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OFF

E FISHERMAN'S PARADISE



# The Laurentides National Park



PUBLISHED BY THE  
DEPARTMENT OF COLONIZATION, MINES  
AND FISHERIES

—  
QUEBEC



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DEPARTMENT  
OF  
COLONIZATION, MINES & FISHERIES



**The Laurentides National Park**



Honorable J. E. PERRAULT,  
*Minister.*

Mr. L. A. RICHARD,  
*Deputy Minister.*

Mr. J. C. GARNEAU,  
*Superintendent of National Parks,*  
QUEBEC.

Mr. THOMAS FORTIN,  
*Inspector,*  
ST. URBAIN, County of Charlevoix.



A short time ago, a great American Sportsman wrote in *OUTDOOR RECREATION* :

" The thousands of lakes located in the Province of Quebec make it a hard matter for the tourist to decide where to go. If there is a country in the world that can be called " Fisherman's Paradise " Quebec stands an excellent chance of holding that honour. "

We would reply : — " If you have any difficulty in deciding where to go fishing in the Province of Quebec, because of the wide choice offered, reserve a camp in the Laurentides National Park and you will never wish to go fishing elsewhere ".



## THE LAURENTIAN PROVINCE

THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC is crossed from one end to the other by a chain of delightfully wild mountains, which, if they have not the mighty altitude of the Rockies, are nevertheless endowed with special beauty and possessed of an irresistible charm ; these are the Laurentides.

In the numerous ravines of these mountains, discreetly concealed by the thick growth of spruce and balsam, are thousands and thousands of lakes, in which, since time immemorial, the finest varieties of fighting fish have lived, grown and multiplied.

Under a thick roofing of verdure, hundreds and hundreds of brooks flow from cascade to cascade, till, meeting, they form the heads of all the rivers which rush into the St. Lawrence, feeding it with their clear cold waters.

Beyond the lakes and plateaus, series of mountains, mounts or hillocks often spread into fantastic shapes, rising one above the other in the most startling manner and adding a new element of beauty and satisfaction to the eyes of those who can see in a landscape something more than mere resources to be exploited.

In brief, Nature, doing all thing well, seems to have created the Laurentides especially for rural pleasures and for the practice of all outdoor sports. Already very popular, the Laurentides will, one day, become the irresistible playground of all North America, because of their salubrity, their picturesqueness, their opportunities for sport and their beautiful summer climate.

Whether we look for large open spaces or prefer little shady corners near a lake or a river, we may be assured



## *The Laurentides National Park - Quebec*

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that Nature has provided for all tastes and that the Laurentides can satisfy the most fastidious. To some, the Laurentides offer incomparable sites, perched upon the heights of the St. Lawrence, supplying exceptionnally beautiful panoramas, of which Les Eboulements, St-Irénée, Pointe-à-Pic, Cap à l'Aigle and Tadoussac are striking examples. To others, they offer landscapes of a more restricted horizon, on the more modest shores of lakes and rivers, calm, placid and restful.

Now it is a large portion of these beautiful mountains which the Province of Quebec has been wise enough to reserve for the making of a National Park which is already known by the very characteristic name of the Laurentides National Park.

### **THE LAURENTIDES NATIONAL PARK**

The superficies of this park is not much less than four thousand square miles, that is more than three times the size of Rhode Island, which, in spite of its restricted proportions, is, nevertheless, not the smallest of the States of the North American Republic.

This vast territory has been made into a park so that it may remain a resort for pleasure and rest for the public and, at the same time, an incomparable refuge for assuring the permanence of the Canadian Fauna.

It is not only because of its accessibility and of its proximity to the city of Quebec, that this territory has been reserved as a park. Its fifteen hundred lakes and hundreds of rivers have largely contributed to this choice. Let us add that, as to the fishing, all these streams are abundantly provided with trout and that more than nine tenths of them have never yet been fished by anybody, even with a fly. As to the others, they have been judiciously fished by true sportsmen and they remain as well stocked as ever.



## *The Laurentides National Park - Quebec*

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**One of the Monarchs of the Laurentides National Park**



**Sportsmen leaving Camp Perrault for a fishing excursion.**

## *The Laurentides National Park - Quebec*

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All the picturesqueness of the Laurentides is found in the National Park with, furthermore, a wild and rustic character that civilization has unfortunately taken away from this mountain chain in certain parts of the Province of Quebec that have been industrialized or cultivated.

