

The International Peace Garden

INCORPORATED

History and Progress

by

M. J. TINLINE

SUPERINTENDENT

"TO GOD IN HIS GLORY

WE TWO NATIONS DEDICATE THIS GARDEN AND PLEDGE OURSELVES
THAT AS LONG AS MEN SHALL LIVE, WE WILL
NOT TAKE UP ARMS AGAINST
ONE ANOTHER"

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INTERNATIONAL PEACE GARDEN INCORPORATED

History and Progress

A CERTAIN citizen of Canada was returning in 1928 to the land of his adoption, after attending a gathering of Gardeners held in Greenwich, Connecticut, and, thinking of the warm welcome he had received and the interesting people he had associated with, the thought came to him, "Why not have a Garden on the International Boundary Line where the people of the two countries could share the glories found in a lovely garden and the pleasures found in warm friendships?" This man, Henry J. Moore of Islington, Ontario, had graduated from the famous Kew Gardens of England and had taught at Cornell University and at the Ontario Agricultural College.

A year later, the National Association of Gardeners of the United States met in Toronto with nine hundred members in attendance. Mr. Moore's idea was presented and enthusiastically received. An International Committee of fifty, half Americans and half Canadians, was appointed to study the situation, and a committee of three, two Americans and one Canadian, Dr. Henry J. Moore, was selected to investigate suitable locations. In 1931 Mr. J. W. Parmley, Ipswich, South Dakota, chairman of a committee assigned to promote the Canal to Canada highway, and Mr. W. V. Udall, editor of the Boissevain Recorder, and chairman of the Canadian section of the Canal to Canada highway, drew the attention of the selection committee to the Turtle Mountain region, as a possible site for the Garden. Dr. Moore's proposal was that the Garden be located where the peoples of the two nations could mingle freely and become better acquainted. The St. Lawrence River, the chain of Great Lakes, and the terrain west of the Lakes were natural barriers to free intercourse east of the prairies.

Dr. Moore and Joseph R. Dunlop of South Euclid, Ohio, inspected the Turtle Mountain district in early June, 1931. The State of North Dakota made possible an aeroplane trip over the area, and Dr. Moore described the trip over the Mountains in these words:

"What a sight greeted the eye! Those undulating hills rising out of the limitless prairies are filled with lakes and streams. On the south of the unrecognizable boundary, wheat everywhere; and on the north, the Manitoba Forest Reserve. What a place for a Garden!"

The State of North Dakota offered to provide 888 acres of land, about one-half farm lands, the remainder tree covered and gently undulating. The Province of Manitoba transferred to the International Peace Garden corporation for as long as the Peace Garden continues, a block of adjacent land that measured when the survey was finally made, 1,451.3 acres. This was forest reserve, extremely undulating, with round topped hills crowned with paper birch, with poplar and oak at intermediate levels, and willow on the lower lands. Later in the year the committee of fifty met and reached a decision, which was almost unanimous, that the offer of these properties be accepted.

Dr. Moore, in a radio address given Christmas night that same year over CFRB in Toronto, made this statement:

"The Great Garden will be on the Canal to Canada highway, at a point on the International Boundary between Dunseith, North Dakota, and Boissevain, Manitoba, and sixty miles south of Brandon. The location is almost the exact centre between the Atlantic and the Pacific and but thirty miles north of the exact centre of the North American continent which is at Rugby, North Dakota. The highway extends from a point two hundred miles north of the boundary to the Panama Canal, and it is

to extend north to Churchill and south to Cape Horn. Upon this Main Street of the Americas, which will be the longest north and south highway in the world, will travel millions of people in the days to come."

The Highway, it is hoped, will link this Garden of Peace with the monument, Christ of the Andes, erected by the Argentine and Chilean governments on their boundary in 1904.

