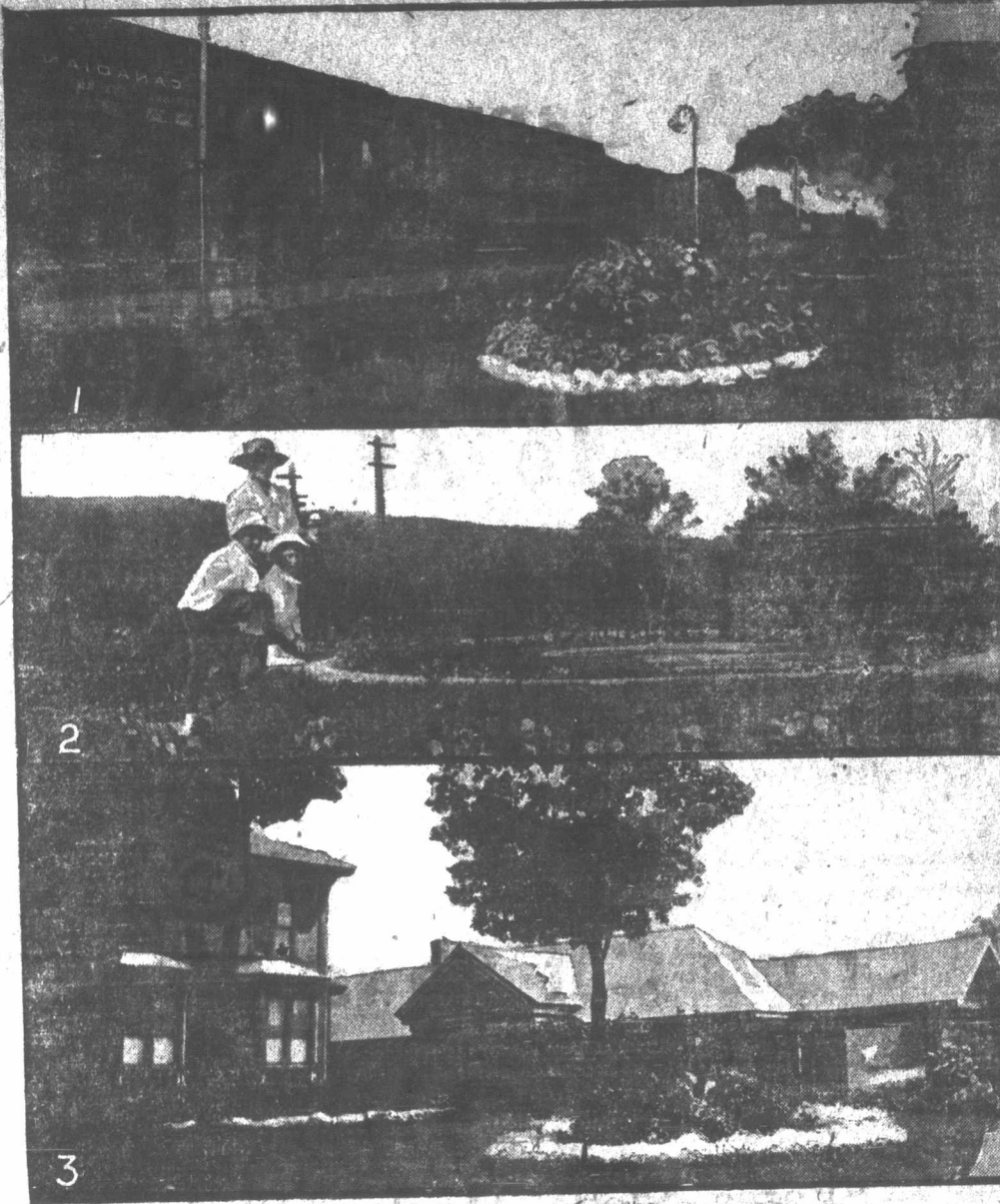


Beautifying the Railways



(1) The Station Garden at Milton, Ont.
 (2) The Fountain in the Station Garden at McAdam, N.B.
 (3) The Station and Office at Woodstock, N.B.

At the present time of the year when the snow covers the ground one decidedly misses the station and section gardens along the Canadian Pacific Railway with their profusion of shrubbery and flowers. It is the policy of the Canadian Pacific Railway to establish permanent gardens, and the C.P.R. Floral Committee gives every possible assistance in carrying on this work; thus every year sees an increase in the number of permanent gardens laid out.

In carrying out this work a great number of trees, shrubs and perennial plants are used annually. Suitable trees such as ash, elm, maple and poplars are supplied and shrubs such as honey-suckle, lilac, barberry, spirea, elder, weigela, etc., together with perennial plants such as peonies, delphinium, galliardia, coreopsis, sweet william, phlox, pinks and others are supplied. Vines are also supplied to cover out-buildings and fences. For this purpose Virginia creepers, hops and Japanese Ivy are considered the best.

