

newsletter

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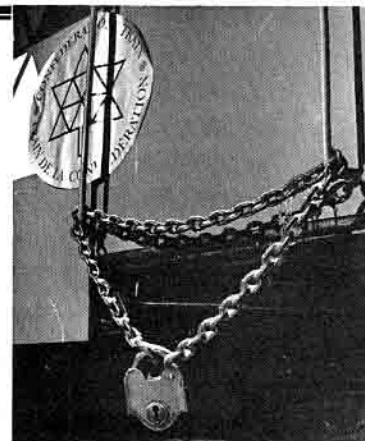


Upper Canada Railway Society





An Auspicious Beginning



The days of anticipation are over -- Canada's year-long 100th-birthday party is moving into high gear. And, fittingly, January 1st marked the dedication of the most ambitious Centennial Project of them all -- the \$1.5-million Confederation Train.

At 3.00 p.m. on New Year's Day, the gleaming 13-car purple and gray special train was given its official sendoff from the Nation's Capital by Madame Georges Vanier, wife of Canada's Governor General. Its doors were ceremoniously sealed, to be officially opened in Victoria, B.C., nine days later.

The following morning at ten, the Confederation Train departed Ottawa, running as the second section of the *Panorama* as far as Winnipeg. Canadian Pacific handled the remainder of the uneventful trip to the West Coast, including a sea journey to Vancouver Island on the "Princess of Vancouver".

Then on January 9th in Victoria, State Secretary Judy LaMarsh officially declared open the Confederation Train, calling on Canadians to draw faith from the past to meet the challenges of the future.

Miss LaMarsh said in part, "Within the imaginatively designed confines of this train, Canadians from sea to sea will find a graphic summary not only of the first hundred years of Confederation but indeed of the years, yes centuries, which came before our union.

"The story this train has to tell is not one of perfection. Our past is not free of error and injustice -- I am certain our future will not be either."

As the echoes of the Train's ceremonial 'O Canada' whistle died away, the exhibit cars were opened for the first time, to the 1,500 who gathered for the opening ceremonies.

The Train's exhibits have been termed a series of design impressions on major themes -- exploration, settlement, Confederation, and later the people and events that shaped Canada; the logical but dull chronological method of telling the country's story was avoided. Great care has been taken to preserve the dual-language concept (Commentary in English or French is available at the push of a red or blue button; the colours persist as English-French identification throughout the display.).

Public enthusiasm for the Train has been overwhelming. During its first two weeks of display, over 100,000 persons filed through the six exhibit cars! News media have acclaimed it as a "brilliant creation". There would certainly seem to be little doubt that the Confederation Train will be remembered longer, by more Canadians, than virtually any other Centennial Year activity.

There have been some problems in the house-keeping department, and some of the displays already show signs of use. But the Centennial Commission expects this; said an official, "I guess it's human nature for people to want to pick at things. But most of the displays have been designed with this in mind. People are supposed to touch them."

The sinister hand of bureaucracy reached out and strangled the Confederation Train's distinctive voice on the eve of its departure from the Nation's Capital.

The Board of Transport Commissioners announced December 30th that it had nixed the use of the distinctive 'O Canada' horn designed by Vancouver's Robert Swanson (Dec. NL, page 176) when the train is in motion. The horn may be used only on special occasions when the train is stationary. The ruling forced the scuttling of plans to use the special horn in place of the conventional '14L' at grade crossings.

Chief Commissioner Rod Kerr said that both railways supported the BTC's decision and that there would be no appeal.

Inventor Swanson suggested that perhaps the government could pass an order-in-council allowing the special horn to be sounded after the regular signal. "It is intended to be used at all crossings," said Mr. Swanson. "It's a train symbolizing Confederation, but without the special horn it will pass unnoticed through small towns in the night. People will think it's just another train."

And even stationary tooting may be in trouble. The city of London, Ont., has discovered that its anti-noise bylaw forbids the use of the 'O Canada' horn. The problem has been passed on to city council by London's Centennial committee.

