

Victoria Beach Herald

Sponsored by the Victoria Beach Club



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AUGUST 19, 1966

Editor:
MRS. ELLINOR IVANOFF
430 - 8th Ave.

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Camped on Elk Island - 1870

When trouble arose in the Red River settlement of the Northwest, when Fort Garry was headquarters for a vast district, an expedition was sent out from eastern Canada to do their part in restoring order. There were two bodies of troops and the regulars came in advance of the militia. This force was commanded by Col. Garnet Wolsley, afterwards to become Sir Garnet Wolsley.

On the staff of Colonel Wolsley was Captain G. L. Hughes, Rifle Brigade, who embodied his experiences in a book of 276 pages, "The Red River Expedition".

The force came by steamboat to Prince Arthur's Landing, now Port Arthur, and then, partly by land, but chiefly by water, through a chain of lakes and rivers to Lake of the Woods and the Winnipeg River, reaching Fort Alexander on August 20, 1870. The remainder of the narrative is in Captain Hughes' own words.

"The bugles sounded the 'advance' at 3 p.m., on the 21st day of August, and the men embarked and set sail to a favouring breeze. There were eight brigades, about fifty boats; and as the little fleet ran down the Winnipeg River, before wind and tide, the sight was novel and interesting. One might almost have fancied at a little distance that it was a Danish flotilla, led by some Vikings of old, making a descent on an enemy's coast.

"Colonel Wolsley accompanied me, Donald Smith (later Lord Strathcona) in a big Hudson's Bay boat, whose large square sail towered over the little tugs of the smaller boats, and led the way steering well out to sea in Traverse Bay to make a good offing. The fleet followed as fast as oars and sails could take them, and bore up for Elk Island, twenty miles off, which they reached at sunset and camped for the night on a lovely little bay. It seemed as if nature had designed Elk Island for the express purpose of sheltering the boats. The wind was southerly and the bay had a north aspect looking out on to the lake, whose waves rippled gently on a smooth sandy beach, charming enough to have made the fortune of a European watering-place.

"And who shall say that this little island and its beautiful bay may not at some future day become the favourite summer resort of the wealthy inhabitants of Red River, the Brighton of the Winnipeg belles? When emigration shall have covered the fertile prairies of the North-West with a teeming population, and towns and cities have sprung up over the length and breadth

of the land, Elk Island may rival the attractions of Newport and Saratoga?" —Victoria Beach Herald 1934

With Wolsley at Fort Alexander and Elk Island— from "A Narrative of the Red River Expedition" by "An Officer", Blackwood's Magazine, 1871.

At Fort Alexander

There are numerous clearances in the vicinity of Fort Alexander, where some half-breed farmers have established themselves. There is also a fine farm belonging to the post in a good state of cultivation. The land is very rich for about half a mile or a mile back from the river, beyond that being a succession of swamps impassable during the summer, but travelled over when frozen in winter. The fort is like the others already described, but is on a larger scale, and has a less decayed air about it. It stands on the left bank which is about twenty feet above the water, and is two miles from the mouth of the river. There is a Protestant mission here, and much good is done by its schools where English is taught. The 21st of August, 1871, being Sunday, there was a parade for divine service in the morning, at which the servants of the Hudson's Bay Company, and a few half-breed farmers in the neighbourhood, joined us in prayers for the success of the operation we were about to undertake.

At Elk Island - Lake Winnipeg

The afternoon was lovely, with a warm, bright sun shining down upon us as our fleet of fifty boats hoisted their sails, and started with a light wind from the S.W. It was a pretty sight, and a subject well worthy of an artist. As we rounded the point of Elk Island, eighteen miles N.W. from Fort Alexander, evening was falling fast; so we halted for the night in a bay with a wide sandy beach between the water and the high overhanging bank, which was covered with timber, chiefly birch. The boats drew up in a long line, side by side, with their bows on the beach. Fires were soon lighted and a few tents pitched here and there. As one looked down from the high bank upon the busy scene below, where all was cheerful bustle, the hum of voices, the noise of the axe chopping wood, and now and then the

(Continued on page 3)

VICTORIA BEACH MUNICIPALITY
MAYOR: TAMMAS SCOTT
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 Medical Health Officer: Dr. Harold Fraser
 July 29 - August 19 — Dr. Don Stewart
 Aug. 11 - Sept. 5 — Dr. Ian Murray
 Consultation Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon — 5 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Resident Injured in Car Mishap

Readers of the letter and article of Mrs. Mary McAllister in our July 29th edition will be very grieved to learn, that Mrs. McAllister on her way down to the Beach for her 48th summer holiday here, was injured in a car accident and is at St. Boniface Hospital. Her family assure me that she is making a slow but sure recovery.

