

OUTLOOK

The Newsletter of THE HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 1418 - BELLEVILLE, ONTARIO
K8N 5J1

May 1, 1985

1. Be sure to read this issue thoroughly. It contains news of several events of considerable interest to our members and friends, including THREE events sponsored by the Society:
 - (1) May 21 - A General Meeting with BILL CAMPBELL as guest speaker
 - (2) June 4 - A Salute to NICK and HELMA MIKA and MIKA PUBLISHING on the occasion of another milestone in their publishing history
 - (3) June 23 - A tour to the PETERBOROUGH AREA; see the details on the last page and respond by June 4th if you're interested.

2. Our May 21st meeting promises to be an interesting one. BILL CAMPBELL, who appears in the back row (second from the right) in this classic picture of beard winners in the 1978 Belleville Centennial, will be speaking on the topic:

"The History of Cemeteries in Upper Canada".

Bill is the third generation of the Campbell Family to operate the Campbell Monument Company from its head office in Belleville and is an authority on the development of cemeteries, markers, and monuments in this district.

Discover where and how the first Ontario cemeteries began, how our monuments were affected by developments in Vermont and elsewhere, how the arrival of military and railway men had an influence on local cutting, etc. Bill will be using slides to illustrate his talk.

The meeting on May 21st is in the Auditorium of the QUINTE LIVING CENTRE at 370 Front Street, Belleville.

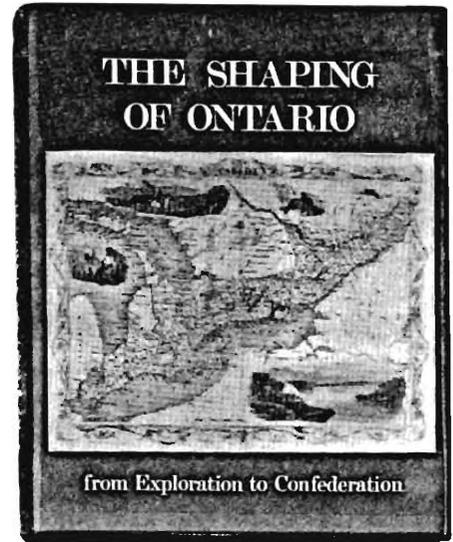
Coffee & social time at 7:30 P.M.
Meeting begins at 8:00 P.M.

Come and bring your friends.



Incidentally, Bill won the prize for the "neatest beard". Others pictured include a well-known Belleville alderman who had "the most unique beard" and the president of a local historical society whose beard was judged "most unlikely to win". Can you name the two winners who appear in this Mika picture with our speaker?

3. The HASTINGS COUNTY MUSEUM invites you to the "Queen Victoria Birthday Celebration" with tea, open house, and the "Madrigal Singers" from Albert College on Sunday, May 26. For further information contact the Museum at 962-2329.
4. On TUESDAY evening, JUNE 4, help your Society salute the MIKAS and MIKA PUBLISHING with a special program. "Thanks for the Memories, Mikas" will be the theme for the evening and we'll salute the Mikas on their new volume "The Shaping of Ontario".



Thirty prominent Canadian writers and historians have participated in this volume. Local writers include CAPTAIN ROBERT D. BRADFORD, curator of the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment Museum, who wrote on "The War of 1812 in Upper Canada"; JOHN MELADY, author of "The French in Ontario"; and this writer, who contributed "Gold at Eldorado". The MIKAS wrote on

"The Indian Tribes of Ontario" and "The Arrival of the Loyalists". There is a local flavour to "The Shaping of Ontario" with maps of Napanee and Kingston, a watercolour of The Carrying Place, pictures by the Reverend Bowen P. Squire, a drawing of the Gilmour Lumbering Company operations at Trenton, and a full-page coloured map of Thurlow Township more than a century ago showing the many school sections.

The Mikas are to be congratulated on this splendid volume. Come to the Celebration on June 4th. It will be held in the Main Auditorium of the QUINTE LIVING CENTRE. There will be displays and a social half-hour at 7:30 P.M., a half-hour program at 8:00 P.M. with commentary by the MIKAS on the book's preparation, a few surprises, and a CELEBRATION CAKE and Coffee by 8:45 PM.

