

Upper Canada Village is Described for Local Lions

Public Relations Man Tells About Seaway

Visitors to the Iroquois-Cornwall sector of the St. Lawrence River Valley now are amazed to see the remarkable transformation that has taken place on the new shoreline.

Most of the shoreline of this 40-mile stretch of the former international rapids section of the St. Lawrence on the Canadian side has been transformed into an interesting and historical park area. This is the result of the work and planning of the new Ontario - St. Lawrence Development Commission which acted to make attractive park lands following river flooding and creation of a new lake to the St. Lawrence to provide a headpond for the mammoth international electric power development built by Ontario Hydro and the New York State Power Authority. All the scars of construction now have disappeared and a beautiful new shoreline has been created along the Lake St. Lawrence banks.

A complete description of the new parkland with its recreational facilities and the historic Upper Canada Village was given by C. G. W. MacIntosh, Public Relations Officer for Ontario Hydro's Central Region, in an illustrated address at the dinner meeting of the Georgetown Lions Club in the banquet room of the Corner Cupboard Restaurant. The speaker was introduced by Lion Wilfred Briscoe and the thanks of the club members to the speaker was given by Lion Alex Blackwell.

The construction of the St. Lawrence power development demonstrated the effectiveness of international team work. This giant project that was built at a cost of some \$60 million showed how well the engineers and construction men of two friendly countries could plan and work together as one big team to construct a great international power development to serve the people of two countries in New York state and in Ontario. It was a lesson to the rest of the world demonstrating international cooperation for peaceful purposes, the speaker said.

By means of color slides, he gave the Georgetown Lions a bird's eye view of this 40-mile long project. He discussed the construction of the 2250 ft. long Iroquois control dam and its function, also the 2540 foot long curved-axis Long Sault control dam, as well as the diversion of the Long Sault rapids and eventual flooding of these rapids. The great powerhouses built into a single huge 3300 ft. long reinforced power dam also was described and the huge turbo generators and other equipment with the power houses were mentioned.

The speaker gave a brief description of the \$400 million international seaway which permits passage of almost 80 per cent of the world's freighter vessels up the St. Lawrence to gain access to the upper great lakes system and the heart of the North American continent.

Historic Village Created

One of the highlights of the talk was the description of Crayler Farm Battlefield Park and the historical Upper Canada Village created by the Ontario - St. Lawrence Development Commission on the new Lake St. Lawrence shoreline about five miles east of Morrisburg.

The Crayler Farm Battlefield Park, consisting of 2000 acres of beautifully landscaped parkland is a tribute to the soldiers and settlers of early Canada. It was here that one of the decisive battles of the War of 1812-1814 was fought. Overlooking the park is the battle monument situated on Memorial Mound. This Mound, constructed from earth taken from the battlefield before the St. Lawrence power project flooding, is at the end of an impressive small flanked by rows of oaks and maples. At the foot of the mound stands the Battle Memorial Building with its murals, tables and various historic mementos of the actual battle.

At Upper Canada Village, visitors get the impression of the calendar being turned back more than a hundred years, and having the opportunity of stepping into the midst of some of Canada's early history. All the nostalgic charm of the past is captured and held in Upper Canada Village. It is the recreation of a typical St. Lawrence Valley Community of the 19th century and all the more than forty buildings have been relocated in the Village from their original sites along the river bank, and each has been restored or refurbished with painstaking accuracy.

Paradoxically, Upper Canada Village exists today because of the strides of modern progress. When the gigantic St. Lawrence Power Project and the Seaway were undertaken in 1961-63, it



C. G. W. MacINTOSH
Hydro Public Relations Officer

meant the end of existence of several small towns along the Ontario shoreline of the international rapids section because their sites were completely inundated by the river's deepening and widening. The decision to proceed with the planning and building of this realistic and typical village of the past, also the historical Crayler Farm Battlefield Park, is a tribute to the imaginative forward thinking and planning by the Parks Commission and its chairman, the Hon. George Chalmers, also the Ontario government, to create an authentic permanent link with Canada's early history and provide a valuable tourist attraction.

Old Buildings Preserved

Upper Canada Village nestles peacefully on the shore of the new Lake St. Lawrence and because of its historically accurate development, mirrors faithfully an important era in this nation's early history. Some of the outstanding buildings in this village include Cook's Tavern which was used as headquarters by the American General Wilkinson during the Battle of Crayler's Farm in November, 1813. This tavern was a famous inn on the old Coach Road along the river shore. Travelers journeying by coach between Kingston and Montreal used to stop at this well-known

hostelry as well as those travelling by bateaux coming up the river. The tavern was damaged in the battle of 1813 but was later restored after the owner Michael Cook claimed war damages. It is now furnished and restored to its appearance in 1835 when it was a busy inn.

Crysler Hall, the most imposing building in the village, was built by John Pliny Crysler, and has been restored externally to its exact original condition. It is a classical structure with white doric columns and brick wings of majestic appearance. The interior now is being used as a Museum of Settlement containing documents, pictures, utensils, jewelry, etc., telling the way of life in the various small villages of the area in the past.

There are a number of historical homes as well as two fine, old churches. One of these is Christ Church moved from Moulinette and is typical of an Anglican Church of 1837. The other church is Providence Church from Easton's Corners, built about 1850 and used by all denominations whenever the appropriate clergyman or circuit rider arrived.

Mr. MacIntosh pointed out that one of the significant things about this historical village is the fact that so many of the buildings contain equipment that is being operated just as it was a century or more ago. For instance, the woollen mill produces wool and the saw mill cuts wood in the old fashioned ways, powered by the force of water streams. In several of the buildings various handicrafts are carried out by people in old time costumes in the manner that this work was done in the 19th century. It is educational because these are not static displays but offer so much working equipment and activity that there are innumerable things of interest for visitors to see.

Mr. MacIntosh pointed out in conclusion that this historical village has helped to preserve the illustrious heritage of the Canadian people and to keep for posterity a faithful reproduction of conditions in the early formative years in this country's development.



— Peter Jones, Georgetown

SANTA'S LITTLE HELPERS

THIS MAY NOT be the popular image of Santa's elves in their workshop but chances are this group is working just as hard. This was the scene in the Fire Hall Thursday night as Lions and Firemen work together to bag candies and oranges for the thousands of children who greeted S. Claus at the four corners Saturday. Gnomes busy at this particular table are Muri Allison, John Zorge, Jim Valentine, Clarence Carey, Jim Carney, George Louth, Ivan Crabtree, Paddy Woods, Dick Licata, Bill Hyde, Bob Brick, Bob Bonfield, Clare Francis, Fred Zorge and Wilf Brisbois.

FARM NEWS

Crop Rotation Stress At Annual Meeting

By J. A. F.
Sam Finnie, president of the Halton Soil & Crop Improvement Association, has announced that this year's annual meeting will stress topics on Crop Rotation and Crop Management.

At a directors' meeting of the Association, it was decided to hold the annual meeting in the Union Hall, Milton, on Wednesday, January 10th. The programme will get under way at 10:30 a.m., with a panel discussion on the subject, "Are you

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