

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

February 1, 1982

1. February 15th promises to be a great day for the members and friends of the Hastings County Historical Society. Not only is this the third Monday in February and therefore celebrated in many parts of Canada as HERITAGE DAY, but Dr. LORIS RUSSELL will be our special guest speaker at a GENERAL MEETING. Dr. Russell, a native of New York who has lived in Canada since the age of four, is the Curator

in Canada since the age of four, is the Curator Emeritus of the Vertebrate Palaeontology Department at the Royal Ontario Museum. He has spent over 50 years in research on the prehistoric life of western North America and is a recognized authority on old-time technologies. His book "A Heritage of Light" is a detailed history of domestic lighting in Canada during the nineteenth century and Dr. Russell has spoken at the Hastings County Museum on lighting and the significance of the Paul Lamp Collection. His other books, such as "Everyday Life in Colonial Canada" and "Handy Things to have around the House", reveal his expertise in pioneer Canadian technology.



Dr. Russell's topic will be FARM AND HOME IN UPPER CANADA, featuring farming methods and household crafts in the pioneer settlements of Ontario.

The meeting will be held on MONDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 15, 1982
with coffeeand fellowship at 7:30 p.m. Location: Main Gallery
and the meeting and speaker at 8:00 p.m. Corby Library
Come and bring your relatives and friends and join in our celebration
of HERITAGE DAY - 82.

2. Because February 15th's meeting falls on HERITAGE DAY, we will celebrate that occasion by giving out several buttons provided by Heritage Canada.



(A photostat copy of one of the buttons appears at the left.) Also there will be draws for some of the Society's recent publications relating to heritage.

GEORGE SUPER, our Education Officer, will be presenting MINUS ONE HUNDRED, a look at local events exactly a century ago, and will be seeing what heritage items he can find for that report. Certainly the evening will be a rewarding one for one and all. See you on the 15th

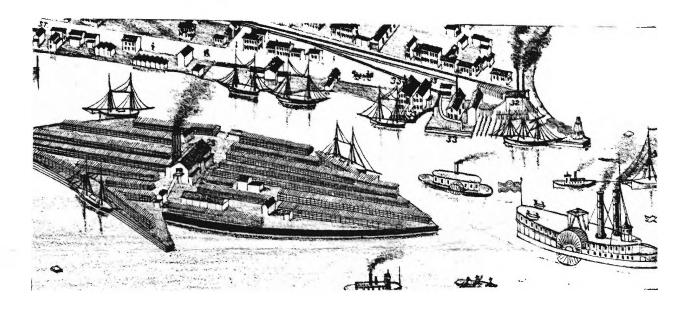
- 3. Our ANNUAL DINNER AND MEETING was an unqualified success. More than 50 members and friends turned up for the excellent meal provided by the Happy Chef (Don Rose) at the Recreation Centre. Our thanks to Don and his staff, to the Recreation Department for the use of the hall, to Greaq Gordon for suggesting a dinner meeting (a first for the Society, but certainly not a last), to Pat Bennett and associates for making necessary arrangements, to the many members of the Society who participated in making presentations (including Elaine Preston, Lois Foster, George Super, Don Kellaway, Alice Deline, Jane Hull, Ed Buckley, and those who offered encouragement with respect to fee increases), and those active bidders who helped the Society raise funds for 1982. Heane Sine presided over the piane for the National Anthem. Thanks, Jeane
- 4. Thanks to CONNIE WILLIAMS, a long-time member and supporter of the Society and the Museum, copies of "Historic Hastings", "The Rambling River", and "Hutton of Hastings" were auctioned off. A total of 84 dollars was raised, with one copy of "Historic Hastings" going for 35 dollars. We welcome similar gifts of materials from other members!

