

HOMEMAKERS' ARTICLE 1976-1978

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- 41) August 30, 1977, letter, Department of Community Health & Epidemiology, Queens University to the Honourable Pauline McGibbon, page 1
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- 44) November 11, 1977, letter, Sheila Snow Fraser to Rene Caisse
- 45) November 16, 1977, letter, Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation, K.J.R. Wightman to Ilse Verway
- 46) January 9, 1978, letter, L. Granger to Dr. F.M.Fyfe
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- 48) June 27, 1978, Sheila Snow Fraser Diary notes, 5 pages, letter to Malcolm?

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RENE CAISSE

I was introduced to Rene Caisse by my father's physician, who was also her doctor, in September, 1974. He was fascinated with Rene's tales about Essiac and the records of case histories she possessed to back up its credibility, and believed that I too would become intrigued because my mother had died of cancer in the late 1960s at the Brace-bridge hospital, only a few blocks from the nurse's home.

Not only was I caught up in the story of her long struggle to convince the CMA of Essiac's efficacy (merits), but I also began to believe that this herbal remedy was the cure for cancer. Nearly eighteen years later, I recognize (realize) that many herbs may help to alleviate cancer, which three out of four Americans may eventually succumb to, and that they deserve to receive a thorough investigation.

At first, I was surprised at her unwillingness to let me take home some of her scrapbooks to examine but agreed to make notes about them in her presence. As she observed by deepening interest in her career as "Canada's Cancer Nurse", a title given to her by many patients from across Canada, she permitted me to remove certain articles to study at my leisure and each time I did so, I left a list of those I had taken with my signature attached. This increased her trust in me and gradually over the next two years, we became friends because she knew that I believed in her Essiac and wanted others to hear about her years of dedication to having it recognized by the medical profession as a treatment for cancer.

In (late) 1976 I sent an outline of an article about Rene to various Canadian magazines but it wasn't until December (of that year) that the Homemaker's Magazine staff (editorial) became interested because one of them had recently died of cancer. So early in January, 1977, research got under way to check out the details of her story. Because there was the possibility of her story being published, Rene willingly offered those in charge many of her coveted case histories and records and permitted us to make copies of them. We were also ^{also} allowed to search the Ontario Archives in Toronto to gather more objective material from a general viewpoint rather than Rene's subjective one.

An interview was set up that month to interview Dr. Chester Stock, Vice-President of New York's Sloan Kettering Institute and with Dr. Charles Brusch, who was in charge of the Brusch Clinic in Cambridge, Massachusetts, because he had carried out studies on human patients and mice with Essiac under the nurse's supervision in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

2017-2102

MASSACHUSETTS
NICK



JEFFREY W. SHEARER
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

December 7, 1976

Ms. Sheila Fraser
Coronado Towers #801,
705 North Atlantic Avenue,
New Smyrna Beach,
Florida 32069,
U.S.A.

Dear Sheila:

Was pleased to hear from you as I had been attempting to contact you for just over two weeks.

Received your manuscript, have read it and discussed it with the Editor of Homemaker's Magazine. Both the Editor, Jane Hughes and I are extremely interested in your piece. It goes without saying, that if the story holds up in every detail, it's a real blockbuster, but obviously one which will require a great deal of editorial research and authentication of pertinent facts prior to publishing.

If you can get your research to us, including all the documentation you have, we are prepared to dig in editorially researching the piece immediately. If you're not going to be back in Toronto or Muskoka until January or February, would it be possible for someone to get that research and documentation to me (since I'm up there every weekend) and I will ensure its security and confidentiality on behalf of Homemaker's Magazine.

Incidentally, I feel that Homemaker's Magazine is the appropriate Comac publication, since it has the broadest circulation, 1,500,000 in English and French, and distributed in 31 cities. In addition, it has a French language counterpart, Madame Au Foyer, which is distributed throughout the major cities in Quebec.

Continued

MK-

Ms. Sheila Fraser

December 7, 1976

In summary, we are interested in your article and are prepared to do a thorough researching of all the facts. We are also quite impressed by your writing style and believe it an ideal one for the type of reportage necessary for this type of feature.

Please let me know at your earliest, how we might begin work on this article.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John' or similar, with a stylized flourish.

cc: Jane Hughes



Jan 5/77 I fly from Florida to Toronto.

January

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JANUARY	until noon	up to six	in the evening
16 Sunday	1 p.m. visit to Rene		
17 Monday	Evening - zeroxed papers		
18 Tuesday	Evening - zeroxed papers		
19 Wednesday			
20 Thursday	Interview with May Henderson		
21 Friday	Jeff returns borrowed papers to Rene and I spend weekend in Gravenhurst with the McGinns. (Ride with Jeff)		
22 Saturday			



February

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FEBRUARY	<i>until noon</i>	<i>up to six</i>	<i>in the evening</i>
6 Sunday			
7 Monday	Returned to Toronto from Florida		
8 Tuesday	Visit to Rene		
9 Wednesday			
10 Thursday			
11 Friday	New York - SKI		
12 Saturday			

SHEILA SNOW FRASER DIARY

Essiac Story 1977 February 12th

I believe that Rene has always been afraid of an outside investigation - interviewing doctors from the past or early years. She may have been told at one time that she couldn't patent this remedy (only the one herb was discussed with Dr. Stock at SKI). Even though she knew that her kidney pill had helped cancer of the prostate, and that she couldn't advertise it as a cancer remedy, she went ahead to have it produced and marketed. Could it be that the one herb and its hypodermic injection method could not be marketed as such, but that the other three could be, as a combination?

Desire for personal recognition can be as dangerous as greed for money; both completely hinder helping "suffering humanity".

Does Leo Roy have the complete formula or just the other three herbs? Does he know what the main herb is?

The fact that she tells us that the ampules have been in room temperature for twenty-five years makes me think that some of them may also have been used in the interim! Does she have confidence in their power after all this time?

Rene can be sly. She knows how to build up a doctor's trust in her - she allowed some to learn a bit about the other three herbs.

Does Rene visualize Essiac as only sheep sorrel? Or a combination of all four? In her letters to Dr. Stock, one could feel just how vitally important the sheep sorrel was to her. The other three weren't used in testing at all. I believe that Rene is essentially honest. Her letters to Stock seem to reveal that she has never confided this secret to anyone before.

Yet Leo Roy intimates that she sold her formula to a doctor in Orlando, and that the formula failed. Would that particular doctor have confided in Dr. Roy about the ingredients in the remedy? Leo Roy worked in that area for some years, apparently.

The most important thing is to try to get this sheep sorrel tested correctly, simultaneously on both animals (injected with human carcinoma) and people who have been diagnosed as having cancer.



February

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FEBRUARY	<i>until noon</i>	<i>up to six</i>	<i>in the evening</i>
13 Sunday			
14 Monday	<i>St. Valentine's Day</i>		
15 Tuesday	<i>'Battle day' at Rene's after Sloane - lettering</i>		
16 Wednesday			
17 Thursday			
18 Friday			
19 Saturday			<i>pub</i>

		MARCH						
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MONDAY 14 FEBRUARY

Office Meeting - plan
of soft attack - the
'stroking' plan. At that
moment we believed Rene would
be pleased about Sk willing
to test further. Hot Line!
Contacted Dr Stock at Rye
& he restated that he would test
Contacted Brusch & he reported
patient improving after 9 days
of treatment.

TUESDAY 15 FEBRUARY

Visit to RENE
Shocked to learn Carroll had
been to S.K. in N.Y.
We learned about 20,000
ampules being destroyed
Rene tentatively agreed to
send more material to S.K.
if she received letter instructing
her to do so
Left her in an uneasy state
of truce.
Lunch at Holiday House \$3.35

Homemaker's

Magazine

16th February, 1977

Dr. C. Chester Stock
Memorial Sloan-Kettering
Cancer Centre
1275 York Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10021
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Stock:

Thank you very much for being available when we needed to contact you, and thank you too for all the help and co-operation you have given us.

We went to see Mrs. McGaughey yesterday to tell her that you had agreed to do further experimenting with Essiac at the Sloan-Kettering Institute. At this interview, she stated that she would be willing to send you both the Essiac herb for the serum and the other three herbs which complete the Essiac treatment when administered orally, provided she receives a letter from you requesting this. These are the herbs which she did not make available to you during your first tests.

The doctor using the Essiac group of herbs orally instead of hypodermically, reported on Tuesday that his terminal cancer patient is definitely showing improvement after taking one ounce of this brew each day for nine consecutive days. His terrible pain is subsiding, his appetite is improving, and he can now get some sleep at night. Since this is just the oral method, which is the way Rene Caisse McGaughey began the treatment initially back in 1922, we cannot but feel hopeful that today in 1977, this combination of herbs from Ontario is still successful in alleviating the last painful stages of terminal cancer.