CN CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS
FORM 19Y
DN-714 10-62

TRAIN ORDER NO. *40Y*
Imperial Jan 2, 67

TO **ENG 1867** AT **OTTAWA**

ENG 1867 RUN AS
 SECTION 5
 OTTAWA TO BRENT
 CPC

SIGNATURES

MADE *Kerr* REPEATED AT *0924* TIME *0924* OPR. *Chapman*



ABOVE: Second No. 5, the two-tone purple and gray Confederation Train, streaks along CN rails near Pembroke, Ont., on January 2nd.
 /James A. Brown

During the course of its marathon coast-to-coast tour, the Confederation Train will be open for public exhibition a total of 316 days. A further eight days are devoted to travel, while seven additional days are allowed for train maintenance and relaxation of its staff. In general, the train will be open from 9.00 a.m. to 11.00 p.m. local time, and much of its travelling between adjacent exhibition sites will be done at night. So that our readers may have the maximum opportunity of viewing this superb Centennial project, both 'on the road' and on exhibition, the complete itinerary is reproduced here:

Jan 9th-16th:	Exhibition; Victoria, B.C. (CN)	June 28th-29th:	Train Closed; Servicing at Toronto.
Jan 17th-19th:	" ; Nanaimo, B.C. (E&N)	June 30th:	Travel; via CN
Jan 20th:	Travel; via CP Coast Steamships.	July 1st-6th:	Exhibition; Ottawa, Ont. (CN)
Jan 21st-26th:	Exhibition; Vancouver, B.C. (CP)	July 7th-12th:	" ; Ottawa West, Ont. (CP)
Jan 27th-Feb 1st:	" ; Vancouver, B.C. (CN)	July 13th-17th:	" ; Peterborough, Ont. (CN)
Feb 2nd-3rd:	" ; Chilliwack, B.C. (CN)	July 18th-25th:	" ; Hamilton, Ont. (CN)
Feb 4th-6th:	" ; Kamloops, B.C. (CN)	July 26th-28th:	" ; Niagara Falls, Ont. (CN)
Feb 7th-8th:	" ; Kelowna, B.C. (CN)	July 29th-Aug 2nd:	" ; Toronto: CNE Grounds (CN)
Feb 9th:	Travel; via CN Kamloops, CP	Aug 3rd-6th:	" ; Toronto: Downsview (CN)
Feb 10th-11th:	Exhibition; Castlegar, B.C. (CP)	Aug 7th-11th:	" ; Toronto: Danforth (CN)
Feb 12th-13th:	" ; Cranbrook, B.C. (CP)	Aug 12th-16th:	" ; Toronto: Leaside (CP)
Feb 14th-15th:	Travel; via CP Kamloops, CN	Aug 17th-21st:	" ; Toronto: John Street (CN)
Feb 16th-17th:	Exhibition; Prince Rupert, B.C. (CN)	Aug 22nd-26th:	" ; Kingston, Ont. (CN)
Feb 18th-21st:	" ; Prince George, B.C. (CN)	Aug 26th-30th:	" ; Montreal: Dorval (CN)
Feb 22nd:	" ; Jasper, Alta. (CN)	Aug 31st-Sept 1st:	" ; Montreal West. (CP)
Feb 23rd-Mar 6th:	" ; Edmonton, Alta. (CN)	Sept 2nd-3rd:	" ; Montreal: Westmount (CP)
Mar 7th-8th:	" ; Red Deer, Alta. (CP)	Sept 4th-6th:	" ; Montreal: Cote Vertu (CN)
