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AND

LOVELY COUCHICHING

GUIDE
BOOK



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- ORILLIA -

ORILLIA is a town of five thousand inhabitants, situated in the Highlands of Ontario, on a peninsula lying between lakes Simcoe and Couchiching, which are set in this pleasant land seven hundred and fifty feet above Lake Ontario and at an altitude of one thousand feet above the level of the sea.

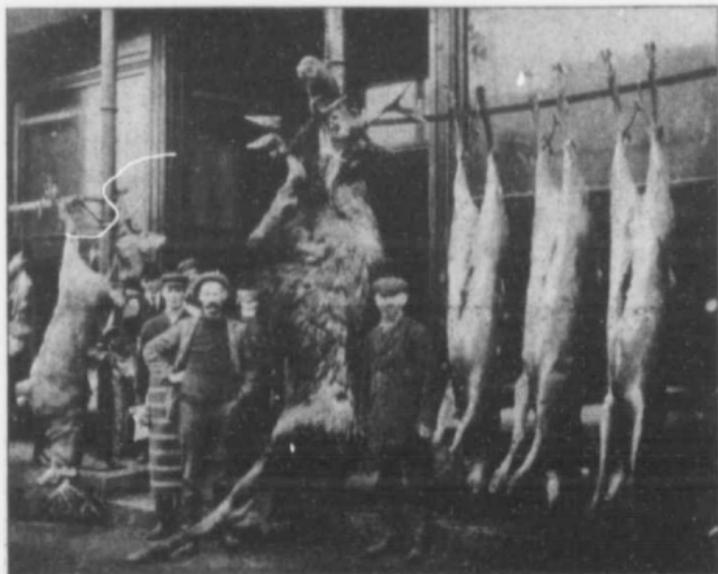


On the shores of Strawberry Island.

Lake Simcoe, lying at the south of the town, is a magnificent sheet of water, thirty miles long by twenty miles wide, and on which are situated many points of interest and summer resorts which are popular with the tourist. Lake Couchiching lies to the north and east of the town, and is about twelve miles long by three miles wide. It is an ideal body of water for sailing, boating and canoeing. The surface of the lake is studded with islands of such a size that there is never any danger in small boats.

Couchiching! Well may the curious tourist, struck by the peculiarity of the name, ask its meaning. Indian nomenclature is always appropriate and descriptive; here the varying breezes, welcome

adjuncts of a summer resort that fan the surface of the lake, have given the Indian name for "Lake-of-many-winds." It lies four hundred and fifteen feet above Lake Huron and three hundred and ninety



Big game shot near Orillia.

feet above Lake Superior, and is the next lake in the chain that empty their waters by the River Severn into the Georgian Bay and Lake Huron.

The rapidity of the rise from Lake Ontario may thus be judged; and the consequent elevation and clearness of the atmosphere, and the cool breezes, would, apart from any other consideration, be sufficient to commend Orillia as a favorite resort for a summer visit. The streets of the town are well laid out, and are lined with thousands of shade-trees, and its altitude, with the breezes from the two lakes, keep it always cool. The drinking water of the town is supplied from the purest of springs. It is clear and sparkling, and has been declared, by the public analyst of Ontario, to be exceedingly pure. The water is conveyed to Orillia through large metal pipes, by gravity, and is always cold and in excellent drinking condition, and the supply is so abundant that it goes to waste daily by thousands of barrels. There is abundance of sport and endless means of amusement. Visitors have, therefore, a combination of comfort and convenience, with healthful recreation and beautiful scenery.

On the shores of Lake Couchiching, and within three hundred or four hundred yards of the centre of the town, lies Orillia's town park, known as "Couchiching Beach Park," containing twelve acres of grounds, on a point of land jutting out into the lake in such a way that it may almost be said to have waters on three sides of it. The park is laid out in lawns, flower-beds, lacrosse, cricket and baseball grounds, tennis-courts, and a couple of acres reserved for picnic parties, in a fine grove of trees, where tables, etc., have been placed.

Drive and shady walks border the margin of the lake, and many pleasant trips can be made in the vicinity. From any portion of the shore, no matter in what direction you look, fine stretches of water, verdure-clad banks sloping to the water's edge, and green forest glades present themselves to the eye. To the north, scarcely discernable between the miniature islands that bestud the lake's surface, may be seen the settlement of the Ojibeway Indians, appropriately called Rama.

