

# OUTLOOK

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE HASTINGS COUNTY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, PO BOX 1418, BELLEVILLE,  
ONTARIO.

OCTOBER 6, 1981

1. IT WAS A WONDERFUL EVENING! That was the verdict of the almost 80 members and friends of the Society who crowded the Main Gallery of the Corby Library on September 22 to take part in the special BIRTHDAY PARTY AND CELEBRATION for CFB Trenton's 50th Birthday. Our thanks go to Major Lorne Johnson, who arranged the programme, and to Joe Gould, Gerry Bell, Peter Hypher, and Major Rick Johnson, who told of the interesting and humorous history of the base and how [the book] TRENTON - 50 YEARS OF AIR FORCE came to be written. The large cake, complete with trainer 303 and 50 candles was enjoyed by all and there were brisk sales of the new book. What a tremendous way to start our fall season.

2. If you live anywhere near Belleville or Marmora and have an interest in our very early history, you'll want to be sure to attend our next meeting. It's set for TUESDAY evening, OCTOBER 20 in the MAIN GALLERY of the Corby Library, Pinnacle Street, Belleville.

The topic will be the history of the MARMORA IRON WORKS and our special guest will be ARTHUR DUNN of Ottawa, an expert on the history of our early iron industry. Arthur believes that the Marmora Iron Works, opened in the 1820s, was the most advanced at that time in the Americas, if not in the Western World. He has carried out archaeological work on the site and on the iron ore dock<sup>s</sup> at Trent River on the Trent, and recently attempted to find the giant ore boat that carried the ore from the Blairton mine to the Marmora works. He will use slides to illustrate the archaeological work that has been carried on and the audience will enjoy his sense of humour. Plan to attend on the 20th. Coffee will be available for our social half-hour at 7:30 and the meeting will begin at 8 P.M. promptly.

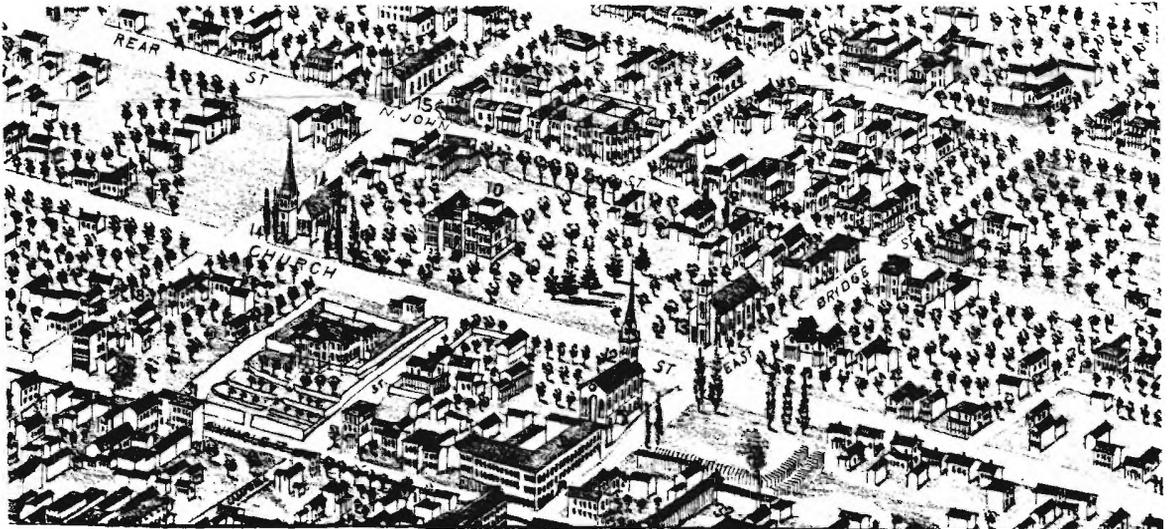


3. MINUS ONE HUNDRED, in which we see what was happening exactly 100 years ago in the local area, was well received at the September meeting. At the October meeting we'll spend no more than 5 minutes looking at October 20, 1881. Incidentally, if you would like to help by putting on one of these squibs in future, please let me know. [968-5023]

4. Readers who live out of town will find a special bonus on this issue of OUTLOOK. Look carefully at the stamp. You'll see that it honours Canadian biologist Macoun is considered large sections of for settlement. What that he lived for many lectured at Albert when it was located on on Victoria Avenue, and Murchison Club, a local scientific society in the 1870s. Macoun brought prominence to Albert College and his sons were also prominent in Canadian scientific circles. We've not had many local citizens on Canadian stamps. So a word of thanks to the Canadian Post Office.

