

Gid Lane's Blacksmith west of Town Hall and Doctor's field on Victoria Street, on lot just east of Saver and Timmins Store, later James Simpson's General Store

Osgoode Township Historical Society & Museum

at the
Old Vernon School
Newsletter

Volume XXXII No 1 MAR 2005

New to the Archives

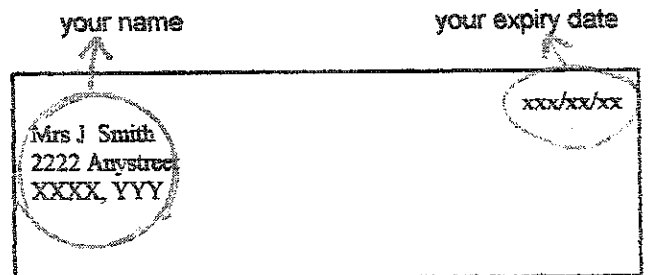
A Researchers Guide to the Archives by Angela Barkley, A Guide to Cemeteries in Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry by Alec Ball, A Listing of Churches and Schools in Osgoode Township by Alec Ball, and a CD and list of names of Veterans of Osgoode by Corinne Atkins-Sheldrick.

Donations of Artifacts - A butter chum circa 1850 donated by Freda Moodie, a framed map of City of Ottawa donated by Cecil Reaney, map of Greely by P. McEvoy, a booklet on Metcalfe Holiness Church 1904-2004 donated by Alec Ball.

James Stevenson

MEMBERSHIP

Membership for the year is still \$15.00. You'll notice on your envelope the date of expiry



Your membership card and charitable tax receipt will accompany your quarterly Newsletter at renewal time. Your membership will bring you:

- ✓ four Newsletters a year
- ✓ access to our records
- ✓ a reasonable amount of free research
- ✓ opportunity to attend and participate in our meetings
- ✓ a chance to volunteer for an important community organization

MUSEUM NOTES

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- March 1st - Monthly meeting with speaker Pierre Doyon on "Moving a Neighbourhood."
- April 5th - Monthly meeting with speaker David Fleming - "The Halifax Explosion - a Human Disaster."

NEW PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

The 150th Anniversary 1854-2004 An Historic Sketch St John The Evangelist and St Bridgit \$8.00

O.T.H.S gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the City of Ottawa



LIST OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS OF 2005

At the Annual General Meeting on Feb 1st 2005 the following were voted or appointed.

Past-President Doug Hughes
President Ron Isaac
Vice-President Russell Johnston
Secretary Ann Leighton-Kyle
Treasurer Alec Ball

Directors: Harvey Linton, Fred Alexander, Bette Crerar, Russell Johnston, Cecil Reaney, Ken McDiarmid, Eda van der Linden, Bill Zandbelt

Other Positions

Curator/Archivist James Stevenson
Webmaster Doug Hughes

Committee Chairs

Printing & Publishing Alec Ball
Museum Management James Stevenson
Building & Grounds Bill Zandbelt
Social & Membership Eda van der Linden
Program Russell Johnston
Newsletter Ann Leighton-Kyle

CURATOR/ARCHIVIST REPORT

At the close of my first six months as Curator/Archivist I've found the work challenging as well as gratifying. The operational grants from the Historical Society have been applied for and we are awaiting acceptance from the City of Ottawa. Although the city has no plans to cut funding the heritage the question of funding remains. The granting committee recently made a visit to the museum and discussions with them about future projects sounded favorable.

A grant has also been submitted to the Community Foundation of Ottawa to secure funds for the operation of a senior's program. A grant has also been applied for a summer student and a museum intern.

Most of the artifacts in the agricultural building have been photographed and new interpretation panels are expected. Approval for the purchase of an audio recording device has been given to develop a self-guided tour of the agricultural building. A project grant to redo the main exhibit room was applied for and received from the City of Ottawa.

