

**Osgoode Township
Historical Society & Museum**
at the
Old Vernon School
Newsletter

VOLUME XXII No. 1 MARCH 1995

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As we move into 1995, let me wish you all the best. Here at our Museum, we hope to meet you at many of our yearly activities.

At our first meeting of 1995, we reviewed our Historical Society's Constitution and found it most favourable and at the February meeting, we had our Annual General Meeting at which year end reports were read and we elected the officers for the year.

Our first event of the year was Heritage Day. We had a fantastic speaker who works for the National Capital Commission - Mr. Winterlude himself. His name is Martin Den Haring who was born in Holland before the outbreak of World War II. He recalled the bombing of his home city, Rotterdam. Mr. Den Haring was only a child of about seven years at the time. He brought to life the horrific memories he had of the war, his experience of being shifted from one family to another, not knowing where his parents were. This proved to be an indelible trauma, forever imprinted in his mind. It brought tears to the eyes of many in the audience.

He extended his heartfelt praise to the Canadians who helped to liberate his homeland. He is a very kind, human person and I feel very fortunate to have heard him speak and I would recommend Mr. Den Haring to any group.

Remember you are all welcome to attend our meetings and functions throughout the year.

Food for thought anyone? If you day is hemmed with prayer, it is less likely to unravel.

Murray Little

SLATE OF OFFICERS OF 1995

Past President Robert Usher
 President Murray Little
 Vice-President Doug Hughes
 Recording/Corresponding Secretary Shirley Lowe
 Treasurer/Curator Ann Leighton-Kyle

Directors: Fred Alexander, Jim Bowman, Lorne Craig, Michael Daley, Doug Hughes, Don Lowe, Bob Usher, Bill Zandbelt

Archivist Donna Bowen
 Maintenance Bill Zandbelt
 Membership Alice Craig
 Program Convenor Fred Alexander
 Newsletter Michael Daley
 Social Committee Alice Craig
 Ollie Cameron, Edna Presley

The picture above of Patrick McEvoy and his wife, May Ann Dewan with their well-matched span of bays was taken on their wedding day.

Patrick, son of Richard McEvoy and Elizabeth Sheridan of the Prescott Road, and his wife May Ann, daughter of Patrick Dewan and Ellen Blanchfield of the Manotick Station Road, both descendants of pioneer families of Osgoode, were married June 3rd, 1907 in St. John's Church, Enniskerry. They farmed Lot 23 for many years raising a family of ten.

How many of our readers remember someone saying, "so-and-so had a span of chestnuts, or a span of grays. Do you remember when the height of a horse was measured by so many "hands" high - maybe 14 - 16 hands? So further job your memory, what was the measurement of a hand? The measurement was based on the width of the average mans hand, 4 inches, thus it was used for measuring the height of a horse.

Michael Daley

BASEBALL IN OSGOODE TOWNSHIP

A small oak baseball showcase recently donated to the museum by the Rowan family includes: 3 aged baseballs, a 1933 Constitution By-Laws and playing rules of the Ontario Amateur Softball Association and 1 umpire scoring tablet.

An inscription reads: "The Centennial Edition of the Metcalfe Agricultural Society records that Metcalfe had a good baseball team from the middle of the 19th century onwards. The diamond was located in the north corner of Lot 23, Concession 8, on land made available by Alexander McDonnell. In 1874 the Agricultural Society purchased 10 acres from Mr. MacDonnell. This included the area used by the ball team. The baseballs in this case belonged to Charles Clark, a local carpenter 1868 - 1956 who was a pitcher on the local team."



ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

These are some notes of interest gleaned from township records for the year 1895. It should perhaps be explained that the term "nine mile roads" refers to the east-west roads which cross the concessions at one and a quarter mile intervals. Although the township is approximately thirteen miles wide, the term "nine mile road" is of ancient origin and was used throughout the province in the early days.

The term "Award Drain," still in common use, first appears in the 1895 records and refers in particular to the Grey's Creek drain, which was (and still is) of vital concern to the council and to the ratepayers affected by it.

