

THE SAINT JOHN-FREDERICTON TOURIST CONTROVERSY

Attracted Continent-Wide Attention—Tourists Abandoned Roads, All Ports of Entry Were Blocked—"Observer" Writes This as It May Be Written a Year From Now.

Only now, perhaps, can the true facts of the unique and spectacular contest between the Fredericton and Saint John tourist agencies be given to the public in their true light. This strange and unprecedented struggle was unique in the annals of advertising and publicity and attracted continent wide attention. At the time, however, so much confusion and mis-statement prevailed that the general public were never in possession of the true facts. It is time now to try to clear up this mystery.

The first trouble arose in August, 1936, with the protest of the Saint John Hotel Association, who claimed that the Fredericton Board of Trade was allowing its publicity agents in Maine to misrepresent tourists coming to New Brunswick. It was alleged that these agents were telling tourists that the road from St. Stephen to Saint John was undergoing alterations, and was for the most part unsuitable for traffic. It was charged that the tourists were being routed from St. Stephen to Fredericton as a consequence. This charge was denied by the President of the Fredericton Board of Trade, who claimed that in the past Saint John had had an unfair share of the traffic because tourists had all been routed to Saint John at the border, and giving no opportunity to visit Fredericton.

The Saint John authorities then countered by sending over their own agents to Maine with instructions to inform all prospective visitors to New Brunswick that the road from St. Stephen to Fredericton was impassable owing to the whole road being rebuilt. This resulted in tourists abandoning altogether Calais and St. Stephen as a port of entry, and attempting to enter at Houlton. Here, however, they found the St. John agents on the spot who informed them that the road from Houlton to Woodstock had been condemned and also the river road from Woodstock to Fredericton. The Fredericton agents vigorously denied this, but to no avail. The tourists wouldn't risk it. Fredericton then determined that if Saint John was going to block all means of approach to Fredericton, they, themselves, would see to it that all ports of entry were blocked. Since Saint John had effectively blocked all approaches to Fredericton, the only thing to do was to keep out all tourist travel, it being possible for incoming traffic to reach Saint John by routes that didn't touch Fredericton. Consequently, all would-be visitors were met at border points by the Fredericton agents who informed them that all the main roads of the province were being rebuilt and were closed to motor traffic. This time Saint John's denials were ineffective.

The matter had resulted in a stalemate so far as motor traffic was concerned. Some tourists, however, resolved to come by water. The rival agencies were not to be circumvented so easily though. Fredericton agents were posted at all the chief embarkation ports to dissuade any prospective travellers from sailing for Saint John. Travel by boat from Boston to Saint John practically vanished, as the tourists were told that there was a dock strike in St. John which made it impossible for any vessel to be docked. The steamer, Princess Helene, running between Saint John and Digby, had to be laid off for lack of traffic.

There were still, however, some determined people who planned to get a sight of New Brunswick by some means; and these people resorted to airplanes. It is now known that air propaganda was circulated in the United States by the Saint John agents who stated that there was only one airport in New Brunswick, just a few miles from Saint John. This would make visits to Saint John feasible, but, it was said, there was no possibility of visiting Fredericton in that fashion, as an airplane could not land anywhere in the vicinity of that city. Fredericton retaliated by publishing and circulating a pamphlet in the United States purporting to show that nine out of every ten planes that attempted to make a landing at the air field near Saint John were wrecked in the process. This propaganda effectively checked all air travel.

During all this time feeling ran very high. Some Fredericton agents caught operating in Saint John itself were given penitentiary sentences of from 99 to 200 years each. Following this, a Saint John agent apprehended in Fredericton was exiled to the French penal settlement at Devil's Island, by arrangement with the French government. All traffic between Saint John and Fredericton, was, of course, discontinued. Anyone trying to travel from one place to another was arrested and placed in newly-constructed concentration camps. This was the situation at the end of the tourist season of 1936. During the following winter both sides made elaborate plans to circumvent each other when the next season began.

June, 1937 arrived, and an amazing thing happened. The province became literally flooded with tourists. Both cities looked on amazed. What had happened? The tourists were now coming by train. It was as simple as that. In all the propaganda of the preceding year, no thought at all had been taken of the most obvious and oldest established vehicle of the tourist trade. When the influx started neither city had any plans

Four Thousand

(Continued from Page Eight) lization to these parts, is situated on the Skiff Lake road, a few miles from Canterbury, and not many miles from the old Indian village of Meductic. Through the efforts of Very Rev. Dean McLaughlin, a grotto containing a life-size statue of this famous missionary saint of the thirteenth century, was recently erected on the grounds. The energy of Dean McLaughlin was largely in evidence yesterday by the manner in which he handled the large gathering. Both the ceremonies and the sermons were marked with dignity and were made impressive by the fact that the sermons were such as could appeal to men and women of all denominations.

