

# The Campbellton Graphic

CAMPBELLTON NEW BRUNSWICK, THURSDAY, JULY 10, 1924

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## TEACHERS TO MEET AT VICTORIA, B. C.

Special Train From Toronto via Canadian National Ry.

Maritime Province teachers will do well to note that in connection with the 1924 Conference at Victoria, B. C., to be held from August 12th to 16th, under the auspices of the Dominion Educational Association, special train arrangements have been made by the Canadian National Railway.

There will be a special train to the Pacific coast, leaving Toronto at 3.00 p. m. on July 25th, and numerous optional trips may be taken for the return journey.

The special train will be one of the finest, of all steel equipment, with most modern type of compartment.

observation cars, Library-Buffet car, Standard Sleepers and Dining. Nothing will be lacking in the way of entertainment. There will be a radio in the observation car and a phonograph will be placed in the dining car to be used for concerts, or dancing if so desired.

From all Maritime Province points to Toronto the regular train service of the Canadian National Railway is of the finest. It might be noted that the special train will stop at Jasper Park from Thursday, July 25th to Sunday August 3rd, and the educational party will thus have three days in that delightful playground of the Rockies. The cars will be used for sleeping accommodation, while meals will be had at the famous Jasper Park Lodge.

No more delightful trip could be devised for the teachers who are to make this tour across Canada by Canadian National Lines.

July 2-29th.

## Winners In Advertising Collecting Contest

- 1st prize—Suit of Clothes, won by Mel. Loudon, Campbellton. 500 of our advs.
- 2nd prize—Base Ball Bat, won by Lem. Jennings, Campbellton. 365 of our advs.
- 3rd prize—Base Ball Glove, won by B. Putman, Campbellton. 253 of our advs.

To others who made a big try for prizes and got over 100 we are giving one of our

**FERGUSON & WALLACE**

## THE DISASTER OF 1910

A Brief Historical Sketch of Campbellton and the fire which blotted our thriving town from the map on Monday, July 11th, 1910.  
(From the report of the Campbellton Relief Committee, published a year after the fire.)

Below appears a brief historical sketch of the Town of Campbellton and a short account of the disastrous fire which laid the town in ashes on July 11th, 1910. Because of its ruthless destruction of property and the wrecking of many promising commercial enterprises, the Campbellton disaster is an unpleasant memory but with tomorrow the fourteenth anniversary of that calamitous event, it is retrospective glance across the years should be productive of a great or spirit of civic pride in a town which has made such remarkable progress in so short a time.

Starting as a small village, growing within thirty-five years into a thriving town of six thousand; swept out in a night and rebuilt in a year. This, in a sentence, is the history of Campbellton.

On the south bank of the Restigouche river at the head of deep water navigation, Campbellton the most northerly town in New Brunswick is situated. It would be hard to find a better location in the whole of the Dominion. To the south of the town is a range of low wooded mountains; one of these the Sugar Loaf mountain rises to a height of nearly a thousand feet. To the north at the foot of the town down the river which forms the boundary line between New Brunswick and Bonaventure County, Quebec. At this point the river is nearly a mile wide and beyond, stretching from east to west is another range; off-shoot of the Laurentian mountains.

Campbellton was first settled in 1798 by John Duncan, native of Aberdeen, Scotland. This man came to New Brunswick in 1773 bringing with him a young man named Robert Adams and established a trading post at Church Point the first settlement in Restigouche. Later John Adams moved down the river and settled on the present site of Campbellton. He called his place "Wateryside" and it included all the present Duncan property down to the old site of the Baptist Church. Campbellton was further settled by colonists. The descendants of these first settlers are still living in the town. In the early years of its history Campbellton was called Martin's Point after Captain Martin who had a ship building yard on the point. Afterwards it came to be called Campbellton in honor of Lord Campbell Governor of New Brunswick. These places were gained their livelihood by fishing; for the Restigouche is noted all over America for its splendid salmon fishing. They were also farmers in a small way.