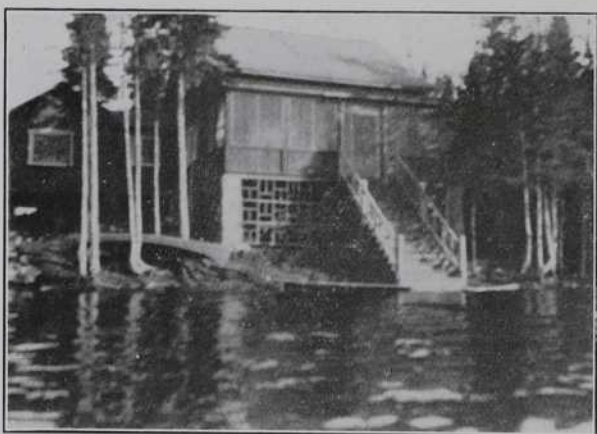
The altitude of the Park varies from one to three thousand feet above the level of the sea and this territory is everywhere of an incomparable salubrity. Even during the warmest days of summer, the thermometer rarely registers more than from 60 to 70 degrees in the warmest hours of the day, and the nights are always cool. It is for this reason that we advise sportsmen to provide themselves with woolen underwear or at least with a comfortable sweater.

### ADMINISTRATION OF THE PARK

The Laurentides National Park is the property of the Government of the Province of Quebec, and it is administered by the Department of Colonization, Mines and Fisheries, which began, a few years ago, to open up roads and portages and to build camps for the pleasure and comfort of sportsmen.

*Nobody may enter the Park without a permit* and these permits are issued by the Department of Colonization, Mines and Fisheries. All sportsmen are requested to bear this in mind, so that they may not expose themselves to any disappointment.

No sort of undue exaction need be feared in the Park. The Department exercises a judicious control not only over the manner in which the camps are kept but also upon the price and the quality of the board that the guardians serve to sportsmen and on the wages of the guides. The Department will always be pleased to receive any suggestions or criticisms which may be made on this subject.



Camp Taschereau.



On the Verandah, Camp Taschereau.

## *The Laurentides National Park - Quebec*

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### METHODS OF LEASING CAMPS

A camp is never leased otherwise than to one party at a time. When a group of friends reserve a camp, they may be sure that they will neither be displaced, nor yet have to share it with strangers. Furthermore, as a general rule, they are the only ones to have the right to fish the lakes pertaining to their camp during their sojourn there. The Department, in this way, endeavors to assure, to all those who lease its camps, as peaceful and quiet a holiday as possible.

For this reason, it will be easily understood it is in the interest of the Department to *grant the preference to the largest groups*. It will be well for those organizing a fishing excursion to bear this in mind.

The number of these camps being very limited, it is strongly urged that arrangements be made with the Department some days, or even some weeks in advance.

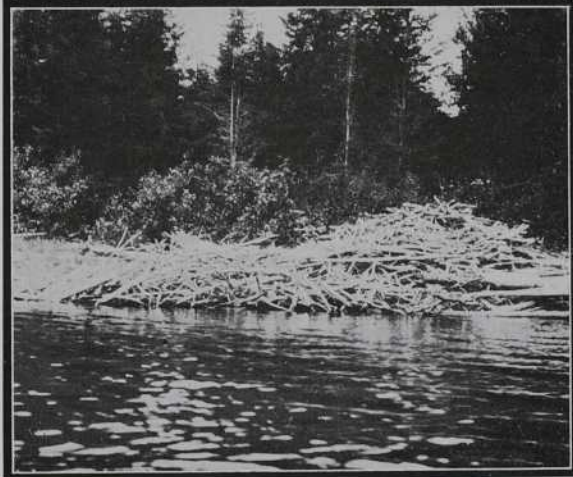
As it sometimes happens that a party, having reserved a camp for a certain date, finds it impossible to keep its engagement, the Department cannot run the risk of having a camp unoccupied and that is why it requires, as guarantee, a deposit of 25% of the total rental for the camp. If the Department has not the chance to sublet the camp to another party, the money deposited as a guarantee is retained as a partial compensation for the loss sustained. If, on the other hand, the Department is able to sublet, the deposit is returned, in whole or in part, as the case may be.

### HUNTING

Hunting, which has been permitted with certain restrictions up to the present, is now entirely and indefinitely prohibited. Even though the Park be still well provided with game, no sportsman will complain of a restrictive measure which is being forcibly applied

*The Laurentides National Park - Quebec*

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**Fishing in the Laurentides.  
A beaver dam in Grand Lac des Iles,  
River Jacques Cartier.**



## *The Laurentides National Park - Quebec*

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in all National Parks, both Canadian and American, and which should help to assure the permanence of all the beautiful and interesting animals whose presence adds a mysterious charm to the forest. The carrying of arms is absolutely prohibited in the Park without a special permit from the Department.

