



Outlook

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“What’s In Your Sewer?” Chuck Naphan Delivers The Goods



Chuck Naphan demonstrates how sewers were excavated in the old days before the backhoe. Damaged house foundations discouraged the practice of using dynamite. Society members Bobbi-Jo Morris and Mike Shaw were two among the crowd that literally filled the Quinte Living Centre meeting room to hear Chuck’s presentation on Belle-

“In the beginning there was the outhouse,” Chuck Naphan said. “Some were illuminated by moonlight and served as the family library. It’s where I learned to read the catalogue.”

So began Chuck’s humorous but fact-filled presentation on the topic “What’s In Your Sewer?:

True Stories About Belleville’s Mysterious Underground.” Chuck is with the City of Belleville Environmental and Operational Services and he delighted his Historical Society audience of over sixty people with funny stories, facts, and figures about life in the sewer.

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Capital Campaign Certificates of Appreciation

Certificates of Appreciation and Campaign Lapel Pins were issued to the following people at the September meeting of the Hastings County Historical Society in appreciation of their contribution of \$1,000 or more to the Capital Campaign currently underway for the new archives building on Church Street:

Gerry and Beverley Boyce
Bruce and Sylvia Cronk
Orland and Sylvia French
Richard and Marilyn Hughes
Bill and Milli Hunt
Jim and Nancy Langille
Hazel Lloyst
Katharine Mills
Doug and Mary Wilson

Volunteer Wanted

The HCHS Capital Campaign Headquarters is located at 208 Front Street where volunteers are on duty to greet visitors Tuesday through Friday 10:30 to 3:30. The Society needs another **volunteer or two** to staff the Wednesday or Thursday afternoon shift (1:00 to 3:30) on a regular basis each week. If you would like to volunteer please give us a call (see page 5).

**HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL BANQUET AND CELEBRATION OF HERITAGE**

GUEST SPEAKER

***SENATOR
MIKE DUFFY***



An Evening with Senator Mike Duffy

**Topic: The Political History
That Doesn't Get Written**

Mike Duffy honed his skills as a political commentator over several years with the CBC and later as host of the CTV program "Mike Duffy Live". In 2009, he was appointed to the Senate of Canada, representing his home province of Prince Edward Island.

RAMADA HOTEL BALLROOM

Saturday, October 29, 2011

Social Hour 6:00 pm, Dinner 7:00 pm

Tickets \$50

***Book Now: Tickets at Greenley's Book Store, Front Street, Belleville
Richard Hughes 613-961-7772, Vera Morton 613-966-4859***

***Proceeds to the Unlock the Archives
Discover Your Treasures
Capital Campaign***

Belleville boy James Bertram Collip Co-discoverer of Insulin



Courtesy of Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library - University of Toronto

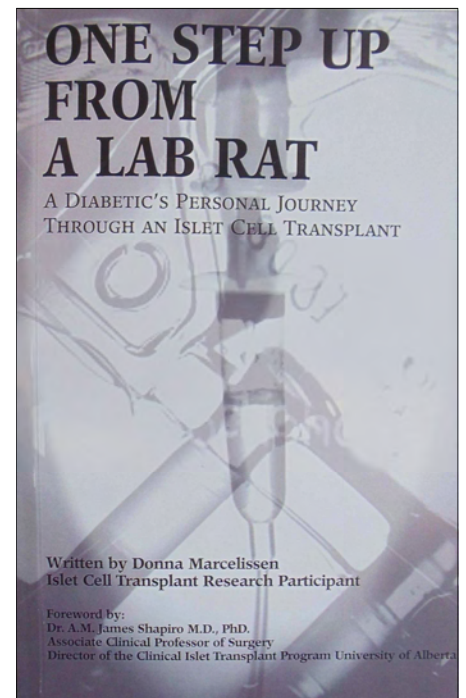
Over the past year Hastings County Historical Society member Dr. George Pearce has provided *Outlook* readers with insights into the career of James Bertram Collip and his collaboration with Frederick Banting and Charles Best in the discovery of

insulin. In this photo we see James as a young boy with his parents, James Denis and Mahala (May) Frances Collip.