Outlook

(Continued from Page One) Italians in Spain, Mussolini will not consider the French neutrality proposal until he returns from his holiday in the coming week.

Britain—Continues to support the French appeal for neutrality "Franco-British co-operation," comments the Paris newspaper Le Temps, "has been the reality whose value for safeguarding peace must be fully appreciated. Britain's determination to stand beside France for a policy of non-intervention will doubtless help bring Germany to regard the proposed agreement with favor."

Portugal—French and British diplomatic representatives discussed the neutrality pact with the Portuguese foreign minister.

Darker in Spain

While the international skies clear somewhat, the outlook darkens in Spain itself. Heavy offensives by sea, land and air are imminent. Both sides as usual claim victory within a few days. The bombardment of the island of Ibiza by government forces was halted to permit a British warship to take off 20 British subjects.

In the Far East gloomy views are held. The newspaper Yomiuri Shimbun of Tokyo sees the possibility of the civil war dividing the whole of Europe into two camps. The Left camp, says the paper, will presumably comprise Britain, France, Belgium, Russia, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Yugoslavia, and Turkey. The Right camp Italy, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria, Finland, and the small Baltic states. "Under such conditions," it adds, "there is no guarantee that the present civil war will not lead to a second world war."

SPENT FAIRLY RESTFUL NIGHT

Friends will be pleased to know that Mrs. Percy Meehan, who has been seriously ill for the past few days, spent a fairly comfortable night at the Victoria Public Hospital. Today her condition is reported to be improved.

formed to combat it. To their amazement each city found that it was getting more traffic than ever, and at the present date of writing, August 1937, normal conditions are once more in sight.

SOCIAL HAPPENINGS

Dr. and Mrs. James M. Palmer and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth B. Palmer, of Toronto, are visiting friends in this city. Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Palmer are going to Chipman tonight to visit Mrs. Palmer's old home. Dr. Palmer, formerly a prominent educationalist in Fredericton, will leave tomorrow for Gagetown.

Miss Fanni McCaffrey arrived from Boston over the week-end, and will spend a few days in the city.

Edwin R. Blackmere has gone for a week's camping at Ludlow as the guest of Guy Pond, at his summer camp.

John Davidson, of Rothesay, is spending the day in the city, the guest of his brother, D. C. Davidson, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Hodges.

Miss Emily Tuck, of McAdam Jct., who has been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Harold T. Smith, of Brunswick St., for the past two weeks, returned to her home yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. George G. Harris, of Montreal, were in the city yesterday en route to their home after a motor trip around the Gaspe coast. Both Mr. and Mrs. Harris have many friends here, Mrs. Harris being before her marriage, Miss Florence Goodspeed, R.N.

Miss Elizabeth McInerney and Miss Elizabeth McGuire, of the Saint John school staff, were amongst those at Skiff Lake yesterday.

R. B. Owens, former station agent at St. Stephen, was amongst those from that town attending the celebration at Skiff Lake yesterday.

Mrs. Charles Bowlan, Miss Etta Gallagher, Miss Agnes Gallagher, and James W. Gallagher, of Woodstock, were amongst the people from that town who attended the pilgrimage to Skiff Lake yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Cormier, Mrs. William Goodine, Mrs. Vernon Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Shea, T. C. Killen, John Toner, Mrs. Frank W. Rowan were amongst those going from this city to Skiff Lake yesterday.

The marriage of Miss Nellie Blair to Rev. Ernest Roy McCordick, of McAdam, is taking place at 6.30 o'clock tomorrow evening at St. Mary's Parish church, Devon. Rev. Le Roi Moores will officiate.

speaks with knowledge. Mr. Farris is a son of the late Hon. L. P. Farris of Grand Lake, and has many friends there.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Fred Payne, with their guest, Miss Myra Glasier, of Melbourne, Australia, returned yesterday from Saint John, where they spent a few days at Riverside with the Misses Reynolds.

Just returned from legal duties in presenting British Columbia cases before the Privy Council in London, John W. DeB. Farris, K.C., of Vancouver, is visiting his brother, Dr. H. A. Farris in Saint John, and looking forward to some days of enjoyment on the St. John river, as the guest of his cousin, W. G. Hay, of Los Angeles, now summering at Westfield. Of his New Brunswick holiday, Mr. Farris says in prospect that there is "nothing better" and as a native son, he

Mrs. William Wieland (nee Miss Charlotte Millet) of Buffalo, is spending the summer with her aunts, the Misses Reynolds, at Riverside, Saint John.

Miss Melissa Murphy, of Portland, Me., is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Murphy. Miss Murphy will be a guest tomorrow at the wedding of Miss Nellie Blair to Rev. Ernest Roy McCordick.