The first display of color in spring-time is obtained from the planting of tulip bulbs in the fall,

but owing to their short life and labor involved, the distribution is limited to large stations and terminals. Following this, standard annual seed packages are supplied on request to all those interested. The varieties are specially selected for their hardiness and with consideration to the display they will give. Those chosen are nasturtiums, marigolds, mignonette, zinnia, kochia, alyssum and others. These seeds can be sown in the open and very good results quickly obtained.

For formal displays and formal flower-beds, a large quantity of bedding plants are annually supplied and this list comprises cannas, geraniums, cosmos, zinnia, asters, verbena, petunias, alyssum and lobelia, the latter two varieties being mainly used for borders.

Gradually, however, this class of plants is being replaced by perennial stock which requires less manual work and comes up from year to year living through the severest winters. In the Lake Superior country pansies alone are used. This plant is a very hardy biennial and has been found to thrive well in that

part of the country. It is pleasing to remember that this work is to be directly credited to the agents and other employees, for it is carried out mostly in their own time and through enthusiasm in beautifying their own living quarters. The C.P.R. recognizes their effort by presenting prizes on each division according to merit. These are keenly contested for, and in their distribution due consideration is taken of individual effort and the results achieved therefrom.

One important measure is to improve conditions around bunk-houses and points where employees gather and accordingly make their surroundings pleasant and attractive.

Under the guidance of a Committee which includes fully qualified foresters and horticulturists, plans are carefully laid and the work carried out under their direction. This Committee is constantly in touch with other horticultural experts, including agricultural colleges and horticultural societies so that no stone is left unturned to bring the work up to a modern standard.

The Most Generally Observed of All Festivals

CHRISTMAS is of all the festivals the most generally observed in the western world. It is the universal holiday of Christendom, and the general phases of its observance are in their essentials similar in all countries. It is a sort of common ground on which we all meet for, at least, one day in the year.

In its religious aspect the festival is a remembrance of the Christian faith—the gift of God to the world of a divine Saviour. Out of that central and dominant idea, no doubt, grew up the practice of selecting Christmas, above all other seasons, as the time for friends to bestow gifts upon one another, and, for all who can, to extend charity to those in need.

Although not so old as the religious feature, the domestic and social features of the festival date back to very early times, at any rate, to times that are early in our history.

For centuries Christmas has been pre-eminently a season of home-gathering, when absent ones return and the family circle is once more completed, or as nearly completed as the changes and chances of life make possible. With home-coming was associated good cheer, and so Christmas came to be a season of feasting and merrymaking.

In England during the Middle Ages, and for many generations after the Middle Ages had closed, the Christmas season, which included at least a whole week, and liturgically 40 days, was given over to merrymaking of various kinds, some of which have gone the way of many of the customs of our forefathers. For instance, there was the bringing of the Yule-log to be lighted on the fireplace on Christmas eve with much ceremony and rejoicing. We have no Yule-log for there are but few fireplaces now. The name of the log recalls another name for Christmas, which was anciently called and is still known as Yule-tide or Yule-time.

Christmas.
 The origin of Christmas, or Christ-mass, so called with reference to the last words of the chief religious service of the day according to ancient ritual, "Te missa (or missa) est," is to be found in the second chapter of St. Luke's Gospel. Its observance is not a development, having existed from the earliest days of Christianity. In fact, in many respects there has been devolution instead of evolution in the manner of its celebration.

Using Old Stockings.
 It is interesting to know and economical to follow the many little odds and ends that can be made out of old stockings, silk or lisle. So often they are thrown away because of endless holes and runs—not good, you think, for anything—but if this kind is saved until a fairly good pile has been accumulated one can start a very fine silk rag rug. The more numerous the colors the prettier the rug.

PILES Do not suffer another day with itching, bleeding, or burning. Use Piles. No surgical operation required. Dr. Chase's Ointment will relieve you at once and insure lasting benefit. See a box at all dealers or Edmondson, Bates & Co., Limited, Toronto. Sample box free if you mention this paper and enclose 2¢ stamp to pay postage.

HARTLAND ICE RINK

Rules and Regulations

CHILDREN AND BEGINNERS—2.00 to 6.45 p.m.
 GENERAL SKATING—8.00 to 10.30 p.m.

Hockey Matches will be announced in The Observer each week.

Hockey Practice: One afternoon each week and three evenings, 6.45 to 7.45, by arrangement with management committee.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON FREE TO SCHOOL CHILDREN

Straw-Riding Parties especially catered to. Skating will be continued as long as required moonlight nights and Supper will be served in General Waiting Room at moderate cost.

