



They Emerged Gold Medal Winners

Known as the Dennis Moore Dancers the above girls emerged gold medal winners at the Peel Festival in Port Credit last April 20. From the left: Front row — Janis Goodman, Elizabeth Tucker, Valerie Eccles. Back row — Carol Russ, Jean Tibando, Eleanor Williams, Molly Pitman and Heather Hughes.



Her Number The Syncopated Clock

Youngest entry in the 36-year history of the Peel Festival was Denise Sexton shown above. She received a bronze medal for the number Syncopated Clock.



They Were Second Year Winners

Gold Medal winners for the second year in a row at the Peel Festival were Darlene Harcourt and Craig Shuttleworth. They gathered a total of 86 points.

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And They Said I Couldn't Find Toronto

9 Days-4000 Miles And 14 States

The following article by Pauline Abbott describes in entertaining manner a recent motor trip she made with friends to New Orleans. Mrs. Abbott who has been a resident of Richmond Hill at 251 Harrygan Crescent for the past eight years will shortly be returning to her homeland with her husband who has been transferred back to England. — The Editor.

Most of my friends were more than surprised when I told them that I intended driving to New Orleans during the Easter holidays. My companions were to be my 10 year old daughter Lesley, and my co-driver was to be Jean Sullivan who also planned to bring her daughter Frances along.

Since I have a reputation of not being able to find my way as far as Toronto without getting lost my ability to make the four thousand mile return trip to New Orleans and back raised considerable doubts in friends, family and neighbors. We did, however, accomplish our objective and in future I do not intend to tolerate any insults concerning my ability as an automobile navigator.

Windsor was our first stop and Friday morning we crossed over into Detroit and started south passing through Toledo, Dayton, Cincinnati heading for Louisville, Kentucky, where we spent the second night of our journey. On the Saturday we drove to Mammoth Cave National Park where we picnicked and joined a guided tour of the Mammoth Cave. We were told that the cave is the largest national cave in the world and I can believe this claim to be true. We were only able to take in the winter tour of the cave because at the time of the year much of the cave is flooded. The full tour of the cave covers seven miles but the 2 1/4 mile winter tour was quite enough exercise for me. The tour, however, was well worth while and the cave is indeed one of the wonders of nature.

Fined For Speeding

Back to the car and on with our southward jaunt we left Kentucky and entered into Tennessee through Nashville and Columbia where we encountered the first misfortune of our trip. To recount the incident briefly we were hauled into the local jail on a charge of speeding. I was not a reckless driver and the incident took place because in this particular part of the United States the speed limit on highways changes from night to day. Our explanation to the local police that we were not aware of this fact proved of little avail and in accordance with the laws we were fined \$15.00 and allowed to proceed on our way.

That night we stayed in Cullman and the next morning crossed the border of Tennessee and into Alabama.

The weather was gloriously hot and we were glad that in the morning before setting out we discarded our winter woollies and donned our summer clothes. In our haste to leave on the trip we had forgotten to pack a travelling iron and by this time we were taking on a rather creased appearance but concern for personal appearance was of little significance in comparison to the joys and excitement of the trip.

It was the first time that Lesley and I had travelled south in the winter and the progressive growth of the trees as we travelled farther south, changing as they did from the bare starkness of the branches in the north to the budding and then full foliage of leaf and flower as we entered deeper into the south, appeared to us to be like a fantasy of nature. I recoiled from the thought of the return journey in which this process would be reversed. The sight of Spanish moss hanging so gracefully from the ancient oak trees, the magnolia trees, though not yet in bud, and the many colorful flowers growing everywhere was an enchanting sight that will remain long impressed upon my mind.

Used Sideroads
 At no time during the trip did we follow the route of the main highways but chose the secondary roads that took us through every little town and wound through the picturesque countryside. Though this means of travel meant more travelling it was well worth the effort.

Sunday evening we reached the outskirts of New Orleans and stayed in Slidell. Approaching Slidell there was a short piece of dual highway that we were compelled to take and while traversing it we met a car approaching us on the wrong side of the road. When we got over the shock we all agreed that our plan of following the secondary roads was a very good one indeed.

We arrived in New Orleans on Monday morning and after driving through the city we parked the car near the French

quarter and then set off on foot.

The antique shops in the first street that Jean and I walked through were so fascinating that we had to restrain ourselves from tarrying otherwise we would never have had time to see anything else.

We walked to Jackson Square which seems to be a paradise for artists and here Lesley had her portrait done in charcoal while Frances, herself a budding artist, watched over the shoulder of the painter.

After visiting the famous French market we toured the entire French quarter by car and admired the graceful balconies that adorned the many small buildings. We slowed down sufficiently to peep through into the courtyards at the beautiful little patios hiding themselves like little sanctuaries behind the shops and houses. We loved everything about the French quarter and although our visit was only a brief one it was quite obvious to us that it is set up especially for the tourist. The look of some of the antiques is just a little too new and bright.

Homeward Bound

Having spent as much time as we dared in New Orleans we set out on our return trip to Slidell and spent Monday night there. Tuesday morning we took the coast road to Mobile and stopped near Beloxi for a picnic on the beach overlooking the Gulf of Mexico. Following lunch we headed north east through Montgomery, Alabama, and into Georgia passing through Atlanta and on through the northern tip of South Carolina finally stopping again near Charlotte in North Carolina.

Our destination for Wednesday was Virginia Beach, Asheboro, Raleigh and Seaside and through in Virginia and Virginia Beach where we stayed overnight.

We then spent the evening in Williamsburg returning to Virginia Beach to stay overnight. Next morning the girl and I swam and we had lunch on the beach. We had all been so enchanted with Williamsburg we decided to see it again in daylight and spent most of the day there. Then on to Richmond going North West now and stopping that night near Charlottesville. We were all looking forward to the Friday morning drive through the Shenandoah National Park. The Skyline Drive was beautiful and we couldn't resist fre-

quent stops to photograph and gaze at the view. Consequently we were behind schedule on this last day and we were anxious to get home on Saturday.

How we drove due north into Pennsylvania through Harrisburg, Punxsutawney and Ridgeway, and then into New York State. We reached a town called Salamanca and were resigned to the fact that we were going to be very late getting home. There were no garages or motels open and we had trouble with the car generator so we weren't drive on further before getting it repaired because it was draining the battery. We enquired at a restaurant we spotted open and a very kind man phoned a garage owner he knew close by. He was able to repair it which was very decent of him. It was a two hour job and he worked very hard and only charged us \$8.95. His wife was very charming and offered us coffee. They wished us good luck when

we left.

As we are returning to England this summer and I probably won't have an opportunity to visit the States again it is very gratifying to have as my last memory two such very nice decent people. Good luck to them. We finally arrived home at 5 a.m. having dropped Jean and Frances off at their home. In nine days we had driven almost four thousand miles and crossed into 14 different states and we needed Sunday to get over it!

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