

OUTLOOK

The Newsletter of THE HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 1418 - BELLEVILLE, ONTARIO

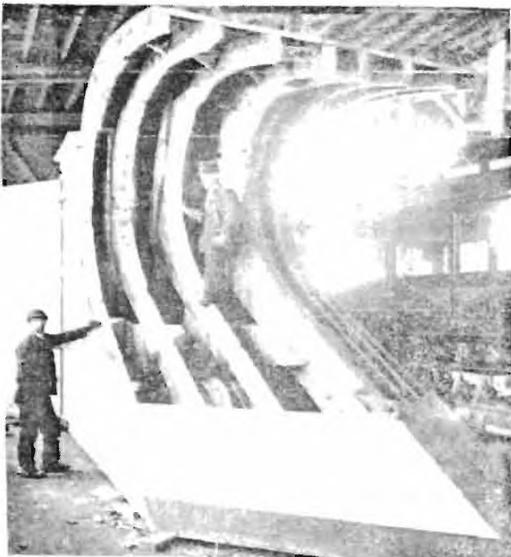
November 2, 1983

1, YOU are cordially invited to attend a GENERAL MEETING of the Society to be held TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1983, in the Auditorium of the QUINTE LIVING CENTRE at 370 Front Street, Belleville. There will be the chance for fellowship and coffee at 7:30 P.M. and the meeting

begins at 8:00 P.M. sharp. The speaker will be DONALD M. WILSON of Frankford, whose topic will be THE RATHBUN COMPANY AND THE BAY OF QUINTE RAILWAY. Don has thoroughly researched the story of this important company and the town of Deseronto and we expect that his new book will be available on the 22nd. LOST HORIZON is being published by Mika Publishing and the following ad helps to explain the importance of the topic. Don's talk will be an illustrated one, with many slides of the Deseronto area, such as the view of the town's Rathbun Company enterprises in the late 19th century [above] and the photograph of the snow plow constructed in the local car shops [below].



The Rathbun Mills at Deseronto in the late nineteenth century.



LOST HORIZON

by Donald M. Wilson

The story of the Rathbun Company of Deseronto, Ontario in the period 1848 to 1923. It is the story of an era when lumber was king and how one man utilized this abundant natural resource to build a diversified industrial empire. The events in Edward W. Rathbun's life resulted in one of the foremost manufacturing complexes in southeastern Ontario and created the town of Deseronto.

The products manufactured by this company were distributed internationally. In addition to owning four railroads in Ontario, the company also built ships in its own shipyard and operated a fleet on Lake Ontario, the Bay of Quinte and adjacent waters.

Illustrated with over 180 photographs, documents and maps. Fully indexed.

Published by Mika Publishing Company, 1983
ISBN 0-919303-73-0, hardcover, \$25.00

2. An added attraction at the meeting on November 22nd will be a REPORT on the INTELLIGENCER INDEXING PROJECT being carried out at the CORBY PUBLIC LIBRARY by a team of four researcher-indexers headed by JUDY DEJONG, the project manager. Judy will take ten minutes to explain how the team has been indexing the Intell, using the microfilm copies in the library, and will have samples of completed sections.

This project generated a lot of very positive comments when I introduced Kingston area genealogists to it at a workshop in October. The results can be a real boon to genealogists and all researchers delving into the history of this area.

You'll want to hear Judy report on behalf of her fellow indexers - HEATHER ANDERSON, CINDY CLEMENT, and JANET MARACLE.

3. The "ribbon" at right is a reminder that Mackenzie Bowell was involved with the Intell during the years now being indexed and that his name has surfaced recently in connection with language rights in Manitoba. By the time you're reading this, you'll probably be aware that the Intell has recently run an excellent article by BETSY BOYCE on Mackenzie and the Manitoba Question.
4. Hats off to BILL HUNT for his excellent presentation at our October meeting. PROHIBITION AND RUM RUNNING IN THE QUINTE AREA was an exciting topic for the 90 members and friends of the Society who turned out to hear Bill's comments on this interesting subject. Bill's sense of humour and frequent references to well-known rum runners and their "historic" residences, especially at Belleville and South Bay, brought the topic to life. It was a spirited meeting. Thanks also to WALTER HAMILTON and others present who added to the audience's knowledge of some of the people involved.

