

GRAND CONCERT

INTERNATIONAL LODGE, No. 228,
I. O. O. F.

— TO BE HELD IN THEIR —

New Hall :: Victoria

— ON —

SEPTEMBER 28, 1886.

PROGRAMME

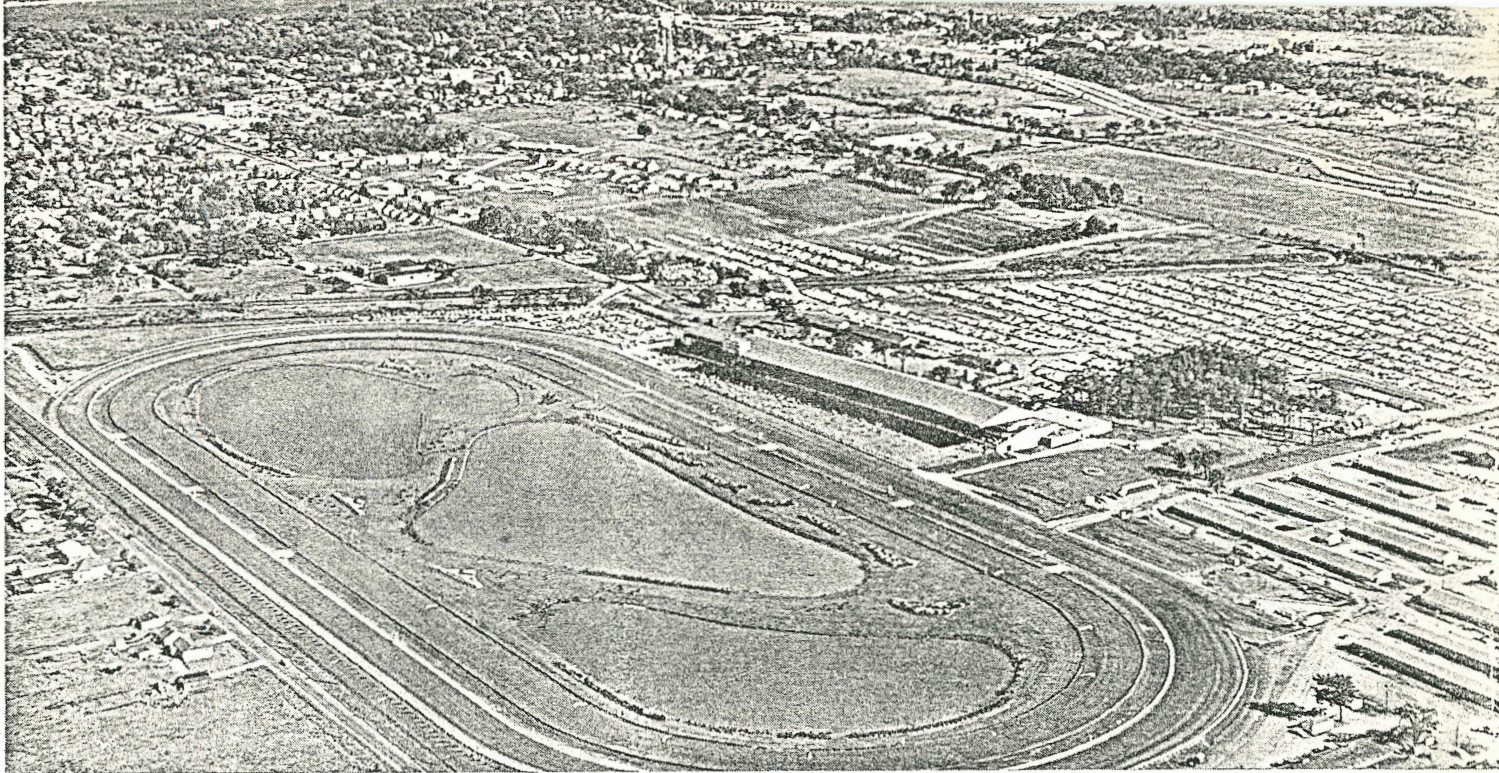
Overture.....ORCHESTRA
Address.....BRO. T. J. BROWN
Duett—Vocal. Selection.....MISSSES COULTHURST
Song—"White Squall.".....MR. SPENCE
Recitation—"The County Squire.".....MR. CLARK
Solo—"Sailing.".....MR. PARKS
Song—"The Flower Girl.".....MRS. MITCHELL
Solo—"The Midshipmite.".....MR. G. H. HOWARD
Solo.....MR. JUDD WHITAKER

