

cranberry pickers bent at their back-breaking task. Every year hundreds of barrels of cranberries are taken from the marsh and sold in Kingston. In the early spring it is also very busy. In the early morning hours the trappers are going the rounds of their lines and gathering their harvest of muskrat skins. Another important industry is fishing. There are settlements of fishermen at "The Head" and at "The Foot" but the latest village is "Long Point" on the south shore where several fishermen from Picton have built beautiful bungalows and live during the fishing season.

During the spring, summer and autumn a trip to the mainland is always an expensive and sometimes a difficult and dangerous feat to accomplish. But when winter and ice come, how this is changed! The few days the ice is forming we are isolated but when our "bridge" is safe we have direct communication with the rest of the world. Roads are bushed from Stella to Millhaven, and "The Foot" to Collin's Bay. The best road to Kingston is straight down Lake Ontario. In the middle of winter comes Stella Horse Races. Amherst Island has become famous for its' horses both at the Winter Races and at Stella Fair.

In the days of Major Maxwell the farms were small and the people had a hard time to make a living. The result was that many left the Island to seek a fortune elsewhere. One group settled in Kansas, another near Chatham. A third settled in Nile and Dungannon. Some of the common names there are more common here - and one often hears of Finnigan's Hill, the Old Girvin Farm, and the Pentland Cemetery.

The most beautiful residence on the Island is the home of the late Daniel Fowler, noted Canadian artist. His son represented Lennox County in the Provincial Parliament at the time of his death two years ago. At present the estate is in fine condition of preservation and is worth going miles to see. Another interesting spot is the old Preston Place. During the Fenian Raids it was the scene of a fierce raid. When peace reigned again Mr. Preston dug a deep dark cellar in which to take refuge in case of another attack. The only entrance to the cellar was a secret trap-door, so the hiding-place was perfectly safe. Today it remains a useless unexplored vault.

Amherst Island has also become famous as a summer resort. Stella Point, a beautiful little wooded park, used to be the picnic grounds. Later Major Maxwell erected summer cottages which were occupied by Kingstonians. Then the fame of this quiet restful retreat spread until it was purchased by a wealthy American from St. Louis who has greatly improved the appearance of the Point and the cove.

And now Amherst Island has installed telephone, street lights, and radios and is working hard for a ferry service. The latest improvement mentioned is the installation of a delco-lighting system. Time will tell.

(Margaret Pentland)

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The ferry has been secured this month and Johnny Brown has installed in his blacksmith delco lights.