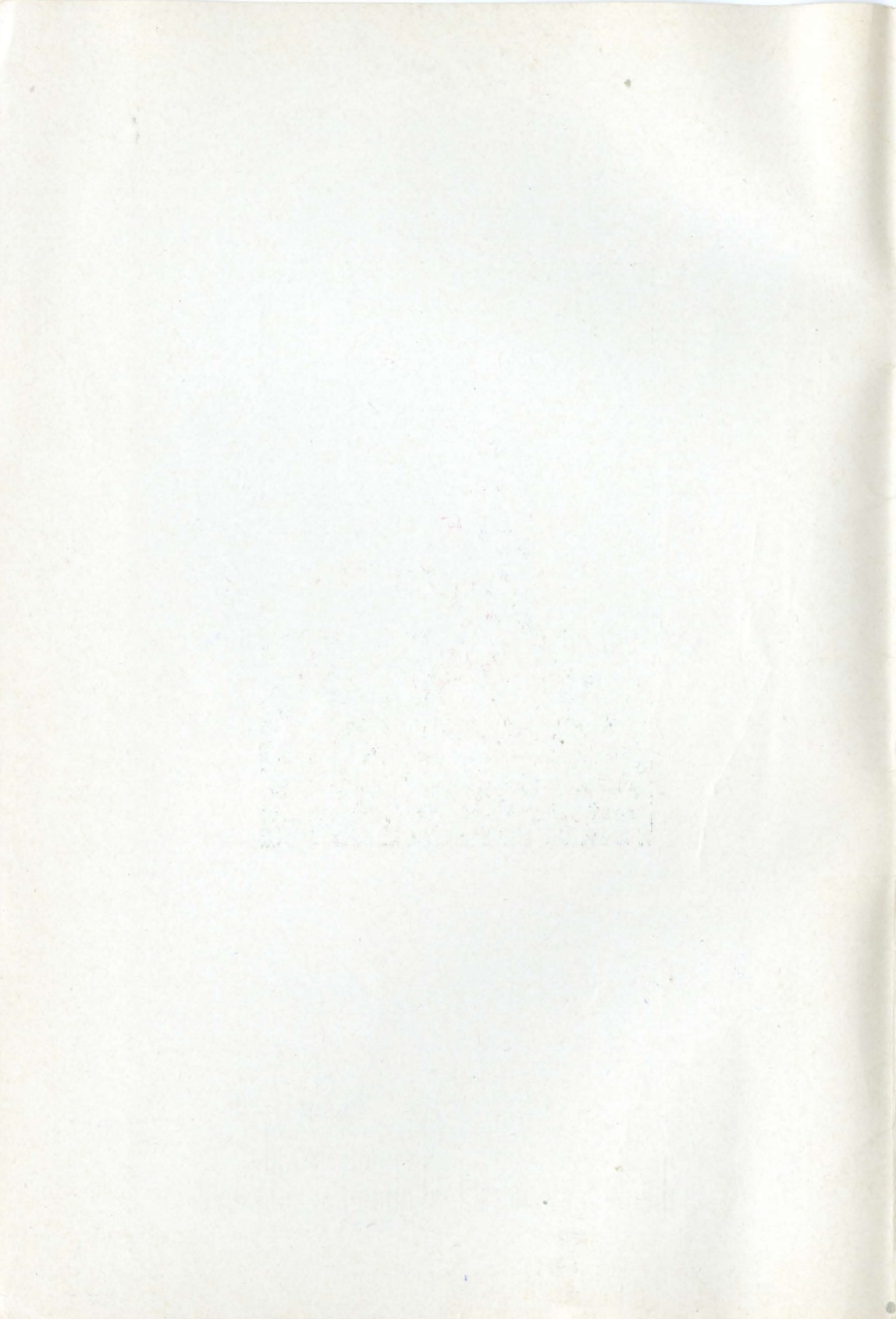




Evangeline Land
in
Nova Scotia

DOMINION ATLANTIC RAILWAY





The Land of Evangeline

THE
HISTORICAL PARADISE
OF CANADA

THE Land of Evangeline, a
veritable summer paradise, rich in
legend and in history, the unspoiled
playground of Eastern Canada, is
reached only by the

