

MEMORANDUM FROM GEORGE DALE : 26<sup>th</sup> April 1982.

Because I couldn't remember of what his father was Professor and why he left Montreal I wrote Geoff Dale to ask him. I also asked him if he could remember how it was on Lake Memphremagog. This is how he replied:

"Father was Professor of Education at McGill from 1908 - 1920. He took leave of absence in 1918 to organize the Lake University in England and stayed there until 1920. He felt that there was an understanding that he would be the next Dean of Arts at McGill, but Maysa had the job when he returned from overseas. So Father started to look around for new jobs finally settling on the U of Toronto where he established the School of Social Science, starting in 1921. He had an old house with an apartment, a secretary and a janitor. Now the School is a block long and four stories high."

"I have been trying to think of anecdotes and coming up dry. I remember a long string of distinguished visitors at the Howards and the Murphys and the Dales. We should have kept a list. I remember us walking through the bush with your father carrying a peculiar instrument — bill hook on one side and cleaver on the other — and telling us about the plants and trees, and the uses the Indians used to make of them. I remember going down the Lake in the 'Lady Jane' on velvet bleacher nights, with your father telling us about the stars, naming the constellations as he pointed them out to us. And the lectures on fishing — where and how to catch each variety and how to cook them. [You and I got up at 4 a.m. once to go fishing and didn't catch one!]"

I was entertained with the Judge's lectures, but I seem to remember that you girls were occasionally disenchanted. I wish I could remember all the things he told us."

How discerning of Geoff! I used to feel terribly guilty not always listening to Daddy — I was so longing to run and explore on my own and there never seemed a way, without being rude, of interrupting him: in

in the Lobby. Some on velvet chairs nights, with your father telling us about the stars, naming the constellations as he pointed them out to us. And the lectures on fishing — where and how to catch each variety and how to cook them. [You and I got up at 4 a.m. once to go fishing and didn't catch one!] I was entranced with the Judge's lectures, but I seem to remember that you girls were occasionally disenchanted. I wish I could remember all the things he told us."

How discerning of Geof! I used to feel terribly guilty not always listening to Daddy — I was so longing to run and explore on my own and there never seemed a way, with our being rude, of interrupting him: in fact, no way whatever. However, Astronomy was another thing. That always fascinated me.

Daddy had an astounding memory! I remember marching along the road to the beat of "Marchion" as <sup>he recited</sup> great hunks of ~~text~~ it.

Elizabeth Cartwright was the Director of the School of Physical Education. <sup>McGILL UNIVERSITY,</sup> <sup>TIEN</sup> and spent a lot of time with the Dales. Geof remembers her

"Greenish dances on the 'sward' — in bare feet and tunic, with lighted torches. As far as I can remember the torch caught fire only once. Father was entranced. Mother was not. The time the tunic caught fire was at a bonfire party either at your place or the Murrays'. The dance was the cultural event of the evening. I imagine that we also had one of Howard Murray's ghost stories, and that the Judge led us in singing "Steelies" and "Abide the Rubbed Answer!"

Indeed I do remember Howard Murray's ghost stories, particularly one told in the upper room of our Bear house to the accompaniment of a flashing thunderstorm which had wiped out the picnic. It ended: "It fears, it fears" (in sepulchral tones) and the scared audience aching: "What

CEDAR LODGE  
THE DALES



1922: THE TWINS AND ALMA STAYED AT CEDAR LODGE WHILE DADDY AND JANE WERE OUT WEST FOR A BAR CONVENTION HELD IN BANFF. HERE WE ARE WITH GEOFF, STEPHEN, MRS DALE, PROF. DALE, PHILIP AND A GUEST ON THEIR WHARF.

GEOFF DIED OF CANCER ON 2nd SEPT. 1985



PROF. AND MRS DALE ON THEIR WHARF LOOKING SOUTH.