Her daughter gave me her recollections as a child of the Beach in those days.

— Beach People —

Mr. and Mrs. Brian Buckland, of Caledon, Ontario, who have fond memories of many a happy holiday at Victoria Beach, will arrive August 21st, with their four children, Cynthia, Debra, Ross and David, to spend a holiday here with Brian's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Buckland.

Mrs. A. M. Carruthers of Winnipeg, accompanied by grandson David Charles of Montreal, is visiting her sister, Mrs. C. S. Galusha, 319 5th Ave.

Mrs. E. G. Box arrived from Brandon, June 11th to spend the summer at Box Elders, 111 Sunset Blvd.

Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Page at 218 5th have had as their guests Mrs. H. G. Gray and Mrs. C. Page.

Carolyn has had as her guest, Janice McMasters. Guest for a week with the Pages were Mr. and Mrs. Doug Carey, Debbie and Susan.

Doctor's Office Hours

DOCTOR'S OFFICE
 124 Birch Avenue

We have been requested to publish the following hours for regular office calls:

Office Hours:
 10 A.M. to Noon — 5 P.M. to 7 P.M.

All doctors are, of course, available for emergency calls at any time.

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LAST SUNDAY'S CHURCH SERVICE

Rev. Dr. W. G. Onions of Oxford United Church, Winnipeg, conducted last Sunday's Annual Civic Service. The Mayor, Council and officials of Victoria Beach were present. Dr. Onions' text was taken from Rev. 21-22. Heading his sermon, the service of the Lord's Day and the other six days, he explained how Sunday should set the pattern for the six days of service in the week. The layman, he said, must bridge the gap between church and the world. The layman must be a Christian in his daily work. Prayer in church on Sunday is important, but conduct the next six days tests it.

He told the children there were three kinds of teachers: (1) The one who knew everything and felt you ought to know it; (2) Do you all understand and run through it again; (3) Show you where you have gone wrong and how to correct it. God is like the latter. He came to earth so we could see what he was like and know what to do.

Flowers were from Mrs. J. Ateah and Mrs. B. Trainor in memory of their father, Mr. Alex Anderson. Also from the gardens of Mrs. J. J. Smith and Mrs. Wm. Martin.

Community Church Service

Club House, Victoria Beach

August 21st, 11:00 a.m.

REV. FRASER MULDBREW
 Manitow, Man.

Mrs. Lee Anderson is in charge of Music

Catholic Church Service

Victoria Beach

MASS—Sundays from July 3 to end of August, 1966

8:15 a.m. (DST) — Club House

NOTICE OF EVENING CHURCH SERVICE

AUGUST 21st

Church Service Every Sunday
 at St. Michael's Church, Pine Road
 7:30 p.m.

Holy Communion every Sunday through August, 9:00 a.m.

SHOWING AT THE CLUB HOUSE

August 1966

Tuesday, 23rd August at 8:00 p.m.

"A TICKLISH AFFAIR"

starring SHIRLEY JONES GIG YOUNG

Thursday, 25th August at 8:00 p.m.

"BIKINI BEACH"

starring FRANKIE AVALON ANNETTE FUNICELLO

Seating Capacity Only ADULTS 50c CHILDREN 25c

ELK ISLAND

(Continued from page 1)

crashing sound of a falling tree, one realized how quickly the solitude of the forest is transformed into life by the presence of man, endowed as he is with so many wants. The climate was that of the South of Europe, and as the sun set beyond the horizon of water, one might have imagined one's self in some Grecian island looking out upon the Mediterranean, the beach covered with the crews and boats of a corsair fleet".

Victoria Beach Herald—1936

Classified Ads

FOR SALE

Leaving city. Forced to sell large lake front family cottage situated on Victoria Boulevard overlooking sheltered bay. Gov't. dock, boat harbour and swimming beach. Near athletic grounds, stores and post office. Cottage contains five bed-rooms, living room, bathroom and toilet. Located on large lot. It also includes a comfortable two-room guest house. Enquire at 147 Victoria Blvd. By appointment. Phone 247-9453.