At Rama the last remnants of this great Indian tribe have their reservation. At one time all the surrounding land was occupied by their numerous villages, a population of at least twenty-five thousand being settled around the shores of lakes Simcoe and Couchiching, and now but a few survivors remain.



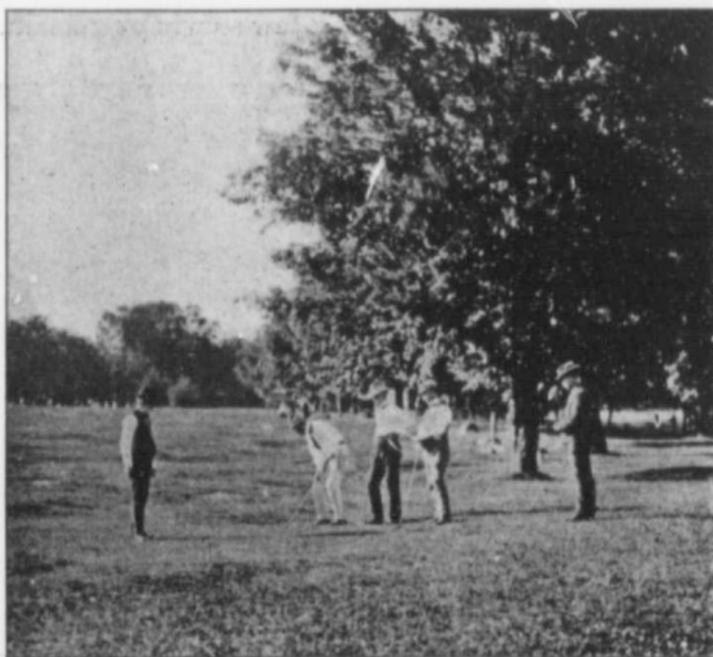
Afternoon at the Park.

Within a radius of twenty miles from Orillia there are, on all sides, numerous lakes, rivers and streams to which interesting excursions or pleasure trips can be taken by steamer, rail, horse or bicycle, and in which the very best fishing can be had, including, bass, maskinongé, salmon trout, whitefish and herring, all of which are caught in large numbers in lakes Simcoe and Couchiching, and close to Orillia; pickerel and pike, which are to be caught in Lake St. John, six miles from Orillia by steamers, and in the Severn River, and speckled trout, which are to be caught in a dozen different ponds and streams at various places within a radius of from three to ten miles from town.

As a health resort Orillia is unsurpassed. The clear, bracing atmosphere, induced by its high altitude, is a panacea for almost every description of ailment. Perfect immunity from hay-fever is assured, and those suffering from any pulmonary disease will find immediate relief.

Orillia is also noted for its social gayeties; balls, picnics, dancing, tennis, bowling and garden parties and all the other functions that go to make up a jolly time are a daily occurrence.

It has a thoroughly organized golf club, with



Gold Links at Orillia.



At Cedar Island — Lake Couchiching.

excellent grounds, and a flourishing tennis club, which are used all day long in summer. These clubs have been formed chiefly for the accommodation of visitors, and are a great addition to the attractions of Orillia.

The Fishing

Few places within the confines of civilization offer to the disciple of Isaak Walton so good opportunities for indulging in his favorite pastime as do the waters around Orillia. Lake Simcoe itself is in reality a great fish preserve and hatchery, as netting is strictly prohibited, and the number of fish that can be taken out of its teeming waters by rod and line is insignificant and makes no impression. First among the fish that are caught in these lakes should be mentioned the kingly maskinongé. These magnificent game fish are found both in Couchiching and Simcoe lakes and in the Severn river. They sometimes attain a weight of forty pounds, while fifteen and twenty pounds is not at all uncommon. To hook one of these monsters is to insure sport of a kind that will give the sportsman the keenest pleasure for the half-hour or so that it may take to land it, panting but still defiant, in his canoe, and will also afford gratification for many a day to come, to say nothing of furnishing material for a story

that need never lose in the telling. The 'lunge (short for maskinongé) is a strong and fierce fighter; yet there is nothing coarse either in his methods or in his appearance. He is a knightly opponent, a



A Day's Sport with Rod and Gun.

foeman worthy of your steel, who fights fair and dies game. The 'lunge is caught by trolling with a spoon along the edge of the weed-beds where he makes his home.