The condition and improvement of roads was of constant and vital concern, with many pleas to council that certain individuals be hired to dig ditches along certain portions of road, or to construct or repair certain culverts.

While the macadamised toll road from Greely to Metcalfe was considered to be the best road in the township, the stage driver suggested that the toll be reduced until the condition of the road could be improved to a point where the toll could be justified.

The council agreed that a bridge be constructed across "Lee's Creek" on the nine mile road near the Osgoode Toll Gate. (I expect this would be about where Meadow Drive crosses Highway 31.)

As the result of a petition by Mr. W.J. Richardson, Mr. J.B. Lewis, P.L.S, was authorized to make a survey and plan of the village of Kenmore.

The Trustee of Roman Catholic School Section #2 made application to borrow the sum of \$425.00 with interest at 4% for the purpose of building a School House. (From notes provided by our Editor, the school was built on the west end of Lot 7, Concession, by Patrick Sullivan and his two sons.)

submitted by Bob Usher

CAMPBELL AMONG MISSING AT RAPIDS

researched and submitted by Norma Morrison

I enjoyed the article in the last Newsletter about Rivermen, Shanty-men & Lumberjacks and feel you might be interested in my research on Jeremiah Campbell, an older brother of Thomas Campbell, my great-great-grandfather. While Thomas didn't live in this area, it is interesting to be able to put a face to the Rivermen in the article. The brothers farmed close-by each other in Plantagenet Township but Jeremiah was also a River Pilot and died during a storm on Lake St. Peter while piloting a raft to Quebec in October 1836.

Thomas left Plantagenet for Osgoode and Mountain Townships the year his brother died. Of interest too, is that in early Census records three of Jeremiah's sons were absent from home at lumber camps in Russell Townships.

Jeremiah's name kept cropping up when I was researching Thomas Campbell in Argenteuil County, Quebec, where the Campbell lived in the 1790's, later crossing to river to Plantagenet Township in the early 1800's. Then, by great good luck, a person from California wrote Ottawa Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society enquiring about a Campbell man

who died while piloting a raft on Lake St. Peter in October 1836. The woman who wrote to the Ottawa Branch had a letter from Jeremiah's daughter, Polly Campbell Hudson, telling her the news of her father's death. The letter and envelope (about 145 years old) were in perfect condition. Attached is a copy of letter written from Hull, Canada East, to Mrs. Hudson, who was her first cousin. The original of this letter is in the hands of a descendant of Jane (Campbell) Hudson in Mendocino, California.

October 28, 1836

Mrs. Hudson

The melancholly (sic) news of my Father's death reached me last evening. It came in the Montreal Gazette. The paper states that he was Pilot to a raft belonging to Perth and had proceeded as far as Lake St. Peter's when on the 17th inst a gale was experienced from south east and the raft was completely broken up and the whole crew was drowned (sic) consisting of 13 in number. Eight of the crew were found on shore next morning among whom was my dear parent in an awful state of mutilation. If it is convenient I should be very glad to have you come and see me as soon as possible.

*Yours in affliction
(sigd.) Polly Campbell*

Excerpt from the MONTREAL GAZETTE - Saturday evening, October 22, 1836

Point du Lac, Tuesday, October 18, 1836

Between 6 o'clock last evening and six this morning, a gale was experienced from S.E. upon Lake St. Peter, so violent that 4 rafts have been completely broken up and caused the loss of 25 lives. One raft of red and white pine, belonging to Messrs. Poupard and Raymond, totally wrecked, from which 12 men were lost, among whom were 2 brothers of Mr. Raymond. Another raft, the property of Messrs. Rodgers & Thompson of Perth, was this morning found scattered upon the beach, and all of the crew, 13 in number, have perished. Eight of the latter crew were found this morning upon the shore at this place in an awful state of mutilation, amongst whom was the pilot, Jeremiah Campbell, one of the oldest and most experienced pilots on the river. Another raft of oak, the property of Messrs. Porter, Gemmell & Cameron of Perth, consisting of 75 cribs, is a complete wreck, the crew all safe. Another raft of red pine, owned by Mr. Thompson and brother, is likewise broken up, no lives lost, and the timber may be principally saved.