2 LOTS FOR SALE — Balsam Ave., Victoria Beach Ph. 2467 for details, or enquire at S.P.A. Restaurant on right side of Highway, driving South.

TREES CUT DOWN & INTO PIECES. REASONABLE RATES. CALL 822-5225 OR WRITE: TREE CUTTING, 313 DAVIDSON ST., ST. JAMES.

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Groceries		
Post Office	WE DELIVER	Telephone

Victoria Beach vs. Tossa de Mar

By BRUCE M. GEE

Toward the end of June, 1966, I spent three and one-half weeks at Tossa De Mar (Tossa on the Sea) situated about 30 kilometers from Barcelona on the Spanish Costa Brava.

Two of the greatest physical contrasts that I noticed between Tossa and V.B. were that of water and air temperature. The Mediterranean, surprisingly enough, was so cold that it was impossible to swim in it for any great distance. I couldn't swim for more than a few minutes at a time without suffering leg cramps. Air and sand temperatures, on the other hand, were torrid. In Spain it is just too hot to swim or sunbathe between noon and 4 p.m. In June-July-August it is so hot that most people and animals doze in their hotels, villas or in the welcome shade of a beached boat.

My "routin" at Tossa went something like this:

6 a.m. — Up and Breakfast
 7 - 12 Noon — Beach
 Noon - 4 p.m. — Siesta
 5 - 9 p.m. — Beach and/or walks
 10 - 11 p.m. — Supper
 11 p.m. - 5 a.m. — Night Life

Most of the buildings in Tossa are whitewashed and tightly shuttered to keep out the intense mid-day heat. Between noon and four o'clock it is impossible to walk even for a few hundred yards along the sun-baked streets of Tossa without becoming dizzy. You feel that you can almost see the heat waves rising from the white-washed sidewalks to beat you down. I saw an English tourist with the skin of his legs burnt off into red welts because he stayed out too long on the beach in the 105 degree heat.

The sand at Tossa disappointed me. I expected the Costa Brava to be covered with beautiful white fine-grained sand — such as one might find in the Grecian Islands and on our own Patricia Beach. But the sand on the beach at Tossa was very coarse in texture. It is quite similar to the sand we find on Alexandra Beach. Nowhere I went did I find the fine-grained white sand that we are blessed with at Victoria Beach.

Tossa in the daytime is a tourist "trap". As you walk along the narrow, maze like streets the merchants impose themselves and their wares on you, calling out from their shop doors and offering only items of "quality, quality" left and right. Tossa at night is a different picture entirely. All stores close up at 9 p.m. and after that hour one can window shop at leisure. At 5 a.m., one can climb to the top of the ancient castle wall overlooking the little city and watch the early morning mists rise, like white wisps of tattered cloud, from the calm, deep blue Mediterranean. One early morning I watched a fisherman haul in two live baby octopuses.

It is only at offguard moments like these, I believe, that one can really "see into the life of" a place like Tossa or Victoria Beach.

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Arrives Vic. Beach every morning 11:25 a.m.
Every Day

Leaves Vic. Beach every evening 5:35 p.m.
Arrives Wpg. every evening 7:45 p.m.
Every Day

Leaves Wpg. Friday only 5:45 p.m.
Arrives at Vic. Beach Friday only 7:45 p.m.

Compliments and Requests

To The Herald — eagerly anticipated every week — for providing a forum for discussion and settling of rumours and complaints.

To The Mayor — for his letter doing just that. While our boys are not thugs to be manhandled, we are all in favor of law breakers being apprehended pronto. It is a reassurance to all of us to know our police are doing a good job. It gives defenceless women like me a sense of security to know the "Sleeping Baggers" are being stopped at the gates.

To The Council — for providing the new Shelter at the parking lot and the benches at the Lookouts — a great boon. By the way is there any reason why we could not have a store at the parking lot?

To The Grey Goose Bus Co. — for our new comfortable buses.

Thank You, Herald, for publishing the Bus Schedule — a great help. Could you please print the local store hours and especially the Post Office schedule? What is closing day in Pine Falls? The jug of wine is sometimes dry.

Compliments on the Beach Club Program — a membership is the best value for anybody's money.

The Weather Forecast is another feature for which we have to thank the Herald.

It has been a wonderful summer in a lovely spot — Let us keep it that way.
—Victoria L. H. Wallace

* Answers to your questions will be printed in next week's Herald.—Ed.