In the vicinity of Campbellton were large timber forests, and although the earliest settlers gained a livelihood by farming and fishing it was not long before the lumber industry began to be developed. This business was originally carried on principally in square lumber which was shipped to England. When mills began to be built the industry was further developed and deals were sent and sent to the English market. The first mill was owned by Pollock and Gilman who afterwards sold out to Andrew Ritchie.

The lumber industry has steadily increased. In 1890 less than twenty million feet of lumber were floated down the Restigouche. In 1910 nearly one hundred million feet. At the time of the fire, in Campbellton and vicinity there were fourteen mills, of which the Shives Lumber Company mill at Athol and the two at Richfordville were the largest, employing between them about two hundred men. In 1901 the village of Campbellton was almost destroyed by fire, only a few buildings escaping. The people were so busy rebuilding that they had no time to build their homes and life rolled on in much the same quiet way until the coming of the railway. With the advent of the Intercolonial Railway, a new epoch opened in the history of Campbellton. In 1876 the line was completed and Campbellton made a divisional point. The coming of the I. C. R. was a great event for Campbellton, opening up the country for settlers and giving opportunities for developing business. Campbellton was incorporated in 1888. It then had a population of fifteen hundred. The next mayor was John McAllister, a former M. P. for the county.

With the incorporation of the town followed many civic improvements, first of which was the completion of a first class water system, later an electric light plant was established and in 1902 an up to date sewerage system.

At the time of the fire Campbellton had a population of six thousand and covered the site of the present town, but the buildings for the most part were wooden. It had been built up the front Post Office, the Royal Bank of Canada, the Commercial Bank of Canada, the Campbellton Savings Bank and a Salvation Army barracks.

John Gervent and a large general store, the Town of Campbellton, was a busy, prosperous town, rapidly becoming a city.

Such was Campbellton on Monday noon, July eleventh, 1910, when Tuesday morning dawned it was a mass of smoking ruins. Now occurred the fire which swept the town from the map, destroying its six thousand inhabitants homeless and destroying six million dollars worth of property.

Monday morning dawned fine and clear but by noon a north west wind sprang up which in the early afternoon increased to a gale. The first alarm sounded about two thirty. A spark presumably from the corner of Richard's mill, had lighted on a shed nearby and aided by the strong, high wind and the dryness of everything, for there had been continuous hot, dry weather for over a week, was making rapid progress by the time the fire brigade arrived on the scene. All that the firemen could do then was to prevent the flames from spreading to the adjoining buildings and in three quarters of an hour after the alarm sounded the fire was apparently under control, and the usual crowd gathered at the scene of excitement was beginning to melt away when the second alarm blew.

A cinder had fired Richard's mill and the sparks falling in the lumber yard set fire to the shingles which the wind whirled far and wide, over the adjacent town. By that time there was no way of stopping the flames, for fanned by the high wind and fed by the inflammable material on every side, the fire soon reached the main fire which was thundering and roaring through the centre of the town, five distinct fires had started in other sections ignited by flying cinders. These fires rapidly spread and made paths for themselves. In every part of the town flames were burning. Dense clouds of smoke rolled towards the sky and settled like a pall over the burning town. The sound of the flames, sounded like a low rumbling thunder, accentuated every now and then by the sharp crack of some explosion. The heat was intense. As the fire spread its path momentum smaller fires were merged in the larger, until Campbellton was an immense seething furnace. During the night the fire burned itself out leaving waste and debris in its track.

Although the fire brigade fought valiantly they soon realized that they were totally unable to cope with the situation. The town was constructed almost entirely of wood, and was consequently highly inflammable. So, when aided by a gale it can readily be conceived how doubly easy was the work of destruction. To add to the difficulty the water pressure was low on account of the quantities of water being used all over the town. Fifteen minutes after the second alarm blew it was apparent that the whole town was threatened. Men on horse back galloped through the streets, warning people of the danger and calling out every available man to the assistance of the fire brigade.

