

Next Meeting

Tuesday, April 16 1996

Auditorium
Quinte Living Centre,
370 Front Street. Belleville

7:30 Coffee 8:00 Meeting Guest Speaker Jennifer Bunting Topic Showing True Colours:

Flags in Ontario

history Jennifer Bunting received her **Bachelor** of Arts degree at the University of Toronto and her Master of Arts from Kingston's Queen's University. She is the education coordinator for the Archivists Association of Ontario and was involved in the flag debate during the early 1960s. She is presently the archivist for the Lennox and Addington Museum in Napanee.

Outlook

Volume I Number 4

Issue number 134 April 1996

'twas the summer of 1863

Tales of a summer spent sailing

Members and guests of the Hastings County Historical Society were treated to a glimpse of life aboard a sailing ship during 1863 through an illustrated speech given by society member Archie Lamonte on Tuesday, March 19. Mr. Lamonte, who is himself an accomplished sailor, came across the diary which described the various stops made by the crew of the Breeze as it toured Lake Ontario; the talk concentrated on the eastern end of the lake.

Mr. Lamonte came across the journal after it was inherited by a friend in Toronto; Archie has carefully transcribed the contents of the diary and has enhanced it with his own observations. He hopes to be able to publish the work at some future date.

Archie began his talk about the adventures of the Breeze and its crew, which was composed of Lt. Henry Baines, two artillery officers, and a small crew, while a screen displayed reproductions of drawings and maps from the diary. The first highly detailed map struck this writer with its quality; one could clearly see such familiar landmarks as the Finger Lakes in northern New York State as well as our own Bay of Quinte and local lakes and rivers. Throughout his talk slide followed slide each with the same attention to detail-detail

which still shone through after more than a century.

It was customary for 19th century artillery officers to be adept at picturing the sights they saw, thus it is no great surprise that scenes from around the lake are quite meticulously rendered. Any one of the colour plates from the book would have been suitable for framing.

Unfortunately, said Mr. Lamonte, there is no mention of Belleville. To enter the Bay of Quinte and head for the city, the *Breeze* and her crew would have had to sail around Prince Edward County and come in from the east; the Murray Canal would not be built until the mid-1880s.

Perhaps nothing about Lake Ontario is a surprising as its sudden changes of mood. One picture showed the men of the *Breeze* fishing on the shore of a placid Presqu'ile. The next watercolour showed the ship tossed about on an angry lake. Although all is dark around the tiny vessel, there is a halo of light in the distance—the two

faces of the lake.

Another picture which must have made the architecture buffs in the audience sit up and take notice was the view of the village of Consecon; from his vantage point on the ship, the artist could see the spire of the church. The diary's descriptions of the hamlet could still serve as a guide for anyone wishing to know how the village is laid out and even points up some of its still familiar buildings. Much has changed in the 133 years since Baines and the Breeze visited but much has remained the same.

After visiting Picton, the *Breeze* headed for Sackets Harbor in New York. There the intrepid crew wandered about almost as if they were spies according to the diarist. One of the interesting sites they visited was the hulk of an 1812 warship. The Rush Bagot Treaty had effectively eliminated ships of war on the Great Lakes and halted the building of this large vessel. Baines and the crew toured the *Continued on page 2*.



From the editor's bookshelf by Lewis Zandbergen Casselman's Canadian Words

written by Bill Casselman reference, illustrated, 224

pages,

published by Copp Clark

If you've ever wondered how particular Canadian words and sayings evolved, there's a new book out which will answer most of your questions and even provide answers for a few questions you hadn't dared ask. Canadian English is slowly evolving into a separate entity from the Mother Tongue; I'm not so sure I like it and I will do anything in my tenuous power to preserve English, but it's an inevitable fact of life. Sprinkled into Canadian are words which have been borrowed from other languages and given a twist which then makes them our own.

