

Ada's Mustard Pickles

Stirling, Ontario

Adaline McCurdy, or Ada, as she was known, was born in 1891 and came from a long line of United Empire Loyalist settlers who had homesteaded in the Stirling area. Dark- haired with deep eye's, Ada's family had dutch, German, and Irish ancestry. She was distantly related- a third cousin five times removed- to Martin Van Buren Sr., the eighth President of the United States of America.

In 1908, Ada graduated from the Lindsay Model School where she met Donald "Dan" McQuarrie, whose family had resided in Eldon Township since about 1851. They were both training to be teachers. Dan and Ada were married in 1915, and welcomed their first child later that year. They would go on to have four other children, with the youngest being born in 1930, a year before they relocated from Argyle to Lindsay, where Dan had been appointed as registrar of deeds.

Ada died in 1955 of cancer, aged 64.

Recipe

Submitted by Ian McKechnie

Ingredients:

- 1 quart large cucumber
- 1 quart large onion
- 2 red peppers
- 2 green peppers
- 1 large cauliflower
- 1 quart small onions (left whole)
- 1 quart small gherkins (left whole)

Put all ingredients in brine. overnight. Drain well in the morning and make a dressing of:

- 4 cups white sugar
- 1 oz mustard seed
- 1 oz celery seed
- 1/2 cup flour
- 2 tablespoons mustard
- 2 tablespoons turmeric