- 5. Despite the wintry weather on the 19th, it was good to see many members and friends from a distance were able to attend the Annual Meeting. From Marmora came Mr. and Mrs. GORDON BENNETT and Mr. and Mrs. BOB SANDERSON. (Gordon and Bob are active with the Marmora Historical Foundation.) From Picton came Mr. and Mrs. ARCHIE LAMONT. The Carrying Place was represented by CHESTER and JANE HULL. The LOTHIANS were there from Trenton and Mrs. Anne Way came from Tweed. Others came from Bayside, Shannonville, and other south Hastings centres.
- 6. Pat Bennett presented the Annual Financial Statement at the meeting. It indicated that the Society had raised over 45 hundred dollars during 1981, but ended the year with 16 hundred dollars less than it had at the beginning of the year. It was encouraging to see that donations amounted to over 23 hundred dollars; let's hope that trend continues.
- 7. Our nominating committee of three Isabel Wright, Jane Hull, and André Mercier brought in its report at the Annual Meeting. The results are reported at right, courtesy Intell reporter PENNY GORDON. These nine directors meet on February 2 to elect and/or appoint officers for 1982 our 25th year.

### Historical society board

The Hastings County Historical Society approved a new slate of directors at its annual meeting Tuesday. On the board for the society's 25th anniversary year are: Gerry Boyce, Lois Foster. Gregg Gordon, Don Wilson, Alice Deline, Isabel Wright, George Super, Gordon Davis and Don Ashton.

- 8. The Annual Meeting saw two retiring directors honoured. BOB BRENNAN and DON KELLAWAY have been supporters of the Society for many years and their efforts on our behalf have been appreciated.
- 9. The Belleville <u>Local Architectural Conservancy Advisory Committee</u> asked the Board to appoint a representative to the committee. The Board has forwarded the name of LOIS FOSTER, with the request that City Council recognize her as the Society's official representative on LACAC.
- 10. Thanks to MP <u>Bill Vankoughnet</u>, we are aware that Finance Minister <u>Allan MacEachen</u> has responded to our petition concerning our "built heritage" (namely historic buildings). A copy of MacEachen's reply is available in the "This and That" book at the February 15th meeting.
- 11. Our last newsletter asked readers to identify a building from the 1874 Bird's-Eye View of Belleville. If you're in doubt, the building was the original Ontario School for the Deaf. Now here's another extract to test your knowledge of Belleville in 1874.



- 12. Our GOOD CITIZEN AWARD for February goes to STEPHEN GENEJA, Land Registrar of the Hastings County Land Registry Office on Pinnacle Street. Stephen was nominated by members of our Historic Structures Committee, because of "the kind help and co-operation" that Stephen and members of his staff have given to our researchers as they prepare background material on local buildings for volume 2 of "Belleville's Heritage".
- 13. The next special display at the Hastings County Museum is a display of Quilts, from January 26 to February 28. Other museum dates to remember are: Monday, February 15, HERITAGE DAY "Open House" from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday, March 14, St. Patrick's Day Tea
  Wednesday, April 21, Attic Treasures Identification Clinic with Mrs. Liske April 23 → May 2, Ontario Crafts Council Eastern Ontario Juried Show.