Bill continues to research the topic and hopes to hear from a number of our members and readers who can add to his information on the period. Bill can be reached at 64 Plaza Square, Belleville, and welcomes any little detail.
5. A special guest at the October meeting was KENN FEIGELMAN, Director of Operations for "Deep/Quest 2 Expeditions". Ken shared underwater photographs of wrecks in the Quinte area, some associated with the rum running period. We look forward to Kenn speaking to the Society at a future meeting.

Belleville's
WELCOME

To her distinguished Son.

MARCH 12TH, 1895.



Hon. Sir Mackenzie Bowell, K.C.M.G.

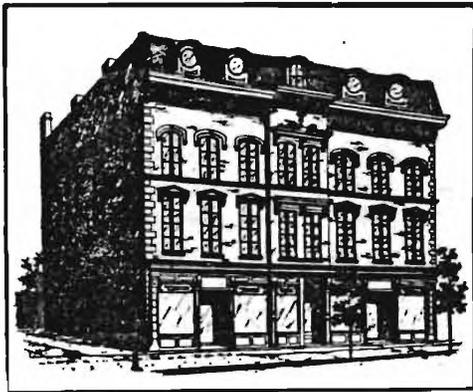
From Belleville Schools

—TO—
PREMIERSHIP OF CANADA.



6. Our GOOD CITIZEN AWARD goes to BRIAN FERRIER for his sympathetic treatment of the Henderson Building at 399 Front Street. A relative newcomer to Belleville, Brian appreciated the great architectural merit of this building and his renovations have enhanced the historic features of the facade. Hats off to Brian.

The sketch below is used by the present occupants of 399 Front Street in their advertising. To the right is a portion of the description as it appears in BELLEVILLE'S HERITAGE" VOLUME II.



7. A reminder that BELLEVILLE'S HERITAGE: VOLUME II is available at leading bookstores and the Hastings County Museum for \$2.50, or by mail for \$3.00 from ELAINE PRESTON, 46 Plaza Square, Belleville, K8N 4J3.

A few copies of Volume I remain for sale. The price is \$2.50 (postpaid); they will not last much longer.

8. HELP WANTED . . . ROY BRUCE is researching the history of Grace United (Methodist) Church at Egan Creek (Detlor) in Dungannon Township. The church was built about 1894 and closed, except for anniversary services, in 1968. Any information about the building, ministers, cemetery, etc. would be appreciated by ROY W. BRUCE, R.R. 1, Bloomfield, Ontario, KOK 1G0.



THE HENDERSON BUILDING
399 Front Street

George Eyre Henderson, a lawyer built this three-storey stone building, with brick and iron front, in 1859 on part of the site of the Rev. John Reynolds estate. In addition to several offices, one of which was Henderson's law office, it accommodated two stores and two dwellings. The east side of the building was constructed with wood joists set into the stone so that another building could be added in the future. Although the east side is not beautiful, it does tell an interesting story of construction over the years.

The building became the Masonic Temple in 1874 and remained so until 1951 when it was purchased by the Belleville Columbus Club. It is an early example of the use of architectural elements of cast iron. At that time entire store fronts could be ordered from catalogues. The iron pillared main floor originally had two shops with central doorways and large shop windows. This is the only complete cast iron main floor remaining in Belleville.

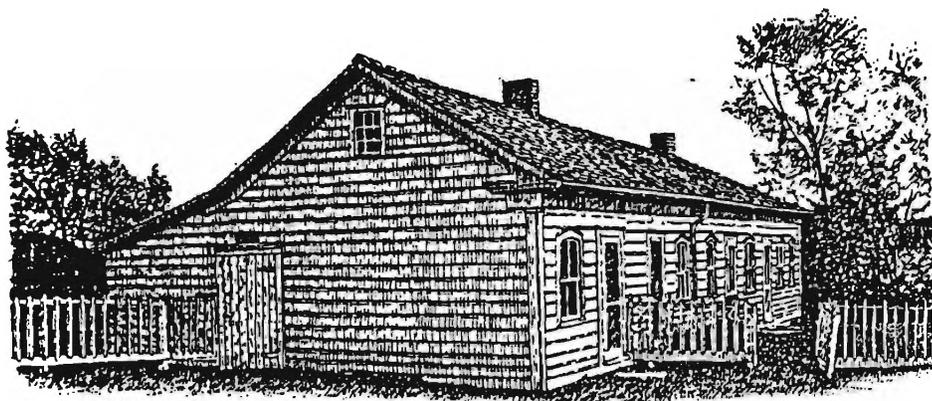
The long narrow windows of the second storey have iron pediments. Hood moulds were used on the third storey windows. At one time narrow balconies with cast iron railings graced these windows. The wood cornice and brackets are original. However the mansard roof and dormers, an addition of the 1870's, were probably added to accommodate the organ, choir loft and high ceilings of the third floor lodge rooms.