In half an hour the fire fighters were forced to abandon the fight, driven back by the immense walls of flame, blinding smoke and scorching heat. An attempt to stop the advance of the flames by dynamiting of their possessions it was possible to do. By forty in the afternoon assistance had arrived from Dalhousie and by that time the fire was beyond human control.

As soon as the people realized that their town was destined to complete destruction, and that all efforts to save their homes from the advancing flames were useless they bent all their energies in saving what little of their possessions it was possible to carry. The sick and feeble were taken to places of safety. People living near the waterfront were rescued by boats and steamers in the harbor. A grain carried some as far as Dalhousie Junction. Others fled to the hills beyond the town. From the boats and steamers in the harbor and the hills beyond the town, all through the long night thousands of weary watchers witnessed the destruction of their town. Families were separated. Men watched the work of a life time disappear in a night. Reports of death came in every few minutes. No one slept. Through the long anxious hours the people of Campbellton waited in dread of what the morning would reveal.

A new day dawned, bring a fuller realization of the waste and desolation that a few short hours had wrought. The prosperous town of yesterday was now a field of smoking ashes. Not a tree or a blade of grass remained. The devastation was indeed complete. Here and there a building still stood, a few shops, among the ashes, reminding one of the strength of tombs in the half light of the early morning. The heavy with smoke. The wind had veered round to the north and was driving the smoke in the direction of the town. The smoke was so thick that it was impossible to see more than a few feet in front of one. It was a scene well calculated to remain in the memory. Thousands of people with misery depicted on their faces gazed with gloomy eyes

## First and Last Hardest Golfing Shots Says Hagen

New York, July 7.—Walter Hagen winner of the British open Golf crown says the two hardest shots for him in a big championship golf tournament are the first and last tee shots.

"I've been playing the game for years," relates Hagen, "but I never fail to experience an emotion somewhat akin to stage fright when I step up to hit the first shot in a championship. I imagine this is due to the faith I have in the first shot as a barometer. If it gets away in good style, I feel rather assured that I am not in for a low score."

"The last tee shot is a terrific ordeal, especially if you have a chance for the championship. Even if you are leading by four or five strokes, the threat of possible disaster is inescapable. You have visions of a badly trapped ball, an unplayable lie, a complete loss of control. The nerve pressure is at its greatest during the final moments."

Hagen is, no doubt, right. At Oakland Hills, in the open championship, Cyril Walker, who was destined to win the title, didn't make more than three or four wild tee shots all during the tournament. Of one these came at the 18th tee on the final round, the east tee shot he was asked to make.

Walker tore into the ball too quickly, got his hands in ahead of the club head, aimed badly to the right and was almost completely stayed by a tree. Fortunately, he was able to get the ball, and played a safety shot out on the open.

Had the ball been in the rough a foot or so farther Walker might have had to spend several shots getting out and the title which seemed so surely his would have gone to another.

Davey Robertson, grayhaired Detroit professional, in this same tournament needed a three at the 17th and a four at the 18th to tie with Bobby Jones, who had finished with 300. Robertson was on the short green with his drive, and then took three putts. On both greens he missed three-footers.

The finishing pressure was too tight, even for this season campaigner.

## TO HOLD PLEBISCITE IN SASKATCHEWAN

Prohibition Question to Be Decided July 16

Regina, Sask., July 7.—The eyes of students of prohibition throughout the world are turned to Saskatchewan to see whether the province will follow Quebec, Alberta, Manitoba and British Columbia in turning to government sale as the best method of dealing with liquor. The question will be before the voters in a provincial plebiscite July 16.

The province of Saskatchewan has been dry since 1916. A plebiscite in 1920 continued the dry regime by a vote of 86,949 to 55,259. Last year a petition for sale of liquor under provincial control was denied by the Saskatchewan government. When the province was made dry and when it was kept so, women voted, as they will in July.