- 14. Did you know that 420 copies of OUTL®®K are printed each issue? Copies go to almost 300 members of the Society as well as every school in Hastings County, including public and separate, elementary and secondary. In fact, several copies go to each secondary school so that all teachers will be aware of the Society's activities. (There is no charge to the schools for this service; it's part of our educational-assistance package.) Copies also go to local press, MPs, MPP's, the county warden, the mayors of Belleville and Trenton, and all local historical societies. OUTL®®K has a great OUTREACH.
- 15. Members and friends of the Society who are doing research and would like questions raised in OUTLOOK can send their questions to OUTLOOK, c/o Hastings County Historical Society, P.O. Box 1418, Belleville, Ontario.
- 16. Our Educational Program has taken off. At the end of December we distributed materials worth almost 800 dollars to 36 schools throughout Hastings County to help teachers with their local studies courses and units. These materials included books, pamphlets, newspapers, pictures, maps (including copies of the early 1785 map of the Bay of Quinte), and various documents. As many as 600 of some of these documents were sent to schools. The response was gratifying and <a href="George Super">George Super</a> is looking for additional materials to be made available to schools.
- 17. Society-member Earle W. Elliott of 195 George Street, Belleville, has produced an attractively-illustrated 496-page "History and Genealogy of the Elliott, Gordon. and Latimer families" during the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. The book includes references to 750 other family names and is available for 35 dollars from Earle. He is to be congratulated on locating and including such a wide range of photographs relating to the families in Ireland, Hastings County, and the Canadian West.
- 18. Several years ago I wrote 20-page history of "The Bayside Property and School, 1784-1874", which was published by the Ontario Historical Society in Ontario History. A few copies of a reprint of this article are still available from our Society (P.O. Box 1418, Belleville) for two dollars, including postage. The article is of special interest. because it clearly documents the early history of what may well be the most historic school site in eastern Ontario.
- 19. Another publication that is available in very limited supply is a 14-page pamphlet entitled "Deseronto and the Rathbun Company". This pamphlet was prepared almost 20 years ago by <u>T.Dane Martin</u>, then the treasurer of the Society. Martin's pamphlet was based on early newspapers and talks with several of Deseronto's elder citizens about 1960. Copies are available for two dollars from the Society (P.O. Box 1418, Belleville).
- 20. Dundurn Press (P.O. Box 245 Station "F", Toronto) has issued a supplement to Mary Beacock Fryer's King's Men the Soldier Founders of Ontario. It's Rolls of the Provincial (Loyalist)Corps, Canadian Command American Revolutionary Period, also by Mary Fryer, assisted by Lt. Col.A. Smy. The 104-page booklet (it sells for five dollars) lists the loyal colonialists who joined the Provincial Corps of Northern, or Canada, Command during the revolution. Mary and William have made use of official returns from the War Office, as well as many other sources to compile this booklet. Society members will remember Mary Fryer as a speaker on the subject of Captain Meyers and as a frequent visitor to Belleville.
- 21. The Edmonton Public School Board is preparing a history of the schools in that city. Edmonton's <u>first</u> teacher was <u>James Harris</u>, born about 1844 in the Frankford area of Hastings County. Because Harris figures very prominently in the early school history of Edmonton and because he taught there only six weeks before he died in 1882, the Edmonton Board is very anxious to locate information on his background and, if possible, a picture. If you know anything of Harris, who was in Illinois before going west about 1881, please write the Society or call me at 968-5023.
- 22. One of the highlights of our Annual Meeting was the report of the Historic Structures Committee. ELAINE PRESTON reported on the work of the committee and LOIS FOSTER gave an illustrated talk relating to some of the early buildings that still stand on or near Dundas Street on Belleville's East (Taylor) Hill. We are please to give our readers some of the information that Lois shared with us at the meeting:

### NOTES ON THE JOHN TAYLOR HOUSE AND PROPERTY by Lois Foster of Belleville

In 1804 John Taylor was granted the south half of lot 5 in the First Concession of Thurlow. His farm stretched from west of John Street to east of Ann, and from the Bay of Quinte to north of Victoria Avenue.

John built his home on the brow of the hill near the village. It was on the north side of Dundas and west of George. His barn lot was on the south side of Dundas (where Calvary Temple is now).

John died in 1829, leaving the house and barn lots to his wife Jane during her lifetime. He left part of the farm north of Dundas to his sons George and William and ten acres on each side of Victoria Avenue to his daughters MaryAnn and Margaret. The land south of Dundas was left to his son John.

Mrs. Taylor died in 1854 and the house has been gone for over 100 years, but the family is remembered by the street names on "Taylor's Hill".

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

One of the most interesting plans of early Belleville is one drawn by John Haslett in 1845. This plan shows the location of all buildings in the town and identifies many of the occupants and uses of these buildings.