Hot Drinks, Sandwiches, etc., all the time. Oyster and Chicken Suppers by arrangement with Manager.

As the success of this enterprise depends on the patronage it receives, suggestions or complaints in writing, and signed, will, if handed in to the Manager, be brought before the Management Committee for careful consideration.

CONDUCT
 Orderly conduct must be observed. The Eastern Room is reserved strictly for ladies; the Western Room for Gentlemen; and the room between the two is a General Room where refreshments may be obtained.

Smoking is Prohibited inside any room.

Children under sixteen are not allowed on Rink after 7.45 p.m. unless accompanied by parents or guardians.

SKATING
 Monday, Wednesday and Friday Afternoons: 2.00 to 6.45. Children 10c; Adults, 15.
 Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday: 2.00 to 4.30; 5.15 to 7.45.
 EVENINGS: 8.00 to 10.30.
 Single Tickets: Gent's, 25 cents. Ladies, 15 cents. Weekly Tickets admitting holder on rink 6 times: Gent's, \$1.00; Ladies, 75c.

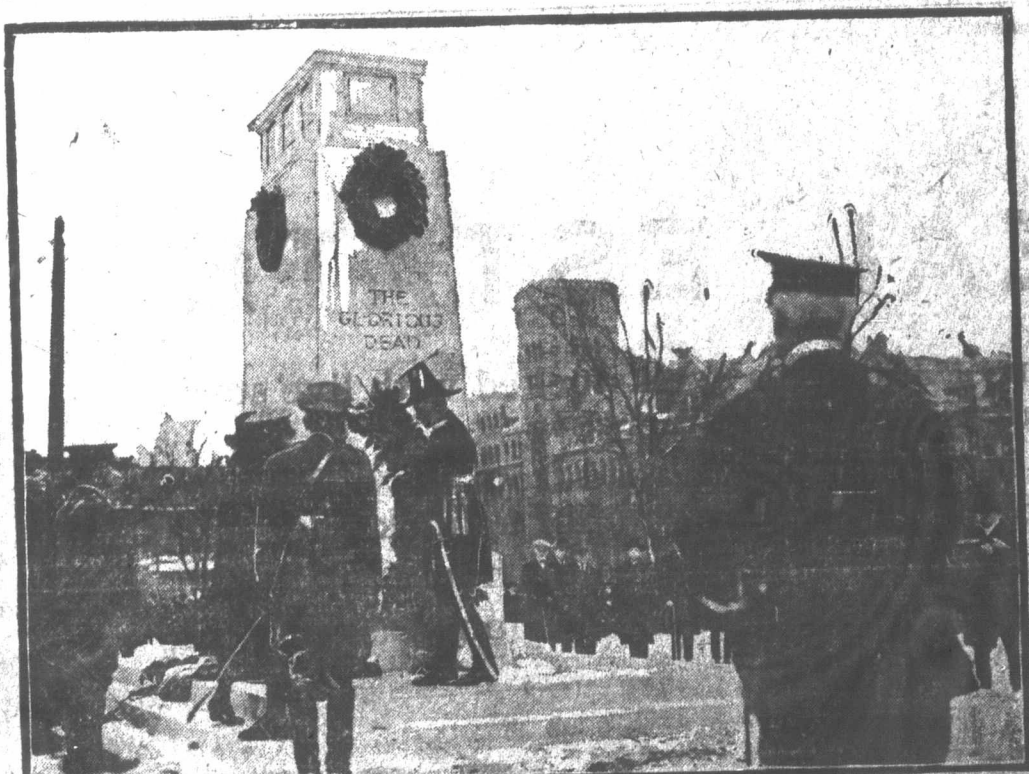
Skating will continue Moonlight nights after 10.30 at charges of 5c per hour each person, providing not less than ten people wish to continue.

REFRESHMENTS

PIES, per cut	5 cts.
Sandwiches, each	5 cts.
Tea, per pot	15 cts.
Cocoa, per cup	5 cts.
Hot Milk, per cup	5 cts.
Cum, Candies, Peanuts, etc., usual prices.	

(Signed)
W. J. CARR
 MANAGER

Sanctioned:
 K. W. KEITH
 W. P. TEDLIE
 V. W. SIMMS
 G. L. HATFIELD
 Management Committee.



—By courtesy C.P.R.
 His Excellency Lord Byng of Vimy, Governor-General of Canada, placing a wreath on Montreal's Cenotaph to the Unknown Soldier, Armistice Day, 1921. General Charles Arscott, G.O.C. of Military District No. 4, in foreground.

MACDONALD'S
"Pilot"
 Smoking Tobacco
 49 lb. Package 15¢

"It PAYS to Advertise! Keep it up!"