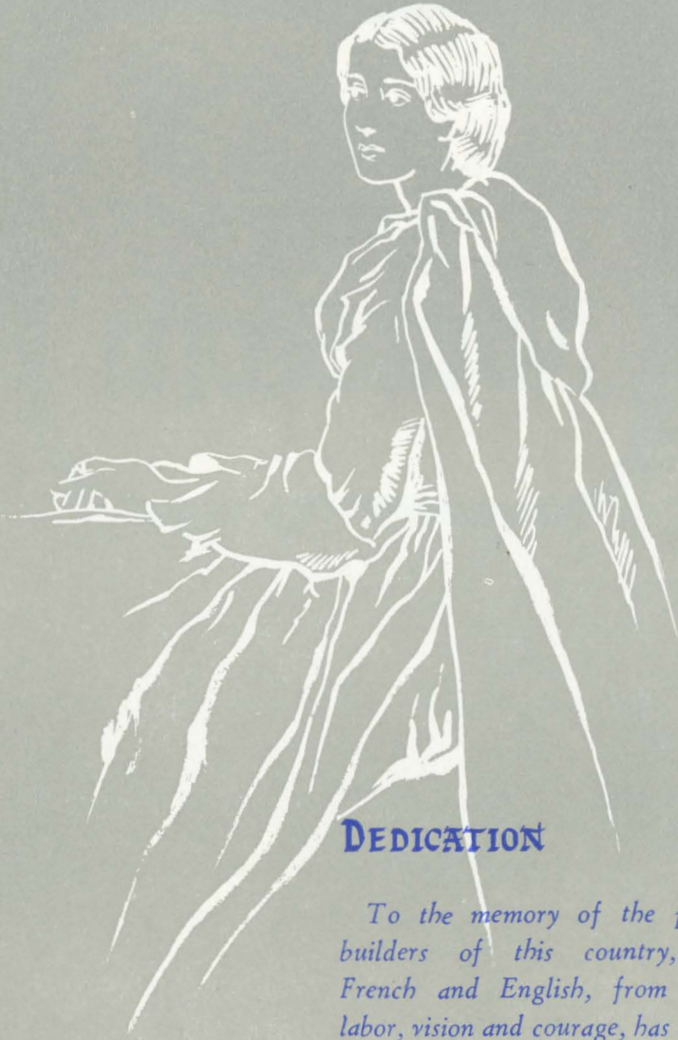
DOMINION ATLANTIC RAILWAY

"The Land of Evangeline Route"

Old
Acadia in
Nova Scotia

History and Romance
Cradled in Scenic Charm

DOMINION ATLANTIC RAILWAY



DEDICATION

*To the memory of the pioneer
builders of this country, both
French and English, from whose
labor, vision and courage, has sprung
this fairyland of romance, this
booklet is gratefully dedicated.*

Foreword

SO MUCH interest has been manifested in the historic Grand Pré Park since 1920, when the statue of Evangeline was unveiled by Lady Burnham on the occasion of the visit of the British Press Association to Canada, that it has seemed fitting to publish a memorial booklet dedicated to the memory of those earlier generations, both French and English, whose genius, courage and industry were blended in laying the foundation of this fair Province in the early pioneer days.

This booklet is dedicated as well to the *entente cordiale* existing between those once estranged races in the Maritime Provinces of Canada, and to the memory of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, whose heroine, her spirit caught into bronze by Hébert, stands in the centre of the Park, eloquent of the loyalty and devotion of the women of her day.

Grand Pré is so vital with fascinating history, scenic beauty and reposeful landscape, that no visitor to the Land of Evangeline should fail to pay it a visit and see the interesting Evangeline Memorial Park. Grand Pré is the fairyland of old romance, the throbbing centre of the immortal Evangeline story.



THE GLORY OF GRAND PRÉ

HERE is no section of Canada so rich in romance and folk-lore, so crowded with memories, as the region around Grand Pré, in the Land of Evangeline, Nova Scotia.

Here, in the morning time of America, the Indians—and perhaps before them an earlier race—cruised the woods and skirted the shores, leaving behind them memorials treasured to this day.

Here or hereabouts, in Nova Scotia, came the Vikings, more than four centuries before Columbus, and turned back, powerless to conquer a continent because the compass and the cannon had not yet been discovered.

And here, most moving story of all, the French and English waged a century-long struggle which ended in the sudden uprooting and scattering of a people—immortalized by Longfellow's story of Evangeline.





THE IMPERISHABLE PAST

It is the glory of Grand Pré and the region around it not merely to have been the stage of great events, but to have kept the records of them and to have erected to the imperishable past an altar of remembrance. In Grand Pré Memorial Park, with its museum, monuments and natural relics, the visitor will find himself on hallowed ground where he will view the stark realities of history through the rosy mist of high romance.

OLD PORT ROYAL

The first permanent settlement of white people in North America was made by the French at Port Royal, now Annapolis Royal, which DeMonts, accompanied by Champlain, Poutrincourt and Lescarbot, visited in 1604. In the succeeding century it was alternately captured, razed and recaptured—the continual clamor of war driving out some of the peaceful inhabitants who removed to the Minas region, around what afterwards became, and still is, Grand Pré.

FIRST GRAND PRÉ SETTLERS

COMING first, about 1675, the Terriaus, the Landrys and LeBlancs engaged in a slow battle with the sea until they succeeded in reclaiming thousands of acres of rich dyke land from Minas Basin and its tidal rivers. On these acres their livestock thrived and their crops prospered until they were soon raising more foodstuffs than the whole Province could consume. The dykes are still there and the land in all its original fertility; even apple trees and willows which they planted, brought from their long-lost France, still flower in glory with the coming of spring and fulfill the eternal promise of the harvest; . . . but the Acadians?

TRAGEDY OF 1755

What of the Acadians? One of the saddest stories in the history of nations is involved in the answer. On September 5th, 1755, the Acadians were gathered together in St. Charles' Church, Grand Pré, forced on board ships, and expelled from their homeland. Up and down the Thirteen Colonies they were scattered—some to die, some to take root, some to return after many seasons and much suffering.