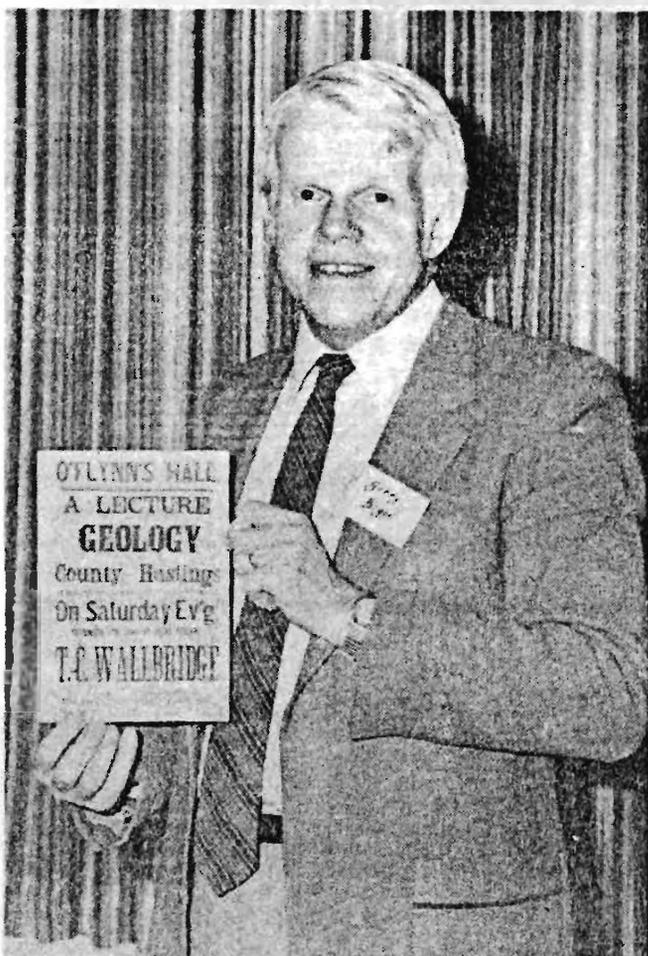
5. ANNOUNCING . . . with pride . . . the 1985 HERITAGE RESEARCH WRITING Project for adult writers. Your Society is sponsoring the contest again. There are two categories:
 - (1) historical research essay
 - (2) historical fiction - with a local setting.Cash prizes and certificates are available. The deadline for submission to the Society is Friday, September 13, 1985. For information and entry forms contact GEORGE SUPER, 966-1808.
6. Society membership continues to grow. At the April meeting Membership Secretary ISABEL WRIGHT reported that we have 286 individual members, 20 life members, 18 corporate sponsors, and 10 women's institutes, for a total of 334 members. Since the April meeting there have been several renewals as well as a number of new members. We may yet hit the goal of 400 members in 1985. Help us.

Incidentally, if you are involved in education with the Hastings Board and mailed us a cheque in mid-March for \$20 (for a \$7 membership and a \$13 donation), drop us a line; we don't know who you are). Many thanks.

7. BOB LYONS of the Bancroft Times was a visitor at our April meeting. Bob has written a series of historical articles for that paper and presented copies of those articles to the Society for our archives. We thank Bob for his contribution to the history of the Bancroft area and Hastings County and look forward to his speaking to the Society next year. We thank Bob also for his excellent article in the Bancroft Times, a part of which we reprint:

Gold Found North Of Madoc

By Bob Lyons



Gerald Boyce, author of "Historic Hastings" shows a lecture poster used in 1867 during the Eldorado Gold Rush.

Well, this news may be a little stale. In fact, the headline is about one hundred and nine years old, when Ontario's first gold mine opened up in Hastings County and the Village of Eldorado sprang up overnight.

The boom was over two years later, in 1868, but the rumours and small pockets of gold have been found in the area to this day. During the past few years an oldtime prospector and mining promoter named Dave Houston has purchased the rights to every major gold location between Madoc and Bannockburn. Houston is convinced that modern technology will succeed where the pioneer picks and powder failed. His company, Mono Gold Mines Inc. is trading strongly on the Vancouver stock market, especially 'since releasing favourable drill reports from the Bannockburn site this March.