PHILEMON WRIGHT PAPERS - NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF CANADA - RAFT BOOKS 1806-1825

1814 - Raft started from the Grand Chaudiere Falls, 4 July. Among officers and men on board - Jerius Campbell, Mate, who "left the raft at the foot of the rapids at (Long Sault?) morning of 4 August."

1817 - 1st Raft Book for Anno Domini 1817. The first raft for 1817 started from the Grand Chaudiere Falls the 4th of June, being the King's birthday, in good order and condition. All hands on board well so God send the said raft to its destined port in safety, Amen.

God save the King & help the Queen

16 June - paid Jerius Campbell bill at Long Sou (sic) 25 £

1818 - Left Hull 1 August

27 August - Jerius Campbell - 10 1/2 days labour,

12 days labour of your son David - 4 1/8 £

1824 - 19 July - 3rd raft book contains Petty Cash book with mentions of payment to Jairus Campbell

'BIG SNOW' OF 1869 ISOLATED AREA AFTER HANGING OF PATRICK WHELAN

Written for The Journal by Harry J Walker
(copyright)

It started to snow heavily on February 11, 1869 - the day that Patrick Whelan was executed for the murder of the Hon. Thomas D'Arcy McGee. And it scarcely stopped snowing until St. Patrick's Day, March 17.

When it did there was a 7 foot covering, packed like an Arctic waste, over the Ottawa Valley. Roads were obliterated. Farms and communities were isolated and cattle died in the stalls.

And so we come to the story of the 'year of the Big Snow,' recorded in William Upton's diary.

When William Upton arose early that morning there was an indication that the blizzard was going to strike the district. Returning from cutting up meat in his shed he noted the thermometer reading as 2 above zero.

Hanging of Whelan

He did not go into the city that morning where an immense crowd had gathered outside the Carleton County courthouse to witness the last public hanging in Ottawa. It was a melancholy event attended with a ghoulishness in making it a spectacle that now offends civilized concepts. (Legend even says they hanged the wrong man!)

The thousands who watched Whelan die at 11 in the morning returned to their shops and homes, or drove back in their sleighs along the concession lines. From shouting boys, they eagerly bought up the "Extra" put out by the "Ottawa Times" on a single sheet (7 x 4 ") recording the event like a souvenir program.

Before noon, a blizzard lashed city and country like the Whips of the Furies as if intent on driving people in doors and keeping them there in punishment for such depraved curiosity.

However, the Upton family went about their daily tasks in their homestead of "Groveland." Mrs. Upton sent the girls to their singing lesson. That evening Upton closed his diary with this entry: "In the evening Miss Margery, Ellen, John and Alexander Kennedy came to entertain us with a vocal performance. It was snowing heavily."

Hazards of Blizzard

At first nobody regarded it as anything more than a bad storm. But as daily the winds piled the snow in impenetrable drifts, stopping the flow of supplies either by the Bytown or Prescott railway, or by the sleigh trains on the roads, the ordinary routine of living slowed down in town and country.

Travellers found themselves marooned in snow-bound villages. As the concession fences vanished and all landmarks disappeared, it was hazardous to venture farther than along a white tunnel to barn or shed. Farm buildings huddled like grotesque mushrooms under a white mantle.

To accentuate the accumulating hardship, hay and straw and fuel became perilously scarce. There had been a very short hay crop the previous summer all over eastern Canada. Early in the fall, farmers were demanding \$30 a ton and by mid winter the price had soared to \$100 per ton. Now the continuous snow and series of blizzards had made hay a scarce commodity extremely difficult to bring to market. Hay was rationed sparingly by the bale.

Rescue by Lanthorn

In an era of horse transport, this created a grave problem of supply in both urban and rural life. There were no power plows to keep the roads open and no telephones to summon help.

The Uptons isolated in their homestead were anxious about their daughter, Mary visiting friends on Long Island. With relief, he records:

"Sunday, Feb. 14, 1869, a northeast blizzard. Mr. Collins brought back Mary from Long Island Locks. Miss Freeman and Mrs. Houston came in Mr. McKenna's sleigh having broken the shaft of their cutter near his place. Taking a shovel and a lanthorn we dug the horses out, led them, and dragged the sleigh to near Fitzsimmons. They then took us in their sleigh across the fields to Mr. Freemans where I slept. It snowed all day and it drifted from the east."

