

'Forest land 'tis possible to see'—Cartier

By GEORGE V. FRASER

Prince Edward Island, Canada's smallest province, is a crescent-shaped island in the Gulf St. Lawrence on the Atlantic coastline of Canada.

Besides having the distinction of being Canada's smallest province, the island has the honor of being "The Birthplace of Canada." It was in Cartier's town in 1864 that the Fathers of Confederation held their first meeting. Ministers from Upper and Lower Canada and the Maritime Provinces met in a momentous meeting in the island capital which launched the discussions that three years later, culminated in the Confederation of British North American colonies into the Dominion of Canada.

Besides being known as The Birthplace of Canada Prince Edward Island is proud of its other descriptive titles—"The Island," "Garden of the Gulf," "The Million-Acre Farm," and "The Kentucky of Canada." It was officially named Prince Edward Island in 1799 in honor of Prince Edward, Duke of Kent, father of Queen Victoria. The island was called Saint John Island by the English, who captured it from the French in 1758. The French called it St. Jean, but probably by the most romantic name of all was that given it by its original inhabitants, the Micmac Indians. They called it Abegweit, which, in their language, means "Cradle of the Waves."

FIRST EXPLORER

Jacques Cartier is believed to have been the first of the early explorers to have set foot on the island. Other European explorers, including John Cabot, may have sailed in during their visit to the east coast of present day Canada. But Cartier, who landed at Cape Millard in 1496, the first white man to have left a record of having visited the land. He described it as "The fairest land I have seen" and commented on the island's harbors. Had Cartier continued around to the south of eastern shores, he would have found many fine harbors. He encountered a few of the Indians who inhabited the island, but his visit was brief and he did not penetrate inland.

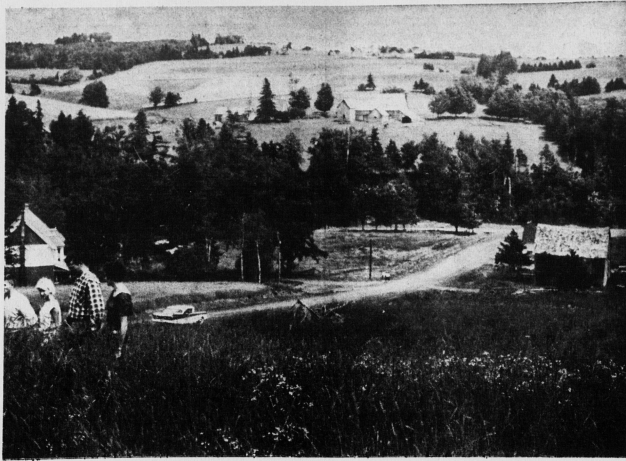
Although Cartier took possession of the territory for France in 1534, it was not until 1719 that the first settlers arrived. These hardy souls were brought to this part of the new world by Count St. Pierre. This first settlement was named Port LaJoie, across the harbour from present-day Charlottetown.

DISASTERS

Another man who left his print on the pages of French Colonial history on the island was Jean-Baptiste de LaRoche, who founded an ambitious settlement on the Rivers, now Brudenell Point. But hopes for a vast commercial empire which he cherished faded fast in the face of several crushing disasters. Some of his settlers were lured to other parts; his crops were destroyed by a plague of field mice; his largest vessel with all its cargo was lost at sea. The final blow came in 1742 when the entire settlement was looted and burned by a marauding band of New Englanders. Thirteen years of hard work were gone in a matter of hours but DeRoche and his family escaped into the forest, and later moved to Quebec. Today the depression of the cellars and a lonely stone cairn are all that remain at Brudenell Point to mark the heroic efforts of this brave pioneer to found a new world for himself and his friends.

Only a few years later, in 1763, the destiny of the colony fell into other hands. Canada became a British possession and the island was joined with Nova Scotia. Six years later, however, it became a separate colony. It was during this period that it was settled by Scottish, Irish and English groups who crossed the stormy Atlantic Ocean in sailing vessels to build a new homes in a new land.