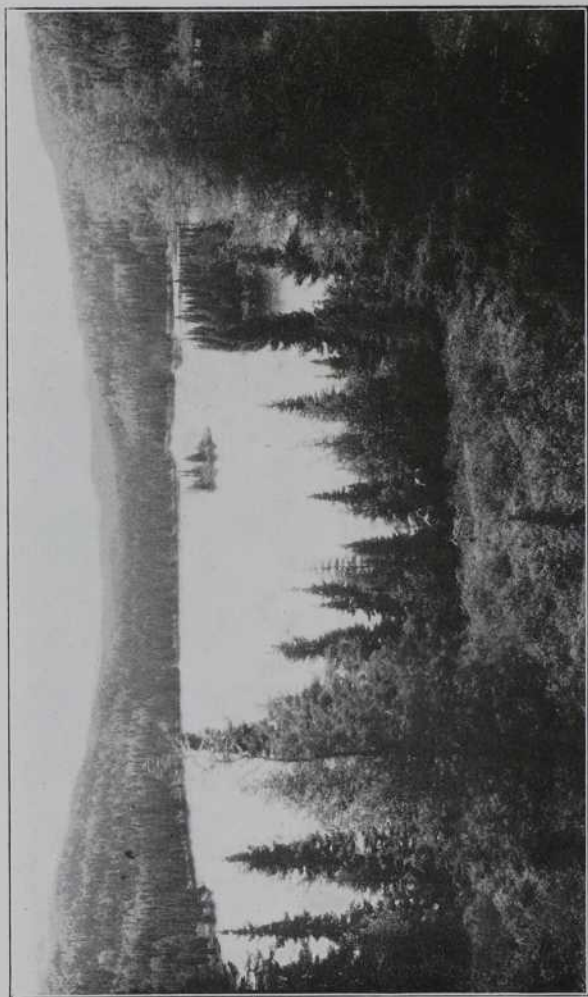
### FISHING

There is only one variety of fish in the numerous rivers and the fifteen hundred lakes of the National Park : the incomparable red trout (*Salvelinus Fontinalis*) so bright and so combative. There is no lake or river whose trout is not exquisite to the taste. However, they vary consirably in weight and dimensions in the different lakes. Many sportsmen have caught trout here, varying from four to eight pounds in weight. In exceptional cases we have seen trout weighing up to eleven pounds, taken with the fly. To be perfectly honest, we must admit that, in the Park as elsewhere, the majority of the fish are of medium size, and we cannot promise specimen fish to all anglers. It suffices to know that everyone may take his chance. In any case, whatever its size, the trout of the Laurentides is a wonderful fish : it is a hard fighter and defends its life bravely. The fisherman is often surprised when, after a good fight which raises his highest hopes, he lands in his boat a fish which perhaps measures only eight, ten or twelve inches. Whatever the size may be, the trout are so plentiful that the angler ends up by becoming tired of his successes, and this is why the Department had to impose a bag-limit, but a most liberal one.

We will perhaps be accused of praising too highly the trout of the Laurentides. We believe it to be superior to all other trout on the continent and we do not hesitate to give our reason.

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Lake Arthabaska, not far distant from Chateau Beaumont.



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The trout is a gentleman among fishes. His tastes are refined, and hence we find him throughout the lakes and rivers which are most celebrated for the superior quality of their waters. Clear, transparent, cold and often of great depth, these waters are to be found in the ice-carved hollows of the Laurentian highland. Very little sedimentary deposit is formed in this region. The glacial grindings having been transported to the sea in large measure, and the waters, resting upon igneous granite rock surface, are colourless and remarkably cold and invigorating. The superior quality of the flesh, so characteristic of the Laurentides trout, is undoubtedly due to the nature of the Laurentides lakes' waters. It is quite possible also that the exhilarating atmosphere of the Laurentian peneplain, a thousand feet and more above sea level, beneficially affects the waters by aeration.

### **SECTIONS ORGANIZED**

Two sections of the National Park have been opened up and organized. The first one, some miles north of Quebec, commonly called the Stoneham Section, and the second behind Baie-St-Paul and St-Urbain, (not far from Murray Bay) which is called the St. Urbain Section. These two sections are easy of access and the roads are generally good for autos, especially in dry weather. It is in these two sections that camps have been built, and carefully furnished for sportsmen, near interesting lakes.

### **STONEHAM SECTION**

Quebec City is the starting point. Before entering the Park, the road passes through the very characteristic French-Canadian villages of Charlesbourg, Notre Dame des Laurentides and Stoneham. The country is hilly and most interesting. The first twenty miles are part

## *The Laurentides National Park - Quebec*

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of a regional road and are in perfect order. The rest is an earth road. Follow the sign posts along the way bearing the name : "PARC NATIONAL PARK". From Quebec to Lac Noel, 36 miles, and from Quebec to Lac à l'Epaule, 38 miles, both lakes easily reached by auto. From Quebec to Lac des Roches, 43 miles. From Lac à l'Epaule to Lac des Roches (about 5 miles) the road, though passable by auto, might well be better. The same remark applies to the road leading to Grand Lac Jacques Cartier, a distance of 20 miles from Lac à l'Epaule.