Three new exhibits were installed since July, Transportation in Osgoode Township, Remembrance Day and Year of the Veteran; and a Christmas Exhibit. Special events for the year were: Heritage Day, Doors Open Ottawa, May is museum month, MacDonald family reunion, Canada Day, museum Pioneer Day, Pioneer Day, and Remembrance Day Ceremonies. The Society and museum made presentations at: Metcalfe Market, Gene-o-rama, British Isles Genealogy Conference, Ottawa-Carleton Ploughing Match, and Osgoode Township High School Reunion.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hello

Jan 10/05

Thanks so much to Elizabeth Stuart and to all concerned for the article on my great-great grandfather James Peter "Hamish" McDonald in the September, 2004 edition of your newsletter.

I was at the museum last summer on July 16, 2004 as part of the Jimmie Allan McDonald family reunion; many of my relatives had never been to the area and they were all very impressed by the museum and the reception we received.

We all enjoyed Elizabeth's talk immensely. We are deeply indebted to Elizabeth for all her research, to which we owe an understanding of our links with the McNabs, Stuarts/Stewarts and Frasers - and indirectly to the Fishers as well. We are also much indebted to her for her information on our Scottish ancestors and distant relatives still living there.

I think there are a couple of typos in the article of James Peter McDonald in the September 2004 edition. James Peter and Ann came to Canada in 1832, not 1892 (I have a record of the passage by boat to Montreal, on route to Osgoode Township.)

Keep up the good work.

James Peter McDonald, Toronto

Re: Your Newsletter Dec. 2004

It was very interesting to read they story of the Boyd brothers, Vernon. Yes, they were well known for their height and athletic powers. Their father, also a tall robust man known as Spurgeon, provided the first transportation to further education at Winchester High School. Two of their passengers were my cousin Dorothy and Arnold Acres. Also possibly Douglas McKercher, Dorothy Porteous, Johnny Campbell and Victor (Socks) Kennedy.

I was born in Osgoode Township in 1925 to George Gilbert Acres and Lula Emily Hill. My siblings were (1) Lorne Ellsworth b. 1922 (WWII Air Force Veteran) (2) Elizabeth (Betty) Mae b. 1926 (married Holmes) (3) Bernard Ross b 1927 (died 1928) (4) Lillian Beatrice b. 1933 (married Armstrong) (5) Douglas Robert b. 1935 (married Brenda Acres).

Geraldine Collins

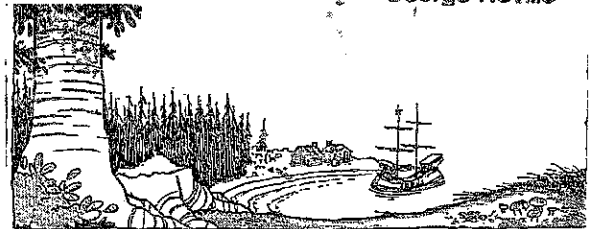
NO DYNAMITE BEFORE CONFEDERATION IN CANADA

Reference was incorrectly made in the principal article ROADWAYS IN OSGOODE TOWNSHIP (Vol XXXI No 4 Dec (2004) to the use of dynamite in building the Rideau Canal. The canal was constructed from 1826 to 1832 some 60 years before dynamite became available in 1867 when Swedish chemist/engineer Alfred Nobel discovered that when highly explosive (very sensitive to shock) nitroglycerin is absorbed in kieselguhr (also known as diatomaceous earth) a product is obtained that is insensitive to shock and readily transportable. Prior to this development the only explosive available was black gunpowder a lower energy explosive.