Miss Jennie Belmore is visiting friends in Saint John.

Miss Margaret Keddy and Miss Edna Morrison are in the city today and the guests of Mrs. I. A. Belmore. Miss Keddy is a sister of Mrs. E. A. Belmore.

Miss Betty McDonald, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tennyson McDonald, returned yesterday from Boiestown, where she has been spending the past two weeks. She was accompanied by her cousin, little Jean Calhoun, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Murray Calhoun, of Boiestown, who will be her guest.

Ald. Ivan McKnight motored to Moncton yesterday. He was accompanied by his sons John and Ralph, and daughter Kathleen, and nephew, Douglas Steven, who has been a guest at his home.

Mrs. A. L. Gerow was hostess at an enjoyable afternoon tea on Saturday in honor of some of their out-of-town guests. The hostess was assisted by Mrs. Kitchen, Miss Louise Whitney, of Washington, D.C., and Miss K. Davidson, of Prescott, Ont.

Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Seely, and their daughter, Miss Margaret Seely, motored to Grand Bay, Saint John, yesterday, where Miss Seely will spend a few weeks.

Mrs. Arthur Anderson and daughter Miss Jean Anderson returned yesterday from Chance Harbour, where they spent the past week.

Burpee Harden, of Montreal, was in the city yesterday, and was the guest of his uncle, Tyler Burpee.

Mrs. J. H. Calder entertained at a small but enjoyable bridge on Saturday evening at her home in honor of Miss Meany, of Ithaca, N.Y., who is visiting her sister, Mrs. W. S. Thomas and Mr. Thomas.

Birthday Party

(Continued from Page One) more the fact that those so-called, self-constituted party heads have even gone to the extent of approaching breweries and distilleries with the intention of reserving free beer and liquor on the picnic grounds.

"Under the circumstances, the only decent and dignified thing for me to do is to take the action indicated—to cancel all arrangements and to call off the celebration."

At St. Thomas, Joseph McManus, of London, chairman of the picnic committee, said after a meeting that in concurrence with the Premier's suggestion, the picnic had been cancelled. It was decided to drop the matter entirely, he said.

(Special to The Daily Mail) VANCOUVER, B.C., Aug. 10.—Hon. Harcourt Malcolm, K.C., speaker of the Bahama Islands House of Assembly, is a prominent passenger on the Canadian National Steamships liner, S.S. "Prince Robert," which sailed for Skagway, Alaska, via Gardner Canal and Sitka. He is accompanied by Mrs. Malcolm. A party of socially prominent Kansas City residents are also making the round trip.

An alleged Chinese Communist plot is causing a great deal of discussion in the Orient and is the reason for an investigation being held by high Chinese authorities at the present time. It is understood that 14 Chinese are being tried in connection with the plot.

CHICAGO, Ill., Aug. 10.—Thousands are fighting forest fires in this district today, as valuable timber lands were rendered valueless by the rising flames. Several of the blazes have reached the status of major fires. Others were said to be under control or nearly so.

DIED IN SAINT JOHN

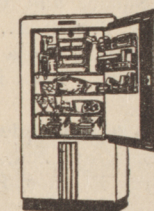
Miss Frances Seymour Barnes died suddenly yesterday at St. John. She was a daughter of the late William and Elizabeth Barnes, formerly of this city. Surviving are two sisters, and one brother in the West. Other survivors are two nephews, William and Hilton Bearisto, and three nieces, Mary, Elizabeth and Jane Bearisto, all of St. Mary's. The body was brought to the Chapel Funeral Home here and today was taken to Hampton for service to be conducted in the United Church at 4 o'clock by Rev. G. S. Fraser. Interment will be made at Hampton.

Dr. B. R. Ross DENTIST

HOURS:—
9 - 6 or by APPOINTMENT.
404 Queen Street.

1/10,000TH OF AN INCH

is only one-tenth the thickness of a human hair. Yet the vital working parts of the Westinghouse Refrigerator mechanism are made to precision limits of one ten-thousandth of an inch, accurate as the finest watch. That's why you can depend on Westinghouse for year after year of trouble-free refrigeration.



Westinghouse
Dual-automatic
REFRIGERATORS

J. CLARK & SON, LTD.
FREDERICTON, N. B., AND BRANCHES

Men - Keep A Cool Head

All Summer Hats at Half Price now at The Royal Stores Ltd., York St.

\$2.00 Palm Royal Hats now only \$1.00 each.

Lots of time yet to wear a Light Hat and save it for next year.

The Royal Stores, Ltd.

J. P. FARRELL, Manager

S H O R T S
JOCKEY SHORTS
— FOR —
SPORT OR
EVERYDAY WEAR
Everybody who sees them, buys them
Athletic Cut, Elastic Waist
PRICE — 50 cents
FLEMINGS, Of Course
S H O R T S

Special Bus to SKIFF LAKE for Passengers attending Catholic Celebration at the Shrine.