INTERMISSION

Duett —Piano.....MISS MURRAY & MISS C. COULTHURST
Solo—"Nancy Lee.".....MR. PARKS
Recitation.....MR. McPHEE
Song—"Queen's Hussar.".....MR. HOWARD
Solo—"Beware.".....MISS CARRIE COULTHURST
Solo—Medley.....MR. SPENCE
Solo.....MR. JUDD WHITAKER
Song—"Kerry Dance.".....MRS. MITCHELL
Duet—Vocal. Selection.....MISSSES COULTHURST

God Save the Queen.
COMPANY.

 *Dancing to Commence as soon as the
hall is cleared.*



This aerial photograph of Fort Erie is displayed in full colour at the new Brewers' Retail Store. Stretching across the Niagara River in the

background is the internationally famous Peace Bridge. In the foreground is another attraction belonging to Fort Erie — The Fort Erie Race Track.

FORT ERIE...



the distributor

Vol. 13 No. 9 October, 1962

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cover

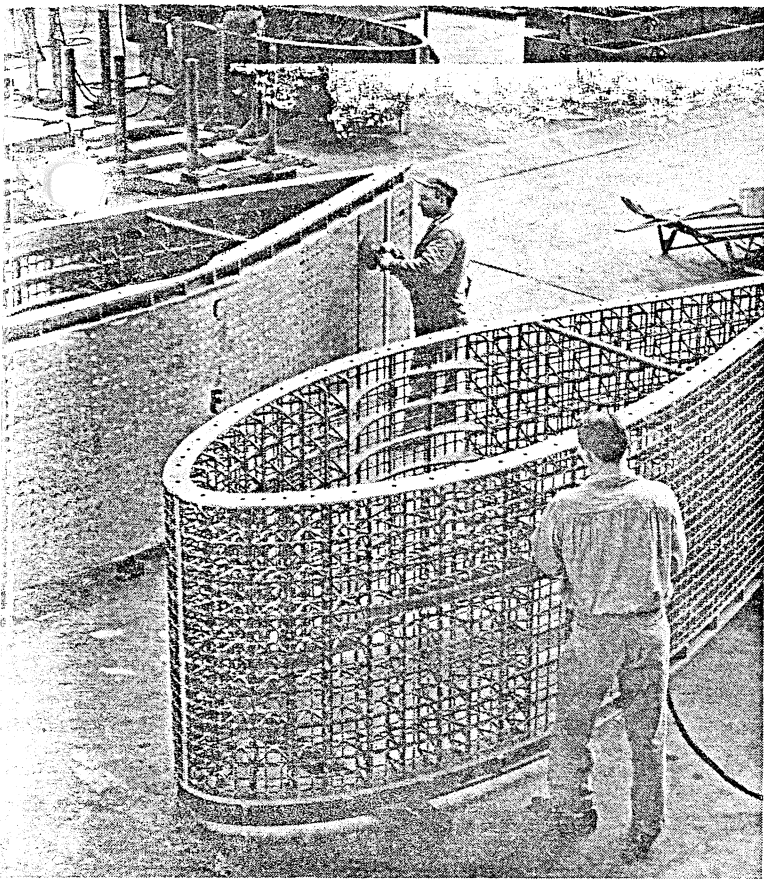
Framed by the famous Mather Arch, the Peace Bridge was caught in this unique photograph by Distributor cameraman, Bob Gilmour. The Peace Bridge spans the Niagara River as a lasting tribute to peace and friendship between two nations.