But it is no purpose of this booklet to revive the bitterness of history. It has, instead, the happier aim of revealing how all schools of opinion have united in the noble task of establishing at Grand Pré a shrine worthy of its surroundings, scenic and historic.

The site selected was the right one.

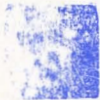


THE NEW ENGLAND INTEREST

HERE Col. Arthur Noble was killed on February 11th, 1747, with one hundred of his New England men and the remnant of his followers captured, at the end of an almost incredible trek over winter snow by Col. Coulon de Villiers and his Quebec regiment. Here was St. Charles' Church where the Acadian men were assembled at the command of Governor Lawrence of Halifax and told by Col. Winslow that they were prisoners. Here Longfellow properly placed the home of Evangeline and her lover, Gabriel—and the start of that pathetic pilgrimage so thrillingly related in the poem.

The site came first into the hands of J. Frederick Herbin, of Wolfville, a direct descendant of an expelled Acadian family. From him it was secured by the Dominion Atlantic Railway, November 13th, 1911, for the establishment of a National Memorial Park, a purpose now carried beautifully to fruition.

Nearby, on the brow of the commanding hill a fitting memorial will one day be erected to Colonel Noble and his gallant men. Coupled with this memorial there is to be founded a small museum where will also be deposited relics of New England Planters' days. This work is being carried out by the Grand Pré Battlefields Commission.



THE STORY OF EVANGELINE

GRAND PRÉ' was the theatre of the Evangeline story, so graphically told in Longfellow's epic poem. "Evangeline's" real name was Emmeline, the daughter of Bénédict Bellefontaine, surnamed the "Sunshine of St. Eulalie". Gabriel Lajeunesse, the son of Basil the blacksmith, and René LeBlanc, the heroes of the Evangeline poem, are not fictitious, but real characters, according to Acadian tradition. The poem itself, beautiful and poignant, is a classic of exquisite symphony.



THE ACADIAN REMEMBRANCE

ON A SITE made available to them, in the Memorial Park, the site where formerly St. Charles' Church stood in 1755, the Acadians have erected a replica of the original structure. It stands on the very foundation of the original edifice and faithfully follows the Norman style of architecture of three hundred years ago.

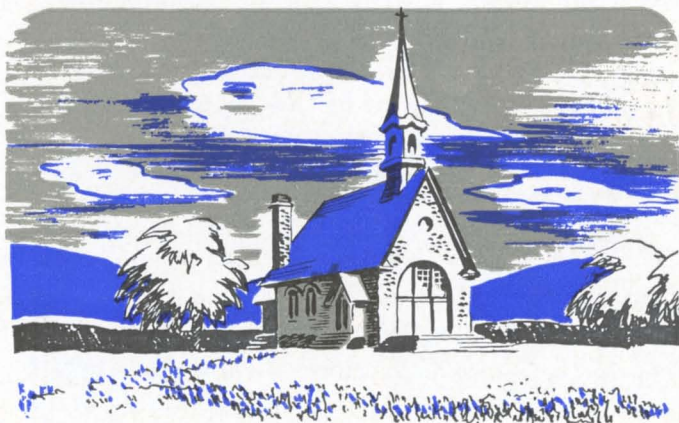
The interior of this Memorial Building is in keeping with its purpose—an historic museum of local and international interest. The floor is of rich tile, the wainscoting of highly tinted Canadian marble and the upper walls and ceilings of plaster and artistic moulding designs.

THE HISTORIC MUSEUM

Inside is a collection of Indian and Acadian relics, utensils, tools, spinning-wheels and other articles of historic interest that help the mind to create in fancy a life that has passed away. The nucleus of this collection was secured from the late J. Frederick Herbin. Important additions are being made from time to time, so that the museum will soon occupy the entire body of the building.

Contributions recently made include maps, portraits, documents, etc., of the pre- and post-deportation periods. In addition there are also authentic relics of the first British settlers who came to Nova Scotia from the New England States, from 1758 on to 1765.

The first presentation to the museum was made by the Acadians and consists of a Carrara marble statue, Murillo's conception of the "Madonna de l'Assomption", the patroness of the Acadian people. The statue is considered a masterpiece of sculpture. It was made in Padua,



Italy, and stands $7\frac{1}{2}$ ft. high on a 6 ft. base of tinted Canadian marble.

It was unveiled with appropriate ceremony on July 29th, 1920. Behind the statue can be seen the Acadian flag, as a background. On the base of the statue is engraved the legend on the following page.

Monument élevé par
La Société
Mutuelle L'Assomption
Conjointement avec Le
Comité du Terrain de
Grand Pré

Monument erected by
La Société
Mutuelle L'Assomption
jointly with the Acadian
Grand Pré
Memorial Committee

THE marble Evangeline, as it appears to those familiar with Longfellow's poem, is looking back wistfully on her loved pastoral country and on the rocky bluff of majestic Blomidon, the Sentinel of the Basin of Minas,—*Evangeline pleurant le pays perdu*. It would be difficult to express more poignantly, in bronze, the heartbreak of the exile for a loved and lost land.