Mrs. McGaughey told us both yesterday that she was going to send more Essiac material to this doctor, at his request, so he can treat other patients with terminal cancer. We can only hope and pray that sometime, somehow, this herbal combination will be accepted as a cancer remedy for those who wish to try it.

MORE



For the present time, would you please refrain from mentioning that Sheila Fraser accompanied me to New York to see you? Rene McGaughey was furious when she learned from me that I had spoken to you in person and we do not wish to see her close the door permanently on everyone, if there is a chance that Essiac can be used in the future. Sheila has been working with her since the early fall of 1974 on book material and Rene still listens to her.

We did not let Mrs. McGaughey know that we saw your file with the herb mentioned. Would you please acknowledge in writing to us that as per the telephone conversation Tuesday afternoon, you are willing to test Essiac further? Your willingness to help us in this endeavor is greatly appreciated.

Yours very truly,

Carroll Allen

RECEIVED
JAN 23 1975
FBI NEW YORK



Homemaker's

Magazine

16th February, 1977

Dr. Charles Brusch
Brusch Medical Centre
831 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, Massachusetts
U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Brusch:

That was good news we heard when we talked with you by telephone last Tuesday afternoon. It is wonderful to know that Essiac, even as an oral brew, is still successful in 1977 in alleviating the pain in the last stages of cancer.

We went to see Rene yesterday and she has agreed to send you more Essiac material right away for your other patients. She wasn't specific about whether or not this would be in the dry herb state as in January or in ampules as well.

Would you be willing to send us an immediate written report on Patrick McQuail plus a second one at the beginning of March, along with the same about any new patient, before the magazine goes to press in early March? And would it be permissible to send copies of the progress to Dr. Stock at the Sloan-Kettering Institute? He is willing to test Essiac further and we want him to know up-to-date information on its performance. He is particularly interested in cases of cancer of the pancreas.

We hope to see you again in the near future and do thank you so much for your interest and co-operation.

Sincerely,

Carroll Allen
320 Dudley Avenue
Willowdale, Ontario
M2N 4X5

Allen

Sheila Snow Fraser Diary

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DR. C. BRUSCH

He had recently requested some Essiac herbs to treat a patient with cancer of the esophagus and had just received a supply from Rene. Patrick McGrail, in the last stages of the disease, was unable to eat or sleep. He began treatment at the beginning of February and Dr. Brusch kept us posted on the patient's progress. After nine doses, McGrail's appetite improved, his pain lessened, and he was able to sleep in some comfort. By press time in May he had gained eleven pounds and was "feeling a heck of a lot better."

After Dr. Brusch's reassuring support we winged our way to the prestigious Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York to investigate her claim that tests had taken place there on mice with Essiac between 1974 and 1976. We talked with Dr. Chester Stock, vice president and associate director for administrative and academic affairs at that institute, who had been in charge of the experiments. He confirmed that a few tests had taken place with negligible results and had been terminated when Rene stopped supplying the herbs in '76 because, according to her, they were not making the formula according to her directions. He opened a file of correspondence from Rene which explained the situation clearly.


Each time we visited Rene over the next few months she would be sitting in her favorite easy chair wearing one of her vividly patterned dresses, bedecked with her favorite jewelry, her still-brown hair usually hidden beneath one of her wigs. After many years of threats of arrest and fines hanging over her, trust did not come easily. She resented our insistence that every fact must be verified. Insomniac, discouraged and impatient, she often expressed the fear that she would not live to see Essiac recognized.

Handwritten initials "MK" and a circular stamp.

Feb 23/77 CFTR Radio program "Seeds of Dissent"
 available from: CFTR (Radio Rogers Ltd), 25 Adelaide St. E., Toronto.

March
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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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FEBRUARY	until noon	up to six	in the evening
27 Sunday			
28 Monday			
March 1 Tuesday	St. David's Day		
2 Wednesday	CARLTON PLACE		
3 Thursday	TRUST OFFER to Rene - Jane, lawyer, Carrol & me		
4 Friday			
5 Saturday			

March

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MARCH	until noon	up to six	in the evening
6 Sunday			
7 Monday	Submitted part of story rewrite to H's Magazine to go to press (but postponed)		
8 Tuesday	Submitted 2nd part to H's Returned to Florida ↓		
9 Wednesday			
10 Thursday			
11 Friday			
12 Saturday			

March 177

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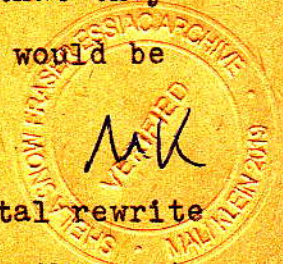
Homemaker's staff (Jeff Shearer and Jane Hughes) was interested in the story of Rene and Essiac but not in me being the writer of the story. I was the necessary evil which had to be included.

Carroll introduced me into the field of research and set an example about how to go about asking, and ^{to persist} persisting in asking, strategic questions, of people in authority.

There was no guidance given whatsoever before the first attempt to piece together the research material, but Carroll had suggested that I stay in her home while I put the story together. I rejected this invitation because she was dealing with a lot of personal problems which she had made me very much aware of, and I knew that I would not be able to concentrate properly under her roof. It was decided that she would see me over that particular weekend to go over the writing (- I was staying at a downtown hotel for that week -) but the visit was cancelled because the personal problems of Carroll's took over.

I turned part of the story in the following Monday and asked the editor for helpful comments. I turned the second part in on Tuesday (early March) and repeated the request. The answer was that they were too busy, that I was to return to Florida, and they would be in touch about a rewrite.

Ten days later I received word that there would be a total rewrite by Carroll and that I 'was to remain in Florida and enjoy the rest of my holiday'. I packed up and returned to Toronto. I learned that Carroll had done a rewrite which was approved by Jane Hughes except for the ending. At that point I almost retracted permission to print the story. I did a critique on Carroll's writing because it was not well put together.



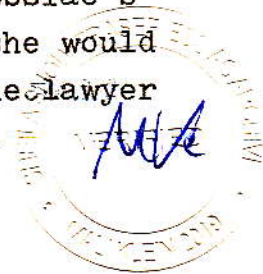
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Rene was eager to patent Essiac as she had her "kidney" pills (which helped improve cancer of the prostate although she was never allowed to mention this) many years earlier under the name "R. M. Caisse Remedies". Because of her ill health, it was not possible for her to institute patent proceedings or make her way through the labyrinth of red tape necessary to get a new drug permit from the health protection branch of the federal government. . . a process which normally takes about five years and entails extensive toxicological and animal testing.

In March, 1977, in the hope that we might speed Essiac on its way through the bureaucratic maze with no more loss of time, Homemaker's offered to set up a trust to represent Rene in any dealings she might have with the government, the National Cancer Institute, or any interested pharmaceutical companies. The National Cancer Institute is empowered to establish carefully supervised clinical tests on patients once non-toxicity of a substance is assured. When she agreed, papers were drawn up and presented to her one wintry day in March.

Rene, as flamboyant as ever, greeted us affably but soon began expressing grave misgivings about the trust. One by one we told her what we passionately believed; that she had missed many opportunities in the past because of her intransigent suspicion; that sooner or later she would have to trust someone or Essiac would be lost forever to "suffering humanity". Rene promised to think it over but we had a premonition that our cause and Essiac's was lost. A few days later she called us to say she would not sign a contract or turn over her formula to the lawyer so he could start working immediately on a patent.

RECEIVED
JAN 14 1978
FBI - NEW YORK



Each time we visited Rene over the next few months she would be comfortably settled in her favorite easy chair, resplendent in a vivid floral dress which emphasized her short rotund figure. A winter sun glinted off a jaunty sable wig which hid her still brown hair and reflected her favorite and numerous pieces of jewellery. Trust still did not come easily. Threats of arrest and fines hanging over her for years was responsible for her wariness. She resented our insistence that each fact must be verified. Insomniac, discouraged and impatient, she often expressed the fear that she would not live to see Essiac recognized. Living in modest circumstances, she seemed genuinely disinterested in reaping any financial rewards, and was determined that her remedy would never fall into hands that would exploit it for unseemly profit.

She was angry to learn we had visited Dr. Brusch in Cambridge although we had warned her in advance that this must be done. She was furious after we saw Dr. Stock and vowed never to send him any herbs. She didn't want us "bothering" old patients but we had to. And they were eager to support her. Virtually all the doctors who believed in Essiac and had sent people to her were dead but fortunately some of them had written down their thoughts about the treatment. We uncovered other evidence in the provincial archives.