The most numerous of the



'MILLION ACRE FARM,' 'GARDEN OF THE GULF' OTHER ISLAND NAMES

early settlers were the Scots who fled from oppression in their homeland. The earliest group came with Macdonald of Glenaladale in 1772 and settled at Scotchfort near Mount Stewart. Then came the 800 hardy Scotsmen who followed Lord Selkirk to the new world. They settled near present-day Eldon and their descendants are prosperous farmers and fishermen in the area. Another early group of settlers were the United Empire Loyalists who came from the United States after the American War of Independence.

The early settlers of Prince Edward Island were a fiercely independent lot. They fought hard for self-government and against unjust measures imposed by a Colonial government.

One such measure was absentee landlordism. In 1767 the Board of Trade and Plantations in England divided the colony into lots and apportioned these to persons to whom the crown owed favors. These absentee landlords collected "quit" rents from farmers until the latter re-

belled against the unsatisfactory situation and in 1873, when the province joined Confederation, the law was changed. The English landlords had to sell their holdings to the Provincial Government which, in turn, sold the land to island people.

GOVERNMENT SEAT

Self-government had been granted in 1861 and representatives elected by the people looked after the laws of the province. Today the government of Prince Edward Island consists of a Lieutenant-Governor, and a Legislative Assembly, the latter headed by a Premier. The Province Building in the capital city of Charlottetown, built in 1887, is the seat of government and also houses Confederation Chamber. It was here the Fathers of Confederation met in 1864. Thousands of visitors from all parts of North America come each year to see the historic room. The table round which the nation builders sat, and the chairs they sat on, and other pieces of furniture are still there just as they were on that

eventful day, September 1, 1864 when the momentous meeting was held. On the west wall of the Chamber is a plaque bearing these words: "In the hearts and minds of the delegates who assembled in this room on Sept. 1, 1864 was born the Dominion of Canada. Providence being their guide they builded better than they knew."

Prince Edward Island is only 140 miles long and from 4 to 10 miles wide. It is deeply indented by inlets from the sea and is almost cut in three parts by these inlets and tidal streams. It is separated from the mainland by the Northumberland Strait. Five modern ferries maintain communication at two terminals, one in the western section and one in the east. The shortest ferry crossing is only nine miles. The island consists of gently rolling countryside. Hills are few and far between—most of the country is flat. The highest elevation is only 500 feet. A network of paved highways traverses the province.

The island province has a

is 15 degrees. Average rainfall is from 23 to 3.5 inches a month.

LEADING AREA

This ideal climate, plus some of the finest beaches in North America where warm, salt-water bathing is at its best, makes the island a leading vacation area.

Visitors totalling almost three times the population of the province come to the Garden of the Gulf each summer for a seaside holiday. They are pleasantly surprised by the excellent scenery in this agricultural area. With its green fields, red clay, blue coastal waters, trees and flowers it is a veritable fairyland. More than 1,000 miles of paved highways reach into every corner of the province, providing a ready thoroughfare for the sightseer.

Horse racing, water sports, regattas, Highland games, festivals and carnivals provide summer-long entertainment for visitors and natives alike. There are also golfing, tennis, horse-back riding, trout and deep-sea fishing for fun and relaxation.

Modern motels, hotels, lodges, cottages and farm tourist homes provide good accommodation and good food for the summer visitor.

Over 50,000 tenters annually enjoy an invigorating, outdoor vacation in Prince Edward Island. Fully serviced campgrounds in the National Park, some two dozen Provincial Parks and a growing list of private camp sites provide a wide choice for tent families.

There are many historic places to see. Almost everyone goes to Green Gables in Cavendish, the farm home of Anne of Green Gables— heroine in the best-selling novel written by L. M. Montgomery, beloved native-born authoress. Replicas of famous castles can be seen at Woodleigh in Burlington; a recreated MicMac Indian village has been built at Rocky Point. There are also the Garden of the Gulf Museum at Montserrat, an old barnstead, and at Norris Rustico, a Wildlife Park.