Photo Credit - Molly Bramley _____ Building No. 29

9. MORE HELP WANTED . . . Information on WHITE'S Church history in book form. White's Church was on the Front of Sidney Township, near Bayside. Contact JOAN BENOIT, 58 Belmont, Point Claire, Quebec, H9R 2N3.
10. There're lots of historical happenings in the Madoc area. BRENDA HUDSON, the energetic secretary of the MADOC HISTORICAL FOUNDATION, reports that she and president AL DANFORD represent the Madoc area on the O'Hara Board of Management. In June, Al wrote curriculum (with student supervisor VICTOR MILLER) for the many school visits to the O'Hara properties. Victor also designed a master plan for the site. Projected planning for a 5 year term was undertaken and the site's year round potential was examined. Again this year there was a very successful Pioneer Day in August, with almost 2,000 present. It is hoped that these activity days can be more frequent next year.

The history of the O'Hara Mill is still not completely researched, but links have been suggested with John Taylor, a Prince Edward County shipbuilder. Also, the Management Board continues to seek old photos of the O'Hara family and the mill site over the years.

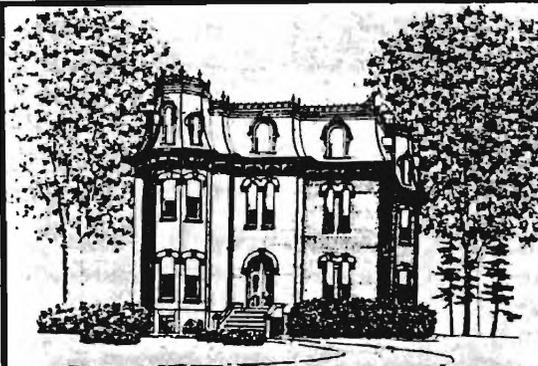
BOB HUDSON recently designed a series of attractive postcards depicting the O'Hara house and saw mill. There are four views in all and they are available for 25 cents each (plus postage) from Bob and Brenda Hudson, 170 St. Lawrence Street West, Madoc, KOK 2K0. Congratulations to Bob for drawing and printing these cards and for allowing us to reprint one of them here. This is an example that other historical societies, clubs, and schools could follow, in order to publicize the historical attractions of other areas. It's most appropriate for BICENTENNIAL YEAR.



11. BETTY WOOD of Madoc continues to work with the 4H HERITAGE CLUB. Many student members have been compiling family histories. They put on an excellent display at the Madoc Fair and are to be congratulated for their effort and the neat presentation.

12. The task of cemetery indexing continues across the county. For example, BETTY WOOD and ALMA MOORCROFT continued to work during the summer in Madoc Township and Queensboro. ANN ROWE made further progress in Huntingdon. JOAN BUXTON and a team of volunteers made an encouraging start to the giant task of transcribing data from the Belleville Cemetery; this important task is estimated to require two years to complete. Joan has kindly provided the Society with a list of sections that have been completed and your directors are expected to arrange for copies of these new cemetery recordings to be made available in the Canadiana Room of the Corby Library. Hats off to Joan and all the other cemetery researchers and indexers in Hastings.
13. Hats off also to the Quinte Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society, which recently issued a growing list of cemetery records that can be purchased from that branch. ALICE DELINE, ISABEL WRIGHT, and I had the privilege to attend the branch's October meeting and to examine the growing collection of genealogical materials.
13. From Madoc comes word that BRENDA HUDSON and AL DANFORD have been much occupied with the building of the Bell Tower on the Madoc Public School. The MADOC HISTORICAL FOUNDATION [care of Brenda Hudson] still needs funds to complete the project; donations qualify for income tax deduction receipts. The base of the tower and main structure were completed in September, thanks to the cooperation of the Hastings County Board of Education. The bell now has to be placed in the cupola and the top part of the tower completed. The bell will be rung regularly, as it was on the original Model School of 1878.
If anyone remembers the old Madoc Model School through family connections, photographs, etc., please contact Brenda Hudson.
14. TRENT PORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY made an approach to Trenton City Council on the 31st requesting permission to establish a museum in the old Police Station after it becomes vacant next year. We congratulate the Society on its planning and wish it well.