SHIRAZ SNOW FRASER ESSAC ARCHIVE
Verified: 12/12/12

Date: 12/12/12



Diary

re-read Oct 10/77

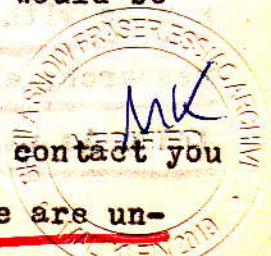
#801 Coronado Towers,
705 North Atlantic Avenue,
New Smyrna Beach,
Florida 32069,
March 24, 1977.

Dear Jeff:

I received a letter from Carroll Allan this week which was intended to reach me last Friday when a friend was flying down to spend a week here with me. She was unable to come, because of a sudden and serious illness in her family, so forwarded the letter on by registered mail.

Carroll writes that there is to be a rewrite on the story and this I fully expected. The effort I pieced together just before I left Toronto was only a chronologically detailed copy of the original manuscript with the new material stuck in. There was absolutely no emotion in it because I'd been wrung dry of it in living the day-by-day real life story. Unfortunately there was no meeting at all to discuss how the story, with all the meaty information, should be handled and I felt like a lost soul as I made the tired attempt for several days before coming down here. Jane had no time to look the material over ~~before~~ when I submitted it to her at the beginning of the week and there was no suggestion of talking things over so I could approach the picture with a new perspective. I was told to go off and have a nice holiday and that I would be phoned if anything new came up.

Since receiving this latest word, I have been trying to contact you personally but you must be away. Since Carroll and Jane are unreachable too, I have been chasing myself around like a squirrel in a cage trying to get some thoughts in order.



Carroll has suggested a framework which I find very helpful and Jane asked her to work at the writing of it because, as Carroll points out to me, the time is short and apparently she has to be out of town before the press deadline. In the meanwhile I am working on the rewriting too and have cancelled the remainder of my 'vacation' here to get back as soon as possible, driving this time.

One thing I feel I must clarify. Jane mentioned early in January that Carroll would be writing this with me. Carroll and I then discussed our personal feelings about doing other people's writing. We both feel that anything we as individuals put together is very personally ours, in the way of expressing things. No matter what the outcome, the final story must be said in my words as much as possible. I am a beginner. I haven't had Carroll's experience of thirty years as a writer and researcher. I am willing to be pounded on my wooden head until this thing is moulded into shape but it must be my story. It's like a baby being cut out of a person if the creative writing is removed and the person has to just put a signature to someone else's effort. It would crucify me. I have sweat blood and tears over this. The emotion will come through but I do need sincere guidance. So far I've been left out in the cold to swim for myself, yet I've made myself available in every possible way as long as I could and lived in people's vest pockets for two months with their personal problems too. I've done a lot of the research, albeit without experience, and the outcome of the whole thing is vital to me.

SHEILA SNOW FRASER ESSIAC ARCHIVE

Verified: *ML*

Date: *07/27/2019*

Invoice

April 20, 1977

To HOMEMAKER'S MAGAZINE
2300 Yonge Street,
Toronto, Ontario.

For THE RENE CAISSE STORY

Amount owing:

\$1200.00

To be paid to:

SHEILA FRASER,
R.R.#2, Port Carling,
Ontario POB IJO

Byline to read: Sheila Snow Fraser

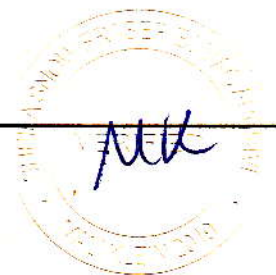


Sheila Fraser

June



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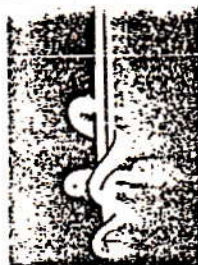
MAY	until noon	up to six	in the evening
29 Sunday			
30 Monday	Memorial Day (U.S.A.)		
31 Tuesday			
June 1 Wednesday	Carrol and I see Rene - magazine story presented.		
2 Thursday			
3 Friday	D DAY		
4 Saturday			

V.1. Yesterday was a crucial one because we showed Rene the magazine version of the story. She was very upset by it and very hurt by what she believes is our betrayal. Seeing it through her eyes, I felt very much like a Judas because I had stimulated the interest in the first place, then succumbed to the way ^{those at Homemakers} they insisted on presenting the story - definitely dramatized as their story.

And ^{is} thinking the whole thing through again, I would have to do the same thing - sorry, I'm not expressing myself well, because the subject always upsets me. Let me put it this way, if this was the only way to get the public interested in the story of Essiac, I would do it over again, despite all the heartache. I have long since got over the importance of me having a book published about it - in fact, I strongly suspect that this magazine story will have served that purpose. Essiac, many of us ~~are~~ are convinced, ^a is a cancer remedy and palliative, which the public must demand to be used. *



CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY



ONTARIO DIVISION
185 Bloor Street East
Toronto, Ontario
M4W 3G5
Telephone (416) 923-7474

June 7, 1977

✓
Mr. J. Shearer
Executive Vice-President
Comac Communications Limited
Yonge Eglinton Centre
2300 Yonge St.
Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

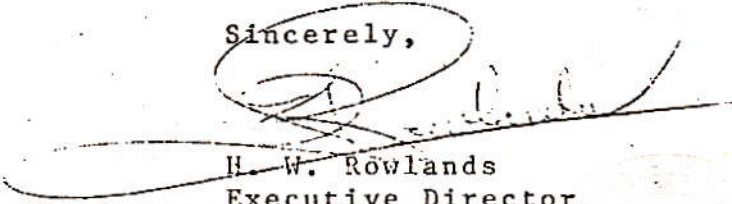
Dear Mr. Shearer:

Thank you very much for your hand-delivered letter of today's date and the accompanying advance press copy of the summer issue of Homemaker's.

The article about Rene Caisse, and her treatment of cancer patients with her own herbal remedy, Essiac, is a most fascinating one. I have brought your letter and the copy of the article to the attention of a number of my associates who are directly involved with research matters. Also I understand that you had provided copies of the article to a number of other people involved in cancer control work in other organizations. One of those people, Dr. K.J.R. Wightman of the Ontario Cancer Treatment & Research Foundation, has I am told, been in correspondence with Rene Caisse for some time now, and I believe that he is investigating the merits of her treatment.

It certainly is to be hoped that Rene Caisse has in fact discovered the cure that she believes in. I am very appreciative of your offer to permit us to examine all the records, and case histories that you have in your files with respect to Rene Caisse's story. I hope that there may be reason for wishing to know a great deal more in the very near future.


Sincerely,


H. W. Rowlands
Executive Director

/sw

cc Ms. Jane Hughes ✓

Patron: HON. PAULINE M. MCGIBBON, O.C., B.A., LL.D., D.U. (OTT.), B.A.A. (THEATRE), Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario
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Local woman featured in national magazine

An advance issue of Homemaker's magazine was received at the Examiner office this week. A covering letter explained that Homemaker's has never before prereleased the magazine, but because of the dramatic nature of the lead story, the publishers have made an exception.

The lead story is about cancer, and about a Bracebridge woman, Rene Caisse, who holds the formula for a herbal remedy that, she is convinced, is effective against the dread disease.

The story thoroughly describes Rene Caisse's struggle to have Essiac (Caisse spelled backwards) accepted by the scientific community, and includes numerous documented cases where a cure has been effectuated.

Won't Reveal Formula

Forty years ago, the Ontario Commission for the Investigation of Cancer Remedies offered to test her remedy. But Miss Caisse, a surgical nurse, refused to reveal the formula until she could be guaranteed that it would be used on cancer patients. The deadlock persists.

Essiac is the name given to a concoction of herbs brewed by Indians into a tea, and the formula was acquired by Rene Caisse in 1922. She refined the remedy and in treating patients, injected a serum into the affected parts, and followed up with herbal tea. A man in Massachusetts is currently responding well to the second part of the Essiac treatment. (Rene Caisse has never revealed both parts to any medical practitioner or research laboratory because of a suspicion a jealous medical profession might try to sweep her cure under the rug.)

The Homemaker's story, titled "Could Essiac Halt Cancer?", is the result of six months work by Sheila Fraser, Port Carling, and Carroll Allen. The editor of Homemaker's, Jane Hughes, admits to reservations about publishing a story that would give false hope to cancer patients, "but the consequences of the alternative—not to publish were too ghastly to contemplate."

