

Special holiday celebrates first Lt-Governor

by Rod Deacon
See how well you do on the following Canadian history question:
"Which of the following statements is false?"

- John Graves Simcoe, Ontario's first lieutenant-governor, commissioned the first accurate map of the province;
- Simcoe introduced habeas corpus;
- He founded York, later Toronto;
- He set in force free election;
- He provided for Upper Canada's first newspaper;
- He was called Lord Simcoe.

Answer
If you spotted the final statement as the incorrect one, give yourself a pat on the back. John G. Simcoe was not an aristocrat; he was never knighted; he never received peerage. One of the greatest disservices to him was calling a Toronto hotel "Lord Simcoe." He was never a lord!

These questions and others form part of something called "The Simcoe Quiz." Should you happen to be at this Sunday's Toronto Blue Jay - California Angels baseball game at Exhibition Stadium, you'll discover more about the life and times of John Graves Simcoe.

As part of the special Simcoe Day (August 4) celebrations a pre-game ceremony will take place wherein Ontario's first lieutenant-governor will ride from the outfield to home plate, drawn by four Hackney horses, aboard a specially built coach, once the pride and joy of Sir Henry Pellatt. It's a "pitch for history" so to speak. John Graves Simcoe was the foun-

ding father of Upper Canada.

In the role of Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe will be Charles J. Humber, a 44-year-old English teacher in the Toronto area. Residents of Simcoe County will recall the four day re-enactment staged last summer by the John Graves Simcoe Memorial Foundation commemorating Simcoe's 1793 twenty-six day voyage from

Toronto to Penetang harbour.

Simcoe's observations on that particular journey (he made several trips during his term in Canada) led to the government's decision to establish a naval and military base in "Pennatangushene", with its natural and well protected harbour.

Several reeves and officials from Simcoe county have made plans to attend the pre-game ceremonies this Sunday in Toronto, on the eve of Simcoe Day.

Charles Humber confirmed earlier this week that Simcoe County warden Al McLean and former warden William Gibbons, reeve of Innisfil township, will attend the event, along with reeves Ken Wood of Bradford, Doug Jackson of Victoria Harbour, Howard Campbell of Oro, George Bouey of Vespra, Anne Monkman of Cookstown, Ingram Amos of Medonte, Herb Stevens of Coldwater, Sheridan McGinty of Beeton, Roy Guardhouse of Tecumseh, and the clerk of Simcoe County, Al Pelletier.

Last year, Simcoe County council voted to adopt the August civic holiday as Simcoe Day as the official name. It is now known, and referred to as such.



Take me out to ball game

Sitting aboard Sir Henry Pallent's famed Brewster Coach, Ontario's first Lieutenant-Governor, John Graves Simcoe, (alias Charles Humber) urges the Blue Jay's mascot on to Exhibition Stadium for this Sunday's special Simcoe celebrations. At that time

Simcoe will be pulled across the playing field by four Hackney horses to make a "pitch for history." Incidentally, the coach was worth \$2,400 in 1893. Today it is valued at more than \$30,000.

photo by Arnold Matthews of Toronto

Queen to compete at CNE

Nancy Trace, Elm-vale Fall Fair Queen, will take part in the

annual 'Miss CNE - Queen of the Fairs' pageant to be held



Fair Queen Nancy Trace

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August 12-13 at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto.

This year, a total of 103 entries from their respective Agricultural Societies will be competing for the crown and the honour of reigning over 20 days of the exhibition.

The event will be staged in the main arena of the Coliseum with pre-judging at 10:15 a.m. August 13 and the final judging at 2:30 p.m. The winner is expected to be crowned at approximately 4 p.m.

According to the 18 year-old farm girl, all contestants will be housed for the two day event at Addison Hall in the University of Toronto. Pajama parties, dinners, tours of the CNE and some free time are included in the agenda for the girls, said Nancy, as well as the contest itself.

The girls, she said, are interviewed and take part in a rehearsal August 12 followed by the actual judging day on the 13th. The girls

will be present on stage when 10 finalists are chosen, who then give a three to four minute speech. Five contestants are chosen from the group to go on

and answer questions from the judges. The final choice of three girls is then made.

Gifts to the winners of the pageant will include

scholarships, cash awards, a set of encyclopedias, clothing and jewellery.

Nancy hopes to place well at the Queen of the

Fairs pageant, but says that either way, she will still be attending Wilfrid Laurier University in the fall in her bid to eventually become a chartered accountant.

Community and Recreation Resource Inventory in swing

The Simcoe County Recreation Department's Summer Youth Employment staff have been involved in completing the second

of three stages of their "Community and Recreation Resource Inventory." This stage involves the collection of all available information relating to sports groups, facilities and service organizations throughout the 36 municipalities in the County of Simcoe.

The majority of their information has been obtained from municipal offices and local resource centres such as libraries,

newspapers and the Chambers of Commerce.

In addition, the facility inventory for Simcoe County distributed by the Ministry of Natural Resources has proved to be a definite asset to our data collection. They have also been telephoning secondary contacts as well as sending out mailed surveys to numerous key community people. They have made arrangements to cooperate with other recreation resource teams in the areas of Midland, Alliston, Barrie and Wasaga Beach in order to save

time and avoid duplication.

The third stage of the programme will be the collation and distribution of the "Community and Recreation Resource Inventory" booklet, which will be completed by the end of August.

It is hoped that this booklet will become a useful tool for further community recreation awareness in Simcoe County. For more information, contact them at 726-9300, Ext. 255, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Ontario is best customer

Ontario is its own best customer when it comes to tourism. Ninety-seven per cent of visitors to the Collingwood-Midland-Orillia area are residents of Ontario. Forty-nine per cent of these visitors live in

Metro Toronto. Visitors from the United States, as a percentage of total trips, have declined in recent years by 2.2 per cent per year. This trend is expected to continue, says a consulting firm.