The Evangeline Statue was unveiled on July 29th, 1920, by Lady Burnham, on the occasion of the Imperial Press Tour of Canada. Part of Lady Burnham's address follows:

"I am deeply conscious of the great honour you have done me by asking me to unveil your beautiful statue. Evangeline is the fine conception of an American poet, whose verses we learnt to read when we were children on both sides of the Atlantic. History has shed another light on the Acadian story—we see today that British policy was not as black as it was painted. Whatever may be the truth of this story, as an Englishwoman I shall always regard it as one of the most painful episodes in our annals.

Thank God! Those cruel old days lie behind us forever, and from the fate of Evangeline has sprung a wave of sympathy which has carried on the healing hand of time.

The British Empire stands today in fast friendship with France, firmer during the last few years than it has ever stood before. The war with all its horrors and sadness has bound us through the deeds of our beloved and heroic sons with bands of steel. Ypres, Vimy, the Somme, and all those other deeds of glorious heroism lie deep down in our hearts, never, never to be forgotten. It is a good omen that your beautiful sun, God's healing hand, should be resting upon us all today, who are here to do honor to that sweet woman. I have now the great honor and privilege of unveiling the statue of Evangeline."

Outside the Memorial building the grounds are so marked as to make it easy to live over in memory the stirring days of the long ago. Here is the famous "Evangeline Well"; there is where Col. Winslow's New Eng

landers drew up and camped; over there the Acadian burying ground, marked by a stone cross. A little farther—the actual willows planted by the Acadians. And commanding all the statue of Evangeline, conceived by the famous Canadian sculptor, Philippe Hébert, Acadian by blood, a descendant of a Grand Pré exiled family, and completed by his son, Henri, following the father's demise.

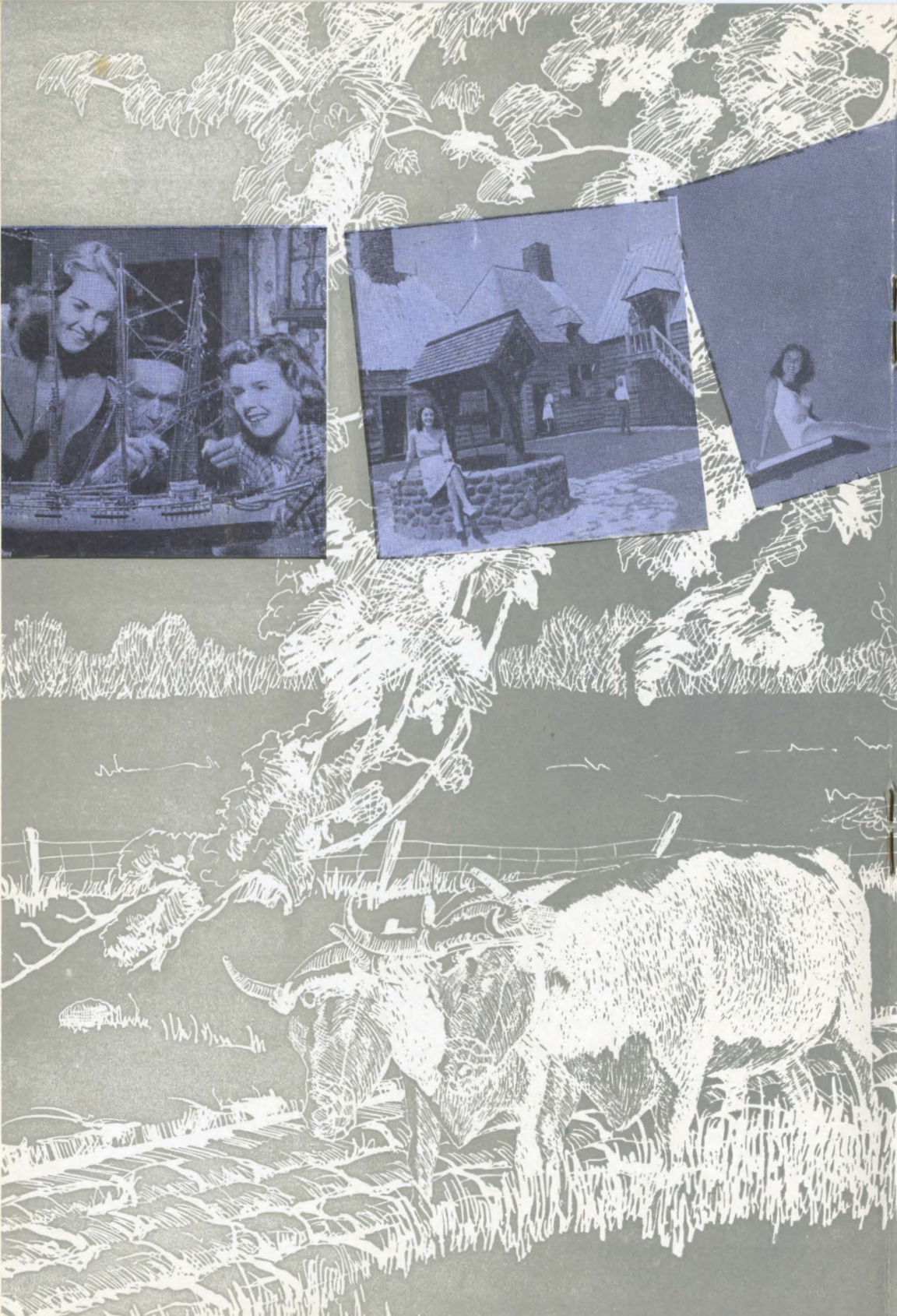
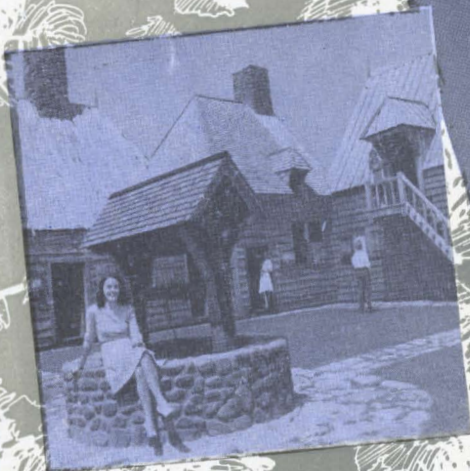
The Stone Cross in Grand Pré Memorial Park was erected by John Frederick Herbin of Wolfville while the Park was still his property. Two tablets in English and French attached to the Cross by the Acadian Committee read as follows:

"IN GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE OF JOHN FREDERICK HERBIN,
WHOSE MEMORY WAS MADE SACRED TO THE ACADIAN PEOPLE BY
HIS BENEVOLENT INTEREST IN THEM EXEMPLIFIED BY HIS WRITINGS
AND WORKS."



About one mile east of Grand Pré Station and near Horton Landing Station, by the railway tracks, stands an Iron Cross erected for the purpose of perpetuating an incident of historic significance. Tablets attached to this Cross, in French and English, carry the following inscription:

"THE DRY BED OF THE CREEK WHICH IS IN SIGHT A FEW PACES
IN THE MARSH IS THE SPOT WHERE THE VICTIMS OF THE EXPULSION
OF THE ACADIANS OF 1755 WERE EMBARKED ON THE SMALL BOATS
TO BE ROWED OVER TO THE TRANSPORTS LYING AT ANCHOR IN
MINAS BASIN."





Quaint, romantic ways, old-world peace, scenes new to workaday eyes, spell the charm of the Land of Evangeline. To reach this picturesque land convenient trains from Montreal, Boston, New York and other points arrive at Saint John via Canadian Pacific Railway and connect there with the Canadian Pacific steamship "Princess Helene", leaving Saint John daily except Sunday for Digby.

From Boston to Yarmouth the service is performed by the Eastern Steamship Lines with modern steamships which have ample facilities for carrying automobiles. All steamships make connections at Yarmouth with Dominion Atlantic Railway for the Annapolis Valley and Halifax.



A LIVING REALITY



Happily, partly through the agency of Longfellow's own poem, the years have softened the pain of those lines. More than tradition remains today; the ravaging hand of Time has been stayed. What was only a memory has taken solid shape; Evangeline herself has become, in a sense, a living reality in the hearts of all who visit the land where the poet's vision found her.

Living evidence of the softening influence of time is the fact that the Acadians and their successors, the New England Planters and the United Empire Loyalists are now living in the Maritime Provinces, side by side and in harmonious accord, working hand in hand in the development of this wonderful historic country.

PICTURESQUE SURVEY

The entrance to Evangeline (or Grand Pré) Memorial Park contains a tea room where the visitor may find refreshment and secure interesting souvenirs, pictures, historic booklets, cards, etc. Nearby stands the Grand Pré Railway Station of the Dominion Atlantic Railway in log cabin style, in keeping with its setting. And as far as the eye can reach in another direction, are fertile valleys flanked by apple orchards and mountain ridges blending into the blue of the sky, while northward and westward rolls the Minas Basin and the Bay of Fundy, beyond Blomidon Cape, with its restless tides, which rise at times to a height of 70 feet. The Gaspereau and the Corn-

wallis Valleys, in close proximity, are beautiful beyond description, while the "Look-Off", on the North Mountain, unfolds before the eye a panorama of picturesque and surpassing loveliness.

VALLEY OF MEMORIES

And up and down the beautiful Annapolis Valley, the "Valley of Memories", the visitor may spend days of delight through orchards heavy with millions of apples, in picturesque towns scattered here and there like so many flowers, and along rivers meandering leisurely to the sea, just as they did in the days of Evangeline.

LONGFELLOW MONUMENT

As a mark of grateful tribute to America's premier poet, it is proposed to erect a statue of Longfellow in Grand Pré Park. Such a statue is needed to complete the picture and to add its bright lustre to a pastoral and historic scene which is without parallel on the North American continent.

The fragrant flower-beds, the colorful shrubbery, the ornamental trees and lagoons with their water flowers, so ingeniously arranged by the gardener in charge of the Park, have won for it universal approval.

EVANGELINE BEACH

Near at hand is Evangeline Beach, a long crescent of shelving sand, up which the warm waters roll, breaker on breaker, under certain conditions of tide, providing the basis for a delightful summer resort. Also nearby is majestic Blomidon, the home of the Glooscap legend, and the sentinel of the region, where the searcher may find amethysts of rare quality.