"It is our hope that Rene Caisse's work may be tested by responsible medical authorities to establish its validity."

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE OF CANADA

AFFILIATED WITH
CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY

PRESIDENT:
PRÉSIDENT:
L.G. ISRAELS, M.D.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:
DIRECTEUR EXÉCUTIF:
R.M. TAYLOR, B.A., M.D., F.R.C.P.(C).

Brenda



INSTITUT NATIONAL DU CANCER DU CANADA

AFFILIÉ À
SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DU CANCER

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES - ADMINISTRATION
SUITE 401 - 77 BLOOR STREET WEST
TORONTO, ONTARIO M5S 2V7
(416) 961-7223

June 9, 1977

Miss Jane Hughes
Editor
Homemaker's
Yonge Eglinton Centre
2300 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario
M4P 1E4


Dear Miss Hughes:

Thank you for having provided me with a copy of "Homemaker's Magazine" for June/July/August 1977. As you say, this is a frustrating situation. It is made so by Miss Caisse's absolute refusal to reveal the content of her "cure" even though it was given to her without reservation by her Indian friend.

I know of no acceptable ethical way for testing her compound in the absence of knowledge about the contents and possible toxicity. The evidence supporting her cure is, for the most part, anecdotal and couldn't be used in the study of the efficacy of the compound.

It has been made very clear in this case on a number of occasions that if she will provide the information about the contents there are ways of testing its usefulness. I would doubt that she will change her attitude at the age of 88 but maybe her heirs will be willing to listen to reason.

Yours sincerely,


R. M. Taylor, M.D.
Executive Director

RMT/ss



✓
The Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research
Foundation

J.R.H. KIRKPATRICK
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G.R. CUNNINGHAM
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7 OVERLEA BOULEVARD
TORONTO, ONTARIO M4H 1A8
TELEPHONE: (416) 423-4240

June 9, 1977

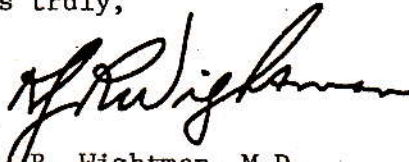
Miss Jane Hughes,
Editor, Homemaker's
Yonge Eglinton Centre,
2300 Yonge Street,
Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

Dear Miss Hughes:

Thank you very much for your courtesy in sending me an advance copy of Homemaker's and your letter. Miss Caisse (or Mrs. McGaughey) has been in touch with me and provided me with some of her newspaper clippings etcetera. I wrote and told her some time ago that I would be interested to visit her and find out something more about her cancer cure and she has written to say that she would be glad to see me. She did not mention that she was in touch with you. I expect your article will attract a good deal of attention. The position of the Medical profession will undoubtedly be the same as it was before. No one feels that it is justifiable to treat patients with remedies of unknown composition for a variety of reasons, and the people who discovered insulin and penicillin for example, had no hesitation in describing the materials they were using so that they could be purified, standardized and tested under scientific conditions.

Perhaps after all these years she would not be willing to take this approach.

W
Yours truly,


K. J. R. Wightman, M.D.
Medical Director

KJRW:mmcm

c.c. Mr. Harry Rowlands, Canadian Cancer Society (Ontario Division)
c.c. Dr. A.M. Turner, Chairman Medical Advisory Committee, Canadian Cancer Society.
(Ontario Division)

MK

BREAST CANCER

24/6/77

PRINTED MATTER

A. M. Van de Bogart
4818 Canada Way
Burnaby, B. C.
V5G 1L5

21 June 1977

Sheila Snow Fraser
Comac Communications Limited
2300 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario
M4P 1E4

Dear Miss Fraser

Your article on cancer written in conjunction with Carroll Allen appeared in the June/July/August 1977 issue of Homemaker's Magazine.

It is a bombshell. I lost one of the best friends I ever had to stomach cancer in 1975, after a brutal regime of chemotherapy. My mother now has a breast malignancy that will kill her if no adequate treatment is given.

An operation is scheduled for August. The doctors have no other choice under existing circumstances, despite the fact that her heart is not strong. She could easily die on the operating table.

A medical hierarchy and pharmaceutical industry that place arrogance before humility and greed before humane feeling are open to a savage denunciation. I am not amused.

Perhaps an engineering analogy would help Miss Caisse in presenting her argument. Concrete is an extremely important construction material, indispensable in modern industrial, commercial and residential work. Yet, while engineers and contractors know how to make and use concrete, its chemistry is not completely understood.

ME

Meanwhile I face the prospect of a dead mother. She, too, is one of the best friends I ever had. The remedy Miss Caisse received from her Indian friend presumably operates through tumor hemorrhagic necrosis. This plant extract could not possibly do any harm, in the light of the facts you mention.

If Miss Caisse were willing to forward her remedy, with instructions for its use, she would be saving the life of an exceptional woman.

Yours faithfully

E. M. Van der Zant

AKK

27/6/77

CANCER VICTIM
BOOK MATERIAL
COMMENTS

① our form repl.
② copy to lens

June 23rd, 1977.

Dear Sirs;

I have just read your June/July/August 1977 issue of Homemakers. I cannot sit anymore after reading your story on Rene Caisse and her treatment for cancer. The reason being - I have a father who is going to die very shortly (it could be months but it is terminal) from a cancer located in the lower region of his body - bowels, bladder, etc. He has already been through two operations and such extensive radiation treatments that he cannot even have an x-ray now.

Why do these things come to the light when you need them and cannot obtain them. I am at my wits end after reading that she can help people such as my father, if not to have a complete remission to at least help him with the pain and suffering that he is going through now. He cannot come home from the hospital for any length of time before we have to rush him back again. I hope and pray that my mother does not read this article as she would feel as I do now - so helpless. Here is something that may help him but completely out of reach. He may die soon but as he is so stubborn and wants to live so badly - he could hang on for months. Just think of the hope it would give him to try this type of treatment even if it did not work on him. Nothing else is helping now as it is. My God - life is so strange. Why now do I read something such as this treatment. He is terminally ill as are thousands of others. He is going to die as are thousands of others.

What ones family has to go through is a real crime. They may have to operate eventually but they don't want to. He may die on the table. What hope is one supposed to have after reading all the cures that she has had.

I plead with Rene to help people such as my father. I would sincerely and gladly give up my job and learn how to give such injections and spend the rest of my life doing so for free to save my father and others like him. To wait until she dies to have this is the worst part of all. It will be too late then.

I am asking with all my heart (and believe me it hurts now) to do all you can. PLEASE.....

Sincerely yours,

Helen Ryan
4588 Draper Ave.
Montreal, Quebec
(514) 482-6980

Helen Ryan

MX

✓
MORTON SHULMAN, M.D.

cc: Sheila Fraser

378 RONCESVALLES AVE.
TORONTO, ONTARIO M6R 2M7
536-8942

June 25, 1977.

Mr. Jeffrey Shearer,
Comac Communications Limited,
2300 Yonge Street,
Toronto, Ontario.
M4P 1E4

Dear Mr. Shearer:

By odd coincidence I did a study of the Legislative Committee Study on cancer cures back in the 30s and 40s. It was their opinion at the time with which I agree that Mrs. Caisse's herbal remedy was useless.

In my opinion you have helped perpetuate a fraud.

Yours truly,



MPS/aw

M. Shulman MD.



Advocates choice - BOOK MATERIAL

833 Oxford St
Winnipeg, Man.
R2M-3J4

The Editor.
Homemakers Magazine

Essie

Dear Madam:

I have just finished
reading your article on
C. Swan and it has left me
in a state of outrage and
fury at the medical profession
and Rene Caisse.

I am a forty three year
old female with a husband
and three children who has
had two major operations
for cancer, 1968 & 1972.

I would like to show
my mutilated body to
Rene Caisse and then let
her decide if she has the

MK

right to withhold her secret formula. She wouldn't have seen anything like my case before.

The medical establishment
feel I am cured now, but
my God what a price. Had I
known of Essie I would
have tried it first. Why not
give the cancer victim a
choice.

Sincerely
Catherine Young

AKK

CANCER ON SPINAL CORD

BOOK MATERIAL

491 Kirkfield Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3K 1E5.

June 29, 1977.

To: Nurse Rene Caisse.

Dear Nurse Caisse:

As I begin this letter, I can only hope and pray that by some miracle it will be forwarded to you, and that you will at least have the opportunity of listening to my plea, which I am sure, is only one among thousands you will receive.

I am making the plea on behalf of my 25 year old wife, Aline, who has been given the diagnosis of an inoperable tumour.

