



Outlook

Volume 15 Issue 6 September 2010

www.hastingshistory.ca

Issue Number 253



A Hundred Thousand Dollar Challenge!

By Orland French
President, HCHS

It's crunch time.

A while ago the Historical Society challenged the City of Belleville and the County of Hastings to share in the creation of a new community archives.

They have responded by purchasing the Irish Hall on Church Street for the archives location, by allotting funds for renovations, and by hiring Sharon

White as the full-time archivist to oversee the archives operation.

Furthermore, Mark Fluhrer and his staff in the city's recreation, culture and community services department have been very co-operative in keeping this project moving forward.

Now it's up to us to meet our obligations. We raised the challenge – now we must follow through.

The project's overall cost is estimated at \$900,000. So far we have the equivalent of \$500,000 – that's half a million dollars, folks! – in the bank. There's \$300,000 in the building, another \$100,000 in municipal funds designated for renovations, and

\$100,000 of Historical Society funds available.

An application has been made to the Trillium Foundation for another \$300,000 over two years.

The balance will come from a public subscription campaign organized by the Hastings County Historical Society. That's us. The bottom line in our fund-raising is \$100,000, although we would like to aim for \$200,000 for contingencies: Trillium may not deliver as much as we would like, other costs may arise, more equipment can always be purchased for the archives. For instance, space-saving rolling shelving could cost up to \$100,000. *(cont'd. on page 2)*

Archive Angel Heritage Presentations



Wearing their "Archives Are Forever" tee shirts the Hastings Heritage Centre Archive Angel volunteers made their *Treasures of the Archives* presentation at the Historical Society's meeting in May. Under the leadership of Gerry Boyce (top left) the Archive Angels and other volunteers

meet regularly at the Heritage Centre to review and organize archival materials and get involved in historical events such as Canada Day and UEL commemorative activities. If you would like to be a volunteer and have fun learning about our past contact the Society.

Flora MacDonald Guest Speaker At HCHS November 2010 Banquet

Former MP and candidate for leadership of the Progressive Conservative party of Canada, Flora MacDonald is this year's guest speaker at the Historical Society's annual fall banquet. Since leaving office in 1988 she has devoted herself to the cause of international human rights, particularly in Afghanistan. (See page2).

Banquet tickets (\$50.00) are available from **Richard Hughes 613-961-7772, Vera Morton 613-966-4859, and Greenley's Book Store, 258 Front Street, Belleville.**

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



GUEST SPEAKER

FLORA MacDONALD

P.C., C.C., O. Ont., O. N.S.

on

The Other News From Afghanistan

Efforts to Build Peace Through Social Development

Flora MacDonald is deeply involved in developing social projects in Afghanistan to improve daily life in that war-torn country. Her presentation will focus on efforts to stimulate and encourage self-sufficiency on the part of the Afghan people. It's a story of what one influential Canadian can do to better the lives of people half a world away.

RAMADA HOTEL BALLROOM

Saturday, November 6, 2010

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

**Book now: Richard Hughes 613-961-7772, Vera Morton,
613-966- 4859 & Greenley's Book Store, 258 Front**

Proceeds to the Community Archives Development Fund

A Hundred Thousand Dollars

Cont'd. from page 1

We need help on two fronts. One is from your wallets, the other is from your talents. Some of you may have experience in fund-raising. We need your help, not necessarily for fund-raising but creating and organizing a fund-raising committee. Your president, Orland French, and vice-president, Richard Hughes, are babes in the woods in this sort of endeavour.

Some of you have indicated that you would like to give substantial amounts towards the archives when the time was right. Others are willing to give lesser amounts.

Well, the time is right, right now. Not next month or next year. Now. The more money we can collect in hard cash or in pledges before we go public, the more solid our campaign will



Archives future home on Church Street

sound. Spread the word to others. Remember, we and our partners already have half a million dollars committed to this project. We need to come through on our promise.

Of course, donors will receive recognition and a tax receipt.

If there is any way you can help, contact Orland French at 613-969-8354 or ofrench@lks.net, or Richard Hughes at 961-7772 or rmhughes@cogeco.ca. All ideas for fund-raising will be welcomed.

We issued the challenge. Now let's live up to it.

Canada Day Prizes

Each year the Hastings County Historical Society participates in Canada Day festivities at Zwicks Island Park and offers prizes for winners of its events such as the scavenger hunt, checker games and puzzle solvers. Here are the winners and the prize donors for this year.

Scavenger Hunt

George Gosling, winner of a Hagstrom acoustic guitar courtesy of Pinnacle Music Studios.

Katrina Amos, winner of an MP3 Player courtesy of Red Ball Radio.

Tina Cooney, MP3 Player courtesy of Red Ball Radio.

Emily Shortell, winner of local book package including "Belleville: A Popular History" courtesy of Hastings County Historical Society.