In his celebrated book RIDEAU WATERWAY Edition 1955 pp 46-47 (the late) Robert Legget drawing from his own Civil Engineering training and experience provides us with the following descriptive insight. Rock which had to be removed from cuttings or as it was required for the stone masonry was excavated by drilling holes which were then filled with gunpowder and blasted. All the holes required were drilled laboriously by hand each was drilled separately with a sharp-pointed rock chisel and a heavy sledge hammer the chisel being steadily turned during the driving. Three men usually made up a drill team. The speed of drilling

as recorded at the time varied from 12 feet in a day for three men at work on a 1.75 inch diameter hole to as little as 4 feet in a day for a 3-inch hole. Holes thus made were filled with powder and tamped (or packed down) and the charges were then set off with slow-burning fuses. Simple gunpowder (or Merchants blasting powder) was the only explosive known, it consisted of a mixture of three parts of nitre to one part of a mixture of sulphur and charcoal. The old device of the plug and feather by which the swelling of wooden plugs when wetted was made to split rock was probably used but the holes would still have had to be laboriously drilled by hand. There is no reference in any of the old records to the use of the expansive power of ice for splitting but in view of the ingenuity displayed in so many other directions on the canal works it is almost certain that the Canadian winter climate was employed to good effect in this way.

George Neville



NOTE OF INTEREST

Do you have Irish Roots leading to the Township of Osgoode ? It should be worth your while exploring Al Lewis's web site "Bytown or Bust!" which can be found at <http://www.bytown.net/> The site has a search capability which will greatly assist in finding information on the site. It also includes a List of Names which are on the Belden's 1879 Map of Osgoode Township.

Do you have relatives in the Township around 1880? If they owned rural land they would be shown on Belden's 1879 Map of Osgoode Township. The Belden Atlas' have been included in the Canadian County Atlas Digital Project is a searchable database of the property owners' names which appear on the township maps in the county atlases. Township maps, portraits and properties have been scanned, with links from the property owners' names in the database. These atlas can be seen at <http://digital.library.mcgill.ca/CountyAtlas/>

The site includes a very powerful search engine which can search for any surname of interest on an all Ontario, or County, or Township basis. The results will show all landowners with the requested surname and the lot and concession of the property they owned. You can then click the GO to find more details and then click LOCATE ON MAP button to bring up a detailed map showing the location of the property.

PLEASE NOTE: At the moment the Canadian County Atlas Digital Project includes the atlas for 41 southern and eastern Ontario counties. All can be found at the above given web site.

Home Children (1869-1930) If you have a Home Child somewhere in you family tree, the following Library and Archives Canada site may be of interest to you: <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/02/020110e.html> Between 1869 and the early 1930s, over 100,000 children were sent to Canada from Great Britain during the child emigration movement. Members of the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa are locating and indexing the names of these Home Children found in passenger lists in the custody of the National Archives of Canada. Some records are very difficult to read and there may be various interpretations of names, if at first you don't succeed try variations of names. The transcription work is ongoing; not all names have been transcribed. For more references to Home Children there are several links on the Osgoode Township Historical Society & Museum web site at: <http://www.magma.ca/~oths/links.html>

Doug Hughes

*In view of the current interest in fitness
consider the following.....*

Found in "the Romance of Sudely Castle" British Heritage Mar/2005. Sudeley Castle, a 15th century castle in the Cotswold Village of Winchcombe was, among others, once the home of Catherine Parr and later Elizabeth I. A noted pair of custodians in 1855 took over, John Coucher Dent and his wife Emma. Emma was an unbelievably energetic woman hunting down antiques and furnishing and creating lace and needlework collections. Emma wore a pedometer to calculate how many miles she walked in a year, usually over 1,00



Submitted by Mary Bushe

SUPPORTING THE FIRST R.O.K. INFANTRY DIVISION

*submitted by Past-President Bob Usher. Note that
R.O.K is Republic of Korea*

Supporting the First R.O.K Infantry Division in Korea - often I remember the calm of the early morning, with a faint light beginning in the East. Sometimes the peculiar call of a pheasant, or from the North the peck-peck-peck of a machine gun, where the P.B.I. (Poor Bloody Infantry) would be at "stand-to" from before first light.