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U.S. WEATHER BUREAU
5 DAY FORECAST

as supplied by the
Public Forecaster, Meteorological Office, Winnipeg,
for the period August 19th to August 24th
NEAR NORMAL TEMPERATURES
LIGHT PRECIPITATION

Centennial Traveller

by CAROL ATEAH
Victoria Beach

I was one of the fortunate Canadian students selected to participate in the Centennial Student Exchange Plan, sponsored by the Federal and Provincial governments. My destination was Glace Bay, Nova Scotia — a town that meant absolutely nothing to me, although it is as Canadian as Victoria Beach.

Early on the morning of July 11, I met my fellow travellers at the C.N.R. Station in Winnipeg. There were twenty-four students — twelve boys and twelve girls, between the ages of fifteen and seventeen from such varied parts of Manitoba as Brandon, Flin Flon, Neepawa, and, of course, Winnipeg. During the three-day train trip we came to know each other and learn of the differing ways of life within our own province.

We arrived in Halifax on the evening of July 13, and met our "billets" at the station. (A billet is a host family who has offered to take in a travelling student for a designated length of time). We stayed in Halifax for only one night, but even after those few hours, I was in love with that beautiful city. The mid-Victorian architecture and shady streets lend the quiet city an atmosphere of serenity. If you are ever in Halifax, I must advise you to make a special point of going to the Citadel, for the view from there of the historic Halifax harbour is breathtaking.

We were transported to Glace Bay by bus and we received royal treatment upon our arrival. Our bus was met at the town limits by motorcycle policemen who escorted us to St. Michael's School, where we were met by our billets. Things got underway the following day:

(Continued on page 5)



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CENTENNIAL TRAVELLER

(Continued from page 4)

The first item on our tightly packed agenda being a Civic Welcome Luncheon. We were cordially greeted by the Mayor and Aldermen of Glace Bay, and given a delicious salmon dinner. Then we were whisked to the Steel Plant where we watched the different processes in which coal, the life-blood of Cape Breton, is used. We were given time to become acquainted with our hosts that evening, for we were to have supper "at home". Later on, the Student Councils of the town's two high schools put on a dance for us.

The next morning we visited the coal mines and heavy water plant. The two industries symbolize the old and the new Cape Breton Island. Because of the steady decrease in the world's demand for coal, the Island has had to diversify in order to survive. The new heavy water plant, not due for completion until January of next year, is the first commercial plant of this nature in North America. The tour ended, we went to a Rotary Club Luncheon and, after that, for a swim in the cold Atlantic Ocean! There was one more banquet that evening, the one sponsored by the provincial government and featuring fresh lobster.

The next day, Sunday, was a free day, and, as the temperature was abnormally high, we spent the day at the beach, swimming, boating, and having a good time. Early Monday morning we set out on the Cabot Trail — a world beautiful beyond description. We were billeted for the night at Cheticamp and continued on the Trail the next day. That drive over the Cabot Trail is the most memorable event of the entire trip. On Wednesday we went to the historic French fortress, Louisbourg. That day was the first since our arrival that the sun was shrouded in a heavy cloak of mist and the sky was

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darkly overcast. I did not find the atmosphere incongruous for the setting! After the tour of Louisbourg we had, due to the weather, an "indoors beach party" at a cottage at Mira.

Thursday, our last day in Glace Bay, was left open for us to do as we pleased, and very early Friday morning we all met at the station in Sydney to make our final goodbyes. I did not think that one could become so involved in such a short while. It seemed that I had known my friends in Glace Bay all my life, and now we were parting, perhaps never to meet again. No! We will meet again — someday, somewhere.

Everyone was much quieter on this return trip, mainly because of loneliness for their Cape Breton friends, lack of sleep, or motion sickness. Strange — no one was bothered by the third ailment before, but there were some hearty cases on that return trip! We stayed in Ottawa for seven hours and during that time we visited the Parliament Buildings and the National Art Gallery. We reached Winnipeg late Sunday night, with hearts happy to be home, yet sad to see the end of the trip.

"Yes", I can hear you say, "a wonderful opportunity for our young people to see the different parts of Canada." True, we did a lot of sightseeing, but we did much more than that — we made friends with fellow Canadians who live hundreds of miles away from us. The Centennial Travellers project is the most notable and worthwhile program sponsored by the government. The project promotes better interprovincial relations and instills in the minds of the young the true greatness of our country, Canada.