## Shigawake

Misses Montgomery and Aheer were the guests of Miss Ludie Young for a few days last week.

Miss Bert Finney of Montreal is sending a few weeks with her parents Mr. and Mrs. James Almond.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Smith and family are visiting Mr. and Mrs. B. Allan.

At the awful scene.

There have been larger fires in the history of Canada but none where the destruction was more complete. With the exception of a few houses which by some miracle escaped the flames, the town was completely destroyed and the people rendered homeless and for the time being helpless.

There was absolutely no shelter for the six thousand people nor was there and food to feed them.

But the news of the disaster had flashed over the wires to all parts of Canada, awakening the sympathy of every Canadian. A carload of provisions arrived from Bathurst at eight o'clock Tuesday morning. Dalhousie, Newcastle, Chatham and Moncton also rushed relief to the sufferers as soon as word reached them.

All telegraphic and telephonic communications, and only the most meagre details of the disaster could be obtained. Anxious relatives and friends all over Canada and the United States were waiting for further details. The press did its parts in informing the public of the awful calamity and urging them to send immediate relief.

Canada responded nobly to the appeal for help. Money, provision, and clothing came in from every corner. A carload of tents, property of the Canadian Department of Militia arrived on Thursday. These were much needed for the people encamped in the fields were suffering from

The Militia was called in to help keep order and the Provincial Government sent an Indian Commissioner, placing the town under local option.

Five days after the fire a meeting of the citizens was called by Mayor Dr. D. Murray and the work of relief placed in the hands of a competent committee.

## QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE PESBYTERY OF MIRAMICHI HELD AT NEW CARLISLE

Sessions Largely Attended—the First Time Such Meetings Were Held on the Gaspe Coast.

The quarterly meeting of the Presbytery of Miramichi in Zion Church, New Carlisle, P. Q., June 25 to 26 was an event of more than passing interest both for the Presbytery and for the people of Northern New Brunswick and the Gaspe Coast. It was the first time that Presbytery met in quarterly session in New Carlisle or on any part of the Gaspe Coast, and the occasion was marked by the opening and dedication of the New Carlisle School Home for Girls, the first to be established by the Presbyterian church in eastern Canada.

A unique feature of the occasion was that every member of the Presbytery in attendance had come to New Carlisle by auto, several having come from as far as south as Chatham, and others starting by train had joined auto parties along the route. The members present included Revs. L. McLean, F. W. Thompson, A. D. Archibald, Alex. MacKay, J. W. McCurdy, J. H. A. Anderson, C. F. McLennan, George Gough, W. W. McNair, and Roland Davidson, ministers; and Messrs. Jos. Henderson, Charles Campbell, P. A. Fyfe, J. R. McPherson, T. H. McNair, R. F. C. Mair, A. Ferguson and J. O. Sherer, elders. Dr. James Ross, Home Mission Superintendent, was also present.

The first session was held on the evening of June 25th, with the congregation present, the choir giving assistance in the service of worship. Two addresses were given of popular interest, the first by Rev. A. D. Archibald who brought a message from the recent Assembly at Owen Sound, and the second by Dr. James Ross who gave a practical and informing address on Home Missions. The officers-elect for the ensuing six months are Rev. W. Girdwood, moderator, Rev. A. D. Archibald, Clerk and Rev. J. H. A. Anderson, Treasurer.

The treasurer's report, audited by Messrs. C. F. McLennan and H. F. C. Mair, was adopted as follows:

Receipts.  
Balance on hand, \$143.42  
From Congregations during year, 427.12  
From members of Trav'lg Exp. Bd., 140.00  
Sundries, 8.66  
Total, \$719.20

Expenditures.  
Salary of Clerk, \$200.00  
Members' Trav'lg exp. reg. mtgs., 801.00  
Miramichi Pub. Co. printing minutes, 94.30  
Committees' expense, 16.50  
Bal. on hand, 79.65  
June 20, 1924, \$719.20

This morning seditur on Thursday was taken up largely with hearing the final report of the committee charged with the building of the School Home for Girls. Rev. J. F. McCurdy and J. S. Gordon, Esq., chairman of the committee gave reports stating that the building was complete at a cost within \$20,000.