To accommodate sportsmen who have no autos and to prevent extortion, the Park authorities have made arrangements with a Taxi Company whose tariff is \$15.00 each way to or from Lac Noel, \$16.00 to or from Lac à l'Epaule, \$18.00 to or from Lac des Roches and \$25.00 to or from Lake Seven Islands.

Taxis can convey three or four people comfortably with their baggage. It would be well to apply to the Department before engaging a taxi.

### **Camp Mercier**

The first one to be reached, situated between two lakes abounding in fish : Lac Noel and Lac Regis. This most comfortable camp can accommodate a large party of eight tourists or more. Running water in each room. It is furnished with an open fireplace and a library. Telephone at the guardian's camp nearby. Garage for four cars. Altitude : 2,500 feet. For the use of the camp and boats : \$3.50 per day per person. Good board at the rate of \$2.00 per day per person. Guide, if wanted : \$3.00 per day plus \$1.50 for his board. The fishing license costs \$1.50 per day per person.

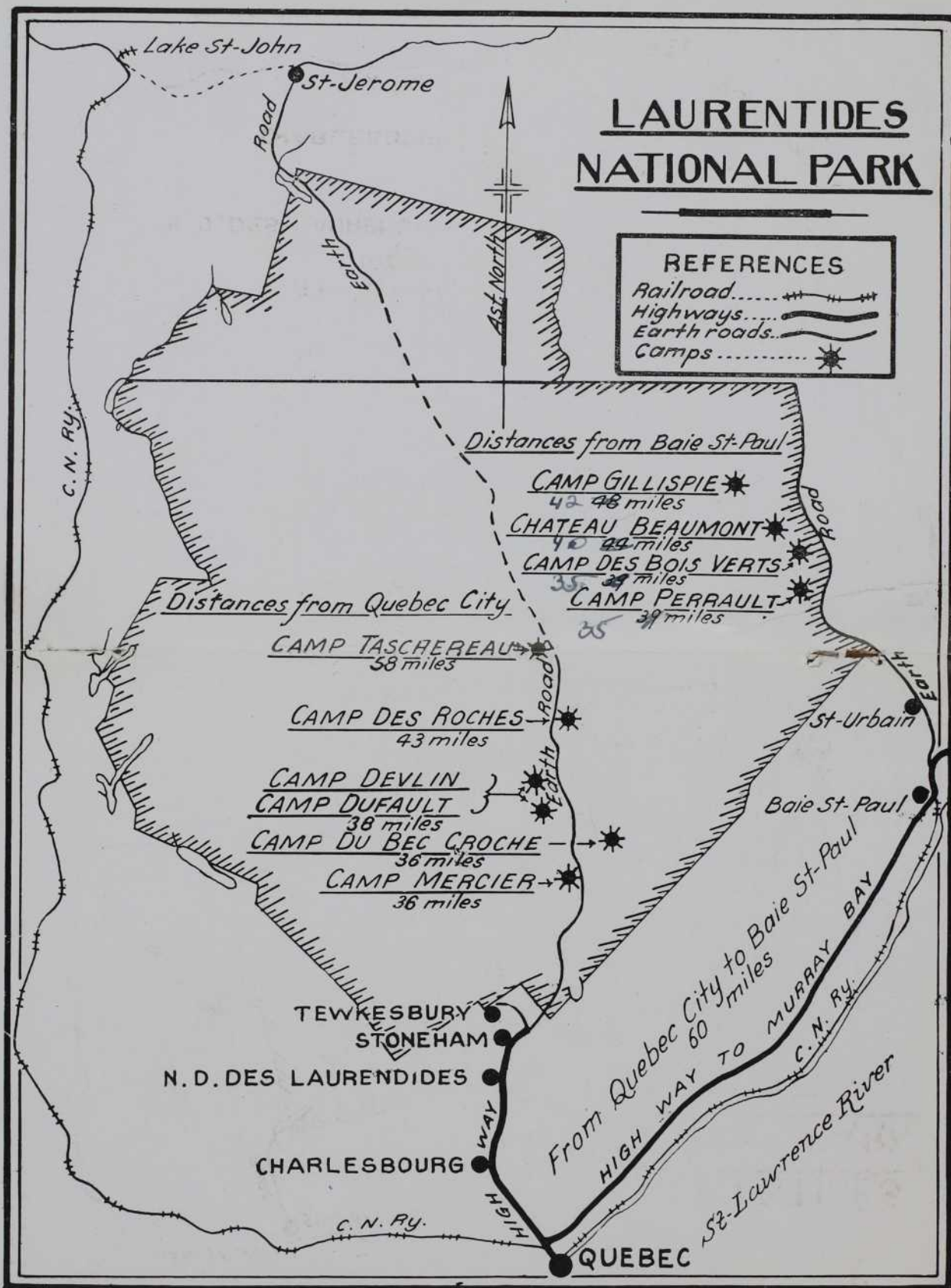
### **Bec Croche**

Interesting little camp for a party of not more than four, furnished with an open fireplace. Situated on lake

