser Jr.'s special hobbies was growing flowers. Not only did he import roses from all over the United States and a number each year from Scotland, but he was known for the gorgeous gladiolas he grew. His flowers served as bouquets in the Plaster Rock church during all of the summer and fall months. His nephew, Donald, tells, too,

of an experiment he made with wild flowers, transplanting wild orchids, or moccasin flowers, as they are also called, from along the St. John River and the nearby woods to his garden near his home in Plaster Rock. At one time he had as many as eleven rare varieties of these native wild flowers in his garden. He also was keenly interested in fine cattle, and brought over the first Short Horn cattle from Scotland that were ever imported into Eastern Canada. He had built up his herd to sixty head, when it was completely destroyed in a fire.

This love of fine stock was shared by his brother, Archie, who was particularly keen about horses, a subject on which he became quite an authority. An interesting sidelight of this hobby is the fact that his first source of information was the circulars which came in linement boxes. These he read with avid interest and kept as part of his "library" as a boy. Archie's first contact with horses had been with "Nellie" the little mare his father bought for his mother in Hiver de Chute. "Everyone in and around the colony knew Nellie,-- she was quite a popular character."

In the early days at the turn of the century, when the Aberdeen, Cabano and Plaster Rock mills were at the height of their activity, this knowledge of horses stood him in good stead, for they were used for transportation in and around the yards and woods operations. These he brought over from Prince Edward Island, the horses being just the right type for woods operations, running in weight from 1400 to 1800 pounds apiece, not too large, not too small. Later when Western ranch horses became very cheap, the Prince Edward Island breeders were forced to go out of business. Frasers then got the Western horses in Montreal. At the peak of lumbering activities in the early days, around 1920, there were about 450 horses being used in the various Fraser operations, and at that time, a veterinarian

spent all of his time traveling from one mill to another to inspect the horses and keep them in good shape. Fraser's was one of the first to swing away from the use of horses to mechanized transportation. Around 1910, they bought several of Alex Dunbar's Steam Log Haulers for hauling logs from the headwaters of Green River to the Cabano watershed for the Cabano sawmill. However, due to the extra expense required in making roads and their upkeep, these log haulers were found to be impractical and too expensive to operate unless used in large operations in one locality over a number of years. After two or three years their use was discontinued. In 1921 a study made by practical woodsmen, which was reported during the Canadian Pulp and Paper Convention meeting of the "Woodlands Division" that year, showed that motor hauling cut woods operations cost as high as 70% and reported that the day of the horse in logging camps was passing, except for special jobs which they were particularly well suited for. From 1916 on, tractors were extensively used because they offered the advantage of making possible the layout of a plan in the autumn that could be carried on all through the winter regardless of weather conditions, since the operator could be sure of getting all of his logs out.

After Fraser's first experiment in mechanization in the woods with the Steam Log Haulers, they next attempted mechanical conveyance in 1918, purchasing several four and six cylinder Lombard Tractors. The smaller four cylinder tractors were eventually discarded but the six cylinder units were in use for a number of years in several of the company's operations in the Province of Quebec and New Brunswick. All during this time, however, horses continued to be used in a large number of operations that would not warrant building semi-permanent roads for mechanical haulers, and today they still continued to be used for such operations as snaking out logs during sap peeling operations in the woods.

It was around 1928 that the company began to make use of trucks, principally for

transporting pulpwood and around 1934 purchased Diesel bulldozers for making woods roads. Today the company's transportation units consist oftractors,...trucks... certainly a far cry from the first steam loghaulers Fraser's first tried out in pioneering their use in 1910. In fact, this instance marks the first use of any mechanized conveyance in woods operations by any company in Eastern Canada.

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Going back to the early days in Plaster Rock, among the activities in relation with the mill there, was a large employees picnic held each year on July first, Dominion Day. Donald Fraser Jr. used to provide fireworks as well as food for the occasion and these annual events were looked forward to with pleasure by the entire community of Plaster Rock. Mrs. Fraser, too, was untiring in her efforts to help her husband make this annual event a success. It was shortly after the celebration held in July 1911, that her sudden death occurred. At the same time, her sister-in-law, Agnes Dunbar Fraser was seriously ill in a Montreal hospital, and within a week, she too died, leaving her husband with two small sons and a daughter. Like their father, both sons, Donald Jr and Archibald lost at an early age, their wives who had aided them so materially in building the success of their activities from early days, as well as contributing materially to the welfare of their respective communities.