This section of that plan shows the area Lois Foster described in her talk to the Hastings County Historical Society on January 19/82.

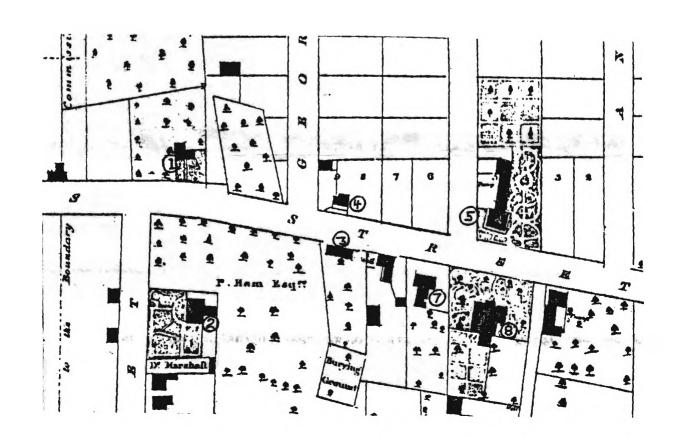
Certain of the buildings have been numbered (1982) to indicate their locations, for example:

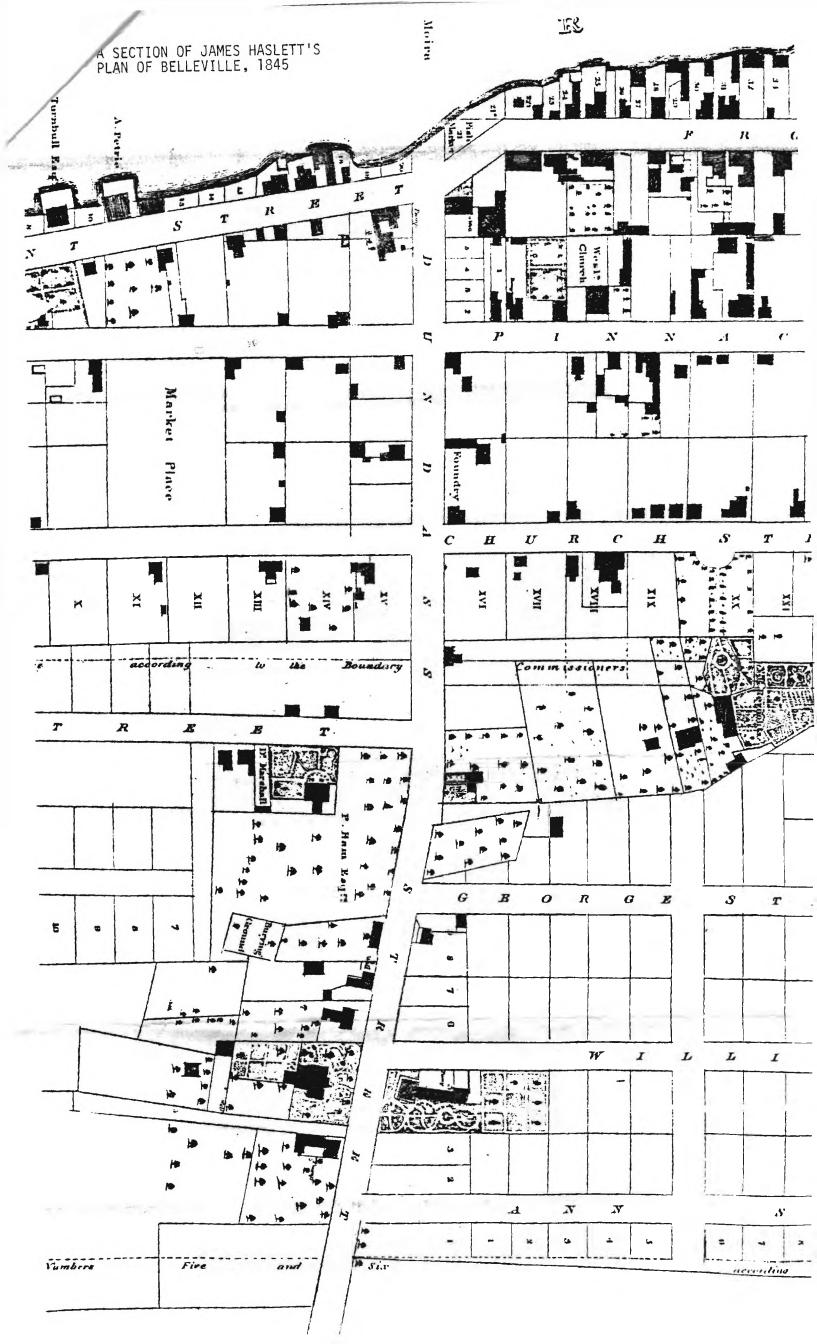
- l the home of John Taylor (in which Mrs. Taylor was residing in 1845)
- 2 the home of Dr. Marshall (well-known member of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church); it stands still at 129 South John Street
- 3 the home of John Way Maybee (now the Animal Hospital)
- 4 the home of Elizabeth Walker, widow of Robert E. Walker, innkeeper (at 104 Dundas Street, on the northeast corner of Dundas and George)
- 5 the home of Archibald Ponton (northeast corner of Dundas and William)