# LAURENTIDES NATIONAL PARK

## REFERENCES

Railroad.....+ + + + +  
Highways.....— — — — —  
Earth roads.....— — — — —  
Camps.....★



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of same name, east of Lac Noel, easily reached by walking over a good portage. Cars must be left at Camp Mercier. Fish of small size are very abundant. No guardian at this place, and sportsmen must bring their own food or buy it at Camp Mercier. For the use of the Camp and boat, \$2.50 per day per person, plus \$1.50 per day per person for the fishing license. Guide if wanted for cooking and paddling, same price as at Camp Mercier.

### **Camp Devlin**

A comfortable camp, furnished with a fireplace, situated on Lac à l'Epaule about two miles north of Lac Noel. Good fishing. A very picturesque spot. Interesting excursions may be made to Lac Hélène, à l'Isle, Nord-Est. A garage for four cars, near the camp. Altitude : 2,600 feet. A library at the guardian's camp.

For the use of the camp and boats : \$3.50 per day per person. Good board for \$2.00 per day per person, plus \$1.50 per day for the fishing license. Guides, if wanted, same price as at Camp Mercier. We recommend this camp to those who wish to enjoy a perfect rest in the heart of Nature.

### **Camp Dufault**

Situated at the other end of Lac à l'Epaule. Autos must be left at the garage at Camp Devlin. This is a good camp and well furnished.

For the use of the camp and boats : \$2.00 per day per person, plus the fishing license of \$1.50. No guardian at this place. Sportsmen must bring their own food or buy it at Camp Mercier.

### **Camp des Roches**

A comfortable camp, newly built, situated near the three des Roches lakes. A plentiful abundance of trout,



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**Fly Fishing on the Jacques Cartier.**

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here. For the use of camps and boats \$3.00 per day per person plus the fishing permit of \$1.50. There is no guardian here. Sportsmen have to bring their own food or buy it from the guardian at Camp Mercier. Guide if wanted \$3.00 per day, plus \$1.50 for his board.

### **Grand Lac Jacques-Cartier**

The place of the big trout. How many sportsmen have succeeded in taking specimens here weighing from 5 to 10 lbs ! The trip is not an easy one, but one that will be long remembered, if the angler has the luck to make a big catch. The road from Lac à l'Epaule (20 miles) is rather primitive but not rough enough to frighten a true sportsman.

### **Camp Taschereau**

A first class camp, built on the lake of Seven Islands near Grand Lac Jacques-Cartier. All the comforts that one may expect in the bush are found there, including fire-place, running water and library. Accommodation for eight. Altitude : 2,800 feet.

For the use of the camp and boats : \$5.00 per day per person, plus \$1.50 for the fishing license. Good board for \$2.00. Guide : \$3.00 per day, plus \$1.50 for his board.

## **SPORTSMEN NOT DOMICILED IN QUEBEC**

Persons not domiciled in the Province must obtain the non-resident fishing license, which costs \$10.00 and which is good for the entire season in all the public waters of the Province.