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Wednesday Hikes

By 10:00 Wednesday morning, August 3, a group of enthusiastic hikers were at the Club House. Starting at the Club House Beach we followed the shore to our destination. Along the way frogs were collected for a future frog race.

Alternating between clambering over the rocks and tramping through the bush we arrived at Sandy Beach hot and tired. Then came the swim! Supervised by Mr. Kachmar we held an underwater swimming race and a relay swimming race. Choosing partners we then had a chicken fight in the water. By this time we were famished. After lunch some held frog races while others went to see Hidden Lake. At 1:00 we gathered up our belongings and returned home by the footpaths.

The hikers this week were: Gordon Kaye, Debby and Sandy Fawcett, Ralph Wittebolle, Patrick Boyd, David Mitchell, Hedley and Cathy Auld, Donny Maclean, Jeremy and Christopher Shepherd, John Bennington, Kevin, Wendy-Ann and Kathleen Scott, Riley Anderson, Bob and Doug Groff, Sheila Stafford, Pat Bellhouse, Krystyna Baranowski and Leanne Boyd.

Krystyna Baranowski,
Leanne Boyd.

The second bicycle hike of the summer began at 10:15. Our goal was the exploration of the Traverse Bay area. By means of walkie-talkies order was maintained. We turned down the road to Albert Beach and biked west. At this point we were forced to walk our bikes because of the fresh sand. Despite the rain we decided to continue. We ate lunch in a clearing along the road. Then, continuing west we reached the Pine Falls Highway. The rolling hills and numerous trees along this road were a stark contrast to the usual flat land. However, we all agreed that we would have appreciated it even more if we had not been forced to walk most of the way because of the sandy road. As you can imagine, the sight of the Pine Falls Highway was a welcome relief to all the bikers. Half an hour later we arrived back at the parking lot and our 20

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AUGUST 21st, 1966

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mile hike was completed. Would you believe we all collapsed?

We enjoyed this week's hike with: Shawn and Janice Hughes, Hedley and Cathy Auld, Cathy Schneider, Gordon Kaye, Maureen Singleton, Joyce Gades, Patrick Boyd, Ralph Wittebolle, David Mitchell, Susan Grant, Rena Sarchuk, Richard, Joanne and Ricki Swystun, George Funnell, Neil Grieve, Gregory and Paul Matthias, Glenn and Curtis Booth, David and Gwynnett Thomas, Kevin Stafford, Sharon Kampe, Gail Mildren, Pat Bellhouse, Leanne Boyd.

—Pat Bellhouse & Leanne Boyd.

To The Editor:

The editor wishes to acknowledge the receipt of letters from Mr. William Rayner, Mrs. C. Harding and "A Teenager" — unsigned, and very much regrets that because of lack of space, this correspondence is now closed.

MAKE A DATE

for

The Adult Wind-Up Dance

Date — Saturday, August 20, 1966

Time — 9:00 P.M.

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Bonfire 1966 — Victootenanny?

Abnormal conditions of high water, narrow beaches, low precipitation this summer have restricted the private bonfire permits that normally can be obtained from the Fire Warden.

A campfire sing-a-long was held on Wednesday night on Pier Point, sponsored by the Council of RMVB and the Community Club. This bonfire was possible because of its community nature, its location and the presence of our police officers, Mr. E. Rogers and Mr. J. Harrison and our Fire Truck manned by our Fire Warden, Mr. Lorne Anderson.

Our swimming instructors, Janet Carmichael, Barbara Guest and Alison Benningen helped lead the sing-song and were ready with their First Aid Kits for any eventualities.

Mr. Mike Kachmar, master of ceremonies, organized rock, gravel, wood and water brigades before the fire was lit, then managed in his inimitable way to keep two hundred people of all ages in touch with each other. This he did with enthusiasm and spirit even though he had spent the day on a twenty mile bicycle hike with our children.

After dark Mr. Lorne Anderson joined the large group at the fire, pleasing young and old with folk songs to guitar accompaniment. When the water bucket brigade had proved they could put out the fire, Mr. Anderson gave us a demonstration of our fire truck to make sure the last onlookers were out. (It will not be held responsible for anyone soaked with the spray — you were asked to stand back!)