The growth has been diagnosed by biopsy as an astrocytoma Grade 2, extending from the first cervical vertebra to the first thoracic vertebra. The lesion is situated largely on the right side of the spinal cord. I am informed that the astrocytoma is equally divided between the protoplasmic and fibrillary variety.

When we first learned of the conclusive diagnosis, following the operation on December 10, 1976, performed by an eminent neurosurgeon (Dr. Dwight Parkinson), our first reaction was total disbelief. However, when the initial shock had worn off, the realization set in that we had to face the agonizing and hopeless future.

Following this, Aline received a course of 5,000 rads. of C060 under the auspices of Dr. McLellan at the Cancer Foundation. I was informed, at this point, that radiotherapy was our only hope as a palliative measure, as chemotherapy very rarely worked on any tumours of the central nervous system.

I am certain, with your vast experience of cancer victims, you can understand and appreciate the emotions, fears, and physical as well as mental pain attached to this disease. Reading the article in Homemakers time and time again, I feel you are a sympathetic and considerate person who has been trampled on by a bureaucratic profession in the name of humanity, masking a face of jealousy and greed.

It is at this point I want to try to describe sincerely and accurately the person with whom I fell in love, and with whom I am pleading with you to help.

Aline and I were married in January 1972, three years after we met. As I mentioned earlier, she is 25 years of age, with a smile on her tiny face at all times.

She is small physically, being 4'10" and her normal weight amounting to less than 100 lbs. Her physical stature, however, does not reflect the warmth of her personality or the size of her heart.

MLK

She is a loving, caring, helping person, who has never hesitated in assisting anyone at any time. During her lunch breaks, instead of playing cards or going shopping with the rest of the girls, she would walk over to an old folks home and would spend her time talking to, and trying to cheer up, people Society had forgotten or did not want to be bothered with. She has given her last dollar to a needy friend or relative frequently. She has taught people, including myself, to appreciate the beauty of a single tree, a flower, or a bird, instead of rushing life by in a turmoil without giving notice to these wonders of nature. Even in times of personal distress and pain, she is the one who volunteers to help. She has always given of herself and has never asked in return.

I know that everyone thinks his or her spouse is a very special and wonderful person, but please believe that I am not exaggerating her qualities. If you were given the opportunity of creating a transformed world, I know you would select her among the ones to stay.

I therefore humbly ask of you, Nurse Caisse, the chance of having Aline examined and treated by you if, in your opinion, you are able to help her.

The prognosis, as you well know, is pain, paresthesia, paralysis and death.

Aline is currently undergoing the second and third stages of the disease, and the pain and agony are becoming more and more frequent, although Aline will never complain. I might add that, apart from the malignancy, Aline has no other associated medical problems which might lead to complications. Her spirit is excellent and I am positive she would be a good candidate to respond to your treatment, physically as well as emotionally.

We have very little time left, I'm afraid, so I must plead for your prompt assistance.

If you decide to accept my wife as a person who you will try to help, please contact me at my expense, and I will make every arrangement to suit your convenience.

It goes without saying that Aline's doctors will gladly supply a certificate indicating that there are no further prospects for a useful treatment at this time.

If, as I pray, you decide to help us, would you please contact me by either phoning Area Code 204 - 338-4239, or writing to me at 491 Kirkfield Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3K 1E5. If you choose to phone, please reverse the charges.

Yours sincerely,


Ken S. Carroll



BOOK MATERIAL - COMMENTS

JULY 3, 1977
3RD FLR 80 DUNSMUR RD.
HAMILTON, ONTARIO L8M 1S2

REACTION
HOMEMAHER'S MAGAZINE
2300 YOUNGE ST.
TORONTO, ONTARIO
M4P 1E4

To Whom it May Concern

Never in my life have I felt so motivated as I do now to write a reaction to an article in a magazine.

The article "Could Essiac Halt Cancer?" (June/July / August) really aroused my anger. It makes me sick when I think of the numerous relatives, friends and friends of friends who possibly could have been helped by Essiac but instead died.

Maybe Rene Caisse has reason to keep the cure or treatment away from money hungry investors, but she has not the right to sentence millions of people to death by keeping her formula secret.

For decades scientists have been looking for the key to unlock the secrets of cancer. Maybe Essiac won't solve all the problems but it might help scientists in their search for a cure.

If she leaves the formula in her will and if it is proven worthy, then she should not be acclaimed a Canadian hero, but rather as an assassin of millions of innocent people for not revealing the contents. As I see it a person who can possibly stop death but doesn't try is as guilty as a murderer. In this case a mass murderer.

I therefore implore Rene Caisse to right her wrongs
and immediately give her secret to the world. Never before
have I wanted a person to heed my words as I do
of Rene Caisse now!!!

Yours sincerely

Ralph Tate

PRESIDENT OF
RALPH TATE
ENTERPRISES
OF CANADA

RECEIVED
JAN 10 1967
RADIO



Brenda - Copy to Rene, please.



MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE
AND
MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE STATUS OF WOMEN

MINISTRE DE LA
SANTÉ NATIONALE ET DU BIEN-ÊTRE SOCIAL
ET
MINISTRE CHARGÉ DE LA SITUATION DE LA FEMME

OTTAWA K1A 0K9

JUL 6 1977

Mr. Jeffrey W. Shearer,
Executive Vice President,
Comac Communications Limited,
Yonge Eglinton Centre,
2300 Yonge Street,
TORONTO, Ontario.
M4P 1E4

Dear Mr. Shearer:

Thank you for sending me an advance copy of Homemaker's with the lead story about Essiac.

I agree that it would be desirable to have Essiac tested by responsible medical authorities to establish its value for the treatment of cancer. The files, records, and case histories which your organization has gathered in order to write this article may be useful, but they are still to be regarded as testimonials and not the findings of a carefully controlled clinical trial by qualified investigators.

Before such an investigation can be undertaken, however, the Food and Drugs Act and Regulations will require Rene Caisse to file information about the mode of action of the active ingredients in Essiac and evidence of its relative safety for use in the treatment of cancer. The Parliament of Canada passed this law to protect the public from exposure to drugs which may be hazardous or fraudulent. In addition to the legal requirements, it would be considered to be unethical for an investigator to take part in a clinical trial with Essiac if he knew nothing about the material that he was testing.

As long as Rene Caisse persists in keeping the formulation of Essiac a secret the situation will remain as it is now. The publication of her story in Homemaker's Magazine may, unfortunately, create a

... 2



Mr. Jeffrey W. Shearer

demand by many cancer patients for a treatment that is not available to them at this time. I sincerely hope that she will change her mind and permit Essiac to be subjected to a controlled clinical trial by qualified investigators to establish its safety and effectiveness in cancer therapy.

Yours truly,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
ORIGINAL SIGNED PAR
MARC LALONDE

Marc Lalonde

cc: Ms. Jane Hughes



OTTAWA, K1A 0K9

Miss Rene M. Caisse, R.N.,
293 Hiram Street,
BRACEBRIDGE, Ontario.
POB 1C0

Dear Miss Caisse:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 24, 1977, and the copies of newspaper articles, letters, reports, etc., concerning your herbal remedy for cancer, "Essiac".

Before a drug can be sold or distributed in Canada, the person responsible for its manufacture is required to file data with my Department which meet the requirements of the Regulations under the Food and Drugs Act. Testimonials from individuals who were treated with Essiac and allegedly received benefit, are not considered to provide scientific evidence of safety and effectiveness, and therefore would not fulfil the requirements of the Regulations.

For your information, and to assist you in preparing a submission for Essiac, I have enclosed with this letter a copy of the Regulations indicating the information that will be needed. These Regulations were published in October 1963, and have been in force since that time. Incidentally all information supplied in a submission to my Department is treated in the strictest confidence and is reviewed only by officials who are authorized to carry out this task.


Marc Lalonde

Miss Rene M. Caisse, R.N.

If you think that you will need some help in compiling the data required by the Regulations, please send your request for assistance to the Director, Bureau of Drugs, Place Vanier, 355 River Road, Vanier, Ontario, K1A 1B8, or telephone Dr. Norman Stephenson in Ottawa at 993-3100.

I trust that this letter has been able to answer your questions concerning the sale and distribution of Essiac in Canada.

Yours truly,

Marc Lalonde

Marc Lalonde

Encl.

RECEIVED

1975

1975

1975

ML

CANCER

Ville La Pocatière
Kamouraska
Québec

July 15, 1977

Miss Sheila Snow Fraser
Port Carling
Ontario

Dear Miss Fraser,

I may be one more of the numerous writers that will burden you after your very instructive article on "Essiac" published recently in Madame au Foyer/ Homemaker's Magazine . One of my sisters is very sick. And I would like to get in touch with Madam Rene Caisse. Can you do that ? May I insist ? Her phone number or adress ?