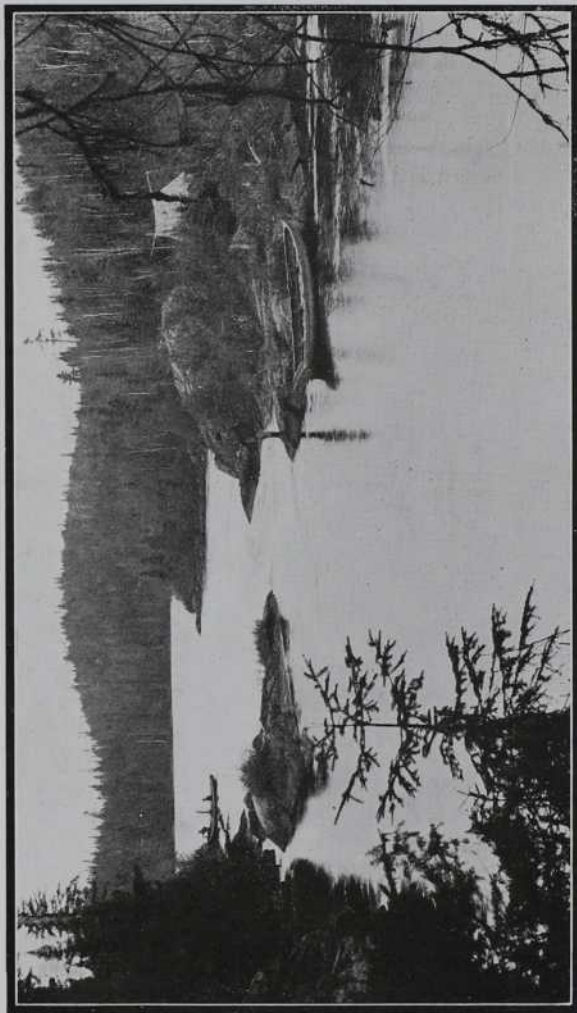
### **OTHER CAMPS**

The Department has the intention of having a few small camps built, early this spring, in the Stoneham



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One of the Rivers in the Park.

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section, and such camps will be ready to receive sportsmen in the course of the summer. Although of a modest kind, such camps shall be none the less comfortable, and all of them will offer the double advantage of being easy of access and of being situated on the banks of fish-abounding lakes. Sportsmen may be sure of finding, at such camps, everything essential for an agreeable sojourn in the forest.

### **TO WHOM APPLY**

For any information with reference to the camps of the Stoneham Section, or to the organizing of trips, application can be made to the Superintendent of the National Park, (Parliament Buildings, Quebec City, P. Q., Canada).



### **ST. URBAIN SECTION**

From Quebec to Baie St-Paul by the Provincial highways or the Canadian National Railways : 60 miles. From Murray Bay to Baie St-Paul : 28 miles. A particularly interesting trip, along the St. Lawrence River. Unrivalled scenery.

From Baie St-Paul to St-Urbain : 9 miles. Good road for motoring. Tariff for automobiles : \$5.00 for one, two or three people, including light baggage.

### **TO CAMP PERREAULT AND TO CAMP DES BOIS VERTS**

From St-Urbain to Lac Ste Anne : about twenty miles in a picturesque country, through hills and dales. A

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Camp Perrault.

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good road for carriages and passable for automobiles. Tariff for carriages : \$5.00 for one or two people, including light baggage. Tariff for automobiles : \$15.00 for one, two or three people, including light baggage.

### **TO CHATEAU BEAUMONT**

About five miles further than Lac Ste Anne. The road is good for carriages and passable for motor cars. Tariff for automobiles from St. Urbain : \$18.00 for two or three people, with light baggage.

### **TO CAMP GILLESPIE**

From Lac Ste Anne or La Galette to Camp Gillespie : about nine miles. Good road for carriages only. These can be procured at La Galette. Tariff : \$4.00 for one or two people, with light baggage. For return, same conditions prevail.

### **Camp Perreault**

Situated at Lac Ste Anne on a picturesque little island. A spacious and most comfortable camp. There is a large open fireplace, library, telephone. Very good fishing. Accommodation for a party of ten. Numerous lakes, and boats on all lakes. Altitude : 2,500 feet.

For the use of the camp and boats : \$5.00 per day per person. The fishing license costs \$1.50 per day per person.

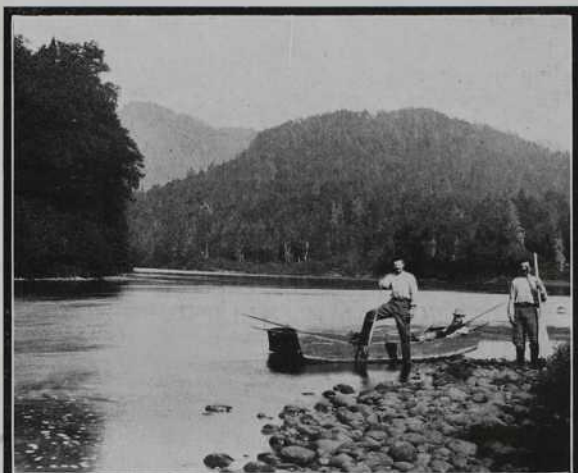
Very good board at the rate of \$3.00 per day per person. Guide : \$3.00 per day, plus \$1.50 for his board.

### **Camp des Bois Verts**

Situated on the Lake of the same name, a few minutes distant from Lac Ste Anne. Comfortable camp with fireplace, telephone and library. Many lakes and boats on all of them. Accommodation for six.

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**A Scene in the Park.  
View of Lake Ste Anne.**



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For the use of the camp and boats : \$4.00 per day per person, plus \$1.50 per day per person for the fishing license.

Good board for \$2.00 per day per person. Guide : \$3.00 per day, plus \$1.50 for his board.