ENGLISH PERIOD

*"Still stands the forest primeval;
But under the shades of its branches
Dwells another race, with other customs and language."*

The English period of the Land of Evangeline, although less romantic than the Acadian, has had its colorful pages, and has given to Nova Scotia many distinguished

leaders of industry and education. Its history has been one of gradual development in agriculture, industry and in higher education. Grand Pré Village itself was the birth-place and home of Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Laird Borden, Canada's celebrated 1914-1918 war-time Prime Minister. It was also the birth-place and home of Sir Robert L. Weatherbe, Justice of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, whose lovely Ste. Eulalie home on the banks of the Gaspereau River has been the pride of the village. Many other distinguished sons of the district have made an enviable name for themselves, both at home and abroad.

Kentville, the shire town, and Wolfville, the University town, of Kings County, are located in the very heart of the old Acadian days district. The development of the apple industry in the Annapolis Valley owes its origin to the Acadian pioneers whose orchards grew apples in abundance for the population of their time.

OLD LANDMARKS

As the visitor tours along through Nova Scotia and enjoys its scenic charm, its wonderful landscape, its picturesque seascape and the proverbial hospitality of its people, he is rarely reminded of its historic background until he reaches the national parks at Annapolis Royal and Grand Pré.

The tragic scene enacted here in September, 1755, so entrancingly pictured in Longfellow's immortal *Evangeline*,



is not of much material concern today other than as a recorded event, smoothed and softened by the healing hand of time. But as one lingers around these hallowed land-marks of the glorious past, he is reminded that—

“A land without ruins is a land without memories, and a land without memories is a land without history.”

HISTORICAL INTEREST



THERE is without doubt no more historically interesting region in Canada, not to say the entire continent, than Nova Scotia.

There may be seen, in the Yarmouth Public Library, runic stones said to have been marked by the Norse explorer, Lief Erickson, in the year 1000 A.D., when his expedition visited the harbor of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

The Fort Anne Park at Annapolis Royal brings to mind the visit of the French explorers, DeMonts and Champlain, in 1604. It also reminds one that here or hereabouts were sown the seeds of American Civilization, Christianity, Literature, Agriculture and Industry. Who is there who is not interested in the cradle of the family—much more so in the cradle of the nation of which he forms a part?

FIRST THINGS IN CANADA

AT OLD PORT ROYAL (now Annapolis Royal) in Nova Scotia, the first permanent settlement of white people in North America was made by the French, which DeMonts, accompanied by Champlain, Poutrincourt and Lescarbot, visited in 1604. Here Champlain established his "Order of the Good Cheer" in 1606, similar in many respects to the service clubs of today. The place where the first water power was developed and the first grist mill was erected, away back in the dawn of the seventeenth century, is approximately one mile from the town. Lescarbot's "Neptune's Theatre", written and staged in 1606, was the first piece of recorded literature produced on the Continent and marked the dawn of literature in Canada. The first church and the first orchards in Canada date back to the pioneer days of old Port Royal. And in later years Nova Scotia led in the vanguard of progress in establishing the first parliament in Canada. The Public Gardens of Halifax City, the first established North of the 45th degree of latitude, are considered today the best in North America. Nova Scotia enjoys also the distinction of having had the first wireless installation on the Continent. The glory of the latter goes to Cape Breton Island, the land of the Bras d'Or Lakes, and the summer home of the late Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor of the telephone.





HISTORY OF DOMINION ATLANTIC RAILWAY

ALTHOUGH the Canadian Pacific Railway Company was incorporated in 1881, it is interesting to note that some of the lines acquired, and now either part of the parent system or operated as subsidiaries, constitute a direct link of more than a century from the very earliest days of Canadian steamboat transportation and of railway development to the present day.

The Dominion Atlantic Railway, in Nova Scotia, is a particularly striking example of such a connection, inasmuch as the steamship service operated between Saint John and Digby perpetuates a service originating July 4th, 1827; while the first proposal for a railway to provide access to Halifax from Annapolis Valley was projected in 1835, only 10 years after the opening of the Stockton and Darlington Railway in England.

The first survey, covering the Annapolis Valley portion of the line, now the Dominion Atlantic Railway, was authorized a century ago, in 1846. The first section of the present Halifax subdivision was completed and opened for operation December 15th, 1858, between Richmond and Truro, with a stage coach connection into Halifax. Later, April, 1876, the gap between Richmond and Halifax was closed.

The Dominion Atlantic Railway, incorporated July 22nd, 1895, amalgamated the Windsor and Annapolis, the Western Counties and the Cornwallis Valley Railways and continued their operation until January 1st,



1912, when the entire railway, including also the Midland Railway Company Limited, acquired in October, 1905, by the Dominion Atlantic as a connection between Windsor and Truro, was leased by the Canadian Pacific Railway for 999 years. By this transfer the Dominion Atlantic Railway did not lose its identity, but is still operated under its corporate name.