credits

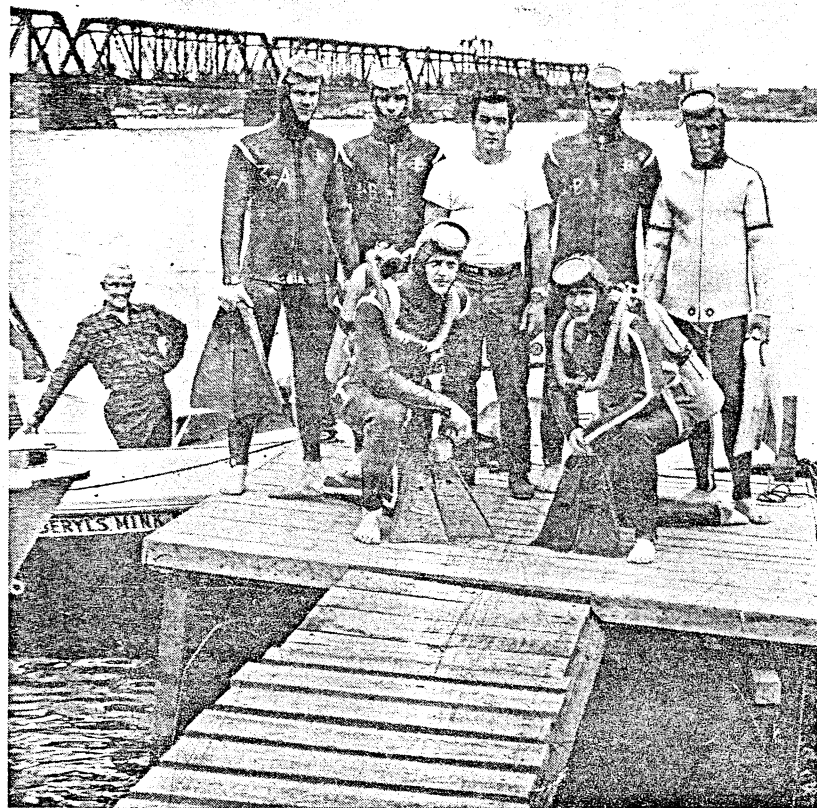
Art Direction — Bruce Dorland.

Caricatures — page 10 — Andy Oliphant.

Photos — cover — Michael Burns; pg 2 — Oakman Aerial Photography; pg 3 — Herb Nott and Company, Welland Evening Tribune; pg 4 — McGlenister & Brisson, Foto-arts Studio, Michael Burns; pg 5 — Jack Fawkes; pg 6 — Welland Evening Tribune, Ashley & Crippen; pg 7 — Michael Burns; pg 8 — Future Fotos; pg 9 — Future Fotos, Welland Evening Tribune; pg 10, 11, 12 — Michael Burns; pg 13 — Michael Burns, Yanamoto Studios, Bochsler Studio, Roy Purkis; pg 14 — Michael Burns; pg 15 — courtesy Mrs. K. Prophet; pg 16 — Michael Burns, Lyonde, Barney Gloster Studios; pg 17 — Lorne Allard.



Fleet manufacturing Limited—the largest employer in the area—produces, among other items, these sonar domes built for the Royal Canadian Navy.



Six members of the Underwater Recovery Unit ready for the water, pose at their dock. This group has developed a swimming area for town children.

. Canada's showcase

It is often said that first impressions are lasting impressions. Millions of visitors to Canada each year find their first view of Canada at the Peace Bridge. Their thoughts of our Dominion are, in many instances, formed by the sights seen during these initial minutes.

Immediately after they 'cross over the bridge', visitors find an area rich with beauty and steeped in history. The friendly natives, aware of their influence, welcome visitors with an enthusiasm designed to create friendships.

At the western terminus of the Peace Bridge is the Town of Fort Erie. A small town atmosphere combines with the accommodation of big-city facilities to make one of the more important communities in Canada.