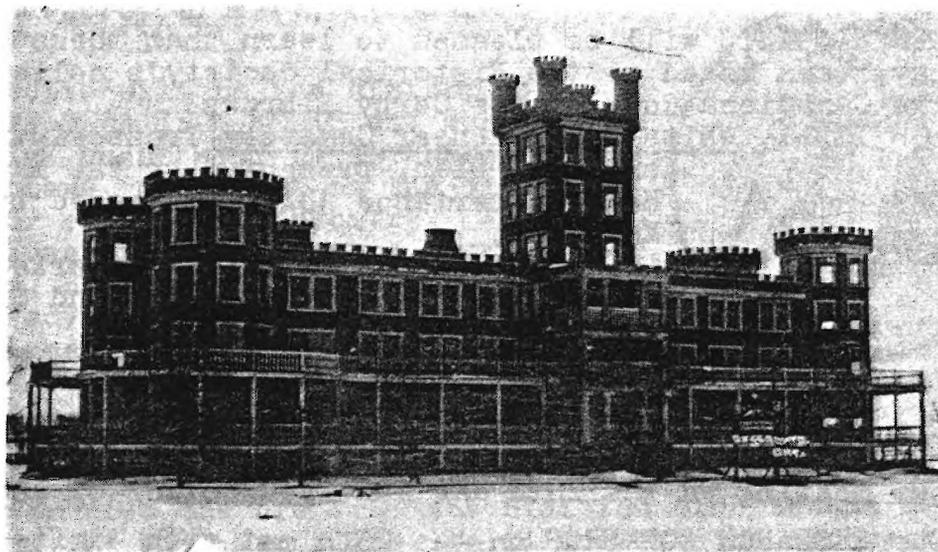


5. There's good news for Society members who have wanted to own their own copy of the BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF BELLEVILLE prepared in 1874. The view has been reprinted by the Society and is available for the nominal fee of two dollars from the Hastings County Museum, W & R Greenley, Booksellers, the James Texts Limited, and the Society at our October 20 meeting. In fact one copy of the attractive view will be presented at the meeting to a lucky member. If you're wondering about the quality of reproduction this sample should give you some idea. Stock up on the views as Christmas gifts for friends who've left town. Framed, they [the views not the friends] make excellent gifts.



- Incidentally, can you pick out the building that would become the Corby Library, site of our general meetings?
6. Although membership in the Society stands at almost 300, almost 400 copies of OUTLOOK are printed for distribution. The other 100 go to the schools of Hastings County - two to each secondary school and one to each elementary school. These copies, provided at no cost to the schools, are intended to keep teachers and students informed as to what is happening in the field of local history. We welcome these readers.
  7. Our EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS includes more than the distribution of OUTLOOK. For example, awards totalling one hundred dollars are being distributed this month to graduating secondary school students for achievements in local studies (history and/or geography). Award winners are Scott Kennedy and Lisa Morrison of Trenton High School and Velma Shewfelt of Albert College. Scott and Lisa received their awards for the preparation of a slide-tape preparation saluting Trenton on its 100th birthday. Velma received her award for the time and energy she has devoted to local geography studies, including a renovated (on paper) Belleville Market Square and an election board game based on local government. Congratulations to these young people.
  8. As a further part of our EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM, we expect to provide printed materials to schools for local studies kits.
  9. If you would like to serve as EDUCATIONAL CO-ORDINATOR to help plan and co-ordinate our educational program, please contact the president. The pay is low, but the work can be rewarding.
  10. Thanks to Doug Preston, Elaine Preston, and Ellen Kellaway, who served as judges in the secondary student award program. Ellen is revising the terms of reference for 1981-82.
  11. Congratulations to JOHN MELADY, a member of the Society and a recent speaker on EXPLOSION: TRENTON DISASTER, whose new book was unveiled at our September meeting. It' ESCAPE FROM CANADA, the untold (until now) story of German POWs in Canada during the Second World War. Watch for John on Front Page Challenge. Watch for reviews of his exciting new book.