OUTSTANDING CELEBRATIONS

Grand Pré Memorial Park has been the scene of many impressive public celebrations. Among them were:

- 1.—The unveiling of the Evangeline Statue in 1920.
- 2.—The blessing of the corner-stone of the Memorial Chapel in 1922.
- 3.—The completion of the exterior of the Memorial Chapel in 1923.
- 4.—The "Le Devoir" Educational Tour from Montreal in 1924. (Two special trains).
- 5.—The delegation of Ontario Protestant school teachers in 1926.
- 6.—The second "Le Devoir" excursion from Montreal in 1927. (Two special trains).
- 7.—The completion of the interior of the Memorial Chapel and the official opening of the historic museum in 1930.
- 8.—The Louisiana delegation, August 20th, 1930, on the occasion of the 175th anniversary of the Deportation of Grand Pré Acadians.



- 9.—The Rotary International Conclave from District No. 31, (two special trains), 1934.
- 10.—The Franco-Amérique and the Mission Catholique Universitaire de Paris delegations following the Gaspé celebrations in 1934.
- 11.—Second Louisiana excursion, August 17th, 1936.
- 12.—American Association of Railroad Ticket Agents, September, 1937.
- 13.—Association of Railroad and Steamship Agents of Boston, June, 1938.
- 14.—International Radio Club, Miami, Florida, July, 1938.
- 15.—American Association of Port Authorities, September, 1938.
- 16.—Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Supreme Council of Canada, October, 1938.
- 17.—The Apple Blossom Festival in June of each year.

*In the Acadian Land,
On the shore of the Basin of Minas,
Distant, secluded, still,
The little village of Grand Pré
Lay in the fruitful valley.*

*Vast meadows stretched to the eastward,
Giving the village its name
And pasture to flocks without number.*

*Naught but tradition remains
Of the beautiful village of Grand Pré*

THE ACADIAN COMMUNITIES

DESCENDANTS of the exiled Acadians are to be found today in Nova Scotia in Digby and Yarmouth Counties, and at Chezzetcook in the County of Halifax, and in many parts of the Island of Cape Breton, also in New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Quebec. They are usually settled in communities, and many of their villages extend for many miles as one continuous street. They retain the customs, and speak the language of their forefathers to a marked degree. They are thrifty, industrious, law-abiding and form an interesting group of loyal citizens.

Many exiled Acadians settled in Louisiana in 1765 and their descendants today probably number half a million souls. The New England States count over fifty thousand of them in their flourishing towns. Many migrated to the Province of Quebec and formed there, as elsewhere, community groups known to this day as descendants of old Acadia. Over two thousand drifted back to France and are still recognized as of Acadian descent.



