



The CABHC Patch

News from the Community Archives

The War is Over

After four years of war, Hastings County was ready to celebrate when the Armistice was declared on November 11th, 1918.

The news arrived in Belleville at 4.00 a.m. and Mayor Dr. Edward Platt shared the news by arranging to have the City Hall bell sounded. Church bells and steam whistles of local factories joined in, and the citizens of the city "began to pour out in the streets cheering and blowing horns and generally rejoicing" according to *The Daily Intelligencer*. "Bonfires were soon burning merrily at street corners while gaily decorated automobiles and marching groups signified the universal joy that the greatest war in history was over..."

November 2018



Front St. Nov 11th 1918

CABHC: HC09368

Dr. Ackerill's bulldog carrying a flag on a car in a parade of decorated motor vehicles on Front Street in Belleville

CABHC: Daily Intelligencer November 11th, 1918

Mayor Platt declared the day a public holiday, and at 11.00 a.m. an interdenominational Victory Peace Service was held on the Court House lawn. At 1.30 p.m. a parade of soldiers, citizens, decorated automobiles, and bands marched from Market Square to the Armouries for speeches. Plans for the evening included "fireworks and general rejoicing".

Recent Additions to the Archives

2018-118 Photographs taken by Marjorie Buck, 1990-2005

2018-119 Photographs and text of *Historic Hastings, Volume Two* by Gerry Boyce, 2012

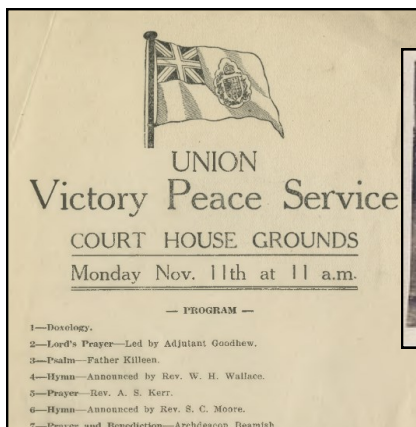
2018-120 Benson family photographs, c.1900-1920

2018-122 Ontario Business College exercise books used by Cyrus Fulford, 1917

2018-123 Scans of photographs of Belleville Fire Chief Gerald Vance and Captain Allen Vance, c.1950-1980

What's in the Display Case?

This month's display looks at the end of the First World War.



Program for Belleville's Victory Peace Service, 11 November 1918

CABHC: TR 2215



Canadian Expeditionary Force soldiers assembling in Ham-sur-Sambre in Belgium for the return to England, December 1918.

CABHC: HC02227

On the Home Front

The anniversary of the end of the First World War also marks the end of a major project which has been going on in the Community Archives since 2014. Archives volunteer Laurel Bishop has been sharing stories from Belleville's First World War newspapers in a series of 1,045 blog posts. The completion of this project has been a tremendous achievement. You can read all Laurel's posts and follow the progress of the war by heading to:

<http://cabhc.ca/category/intelligencer-ww1-local-news/?order=asc>

Congratulations, Laurel, on the creation of an invaluable local history resource!

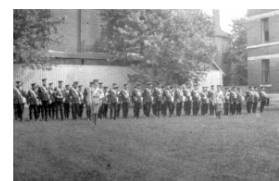
100 Years Ago: 15th Regiment Boys Answer the Call

The Intelligencer August 23, 1914 (page 1)

"Hundreds of citizens of all ranks gathered at the Armouries at the noon hour to bid the boys adieu ... each member of the contingent was called and presented by Mrs. Col. Marsh with a sovereign piece the gift of the city. They were also given \$4 each, the gift of the officers of the regiment. ... The ladies of the Daughters of the Empire presented to each volunteer sandwiches for the trip to Valcartier. Before leaving the parade ground at the Armouries the volunteers were lined up and a photograph of them was taken. ...

The crowd that gathered at the station to see the boys off packed the platform on all sides. Mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, sweethearts, showing evidence of sorrow, one mother, who must look after two little grandchildren, bearing up nobly under the strain.

The scene as the volunteers marched to the station, was pathetic, yet heart-thrilling, the bagpipes playing a Scotch air, tears flowing, hats waving, others shouting, and then came the entrainment - the shaking of hands through the car windows, the boys bearing up bravely under the trying ordeal. The last good-bye was spoken, and the train moved away."



Men of the 15th Regiment line up by the Griffon Opera House on the Belleville Armoury parade square.



Men of the 15th Regiment pictured in front of the Hotel Quinte, Belleville leaving for Valcartier