My gun detachment and I arrived in Korea with Roger Battery of the 81st Fd Regt RCA on or about 18 April 1953. I took over the Number Two gun of A Troop, A Battery, 1 RCHA from Sgt. Sam Kozak, whose air of professionalism left me feeling somewhat inadequate. That gun became E2 in Easy Troop.

The GUN would be sitting there, as guns have sat for generations past. Moisture forming and dripping from the closed breech, a bit of oil dripping from the cradle. The flashlight is lying across the layers seat, and the short rammer lies across the trail. The closed breech is pregnant with a round of high explosive (H.E.) and a cartridge with charge three. Six rounds make six mounds under a poncho on the left. As the light strengthens, the muzzles of the other three guns become visible through the ground fog. Number One, slightly ahead and on the right is in the capable hands of Harry Davidson, an acting sergeant with fewer than two years service, as solid as the original Gibraltar. Number Three, very close on the left, commanded by J.A.R.P. MacDonald, late of 1st Light Battery (Para) and recently confirmed sergeant, an excellent soldier and loyal friend. Number Four is further to the right and well ahead, captained by Sergeant Hank Mooney, a veteran of perhaps three years service and the oldest man on the guns of Easy Troop. Immediately behind my gun pit and up an extreme slope sits the troop command post, attached to the guns by the four umbilical pairs of wires to the Tannoy sets (a British public address system). Boss of the command post is 2nd Lieutenant Frank Bayne, a former ranker from the R.C.E.M.E. Corps. He has been our gun position officer (GPO) for almost two years now, is well accepted and respected.

On a quiet morning, reveille will be announced by Mr. Bayne blowing into the microphone of the Tannoy, which produces a rather harsh rustle at the guns. Soon the lads will be appearing in any order of dress, slopping about in unlaced boots, eyes half open, scratching and groaning, needing that first smoke and desperately needing a urinal. By eight o'clock everyone is shaved, shined and fed. Novakovski has prepared and delivered the morning ammo return and the guns

are put out of action in rotation for daily maintenance.

Perhaps this is a good place to explain the general attitude that existed within the troop at that time as I saw it. While we were mostly very young and generally lacking in military experience, there was a definite feeling of dedication to duty and an understanding of the need to provide support for the lads at the front, strictly in accordance with our orders from the troop command post. It should be appreciated that the troop was the extent of our experience and of our small world. The words coming from the Tannoy speaker were the law, the inspiration and the end. Our pride was our performance as gunners. We never needed to discuss it.

With reference to our support of the 1st Republic Of Korea Division, I mentioned in a letter to my Mother dated 8 July 1953, that we would be firing in support of the units in front of, and to the right of Little Gibraltar, and that the other two batteries were moving on that day to positions where they could reach that area. Colonel Nicholson states in *The Gunners of Canada* that "a rearrangement of the brigades of the Commonwealth Division, completed on 12 July 1953, made the Canadians once more responsible for Hill 355, where they had the 1st Republic of Korea Division on their immediate right."

Getting back to the troop, support of Hill 355 called for a switch of slightly more than 90 degrees. This required that the gun platform had to be repositioned to allow for the length of the trail, and that ammunition had to be moved to the opposite side of the gun pit. We had perhaps 200 rounds of H.E. ammunition in a separate enclosure to the left of the gun pit and perhaps twenty feet away. Since the gun was now facing the rear, the ammunition supply was now on the wrong side of the gun and about ten feet further away. So there had to be a constant shifting and handling of 100 pound boxes of projectiles, and lighter but bulkier boxes of cartridges (4 projectiles to a box, 8 cartridges to a box, projectiles 25 lbs each, cartridges about 5 lbs each).

The weather was extremely hot, and when the action became intense the barrels became very hot with paint blistering off, and were cooled by filling with water from time to time as the situation permitted.