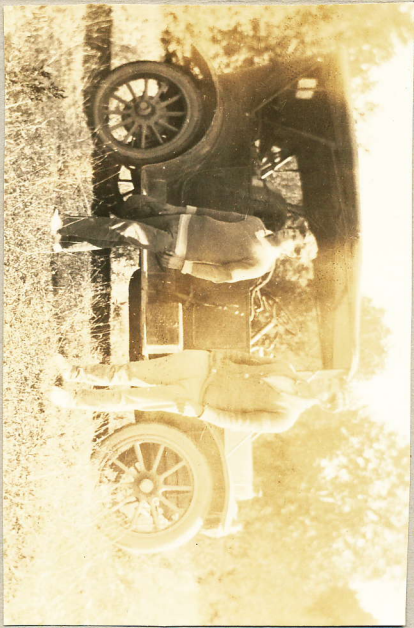
1925: THE DALE FAMILY



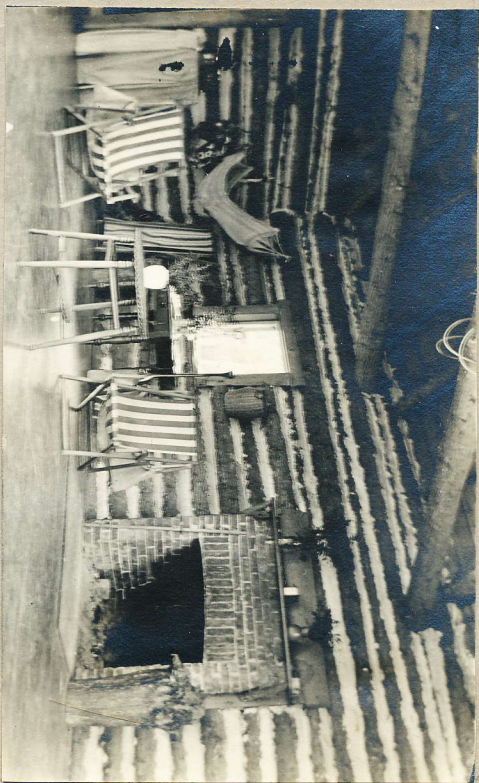
ON 2nd SEPT. 1985



1925: THE DALE FAMILY



1925: GEOF AND STEPHEN WITH CAR



floors?" "Ivory Soap" says Howard Murray. Roars of laughter — every time!

Geoff ends his letter with a couple of P.S.s.

1. "Were you with us the night we slept on the top of Owl's Head and our breakfast fire started to get out of control? We had to rush water up from the Spring half way down to put it out." (I don't think I remember this, so perhaps it was a Dale adventure, A Howard wouldnt have been so careless!)

2. "Once Alma and I teamed up in the mixed doubles rowing event as one of your Regattas. I broke my oar. Alma won the mixed doubles event unassisted." (which reminds me (Hayes) that Dr. Penfield and I won the mixed doubles canoe race in one of the Regattas. He, of course, was Stern and set the pace — and what a pace!)

Geoff also asks if I remember going to his father for help in translating "Oh, my darling Clementine" into Latin. This was for a school performance all in Latin. Miss Bryan, the Senior Misses at Traf and a superb teacher, translated "Pyramus and Thisbe" from 'the tedious brief scene' played by Bottom and his friends in "A Midsummer Night's Dream". I was the lioness and reared, it was said, most convincingly from inside a manvelous costume with ~~eyes~~! Could that be, by passing a butter on a butterfly - Two girls were the wall holding their fingers to form the chink through which Pyramus and Thisbe exchanged their vows. The only other thing I can remember is the wonderful chorus at the end which we all chanted: "Hei, Mihi! <sup>betwixt my arms!</sup> <sup>et Thisbe</sup> mortui sint!" And then came the singing of which I can remember only two lines: They sounded like this: "Oh, delicious! Oh, amores! Oh, per mosa Claudia! In aeternum perisente, vade plene, Claudia!" (Perhaps some Latin scholar can correct it.)