Several other buildings are no longer there; however, you may be familiar with the early or modern owners:

- 7 the home of Cornelius I. Gould, carpenter, who bought the property in 1834 and sold it in 1898; more recently this home was occupied by Tom Wrightmeyer, first president (1957-58) of the Hastings County Historical Society
- 8 the home of George Benjamin, founder of the Intelligencer

Also to be seen are the original Taylor Burying Ground and the pump location behind the Archibald Ponton residence; this well was marked by a cement cover until 1981.





- 23. Natives of Hastings County continue to turn up in interesting places. BRENDA HUDSON of Madoc sends in an article entitled "Hubert Phelps Whitmarsh: Adventurer, Writer and First Governor of Baguio" by James J. Halsema. Whitmarsh was the first civil governor of a Philippine province during the American regime. He was described as "a sailor before the mast, naval cadet, silver prospector, pearl diver, perfume merchant and war correspondent before he assumed the position of governor of Benguet. Aferwards he was to become Baguio's richest resident and the man who grubstaked the prospectors who discovered four important gold mines..." Information on Whitmarsh's background was supplied by Brenda, because he was born August 10, 1863, in Madoc Village, where his father was serving as Anglican missionary. And so we learn of another interesting son of Hastings.
- 24. The Metallurgical Society of the Canadian Institute of Mining has issued an article by BRENDA HUDSON on "The Madoc Gold Rush 1866". Brenda recounts the history of this fascinating topic and Arthur Dunn provides a brief introduction to the article. Congratulations, Brenda.
- 25. BRENDA HUDSON continues to work on "Pride of Place", a history of Loyalist settlement and families in Prince Edward County. Readers with information that could be useful to Brenda can contact her at 170 St. Lawrence Street West, Madoc.
- 26. The OPEN HOUSE for teachers that was to be held in January as a joint project of this Society and the Hastings County Museum had to be put off, because of limited response. Plans are to offer such an Open House later in the year.
- 27. Because February 15 is HERITAGE DAY, we offer this editorial from the INTELLIGENCER of December 28, 1981. It's very appropriate.

# Preserving the past

When it comes to preserving our architectural heritage, we have seen how in this community the process appears to be more one of tearing down valuable old structures than of any concerted policy of preserving them.

Another perplexing irony, too, is the way available funding from Government or its affiliates is seen to favor something like a history of historic structures while the actual buildings are left to decay for lack of such funds.