There has been some controversy about the use of proximity fuses during that period. The availability of fuses, and the deep cavity shells and the time required to prepare them did not permit impromptu concentrations of vast quantities of proximity fused ammunition. The firing of such ammunition was a tricky business as there was no safe time ring on the proximity fuses at that time. The fuze (T97) had a long body requiring a deep cavity shell. The shells provided were fused with 119 impact fuses, and the deep cavity had been filled with a cloth bag of high explosive material. In order to prepare the shell for proximity use, the 119 fuze had to be removed with a fuze wrench, the cloth bag was pried out with a screw driver and the proximity fuze screwed into the projectile.

One who has never known the joys of such an experience (by candle light yet!) has little right to criticize those who were stuck with it. But I distinctly remember firing such ammo directly over one corner of the command post. Regardless of all that, the weather during the day was extremely hot, our time by night as well as by day was spent answering to the call "Mike Target! Mike Target!" (This meant a regimental target, in this case involving twenty-four guns). We ate or slept when we could, but it seemed to be a never ending experience. A short note to my Mother dated 20 and 21 July states, "still firing towards Hill 355".

We were not keeping score nor were we counting rounds fired, except a rough count of cartridge cases for gun history purposes. We were not greatly surprised to learn that from 12 to 16 July, firing was almost constant with the enemy making nineteen

SUPPORTING THE FIRST R.O.K INFANTRY DIVISION CONTD.

repeated attacks on Hill Betty over a twenty-four hour period. To keep us on our toes the enemy attacked the Hook position on 24 July, which required a switch of almost 180 degrees with the accompanying shift of furniture in and around the gun pit.

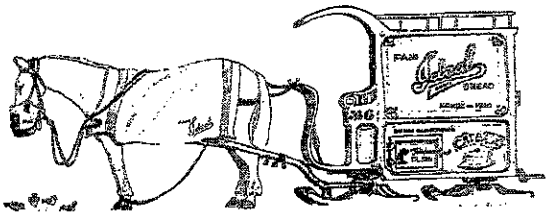
This was about the end of my shooting war in Korea, although the pressure was still on for a few weeks until all the cleaning up and moving were over.

As I write, I have before me a "Letter of Appreciation" dated 4 August 1953, addressed to H.W. Sterne, Lt.-Col. Arty., C.O. Canadian 81st Arty. Regt. It is a photocopy made from a large and elaborate document from "Headquarters, 1st R.O.K. Inf. Division, Office of the Commanding General, signed by Kim Dong Bin, Brig.-Gen. In part, he writes, "I wish to express my deepest appreciation for your outstanding cooperation... since 10 July 1953 to date.... Particularly, your most admirable efforts during this period were in the action on Hill Betty, 15-16 July, when the enemy made nineteen repeated attacks. Your skillful voluntary action caused continuous supporting fires to be placed on enemy targets accurately and ensured the 6th Company of the 11th Regiment to repel the enemy wave attacks breaking the threat of their being surrounded. Your support brought them success in securing Hill Betty to the last."

I think of this as a great tribute to a regiment comprised largely of civilians who had been together for little more than a year. And let it not be said that the least part played in all of this was that of the yawning, scratching, hairy gunners who kept the guns firing when and where fire was called for.

Well, that's about it. The rest, as they say, is history.

Bob Usher (19 November 2004)



SOME BARNARDO BOYS IN OSGOODE AND RUSSELL

From the mid-1800s through to the 1930s, many British organizations sponsored the migration to Canada and Australia of children placed in their care. Among these were the Barnardo Homes, which still operate in the field of child welfare, and maintain individual records (often including photographs) for those who passed through their doors.

The idealized intention was that children would be placed in Canadian or Australian homes, often on farms, to learn skills and contribute to the families who took them in and treated them as their own. In these lands full of opportunity, they would have a better chance to prosper than they could expect in crowded England and Scotland.