Fort Erie's history dates back to the earliest explorers and brings it up to the present day as the largest vehicular point of entry in Canada and one of Canada's best known playgrounds.

The first building in this southern Ontario town was a ramshackle fort erected in 1750 by the French. It was later rebuilt (1764) in a more permanent form by British Captain John Montresor under orders from General Bradstreet who wanted to protect his forces

from Indian ambush over the portage along the Niagara River.

For several years the history of Fort Erie was linked to the movement of ships carrying merchandise and supplies to Mackinack, Detroit and St. Marie. With the revolt of the American colonies in the 1770's, many colonists, loyal to the king, sought refuge across the Niagara River, which remained under British flag. The Quakers and Pennsylvania Dutch who settled along the western side of the border became known as "United Empire Loyalists". In all, some 180 families settled around Fort Erie.

Destroyed by severe storms in the Spring of 1779, Fort Erie was rebuilt with stronger fortifications.

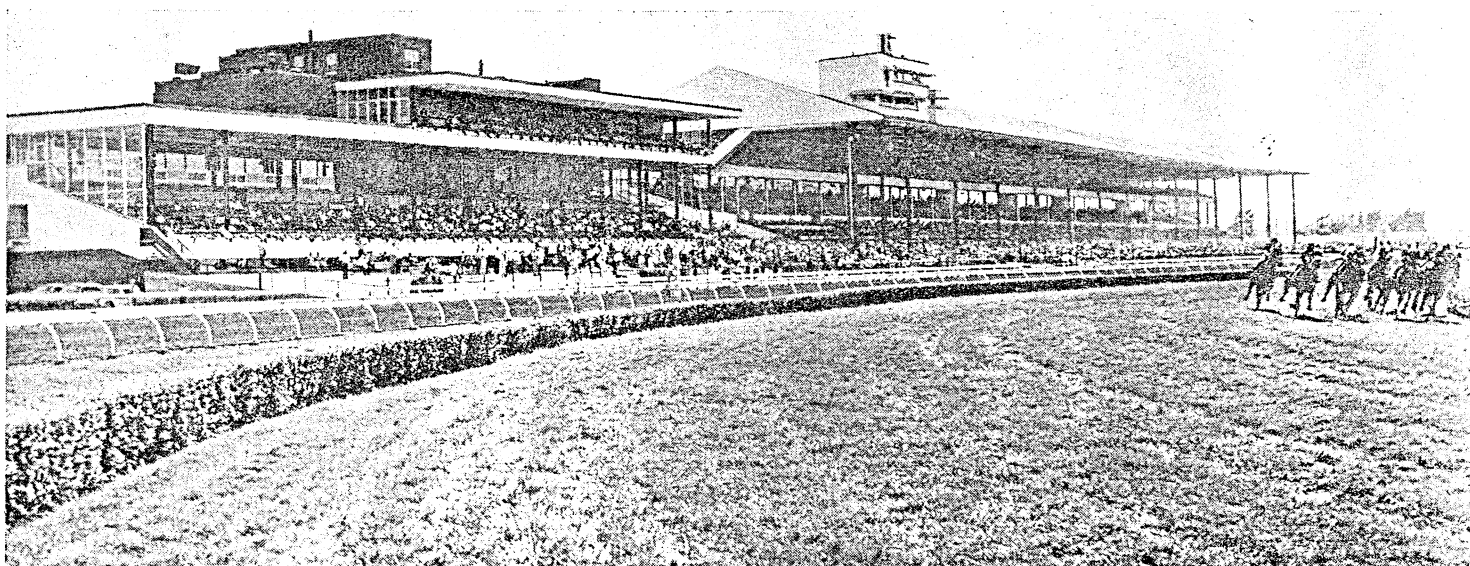
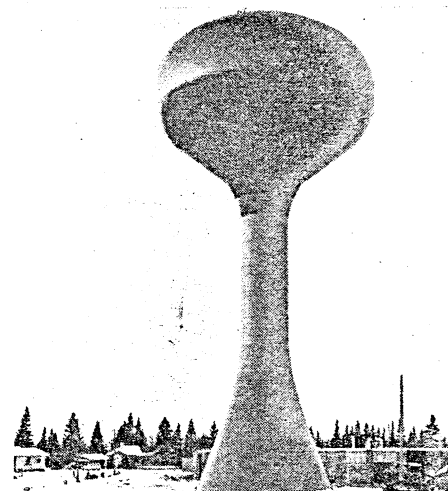
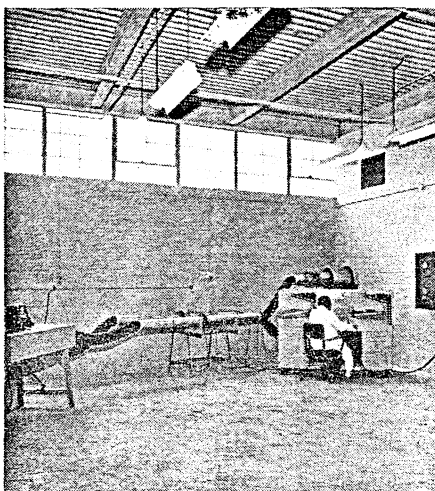
Four miles wide and stretching from Lake Ontario to Lake Erie on the west side of the Niagara River, land was purchased from the Indians in 1781 by the British. This was the first land acquired in Ontario by treaty from the Indians. The cost of this tract of land amounted to "the value of three hundred suits of clothing".

