

Old Times Recalled

EARLY LIFE ON THE ST.
JOHN RIVER OVER ONE
HUNDRED YEARS AGO

Bishop Plessis of Quebec Visited
Fredericton and Found Poor Hotels
—Came by Schooner

(Walter H. Golding)

Walter H. Golding, a former Saint John newspaper man, writes an interesting article on the visits to the St. John river, including Fredericton, made one hundred and twenty-two years ago.

The then Bishop of Quebec in his memoirs tells of travelling conditions and hotel accommodation in Fredericton and of his trip up the river by schooner in 1815. Mr. Golding, writing in The New Freeman of Saint John, says:

The Christian religion was first promulgated in New Brunswick through the Catholic faith. Recollet Fathers coming with Champlain away back in 1604. Shortly after that date, Jesuit Fathers established missions among the Indians on our noble river. It will be recalled that the site of one of these Missions is suitably marked with a bronze tablet on Caton's Island near Brown's Flats at the head of Long Reach. Later the Anglican Church also established missions in our province.

Therefore, the visit of Bishop Plessis, nearly 122 years ago, and the achievements of that visit in establishing churches and visiting the missions, quite rightly belongs to the secular as well as the religious history of New Brunswick. The facts should be known by our children and children's children—and then on. It is important, too, not only for the actual value of such knowledge, in tracing the development of the country spiritually as well as economically but, also, for their inspirational worth, their sentiments, elements which always tend to strengthen character and breed good Canadianism.

In telling the story of the visit of Bishop Plessis of old Quebec into sparsely settled sections of this province nearly a century and a quarter ago, the lordly Saint John River again plays an important role. I wonder if when we journey on this magnificent

stream, or traverse its shores by motor, we fully contemplate the part it has taken in the lives of the people of New Brunswick, what a factor it has been in attracting tens of thousands of souls to its fertile shores and sloping farmlands—what it still means in 1936?

From the days when hundreds of Indian war canoes rested on the bottom of the Saint John estuary, now our great harbor of Saint John, down through the romantic period of the advancing French seigneurs; then through its shoreland occupation by pre-Loyalist families, followed by the great incursion of patriotic Britishers from the revolted American States, the Saint John River seems to have been an instrument in the hands of the Deity in shaping the destinies of the province in perhaps a greater degree than any other of our natural facilities.

And so, when years rolled around to the early 1800's, it was again a vehicle of history in the instance of the distinguished Prelate of the Catholic Church, the Bishop of Quebec, who employed it as his means of fulfilling an arduous mission, a mission fraught with physical danger and even less comfortable anxiety and all the other unforeseen difficulties to which religious pioneers have been exposed up to the present day.

On his trip to Saint John and his somewhat synopated journey by sailing craft to the upper waters of the river, Bishop Plessis was accompanied by a small party, his chaplain and others. In the quaint narrative, to follow these introductory paragraphs, the reader will note the chronicle of the trip is more in the nature of a personal sidelight on living conditions of the time, the somewhat primitive modes of travel and hotel accommodation and does not deal directly with the missions themselves. It affords a graphic insight into conditions in primitive New Brunswick by an observing traveler, some written by the Bishop himself and some by his companions. Some of the names too are curiously spelt and the reader will probably conclude that the Captain "Sigi" is meant to mean that old New Brunswick family name of Seale.

(To be Continued)

SOCIAL HAPPENINGS

Expected to Arrive

Mrs. A. Hamilton McKee of Ottawa is expected to arrive in the city this evening to be the guest of her sister-in-law, Mrs. J. Harry Robertson.

Picnic Supper

The Bible Class of St. Paul's United church and officers and teachers of the Sunday school held a picnic supper yesterday afternoon at Taymouth. The Ladies' Aid of the United church at Taymouth served the supper. After supper games and contests were enjoyed. In spite of the rain everybody had a very enjoyable time.

Miss Doreen Geldart

Miss Doreen Geldart of the Department of Agriculture, spent the week end in Saint John, where she was the guest of her sister Mrs. Roy O'Keefe.

Club Luncheon

A club luncheon was held today at the Golf Club. Covers were laid for fifty guests, the tables being decorated with early summer blooms. Following luncheon Bridge was played.

Hon. Philippe Roy

Hon. Philippe Roy, Canadian minister to France, who was in Ottawa last week left recently for Quebec, where he will visit his son-in-law and daughter, Baron and Baroness Carl Falkenberg.

SOCIAL

Left on Motor Trip

William Martin of Bath, Miss Greta Welsh, of this city, and Wendal Wilson of Kingston, Jamaica, left on a motor trip yesterday afternoon through Nova Scotia to Halifax, and expect to be gone about ten days.

Was Graduated With B. A. Degree

J. G. Robichaud of the Old Age Pension Commission and Mrs. Robichaud, returned last evening from Bathurst, where they attended the commencement exercises of the Sacred Heart College. They were accompanied home by their son Lorenzo who was a member of the graduating class, he having received his B. A. degree.

Had Planned Murder

(Continued from Page One)

blood an oath with other members to carry out the plot.

"We were told there would be three other men who would see that if we didn't do the job we would be 'taken care of ourselves,'" Dean testified. Several attempts to kill Kingsley failed, and the editor once outdistanced the 'death squad' in a wild night automobile chase before Markland was defeated and the death plot was dropped, Dean testified.

The Defendants

In addition to Markland, who until recently was an aide to Prosecutor Duncan C. McCrea, the defendants in court were Arthur F. Lupp sr., state commander of the Black Legion; Leslie J. Black, president of the Wolverine Republican League; Clarence C. Frye, Alvis Clark, Albert Schneider and Frank Rice, suspended automobile plant employees; Rudyard K. Wellman, garage operator; Sergt. Walter Pierce Pontiac policeman, and Willard Foster and Frank F. Howard, suspended Highland Park fire department employees. Roy Hepner, the 12th defendant, waived examination.