There are 21 chapters in this 224-page book covering the gamut from Novelties to Folk Sayings and Food to History. Under the heading Occupations

I found a couple I particularly like. "hog reeve" and "rock doctor." A hog reeve is a historical municipal office in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Literally a hog reeve was to collect stray pigs and assess any damages done

I can't go into a great deal of detail about the chapter entitled Naughty Bits for suffice it to say most of the language although tame by most schoolyard standards, could not be repeated in polite company. The author does how-

"His cookin' is so bad the flies are takin' up a collection to mend the hole in the screen door." Canadian Prairie saying

"Dirty as a duck's puddle"; "Deaf as a haddock." Newfoundland folk sayings

by the swine; the author notes: "The job definition was never extended, unfortunately to encompass damage done by municipal officials." A rock doctor is a playful bit of Canadian mining slang which refers simply to a geologist.

ever, subtitle the chapter "Vulgar words but in a well-mannered Canadian presentation that would not embarrass an Anglican vicar ..." Enough said.

My favourites in the whole book have to be Efisga, Ursalia, Colonia, Vesperia, Tuponia, and Cabotia. They may not sound familiar to anyone but those of us who are historians, but believe it or not, around 1867, they were under consideration as names for this grand dominion of ours. The author has added another I hadn't heard before—Mesopelagia: it sounds like a disease but is actually Greek for "the land between the seas."

For definitions of the other possible names you'll have to read the book.

Not only is Casselman's Canadian Words a rollicking good reference book for anyone in love with languages and the way in which words are formed, you might just learn something.

"O Mesopelagia, our home and native land ..."

Nope, it just wouldn't sound

Rochester cemetery featured radical new "layouts"

Continued from page 1.

boat which had been ensconced inside a barn of a building to protect it from the elements for while not being able to finish it, its builders were also loath to set fire to their handiwork and destroy it. One of Baines' men remarked that he had tested several of the timbers with his pocket knife and found them to be completely rotten; he seemed to take a certain amount of satisfaction in the fact. It was also the middle of the American Civil War and the crew found Sackets Harbor a rather dismal place. Also noted was the degree of pollution evident near the mouths of rivers emptying into Lake Ontario.

The crew of the *Breeze* also made a stop in Rochester, New York. There they took a tour of the recently laid out Mount Hope Cemetery and remarked on the curious arrangement of one family plot in which graves were laid out like the spokes of a wheel.

After the Rochester stop, the *Breeze* and her crew returned to Toronto, satisfied they had spent a summer well worth remembering.

On May 23, 1865, Baines left Toronto and accepted a posting

to Quebec City. The Quebec City fire which had destroyed over 2,000 homes in the suburbs of St. Roche and St. Sauveur occurred on October 14; Baines led a demolition crew which was clearing rub-

ble and was injured in a premature explosion. He died there on October 27, 1866.

Mr. Lamonte was thanked for his tales of life aboard the *Breeze* on behalf of the society by Tom Allison.

Birthday of the month:

Thomas D'Arcy McGee. Born April 13, 1825, in Carlingforde, Ireland. Immigrated to Canada in 1842 during the "Potato Famines." worked

as a newspaperman. Returned to Dublin in 1845. After the Young Ireland Party Revolt of 1848, he fled Ireland disguised as a priest. He went to the United States and worked in New York and Boston, then in Buffalo. In 1857 he moved to Montreal and as editor of The New Era urged the formation of an independent Canada. Entered Canadian Parliament in 1858, was president of council 1862-63 and minister of Agriculture from 1864-67. Shot and killed by Fenian sympathizer P. J. Whelan on April 7, 1868.



County News by Gerry Boyce

J.L. Tickell revisited - It's appreciated when readers respond to items. Last month we quoted *The Bancroft Times* "Times Traveller" column relating to the appointment in 1905 of J.L. Tickell of Belleville as "inspector of anatomy for West Hastings." We wondered what was involved.

A call from Dr. J. Russell Scott brought an answer. J. L. Tickell was Joe Tickell, Belleville furniture manufacturer and undertaker, and the father of Josephine Tickell. His role as "inspector of anatomy" was to take care of unclaimed bodies. These might be sent to universities for examination by medical students or they would be buried (at the municipality's expense) in Potter's Field. Inspectors appointed in the last century need not be medical doctors, and Tickell's role as undertaker made him a logical choice. In this century, the duties of coroner and inspector of anatomy have been combined and doctors have filled the combined role. Dr. Scott is well acquainted with the role; he was Tickell's successor and served as coroner and inspector of anatomy for Hastings County for 40 years, before being succeeded by Dr. Bill Bates. Incidentally, Dr. Scott added that undertaker Tickell had a habit of looking people up and down (as if measuring) when he met them.