An example in this area is that while preparation costs for a book on the history of Prince Edward County as represented by its older buildings have been estimated at about \$78,000, an application for a grant from the Ontario Heritage Foundation to assist in the restoration of Albury Church was denied.

Albury Church is situated on the Rednersville Road and for more than a year now its members have been raising funds toward restoring the building. However, as J.D. MacIntosh noted in a recent letter to The Picton Gazette, while local

residents have been very generous, "it was realized that the restoration would require some form of government grant."

ment grant."

As has been noted, this was denied, which prompted Mr. MacIntosh to observe, in connection with the history book expected to be ready for the bicentennial year 1984: ".... the authors had better exclude Albury Church for it may no longer be standing ..."

Mr. MacIntosh quoted from a let-

Mr. MacIntosh quoted from a letter from consulting architect Peter Stokes expressing concern that even the vibration from ringing of the bell "might dislodge the veneer and stone decoration where it has become loose."

He concludes: "Whether or not you consider the Albury Church worthy of restoration is immaterial, but to preserve our heritage let's stop writing about it and start doing something."

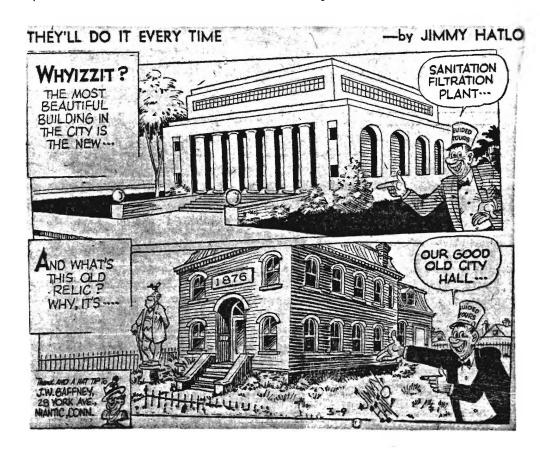
The point is well taken. Let's give due consideration to these interesting old buildings that are still standing and serving their day and generation.

28. A HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT - You may have wondered why we printed Lois Foster's notes on a section of the 1845 plan of Belleville and a larger section of the same map on the next page. Can you find the buildings she described on the larger plan? Also, if you're in that section of Belleville, try to find if any of the other buildings also survive, for example on Front Street. Send in your findings or come to the March meeting with your questions. You've one month to work on the assignment. Good luck! (P.S. Look on Front Street just north of Dundas for one remaining building.)

29. A Murray Clan Society is now being formed in Canada. For information on the society please write to: John D. Murray

Lieutenant to the Chief for Canada 39 Abbeywood Trail Don Mills, Ontario M3B 3B4

30. Heritage has not always been taken seriously. Witness the following cartoon that appeared in the press a few years back. (At least the guide showed pride in the "old relic" and the city fathers hadn't levelled it.)



- 31. At our January 12 meeting, the Board of Directors decided that increases in membership fees were necessary for 1982. We considered data such as the following:
  - it costs \$4.50 per member per year to prepare and mail OUTLOOK
     it costs \$1.00 per member per year to provide free admission
  - to the Hastings County Museum
  - 3. it costs between \$35 and \$120 to arrange each meeting
  - 4. the society has a variety of other activities it supports, such as the educational program for county schools, cemetery research, etc. AND our 1981 membership fees ranged from \$3 to \$5 for individuals!

When we presented our new fee schedule at the Annual Meeting, the members' Consider this account of reaction to the increase was most encouraging. the meeting as written by the Intell reporter:

Fees for membership in the Hastings County Historical Society will go up this year, but no one is complaining.

The society agreed to increase the fees at its annual meeting Tuesday. It's the first time in four years the fees have been changed, but increased postage rates, cost of meeting accommodation and publication expenses for Outlook made the move

adopted the new fees—35 for senior citizens, \$7 for a regular membership, \$7 for a senior citizen family senior citizen family membership and \$10 for a regular family membership-several members had suggestions of ways to help the society.

