

Prince Edward Island

It's still the Jewel of the Gulf

by Norma McLellan

Prince Edward Island is so small that you can drive the complete circuit between breakfast and dinner. But that isn't the best way to enjoy a stay here.

Despite many years of tourist promotion, the island has lost none of its quiet charm. Everywhere the residents make tourists welcome without any side or pretension. Lack of sophistication has been no barrier to the success of a variety of tourist attractions. The best known is Confederation Centre surrounding the seat of government in the provincial capital of Charlottetown. The old government building where the Fathers of Confederation met to negotiate the terms of federation stands beside a graceful conference centre and library built to commemorate our first 100 years.

The city nestles on the edge of a deep inlet of the Strait of Northumberland which almost cuts the island in half. There are good hotels, motels and tourist homes plus a number of good places to eat. Sea food is the specialty although the island has become an important producer of prime beef. Campers and those who stay in cottages shop in

its supermarkets and browse the handicraft stores which have been opened in the old section near the harbour.

A few miles to the northwest stretch the magnificent beaches on the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Red sands and sparkling waters help you laze the days away. Further to the west you may visit the Anne of Green Gables House which commemorates authoress Lucy Maude Montgomery whose stories about a P.E.I. school girl still maintain a strong hold on the affections of North American readers. In addition to the government sponsored museum, you can visit the farm house where she spent many happy summers as a child. The original family still lives in the house and show visitors the many Montgomery mementos.

A great feature of the Island is the lobster suppers which the Lions Club and other organizations serve during the summer months. They seem to be patronized as much by the natives as visitors. We elected to visit various fishing villages for fresh ocean fish and other delicacies. You can usually get live lobster in season and cook your own.

West of Summerside on famous Malpeque Bay is Green Park which seems to receive little publicity. Here you may visit the Yeo House, a magnificent 19th century mansion built by one of the island's wealthy lumber and shipbuilding families. It's beautifully furnished in the style of the period. The old home, marine museum and shipyard are in a lovely parkland setting with camping, picnic, swimming and other recreation facilities. The attractive exhibits bring to life in the imagination what it was like when P.E.I. pioneers built ships which sailed the seven seas.

The original giants of the forest were cut, hewn into timbers and assembled by hardy craftsmen during the winter months on open-air slips. During the summer, they farmed and fished. These part-time shipwrights built fine sailing ships which were famous for their soundness and sailing qualities. The same craftsmanship and distinctive design may be seen in the many handsome old wooden homes which may be seen from one end of the province to the other. □



NEWFOUNDLAND

Unlike any other city

by Marion Morrison

Barely denting the rocky wilderness of Newfoundland, St. John's, the provincial capital, is a city unlike any other in Canada. Shaped by a harsh and forbidding environment, it remains, despite the encroachments of the 20th century, true to its origins.

Not even the tallest, most sophisticated, glass and concrete memorial to modern life can block out the almost frighteningly beautiful wilderness that seems to creep even into the heart of downtown. Nowhere is the bustle of city life loud enough to drown out your awareness of the raging seas that cut off Newfoundland from the rest of the world.

St. John's, a relatively small city with a metropolitan population of just under 19,000, rises in colourful steps from a land-locked harbour on the eastern coast of the province. The