12. Speaking of noted authors, KENNETH BAGNELL was in town on the 4th to speak to a reunion of Marchmont boys and girls. Ken is the author of THE LITTLE IMMIGRANTS, the story of the orphans who were sent from the British Isles to find homes in Canada in the decades between 1870 and the 1930s. Many of these young boys arrived at the Marchmont Home in West Belleville, where they stayed until there were openings for them, generally on area farms. It was an emotional reunion for these boys, now men, on Sunday and Mary Simonds, the Hastings County Museum staff, and the Museum Management Board are to be congratulated on planning and carrying out this program. Special thanks to Mrs. Scott and the grade 10 girls from Quinte Secondary School, who prepared lunch for the more than 70 invited guests. Ken brought an inspiring message and he is an excellent speaker. Hopefully, we can have him address our Society at some future time.
13. There are many stories of MARCHMONT. Many of them were exchanged Sunday afternoon. Ken or some other writer should pick them up and turn them into a fascinating story of our heritage.
14. SEARCH CORNER . . . This 1907 view shows the Orphans' Home operated by the Independent Order of Foresters. The home stood on Foresters Island (earlier called Captain John's Island, after John Deserontyou). The island was in the Bay of Quinte, just south of Deseronto. A group of researchers are trying to find out why it closed and what became of the building. If you can give any leads call me at 968-5023.



15. The exciting discovery hinted at in the last OUTLOOK was this writer's discovery of a volume on the top shelf of a seldom-used vault in Belleville City Hall. The volume labelled "Letters" actually contained the original minutes for the councils of Belleville from 1836 to 1860. This volume has been misplaced for many years. It's interesting to see the original minutes kept by the secretary to the Board of Police in 1836 - George Benjamin, founder of the INTELLIGENCER - and signed by the President of the Board - Billa Flint.
  16. Speaking of BILLA FLINT, our hats are off to LACAC and EMHART CANADA LIMITED, INTERNATIONAL HARDWARE DIVISION, for plaquing Flint's home on Coleman Street. The company's offices are in the old house. LOIS FOSTER gave an account of Flint's life in Belleville and GEORGE ZEGOURAS described the importance of the building, Flint, and the present occupant to Belleville's development.
  17. With the cost of postage perhaps doubling at the end of the year, your Society faces a decision. Do we reduce the number of OUTLOOKS from ten to six, or increase fees???
- MAKE YOUR VIEWS KNOWN!

important messages  
and news from the  
executive of the  
HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. Box 1418  
Belleville, Ontario

for the enlightenment,  
edification, &  
enjoyment of



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18. Please note these changes and additions to the list of events for 1981-82, as printed in the last OUTLOOK:
- DECEMBER 6 is the date for the Christmas Party at the Hastings County Museum.
  - FEBRUARY 15 will be celebrated as HERITAGE DAY across Canada. Our guest speaker from the Royal Ontario Museum will be Dr. Loris Russell on the topic FARM AND HOME IN UPPER CANADA.
  - JUNE 19 (not the 20th) is the Saturday in June for a trip to Museums in Lennox and Addington. We expect to visit four; to date the Lennox & Addington County Museum, the Macpherson House, and the Fairfield House (undergoing renovation) have indicated a willingness to receive us.
19. GENEALOGISTS will be pleased to learn that these records have been added to the Historical Society's collections in the Canadiana Room of the Corby Library:
- 3169-1 White Lake Pioneer Cemetery Transcription, Index, and Plot Plan, presented by the Madoc Heritage House Experience '81 team headed by Tracey Morrison;
  - 914-1 Bonnie White's research into cemeteries in Huntingdon, Marmora, Rawdon, and Sidney townships;
  - 345-5 St. Thomas Church (<sup>Anglican,</sup> Belleville), record of burials, 1872-1980.
- The last two, unfortunately, have no indexes. Is anyone prepared to help index them? If so, be at the Library for our meeting on the 20th and make your offer of assistance.
20. Our RESEARCH WORKSHOP on the 29th met with limited success. We need workers to help put our archival files in order. Think about turning out for the next one, on the 27th of October, one week after Arthur Dunn's talk.
21. Seagram Distillers Limited plans to honour all one hundred year old Canadian towns, cities, associations, events, and people in 1983. If you know of an event in 1883 that should be recognized, let us know (968-5023) and we'll pass the news on, so that events of 1883 can be recognized in 1983. The Company is also looking for news of events (Loyalist and other) in 1783.
22. Our GOOD CITIZEN AWARD for the month goes to PAT BENNETT for her efforts on behalf of the Society as treasurer, director, president, and enthusiastic worker. The Directors have awarded Life Membership to Pat, as a further tribute. Congratulations, Pat.
23. Hope to see you on the 20th for our look at the Marmora Iron Works, as Arthur Dunn lets us in on the detective work that he and his associate have been doing.

*Gerry Boyce*