



*Lunenburg harbour.*

racing days were past she was sold as a freighter, and she finally foundered on a reef off Haiti in 1946. Everyone in Lunenburg was immediately sorry they had let her go, and in 1963 the brewing firm of Oland's Ltd. built and launched an exact replica, *Bluenose II*, as a living saltwater memorial. Since then *Bluenose II* has been hauling passengers instead of fish, and though she has never been in a formal race, she has logged 18 knots for one-and-a-half hours in a 55-mph wind. She was refurbished this winter, is now visiting East Coast ports in the United States and will be back in Nova Scotia ports in July and August taking visitors on three-a-day, two-hour cruises. (See photograph on page eleven.)

The south coast, from Yarmouth to Cape Canso, is indented with rock-bound coves, capes and bays, and its fishing villages are picturesque in the sunlight and many are awe-inspiring in the fog. Chester, north of Lunenburg on Mahone Bay, is a dazzling example of how pretty a rock-bound fishing village can be, with large and handsome summer homes, fine restaurants and classy shops.

Mahone Bay is reputed to have 365 islands (you could picnic on a different one every day for a year) and the best known is Oak, which has an authentically mysterious, ancient, man-made underground structure connecting its surface to the sea that may, or may not, contain buried treasure. The structure begins with a carefully carpentered shaft 100 feet deep, with spruce platforms every ten feet, and it was discovered in the late 1700s by a boy who'd gone bird hunting, noticed a dip in the ground and started digging.

The assumption then and now is that the shaft, a major feat of engineering, was dug by pirates, the Spanish government or at least someone with something to hide. People have been digging ever since, and though they've found many evidences of engineering skill they have found no treasure. A consortium of Canadian and American businessmen has been at it, off and on, for the past twenty years and they're still trying.

St. Margaret's Bay is northeast of Mahone, and Peggy's Cove is out on the edge of its rocky shore where the bay meets the Atlantic. It has been a fishing village since 1811, but it is obvious that mankind has had only a minor impact.



*Oak Island treasure shaft.*