Troops Dig Snow

The government ordered out the garrison troops at Ottawa to help shovel the railway line from Prescott to the Capital. In addition, the railway company engaged all the help possible to dig out the trains in the cuts where the drifts were 20 feet deep.

For Upton in was becoming a nightmare to obtain hay and straw. Here are some typical entries: "Tuesday, Feb. 16. All morning treading the road in front of our land from Cousins to Hacketts. No one passed the house during the day. "Wednesday, Feb. 17. Walked with Mr. Collins to Mr. Freemans to fetch our horses which we led. Several men digging the snow so as to make it possible to get them along. No traffic during the day. "Saturday, Feb. 20. Went to Reynold's for a little straw having given all we had to the cows. Three sleighs and a snow plough came down the road and I went with them as far as Whelans to break the road. These are the first sleighs that have passed since Sunday. It snowed nearly all morning.

Grim Living.

"Monday, Feb. 22. Dug out yard gateway. W. Collins left in the afternoon after having been here weather bound for more than a week. In the afternoon went with Willy to Mr. Gavins for a load of straw which I got from his tenant, Mr. Smith.

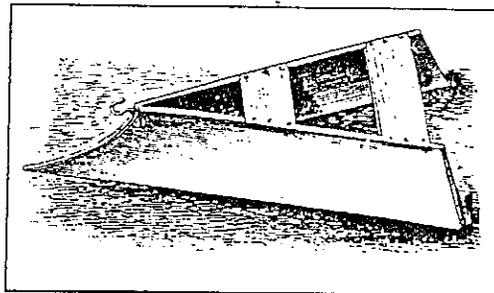
"Tuesday, Feb. 23. A heavy snow storm from the north. Snow drifted till night. Roads blocked. "Wednesday, Feb. 24. After breakfast it began to snow from the east and it continued till night. Went with Willy to bespeak some straw at Mr. McKenzie's. The horses floundered continually and twice we were obliged to unharness them. Left them with Willy and went on foot. "Friday, Feb. 26. Went with Ellen to water the cows in Woods' bush. On the way back all but one lay down as the path was so narrow and the snow so deep that they could not keep their balance on the elevated ridge. We got them all home except one (Violet) which having fallen several times, when about half way home could get no farther so had to be left in a deep hole sheltered by the snow all round. We protected her with boards and a horse blanket and have her hay for the night and water to drink. Went to E. Reynolds for a little hay for the horses. It snowed heavily all day.

Peril of 'Cow-Holes'

"Saturday, Feb. 27. It snowed all day and drifted with a high wind from the west. Mr. Reynolds came and after taking breakfast here, he, Milla, Willy and I dug a channel in the deep snow from the place where the cow had passed the night to the cattle yard gate. The cow following us, we dug a fresh length of channel. The top of her back was about level with the snow on each side. In this way we succeeded in getting her safely home. Willy and I then went to Mr. Reynolds for hay and got in a portion of the lowerfield road fence to burn having no firewood prepared. No sleighs passed. Charles Clark called on his way to town on snow shoes."

Even when travel did resume in a sort of trickle on the roads, it was fraught with peril to man and beast. Great "cow-holes" had formed in the

highways and in the fields across which sleighs crawled. When a team and sleigh bogged into one of these they just disappeared and foundered like a schooner in the trough of a gale-lashed sea.



Clutch of winter

The entries of the diary for March 1869 reveal a determined group effort to break the clutch of snow-bound days. On Sunday, March 14, a number of people actually got to Halpenny's school house, in the afternoon where Mr. Adams led in the first church service held in weeks. But Upton records that "during the service a storm commenced from the west which, until sunset, was like a hurricane."

While there was a thaw in the last week of March, the first of April saw a return of extremely cold weather. Upton, who meticulously recorded the temperatures each day, indicates the following readings:

April 2-18 above zero; April 30-8 above zero; April 6 - zero with snow; April 9 - zero; April 13 - zero.