Trenton Covered Bridge -Peter Johnson, UE, of Scarborough, (the Dominion Genealogist for the United Empire Loyalist Association) sends an interesting newspaper article relating to the covered bridge at Trenton, the subject of a pamphlet published by this society in 1980. His article deals with noted Sidney Township resident Matthias Marsh's petition to government (February 6, 1801) asking that an oak and pine bridge be built across the mouth of the Trent River. Marsh offered to build an 18-foot-wide bridge in one year for 1,600

pounds Halifax. It would be guaranteed for four to five years, unless it happened to be struck by a very large raft. Since a bridge was not erected until the 1830s, it was apparent the government did not grant Marsh's request. Our thanks to Peter for sending the article and a copy of the 1801 petition; they will be placed in our archives in the Corby Library.

John Street Church - Another fascinating donation to our archives comes from the family of the late William Youdale. It's a set of documents and plans relating to John Street United Church in Belleville. Erected as John Street Presbyterian Church

Years, his excellent history of Bridge Street United/Methodist Church.

Great news from Trenton - The Trent Port Historical Society has made such progress in work on the town hall that the society's two most recent meetings were held in the building. Hats off to the volunteers.

Marmora History - "Marmora's History Flooding In" was the front page headline in The Marmora Herald. Since the opening of the new facility of the Marmora Historical Foundation above the library, there have been many donations. These include photographs, family histories, books and calendars. The Herald included a photo of the General Store, owned by George William Bleeker in the last century and now housing the Coachlight Restaurant. Marmora seniors included a tour of the Heritage Centre as a highlight of their

played a central part in the restoration of the tower of the Anglican church, with the cupola on the village's municipal offices and the new cupola at the four corners.

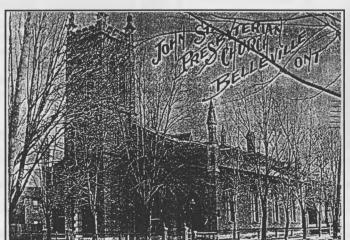
The 1st Madoc Guides held a Heritage Uniform Fashion Show to celebrate Thinking Day Week (and Heritage Week). It included Guide and Brownie uniforms from 1910 to the present; an excellent idea!

Madoc Historical Society presented a framed picture of the Madoc Model School to Madoc Public School Grade 3 teacher Sharon Danford; a nice gesture! Tweed History - "Hectic—but rewarding," was how Evan Morton described events at the Heritage Centre operated by the Tweed & Area Historical Society. Collections continue to grow and visitors come in growing numbers; another example of a successful heritage project.

Belated news - Mohawk physician Oronhyateka (aka "Burning Cloud" or Peter Martin) was honoured in November 1995 by the Toronto Historical Board with a plaque in Toronto's Allan Gardens. This former resident of Frankford, Napanee, and the Tyendinaga Territory, was described as "an incredible person." Amazing - Last month we commented about the contribution by Dr. James Bertram Collip to the purification of insulin in the treatment of diabetes. The Regional magazine of the Canadian Diabetes Association notes: "He was born in Belleville High School he received his B.A. in Honor Physiology and Biochemistry at Toronto..." Indeed amazing!

Illegal smokes - From Barney Moorhouse's "Times Traveller" column in *The Bancroft Times*, this note from August 1905: "Hugh Reid, a young lad, was found guilty at Belleville before Magistrate (J.J.B. Flint) of buying cigarettes for minors and was fined \$10." We must have Barney speak to our society

Help - There's a lone tombstone at the former St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Cemetery (adjacent to St. Andrew's on Church Street, Belleville). It honours Alexander Brown (age 82, died September 16, 1848) and George G. Brown (age 34, died July 19, 1855). Can you provide information on these men or the disposition of the cemetery's other markers? Call Gerry at 968-5023.