The settlement around the Fort continued to grow. Trouble on the high seas caused by England's naval

Left—This photograph shows a section of the new air handling and sound research laboratory at the Hart & Cooley plant in Fort Erie.

Right—This half million gallon Waterspheroid is 122' high and was built in Fort Erie by Horton Steel Company for the City of Red Deer Alberta.

Below—With two meetings every year, the Race Track at Fort Erie draws crowds from both the United States and southern Ontario.



forces boarding American ships in search of British subjects, during the war with France was seized upon as an excuse for bitter denunciations of the "Empire of George the Third". Public sentiment was aroused and an army of 25,000 was raised in 1812. Thus began the War of 1812. The people along the Niagara Frontier prepared for a war that seemed inevitable. Fort Erie was strengthened and repaired as much as possible. In July of 1814, the American army crossed the river and invaded Canada at Fort Erie. After a short struggle, the British surrendered and Americans occupied the Fort which they refortified. Several skirmishes later, the Americans blew up the fortifications of Fort Erie and retired across the river. On Christmas Eve 1814, peace was decided upon. Thus ended American occupation of Canadian soil.

In the Spring of 1815, along the shores of the Niagara River, families began to return to the charred remains and started to rebuild. Wellington's victory over Napoleon was the talk of the tavern and sentiment caused the naming of the new community "Waterloo". Despite poor roads, Waterloo became the centre of commerce and travellers.

The community soon outstripped its American neighbour, Buffalo, in commercial importance. It held this importance until 1825 when the Welland and Erie canals were opened. The centre of trade shifted across the river and Waterloo was relegated to lesser importance.

In 1837, the settlers along the frontier were again thrown into a state of panic by the news of the Mackenzie Rebellion under the leadership of William Lyon Mackenzie and Louis Papineau. Defeated, the rebels were routed outside of Toronto and fled to the Niagara region. Despite the militia, Mackenzie managed to elude capture and arrived in the Fort Erie area where he was harboured before his secret escape to Buffalo.

The advent of the railroad into Waterloo shortly after 1850 brought renewed prosperity and a new lease on life. Construction of ferries to carry railroad cars across the river meant a greatly increased population.

At a meeting of citizens in 1857, it was decided to drop the name Waterloo and the incorporation of the "Village Fort Erie" in that year heralded the emergence of a century of achievement. In 1957, Fort Erie celebrated its centennial.