Matthew Coffey, winner of gift card for car check courtesy of Good Year.

Checker Game and Puzzle Draw

Mr. and Mrs. Ernie (& Betty M.) Horton, winners of a family membership in the HCHS.

Ryan McPherson, winner of a Metro gift card courtesy of Metro.

Kianna Myles, winner of a Stephen Licence gift certificate, courtesy of Stephen Licence Ltd.

Canada Day ~ The Anniversary of an Important Event

By Gerry Boyce



Gerry Boyce

Today we are celebrating the anniversary of an important event in Canadian history: Confederation - the uniting of four British colonies to form the Dominion of Canada.

It would be an even more important event for us today had Belleville become the capital of Canada.

In earlier years, the politicians in the United Province of Canada (as Ontario and Quebec were known from 1841 to 1867) were trying to agree on a permanent capital. From 1841 to 1859, there were 218 votes in parliament relating to this matter and several cities were considered - notably Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa (known as Bytown until 1855), Kingston, Toronto, and even Cornwall.

Belleville residents submitted a petition suggesting Belleville as a logical choice. There were 6,000 residents, an expanding industry (including bustling lumber mills and foundries), a major railway centre and Albert College.



These young boys celebrate Canada Day aboard a WWII Bren Gun Carrier while a uniformed interpreter looks on. The military venue is a regular July 1 feature and is ever popular with this age group. In the tent to the right of the photo is a display of various firearms and helmets. There are six boys visible or partly visible on the Carrier. Can you find the sixth one? All of the photos in this issue can be seen in colour on our website.

Unfortunately, the petition was not submitted through proper channels and so it was not considered.



Gerry Boyce addresses a group of Canada Day participants at the Historical Society's exhibit in the Tom Gavey pavilion. The guitar was one of the a scavenger hunt prizes.

Local members of parliament then supported Kingston's bid, but Ottawa was selected (largely as a result of the Canadian Governor General Sir Edmond Head's opinion that Ottawa was "the least objectionable place.")

On the eve of Confederation in 1867, local attention was more focused on the possible attack by Fenians - Irish Americans who hoped to capture Canada and exchange it for Ireland's independence. Armed Irish-Americans openly drilled in several American cities and the American government seemed reluctant to stop their activities.

In 1865 the First Hastings Rifles and the 15th Battalion of the Argyll Light Infantry were called out to defend the country. For five months, local militia stood on guard at Amherstburg.

In 1867, Belleville was preparing to welcome a detachment of British regulars. Town Council decided that it would move to the second story of the engine house (now Bren's Bake Shop) from its second story location over the old market building on the market square so that the local troops might move into the former council chambers and British regulars could move into the 15th Battalion Armouries on Church Street.

Cont'd. on page 4

Canada Day *Cont'd. from page 3*

With such excitement locally, Council paid little attention to the approach of Confederation. However, a week before July 1, Council set aside \$250 to provide the citizens of the area “with the largest amount of amusement and entertainment on that day.”



The organ grinder turns a merry melody!

A military volley followed and the band of the 15th Battalion played God Save the Queen.

The Intelligencer reporter noted that “the remainder of the day passed off very quietly, there being no display of fireworks in the evening.” The next day, the Intelligencer lamented that “The birthday of our new Dominion was not celebrated in Belleville with the spirit which should have been shown on the occasion.”



Separated by a mud pit participants square off in a mighty tug of war!



Sharon White plants Historical Society scavenger hunt signs. Prize winners are named on page 2.

July 1 celebrations began at midnight with the firing of the cannon on the Courthouse hill. At 9:00 a.m. the Moira Company Band played on the Courthouse steps, followed by a parade from the armouries to the Courthouse. Mayor Henry Corby read the proclamation creating the Dominion of Canada.

Hats off to the organizers and citizens of Belleville and area for this much improved 2010 celebration of Confederation.

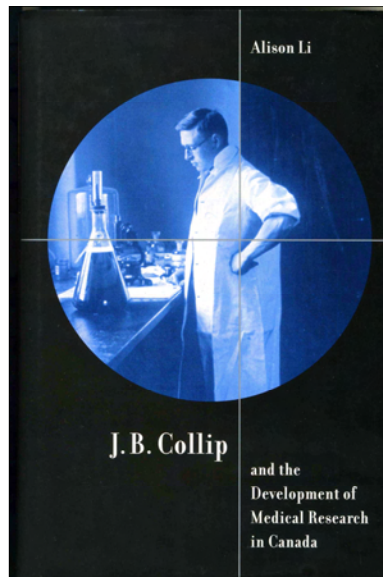


Canada Day participants happily consume a huge Canadian flag birthday cake celebrating the country's 143rd year.