The rains finally came on April 19, and with the deluge, the Rideau River went on a rampage that flooded the countryside. The river road was four feet under water.

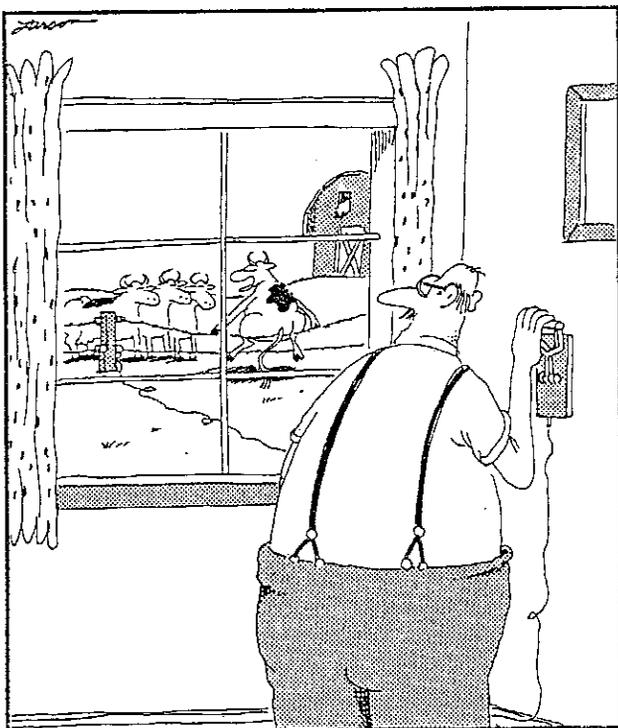
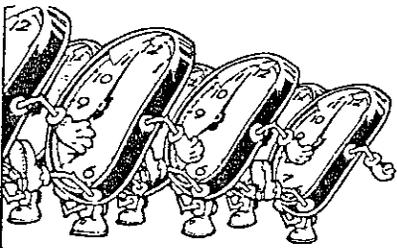
But all things come to an end. The spring sun warmed the fields, and the land emerged free and the grass was again green with the forgiveness of Nature.

☛ AN ADDED FOOTNOTE

An historical sketch of the William Upton Farm, is illustrated in the *Belden Historical Atlas of the County of Carleton in 1879*. In 1907, the farm was purchased by a riding group of people known as the Ottawa Hunt Club. Relations with the Bowesville people and those further south in Osgoode were always good. The Annual Invitational Dinner and Gala Ball at the club house were enjoyed by all. The Ottawa Hunt Club members took the opportunity to say thanks to their neighbour guest for the courtesy of being allowed to dash over their lands and fences.

In 1920, with the changing of the times, work started in converting the land into proper formations for a Golf Course. Today this picturesque Golf Course still retains the name Ottawa Hunt Club and is situated at the corner of Hunt Club and Bowesville Roads at the north end of the Ottawa International Airport.

Michael Daley



"Look, if it was electric, could I do this?"

From - *The Chickens Must Be Crazy* by Gary Lautens

I'M FINE THANK YOU

There is nothing the matter with me
I'm as healthy as can be.
I have arthritis in both my knees
And when I talk, I talk with a wheeze.
My pulse is weak, and my blood is thin,
But I'm awfully well, for the shape I'm in.

Arch supports, I have for my feet
Or I wouldn't be able to be on the street.
Sleep is denied me night after night
But every morning I find I'm alright.
My memory is failing, my head's in a spin,
But I'm awful well for the shape I'm in.

The moral in this as the tale unfolds
That for me and you, we are growing old.
It is better to say "I'm fine" with a grin
Than to let folks know the shape we are in.

How do I know my youth is gone?
Well, my "get up and go" has got up and went.
But I really don't mind, when I think with a grin
Of all the grand places, my get up has been.

Old age is golden, I've heard it said.
But sometimes I wonder as I get into bed
With my ears in the drawer, my teeth in a cup
My eyes on the table until I wake up.