Reality often fell short of the ideal, however, and there were many unfortunate stories of children who were exploited and mistreated. In some places, living and working conditions were difficult enough for the people with whom they were placed, let alone for the newly arrived children. Attitudes they faced were sometimes harsh, as some feared that "the pickpockets of London" were being transplanted to their communities.

Among the more fortunate ones, apparently, were three boys who came to the boundary area between Osgoode and Russell Townships. The

Barnardo Homes issued a quarterly magazine called Ups and Downs, which was sent to the children, and many continued to receive it and report their progress in its pages, well into adulthood. The National Archives' Library holds an incomplete microfilm copy of the Canadian version of this publication. The January 1906 edition (Vol. XI, No. 1, p. 39) published, among others, three letters from local residents who welcomed the boys placed with them:

"Marvelville, Ont. We are more than pleased with our boy, John Hawes. He is real well, and goes to school every day. We have given him our own name, and hope there is not any reasons why we should not do so. He goes by the name of Eddie H. Robertson. Yours sincerely, W.H. Robertson."

"North Branch, Ont. We are pleased to say that we have nothing to say but the very highest of our little boy, Walter Godwin. He is a happy, loving, bright little fellow, and we all love him. He likes to go to school, and when coming home, we can hear him before we see him, singing at the top of his voice. Yours truly, William Dempsey."

"Russell, Ont. We have no complaints to make about Tommy Clarkson. He goes to school, and he weighs fourteen pounds more than when he came. His health is very good. William Blaine."

According to the Home Children Database on the Library and Archives Canada website, W.F. Godwin, age 7, sailed with a group of 433 Barnardo children on board the SS DOMINION, leaving Liverpool on 3 August 1905, and arriving at Quebec on 12 August 1905. T. Clarkson, age 8, came with the same group. Unfortunately, perhaps due to difficulties encountered in reading and transcribing the passenger lists, I have not been able to find a listing for John Hawes in this database.

However, the National Archives' database of Soldiers in the First World War does add to these boys' story.

At the age of 18, John Edward Hawes, a mill hand, enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force on 1 March 1915. He was 5' 6" tall. When he re-enlisted in Ottawa on 10 October 1917, he stated that he had previously served in the 38th and 2nd Battalions from 26 February 1915 to 20 May 1916, and had been discharged as medically unfit, on account of pleurisy, and injuries to his ribs.

In the fall of 1917 though, he was declared fit for service in the Railway Construction and Forestry Depot. Then aged 21, he had grown to 5' 7" in height, and weighed all of 119 lbs. At the time of his second enlistment, he lived at 401 Laurier Ave. West, in Ottawa, and worked as a clerk. He specified his birthplace as Deal, Kent, in England, and named Henry Robertson of Marvelville, foster father, as his next-of-kin (RG150, Accession Number 1992-93/166, Box 4161, Sequence 59, Regimental Number 410264).

Frank Walter Godwin, born in Berkshire, England on 1 June 1898, enlisted as a Driver in the Engineering Training Depot in Ottawa on 26 July 1915. He was only seventeen, employed as a clerk, and measured 5' 4" in height (RG 150, Accession 1992-93/166, Box 3636, Sequence 44, Regimental Number 541735). He named his brother, Alfred T. Godwin, of Metcalfe, as his next-of-kin. According to the above-mentioned National Archives' Home Children Database, A.T. Godwin was 9 years old in August 1905, when he came to Canada with his brother on board the SS DOMINION. A boy shown as C. Godwin, possibly a sibling, also arrived with the same group.

SOME BARNARDO BOYS IN OSGOODE AND RUSSELL CONT'D

Perhaps inspired by his younger brother, Alfred Theodore Godwin, a store clerk in Metcalfe, also enlisted at the Engineering Training Depot on 27 December 1915. He was 19, and measured 5' 7", he specified his birthplace as New Bury, in Berkshire, England. In turn, he named Frank Godwin, then still at the Engineering Training Depot, Lansdowne Park, Ottawa, as his next-of-kin (RG 150, Accession 1992-93/166, Box 3635, Sequence 18, Regimental Number 502236).