The first construction work within the Peace Garden was a stone cairn erected in 1932 on the International Line, a short distance from the proposed entrance. So great was the interest in the proposed Peace Garden that a tremendous crowd gathered on the Border, many miles from the nearest villages, to attend the dedication ceremony on July 14th, 1932. The crowd was variously estimated at from 25,000 to 50,000 people. Led by the Bishop of Brandon, they unitedly pledged themselves in the words inscribed on the bronze plaque built into the Cairn and framed with Indian stone hammers:

"TO GOD IN HIS GLORY

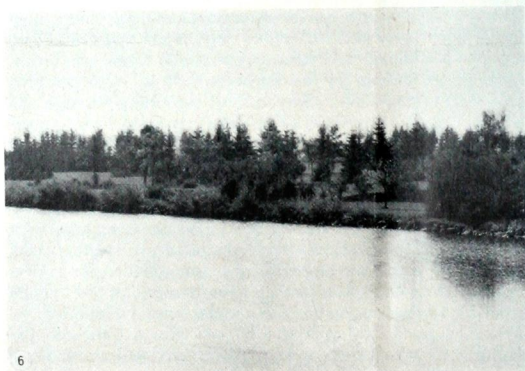
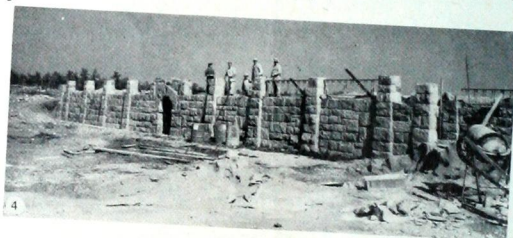
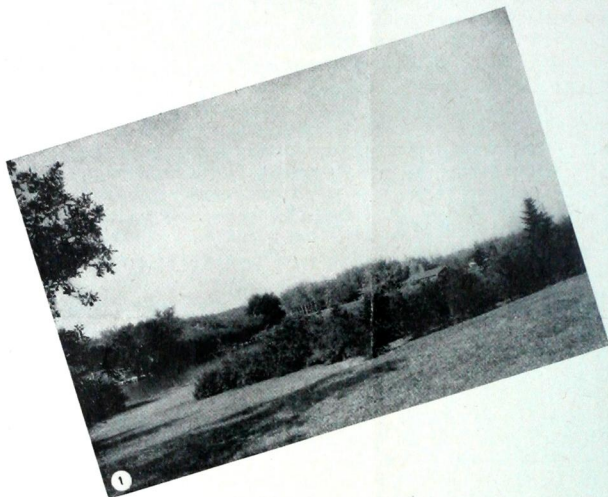
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In the first years, the Peace Garden was sponsored entirely by people living in the eastern part of North America. The International Peace Garden Incorporated was organized under the laws of the State of New York and until 1936 the annual meetings were held in the City of New York.

It was the Gardeners' Associations of the two countries that sponsored the idea of having a Peace Garden and it was one of their committees that selected the site. Their appeal for support was made to the public, including individuals, organizations, and all levels of Governments. In other words, it was a movement of the people, by the people, for the purpose of expressing the deep-rooted desire of all citizens for the promotion and maintenance of international goodwill and harmonious relationships between nations. It is true there are international parks and bridges, etc., but these largely found their origin in governmental action and were financed almost entirely by Government funds, and do not constitute an expression of the common people for the ideals sought in the International Peace Garden movement. It is therefore apparent that this Garden is the only one of its kind on the International Boundary.