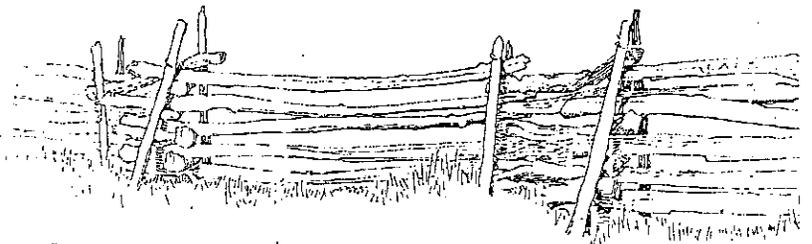
Ere sleep comes over me, I say to myself
Is there anything else I could put on the shelf?
When I was young, my slippers were red,
I could kick my heels right over my head.
When I grew older, my slippers were blue
But still I could dance the whole night through.

Now that I'm old, my slippers are black.
I get up each morning and dust off my wits,
Pick up the paper and read the 'obits.'
If my name is missing, I know I'm not dead.
So I get a good breakfast, and go back to bed.

Author Unknown

submitted by Michael Daley

**DON'T FORGET TO RENEW
YOUR 1995 MEMBERSHIP -
\$8.00 INDIVIDUAL / \$9.00 PER FAMILY**



Snake Fence * * *

HARRY M. ANDERSON

At his home in Vernon, on Thursday, Dec. 8, 1994, Harry M. Anderson in his 92nd year, passed to a happier place. A retired school teacher, as a charter member of Osgoode Township Historical Society, he served continuously as Secretary and Corresponding Secretary from founding until his illness in the fall of 1994. A charter member also of the Osgoode Township Male Choir, an active and dedicated member of his church and the community in which he lived. With fond memories, I can say I knew this quiet, soft-spoken little gentleman.

Michael Daley

*Lord teach me how to love and work,
That every deed I do
May be to someone in its turn
A service fine and true.*

(From Harry's collection of poems and maxims)

Over the years, Vernon museum and its place in the community held high priority on Harry's list of interests. The reasons were two-fold. Firstly, because Harry loved Vernon and its people, he promoted it whenever and wherever he could. Secondly, he deeply revered the foundations laid down by our forefathers and believed in supporting every endeavour to perpetuate their memory.

His own roots went back to Scottish maternal ancestry and to U.E.L paternal ancestry. Harry was born at the small community of Brouseville, north of Cardinal, Ontario. He was educated at Brouseville Public School, Cardinal Continuation School and Iroquois High School. He attended and graduated from Ottawa Normal School - Class of '23. His career as an educator spanned the next forty-two years. Among the schools he served were those of Dalmeny, Hallville, Osgoode and Metcalfe.

While yet a teacher he was ever the student with an enquiring mind. He returned to studies and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at age 54 from the University of Ottawa. His hunger for learning was satisfied in great measure by his appetite for reading. Although his passion ran to history and English literature, the most read book in his possession was his bible.

Harry first called Vernon home where he married Olive Campbell, daughter of James F. Campbell and Jessie Taylor, whose ancestors were among the founding families of this township.

The influence of the more than 60 years he spent as a resident of this community will long be felt. We remember his smile, his friendliness, his gentleness, his respect for decency. Harry left his earthly home on December 8, 1994 in his 92nd year and we are richer because he was one of us.

Ruth Fetterly, Iroquois (niece)

RUSSELL LEADER - MARCH 1902

Earlier contribution by the late Keith Boyd

James Simpson Esq.
Ex Reeve Tp. of Osgoode
Metcalfe, Ont.