From the fact that none of these names is contained in the Commonwealth War Graves database, it appears that John Edward Hawes, Frank Walter and Alfred Theodore Godwin all survived the War. A search of the National Archives' database for Soldiers of the First World War did not produce a reference to Tommy Clarkson.

Post-War issues of the Barnardos' publication, Ups and Downs, proudly hailed the contribution of its former charges. More than 5600 Canadian Barnardos' Boys had enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force, and of these over 600 did not survive.

If you or a relative of yours came to Canada through the Barnardo's Homes, you can obtain access to the records by sending an inquiry to Barnardo's Aftercare Centre, Tanners Lane, Barkingside, Essex IG6 1QG, UK (aftercare@barnardos.org.uk). Copies of the attestation papers for John Edward Hawes, Frank Walter and Alfred Theodore Godwin, as well as a reader-printer copy of the letters appearing in Ups and Downs are now stored at the Osgoode Township Historical Society and Museum.

Patti Mitton

BYTOWN OR BUST

WEBSITE BY AL LEWIS

I am a member of the OTHS and about six years ago began researching my ancestors who settled in Osgoode Township in the 1840's. Two sets of my GGGrandparents (surnames BURNS and CHRISTOPHER) pioneered in the Manotick Station and Stage Coach Road area.

In the beginning of my search, I encountered Michael and Betty Daley who have been involved in the work of The OTHS for a very long time and have the authored many publications, family histories and local histories. They have been a tremendous help to me (and to many others).

I began the web site as a place for people who are interested in history and genealogy in the Ottawa area to be able to contribute and store material and co-operate in researching their ancestors. It soon spread beyond the Osgoode Township area to encompass the whole Ottawa Valley area. With Mike's advice and guidance it grew to the point where now it contains about eight hundred web pages. It has a search engine near the top of the main page where folks can look up surnames, geographical area and subjects of local interest.

Michael Daley is now a contributor to the web site and continues his long family tradition of providing historical information to interested persons as well as sharing his vast knowledge of local history.

... Al Lewis
e-mail ag.lewis@sympatico.ca
web site www.bytown.net



VETERANS CORNER

FORREST KNOWLES 1899-1921



Forrest was son of John and Mary of Osgoode Station. His attestation papers describe him as fair, blue eyed, 5' 10". He enlisted in Ottawa on Dec 12, 1918 to #8 Signals Co. C.E.F. Siberia. He sailed on "Empress of Japan" to Vladivostok on Feb 12, 1919. He arrived on 27 Feb. with pleural influenza, and was transferred to a Military Hospital in Vladivostok. Forrest returned to Vancouver on "Mount Eagle" arriving on May 5, 1919. He received an honorable discharge on June 10, 1920. He died in 1921 thought as a result of his wartime service and was buried at Reid's Mills.

RG150 Acc 1992-93/166
Box 5235-44, vol 20
Ann Leighton-Kyle

THE GOOD OLD DAYS THEY WERE TERRIBLE

In the 1850's the life expectancy was 38 years, taking into account the number of children who died before age 5. In fact, only half of children made it to their 5th birthday. Asiatic Cholera swept the country in the 1850's with little to stop it. Cholera had the power of paralyzing a city and causing mass exodus. Trails west were studded with crosses warning of "cholera" which infested water holes. As strange as it sounds, physicians tried milk transfusions and the patients still died.

Treatments for diseases and ailments were limited. Local physicians in the



The pharmaceutical firm of Bayer gave the world aspirin; it also developed heroin and marketed it as a cough medicine (1898)

THE GOOD OLD DAYS THEY WERE TERRIBLE

Cont'd

1850's had not much more than laudanum for pain and quinine for fever. Leeches were used successfully at times, in aiding healing. Physicians were called when absolutely necessary, the thought of needing a physician or surgery evoked fear of pain and one's pending death. As it was, 50% of patients undergoing surgery died.

