

110 CONVENTIONS, 150 EVENTS SCHEDULED DURING 1964

Island Centennial program sets pattern for Canada

The Prince Edward Island centennial program for 1964 is setting the pattern for a more gigantic celebration for the whole of Canada in 1967.

This smallest of Canada's 10 provinces, where the first Confederation Conference was held, has taken the lead in suitably celebrating an event pioneered by far-seeing statesmen of the new world in 1864.

A tremendous effort, by the provincial centennial committee and community centennial committees throughout Prince Edward Island, has resulted in an events calendar that ranges from 110 conventions, national and regional, to another 150 events of both national and local character.

To begin at the beginning, the Centennial celebrations are under the control of the Prince Edward Island Centennial Committee Inc., which is a crown company incorporated by the legislature of Prince Edward Island and charged with the responsibility of all aspects of the celebration.

The directors of the company are, Dr. Frank MacKinnon, chairman; Lt. Col. Frank Storey, vice-chairman; Alva Holman, director of finance; Hon. John MacLean, David Carnegie, Roy Boatman, Dr. L. I. Duffy, and Mrs. Philip Matheson being the other directors.

The permanent staff includes: William Hayward, controller; Mayor Moore, director of entertainment; Cdr. Kenneth Birch, director of activities; Donald Ross, events manager; Robert Dabberley, provincial secretary. The main provincial committee has many sub-committees for each one of which is engaged in a special aspect of the celebration as follows:



MEMBERS OF THE Centennial Committee: Back row, left to right, Hon. John MacLean, Alan H. Holman, Roy Boatman, David Carnegie, Dr. L. I. Duffy. Seated, left

to right, Frank Storey, vice-chairman; Dr. Frank MacKinnon, chairman; Mrs. J. P. Matheson.

and events, a survey of tourist accommodations in the Province, the consideration of transportation requirements for conventions, the establishment of Centennial town-criers, arrangements etc. All incorporated for souvenirs of the Centennial year, publicity arrangements towns and villages in the province have been visited by committee members to assist in these arrangements.

It is interesting to recall that in May, 1961, the convention committee established an objective of 100 conventions for the Centennial year which was more than double the number of conventions in any year heretofore.

This ambitious objective has been exceeded by 10. The special projects committee is a small committee with a big job and is chaired by Col. E. W. Johnstone. This committee deals with permanent community projects with the Centennial committee contributing 50 cents per capita, contingent on the community at least matching this amount. Some of the proposed projects are as follows:

Alberton, community centre; Kennington, town clock Miscouche, three acre public garden; Mt. Stewart, new library; St. Peter's, fire hall addition to be

used as library; St. Eleanora, roadside beautification with main emphasis on tree planting; Sherwood, plans to create a small park; Souris, skating rink; Summerside, Centennial fountain; Tignish, public garden or new fire hall; Victoria, remodel town hall; Borden, public park; Charlottetown, band shell; Crapaud, sports field; Georgetown, fire hall; Montague, skating rink; Murray Harbour, sports field; North Rustico, war memorial; Wellington, playground and park.

The decorations and illuminations committee, headed by Mr. Justice George J. Tweedy, is engaged in assuring that the island is gallily decorated from Tignish to Souris, especially during the summer months. The Centennial committee is assisting communities in the regard

with a grant of 30 cents per capita. Associated with Mr. Justice Tweedy in this project is Ted Chandler.

In the field of drama, creative and cultural arts, Mrs. Beth McGowan fills a vital role as chairman with full responsibility for making all arrangements for a Centennial pageant. The Dominion Drama Festival Finals, May 17-24 are being planned by a special board of directors of the Centennial committee chaired by Mrs. McGowan and Randolph Manning.

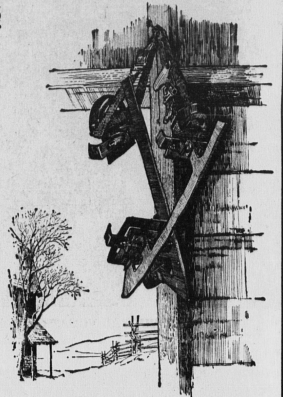
Lincoln Dewar is chairman for the committee on community activities and agriculture. This committee is arranging an essay contest with a Centennial theme and open to the public. They have also arranged for 28 hooked chair seats bearing the Prince Edward Island coat of arms for Government House, also farms which have been in one family for 100 years or more will be identified by a "Century Farm" roadside sign.

Mrs. Frank Ross is the children's committee chairman, and as a result of her tremendous efforts, an elaborate program for children participation in the Centennial year has been arranged to include, in various age groups, competitions for the best Centennial scrapbook, handwriting competition, mural competition, a community history competition, challenge spelling matches, and a public speaking contest. Every school teacher in the province has now received a letter from Mrs. Ross outlining full details of these competitions.

Brigadier W. W. Reid, DSO, ED, director of the armed forces committee, has been assured of the full co-operation of the minister of national defence and chiefs of staff of the three services. Bands and marching tents will be available for special community days, ships will visit ports, and the RCAF will give "fly pasts."

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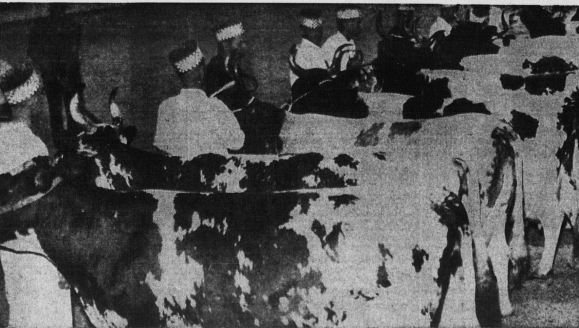
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