I thank you in advance.


Rev. Bernard Lambert

Ville La Pocatière
C.P. 995
Kamouraska, Québec

MISS SHEILA SNOW FRASER
PORT CARLING
ONTARIO



The Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation

J. R. H. KIRKPATRICK
Chairman
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7 OVERLEA BOULEVARD
TORONTO, ONTARIO M4H 1A8
TELEPHONE (416) 423-4240

18 July 1977

Dear Miss Caisse,

I am sorry you are having
so many disturbances. People certainly
become desperate at times, and it is
easy to see how they must feel.

I think it is fine that Dr.
Maclede is taking an interest in
your remedy and I hope you
will be very frank & open with
him. We will all await with
interest the results of his work.
There are no short-cuts in this
work, and it must be done
carefully.

Yours truly,
Dr. K. J. R. Wightman

AKK

July


S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



JULY	until noon	up to six	in the evening
CLOUDY 24 Sunday	I MEET JOHN BARKER Misc 13.00 \$146.20 \$9.12		
25 Monday	4.44 78.93 \$203.75 PAID OUT 13.00		
COOL SUNNY INTERVALS 26 Tuesday	\$6.65 \$95.15 30.00 #6 Jackie		
CLEAR SUNNY 27 Wednesday	TRACEBRIDGE Misc \$20.25 SHOWER (BABY) FOR BARBARA, PAULINE'S SISTER. Jackie #4 \$156.65 \$20.00 9.71		
CLOUDY COOL 28 Thursday	Misc 19.50 1.00 4.50 \$174.83 11.08 \$25.00		
RAINY 29 Friday	\$13.82 \$234.83 * UPB -2.30		
30 Saturday	\$246.04 * \$25.15 TX Misc \$17.07 PAID OUT 3.00		

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JULY	until noon	up to six	in the evening
31 Sunday	* \$76.27 #57.06 4.93 MISC #8.50		
August 1 Monday	Simcoe Day (Ontario) Jackie 25.00 #12 #14.32 #65.00 L #211.60 MISC 3.75		
2 Tuesday	LOSS 12.50 MISC HARGE EXP #10.00 MISC 17.65 117.68 NET → 105.18 8.03 *		
3 Wednesday	R 65.00 8 25.00 Jackie #10.27 176.33 Net *		
4 Thursday	MISC 8.95 #128.82 Net 8.03 *		
5 Friday	Jackie #6 30.00 #94.64 #5.27		
Partly Cloudy 6 Saturday	TAPE RE KINGSTON INFO ELEANOR & RENE, JOHN/RENE & PATIENTS. #12.72 #200.47		

LUNG CANCER

answered Sept 11/77

LETTER FOR BOOK

Sherbrooke, August 8, 1977.

Mrs Rene (Caisse) McGaughey,
293 Hiram St.,
Bracebridge, Ontario.
POB 1C0

Dear Mrs. McGaughey,

I read an article about you recently, which I thought was one of the most interesting articles I have ever read. I would like to express my admiration to you for your steadfast refusal to profit from this medicine. Your devotion to your patients is to be commended. I can also understand how much you must have suffered through the years through all the persecution dealt to you by the bureaucracy. This I find revolting.

I must admit that the article in question really struck me to the core. You see, I have cancer. I am 35 years old, and was told in January that I had a cancerous growth in my left lung. I was to be treated in the standard way, operation and radiation, but I refused, feeling all the while that somehow there must be a more humane and natural way of being treated. When I read about Essiac, it was like a revelation to me, like an answer to my prayers. I had been praying for months for guidance. You see, I too like you, am stubborn. I would rather face death than not be whole and productive. This tragedy happens to me at a time when everything seemed to be going so well... I have shed all the tears I thought were possible, but somehow they still come. I have become completely insomniac lately, and as I lay in bed my mind keeps delving on your Essiac. Could I be helped? Then I realize that you must have been flooded with requests from hundreds of people. How does one make a selection? Who is to be helped and who is not? Why cannot everyone have access to it? You have worked all of your life, and are entitled to your rest. But then I look at your kind face and I feel sure that if you only knew me, knew my potential, and how much I still have to contribute to life, you would surely help.

If you feel like opening your heart to me, I would be genuinely pleased to meet you in person. Please call me at 819-567-4783 collect, after 9 p.m.

Whether you contact me or not, I want you to know I think you are a great lady, and I feel that someday your work will be known and appreciated throughout the country and the world.

Yours truly,



Jean Bennett, (Miss)
1221 St. Denis St.,
Sherbrooke, Quebec.

MBK

AUGUST 15, 1977/EFFORTS TO PERSUADE RENE TO ENTRUST RECIPE TO SOME PARTY:

For those of us who were involved in Rene's life, there was some serious concern about the threatening phone calls and letters the nurse was receiving. Both the formula and the Essiac herbs were thought to be hidden somewhere in her house. Could she be persuaded to entrust the recipe to someone important in the Canadian government?

Eleanor Sniderman worked out a plan which was ultimately carried out successfully, despite Rene's efforts to change some of the plans. A letter was sent to Rene in early August from Mrs. Pauline McGibbon, Lieutenant-Governor of Canada, to which the nurse responded with:

"Thank you for your kindness in offering to take care of Essiac in trust, not for me but for the many who need it. God bless you.

"When the formula is disclosed to other doctors," Rene requested, I would appreciate it if Dr. Brusch were included in that disclosure.

"I am looking forward to having you visit me on August 15th." Rene wrote. "To meet you will be a great privilege."

Sincerely and respectfully,

Rene M. Caisse

This meeting was meant to be kept a secret. The lieutenant-Governor wanted no fanfare about it. She was only acting as a temporary guardian for the sealed envelope, until the clinical tests were completed. It seemed to be a wise move to make at that time.

On Sunday afternoon, August 14th, Eleanor Sniderman witnessed the nurse putting old dog-eared papers and documents into a brown manilla envelope. which was properly sealed and tied with a colourful ribbon. Rene kept it in her possession, ready for the important event the following morning at 10 a.m. three of us were expected to be present then, with Eleanor as the official witness for this special occasion.



Sheila

158 Riffe Lane Road
Hamilton, Ont.
L8S 3B6

Aug 15/77.

Comac Communications Ltd.
2300 Yonge St.
Toronto, Ont

Dear Jane Douglas,

Further to our telephone conversation, I am forwarding to you a herbal recipe suggested to help for cancer.

A year ago February I had a malignant melanoma removed surgically from my back, which was previously a birth mark, but started to fester. On June 20/77 I observed a lump under my left armpit, and on July 14/77 it was removed surgically, and found to be cancerous.

I have been going to the cancer clinic in Hamilton for a series of B.C.G. immunotherapy injections and have had one treatment of chemotherapy Aug 11/77, and am to have one more in about six weeks. The doctor has told me there is a 75% chance that the cancer can strike again and may attack an organ.

Your article in Homemakers about Renee Laiske has interested me, because a friend of mine who uses Homoeopathics gave me the herbal recipe she was given years ago by a French-Canadian herbalist in Tilsonburg, Ont.

MLK
RECEIVED

(2)

In my conversation to you I told you it came from an old indian, but find this is not so. This old herbalist knew of someone cured of cancer by this recipe.

You suggested if I wrote to you, you would forward my letter to Rene and I trust she will be good enough to spare me a reply.

What I would like to know is, if the recipe I am using will be helpful? or can Rene suggest anything else for me to do.

I also find it inconvenient at times due to work, to drink the six cups, would it be less effective if I reduced the amount of water in the recipe to make it more concentrated?

How long should this recipe be taken?

The recipe is:- Red clover tops, Alfalfa leaves
Sheep Sorrel Fenugreek seed
Burdock root - Parsley leaves
Violet leaves yellow dock
Comfrey root

18 tps. of mixed herbs. Boil in 2 qts of water for 15 mins. Drink 6 cups a day. I also take Thomas's Special formula B.R.F. as per label enclosed.

I am interested in Rene's help to mankind, and feel she has done a lot to help in regard to cancer, and would appreciate anything she can do to help me in regard to this matter. I would be prepared

to drive to Bracebridge to talk to her if
this was agreeable to her. I am only 50 years
old.

Yours truly,
Jack Copp.





- Heather MacDonald, News

NURSE RENE CAISSE had a visit from the Lieutenant-Governor, **Pauline McGibbon** this week, who made a special trip to Bracebridge to pick up Nurse Caisse's formula on her cancer cure. It is to be kept by Her Honour, in trust. Above, Nurse Caisse is shown with Toronto nurse, **Ilse Verwey**.