John M. Teal



Earl S. Howard

A. C. JEPSON
CLERK-TREASURER
T. H. GREGGAIN
RECEPTION COLLECTION
H. A. J. WILLIAMS, B.A.S.C., P. Eng., O.L.B.
ENGINEER

J. M. Teal
Mayor



"The Gateway to Canada"
TOWN OF FORT ERIE, ONTARIO
200 JARVIS STREET
P.O. DRAWER 40

September 13th, 1962.

Mr. K. M. Boles, Group Manager,
Brewers' Warehousing Co. Ltd.,
Fort Erie, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Boles:

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you personally, since you have in many ways endeared yourself to our Town, and your organization on the new Brewers' Retail Store. It is a credit to our Town.

As one of the largest vehicular ports of entry in the Dominion of Canada, Fort Erie is unique in that it acts as a showcase to our American neighbours. It is here, in our Town, these people get their first introduction to Canada. First impressions are lasting impressions and a building such as yours truly reflects the spirit of progress in our country.

I thank you and your fine magazine for giving me the opportunity to congratulate you and your organization. As Mayor, I can truly say Fort Erie is proud of you both.

Yours very truly,

John M. Teal
John M. Teal,
Mayor.

JMT:ek

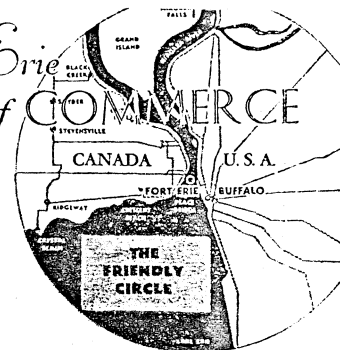
Americans who have contributed to the building of friendly relations between their two countries. Mather Park and Arch stand today as a tribute to a man who recognized the importance of building peace between neighbours.

Administered by the Niagara Parks Commission, Mather Park is only one of many attractions built and maintained by the Commission along the entire Niagara frontier. At the southern point of its jurisdiction, the Commission rebuilt Old Fort Erie in 1939. Visitors to the Fort view barrack buildings housing fine collections of antique weapons and other relics of an era long past.

The Town of Fort Erie has had its rough times. However, with an active Industrial Commission and Chamber of Commerce leading the way, Fort Erie is waging an intensive campaign of industrial diversification.

The Greater Fort Erie CHAMBER of COMMERCE

PHONE 811
32 Queen Street
Fort Erie, Ontario, Canada
September 10, 1962.



Mr. K. M. Boles,
Fort Erie Group Manager,
Brewers Warehousing Co. Ltd.,
13 Gilmore Road,
Fort Erie, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Boles:

The membership of our Chamber have followed with interest, your progress in our area and would like to offer our congratulations on your excellent new facilities, to serve our community.

We would also like to commend your organization on this issue of "The Distributor", featuring our area.

The Greater Fort Erie Chamber of Commerce is very happy to represent the entire Peace Bridge Area, consisting of the Town of Fort Erie, Township of Bertie and Village of Crystal Beach. Each year, in excess of five million vehicles enter Canada, via the Peace Bridge, therefore your foresight in expanding warehouse facilities, indicates confidence in the future of our area.

Kindly accept our personal best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely yours,

ESH:fe

Earl S. Howard
Earl S. Howard,
PRESIDENT.

Association
THE CANADIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE • THE ONTARIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
• BUFFALO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE •

Mayor John Teal heads the Municipal Council which consists of nine elected officials who are elected for a two year term of office.

Earle S. Howard heads the Greater Fort Erie Chamber of Commerce which is dedicated to the promotion of the Peace Bridge Area.

This town of 9,000 residents has 33 industries manufacturing as widely separated items as pills and parachutes.

Fleet Manufacturing Limited is the largest employer in the Peace Bridge area. Enjoying a long and detailed history in the manufacture of aircraft and aircraft parts, "Fleet" was formed in 1930 and currently employs in excess of 300 persons. During the war, this publicly owned company employed 3,500 persons to aid in building the Fleet "Cornell", a primary trainer for the R.C.A.F. After the war, swift conversion put the plant into other areas. Fleet Manufacturing currently is engaged in manufacture of aircraft component parts, radar and microwave systems located throughout N.A.T.O. and the western world and sonar hardware used in the anti-submarine field. The company has a 132 acre airfield adjacent to its plant.