Mar 9th-18th:	" ; Calgary, Alta. (CP)	Sept 7th-8th:	" ; Montreal: Park Ave. (CP)
Mar 19th-22nd:	" ; Lethbridge, Alta. (CP)	Sept 9th-11th:	" ; Montreal: Papineau (CP)
Mar 23rd:	" ; Medicine Hat, Alta. (CP)	Sept 12th-14th:	" ; Montreal: Marion St. (CN)
Mar 24th:	Train Closed.	Sept 15th-19th:	" ; Trois Rivieres, Que. (CP)
Mar 25th:	Exhibition; Medicine Hat, Alta. (CP)	Sept 20th-23rd:	" ; Chicoutimi, Que. (CN)
Mar 26th:	Travel; via CP -- Train Closed.	Sept 24th-28th:	" ; Quebec: Palais Stn. (CP)
Mar 27th-28th:	Exhibition; Swift Current, Sask. (CP)	Sept 29th-30th:	" ; Quebec: Wolfe's Cove (CP)
Mar 29th-31st:	" ; Moose Jaw, Sask. (CP)	Oct 1st:	Travel; via CN
Apr 1st-7th:	" ; Saskatoon, Sask. (CN)	Oct 2nd-4th:	Exhibition; Truro, N.S. (CN)
Apr 8th-9th:	" ; N. Battleford, Sask. (CN)	Oct 5th-7th:	" ; Sydney, N.S. (CN)
Apr 10th-13th:	" ; Pr. Albert, Sask. (CN)	Oct 8th-13th:	" ; Halifax, N.S. (CN)
Apr 14th-21st:	" ; Regina, Sask. (CP)	Oct 14th-15th:	" ; Yarmouth, N.S. (DAR)
Apr 22nd-25th:	" ; Brandon, Man. (CP)	Oct 16th-17th:	" ; Kentville, N.S. (DAR)
Apr 26th-27th:	" ; Neepawa, Man. (CN)	Oct 18th-19th:	" ; Amherst, N.S. (CN)
Apr 27th-28th:	" ; Dauphin, Man. (CN)	Oct 20th-23rd:	" ; Charlottetown, P.E.I. (CN)
Apr 29th-May 1st:	" ; Portage la Prairie, Man.	Oct 24th:	" ; Summerside, P.E.I. (CN)
May 2nd-May 6th:	" ; Winnipeg, Man (CN)	Oct 25th:	Train Closed.
May 7th-May 10th:	" ; St. James, Man. (CN)	Oct 26th-29th:	Exhibition; Moncton, N.B. (CN)
May 11th-13th:	" ; St. Boniface, Man. (CN)	Oct 30th-Nov 3rd:	" ; St. John, N.B. (CN)
May 14th-16th:	" ; Kenora, Ont. (CP)	Nov 4th-6th:	" ; Fredericton, N.B. (CP)
May 17th:	Travel; Train Servicing.	Nov 7th:	" ; Chatham, N.B. (CN)
May 18th-20th:	Exhibition; Fort William, Ont. (CP)	Nov 8th-9th:	" ; Campbellton, N.B. (CN)
May 21st-24th:	" ; Port Arthur, Ont. (CP)	Nov 10th-11th:	" ; Rimouski, Que. (CN)
May 25th:	Travel; via CP Franz, ACR.	Nov 12th:	Train Closed.
May 26th-29th:	Exhibition; S.S. Marie, Ont. (ACR)	Nov 13th-15th:	Exhibition; Thetford Mines, Que (QCR)
May 30th-June 3rd:	" ; Sudbury, Ont. (CP)	Nov 16th-19th:	" ; Sherbrooke, Que. (CP)
June 4th-6th:	" ; North Bay, Ont. (CP)	Nov 20th-23rd:	" ; St. Johns, Que. (CP)
June 7th:	Travel; via CP	Nov 24th-27th:	" ; Montreal: Lachine (CN)
June 8th-15th:	Exhibition; London, Ont. (CN)	Nov 28th-29th:	" ; Montreal: Central Stn.
June 16th-23rd:	" ; Windsor, Ont. (CN)	Nov 30th-Dec 5th:	" ; Montreal: Windsor Stn.
June 24th-27th:	" ; Kitchener, Ont. (CN)	Dec 6th:	TOUR ENDS.