Woman's 'cancer cure' to be held 'in trust'

It must have been crack of dawn when the Lieutenant-Governor, **Pauline McGibbon** left Toronto Monday morning to come to Bracebridge.

Because by 9.30 a.m., she had quietly slipped through town, and picked up the materials and information on a cancer cure Nurse **Rene Caisse** has kept secret for so many years.

Her Honour, **Pauline McGibbon** spent about a quarter of an hour or more talking with Nurse Caisse, and returned to Toronto with the formula to keep it "in trust."

A Toronto nurse, **Mrs. Ilse Verwey**, who about six weeks ago, was helping compile Nurse Caisse's experiences and information for the proper authorities in an attempt to have the treatment recognized and research started, said the formula would be kept in trust, "until such time it is proven acceptable by the medical profession."

Nurse Caisse, 88, in recent months

becoming anxious to have her treatment recognized and put to use for the cure and treatment of cancer.

She had her own clinic in Bracebridge for many years, and has kept records of successful cases who lived many years following the treatment of the herbal formula she called, 'Essiac.'

It was a relieved Nurse Caisse who received her friends and members of the press this week following the quick visit by the Lieutenant-Governor.

While the formula is to be kept "in trust," all sources said, it wasn't revealed whether, or if any work was being done with the formula at present.

Miss Caisse, (Mrs. **Rene McGaughey**) has done extensive work during her nursing career with the formula until she had to discontinue its use, and told the News earlier this summer, "It breaks my heart to turn people away."

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

AUGUST	until noon	up to six	in the evening
21 \$52.51 Sunday	Rainy Total \$50.69 Tax 3.50		
Partly Sunny 22 Monday	Misc. \$101.10 Pine 4.95 Allison 3.90 10.86 \$165.53		
23 Tuesday	\$6.44 \$118.41 NET 111.97 ✓		
24 Wednesday	\$5.17 \$70.28 ELEANOR 65.11 NET PAID OUT \$16.55		
CLEAR & SUNNY 25 Thursday	DAD'S CHECKUP Misc \$7.95 7.47 \$125.24 \$117.77 ELEANOR JACKIE #25 NET 65.00		
SUNNY 26 Friday	ILSE PHONED JOHN 10:30 P.M. \$6.62 \$119.76 → 113.14 NET		
27 Saturday	DAVID & JOHN MEET ILSE REPORTS TO ME IN EVENING \$11.22 \$187.54 176.32 NET		




August ~~#~~ 4509.61
#4532.40

7.52 ¹/₂
29.10

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

AUGUST	until noon	up to six	in the evening
CLOUDY THEN SUNNY 28 Sunday	\$ 9.08 138.24 \$129.16 P. CHEST 208.65 NET		
29 Monday	\$ 8.87 157.21 \$ Misc 10.00		
HOT & CLEAR 30 Tuesday	FINGARD TO MEET L. G. McGibbon. \$ 7.28 \$93.63		
SUNNY & WARM 31 Wednesday	\$ 5.47 \$95.95		
September HOT GREY 1 Thursday	3.59 61.59		
2 Friday	P. NE \$6.00 \$ 10.27 147.36 Misc 12.05		
3 Saturday	Misc \$37.95 \$ 15.11 Jackie \$95.00 \$231.40		



DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY HEALTH AND EPIDEMIOLOGY

Queen's University
Kingston, Canada
K7L 2N6

August 30, 1977.

Honourable Pauline McGibbon,
Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario,
Queen's Park,
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Mrs. McGibbon:

As a health research professional, I was very interested to read in the newspapers on August 26 that Rene Caisse has entrusted her Essiac formula for an allegedly effective cancer treatment to you. It certainly seemed to me in the recent article in Homemaker's magazine that this treatment has great promise and should be rigorously evaluated at the earliest opportunity, but that an impasse has been reached in which the latter was not happening. The newspaper account of August 26 sounded as if there still is an impasse regarding further testing and evaluation, and use. I write to urge you to promote a flexible approach toward further evaluation, which could satisfy Miss Caisse, and you as her trustee, and still contribute meaningful evaluative data.

As described in the Homemaker's article, Essiac prepared by Miss Caisse has already been administered widely by her and her associates to human cancer patients whose diagnosis was confirmed by their physicians and who were referred for the treatment by their physicians, under agreed procedures worked out by previous governments of the Province. I see no ethical reason why the formula has to be revealed before such use can continue on a research basis, provided the physician and patient give informed consent to participate and the physicians maintain overall supervision of their patients. However, the important ingredient to justify the study ethically would be that the design and data collection will lead to a meaningful conclusion regarding the value of Essiac.

Ideally, physicians would refer patient volunteers with confirmed cancer to the study on the basis that they and other matched referred patients will be randomly allocated to either receive Essiac or to be in a control group that would receive conventional treatment but no Essiac. That would permit meaningful comparison of results between the two groups. However, if random allocation does not prove feasible, I would still recommend proceeding with a study in which all referred patients received Essiac. In the latter case, however, I think the study should be limited to advanced patients in whom conventional treatments had been used unsuccessfully. Their downhill course before Essiac would be carefully documented, in which "control" experience would be compared

MK

C O P Y

R.R. #2, Port Carling
Ontario POB 1J0
Sept. 14, 1977

Dear Jean,-

Rene Caisse (McGauhey) is unable to handle her heavy correspondence so several of us are trying to get it in order. Thank you for your nice letter offering help.

I think the time we'll be able to use your kind offer is when we have to inform our long list of cancer patients about reports on clinical testing at the end of this month. We will let you know when this happens.

By the way, what kind of typewriter does this type of printing (your letter). It is very effective.

Sincerely,

"Sheila Fraser"

C O P Y - Original on file in Sheila Fraser's handwriting.

(Note from Jean: The type of printing referred to was an element on my IBM Selectric but I can't remember the name now in 1990 - but it WAS NOT Script. Am sitting here looking at it on the photocopy, but still can't think of the name as it was quite different)

Computer File: CAISSE2

AMK

OCTOBER 31, 1977: THOUGHTS ABOUT RENE AND ESSIAC

1

It is impossible to write an accurate biography about this nurse because she wants the "picture" to be painted the way she "sees" it. Although I spent time off and on with her for 2½ years before managing to get a short story published about her life, Rene withheld pertinent information from me which she later revealed to Carroll Allan, Jane Hughes and Jeff Shearer when the Homemaker group became interested in doing an article about her. I believed, however, that although she trusted me to some extent, I was an unknown quantity as an unpublished writer, so I had served as a sounding board until someone more qualified came along. I sensed that Rene would never wish to "put all her eggs in one basket".

With the additional information she now offered, along with some extensive research into the Ontario Archives, interviews with doctors at the Sloan Kettering Institute for Cancer Research in New York and the Prusch Medical Clinic in Cambridge, as well as former cancer patients still alive because of Essiac treatments years earlier, we were finally able to piece together a controversial and stimulating story about Rene Caisse and her herbal remedy. Alone, I had found the challenge of sorting and sifting out hundreds of details in the enormous amount of research material, so I felt some relief when I later heard all those at Homemaker's who worked on this production make the same statement: "It was the most difficult project they had ever encountered."



Certain parts of the article, "Could Essiac Halt Cancer?", did not flatter Rene, so I felt like the "Judas" who had betrayed her because I didn't make a formal protest about certain comments that I felt were unnecessary in the story. I sensed her distrust in me, yet she relied on my presence in her life when the publication attracted a huge interest in the nurse and her remedy. The summer months were long and difficult for both of us. I continued to put together segments I had written for her "book" amidst the intense daily activity at her house.

When I showed some of my writing to her, she would approve one part and cross out another. For example, she did not wish to have her marriage elaborated upon or any discussion of the early 1950s at all. She refused to answer my lists of questions, yet she wanted my book about her finished as soon as possible.

Rene, always elusive, may remain a mystery and the biography about her should be presented in this way. I can only write about my own perceptions and those of the people involved in this drama, including many I have interviewed corresponded with.

Some of the people who entered this drama at the beginning of this year were Jeffrey Shearer, Jane Hughes (editor), Carroll Allan, and the magazine photographer Mike Gloss. The assistant editor Mebbie joined this group briefly to make a powerful contribution with one keen observation plus her own writing ability combined with that of Jane's, to present the beginning and end to the article which created such a furor.



The Bluff, R.R.#2,
Port Carling, Ontario,
November 3, 1977.