Canada Day Photos by Nick White

Belleville's James Bertram Collip Medical Research Scientist Insulin Discovery Collaborator

By George Pearce



July 2010 presented an opportunity for Hastings County Historical Society member and volunteer research worker, George Pearce, to visit Edmonton, Alberta where James Bertram Collip (J.B.C.) began his career as a “lecturer” at the University of Alberta, circa 1914 - 15.

The purpose of the visit was to accumulate archival material from that area to place in a

J.B.C. file here at the Belleville and Hastings County Archives that is currently in the redevelopment phase.

In addition, the information might serve as a future data base for a recommendation from HCHS to Heritage Belleville to consider a commemorative for James Collip
Cont'd. on page 5



Commemorating Belleville's United Empire Loyalist Monument



Historian James Maracle (left), Town Crier Bruce Bedell (centre), Past President, United Empire Loyalists Association of Canada, Peter Johnson (right), and Brian Tackaberry, President of Quinte Branch, UEL Association were on hand this past June for the annual commemoration of the Loyalist Monument in Belleville. June 19th was designated "Loyalist Day" over a decade ago thanks to the efforts of former MPP Harry Danford. Other UEL Branches around the province also observe similar ceremonies.

Photos: Doug Knutson

Collip

Cont'd. from page 4

who is well respected in medical research organizations as probably Canada's most outstanding medical research figure of the twentieth century. (Background literature has been provided in an earlier submission).

In addition to those references, the book titled "J.B. Collip, and the Development of Medical Research in Canada" by Alison Li has now been received and is being studied. The book's subtitle is "Extracts and Enterprise" (published circa 2003), McGill-Queens Press.

It appears that history has somewhat understated the role of Collip, a rather shy and reserved person, with respect to his importance among the insulin collaborators who made their discoveries in Toronto in 1921 - 22.

J.B.C.'s daughter told the writer that her father always stated — "he sought knowledge rather than fame." (Telephone conversation with Dr. Barbara Collip [Mrs. C.J. Wyatt] and Dr. George Pearce, June 23, 2010). Furthermore, J.B. Collip always maintained that historians would clarify controversial matters in time.

Collip's profile has been elevated by medical historians

such as G. Lloyd Stevenson, Michael Bliss, Alison Li, Francis Dworshak and others who have written books and articles about him and which have noted the roles of earlier researchers regarding the role of the pancreas in diabetes.

It seems that the Nobel Award in Medicine and Physiology in 1923 did not cover the efforts of Collip adequately. However, this is gradually being amended by historians.

With the foregoing in mind this writer welcomed the opportunity to visit Edmonton and gather archival material from the location of Collip's early employment.

It was possible on this visit to meet with Alberta's representative on the "Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada," Dr. Roderick Charles Macleod, and with Ray V. Rajotte, Professor of Surgery and Medicine, and Director Surgical Medical Research Institute. These men hold appointments at the University of Alberta and assisted with suggestions and references. Visits were also possible to University of Alberta Archives, Province of Alberta Archives, Offices of the Alberta Medical Association, and Edmonton Public Library. The information collected is being reviewed and will be available shortly.

Billa Flint House ~ Belleville

Heritage on the Moira River By Lindi Pierce



The Billa Flint home on Coleman Street just north of Dundas Street with Belleville City Hall tower in the background. *Photo: Lindi Pierce*

On a recent bicycle tour in the area immediately west of the Moira River, Belleville, I took several photos of an old brick house, boarded up and overgrown, protected from the adjacent development site for the new courthouse by a steel fence. Depressing as it first seems, this image is in fact a source of optimism for me.

The photograph (above) shows the 1835 home of one of Belleville's prominent businessmen, Billa Flint. Looming behind the house (in front, actually, and across the river from it in this photo, is Belleville's 1874 City Hall, much "grander" and certain to be preserved for years to come. In the photo's foreground are long-empty lots, formerly the site of the Springer Lock Company buildings that I remember from my rare Belleville visits as a child. The Flint house

was used as offices by the company.

The Good News is the story of a narrow escape! Gerry Boyce, Heritage Centre curator and author, mentioned in passing one day that Lois Foster, a local historic structures expert with the HCHS and a long-time member of the Archive Angel team of volunteers, researched the house and saved it from certain demolition by discovering its links to Billa Flint, an important figure in Belleville's history. Had she not done so I suspect the crews currently preparing this area for construction would not be working carefully around this little, riverside Georgian house with its distinctive parapet gables and wide chimneys.

A building less fortunate is the 1875 Methodist-Episcopal church in Picton. As I write this

it is in the process of being demolished - or I should say partly demolished as the demolition was stopped, temporarily, when it was discovered that not all the necessary permits had been obtained. A photograph in the local newspaper showed the west wall demolished and the interior exposed.