At this time Physicians and Surgeons wore their street clothing while performing the surgery, the instruments were often rusty and if one dropped on the floor, it was merely picked up and used. Sutures could easily be pulled through a lapel for easy access or even carried in the teeth.

Earlier in the century Joseph Lister had published and engineered antiseptic surgery, but as yet it had not caught on. Louis Pasteur had shown that organisms are responsible for putrefaction, but sterilization techniques were yet to be perfected. In fact there were those physicians who believed that the formation of pus was normal in the healing process.

The 1850's also saw the use of drug addiction on the rise. A mixture of ignorance, unhappiness and susceptibility to cures was responsible for the growing addiction. In surgery laudanum had been given to alleviate pain. Battlefield casualties were also treated with laudanum and quickly became addicted. The drug stores sold opium openly in pill form or as laudanum by the bucket in all kinds of habit forming potions. Many of these had a base of 30 to 40 percent alcohol and were blamed for the high rate of drunkenness. Even infants were exposed to the dangers of drugs.

Morphine was found in "Baby's Friend" or "Baby's Syrup" which undeniably put baby to sleep but at the risk of addiction for life. More from ignorance than greed, doctors created addictions by prescribing of opiates which occupied about 75% of their medical bags. Drugging was almost the only kind of relief they could provide. Pharmacists had Marijuana, heroin and morphine available over the counter. They advertised "Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates and stomach and is, in fact a perfect guardian of health."

The use of drugs remained high even up to pre-World War I days. It had its roots in the good old days.

Ann Leighton-Kyle



ST PADDY'S HUMOR

An Irish Priest is driving to New York and gets stopped for speeding. The State Trooper smells alcohol on the Priest's breath and then sees an empty wine bottle on the floor of the car. He says, "Sir, have you been drinking?" "Just water" says the Priest. "Then why do I smell wine?" The Priest looks at the bottle and says, "Good Lord, he's done it again."

Michael Daley

COULD YOU PASS THE CITIZENSHIP SURVEY?

(A survey marking the 50th Anniversary of the Citizenship Act was designed by a panel to resemble the examination immigrants must pass to become Canadian citizens.)

- (1) Name 3 requirements that a person must meet in order to vote in a federal election.
- (2) Name three responsibilities that Canadian citizens hold.
- (3) What was the main trade controlled by the Hudson Bay Company?
- (4) When the first provinces joined to form Canada, what was the event called?
- (5) Which four provinces joined together in Confederation?
- (6) What is the part of the Constitution which legally protects the basic rights and freedoms of all Canadians?
- (7) Name four different rights and/or freedoms protected by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms?
- (8) Which province has the most bilingual Canadians?
- (9) What song is Canada's national anthem?
- (10) And can you tell what the first two lines of the anthem are?
- (11) What 3 oceans border Canada?
- (12) How many provinces and territories are there in Canada?
- (13) Name four of the five Great Lakes?
- (14) Which province in Canada is the smallest in land size?
- (15) What country is Canada's largest trading partner?
- (16) Who is Canada's head of state?
- (17) What are the three levels of government called in Canada?
- (18) Name four of the federal political parties presently represented in the House of Commons.
- (19) What is the name of the Prime Minister of Canada?
- (20) In the federal Parliament, what is a law called before it is passed?
- (21) Which political party is in power in your province or territory?

Note: Taken from Ottawa Citizen Nov.2003 reporting on a survey conducted by Angus Reid Group on more than 1350 Canadian adults on civics and history. Overall, 45 percent flunked the test. To pass, respondents needed to make 12 correct answers. Do our readers need the answers?

Editor Note: Last issue we attempted to record both funerals of Archibald McDonnell and William York. At the National Archives, both were indexed. William York's obituary however, was not on the page or issue indicated. More searching is needed.

OSGOODE TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM
NEWSLETTER

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