Hepner Rice, Clark and Schneider signed the blood pact with him, Dean testified, and he was given a revolver for which he paid Lupp \$5. Numerous meetings followed.

"At one of the meetings they were panning me," Dean testified. "Lupp, Markland and Hepner were bawling me out for not killing Kingsley. Markland kept saying how important it was to get that guy."

Dean said he went out '25 to 30 times to 'get' Kingsley," and that each time there were complaints of his lack of success in the murder mission.

Mrs. W. T. Whitehead, formerly of this city, now of Montreal, is visiting relatives in Saint John."

Miss Emma Thompson has arrived from Toronto and is spending a few days in the city.

Earl Beatty Engaged To

Mrs. Dorothy Sands

The engagement of Earl Beatty, eldest son of the late admiral, and Mrs. Dorothy Power Sands, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Power of Virginia, has been announced in London.

Admiral Beatty died March 10 and Viscount Borodale succeeded to his father's title. His mother, Ethel Field of Chicago, died July 17, 1932. Her son inherited \$1,000,000 upon her death.

Reception in Honor Bishop Bray

The Catholic Women's League of the Diocese of Saint John gave a charmingly arranged reception in the Georgian ballroom of the Admiral Beatty in honor of His Excellency Most Reverend Patrick A. Bray, C. J. M., D. D., Bishop of Saint John. His Excellency was accompanied by Rev. H. F. Gillen, rector of the Cathedral parish; Rev. J. Arthur Burns, diocesan chaplain, and members of the diocesan clergy. At the main entrance of the hotel and along His Excellency's route to the ballroom, Girl Guides formed a guard of honor and he inspected their orderly ranks as he passed through them. The Guides were members of the companies organization under the C. W. I. auspices. The ballroom was elaborately decorated for the occasion in the papal colors, purple and yellow, and heraldic shields were prominently displayed. A platform at the southern end of the room where the episcopal party stood to receive the many guests had above it a large replica of the Bishop's crest. Union Jacks flanked the platform. The ballroom had been arranged with palms and potted plants, and appeared as a drawing room for the occasion. The reception committee was composed of Miss Amelia Haley, diocesan president; Mrs. W. E. McMonagle of Moncton, the first diocesan vice-president; Mrs. W. E. McMonagle of second diocesan vice-president; Miss A. Veronica Osborne of Milltown, third diocesan vice-president. During the evening an orchestra under the direction of Morris Watson rendered a number of pleasing selections.

CHILD'S DEATH

The death occurred today at noon of Joan Aileen Tennant, four-year-old daughter of Mrs. Tennant and the late George Tennant. Deceased had been living with its grandparents Dr. E. M. Wilson and Mrs. Wilson, O'Dell Avenue. Funeral announcements later.

Restriction On

(Continued from Page Eight)

very attractive showing when they anchor off the clubhouse July 23.

The postponed monthly meeting of the Club was held in the clubhouse and was largely attended. The President, Donald F. Smith, was in the chair, and Kenneth Moore was appointed Secretary in place of Harold F. Porter. The reports presented by the management committee on the cost of all repairs and painting to the clubhouse were favorably received. A vote of appreciation was passed by the club honoring Dr. G. Clowes VanWart, Mayor G. Willard Kitchen, Alderman F. S. Munroe, Messrs. R. L. Phillips, R. G. Fulton and John Neill for the part they played in putting the club in shape which was almost destroyed by the disastrous ice jams which took out the railway bridge just below the clubhouse. The new coat of paint given the clubhouse represents the colors of the club and is very attractive.

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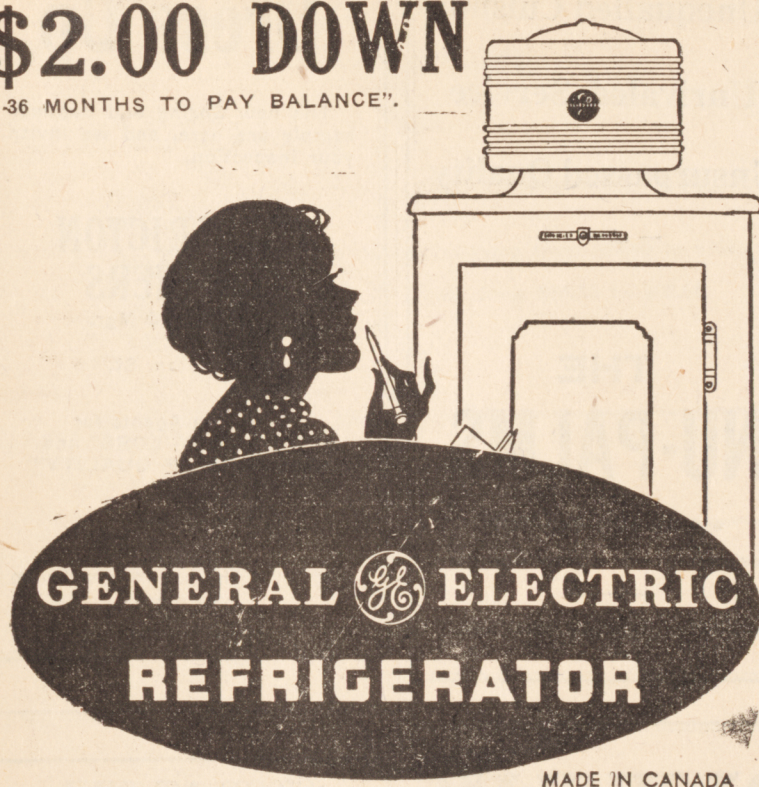
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