

100 Years Ago

From the Manitoba Free Press

July 16, 1921

HYDROPLANES NOW ON SCOUTING DUTY

Discover Incipient Fires Near Victoria Beach

Victoria Beach, Man., July 15 – All this week the two hydroplanes at Victoria Beach have been busy in practical work. A scout today of 250 miles, taken by Major Hobbs, was the means of discovering a number of incipient fires in the bush. These will be attended to tomorrow by fire rangers' patrols. Surveyors have been taken across to Lac du Bonnet and landed in their camps. Tomorrow a third hydroplane will be launched and patrols will start into the air, going in all directions.

Saturday is camera day at Victoria Beach, the members of the Winnipeg Camera club, a hundred strong, coming down with their ladies to the annual picnic. Prizes totalling \$50 are offered by the Victoria Beach company for the best shots taken around the beach.

From the Winnipeg Evening Tribune

July 21, 1921

13,000 ATTEND CATERERS' PICNIC AT GRAND BEACH

Eleven Trains Carry Crowds to Successful Outing

Caterers of Winnipeg, wholesale and retail, held their thirty-fifth annual picnic at Grand Beach Wednesday. All caterers' stores in Winnipeg were closed for the day while the proprietors and their families accompanied them to Grand Beach on the trains of the morning and early afternoon, running over the Canadian National railway. Crowds filled every coach of the eleven trains which carried in all from 13,000 persons to the lakeside.

During the afternoon Major Basil Hobbs made a flight from Victoria Beach over Grand Beach and took several pictures of the beach throngs. He distributed several hundred pamphlets on fire prevention from the 'plane while flying closely over the water close to the shore.



First known aerial photograph of Victoria Beach, taken July 14, 1921, from a flying boat of the Flying Operations Branch of the Canadian Air Board, based at the newly opened Victoria Beach Air Station.