Dear Rene:

Sorry to be this long in returning the cancer letters
but for a while I lost heart and simply could not answer
them. This past month has slipped by quickly because I
was busy closing the store permanently.

I hope that your dream, that of having Essiac recognized
as having merit as a cancer remedy by the medical profession,
is realized. Perhaps, because of your recent decision to
give your formula to the Respirin Corporation, you now have
peace of mind.

Sincerely,

Shirley

Mike

RECEIVED
NOV 10 1977
PORT CARLING
ONTARIO

Writing Info - reread Sept/88

The Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation

J.R.H. KIRKPATRICK
Chairman

G.R. CUNNINGHAM
Vice-Chairman

DR. K.J.R. WIGHTMAN
Medical Director

J.H. BROUGHTON
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			W.A. Wilkinson	A.B. Young		Dr. K.J.R. Wightman

7 OVERLEA BOULEVARD
TORONTO, ONTARIO M4H 1A8
TELEPHONE: (416) 423-4240

November 16, 1977

Mrs. Ilse Verwey,
89 Thursfield Crescent,
Toronto, Ontario M4G 2N4

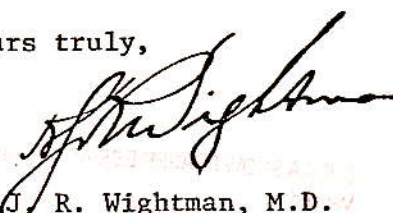
Dear Mrs. Verwey:

I really have no information about how Mr. Fingard proposes to proceed with his testing. I know that he and some of his Board visited the President of the University to see if university support could be obtained in this testing process, and the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine was speaking to me about it a day or two ago. One of the problems with Resprin in years gone by was that the Company would not allow anyone to know the composition, and therefore, it was never tested in the same way that other remedies are. One wonders if they will have the same attitude toward Essiac. I am sure that the Health Protection Branch of the Department of National Health and Welfare in Ottawa is watching the situation very closely. They can hardly intervene until such time as the material starts to be given to patients. There is really no way that the Cancer Foundation or that the National Cancer Institute can control production and research on the formula except through the discipline within our own institutions. I have no idea who the six doctors in Toronto are.

It's too bad that this matter hasn't been settled once and for all by the work that has been done already, but I don't imagine that the Resprin people will ever let it die now.

Thank you for your continuing interest.

Yours truly,


K. J. R. Wightman, M.D.
Medical Director

KJRW:mcm

MK

Dr. F.M. Fyfe }
Greig Clinic
253 James St
Bracebridge - Ontario

L GRANGER & John VIZIER
4016 - 89 ST
EDMONTON ALTA
T6K 1G3

January 9, 1978

Dear Dr Fyfe,

I hope you will remember a very upset French woman's visit to your office the day before Nurse Caisse went to Toronto to hand over her Essiac formula to Respirin Corporation - Thanks to you, Nurse Caisse gave me two 13 ounces bottles of Essiac to treat my husband's stomach cancer.

John faithfully took Essiac and, even though he required another blood transfusion and is still weak the pain has been subsiding, he is still eating and his weight has been steady between 125-130 lbs (10 more than when I went to Bracebridge) for the last six weeks - John definitely has Essiac to thank for -

We will be running out of Essiac at the end of the month so we asked a friend of ours - Sophie Arthaud of Toronto - who has an opportunity to come to Edmonton to get in touch with you and see if it will be possible for her to bring us a new and larger supply of medicine (Trips are expensive!) - As I like to ~~keep~~ my word to Nurse Caisse not to give out her address, I'd rather have our friend contact you who will in turn know if you can refer her to Nurse Caisse -

We have been in touch with Respirin Corporation but there is no way at the moment to get John treated by them -

Hoping you will be able to provide us with more medicine, we remain

MK

Very sincerely yours,
L Granger

Z. F. ENDRESS, M.D.

R. E. CRUM, M.D.

A. G. FLEURQUIN, M.D.

R. J. KARAKUC, M.D.

N. J. STRICKLAND, M.D.

RADIOLOGY

May 22, 1978

35 S. JOHNSON STREET

PONTIAC, MICHIGAN

48053

Ms. Rene Caisse
Bracebridge, Ontario
Canada

Re: Tina Thomas
16154 Lauder
Detroit, Michigan 48235

Dear Ms. Caisse:

The above female patient, age 26, has
papillary cystic adenocarcinoma of the
breast.

The patient and her family have heard
and read about Essiac and would prefer
this method of treatment. I will be
most happy to continue as needed.


Sincerely,



Alfredo G. Fleurquin, M.D.

AGF/kc

*The lady improved very fast but Dr.
refused any further information and
refused to see patients.*



Essiac Diary

June 89

The Bluff,
R.R.#2, Port Carling,
Ontario POB 1J0,
June 27, 1978.

Dear Malcolm:

I arrived home about two weeks ago, having been unexpectedly detoured. When I arrived in Ottawa (and received your letter), I was summoned to Elliot Lake where my father was visiting my sister. He had caught a chill and was hospitalized for a month in a life and death struggle with pneumonia. We faced the possibility of a nursing home because his mind had gone - and looked over the available ones. Fortunately, he began to recover and now he is well enough to be at home for the summer.

I just learned that Eve is in hospital and am most concerned. Is this perhaps why she did not answer my February letter which was full of questions which she'd given me permission to ask?

Malcolm, the more I learn about the cancer picture, the less I feel confident about preaching. Exactly a year ago several of us believed that Essiac really could have merit as a cure for cancer. Then we faced the fact that the formula, as Rene Caisse was preparing it, wasn't working on the volunteer patients who had terminal cancer.

RENE CAISSE RESEARCH

2163



It was a terrifying feeling to have possibly raised false hopes. I had over two hundred patients waiting to hear the results and had to send them a negative report at the end of 1977.

My personal belief was that there were at least three reasons for this outcome. Because of ill health, Rene Caisse now relied on dried imported herbs of indeterminate age (medicinal value can fail after one year) and their source of origin was not definitely known. In the past, she picked and prepared Muskoka herbs which grew in mineral-rich soil.

The second reason is our North American diet of today with its carcinogenic additives. People in the 20s, 30s, and 40s did not have to contend with this and therefore their systems responded more effectively to combat malignancies.

And finally, the two doctors clinically testing Essiac were hampered because Rene doled out only enough of her brew to treat each patient once a week. There was no opportunity to experiment with stronger and more frequent doses.

When I checked with medical doctors and herbalists in the states, they all agreed that Essiac could have failed because of these three problems.



As I continued cancer research in Florida, I learned that a cancer victim has to change his whole nutritional life style.

The first important step is detoxification. This consists of cleansing the colon, which means purging, fasting, and enemas (coffee) with colonic irrigation. It also includes the cleansing of the kidneys, cleansing the lungs, cleansing the skin, and exercising. This part of the program is extremely difficult. I know because I tried it and found it very much worthwhile.

Detoxification is followed with the maintenance of an adequate well balanced diet with sufficient nutritional supplements, proper neurological stimulation, and a positive spiritual attitude of optimism.

Those willing to follow a very comprehensive prospectus will be successful but the struggle is tedious and laboriously slow. The time involved can take from 3 months to 12 months, depending on the location and size of growth, and with the depression a cancer patient suffers, the chore can become exceedingly difficult.



The problem which exists today in the orthodox treatments is that a tumor may regress with radiation or chemotherapy, but the patient could still die of toxic poisoning as the mass is dissolved and excreted through the body. Most people don't die directly of cancer but of toxemia because waste products accumulate and gradually overburden the body.

I had no wish to lecture Eve about what to do and what not to do because I have grown fearful about what a cancer patient has to go through. When I got no feed back from her about the questions, I thought it best to leave her alone. I had hoped to present her problem to some authorities on the subject and to then give her advice from these qualified people. I knew she had been through a dreadful ordeal when Laetrile failed to help her.

I have just been asked to work with a young man with cancer in his spine. The best way to help, I feel, is to encourage him to read the most informative books available, to make him aware of the side effects of radiation and chemotherapy, and to give him strong incentive to fight.

SHEILA SNOW FRASER ESSNAC ARCHIVE
English

Date:



- 5 -

If you feel that I can be of any help or encouragement to Eve either by sending pertinent information or by visiting her personally myself, please don't hesitate to phone me. The best time to reach me is in the evenings after 9 p.m.

Did you ever receive my March 20th letter together with the American part of the Essiac story? I never received any acknowledgement for them, so wondered. Please let me know how Eve is.

Most sincerely,

SHIRAZ FRASER ESSAC ARCHIVE

Verified

Date:

