



OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE VICTORIA BEACH CLUB
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THE ROAD OUT

For many years the topic of a road out has been discussed at Victoria Beach. Residents of the Beach both summer and permanent, generally hold decided views on the subject, either for or against, comparatively few are undecided.

Many arguments have been put forward for and against the construction of a public highway. In the main these are:

IN FAVOR —

(1) The presently available rail service limits the use of their cottages to many summer residents. The summer week-end service to and from the Beach is adequate, but lack of service during the week prevents many overnight trips; in spring and fall the use of the Beach by many who would like to enjoy their driving these seasons is not feasible.

(2) The permanent residents complain that in winter lack of access to and egress from the Beach affects adversely not only their social and business activities but also their health. It must be remembered that the nearest medical facilities are located in Beausejour and that the train service operates only bi-weekly.

(3) Proponents of the road stated that development of the Beach is not taking place. Although the camp-site is one of the most attractive vacation spots in Manitoba, building and development is practically at a stand-still, and in fact, the depreciation and disrepair of many cottages is resulting in an overall reduction in property values.

AGAINST —

Those who oppose the road advance as their objections:

(1) The cost.

(2) The precise argument used by others as a favorable consideration, viz: that development of the Beach should be restricted, it being very pleasant as it now exists.

(3) The danger to the summer residents in general and small children in particular resultant from traffic in the camp-site.

Other arguments have been offered both for and against the road, but these are the ones chiefly put forward.

In 1951 your present mayor, Mr. Gibson and Councillors, Ateah and Pope, ran on a platform to support the construction of a public road if it were found to be financially possible and were elected.

Upon taking office in 1952, knowing the opposition to the construction of a public road, your Council concentrated on re-opening discussions with

the C.N.R. on their proposals to repair and maintain the existing private road with the present restrictions on traffic. To this the C.N.R. agreed, and failed to do. Your Council was advised in the spring of 1952 that sufficient supplies of gravel and rock would be brought in and applied to the worst portions of the road to build it up and protect it from erosion. Less than half the promised amount of rock was received, and half of this amount was not delivered until late last fall; the Municipality had to expend over \$500.00 to provide equipment, material and labor for handling this rock, and to repair the road when washouts occurred.

In the winter of 1952-53 your Council decided to approach the Provincial Government and was received with a promise to investigate and consider the matter. The Department of Public Works made

(Continued on Page 2)

FORMER MAYOR DIES

Mr. J. W. Beech, 62 years of age, of Sunset Boulevard, Victoria Beach, and Overdale Street, St. James, the former Mayor of the Beach, and active leader in Beach Associations, died December 1st in Grace Hospital.

Mr. Beech was born in Staffordshire, England; he came to Canada in 1913 and was employed by the Union Bank. In 1921 he moved to Regina where he was employed by the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company. He returned to Winnipeg in 1927 with the Fort William Elevator Company Ltd.

Mr. Beech had been Chairman of the St. James School Board, and had been President of the St. James Home and School Association, the St. James Scholarship Foundation and the Assiniboine Scout Association.

The Victoria Beach Club, through its many years, had always had the assistance of Mr. Beech. We never had to ask for his help but he was there. He has left behind many friends who will miss him indeed.

CLUB NOTES

The activities of the 1953 season were reviewed by your Council, and, following repairs at the Club House, Dances will be held regularly Friday and Saturday evenings. Because of poor attendance, the Wednesday night dances have been cancelled for this season. However, in their place it is hoped that a Wednesday evening activity will be arranged in the very near future.

THE ROAD OUT

(Continued from Page 1)

a new survey and several suggestions as to routes, and in April the Department of Public Works with the approval of the Department of Municipal Affairs made several alternative offers as to both location and financing of the road. The cost was estimated to vary from \$69,000 to over \$90,000, dependent upon the route and the Municipality was given the privilege of electing either:

- (1) To pay one-third the total cost as eventually determined, or
- (2) To pay \$20,000 as a full and complete share. The Municipality was given three years to pay for its share, however determined.

Your Council reviewed the offer and in so doing gave consideration to the following facts:

(1) That the Provincial Government engineers estimated that even had the Municipality title to the property on which the present road is located it would cost over \$60,000 to raise the grade and buttress it against erosion from the lake. The C.N.R. most obviously could not be expected to expend an amount of this magnitude and anything less would result in a continual wastage in maintenance costs.

(2) Although the terms of the Agreement call for payment within three years, since the Government fiscal year commences on April 1st and the Municipal year on January 1st, there are actually four years on which to assess the charge.

(3) In the last four years over \$7,500 has been expended in repairs and maintenance to the road out; these did not provide any permanent benefit.

Having regard to these matters your Council with Col. Nagle dissenting (Mr. Fairfield being absent overseas) voted to accept the offer of the Provincial Government on the basis that the Municipality contribute \$20,000. It was felt that any protracted delay would have prevented the commencement of the project this year; and since assurance was received from the Department of Municipal Affairs that a money by-law was not required for its authorization, approval should be given.

However, prior to formal approval being given, the Council was advised that a group of summer residents strenuously opposed the plan; accordingly a special meeting of Council was called on May 24th to allow them to present their views. This meeting was attended by some forty persons and all were given the opportunity to present arguments for and against the road. Your Council was advised that a petition by those opposing the project in course of preparation, might be expected within a few days, and agreed to receive it, but, it has not yet been presented to Council.

The Plan was, therefore, approved and the project is now underway.

Car drivers are warned that *all restrictions on traffic within the Municipality still apply*; when the road is completed it will be open to the public from the Municipal boundary to a parking lot to be situated at or near Pine Road. On all other roads and avenues traffic is and will continue to be prohibited except for vehicles operated by permanent residents on business, and it is the intention of the Council to prosecute all infractions of the traffic by-laws.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

In order to have a smooth-running operation within the Victoria Beach Club, it is essential that there be a good representative membership. In past years it seems to have been only a token gesture to join the Victoria Beach Club; however, this should not be the feeling.

As it is a Community effort, all those who participate in any type of activity sponsored by the Club, should feel obliged to purchase a Membership.

Through the years many people have felt that Club Memberships offer a free admission to activities held at the Club House. However, they do not realize that the Sports Days, Masquerade and other activities are sponsored by the Victoria Beach Club and organized by its members and will not function without the Club.

Memberships may be purchased at the Club House and from the local stores where you will find Membership blanks.

LET US MAKE IT A 100% YEAR!

* * *

VICTORIA BEACH CLUB OFFICERS

President: Carl Gow (Tel 4-6890) 359-5th Ave.

Vice-President: Maurice Thompson (Tel. 92-3565), 411 Sunset Boulevard.

Secretary: Phyllis Henderson (40-3212) 302-3rd Avenue.

Treasurer: Mrs. S. H. Spinks (93-1719) 327-5th Avenue.

House Committee: Mr. Harry Spinks (93-1719) 327-5th Avenue.

Mrs. H. Chittick, 405-1st Avenue

Mrs. H. E. Gibson, 304-3rd Ave. (40-5166)

Mr. J. T. Irving, Sunset Blvd. (93-2290)

Mr. Phil Nutter (93-5977)

Mr. Tammas Scott (40-3978)

Mr. Art Vincent (92-5281)

Mr. Harry Simpson (74-6877)

Dr. Neirmier, 303-4th Avenue.

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Beach People...

Rev. Gartrell and family are spending their vacation on Third Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Brett and daughter are holidaying at 313 Seventh Ave.

H. Porter, 135 Arthur is now at the Beach.

Norman Whyte and family are now occupying their cottage at 217 Sunset Blvd.

Mrs. H. Little, Sunset Blvd., is now occupying her cottage.

H. S. Hanson and family, 401 Sunset Blvd., have opened their cottage for the season.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Yates are now vacationing at the Beach.

Mrs. W. J. T. Kerr and Miss Jessie Kerr have opened their cottage on Sunset.

Mr. Art Vincent and family are now occupying their cottage on Sunset.

C. W. L. McKelvie, Third Ave., is now at the Beach.

Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Gow and family have opened their cottage, 359 Fifth Ave.

Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Guest, 409 Sunset, are now occupying their cottage.

Mrs. J. C. Jones, 439 Sunset, is now at the Beach.

Miss Tagg is now in her cottage, 403 Fourth Ave.

Fred Pope and family from Toronto are spending the month of July in their cottage at 302 Fourth.

Mrs. W. G. Onions and Joan have opened their cottage this week. Dr. Onions will join them next week. They are now living in Montreal.

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The Victoria Beach Herald

is YOUR Paper

... without the co-operation of all summer residents this paper would not be possible; therefore we urgently request that any notes and news that you feel would be of interest to the rest of the cottagers, please turn in to Box 1,000 at the Post Office. Any other correspondence should also be addressed to the same Box Number.

