

OUTLOOK

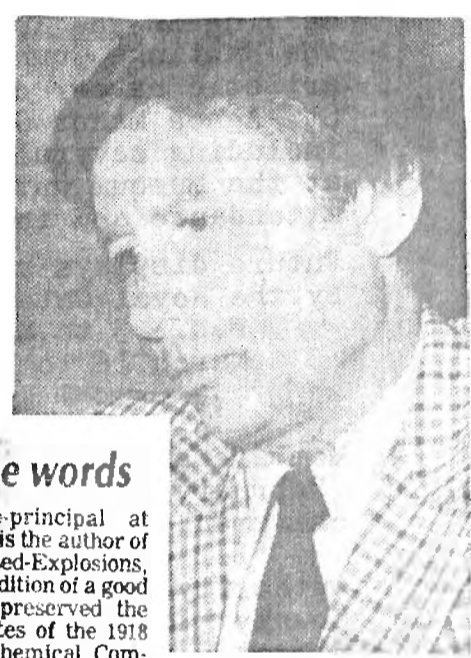
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 1418, BELLEVILLE, ONTARIO

FEBRUARY 13, 1981

1. GREETINGS from the newly-elected and enthusiastic executive of the Society. We are planning to start the new year with a BLAST, or perhaps we should say an EXPLOSION.

JOHN MELADY, author, raconteur, educator, and wit, will be the guest speaker at our February meeting. He will tell the story of the October 14, 1918, explosion that shook the explosives plant at Trenton and caused many people to evacuate the town. These extracts from Penny Gordon's review of the book give some indication of John's success in capturing the story of this exciting day in our history. John will have copies of the book for sale at five dollars and will be happy to autograph them. The meeting is set for

TUESDAY EVENING
FEBRUARY 24, 1981
CORBY LIBRARY
PINNACLE STREET
BELLEVILLE



Setting down the words
John Melady, a vice-principal at Bayside Secondary School, is the author of a new book recently released-Explosions, Trenton Disaster. In the tradition of a good story teller, Melady has preserved the facts and personal anecdotes of the 1918 explosion at the British Chemical Company explosives plant at Trenton. Melady manages to not only tell the story but also to make an incident in local history come alive.

British Chemical Company's Trenton explosives plant—an industry which only lasted in the area four years. He says he wanted to make the historical fact interesting because it is.
"People and events in Canada are just as interesting, exciting, as they are in the States or England or anywhere else."

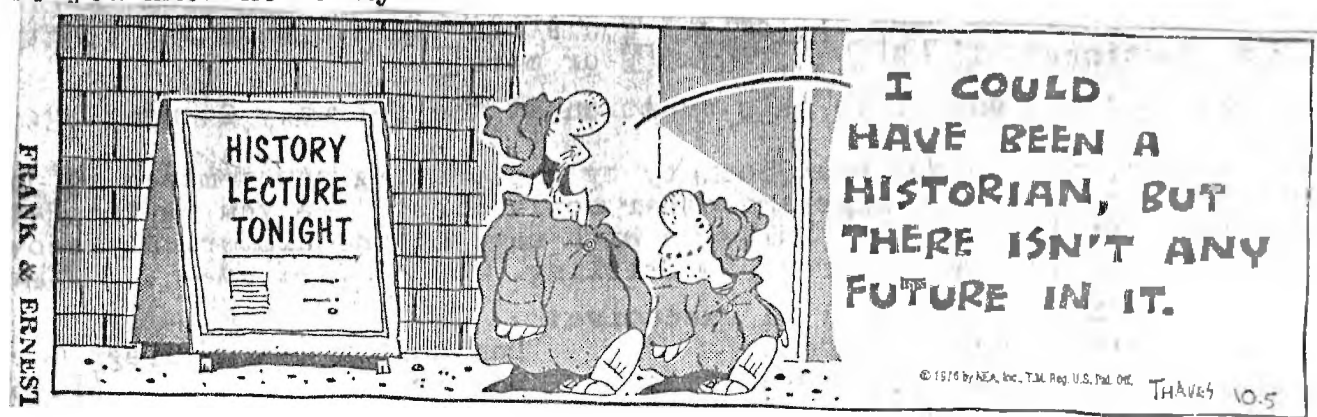
Melady's technique, utilizing anecdotes and a style which maintains both continuity and interest, makes Explosions a book well worth reading. It is as alive as the controversy which surrounded the

Ample parking is available in the municipal parking lot across from the library and the Corby Library Art Gallery (where the meeting will be held) can be reached from the stairs off the Campbell Street entrance or the elevator inside the Pinnacle Street entrance.