Mahala Collip was a teacher. James Collip Sr. had been a market garden produce worker who

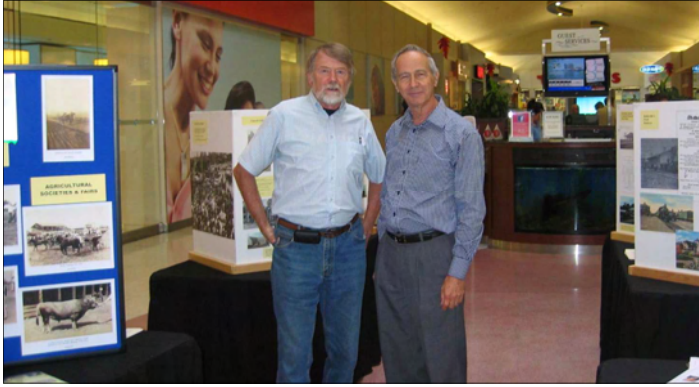
had become a florist and had employed others in that trade. Greenhouses were reportedly located in Thurlow Township and retail venues had been located on MacAnany Street and later on Front Street, across from Geen's. Delivery services were offered throughout the area.

In 2008 the book "Collip and Paulescu: Insulin's Unsung Heroes," by Francisc- Ion Dworschak and Constantin Ionescu-Tirgoviste was published. Currently there is no public recognition of Collip in Belleville. His contribution in the discovery of



Halloween in Belleville, 1905: The *Intelligencer* reported that due to damage created last year during Halloween, Council employed fifteen special policemen from 6 to 12 p.m. on Halloween night. And \$10.00 rewards were offered for vandals apprehended and convicted - notices to be posted.

Historical Society Does The Mall



In support of its Capital Campaign project for a new archives and public awareness of Hastings County history, the Hastings County Historical Society recently held an exhibit of photographs and documents at Quinte Mall. Society Treasurer Mike Shaw (left) and Vice-President Dick Hughes are seen here during their shift. They were two of the many Society volunteers who participated.

Among the exhibit's chief attractions were the photographs of old steam engines. An 1856 schedule for the Grand Trunk advertised Montreal to Toronto tickets for ten dollars. Many people whom volunteers talked to over the two days said they had relatives who had worked on the railroad. One woman recounted how a long time ago she and her friends

Pigs in the School Yard, Geese on the Loose!

Belleville Daily Intelligencer, September 1870:

“Whose business is it to look after the pigs? A drove of them in the Grammar School yard last evening soon converted a large portion of the green sward into the appearance of a ploughed field. Also a great deal of damage over the last two or three weeks to gardens and lawns. Geese are on the loose and the sidewalks on Taylor’s Hill are filthy.”

A scene reminiscent of the above is recorded in a drawing, circa 1880, of the Belleville Court House grounds on Pinnacle Street. The drawing is on display at the Society’s Capital Campaign Headquarters on Front Street, except that the pigs have been replaced by cows.

What’s In Your Sewer?

Cont’d from page 1

Belleville has 2,000 kilometres of underground pipe to handle sewage and rain water. It costs a million dollars a year to keep the city’s sewage system functional, and rehabilitation of its entire system would cost a quarter of a billion dollars. In Toronto two billion dollars for this purpose was spent on just four streets!

Tree roots and frost are two of the biggest enemies. In Belleville, where the average person uses one cubic metre of water per day, about two hundred sewers are dug up and fixed every year and a thousand are cleaned for roots. “In my lifetime the earth’s population has doubled and so has its output,” Chuck said, “and in the wake of industry came chemicals and food preservatives to add to the problem.”

Belleville’s current sewage treatment plant, which came online in 1961 and is staffed by just four people, handles 36,600 cubic metres of waste every twenty-four hours. That would more than fill a room 100 feet long by 36 feet wide by 10 feet high. All sewers run on gravity, some up to forty miles per hour. On any given day in Belleville it is calculated that sewer facility usage equates to access by 80,000 people.