Ottawa, Mar. 17, 1902

Dear Mr. Simpson,

In view of the fact that we have met on friendly terms since our recent election contest, I am very much surprised that you have thought it necessary to charge me with slander in connection with my speech (sic) on nomination day. The idea that I charged you with having sold the tolls to Mrs. Ran for the consideration of allowing you to pass up and down the road free, is entirely wrong. It is a fact, as I think you yourself know, that some of those who were opposed to you were asking why it was that you had sold the tolls to Mrs. Ryan without public tender and it may be that these people were insinuating that you had received some consideration for doing so. In my nomination day speech, I referred to the rumours that were going about and asked you to explain them. You did explain them and that is all that I had to say about them. I considered that what I did was proper under the circumstances and I had no desire whatever to injure your reputation in any way. If people still think there was anything in it, I am personally very sorry for it, and I am quite ready to tell my friends and acquaintances that from what I have learned of the matter since I do not think that you would act dishonestly in that or any other matter. While I do not think that you have any grounds for an action of slander against me, I would think it very unfortunate that you and I should have litigation and I hope that you will see your way clear to let your action drop so that we can be as good friends in the future as we have in the past. You may depend upon it that if this is done I will do all I can to set you right before the people.

Yours Truly,
Thos. W. James

WIN SOME, LOSE SOME

Among the predictions in the Jan. 1, 1901 edition of the *Fort Worth Register* for what the 20th century would bring:

"Hot and cold air will be turned on as we turn on hot and cold water."

"We will go to England in two days in giant vessels that travel a mile a minute."

"Ready cooked meals will be brought to our tables cooked by electricity."

"There will be no c, x or g in our alphabet."

Ottawa Citizen

OSGOODE TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

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Tel: (613) 821-4062

Membership: \$8.00/yr (single) \$9.00/yr (family)

Kemptville Advance

July 13, 1904 - Metcalfe

The Drill Hall was the scene of gaiety and mirth on Dominion Day when a promenade concert was given by the Presbyterian Church. A splendid programme was carried out and was thoroughly enjoyed by the large audience. Refreshments were served and the ice cream and strawberry booths were thronged. During the evening the pastor, Rev. Mr. Woods, announced that the manse committee had purchased the property of Mr. Charles Cameron for a manse. The net receipts amounted to \$65.

Feb. 7, 1907

Osgoode boys forge to the front wherever they may be located. The mississippi Valley Lumberman of the 15th Inst. contained the following regarding Mr. I.J. MacConnell who left Osgoode Contemporary says: "I.J. MacConnell, Eastern Representative of the McGoikirk Lumber Co of Spokane Wash. has opened up commodious quarters at 101920 Lumber Exchange, where he is receiving his old friends and patrons of the co. during convention week. Mr. MacConnell entered the employ of this company and will travel extensively on the road through North and South Dakota and Minnesota. He is contemplating opening up an office at Minneapolis, where he will make his headquarters." Mr. MacDonnell is one of the youngest progressive lumber men who have grown up in the business. For a number of years, he was with the I.H. Queal Lumber Co. and later was auditor of the retail yards. This experience will be of value to him in seeking the trade of the retail lumbermen.

Oct. 17, 1912 - Vernon

On Friday evening last Oct. 22th, a host of friends of Mr. & Mrs. B. Moses, met for a social hour under the auspices of the Vernon Women's Institute, of which Mrs. Moses is the late president. Short speeches were delivered by Mr. J.C. Stewart, Dr. Ballantyne and Mr. B. Moses. A clever address on the work of the Women's Institute was given by Mr. Swift. Instrumental music was furnished by Mrs. Campbell, Mr. Wallace and Dr. Kennedy on the piano, and Miss Fraser's gramophone music proved an unusually attractive feature. Mrs. J.C. Stewart and the newly elected President read an address of farewell to Mr. & Mrs. Moses who are leaving shortly for the west.

Mar. 4, 1915 - Hallville

On Friday evening a number of St. Andrew's U.P.S including the debating team journeyed to Vernon to be the guests of the Y.P.S of the Baptist Church there. The debate "resolved that government ownership of public utilities is more beneficial to a country than private ownership" was especially interesting to the large audience assembled. The St. Andrews team, A. Harold Clark, E.J. Bates and J.R. Martin upheld government ownership, while the Vernon team, Mrs. James Stewart, Jas. F. Campbell and Jas. Ferguson ably defended the negative. The gentlemen of the jury were Rev. Alexander of the Baptist Church Vernon, Rev. Chandler of the Baptist Church Ormond, and Rev. Cliff of St. Andrew's Hallville. Miss Chester, principal of the Ormond Continuation School acted as critic. Verdict was given in favor of the affirmative.