The funds being provided by the Home Mission Board from the Forward Movement Peace Thank Offering. The work had been well done in every particular and the completed building will accommodate thirty girls in residence with expansion possible as required. Mrs. L. A. Moore President of the W. M. S. being present, was called upon to give a statement from the point of view of the society. She was very graciously welcomed to the platform and spoke of the interest and practical help accorded by the W. M. S. in furnishing the home and providing bursaries. Dr. James Ross spoke for the Assembly Home Mission Board. Presbytery forwarded by wire to the Home Mission Executive meeting in Toronto their nomination of Mrs. Ada Sowerby of Ecclesias, P. Q. as Superintendent of the Home.

Appointments of special meetings in the service.

After the adjournment of Presbytery, members and visitors sat down to a banquet in the Masonic Hall provided by the ladies of the congregation. Toasts and responses were indulged in, and after a hearty vote of thanks to the ladies and good people of New Carlisle for the hospitable P. entertainment, the festive gathering concluded with Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem.

## AN ACADEMY OF CRIMINOLOGY

Organization is Completed in California After Many Weeks of Preparation

Los Angeles, July 8.—Organization of the Southern California Academy of Criminology is announced here by Chief of Police August Vollmer, who is an authority on criminology. The organization has been perfected by Chief Vollmer and Dr. E. C. Moore, president of the University of California, Southern Branch, after many weeks of preparation and discussion in which scientists, educators and policemen collaborated with bootleggers, burglars and other more or less notorious members of the underworld. The purpose of the academy is the "scientific compilation of community opinion on the cause and conditions of crime and the best methods of crime prevention." The membership includes appellate court judges, university officers and police officials. Only men and women of recognized ability in the field of criminology and sociology will be admitted into the organization, it was stated.

One of the methods to be utilized in gaining first-hand knowledge of crime and criminals will be a series of lectures by law violators, and by leaders of such alleged anti-government organizations as the Communists.

The Presbytery were made to be held in Dalhousie, July 9th, and in New Mills, July 10th, for the purpose of visitation of these congregations respectively.

The Sunday School and Young People's Society Report, deferred from the March meeting was given by the convener in which analysis was made of the data submitted from the several congregations of the bounds.

At the afternoon seditur the Presbytery held the dedication service of the school Home. Public worship was conducted by the presiding Moderator Rev. J. H. A. Anderson, assisted by Revs. A. D. Archibald and L. H. McLean. Rev. F. W. Thompson gave a brief historical statement of the movement to provide suitable Home for the Protestant girls of the Gaspe Coast seeking the higher education made possible by the High School of New Carlisle. J. S. Gordon, chairman of the building committee handed the keys of the Home to the Presbytery.

The solemn words of dedication were spoken by the Moderator, prayer was offered by Rev. W. W. McNair and hymn, "O God of Bethel" was sung with heartiness and reverence. Addresses suitable to the occasion were then given by Rev. J. F. McCurdy of New Carlisle, Mrs. L. A. Moore, president of the W. M. S., Rev. L. J. King, Inspector of Protestant Schools, Charles McBurney of the Department of Education, Quebec, the Rev. Rural Dean DeGruy of the Anglican Church and Dr. James Ross of the Board of Home Missions. A cordial letter of congratulation was read from the Anglican Bishop of Quebec pledging sympathetic co-operation with the Presbyterian Church in this praiseworthy effort in the interests of higher education. Mrs. Dr. Morrel of New Carlisle on behalf of the local chapter of the Daughters of the Empire presented a beautifully framed picture and on her own behalf the nucleus of a library for the Home. Every available space in hall and adjoining rooms was occupied with the many interested visitors who shared newshours tertiffa.

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## GIFTS THAT PLEASE

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