The last quote from Geoff's letter is this: "I think I have told you that roses remind me of your mother. It was one of my privileges to help her when she was putting them in the garden, wearing a wide-brimmed straw hat and gloves and looking serene and beautiful."

not only were they exchanged their views. The only other thing I can remember is the word chosen at the end which we all changed: "Hoi, Mili!" <sup>or "Hi, Mili!"</sup> "matui sint!" And then came the singing of which I can remember only two lines: They sounded like this: "Oh, delicious! Oh, amores! Oh, for mesa Claudia! In aeternum pericerte, vasa plene, Claudia!" (Perhaps some Latin scholar can correct it.)

The last quote from Grop's letter is this: "I think I have told you that reason remind me of your mother. It was one of my privileges to help her when she was gathering them in the garden, wearing a wide-brimmed straw hat and gloves, and looking serene and beautiful."

Daddy was really interested in and knowledgeable about Astronomy. Not only did he teach us children — waking us at any old time of night to see the aurora borealis or some in frequent planet — he also gave lectures for the general public in the Physics Building at McGill. To these we were taken just as automatically as we were taken to performances of the Gyley Carle Company or The Musical or Harry Houdini. Once, I remember, he lectured to the deaf and dumb patients at the Mackay Institute on Shakespeare's *Seneca* plays. That was fascinating because an interpreter stood beside Daddy translating into sign language all that Daddy was saying. We also attended Dr. A.S. Swell's public lectures in Physics (Dr. Eric van Rutherford Professor of Physics at McGill)

At the Farm we had a fairly high-powered telescope. Sadly the 50 mag. lens was lost in the years we thought, (I think Swell, or one of her children, now has it), I remember vividly the moment I grasped the meaning of what 400 light years (which is the distance between Arcturus and the Earth) meant. I was about 12 and the realization of this vastness was a shock beyond imagination which stayed with me for weeks.



The telescope on the veranda of the New House. It was also useful for spying on those in boats on the lake, or in this case skating or skiing.

CORRECTION

- Nov. 1983 -

I am wrong about Miss Bryan's authorship of "Pyramus and Thisbe". Evelyn has just handed me her copy of "Olim", a collection of plays and dialogues in Latin. It was published in England for use in schools. We were in Form IV A in 1924. Evelyn had a speaking part - one of Thisbe's two friends. We also sang in Latin "God save the King", "O Canada" and "Drink to me only with thine eyes".

Also, this photo has just come from Geoff. It, too, I think is 1924 when the tennis court was pretty new



Hazel, Daddy, Prof. Dale  
Mother, Mrs Dale,  
Stephen Dale, Jane  
Evelyn  
Geoff. Dale, Alma, Miss  
Cartwright ("Carty")  
Philip Dale

About the Hancocks

Geof. Dale tells me that Prof. Hancock was a friend of Mr. Davis whose camp was just South of "Cedar Lodge". Mr. Davis, Geof. thinks, was perhaps a publisher in New York, or a writer of some sort. The Hancocks camped with the Davis' and the Dales, as well as the Howards, on several occasions. Some of their experiences were pretty rough, such as the time when they were camping in the Dales' pasture with cows present. The camper folded open making the sides into two large beds: Mr. and Mrs. on one side and the three girls on the other. The cows found the bottom of the beds excellent back-scratching boards and one night scratched the beds into complete collapse tumbling everyone onto the ground!

About the Eclipse

A total eclipse of the Sun took place in the afternoon of August 31<sup>st</sup> 1932 for which a lot of important people gathered at the Hermitage Country Club (Mapes). I seem to remember that Daddy had something to do with the arrangements and in his files there is a folder of clippings and articles, etc. The very sad thing was that the event was almost a tragedy since the sky was pretty well obliterated by cloud. Daddy writes about it in a letter to Alma — then at Leamington.