

The beginnings of  
***The Disciple Conference Grounds***

As recorded in  
the pages of the

# CANADIAN DISCIPLE

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First mention of the Conference Grounds was in the **May 1952** issue.

## CAMP SITE PURCHASED

**Y**ES, it is true, the Ontario Board of Co-operation have bought a camp site! The Board at its September meeting appointed a committee to look for a camp site, and at the April meeting this committee brought a report of a site that was available. The Board reacted favorably to its purchase, and a committee was appointed to further investigate and negotiate the matter if deemed advisable. On Saturday, April 12, a delegation of ten met on the property, and made a final decision.

All campers, past, present, and future, will be thrilled to know it is on a lake, and best of all Lake Erie. The site is about a mile from the Sweets Corners Church of Christ (the church can be seen from the northern portion of the property). It is not far from Dunnville, Ontario.

The property consists of ap-

proximately eighteen acres which has a good amount of timber upon it, and yet it will probably be possible to erect buildings and make a good playing field without too much timber having to be cut down. There is approximately 800 feet of Lake front. The property is secluded, and seems ideal for camping.

There are no buildings on the site, and this presents a real challenge to Ontario Churches for summer activity. A committee is being formed that will make specific plans for buildings, etc. More details as to financing and building property will be announced later.

The purchase of this property has been a real venture in faith, and although a large amount of money will be involved in purchase of the land and erection of buildings, who knows how many lives may be educated for Christian service. A camp property belonging to the Ontario Board will be of inestimable value to the growth of our churches in the future.

This project also presents a real adventure in the field of Christian Education as the site is developed. What will be your answer, you can help financially or in physical work, or perhaps both. This project should draw our Ontario Churches together in a common cause and purpose for a project that can be seen as it grows and develops. Let's hope that enough can be accomplished this summer that at least some of our camps can meet on the grounds during the summer of 1953!

The picture below is of some of those at the April 12 meeting. On the left, Ora and Gordon Dunn and on the right Genevieve and Ken Wills.



Work was begun on the site and reported in the **August-September 1952** issue.

## ONTARIO CAMP SITE PICNIC

**I**N a recent issue of the Canadian Disciple an announcement was made concerning the purchase of a Camp Site for the Ontario churches. On Sunday afternoon, July 13th, a mammoth picnic was held on the Camp Site, the Selkirk, Sweets Corners and Winger churches acting as hosts. There were approximately 300 people in attendance, representing most of our churches in Ontario, with some visitors from New York State.

Those of us who had visited the Camp Site on previous occasions were much impressed with the change in its appearance. A large clearing had been made at the

front of the property, with brush removed and grass cut, providing ample room for all who came for the picnic. The people of our churches in the area of the Camp Site are to be commended for the work that they have done and are doing in preparing the grounds.

During the afternoon an informal program was conducted under the leadership of our All-Canada Secretary, Mr. O. W. McCully. Everyone enjoyed the hymn singing and special music. Various people spoke, telling the story of the purchase of the Camp Site, and challenging us in Ontario with the task which is ours, that of paying for and equipping the

new site. A report was made of monies received for the Camp Site, amounting to some \$2700.00. By the end of July sufficient funds had been received to make the down payment of \$3000.00.

Work on the Camp Site will be progressing throughout the autumn and spring. By the time this reaches you there will have been a Young Adult Work Camp conducted on the camp grounds over the Labor Day weekend. We are hoping that as a result of the combined efforts of our people in Ontario the Camp will be developed to the point that we will be able to use it for our camp work next year.

## ONTARIO CAMP SITE

Another report on the Picnic appeared in the **November 1952** issue.



**T**HE above picture is of the recently purchased Ontario Camp Site, taken on the occasion of the Church Picnic, held on the camp grounds on July 13th. The picture is taken from the road which runs across the front of the site, on the other side of which lies the lake. The cleared area in the foreground

and under the trees gives some idea of the work done by the people of the Winger, Selkirk and Sweets Corners people in preparing the grounds for the picnic. Further work was done by a group of Ontario young people who attended a work camp on the camp site over the labour day weekend.



# Promises and Plans for the First Camps to be held in 1953

## **PROMISES:**

The **March 1953** issue announces Chi Rho and CYF camps to be held at the Conference Grounds in August.

## **Ontario Camp Dates**

**CHI-RHO — AUGUST 9-16**

**YOUNG PEOPLE:**

**AUGUST 16-23**

It is hoped that the new Camp Site will be ready with adequate minimum equipment to care for these Camps.

## **PLANS:**

The **April 1953** issue included this as part of O.W. McCully's (All-Canada General Secretary and Ontario Board of Cooperation Secretary) regular column.

## **Secretary's Column**

**T**HE Ontario Camp Site Committee has been busy making plans for the first building on the property which was purchased last summer on Lake Erie. The plans are being very carefully worked out for a dining room, kitchen and lounge with fireplace.

The Committee is doing its best to combine serviceability, permanence and economy, and make it all attractive and satisfactory in every way. We hope to have the building erected before the first of June.