Bannockburn and Eldorado may well be the next Hemlo. (Hemlo is the new gold discovery near Marathon where Noranda is building a \$43 million dollar smelter). Many people in the Bancroft area will be shaking their heads in disbelief, because there is a long history of disappointment and flim-flams connected with Hastings County gold. In the next two weeks we're going to look at this colourful history and the reasons why it could be different this time.

The story of Ontario's first gold rush is a Klondike tale worthy of a Pierre Berton book. In fact the man who will write the book is Gerald Boyce, the President of the Hastings County Historical Society, and the author of several books including "Historic Hastings." The first instalment of Eldorado gold will be published in a few weeks time by Mika Press of Belleville, in a new book called "The Shaping of Ontario." Boyce is one of thirty authors contributing to this project.

Mr. Boyce gave an introduction to the Eldorado story at the Historical Society meeting on April 16th. While we're waiting for the book, here's a short look at gold fever in Hastings County, drawn from notes taken at that lecture. There's many parallels to recent developments around Bannockburn.

8. Thanks also to PENNY GORDON of the Intell for the excellent summary of the talk, appearing in that paper on the 17th.

April 24. 1985

9. A highlight of the April meeting was the "MINUS 150" talk by GARY STAPLEY of Quinte Secondary School. Gary commented on life in 1835 as revealed in three letters written by Reuben White of Sidney Township to Henry Yager, M.L.A. It was a very appropriate topic, given the approaching May 2nd election. Hats off to Gary for the talk and for his energy and help in organizing our archives in the Corby Library.
10. WELCOME . . . We are pleased to welcome a new member to the list of heritage organizations in Hastings County. The STIRLING HISTORICAL SOCIETY has been organized by several interested citizens in the Stirling area to preserve that area's history. Headed by CATHIE FINDLAY, the new society is actively studying the possibilities of preserving the now-vacant Stirling train station. Funds to purchase the station from the C.N.R. have been provided by DON NUNN and KEN NUNN, whose father was the railway's last stationmaster at Stirling. The Stirling Historical Society welcomes assistance from those interested in the preservation of this station.
- Among interested speakers (on the role of the society and the preservation of the station) at a recent meeting were⁽¹⁾ ROY TURNER, past president of the Quinte Region Branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario and⁽²⁾ the writer of OUTLOOK.
11. ~~MOORE~~ Good news from Stirling . . . the Stirling Library hopes to sponsor a summer program to prepare a detailed index for "The Heritage Years", the history of Stirling and district published in 1983 by the Stirling Historical Book Committee. The 600-page volume contains a wealth of genealogical data.
12. Be sure to check out the most recent issue of "Ontario History", published by the Ontario Historical Society. It's volume LXXVI, number 4. All three articles relate to our area. Christopher Moore writes about the Royal Highland Emigrants and Loyalist Settlement in Prince Edward County and elsewhere in 1784. Peter S. Schmalz comments on the Role of the Ojibwa in the Conquest of Southern Ontario, 1650-1751, with accounts of battles in the Quinte area. And James A. Eadie, distinguished Napanee-Lennox and Addington County historian, writes on the Federal Election in Lennox Riding and its Aftermath, 1882-83: a Glimpse of Victorian Political Morality. This is an issue of "Ontario History" that is 'must' reading.
13. Speaking of Lennox and Addington, in our last edition we noted that HELEN HUTCHISON had been honoured by the community because of her work with the Macpherson House. The Ontario Museum Association has further recognized her service, as has the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture. Helen received recognition in Kingston on April 26 when the Ministry gave her a pin in recognition of 27 years of volunteer service.
14. Hats off to the Ministry of Citizenship and Culture for recognition to several hardworking volunteers who help our Society.



15. Members of the Hastings County Historical Society who were honoured by the Ministry at the April 26th reception in Kingston's Holiday Inn were:

PAT BENNETT, for service as treasurer, president, chairperson of the cemetery recording committee, etc.