The Island is primarily an agricultural province. This basic industry along with the fisheries, accounts for most of the income of the people. However, tourism is rapidly becoming an important source of revenue for the province.

Largest cash crop on the "Million-Acre Farm" is potatoes. Some of the highest quality seed potatoes in the world are grown on island farms and these are shipped to several continents. Other agricultural items grown in quantity include dairy products, beef, bacon, fruit, poultry—and an entirely new

crop, tobacco. Cautiflower, Brussels sprouts, spinach, beans and peas are also raised in quantity to provide for the new food-processing plants now operating in the province.

The Garden Province, surrounded as it is by the sea, is also noted for its fine seafood. The most rewarding of the products of the sea is lobster. Fishermen catch large quantities of these during the two seasons, spring and fall. They are sent to markets in other parts of Canada and the United States.

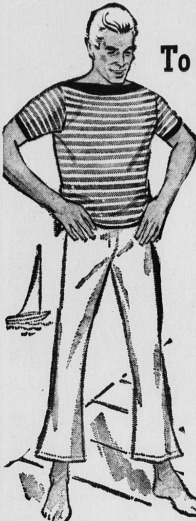
Malpeque and Orwell Bay oysters are coveted items on the menus of famous restaurants in Central Canada and eastern United States. The fisheries also include cod, herring and mace. The kernel for export. Several can-

neries are located in the province and from these are exported many delectable products. Most popular sport is harness racing. Such is the following of the "Sport of Kings" but on the province is called "The Neck of Canada". Other forms of recreation and entertainment include golf, tennis, fishing, hunting and lawn bowling. Indoor and outdoor theatres, lobster carnivals, festivals, regattas and Highland dance are music competitions round summer postures in the province.

Prince Edward Island is a province of Canada. The capital is Charlottetown (population 18,318). There are three counties, Kings, Queens and P.E.I. The population is 107,000.

WELCOME

To Canada's Playground



While vacationing in P. E. I. have a relaxing rest and come to Hooleys. A warm welcome awaits you.

We carry a complete line of

SPORTSWEAR

- bathing suits
- shirts
- socks
- pullovers

Visit Hooleys
You'll be glad you did

HOOLEYS MENS WEAR

Great George St. Charlottetown

"WELCOME TO OUR ISLAND"



WEEK'S HILLSIDE CABINS AND GUEST HOUSE
3 CABINS WITH PROPANE HEAT
3 ROOMS IN HOME
HANDY LOVELY BEACH

Phone 6—Alberton

old fashioned island hospitality ... modern surroundings ...

Our welcome mat is out for visitors and Islanders alike relax in the island's most modern surroundings, and enjoy the best food and accommodations. Combine this with the Island's traditional old-fashioned hospitality, and the answer is ... the Peter Pan, the Rendezvous, and the Islander Motor Lodge.



Everyone Will Love P.E.I.

While in Charlottetown visit the Misses Holmes and Bradley for quality childrens clothing. We welcome you to our Island and hope you will enjoy your best ever vacation.



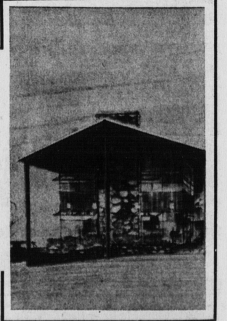
We have the latest

- Dresses
- Blouses
- Shorts
- Pyjamas
- Slims
- Swim Wear

"The first with the latest"

THE MISSES HOLMES & BRADLEY

QUEEN STREET CHARLOTTETOWN

Peter Pan Drive-In Restaurant
Junction Trans-Canada Highway and Malpeque Road

Rendezvous Restaurant, Kent St., Charlottetown

Islander Motor Lodge
Fornal St., Charlottetown

the peter pan

the rendezvous

the islander motor lodge

Charlottetown