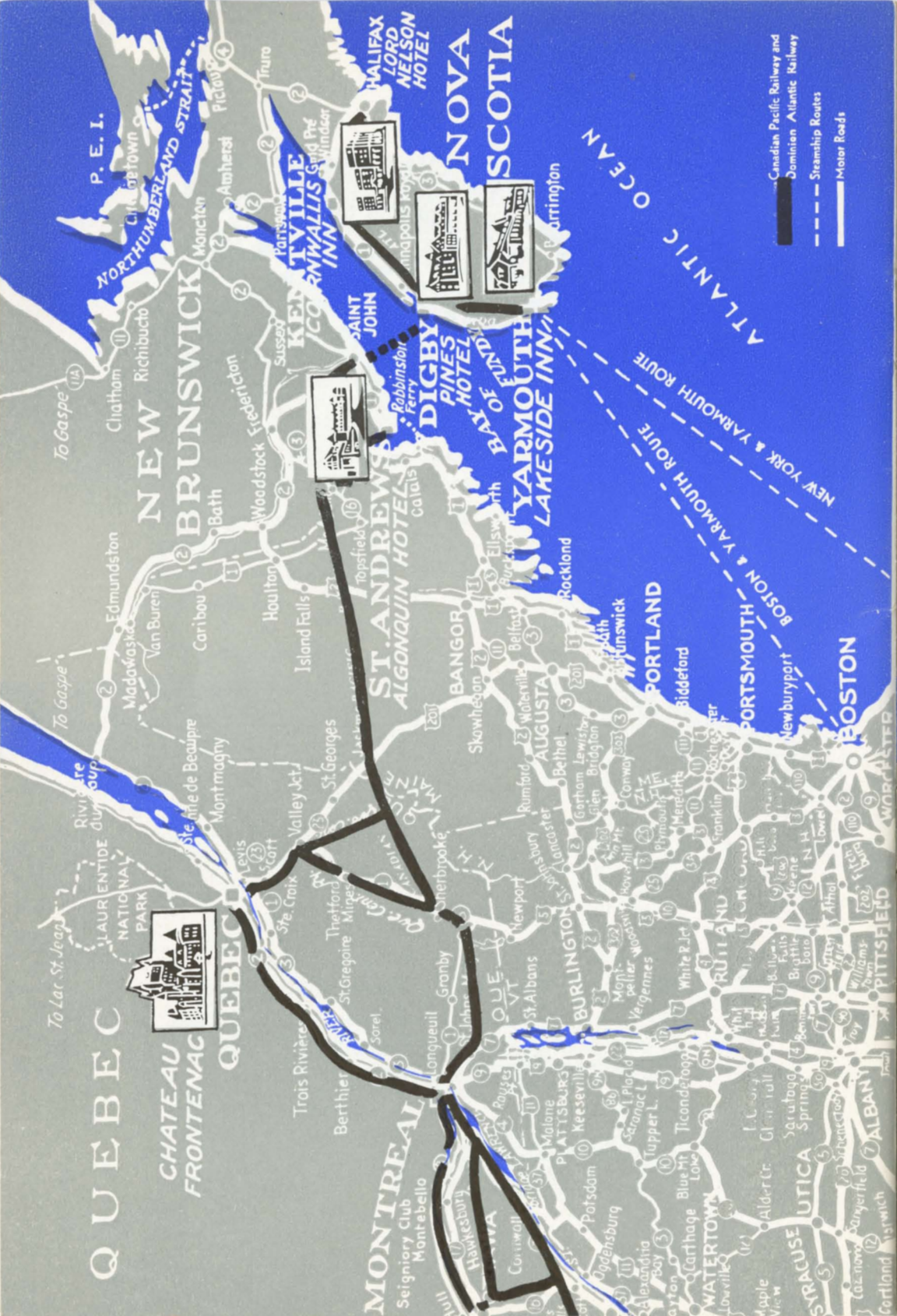


EVANGELINE'S RETURN

*Along my father's dykes I roam again
Among the willows by the river-side,
These miles of green I know from hill to tide
And every creek and river's ruddy stain.
Neglected long and shunned, our dead here lain,
Here where a people's dearest hope had died.
Alone of all their children scattered wide,
I scan the sad memorials that remain.*

*The dykes wave with the grass, but not for me.
The oxen stir not while the stranger calls.
From these new homes upon the green hill-side,
Where speech is strange and this new people free,
No voice cries out in welcome; for these halls
Give food and shelter where I may not bide.*

— J. F. HERBIN.



- Canadian Pacific Railway and Dominion Atlantic Railway
- Steamship Routes
- Motor Roads



The Digby Pines—comfortable modern rooms in the hotel or surrounding cottages—ample garage accommodation—golf, tennis, fishing, dancing, swimming in warmed salt water—near quaint Digby.



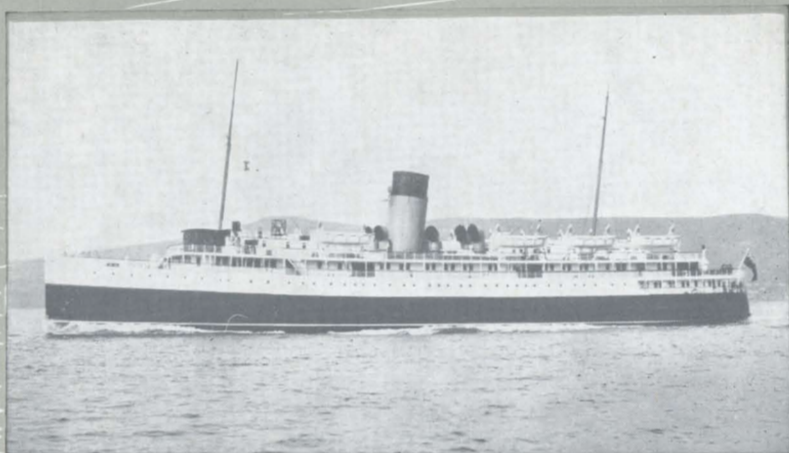
Lakeside Inn—close to Yarmouth, N. S.—splendid accommodation in the hotel or cottages—ideal for a lazy holiday or for tuna, trout, salmon fishing—golf, tennis, yachting, speed-boating, swimming—accessible from Boston by Eastern Steamship Lines.



Cornwallis Inn, Kentville, N. S.—headquarters for explorations of the Land of Evangeline—a comfortable, modern hostelry with the quiet charm of a roadside inn—every room with bath.



Lord Nelson, Halifax—operated by Lord Nelson Hotel Co.—faces the Public Gardens—every urban convenience—close to deep sea fishing, swimming, yachting, tennis, golf.



S. S. PRINCESS HELENE

Operating between Digby, N. S. and Saint John, N. B.

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Between NEW YORK, BOSTON and
Points in NOVA SCOTIA, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
and NEWFOUNDLAND.

The direct line to the noted Summer Resorts of Nova Scotia.

CLARE and ST. MARY'S BAY SHORE

(Where Evangeline's people dwell today)

DIGBY the Delightful

(Summer Hotels and Golf Course, Mountains and Sea)

BEAR RIVER of THE CHERRY CARNIVALS

ANNAPOLIS ROYAL, Historic and Lovely

(Settled by the French in 1604)

KEDGEMAKOOGE and SOUTH MILFORD

(Fishing, Hunting and Canoe Cruising with Club Houses
and Log Cabins by lakes and rivers in the deep woods)

THE VALLEY OF RED APPLES

(A hundred-mile valley fragrant with apple blossoms in
June)

GRAND PRE and THE LAND OF EVANGELINE

CAPE BLOMIDON and THE MAGIC MINAS REGION

CAPE SPLIT, Abode of Sea Birds

WINDSOR and the Tides of Avon

HALIFAX, the Historic Capital

For full information in respect to any of these apply to:—

DOMINION ATLANTIC RAILWAY

405 Boylston Street
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379 Barrington Street
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A. A. DUNPHY,
Manager
KENTVILLE, N. S.

