

The Editors Corner

HOME AGAIN

Perhaps the most one gets from a vacation is an appreciation of home and so it is that we are glad to be back in familiar territory after an enjoyable week of travelling in eastern Canada and the States. The railway strike put a sudden crimp in plans to attend the newspaper convention in New Brunswick, so we settled for a motor trip to Montreal, a first visit to Canada's largest city, and a return through northern New York State. It was an ambling trip with no set destination each night, which is the kind of trip we enjoy. That perfect week of weather that has been threatening all summer finally arrived and made travelling a real pleasure. We saw cities, small towns and mountains, glimpsed the Thousand Islands, the Montreal cathedrals, the ice palace at Lake Placid, the beautiful Finger Lakes, and ended up with a short view of Ontario's own special attraction, Niagara Falls. And so, back to work again.

HIGH SPOTS OF MONTREAL

A first visit to Montreal is bound to be interesting. It is the dividing line between the English-Canadian and French Canadian worlds, a melting pot of two traditions and two religions where "les canadiens" as the French term themselves and "les anglais" which they term we Ontarians live and work together, yet jealously guard their own heritage.

To one familiar with Toronto the downtown shopping district is a disappointment to the tourist. The stores are mainly replicas of the Toronto branches, Eaton's, Simpson's, etc. — even Morgan's is soon to open a branch in Toronto. The business buildings are large, though there are not so many skyscrapers. The hotels are the standard ones to be found in any large city, although the Ritz-Carlton has a more impressive front than most.

Nightclubs, once a novelty, are no longer such since Ontario relaxed the ban on cocktail bars. There is only one legitimate theatre which features the same attractions as the Royal Alexandra. The famed Gayety has fallen by the wayside as a burlesque house and reverted to straight vaudeville without even the attraction of the Casino's name stars.

Tourist interest then must centre on the cathedrals and on fabulous Westmount with its mountain lookout commanding a wonderful view of the city. Not forgetting the wax museum, with its impressive scenes of the early Christians, the Pope, early Americans and Indians and a modern touch — wax figures of the King, General Eisenhower and Field Marshal Montgomery.

Notre-Dame Cathedral we shall not attempt to describe. Anyone who has been in Montreal has seen it, anyone who goes there, will see it. Fifteen minutes allows one only to scratch the surface of its beauty, to appreciate its magnitude. Even more is this the case with the Basilica, started by Father Andre and only partly completed. Both are included in the standard tour and are in themselves worth a visit to Montreal.

A DISCORDANT NOTE

As in any tourist city, the nefarious habit of tipping is so deep rooted that it is impossible to get away from it. And in spite of strong words on the subject in a recent editorial we found ourselves without the courage of our conviction, shelling out the dimes and quarters with monotonous regularity. The height of it was when, after a fifty cent trip through the wax museum, the guide announced that he was paid no salary and depended on the generosity of his party for his livelihood, then stood with extended arm and open palm at the narrow doorway leading to the street. What would you do? It wasn't quite so bad when the guide, at the Basilica did likewise, for here of course there is no admission charge and one is free to tour the building unguided. There was one discordant note in Notre Dame Cathedral when the guide, in the midst of a description of the "wedding chapel", where as many as a dozen weddings take place on a Saturday morning, produced booklets describing the cathedral and sold them for a quarter. A church, to our mind, is not the proper place for this, nor for a souvenir booth where one can buy post cards, booklets and religious medals.

THE ADIRONDACKS ARE SOMETHING

Nothing is so appealing as a trip through the mountains and the Adirondacks are exciting. It seems no time at all after crossing the border at Champlain that one is in the midst of them, winding up and down and around these giants of nature, past mountain streams and lakes.

We had heard rather vaguely of Lake Placid as a place where skaters trained and imagined it as a small mountain town with a few cabins and a hotel or two. It was a complete surprise to enter a town as large as Georgetown with a shopping district that would put Park Avenue to shame. Never have we seen, so many beautiful stores filled with such a variety of luxury goods. Even the grocery stores didn't have just ordinary groceries. They featured delicacies which we only read about.

On the far side of the lake from the town proper, is a private club which truly is a millionaire's playground. A membership of a thousand and a staff of five hundred lives in cabins, summer-homes and apartments. The club has its own shops and theatre, grows its own produce on surrounding farms, has pri-

vate bathing beaches and ski trails. Founded originally as a sporting club, smoking and drinking are officially taboo and an 11.30 "lights out" is supposed to be in force, though how well it is enforced is open to doubt.

The summer skating season had just ended with a carnival in which Toronto's Suzanne Morrow was starred. At the huge arena, youngsters from all over Canada and the States come each summer for training. In the fall a professional hockey team takes pre-season training, then there is a lull until skiing takes over for the winter.

AN UNUSUAL TOWN

The last night on the homeward trip was spent at Cazenovia at the northern tip of one of the Finger Lakes. It is a town which one scarcely notices passing on the highway, but which is well worth a stop. On both sides of the highway there are dozens of beautiful homes, mostly white frame, many with colonial pillars, all with lovely grounds. Such signs of gracious living must betoken good industry, we thought, but there was no sign of a factory. Filling the car with gas next morning, we asked the garageman what all these people lived on and the answer came. They are retired people from New York, Chicago, Montreal and wealthy people from all over the States who use Cazenovia as a summer residence. There is no industry. The town natives make their living working in stores and restaurants or are employed in the homes of the wealthy.

The town, incidentally is of Pennsylvania-Dutch origin. It was founded in the late eighteenth century by a Dutch emigre whose name is still perpetuated in the town hotel. The natives speak with a stronger Dutch accent than the people in the Kitchener district. One good bet the hotel missed in capitalizing on town history was to feature German dishes, which would make a hit with tourists.



Jim Ferrier, the transplanted Australian who now calls San Francisco home, is the new Canadian Open Golf Champion and holder of the Seagram Gold Cup. The symbol of victory and \$2,000 first prize money in the \$10,000 tournament was presented to Ferrier by Frowds Seagram after the big golfer had burned up the Royal Montreal course with a 17-under-par 271 in the four day meet.

Second place in Canada's premier golfing tournament went to Ted Kroll of New Hartford, N.Y., while Doug Ford of Briarcliff, N.Y., pulled down third place money. Stan Leonard of Vancouver, who led the field after the first two days, wound up in a fourth place tie with Glen Teal of Memphis, Tenn. Thus Canada's hopes of keeping the Seagram Gold Cup in its homeland for the first time in its history were deferred for yet another year.

Sam Snead, top money winner in the United States for the last two years and three times winner of the Seagram Gold Cup, disappointed the large galleries who had made him the pre-tournament favourite, and wound up with a score of 282 six under par — to finish in a three-way tie for ninth place.

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