Horton Steel Works, Limited, is the second largest company in the Peace Bridge area. With employees numbering about 250, this organization builds practically all kinds of tanks and steel plate structures. Originally established in 1913 as a plant of an American company, Horton Steel now employs an all-Canadian staff headed by a Canadian President. As far as possible, it is the policy of Horton Steel Works to buy raw

materials and new equipment in Canada. Some of its equipment, including a 1500 ton hydraulic press, was built by the company.

Starting in Fort Erie in 1908, Hart and Cooley has become the largest manufacture of hot and cold air registers and grills in Canada. With nearly 150 people in the company, expansion has been a constant challenge during the past few years. Last year a 20,000 square foot addition provided the opportunity for a testing laboratory which is the most modern in Canada.

Customs and immigration personnel for the Government of Canada and employees of the railways account for another five hundred workers. The Buffalo and Fort Erie Public Bridge Authority employ another hundred.

A 64-bed hospital serves the needs of the people in the Peace Bridge area. Made possible by a large bequest of a Fort Erie medical pioneer, Dr. William Douglas, The Douglas Memorial Hospital was originally designed for 35 beds in 1935 but has grown to its present size without any additional construction.

Starting from an idea less than a year ago, the Fort Erie Fire Department Underwater Rescue Squad has become a significant part of life in this river-community. The Niagara River has claimed many lives over the years because of its treacherous currents. In some instances, the victims were not recovered for days. With a view to preventing drownings and also to recovering victims more quickly when one does happen, a group of twenty volunteers began a programme of education and instruction. Headed by President Jack Barton, the Underwater Recovery Unit has, in its first year, prepared a 300 yard beach on the river for the youngsters of the town. This has kept the children out of the dangerous areas of the river and resulted, this year, in no drownings. Through a tag day, the group has been able to raise funds for the purchase of seven complete outfits for diving.

Shortly after the unit was formed, it was called upon to aid in the rescue of a car that had gone off a

dock. While aiding the U.S. Coast Guard in June, two of the Fort Erie unit recovered the body of a drowning victim. With headquarters in the old municipal pump house, the unit practices in the river two or three times every week — even in the winter.

Chronicling the events of the town and its citizens is the Fort Erie Times-Review. A weekly newspaper started 66 years ago, the Times-Review has the reputation of being one of the highest quality weekly newspapers published in Ontario.

Because of its proximity to Buffalo, Fort Erie and the whole Peace Bridge area are greatly affected by Americans. Many Americans find the Canadian side of the border preferable for living. They commute daily to their work in downtown Buffalo.

Several thousand Americans own summer homes and cottages along the Canadian side of the Niagara River. The population of the area doubles in the summer.

Well visited, is internationally known Crystal Beach. Just ten miles from the Peace Bridge, the community has one of the biggest amusement parks on the continent.

Fort Erie was born of the need for transportation and transportation has sustained it through the years. The community points with pride to statistics proving that it is the largest vehicular and freight point of entry from the United States into Canada. The border crossing at Fort Erie enjoys an unsurpassed reputation of courtesy and friendliness. This distinction was cultured by one of Fort Erie's oldest and best known citizens, F. T. Pattison, who was collector of customs for 18 years prior to his retirement in 1937. Mr. Pattison valued courtesy very highly and is justifiably proud of the fact that in his entire career, he did not have one justified complaint of discourteous treatment by one of his officers.

As "Canada's Showcase", Fort Erie and the Peace Bridge area have proven their ability to act as Canada's welcome committee to millions of visitors to our Dominion. ■

Old Fort Erie was originally built almost two centuries ago. In 1939, the Niagara Parks Commission restored it as a historical point of interest.