J. W. Darracott and family from Regina, are visitors for the next two weeks at the "Pope's."

Mr. and Mrs. Bill McBean, Mrs. McBean Sr., were guests of Mrs. Briggs for the month of June.

Mrs. Dorothy Garbutt is spending six weeks at Mrs. Briggs cottage.

Mr. and Mrs. J. O'Mally and family, Victoria Blvd., are vacationing at the Beach.

"Cedars Of Lebanon"

A Victoria Beach Story

— BY —

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Mr. and Mrs. D. MacKay and family, 305 Sixth Ave., are occupying their cottage for the season.

Mrs. Betty Hay-Farrally and Miss Gweneth Lloyd are now holidaying at the Beach.

Mr. and Mrs. Aiden Conklin and family are now in their cottage on Sunset.

Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Allden have returned from a trip abroad.

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MAY AND JUNE AT THE BEACH

The month of May might be called the month of migration, as regards the arrival from the South of the various kinds of birds. Although certain hardy kinds, such as crows, hawks, robins and meadow larks, appear in April as a sort of vanguard, it is in May that throngs of songsters arrive, some pressing on farther north after a few days' rest, while a few pairs remain at the Beach, to build their nests and raise their families. Large numbers of robins and juncos had arrived by the first week-end in May, and anyone walking on eighth avenue, would find that the whole thoroughfare was literally swarming with these hardy birds. The great show of migration however, was that of the wild geese and ducks, with other water fowls. Although the ice on the lake was still intact, these birds passed over in huge flocks, some of them seeming to complain that they could not find any water to rest in. A few open spaces in the ice were seen close to the shore, and in these were blue bills and mergansers, diving for what they could find in the water. Two pairs of mallards were seen at the extreme north-west corner of the beach, and these were looking for nesting sites, as shown by some visitors, who found a nest containing eight eggs.

On May 18th, the Natural History Society made its annual excursion to the Beach, and the members were rewarded with a good day's observation. Many of the later birds had by this time arrived—warblers of various kinds, whitethroat and whitecrowned sparrows, two kinds of nuthatches, purple finches, redheaded woodpeckers, etc. etc. Added to this, the early violets and other flowers were coming into bloom for the enjoyment of the Botanical section of the Club. Towards evening, the members assembled at the clubhouse, and while tea was underway they compared notes on the day's outing, unanimously agreeing that the day's activities had been both pleasant and satisfactory. Within two days after that date, nearly all of the birds seen had pushed on farther north, only a small number remaining to nest in that locality.

June has brought forth many wild flowers to brighten the landscape. One of the most beautiful of these is the Meadow Rue. This has a tall slender stem with loose clusters of flowers running to the

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top. It has very pretty leaves also, which form a sort of circle around the flower stem. A cousin of this flower, the Columbine, is also coming into bloom. Both these flowers have a sort of stately dignity, which raises them above the rank of the more common plants. Then there is the blossom of the bunch berry, which is a four-petaled white bloom quite close to the ground. The blossom changes to a bunch of white berries, which in turn change to a brilliant red. The wild lily-of-the-valley is also much in evidence, and is quite pretty and very welcome. The fruit bushes this year have all made a great show, and there is prospect of an abundant supply of berries for the resident campers.

BEACH PEOPLE (Continued)

Prof. and Mrs. Robinson and family are occupying their cottage on Seventh Ave.

Mrs. J. W. Beech has now opened her cottage on Sunset for the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Shenton have been spending their vacation at the Beach.

Mr. and Mrs. Evan McCormick and family are enjoying their first holiday at the Beach, staying in the Owen's cottage for the month of July.

Friends of Mr. W. H. Simpson are sorry to hear that he is confined to hospital.

Prof. and Mrs. D. Owens and daughter, Jane, were down in June for a holiday.

Rev. Canon Glover will conduct a memorial service, Sunday, July 5th when a reading lectern with memorial plaque will be dedicated.

V. B. CLUB MEMBERSHIP FEES

Family—Season	\$5.00
One Month	3.00
2 Weeks	2.00
Individual	1.00

Community Church Service

Club House, Victoria Beach

SUNDAY, JULY 5th at 10:45 a.m.

Preacher, REV. CANON GLOVER

Music: Dr. F. C. NIERMEIER

Chairman Church Committee: W. H. Simpson, 203-7th Ave.

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. A. D. Robinson, 318-7th Ave.

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