One has only to visit the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario "Buildings at Risk" pages to read countless similar stories. The term "demolition by neglect" is heard. Buildings are left to deteriorate, thereby muting public outcry when the wrecking ball finally does its job. Many owners of heritage properties make valiant attempts to save them but without the required support are frequently unsuccessful.

What's Happening In the Archives?

It's been a busy summer in the Society's Archives. The planning and preparations for the move to the new home on Church Street continue, and there has been a lot of activity at the Cannifton Heritage Centre.

Beginning in July, I started working at the Heritage Centre on Mondays and Thursdays, and the Centre is now open to the public from 1 to 4 pm on both these days. Gerry Boyce and the Archive Angels continue their Monday afternoon workshops and some volunteers also come in on Thursdays (new volunteers are always welcome!). One of the main jobs for the summer has been to organize the space and equipment in the municipal rooms and the Great Hall. We have a new row of shelving, which is very helpful with the sort-out.

I am pleased that we are making this progress on the physical side of things. The Archives has also begun a scanning program, using the new computers and database, received some interesting new donations, and continues to answer research questions and help our community celebrate their heritage.

Yes, it's been a busy summer, and it doesn't look like things are slowing down through the fall and winter. *Sharon White, Archivist*

A Hearty “Neiiigh” for the Northumberland County Bus Tour!

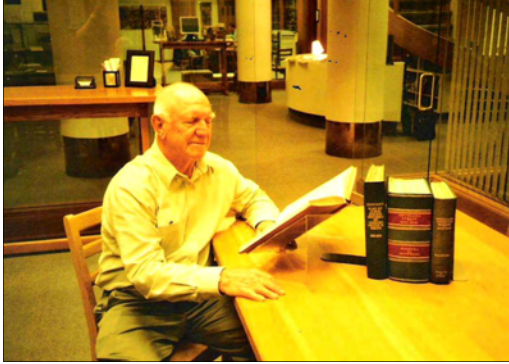


Readers of the March issue of this newsletter will recall an article by bus tour organizer Bill Hunt (standing on the bridge, left, with Nick White) about an upcoming trip in June to Northumberland County. We are pleased to report that the sold out tour was a big success, as any tour that visits a brewery located in a former church, a chocolate factory and a painted-

horse carousel should be! The bridge Bill and Nick are standing on is the 300 foot long suspension bridge over the Ranney Gorge. Belleville Archivist Sharon White looks over her shoulder at the photographer as her horse glides around one more time.

Photos: Nick White

George Pearce Researches J.B. Collip at University of Alberta, Edmonton



Hastings County Historical Society member George Pearce is seen here in the Bruce Peel quiet study room, special collections of the Rutherford Library, the University of Alberta this past July. The volumes standing on the table are the collected scientific papers of James Bertram Collip (1892 - 1965).

The volumes are University of Alberta (1915 to

1928), McGill University (1928 - 1947), and University of Western Ontario (1947 - 1961).

In an upcoming issue of *Outlook* we will publish some photographs George took of places Collip worked and taught in Edmonton.

Archive Angel Presentations



Katharine Mills was one of the *Treasurers of the Archives* presenters at the May Society meeting (see page 1).

Dedication Ceremony Alderville First Nation



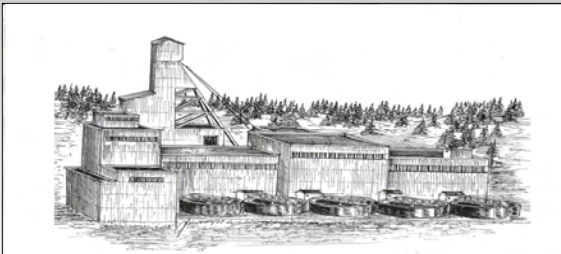
Mayor Neil Ellis, Alderville Chief James Marsden and Northumberland-Quinte West MP Rick Norlock at the dedication ceremony of the monument marking the settlement of the Alderville First Nation Thurlow Purchase Specific Claim August 6, 2010 at the Jane Forrester Park near Meyers Pier.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, September 21, 2010

Speaker
Denis Newman

Topic
Mining In Canada: Then & Now



Monthly meetings start at 7:30 and are held in the Auditorium of the Quinte Living Centre, 370 Front Street, Belleville

DEADLINE FOR MATERIAL FOR OCTOBER ISSUE OF *OUTLOOK* IS SEPTEMBER 28, 2010

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Heritage Centre Phone No.	613-962-1110

Hastings County Historical Society is based at the old township office in Cannifton. Please address mail to General Delivery, Cannifton, ON, K0K 2K0. *Outlook* is published in January, February, March, April, May, September, October and November for the friends and members of the Hastings County Historical Society. The editor, Bill Kennedy, can be reached at 613-962-5991, or e-mail <kennedypec@hotmail.com>

HCHS MEMBER ADDRESS