Jan. 25, 1912 - Vernon

On Jan 18th, the Vernon Skating Club have opened their new skating rink. They deserve credit for building such a splendid rink. Mr. Peter Wyatt has been engaged to run it. The Hockey Club held their annual meeting Saturday afternoon. The Officers elected were: Dr. Ballantyne, President; D.M. Stuart, Manager; E. Campbell, Sec-Treasurer; Ex Committee, W. Allin, J.F. Campbell and T. Allin. Among the old players out in uniform were Howell, the old Point Man, Campbell and Bowman, Wingmen, and Stuart, Goal Tender. Some of the younger blood are making a fine showing and the club expects to put a fast team in the field.

Mar. 11, 1915 - Vernon

On Monday morning, about 10 o'clock, fire broke out in Mr. Fraser's store and despite the efforts of the citizens, it was burned to the ground. There was a strong wind blowing at the time and the fire caught in the barber shop and burned it too. Mr. Fraser's dwelling was attached to the store and was completely destroyed with the contents. Nothing of value was saved. For some time, fears were entertained for the safety of Mr. Porteous' store. Mr. Fraser had only a small insurance on his stock.

Jan. 4, 1917 - Results of Municipal Elections, Osgoode Township

Osgoode Township Reeve and Deputy Reeve by acclamation, Reeve - F.J. Loney, Deputy Reeve - D. J. Hill, Councillors - George Acres, William O'Brien, William Jackles.

Jan. 17 - Article

A phonograph which changes automatically from one record to another is described in Popular Mechanics. Twelve wax cylinders may be placed on the machine at one time; a revolving wheel carries the records under the diamond point producer. A push-button controls the number of records the machine will play without stopping.

Mar. 17, 1917 - Metcalfe

Half a score of young men went down to the Capital Saturday night and witnessed the overwhelming triumph of the Senators over Quebec.

July 13, 1917 - Metcalfe

The Union School picnic of the Township of Osgoode was held on Friday, July 6th and was a success both financially and as a means of enjoyment for the pupils. Every school was well represented and a great many of the teachers were present although school had been over for a week. The baseball game at the picnic resulted in a defeat for the home team, 8 - 2 by the Osgoode Station team. Chartrand's speedy pitching controlled the game. The Metcalfe Nine have only lost three games this season, but then we omitted to say that they have only played three.

Sept. 13, 1917 - West Osgoode

We beg to remind the children an ratepayers of this section that school has reopened. Last weeks attendance would indicate that they are unaware of the fact.

Dec. 20, 1917 - West Osgoode

School closes on Friday of this week. The lady teachers will take their holidays and commence again, while the gentlemen teachers will take their military careers. However proficiency in the use of pointers will be to their credit in wielding the bayonet.

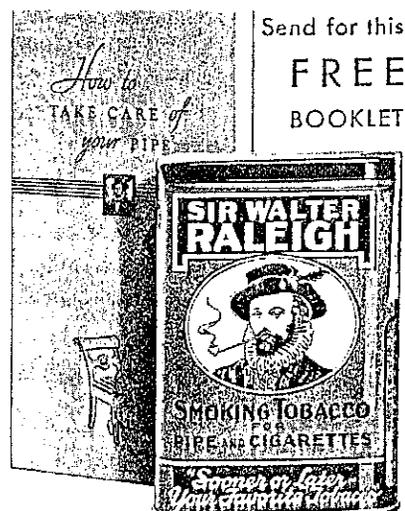
Feb. 28, 1918 - West Osgoode

A few young men have arrived home from the North Country where they were engaged on lumbering operations.

August 15, 1918 - Article - Seeing Things

A very mysterious and thrilling form was observed in the sky around West Osgoode on the night of Aug. 7, by a party of young people. It represented a perfect outline of the skeleton of a man's hand and passed across the heavens at a very rapid rate of speed. There is no doubt, to most people will seem foolish, nevertheless true, and is thought to bring forth tidings of a famine.

compiled by Donna Bowen



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