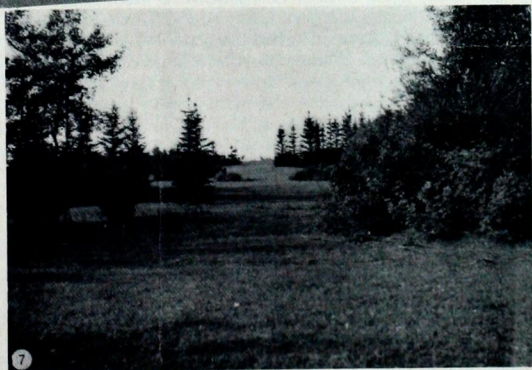
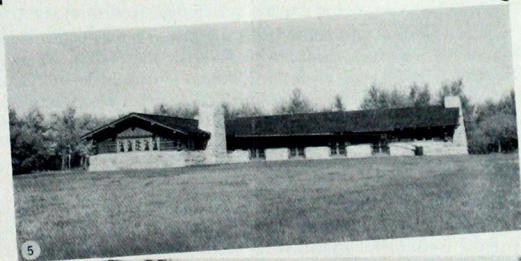
The Garden was launched during the period of serious depression, sometimes called "The Hungry Thirties." There was much unemployment and young men were gathered into the Civilian Conservation Corp in the United States and into Unemployed Relief Programs in Canada. A Civilian Conservation Camp was established in the International Peace Garden on the American side in 1934. An artificial lake of considerable size was created by members of the Camp through the construction of a dam and a separate spillway. This lake has since been named Lake Udall, after W. V. Udall, editor of the Boissevain Recorder, who has assisted greatly with the development. Three miles of gravelled park road were built, with log bridges over streams. A Lodge was erected using Canadian logs and United States stone. This building is 105 feet long, with a wing 60 feet long, which is used as a dining room for group gatherings. The Lodge especially is popular with organizations having international connections. Three large picnic shelters were also built and seven tourist cabins, the latter providing accommodation for twelve groups. Incinerators and open-air fire places are in the vicinity of the picnic shelters. Also a regulation high wire fence was built on the outer boundaries.

On the Canadian side, a small lake was created near the entrance to the Garden and a large lake further back. A three mile road was surveyed, graded and



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3. Outlet of Lake on
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5. The Lodge, Amer
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gravelled. Visitors now travelling over it get attractive views of this large body of water. The lake has been named Lake Stormon, after Mr. John Stormon of Rolla, North Dakota, who has been connected with the Peace Garden for many years, first as Secretary and more recently as Chairman of the Board of Directors.

In 1939 extensive plantings of ornamental trees and shrubs were made on the Canadian side around the small lake, near the entrance to the Peace Garden, and adjoining the Formal Area. This part of the Peace Garden, together with the Peace Panel, is now of great value in demonstrating to the numerous tourists, visiting groups and individuals the wonderful possibilities for the remainder of the Garden.

The Second World War put an end to Federal Government Grants and it was ten years before these were resumed. Several organizations continued their support but funds were quite insufficient to permit more than a maintenance program.

In 1948 the Board of Directors of the Garden decided to appeal to the two Federal Governments for financial aid. The late J. E. Matthews, M.P., who had always been greatly interested in the Garden, was asked to assist in obtaining a Canadian Government grant, and was also invited to be present with American delegates to put the request for funds before the Congressional Committee. Both appeals were successful and the Canadian Government, commencing in 1949, has given \$15,000 a year for support of the Garden, while Congress voted \$100,000 to be expended in 1950, 1951 and 1952. A Superintendent of Development was engaged, and two of the C.C.C. huts and a garage were moved from the old camp to a building site north of the Border. The two huts were winterized and made into comfortable residences, a part of one being used as an office.

During the winters, an extensive program has been underway on the Canadian side, consisting of the removal of waterkilled trees and brush from the borders of several lakes, thus greatly improving the natural scenic beauty along the drives.

