

Newfoundland Town Arises From Goose Bay Air Base

Canadian Press Staff Writer ST. JOHN'S, Nfld. (CP) — An airport built during the Second World War has given birth to Newfoundland's newest town, Happy Valley, in the Labrador wilderness. Goose Bay air base is in the heart of Labrador's Lake Melville area on the banks of the great Hamilton river.

Five miles from the airport is the town called Happy Valley, home of the civilians who stayed after building the base and others who came to work on it.

Until last summer the town was maintained by the RCAF, but in August it was turned over to the people who live there, and now it is incorporated under the wing of Newfoundland's municipal affairs department.

"NOBODY BROKE"

Ron Roberts, stocky 43-year-old chairman of the Happy Valley town council, on a visit to St. John's proudly described the place. Happy Valley had 1,034 people at last count, he said. Everybody

who wanted to do so could work on the air base, and the pay was seldom less than \$1.50 an hour. "It's a great place for a young fellow to get a start," he said. "There's nobody broke in Happy Valley."

There are two schools in Happy Valley, but only one store.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

The Hudson's Bay Company store handled everything. "We're trying to get another store," Mr. Roberts said. "If a man wanted to go into business that's the place for him. A shoe repair shop, a barber shop, anything like that would do well. There's nothing like that there now."

What's lacking in Happy Valley, however, is available at Goose Bay. Goose Bay's hospital takes care of RCAF, USAF, civilian, Eskimo and Indian cases. The Grenfell Mission has a small station at Happy Valley.

So far nobody has tried to cultivate the flat, sandy soil around Lake Melville, and all food has

to be brought in to Happy Valley. The store stocks up during the fall, for ships can't sail up the Hamilton river from November to April. Air transportation skyrocketed prices. A cabbage can cost \$1.50, a turnip 90 cents.

SMALL GENERATORS

Happy Valley has no running water. The only houses with electric lights have generators in the woodshed, although the town perches on the banks of the Hamilton, a river with a vast hydro power potential.

"Those things will come," says Ron Roberts.

There's plenty to do. Within a few miles is some of the best trout and salmon fishing in the world, and moose and caribou are plentiful.

Evenings there's always something going on at the civilians club at Goose Bay. Happy Valleyites can board a regular bus for the five-mile run anytime during the day and evening, and watch late movies, dance or drink.

The latest migration to Happy

Burton

Mr. and Mrs. Leith Thomson of Toronto Ont., are visiting at the home of Mrs. Thomson's parent's Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Bradshaw, Campbellton.

Miss June MacGregor High School student of Notre Dame Academy, Charlottetown, spent the Thanksgiving holiday at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin MacGregor, Burton.

Miss Audrey Doyle, student of Notre Dame Academy, Charlottetown, spent the Thanksgiving holiday at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Doyle, Campbellton.

Messrs. William Perry, Leigh Griffin and Wendell Collicutt of Cape Wolfe recently left for Toronto, Ont., where they will be employed for the winter.

Valley came from the north. Twenty-five Eskimos came to look for work on the base, and of course, brought their families with them. "We don't know what we'll do with them," says Mr. Roberts. "They're still living in tents."

Islander Married In Recent Ontario Ceremony

St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church, Hamilton, Ont., was the setting for a pretty autumn wedding on Saturday, Sept. 17 at 10 a.m. when Mary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Megella, Hamilton, was united in marriage with Mr. Donald J. MacPherson, son of Mr. and Mrs. George MacPherson, Launching, P.E.I. The ceremony was performed by Rev. McColgan who also celebrated the nuptial mass. Mr. Nicholas Genovese sang "Ave Marie" and "Panis Angelicus."

A gown of white satin styled on princess lines was chosen by the bride who was given in marriage by her father. The model was fashioned with an overskirt of net lace. Her fingertip veil was held by a crown of iridescent beads and she carried a bouquet of white carnations and tear-drop roses.

Attending her were Miss Theresa Walsh and Mrs. Magdalene MacDonal. Miss Laura Megella was

flower girl. The attendants were gowned alike in aqua crystal ankle-length designs. The flower girl wore pink. Their headdresses were of white feathers and they carried bouquets of white and bronze chrysanthemums.

Groomsman was Mr. Joseph P. MacPherson, brother of the groom, and the ushers were Messrs. Robert MacDonal and John F. MacPherson.

A reception followed at the Emerald Main Dining Room for 100 guests. Music for the afternoon was furnished by a five-piece orchestra. A highlight of the day was a long distance telephone call from the groom's parents in P.E.I.

The bride chose a navy wool suit with pink accessories and a corsage of pink roses for traveling to Lewiston, Maine, and New York City. While in Lewiston the couple visited the groom's sister, Sister St. Catherine Georgia of Congregation De Notre Dame.

PRE-NUPRIAL SHOWERS

Prior to her marriage the bride was honored at two showers by her friends in Hamilton. Many lovely gifts were received.

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