15.



**ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM
LECTURE SERIES**

November 9 - What is an Antique?
November 16 - Early Canadian Furniture
November 23 - 19th Century Canadian Art

Co-sponsored by the Hastings County Museum with the assistance of a Wintario Grant.

All lectures held at 257 Bridge St. E.
Call 962-2329 to register

MARY SIMONDS notes that some tickets are still available for this series. They're \$12 for the series or \$5 for an individual lecture.

16. The sincere sympathy of the Society is extended to MARY SIMONDS on the recent death of her mother.

17. M.P. BILL VANKOUGHNET has a strong interest in local Loyalist tradition. In a speech in the House of Commons on October 21st, he paid tribute to the United Empire Loyalists as the founders of agriculture in Ontario.

The U.E.L. Association of Canada would like to see a series of four commemorative stamps. Give your support by writing to Mr. Rene Marin, Chairman, Board of Canada Post Corporation, SBI Building, Billing's Bridge Shopping Centre, OTTAWA, Ontario, KIA 0B1

18. Speaking of BILL VANKOUGHNET, the article at the right reflects favourably on the efforts made by him and other individuals and organizations to promote the cause of history in this part of the province. The stamp should be very popular in Quinte country and we expect to use it to mail a 1984 issue of your favourite newsletter . . . OUTLOOK.

UEL stamp announced

Bill Vankoughnet, MP Hastings-Frontenac-Lennox and Addington, is happy with a stamp to be issued by Canada Post next year commemorating the 1784 arrival of United Empire Loyalists to Canada - many of them to the area which now constitutes his riding.

"It marks the successful completion of my four-year campaign for a UEL stamp. I first wrote the Prime Minister in 1980 and was encouraged by many letters from constituents and endorsements from local organizations and municipal councils," he noted in a press release.

The stamp will be released July 3.

19. Still on the topic of Loyalists, next year will be a banner year for members and friends of the Bay of Quinte Branch of the U.E.L. Association. The branch issues an excellent newsletter, which is one of the reasons for non-Loyalists taking out associate membership in the association. The newsletter editor certainly has a sense of humour, or perhaps there was a gremlin in the typewriter, as you will note from the heading of the most recent newsletter.

UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS NEWSLETTER BAY OF QUINTE BRANCH

Perhaps the gremlin was a close relative of the one responsible for this cover comment on our own October 1st OUTLOOK:

"SEE YOU ON SEPTEMBER 18 FOR SOME RUM RUNNING"

20. As 1984 arrives you'll be seeing this sticker in more and more places. It's been issued by the province to call attention to the fact that 1984 is more than a Loyalist event. We'll celebrate together the fact that many groups make up the mosaic of Ontario.



Actually, the sticker or logo is a very well designed and colourful piece of art work. Examine it with care to see how many symbols you can find. (The colours are red, yellow, and blue, although it's hard to tell from this reproduction!)

21. Over the past 25 years the Society has acquired a considerable collection of books and pamphlets. Many of these relate to the history of the Quinte area and are extremely important to students of local history. Some are by local authors and are an indication of the tremendous literary output from residents of this area. Others are textbooks that have been used in our schools over the past 150 years. These significant collections are housed in the Canadiana Room of the Corby Library or the Hastings County Museum.

Recently your directors offered some materials (with no local tie) to secondary schools in the county. We are pleased that B.C.I.V.S., Centennial, Moira, and Trenton took advantage of the offer to obtain useful materials.