In 1950, with funds for a satisfactory start available, it was decided to resume work on the Formal Area of the Garden, as planned by the National Parks Service of the United States in consultation with the National Parks officials of Canada and the Landscape Architects of America. To Walter F. Clarke, a landscape architect working for private organizations, goes the credit for the over-all plan that was adopted. The plans were draughted by Mr. Dan Burroughs previous to 1939. For the past three years he has been the United States Federal inspector of work undertaken at the Peace Garden. The plans for the Formal Area of the Garden were evidently made after an exhaustive study of the topography of the area and this reduced the moving of soil to establish the new grades to a minimum. As the Terrace Panel plans include an extensive system of stone retaining walls, it is fortunate that on the southern fringe of the Turtle Mountains near the village of Dunseith, North Dakota, the glacial deposits left good quality granite stones, many of them well colored. These stones have been dug out of the earth and split for loading on trucks, some single stones making three truck loads. A large deposit of excellent gravel for concrete construction was also located in this same vicinity. Hundreds of tons of the stone and many hundreds of yards of gravel and sand have been hauled to the International Peace Garden for the construction program.

According to plans, there are to be six panels in the Formal Area of the Peace Garden, each in itself a complete unit. They are drawn so that whatever is developed on one side of the Line is duplicated on the other. Each panel is to consist of several acres of land and the total length of the panel sections is three-quarters of a mile. From east to west along the International Line will be,—first the Peace Panel, then the Terrace Panel, the Sunken Garden, the Cascade Panel, the Reflecting Pool and the Peace Tower.

The Peace Panel, while well advanced, is not quite complete but it does present a pleasing picture. The Cairn is on the International Line on a narrow plot of turf located between the two roads leading into the American and Canadian

sections, and the National Flags fly, one to the north and the other to the south, of the Cairn. The Homemakers organizations of the two countries have assumed the cost of developing and maintaining the areas north and south of the entrance roads. Ornamental shrubs, together with spring, summer and autumn flowers, make this part of the Garden particularly attractive during the season of growth.

West of the Cairn and beyond the roads connecting the Canadian and American sides are two large turf plots, one on each side of the International Line, sponsored by the Junior Red Cross of the two countries. These extensive lawns are enclosed by ornamental hedges and between the hedges and the parking lots are extensive plantings of trees and shrubs. The ground slopes gently upward to the west for almost the full length of the Peace Panel. The drop, however, is much more rapid on the Terrace Panel, averaging four per cent.

The Terrace Panel has seven terraced stone walls, these being built chiefly to check soil erosion and to maintain the earth at the desired grades. When completed, the terraces are to be a combination of stonework and water in pools, as well as flowing down the International Line, banked by thousands of trees and shrubs, with a high terrace from which an excellent view of the whole of the Formal Area of the Garden can be obtained. The Province of Manitoba through its Highway Department supplied the large scrapers and engineering services that were used to establish the earth grades shown on the architect's plans. The top soil was saved and spread back after levelling of the clay was completed.

The first or upper terrace is almost completed. The pilasters in the massive stone walls rise two and a half feet above the main stone walls and support heavy iron balustrades, that not only add beauty and finish but they prevent the unwary from dropping several feet to the next terrace. The central feature in the upper terrace is a large concrete pool, half on each side of the International Line. At each end of the terrace, framed by the stone retaining walls, is to be a stone summer house. Between each of these and the pool is to be a turf plot. The remainder of the terrace will be covered with flagstone. This terrace, over three hundred feet long, will be a promenade from which visitors can look back over the Peace Panel and down into the terraces below and, when the Garden is complete, into the Sunken Garden in the valley, and spread before them on the sloping hillside beyond will be the Cascade Panel, the Reflecting Pool section, and the Peace Tower on the hilltop.

The second terrace is also nearing completion. Two massive stone stairways lead from the upper to the lower terrace. These stairs are thirteen feet wide and sixty-seven feet long. The treads are sawn granite and the four landings in each stair are asphalt. These stairs partially encircle the large pool and this lower terrace. An alcove in the stone retaining wall back of the pool is on the International Line. In this, a fountain fed from the upper pool will play, the water overflowing along with that from a separate feed line into the second pool over a series of low stone curbs. A good depth of top soil has been spread between the pool and the stairs in preparation for planting trees and shrubs.