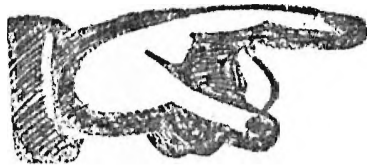
Tea will be available shortly after 7:30 p.m. for early-arrivals who come to chat and view the displays and the meeting will begin promptly at 8 p.m. Plan to attend, enjoy a good speaker, and be brought up-to-date on historical society matters.

2. At the Annual Meeting on January 28, members of the Society passed a motion that the Society co-operate with The Intelligencer in the publication of a HERITAGE SUPPLEMENT. The Historic Structures Committee members (Lois Foster, Shirley Birchard, Mary Hall, Mary McConnell, Beth Green, and Elaine Preston, chairman), assisted by Charlotte Kuntze and Pat Bennett, will be responsible for the historical content and The Intelligencer staff will sell the advertising. Jane Ann McCaw for The Intelligencer staff is the liaison person, with whom the committee meets regularly until the supplement is published in mid April.

3. Do you know how many



An IMPORTANT MESSAGE
from the Executive of the
HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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3. "Belleville native's work has come home." This was the recent heading in The Intelligencer's review of the newest exhibition at the Hastings County Museum. Penny Gordon's review highlighted the artistic career of Aileen Cherry, who began her formal training at St. Agnes Manor Girls' School. More than forty of her paintings, including several of the Belleville and Quinte area, are on display at the Museum until February 19. Curator Mary Simonds reports that attendance and interest in the display have been high.

Future displays at the Hastings County Museum include two prepared by the Royal Ontario Museum:

Feb. 23 to March 14 . . . Newfoundland Photographs

March 16 to April 16 . . . Equipment for Eternity

(artifacts from the Egyptian Collection)

4. Members and friends of the Society will be interested in this report (February 12) of our Building Restoration Committee: Don Kellaway, chairman, and Gregg Gordon.

"Belleville City Council and the Moira River Conservation Authority have now both agreed in principle to permit the Hastings County Historical Society to use the Old Stone Building on Station Street (commonly referred to as Meyer's Mill) for their offices and headquarters. Construction work, being paid for by a federal grant, is currently underway to prepare the building's interior for this use; however, additional funds will be required to complete exterior restoration, provide services, and finish renovations on the interior. Assistance is being sought from Provincial sources. In addition, a request has been made to City Council for a grant equal to the amount saved by the City when the original demolition contract was cancelled. Volunteers will be required for specific tasks such as electrical and mechanical installation work. With a lot of support, we could be moved in by the end of this year.

"We anticipate that the space will provide areas for executive, annual, and general meetings, & an office/kitchen and washroom, fully accessible for the handicapped. The ground floor will be kept for research areas and display, while the top floor will be maintained for storage and workshop space.

"Groundwork for this current construction was prepared with assistance from Loyalist College. Two students from the Women in a Non Traditional Work Force program made minor repairs to the interior during the latter part of November last, under the direction of Mr. Doug Preston and Mr. Wilf Sager. Mrs. Pat Bennett presently is assisting the committee in taking care of our accounts, and Mr. Bob Brennan has offered his expertise in construction on a regular basis. Our thanks to all of you for your donations of time and energy, and those, not listed, for your financial contributions and words of encouragement."

And our thanks to Don and Gregg for their continuing leadership on this project!

5. Do you know how many historical societies there are in the County of Hastings? 1 2 3 4 5 or more

Find out the answer to this question at the February 24 meeting.

6. Remember to support your Society by encouraging new members to join and attend the meetings and other activities. See you on the 24th. And watch for the next bulletin with news of the historical discovery of liquid gold on the road to Stirling. *Can you guess where and when?*

Best wishes from your 1981 executive:

Gerry Boyce, president

Don Kellaway, vice-president

Elaine Preston, secretary

Don Ashton

Bob Brennan

Alice Deline

Gregg Gordon

Don Wilson

Isabel Wright