Leaves Bus Station 8 a.m. SUNDAY, AUG. 9th. Fare \$1.75 return.

Reserve your seats early. Phone 400.

Also Excursion Bus to Grand Lake Sunday 11 a.m.

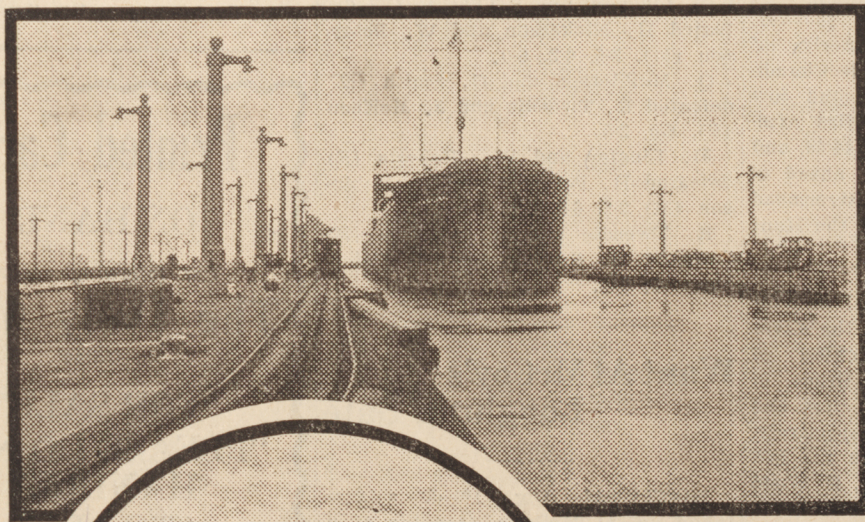
Friday night, August 7th, Bus leaves corner of Queen and Carleton 9.20 p.m. for Nashwaaksis Dance. Returning when dance over.

CAPITAL TRANSIT LIMITED
W. E. VAUGHAN, President.

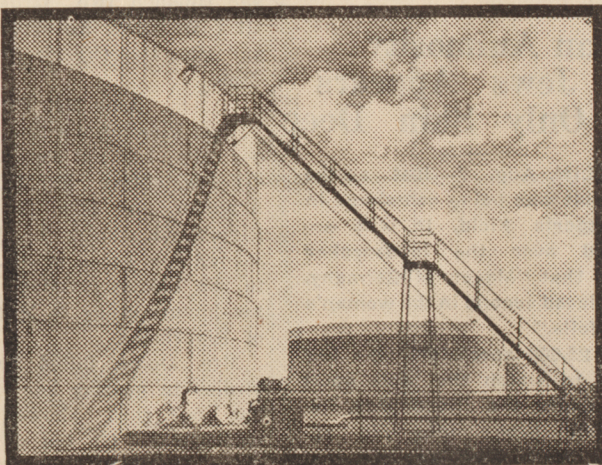
**SNAP
SHOT
DAYS**
are here again

Nothing remembers like a Kodak—be sure to take yours along. Secure an extra roll or two for the week-ends.
Our finishing prices are very moderate and we give a new roll with every roll left for finishing.
HARVEY STUDIO

If your Budget is limited as regards clothes, And you still want though buying to see the best shows And still not be puzzled by colors assorted, There's just one thing to do, so it's reported, Come where we build round a right color scheme, And whatever you buy just fits like a dream.
**Be Sure to Come to Our Sale of
Summer Clothing
WILBY'S 31 Regent St., Phone 39**



OIL ON SMOOTH WATERS... (Left) The world's largest tankship passing through the Panama Canal. She is owned by Imperial Oil interests and the best way to tell you how big she is to say if one of her cargoes of crude oil were loaded into railway tank cars, it would make a train 15 miles long.



IT'S A FARM!

—A tank farm—in which crude oil and refined products are stored. The tanks you see in the picture hold 3,000,000 gallons each. The total capacity of Imperial Oil's tanks at Sarnia is 150,000,000 gallons—a necessary provision to protect consumers against scarcity.



THE FIRST SERVICE STATION...

(Above) Canada's first gasoline service station—and perhaps the first in the world—was opened in Vancouver by Imperial Oil Limited in 1908.

VICTORIA THE BEAUTIFUL
The harbour at British Columbia's capital. In the background are the Parliament Buildings and in the foreground the marine and motor service station of Imperial Oil Limited. Atop the tower is a revolving aerial beacon. This year, more than ever, the Pacific Coast beckons to the tourist because Vancouver, British Columbia's greatest city, is celebrating its Fiftieth Anniversary.