

The city as a whole seemed to lack the number of large-sized buildings he had seen in other cities. Mr. Simpson told Paul that this was because of a number of terrible fires that had ravaged the city over a period of years.

Although Newfoundland was Britain's oldest colony, he added, its history is one of very slow progress until more recent years. While the island lies in one of the world's richest ocean fishing grounds, the Portuguese, Spanish, French, and British who fished off the Grand Banks did not settle it in large numbers. Its parliamentary evolution, too, was slower than that of the rest of Canada, until 1949, when its people elected by plebiscite to become Canada's tenth province. Today it has a number of enormous pulp and paper mills, mining and hydro developments, as well as its basic fishing industry.

Paul liked the people of Newfoundland, who are steeped in the tradition of the sea. Their speech, he thought, was as tangy as the ocean spray along the rocky coastline.

A heavy fog delayed their direct flight to Halifax from St. John's. Instead, Mr. Simpson and his young companion travelled overnight by rail to Gander, a great international airport. The rail trip from St. John's to Gander was particularly interesting to the two travellers, for it was their first ride on a narrow-gauge railroad.

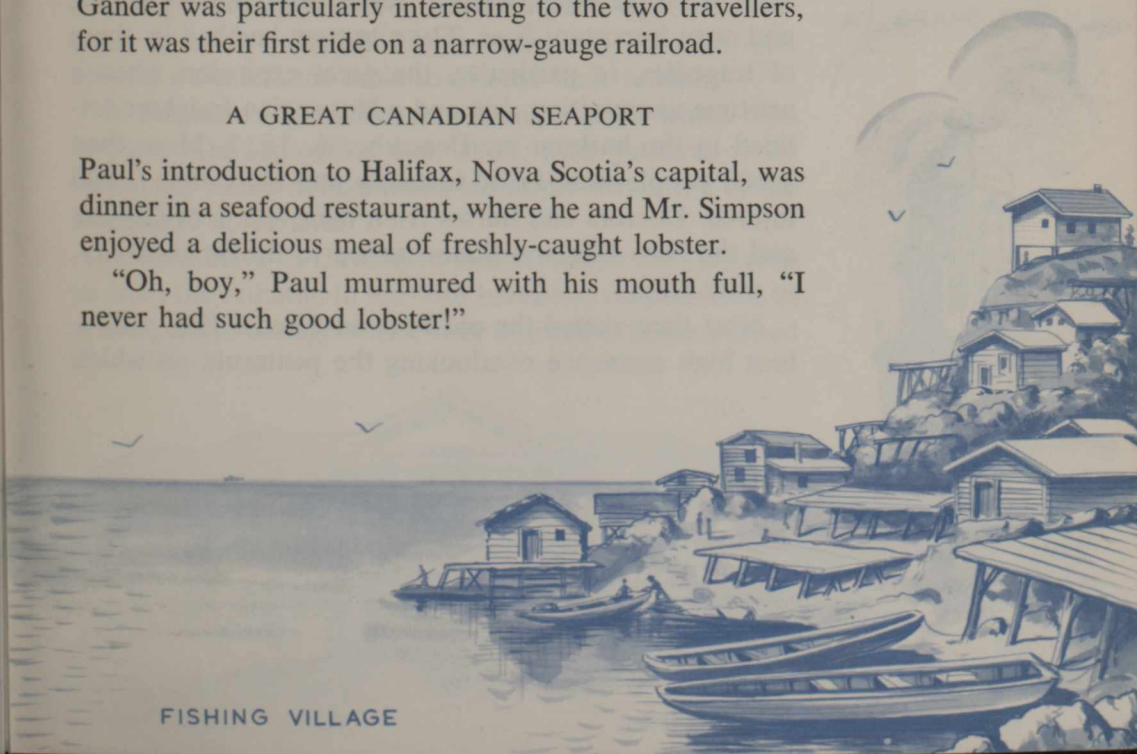
A GREAT CANADIAN SEAPORT

Paul's introduction to Halifax, Nova Scotia's capital, was dinner in a seafood restaurant, where he and Mr. Simpson enjoyed a delicious meal of freshly-caught lobster.

"Oh, boy," Paul murmured with his mouth full, "I never had such good lobster!"



ST. JOHN'S
HARBOUR



FISHING VILLAGE