Biosolids are a big issue for sewage disposal. Biosolids are a product of sewage sludge once it has undergone treatment to significantly reduce disease-carrying pathogens and volatile organic matter. Treated sewage sludges may contain such ingredients as nitrogen, sulphur, copper, zinc, boron, arsenic, cadmium, mercury and lead. Belleville and Trenton together produce about 45,000 cubic metres of biosolids each year.

Chuck’s Irish ancestors emigrated to Ontario nearly two hundred years ago, but as one member of his audience pointed out at the conclusion of his presentation, in all that time he had not lost the Irish storytelling spirit and had certainly made everyone in the room “privy” to a lot of information about a subject most of us scarcely give a thought to from one day to the next. Our thanks to Chuck for an informative and very entertaining evening.

Bill Kennedy



Historical Society Greet Visitors for Open Doors

The Hastings County Historical Society greeted close to 150 visitors at its Capital Campaign Headquarters on Front Street on September 10th during Belleville's "Doors Open" event. The Society was one of eighteen establishments that participated.

Among the Society's exhibits was one of David Thompson (1770-1857), North America's greatest geographer. Thompson, whose portrait above is based on descriptions provided by people who knew him, trekked 90,000 kilometres by horseback, dog-sled, canoe, and on foot in the

course of his surveying and mapping of North America - a distance the equivalent of circling the globe twice. Thompson died in poverty but his contributions to Canada's development are widely recognized. The exhibit will remain until the end of September.

Society members Doug and Mary Wilson (top photo) are shown standing in front of part of the Thompson exhibit. The lower photo shows some of the "Doors Open" visitors.

The Thompson exhibit closed at the end of September and has been replaced with a fascinating

The Hunt Family's Unknown Warriors

By Bill Hunt

Some members of my mother's family saw active service during the two great wars but, as far as I knew, none of my father's immediate family saw active service. My father's first cousin by marriage, Alan MacNabb, saw service in both wars and emerged from the Second World War with the rank of Major. But he wasn't a Hunt and I must admit that, as a youth, I admired Major MacNabb and wished that at least one Hunt had served in either of the great European conflicts. But, alas, it seemed we were a family of desk jockeys, farmers, and salesmen without any military tradition.

Then, when I was looking into the origin of the Hunt diabetic gene, I discovered that the Hunts did have a military tradition, indeed, quite an honourable one. My grandfather's older brother, John Hunt, had three sons, all of whom were in the Canadian army during World War II. (I wrote about John Hunt and his cartage business in an earlier edition of *Outlook*).

The oldest, Jack Hunt, was born in 1907. He enlisted in World War II but either because of his age or health, he was not sent overseas. At some point in his career as a volunteer fire fighter, Jack suffered permanent smoke damage to his lungs. He died of natural causes in September 1971.

However, his two younger brothers, William James Hunt and George Mervyn Hunt, along with their nephew, John David Lawson, saw a great deal of action in Europe. All three men enlisted on May 2, 1940. William Hunt enlisted in the 48th Highlanders but later transferred to the 14th Canadian Army Tank Regiment. Also known as the Calgary Tanks, the regiment was equipped with Churchill tanks, making it one of the best equipped regiments in the Canadian Army.

A compact man who trained as a butcher and was an Ontario government meat inspector before the war, Bill was promoted to corporal and put in charge of a Churchill tank he named the "Beefy Good"; he handled the forward gun of the tank. The Calgary Tanks was a Canadian Regiment involved in the Dieppe Raid of August 19, 1942, one of the worst allied dis-



Corporal William James Hunt with the cleft chin so common to the Hunts

asters of the war. There were twenty-seven Churchill tanks in the unit but only two of them made it off that deadly beach where so many Canadian casualties took place. Of 5,000 Canadian soldiers in the raid over sixty percent were either killed, wounded or taken prisoner.

Corporal Bill Hunt along with 1,941 Canadian soldiers was cap-



(L to R) Bill Hunt, his wife Margaret, Mervyn Hunt and Olive Lawson. Olive was the niece of Bill and Mervyn. Her brother John David Lawson was killed

tured by the Germans and spent the rest of the war in a prisoner-of-war camp. When he was liberated he was so malnourished he was kept in a London hospital for six months recuperating from his ill treatment.