LOIS FOSTER
BETH GREEN } for research into heritage buildings and
MARY HALL } the publication of two booklets, as well
LOIS FOSTER } as other activities on the Society's behalf
ELAINE PRESTON)

On the recommendation of the Hastings County Museum, the following were honoured for their services:

JANET CLARE MARJ HODGSON SUSIE SHERRY
WIN DONALDSSON BETH PURDY ORMA SLACK

Other present and former members of the Society who were honoured for other activities included BARBARA CASS, AILEEN COLLINS, RODGER GREIG, HELEN HUTCHISON & NAN MORGAN. You should be proud of these and the many other volunteers who make the Society's activities possible.

16. Our GOOD CITIZEN AWARD for April went to the CENTRAL VOLUNTEER BUREAU BELLEVILLE Inc. Over the past several years the Volunteer Bureau has supported our activities by making appeals for volunteers to help us, co-sponsoring our "Images of the Past" photo-identification clinics in the Corby Library, giving publicity to our programs, etc. Thanks, Volunteer Bureau.

17. The mail has brought notes from several people. Thanks to PAT BENNETT, BETH GREEN, SHIRLEY BEAL, and MARY TUBBS, among others. From JOHN WANNAMAKER, secretary of the SEVENTH TOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY comes a detailed Annual Report outlining that society's many activities over the past 12 months. The society is to be congratulated and our members will have a chance to peruse the report at the May meeting. Unfortunately, the meeting nights for the two societies coincide, making it difficult for members to visit each other's meetings. Perhaps we can arrange a joint meeting next year.

Thanks also to John Wannamaker for his notes on his grandfather, who was a prospector from about 1855 to 1871 and took part in the Madoc Gold Rush.

18. We are pleased to report that BETSY BOYCE is making good progress as she recuperates at her son's house from her serious car accident last month. Betsy is our expert on the 1837 Rebellion, Mackenzie Bowell, the picture archives, etc. and we miss her friendly smile and constant support. We wish you well, Betsy.

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[Read the reverse side, then return this section with a cheque made payable to the Hastings County Historical Society by June 4, 1985.

Hastings County Historical Society, P.O. Box 1418, Belleville, K8N 5J1

YES . . . Please send me tickets for the bus excursion to Peterborough on Sunday, June 23, 1985. I enclose payment @ \$15 per ticket.

Name

Address [if different from mailing label on reverse side]

Telephone Number

19.

PIONEER CENTURY VILLAGE, LANG

By popular demand, the Hastings County Historical Society has arranged a BUS TOUR to the PETERBOROUGH AREA on SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 1985 . . . We plan to tour the MUSEUM OF THE TRENT-SEVERN WATERWAY in Peterborough in the morning and PIONEER CENTURY VILLAGE at Lang in the afternoon. The price of \$15 includes bus fare and admissions. The bus leaves from the Quinte Living Centre at 9:30 A.M. and returns in the late afternoon. Bring your picnic lunch. The public is welcome.

Bring your money to the May 21st meeting or send it to the Hastings County Historical Society, P.O. Box 1418, Belleville, Ontario, K8N 5J1, by June 4th. Make cheques payable to the Hastings County Historical Society. [If sending by mail, please use order form on the back of this page.]

Note: The first 47 people will be accepted. Send in your money soon to guarantee that the tour goes and that you go with it.

The organizing committee appreciates your support. Our trip to Lennox and Addington County two years ago was a decided success and we anticipate another successful tour on June 23rd.

The following information suggests some of the Sunday events you can expect to see:

most of the following) Demonstrations: Blacksmithing, Early Printing, Shingle-Sawing by steam power, Pioneer Baking, Carpentry, Candle-making, Pump Organ Playing, Spinning, etc. Other activities include: Horse & Buggy Rides, Keene Hotel Refreshments, Herb, Flower & Vegetable Gardens, Farm animals & machinery, etc. Be sure to visit the Lang Grist Mill (1846) & the Hope Sawmill (1875).

CENTURY VILLAGE, LANG, is a living museum village of over 20 restored and furnished homes and buildings, established by the County of Peterborough in 1967 to preserve and portray the history of the area from 1820 to 1899. Friendly Villagers dressed in historical costume will welcome you. Do bring your camera!



1820 - LIVING MUSEUM VILLAGE - 1899

Hope to see you on May 21, June 4, and June 23.

Gerry Bay

THIS EDITION OF
OUTLOOK from the
HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 1418, Belleville, Ont., K8N 5J1

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every reader
important news
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