The original John Street Presbyterian Church, Belleville.

credit The St. Andrew's Chronicles by Gerald Boyce

in 1851-52, the church was badly damaged by fire on October 31, 1936. The congregation was faced with four options, option "A" being to rebuild the church according to submitted plans. The Youdale heirs presented a set of these pencil plans (including sketches). They were the work of William A. Watson, Belleville architect and early supporter of our society. Given the depressed times and the presence of two other United churches only a block or two apart, the congregation voted not to rebuild, but rather to disband. The Reverend Bill Lamb records the disbanding of the congregation in Bridging the March meeting.

New book - André Philpot (Marmora reeve, historian and a director of the Ontario Heritage Foundation) is to be congratulated for his heritage activities. We're delighted to see his article "Looking back to a village gone dry" a look at temperance, prohibition, prostitution, and other features of like in the early years of this century. André is working on a new book about Marmora during the first half of this century.

Madoc Heritage - Tom Barton has been honoured by the Madoc Heritage Foundation. He received the Heritage Appreciation Award for his contributions. In particular he



Your County Museum

257 Bridge Street East, Belleville, Ontario, K8N 1P4 (613) 962-2329

purpose.

Service Award:

Wetland Creatures and the Art and Science of Taxidermy Exhibit

Opens April 23 This exhibit features the work of Dave Mitchell.

taxidermy work of the 19th century. Trent Port

Historical Society is kindly lending pieces for this

Volunteer Week - April 22 - 26

We would like to acknowledge the continuing efforts

of all of our volunteers. Without their generous donations of time and effort we could not provide the level

try of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation Volunteer

service to the community which we now offer. The following have been nominated for the Minis-

Quinte Taxidermy. Visitors will see

waterfowl, owls and many other

preserved creatures. We will be

contrasting present day work with

Kingston Debut of the x-ray The 100th anniversary of the first use of x-rays in Kingston

New exhibit marks the

will be celebrated with a special exhibit and public programme at Kingston General Hospital (KGH).

"Medical Technology in the Early 20th Century - the Advent of x-rays" will bring to life the discovery and nature of x-rays, and review the contribution of KGH Superintendent Dr. James



German physicist Wilhelm Röntgen discovered x-rays in 1895. This photo of Röntgen's wife's x-rayed hand is believed to have been the first x-ray photo ever produced and recorded for history.

Third, a leading practitioner of radiographic diagnosis radiation and therapy in the early 1900s. Visitors will also see an early xray machine and some of the first medical applications of x-rays. The exhibit is sponsored by the Museum of Health Care for Eastern Ontario and

takes place Thursday, May 23, 1996, the centenary of the first medical x-ray taken in Kingston, at 4:30 p.m.

Etherington Hall Lecture Theatre, Queen's University, Stuart Street. A talk by Physician/Historian Dr. Charles Hayter on the development of x-rays will be followed by a viewing of the display in the KGH Hall of Honour. The Museum of Health Care for Eastern Ontario is also hosting an open house that day, 2 to 8 p.m. in the Ann Baillie Building, George Street.

A limited number of tours outlining the x-ray's history will also be scheduled throughout the next year.

The exhibit runs until June 1997. For more information, call the Museum of Health Care for Eastern Ontario, (613) 549-6000, ext. 3137.

Dinosaurs Downtown Exhibit at Century Place

> May 3 - August 6 We are taking bookings for group tours of this exhibit. Please call 962-2329 for information.



The official opening

The awards will be presented in Kingston in May. We gratefully acknowledge the contributions of the Museum Auxiliary. Through their fund-raising efforts the Museum was able to have a self-portrait of Harriet Phillips (original owner of Glanmore) restored. The portrait was conserved by Amanda Gray of Kingston, and it will be an important interpretive addition to the site.

Gerry Boyce 25 years Margaret Wiggins 25 years Lois Wishart 25 years Helen Horne 15 years Penny Smith 15 years Katharine Mills 10 years Lorne Albertson 5 years

Outlook is published monthly for the Friends and **Members of the Hastings County Historical Society**

1996 (ZB)

Beverley Boyce 173 Bridge Street East Belleville Ontario **K8N 1N3**