Black bass abound in both Lake Simcoe and Lake Couchiching, and good sport is assured the lover of rod and gun. The specimens caught here run from one and a half to four pounds. Many of the streams and ponds which abound in all directions around Orillia afford capital angling for the most dainty and gamey of fish—the brook trout.

Accommodation

Orillia has a number of good hotels, of which the Orillia House pays particular attention to summer guests. It is centrally located, is run under the personal supervision of the proprietor, and is recommended as a comfortable hostelry to spend the summer days. The service is good, rooms large and airy, and the *cuisine* is all that is to be desired.

Another very popular and charming resort near Orillia is known as the Trondyke Beach House ; it is situated on the far-famed and picturesquely beautiful Narrows which separate Lake Couchiching from Lake Simcoe. This house is a three-storey brick structure, well built and well furnished, with bright bed-rooms, large dining and sitting-rooms, wide halls, spacious verandahs, and surrounded by very fine grounds. The aim of the management is to cater to the best class of summer tourists, and nothing is left undone to make the visit of tourist pleasant. For the convenience of guests, the steam-yacht which is run in connection with the house will make almost daily visits to the fishing grounds. Long-distance telephone connection in the house. For all particulars apply to R. A. Harris, Atherley, Ontario.



Orillia House.

Customs Arrangements

Persons visiting Canada for a limited time for pleasure may bring with them such guns, fishing tackle, tents, camp equipment, cooking utensils, kodaks, bicycles, etc., as they may require for their own use, upon reporting same to the customs officer



Picnic Grounds on Horseshoe Islands — Lake Couchiching.

at port of entry, depositing with him a sum of money equal to the duty, subject to a refund of this amount if the articles are exported within six months, or they may be forwarded in bond to any point in Canada where a customs officer is stationed, where the same regulations as above must be complied with. A customs officer is located at Orillia for the examination and passing of incoming baggage. Tourists will find this a great convenience, and baggage can now be bonded and forwarded to Orillia, where inspection will be made by the customs officer.

How to Reach Orillia

From points in the South and Western States passengers reach the Grand Trunk Railway either by way of Chicago, Buffalo and Niagara Falls, or by way of Detroit. From each of these points the trains of the Grand Trunk Railway convey the passengers to Orillia *via* the city of Toronto.

From Buffalo trains are run solid over the Lehigh Valley and Grand Trunk, crossing the Grand Trunk's single-arch, double-track steel bridge over Niagara River.

From Toronto fast express trains are run solid to Orillia.

Passengers from Eastern points, such as Quebec, Portland and intermediate stations, proceed *viâ* the main line of the Grand Trunk Railway through Montreal to Toronto, and those from Boston and all New England Points by connecting lines *viâ* the same route; thence on to Orillia by the Grand Trunk Railway System.

Tourists from the Maritime Provinces reach the Grand Trunk *viâ* the Intercolonial Railway, *viâ* Montreal, and proceed over the main line as above described.

From points in the East and South of Buffalo, including the States of New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland, etc., the route is by way of Niagara Falls, thence Grand Trunk Railway.

For more detailed information write to the Secretary of the Board of Trade, Orillia, Ontario.

St. Catharines

The Welland, which has accommodation for 150 guests, is a happy combination of sanitorium, rest-cure and family hotel, fitted with all modern conveniences. Among the features of this hotel are a large music-room, ladies' and gentlemen's



The Welland, St. Catharines, Ont.

billiard-rooms, and gymnasium, tennis and bowling-green, two golf-links, boating, fishing and beach-bathing. Sun parlor and roof promenade; long-distance telephone in each room. The rooms are charmingly furnished and are *en suite*, with bath-room if requested. The St. Catharines Well, the curative properties of which are known far and wide, is situated here. It is only eleven miles from Niagara Falls. Rates at the Welland are from \$14 to \$22 per week, including board, physician, baths, attendant and massage. For full particulars, apply to Malcolmson Bros., St. Catharines, Ont.



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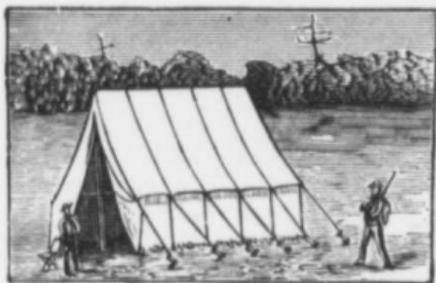
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