### **Chateau Beaumont**

Situated on Lac Turgeon. Excellent camp. Fireplace. Library. Telephone. Series of interesting lakes. Fine excursions. Good fishing. Cost of lodging : \$3.00 per day per person. Accommodation for five or six people. Board can be procured at the rate of \$3.00 per day. Guide : \$3.00 per day, plus \$1.50 for his board. The fishing license costs \$1.50 per day per person.

### **Camp Gillespie**

Situated on the Chemin des Canots. Very wild country. Fishing excellent. Accommodation for three or four people. Tariff for camp and canoe : \$2.00 per day per person and \$1.50 for two or more. Parties must bring their own food. This can be purchased at La Galette. Tariff for guide \$3.00 per day, plus his board.

### **SPORTSMEN NOT DOMICILED IN QUEBEC**

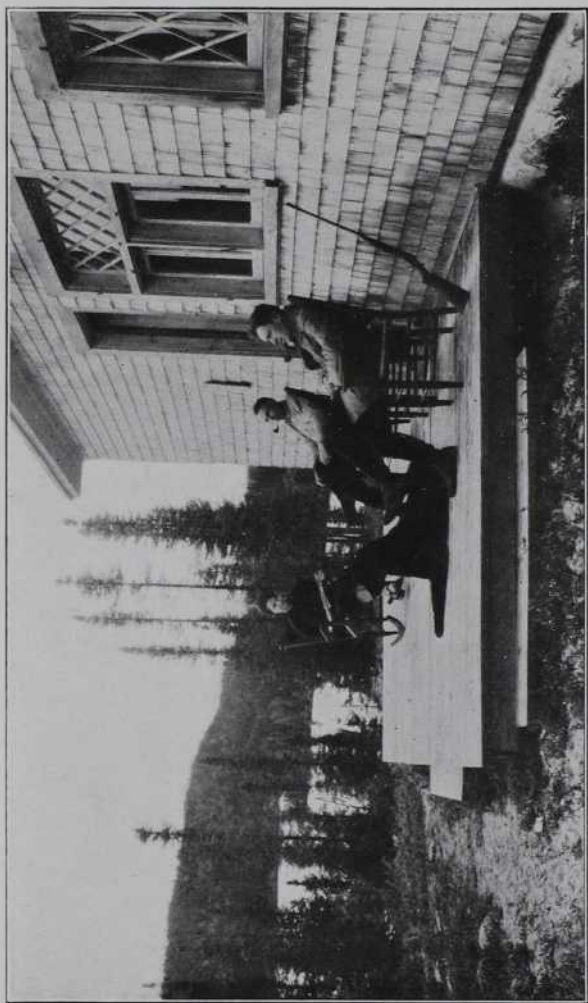
Persons not domiciled in the Province must secure the non resident fishing license, which costs \$10.00 and which is good for the entire season in all the public waters of the Province.

### **TO WHOM APPLY**

For any information with reference to the camps of St-Urbain Section or for the organization of trips, application can be made to Mr. Thomas Fortin, Inspector of the National Park, (St-Urbain, Charlevoix County, P.Q., Canada).

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Château Beaumont.

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### MENU

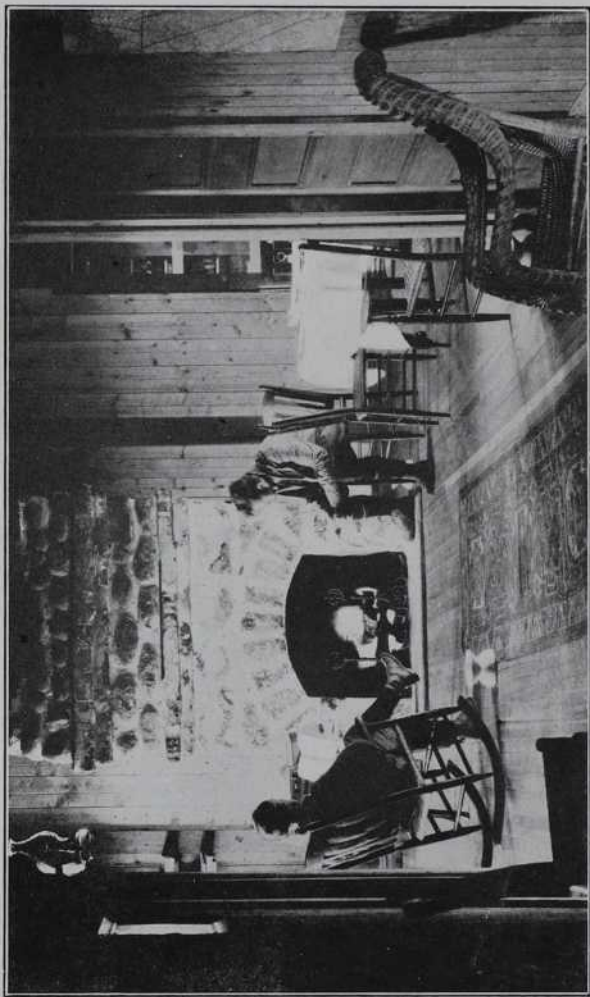
At Camp Perrault and Chateau Beaumont, there is a special menu at \$3.00 per day with which sportsmen will find no fault.