22. New information on early settlers to reach the Belleville area in 1814-15 is contained in a letter sent to the provincial government on November 24, 1815, by prominent local citizen James McNabb. McNabb was supplying information on "Aliens, now residing in the County of Hastings, near the River Moira"; there was no reference to "Belleville" by name, since the community did not receive that name until the following year. These aliens were said to have "come to this place from the United States . . . since the conclusion of the late American War [1812-1814] - some of whom, I believe, intend returning to the United States again shortly." The list contained 15 names: "THOMAS PALMER, Pedlar; CHAUNCY PALMER, Pedlar; FRANKLIN ELSWORTH, Shoemaker; WADSWORTH BROWN, Shoemaker; GEORGE TOWNSEND, Labourer; JAMES FOSTER, Labourer; GEORGE H. Manther, Carpenter; STEPHEN BLANCHARD, Mill=Wright; REUBEN POTTER, Schoolmaster; PHINEHAS BYAM, Brick Maker; ALVA GATES, Hatter; JOHN CUZZENS, Taylor; WILLIAM SLACK, Labourer; JOHN WHITNEY, Hatter; BENJAMIN DEMELL, Labourer."

If you have relatives on this list and have details on their later activities locally, drop a line to OUTLOOK. If you would like to check the original document out, it's found in the Public Archives of Canada, R.G. 5, A-1, vol. 25, pages 11039 to 11042.

23. "It's not every day a residential bathroom gets a ceremonial ribbon-cutting public opening. But then, Belleville's newest bathroom is a convenience with notable character - \$10,000 worth, raised by public funds and community events."

So began HARRY MULHALL's report in The INTELLIGENCER of the opening on Sunday, October 30, of the restored bathroom at GLANMORE.

Civic dignitaries and politicians were on hand for the ribbon-cutting ceremony, as were a large number of interested citizens.

Congratulations to the MUSEUM MANAGEMENT BOARD and the MUSEUM STAFF for this step forward at Glanmore.

Historic restoration

Public opening for this bathroom



Curator Mary Simonds and antique accessories

24. Times change! Or do they?

The local Board of Education called attention of the police "to the fact that a large number of boys of school age are not attending the public Schools, but are found in groups in different parts of the City who are frequently heard using very profane and obscene language." [from the Minute Book of the Belleville Board of Education, May 4, 1883]

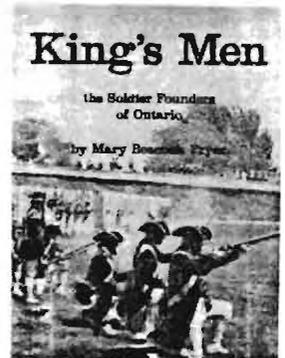
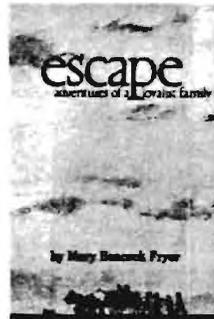
25. Those members of the Society who attended the Bay of Quinte Branch of the UEL Association's meeting on November 2 heard a delightful presentation by MARY BEACOCK FRYER. Mary is well known locally for her many books on Loyalist themes and her well-chosen comments placed the Loyalists in a new perspective. They were not people who moved into Canada after the Revolution, but people who were resettled in Canada. Many had been fighting for several years from bases throughout Canada. The full house applauded Mary for her earnest remarks. The local UEL Branch should be heartened by the growing interest in Loyalist history and the surge of new members. (Members were pleased to hear that a new CBC program on the Loyalists will be aired on TV at 8 P.M. on November 10th.)



History

by Mary Beacock Fryer

Dundurn Press Ltd.
Toronto, Canada



HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE MEETING ON THE 22nd of NOVEMBER.
WE'LL HEAR AND SEE THE HISTORY OF DESERONTO, THE RATHBUNS,
AND THE BAY OF QUINTE AND OTHER RAILWAYS.

Gerry Boyes

A UNIQUE PACKAGE OF
NEWS AND VIEWS,
NOTES AND QUOTES,
from the

HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 1418
Belleville, Ontario
K8N 6J1

If you wonder what
this illustration
has to do with
local history, turn
to item 23