The Governments of the State of North Dakota and the Province of Manitoba are active participants in the development of this huge project and the municipalities of Manitoba take out yearly memberships. Neighboring Chambers of Commerce in both countries are aiding, the Boissevain Chamber having recently completed a campaign to raise \$1,500 to help finance the Peace Garden. Women's organizations have given wonderful encouragement. The Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, and the Homemakers of the United States, the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire, the Order of the Eastern Star and the Business and Professional Women's Clubs have not only assisted financially but they have also used Peace Garden literature in their study groups. These Women's Organizations recognize the part that this International Peace Garden can play in

moulding, developing, and sustaining the peaceful relations that now exist between these two nations. The Garden can be made into a place of beauty that will call the attention of nations everywhere to the fact that here on the North American continent there is a frontier 3,987 miles long between two nations and the only fort is this Fortress of Friendship located in the centre of the continent.

The Peace Garden, the brain child of a resident of Ontario, was nurtured in its infancy by Horticultural organizations of the Eastern States and Eastern Canada. In recent years it has been left to the care of people living in the Centre of the Continent. To maintain the ideals of Peace in the minds of our citizens and to fully finance the development of the Garden as planned by the National Parks Service of the United States in consultation with Canadian and American garden specialists, citizens of North America must realize they are part owners of the Peace Garden. It is the hope of the Directors that Governments will assist in the development and that citizens everywhere will aid in its maintenance.

This story would be incomplete without special reference to Mrs. Mary Allen, a Director from Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, who has kept up a flow of correspondence with people of many other countries, thus developing an interest abroad in the Peace Garden and its progress.

Twenty years have swiftly flown since Dr. Henry Moore made his radio broadcast on that Christmas night in 1931. Ten of these years, 1939-1949, were mainly years of maintenance due to Federal grants not being available. These years were not lost; nature is never idle; the forest trees developed, the native beaver created more lakes. The ornamental trees and shrubs planted in 1939 and previous to that time seem now to be a natural part of the whole setting north of the Border. Islands of evergreens planted a few years ago on the former farm land south of the Line are away to a good start. The Peace Panel, while not complete, is impressive and recent developments on the Terrace Panel are providing new items of interest, so that it can be said that the International Peace Garden, while still only well started, is at least on its way to becoming the very beautiful garden most earnestly desired by those who have worked so hard to bring it into reality.

The three miles of highway on the Peace Garden frontage are hard surfaced, and this splendid road leads from the Boundary north to the Trans-Canada Highway at Brandon and also extends into the mining area of Canada's hinterland. The hard surfaced road leading south links with several American east and west highways, and also extends south across the United States and into Mexico. Each year people from every state in the Union, from every province in Canada, and others from beyond the seas, pass through the Canadian Customs House at the Peace Garden entrance. These travellers provide the best advertising medium possible. Their reports on the Peace Garden, as they travel and in their home districts, will increase the interest aroused, not only in the Garden as such, but in the ideal for which it stands, a future in which the Brotherhood of Man shall be first. When that day arrives, then shall Peace and Plenty prevail.

Executive Officers for 1951-52

Chairman of the Board	Mr. John A. Stormon, Rolla, North Dakota
Honorary President	Mr. W. V. Udall, Ste. 9, Fairmont Apts., Winnipeg, Man.
President	Mr. D. G. McKenzie, 267 Grain Exchange Bldg., Winnipeg, Man.
1st Vice-President	Mr. W. R. Leslie, Morden, Manitoba
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Treasurer	Mr. A. J. Robbins, Ste. 15, Anvers Apts., Winnipeg, Man.
Secretary	Mr. Harry A. Graves, State College Station, Fargo, N.D.
Superintendent of Garden	Mr. M. J. Timline, Boissevain, Man. (536-12th St., Brandon)
Directors on Executive	Mr. Russell Reid, Bismarck, North Dakota Mr. W. R. Leslie, Morden, Manitoba Mr. Eric B. Gowler, Boissevain, Manitoba

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