At Camp Mercier, Camp Devlin, Camp Taschereau and Camp des Bois Verts, Sportsmen may obtain the following menu at \$2.00 per day per person.

- BREAKFAST :    Fruit or fruit juice.  
                    Porridge or cereals.  
                    Trout.  
                    Eggs and bacon.  
                    Toast and butter.  
                    Coffee.
- LUNCH :        Soup.  
                    Trout.  
                    Beans.  
                    Ham or cold meats.  
                    Potatoes.  
                    Maple Syrup.  
                    Biscuits.  
                    Bread, butter and cheese.  
                    Tea or Coffee.
- DINNER :        Soup.  
                    Trout.  
                    Ham or cold meats.  
                    Beans.  
                    Pancakes.  
                    Spaghetti.  
                    Potatoes.  
                    Maple Syrup or preserves.  
                    Biscuits or cake.  
                    Bread, butter and cheese.  
                    Tea or coffee.

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Chateau Beaumont.

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### **SOME EXCURSIONS FOR TRUE SPORTSMEN . . .**

All the camps which we have enumerated, with the exception of Gillespie Camp, are so well organized and so easy of access that they are not frequented by men only : numbers of ladies come to them every summer, to rest, and for the pleasure of trout fishing.

It happens that certain sportsmen find camp life too easy, and would prefer, for the time of their vacation, more diversified excursions. They have the choice of several magnificent excursions in absolutely wild parts of the National Park, where the Department has not yet erected camps.

One excursion of special interest is that of the Grand Portage on the River Jacques-Cartier. An auto is taken to Tewkesbury, near Stoneham, and from there the river is ascended for two days by canoe. Not only is the fishing excellent, but the trip, in the midst of the numerous rapids of the river, is of a nature to give a thrill to the most blasé. Experienced guides are at the disposal of tourists at the rate of \$3.50 per day and board. Tents and blankets are furnished by the Department at the price of \$4.00 per day, which includes the fishing permit and the use of boats. The River Jacques Cartier is only equalled in beauty and picturesqueness by the Saguenay, which is today so renowned and frequented by many thousands of tourists who take passage on the luxurious boats of the Canada Steamship Company. The River Jacques Cartier is unique in this respect, that it reserves its splendors for those who have the courage to ascend it in small boats or canoes. This is an excursion which we are not afraid to recommend to all true sportsmen.



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Another excursion which does not lack interest, consists in crossing the Park from east to west, right through the centre, that is, in its wildest and most inaccessible part. We leave Chateau Beaumont (See St-Urbain Section) following Malbaie River as far as Lac Blanc — about a ~~four~~ miles' walk, this part of the river not being navigable. A vehicle carries provisions and baggage for six dollars. At Lac Blanc one must live under canvas. The territory is studded with fish-abounding lakes touching one another, although their waters never mingle. One week would not suffice to throw a line into all the pools of these numerous lakes. From Lac Blanc, two hours in a canoe will take one to Lac Malbaie, a lake of considerable size and where the fishing is excellent. (From this spot, one may undertake an excursion of several days through the north of the Park, passing by a series of Lakes and rivers which lead to Grand Lac Pikauba, specially renowned). From Lac Malbaie to Grand Lac Jacques Cartier, the trip can be made in seven hours, by canoe, on one of the branches of the Jacques Cartier River. Reaching this place, one may, either return with the guides by the same route, or return to Quebec by the Park Highway. (See Stoneham Section). For the use of tents, coverings, boats, kitchen utensils, and also the fishing license, \$4.00 a day, per person. Guide : \$3.50 a day and his board. It is preferable to have one guide for each sportsman. When guides are left at Lac Jacques Cartier, two additional days must be paid to them for the time of their return to St. Urbain. Provisions may be secured at this latter place, the cost being about \$1.50 a day, per person.

Sportsmen not domiciled in the Province must secure the non resident license, which costs \$10.00 and which is good for the entire season in all the public waters of the Province.





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GOD has lent us the earth for our life. It is a great entail. It belongs as much to those who are to come after us as to us and we have no right by anything we do or neglect, to involve them in any unnecessary penalties, or to deprive them of the benefit which was in our power to bequeath.

—RUSKIN.