One member suggested, as increased postage rates, cost of meeting accommodation and publication expenses for Outlook made the move necessary.

When the membership of members agreed. The decision was made that life members could contribute to

the society if they felt they wanted to do so.

And, although fees are not

retroactive for those who had already paid their membership for this year, many members also offered to pay a donation to the society for the difference between what they paid and the new fee schedule.

Included in the member-ship of the society is a \$1 fee paid on behalf of each member to the Hastings County Museum. This entitles.

society members entry to the museum and a 10 per cent reduction on the cost of material sold at the museum.

There are currently 253 paid memberships and 20 life memberships in the society. Membership also includes seven women's institutes.

This year, the Hastings County Historical Society begins its 25th year, with its official anniversary on Oct. 1. Plans are under way to hold the society's October meeting on the day of its anniversary.

Accordingly, we are inviting all members and friends of the Society to join in supporting the Society financially in 1982.

32. Congratulations to Cora Reid, re-elected president of the Lennox and Addington Historical Society at the January 30 meeting. About 60 people attended the annual meeting and heard <u>Colin Vollick's</u> excellent paper on Dr. Oronhyatekha. We have asked Jim Eadie to obtain a copy for our archives, since Oronhyatekha was closely linked with Deseronto, Foresters Island, Frankford, and the Hastings County Medical Association.

More important messages and news of interest from the executive of the HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 1418 Belleville, Ontario

who remind you that HERITAGE DAY is FEBRUARY 15

for the enlightenment edification education, and enjoyment of





Mrs. G. W. Green 30 Keller Dr. Belleville, Ont.

PLEASE RETURN THIS ENTIRE PAGE, INCLUDING THE MAILING LABEL

AN INVITATION to readers to renew their membership during our Membership Month - February.

Readers will find the appropriate category checked below:

- 1. As a member of the Society in '81 who has not yet renewed for '82, your fees are due now. Please complete the renewal slip ("A") and bring it to the meeting on February 15th or mail it in with the fees.
- 2. As a member of the Society who renewed for '82 at the lower rates, no further fees are required. However, several such members have suggested that they would like to make donations to the Society. If you would like to help in this way, please use the donation slip
- 3. As a Life or Honorary Member of the Society, no further fees are required. However, several life members have suggested that they would like to make donations to the Society. If you would like to help in this way, please use the donation slip ("B").
- 4. As a reader of a school copy, no fees are required. However, we encourage teachers to take out individual memberships to support If you are interested, please use form "A" below. the Society.
- 5. As a recipient of a complimentary copy of OUTLOOK, no fees at necessary.
- 6. As a W.I. rep, whose year runs from September to August, no fees are necessary until September/82.
- (A) YES, I (we) would like to support the Hastings County Historical Society through membership in 1982. I understand that this membership entitles me to: nine issues of OUTLOOK

admission to Society meetings

discounts on publications of the Society

free admission to the Hastings County Museum (on presentation of my Society membership card)

ten per cent discount on materials purchased at the Museum

I (we) am (are) enclosing the membership fee of . . . dollars for the following type of membership: (Please check one type)

2.00	TYPE	SINGLE	FAMILY
0	REGULAR	\$ 7.	\$10.
	SENIOR CITIZEN	\$ 5.	\$ 7.
	STUDENT	\$ 5.	XXXXXXXX

B. YES, I (we) would like to assist the Society by donating ...... dollars. Please send a receipt for Income Tax purposes.

NOTE: PLEASE RETURN THIS ENTIRE SHEET (including the mailing label) to the Hastings County Historical Society, P.O. 1418, Belleville, Ontario. If there is any error in the printed name or address on the label, please correct it. Many thanks

P.S. Hope to see as many of you as possible at the meeting on February 15th.