The military record of George Mervyn Hunt is not totally clear; we do know he was part of the Allied invasion of Europe where, in December of 1944, he was awarded the Military Medal for valour in the field.*

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Unknown Warriors

Cont'd. from page 6



Sergeant Mervyn Hunt with his mother Christina and sister Isobel.



Private John David Lawson, a tall, lanky lad, had either just turned 18 or lied about his age

City Minutes, March 1929: Council agreed to engage James Babcock as “Public Scavenger for the City of Belleville” at \$100.00

After the war Sergeant Mervyn Hunt remained in the army, serving in the military police and eventually being sent to Korea as a member of the Special Force Water Party. When that conflict ended he served in various peacekeeping assignments, including stints in Egypt and the Middle East. When Mervyn Hunt finally retired from the service he had attained the rank of Company Sergeant-Major and held the following decorations and awards: Military Medal or M.M., Mentioned in Dispatches or M.I.D., C.D., and E.M. and Bar.

A lifelong bachelor, Mervyn Hunt lived with his sister Isobel in Collingwood where he served as president of Branch 63 of the Royal Canadian Legion. He died at the age of 67 from the effects of type one diabetes and complications arising from that disease.

John David Lawson, the son of Mary Hunt, was the youngest member of the trio that volunteered for overseas service on May 2, 1940. John served in the 48th Highlanders as a private and was part of the invasion in Sicily in the summer of 1943. Like many men from the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment, he was in the famous battle of the Moro River in Italy, one of the deadliest engagements of the war.

John David Lawson is buried in the Moro River Canadian War Cemetery high on a hill near the sea just east of the main Adriatic Coast road. At the time of his death he was twenty-one years old.

*I have sent for the military records of all four Hunts. On average it takes Archives Canada about six months to handle such requests.

Hunt family photos courtesy of Elaine and Kathy Findlay.

Tale from a Pinhole Village

By Orland French

On the last weekend of September the Society held an exhibit at Quinte Mall. It was manned by volunteers including Society President Orland French. He writes the following:

Genealogy is a small world.

Just as I was about to pack up at the end of my shift at the Mall on the evening of September 23 - the place almost deserted - along came a guy who started talking about researching relatives in a little place that was almost impossible to find on a map.

“It’s just a little pinhole of a place,” he grumbled.

I asked where that was and he said “Waverley.”

It’s not so hard to find, I grew up there. Who was he researching?

“The Drinkills,” he said.

“Drinkill?” I asked. “Or Drinkle? They spell it both ways.”

“D-R-I-N-K-I-L-L,” he said, “But some of them changed it to K-L-E.”

Of course I knew the Drinkills. Walter the Sunday School teacher and his son Reg the farmer and his son Graham, with whom I played in the old gravel pit when I was a kid, who went to Alberta to sell fire alarms.

“Some of them moved to Garafaxa,” my visitor said. “That’s really hard to find.”

I agreed. Garafaxa. Can’t even spell it.

—


Frances Scully
Historical Society lifetime member
Frances Scully passed away at Belleville General Hospital this past

BELLEVILLE AND HASTINGS COUNTY NEW COMMUNITY ARCHIVES



Capital Campaign Unlock The Archives

The architect's drawing of the soon to be new home of the community archives on Church Street. It shows the west section of the building as you look south toward the Bay of Quinte. A number of similar drawings showing different perspectives are posted at the Historical Society's Capital Cam-



Hastings County Historical Society Presentation

Special Guest Speakers:

Staff-Sgt. Tony MacKinnon and Mr. John Lowry
Of Belleville Police Service

Topic: Celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the Belleville Police Service

Colourful Tales from the History of the Belleville Constabulary

Hear intriguing stories from the early days of policing in our community along with information on key changes in the Service over the 19th, 20th and 21st Centuries.

Date: Tuesday October 18, 2011

Time: 7:30 pm
Location:
Quinte Living Centre Auditorium
370 Front Street, Belleville

Everyone Welcome, Bring a Friend

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY DIRECTORS

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Heritage Centre Phone No.	613-962-1110
Hastings County Historical Society is based at the old	

MEMBER ADDRESS