

Prince Edward Island might be allowed to stand aloof...*

Prince Edward Island, which joined reluctantly, began its 100th Canadian year on the first of July.

It remains a fanciful place with pink beaches and not very many people. It was discovered by Jacques Cartier in 1535, who said, truthfully, that it was "Full of goodly trees and meadows, the fairest land 'tis possible to see." The Micmac Indians called it Abegweit, which means "Cradled on the Waves." The French called it Ile St.-Jean. The British, abandoning poetry, named it after Queen Victoria's father, Edward, the Duke of Kent.

It was to be the home of some stubborn people. The French were forcibly removed in 1758, when the British decided to anglicize the Maritimes.

In 1803 eight hundred Highland Scots arrived in the ships Polly, The Dykes, and the Oughton, under the leadership of Lord Selkirk. They had been told that tea grew wild in the swamps and that whiskey flowed from trees, but they found they had to import the first and make the second. They changed the name of the village Belle Face slightly, to Belfast. In 1847 that Belfast had an election day riot between Scots and Irishmen, in

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Historic Confederation Chamber (above) located in Province House, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. The original table and chairs used by the Fathers of Confederation in 1864 are still in position. Thousands of summer visitors to the Island throng the halls of old Province House to visit Confederation Chamber.