VICTORIA BEACH GOLF COURSE

ADULTS — First 9 Holes \$1.00

Second 9 Consecutive 50c

*JUNIORS — 16 and under, 9 Holes 50c

Tuesdays, 1:30-4 p.m., 9 Holes 25c

*Full Adult Rates—Saturdays, Sundays & Holidays.

MOONLIGHT INN

Where Friends Meet and Eat

CHIPS — SODA FOUNTAIN — HOT DOGS

NOVELTIES — SUNDRIES

Mary & Ron Monkman

This evening was an experiment. It will be from your written comments that we will judge whether this is something you would like to add to the community program. Please write to me at 304 5th.

Suggested Improvements

1. Earlier and wider advertising of Sing-Song.
2. More and varied instruments.
3. Leadership from strong male voices.
4. Separate evenings for 12 years and under, 13 to 16 years, adult and whole families.

—Doreen Benningen

Sports Club Dance — August 6th

A most successful Sports Club Dance was held, with record attendance and a band from Pine Falls.

The President, Mr. Sam Ateah, would like to thank all those who supported the dance and those who made donations to the Sports Club of the local residents.

S.P.A. Drive-Inn Restaurant

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MEMORIES OF THE EARLIER COTTAGE OWNERS

My recollection of the many happy vacations spent as a child at Victoria Beach, bring to mind a few of the original vacationers at this resort, including the "House of Laughter" — at Third and King Edward, where Miss Reta Cochrane and her brothers lived. Their hospitality and spontaneous humour gave you a lift and after meeting the "Moonlight" train we would take turns in going back and forth to various friends for refreshments and when it was the Cochrane's turn — their table would be grinning with food — a delight to any child's eye.

Then there were the Misses Siegrist and their brother. Two maiden ladies with the "old world" charm who had a small cottage around 7th and 1st. To enter into their home was like visiting another world. Of Swiss origin, to outward appearances they were very retiring and shy but when you got to know them, so genteel and hospitable.

Our berry-picking episodes were really something — although I am sure many a time our parents must have been exasperated at the way we held up the berry-picking. We would catch the 6 a.m. train to Albert on Hillside and after picking a waterpail-full of raspberries flag down the 11 a.m. train and arrive home tired but happy. Mr. Young on Third Ave. was the most enthusiastic — Many a day he would go out alone. My aunt, Mrs. Sweeney, went picking berries one day and got lost — and where do you think she was? Right in the bush next to us where the Bill Gee's live (formerly owned by Enoch Briggs) and was even frightened by a bear. It is hard to imagine how thick was the growth.

The campfires and corn feeds were held by the first dozen families on the beach behind where our Club House stands every Saturday night.

The Pratts were, to my mind, one of the greatest promoters of our beloved beach. Miss Marjell Pratt, her parents and two brothers were active in every sphere. Members of the original committee who formed the Community Church included the Pratts, Angus More, Mr. J. Ball, Mr. John Conklin and my father, Jas. McAllister.

Mr. Pratt Sr. was a most colorful figure with his "Rip Van Winkle" moustache, twinkling blue eyes and white duck pants.

I always will remember Mr. M. Gee, who lived across from us. He would go around in his famous "tattered" straw hat and just at dusk the most heavenly music would come from his cottage where he had a piano — in a small cottage at the back of the lot.

"Pine Hurst Inn" on the point was where we could sit and watch the lake. There were teas and small masquerades in the lounge.

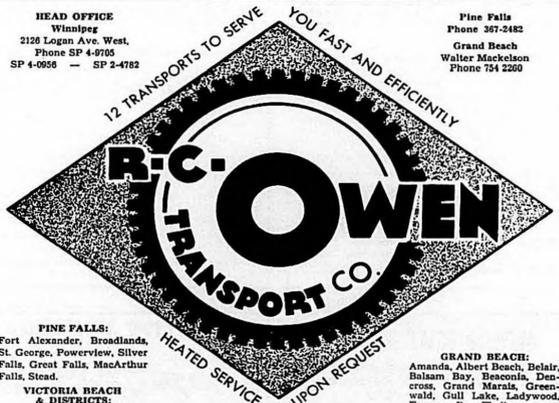
Our hiking jaunts to the "Cliff" and Elk Island always were exciting.

In our family alone, I have a sister in the East and one out West, and both on returning to Manitoba remark on the various places they have been, but Victoria Beach still is tops and there is no beach resort East or West to compare with our beloved beach.

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