



5151 Yonge Street  
Willowdale, Ontario  
M2N 5P5

# OHS BULLETIN

ISSUE 57  
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OHS — 1888-1988 — FROM THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE

## Multicultural Heritage Program Launched by Ontario Archives

The Archives of Ontario recently embarked on a new program to identify, preserve, and make accessible to the public a record of the province's multicultural heritage. It also will help multicultural groups maintain their own local archives.

In launching the \$300,000 program, Culture & Communications Minister Lily Oddie Munro said Ontario's multicultural communities will play a vital role in this new initiative. She cited the Latvian community as an example.

"The Latvian National Federation in Canada has recently pledged a major donation to the archives," she announced. "It includes minutes, proceedings, correspondence and by-laws of the group's four branches: executive, educational, cultural, and political." Included is the federation's earliest minute book from 1949.

To acquire materials, the Archives of Ontario is contacting

various multicultural organizations and requesting donations of appropriate records. To preserve them, it is recording ethnic newspapers on microfilm. Copies of these records will be made available across Ontario through inter-library loan.

Working in co-operation with the Multicultural History Society of Ontario (MHSO), the Archives is integrating documents the MHSO collected between 1976 and 1983 with its collection. The Archives and MHSO intend to continue to work together to achieve this new program's goals.

Also, the Archives is working with these groups to help them maintain their own records. The Archives recognizes the value of their documentary heritage and will help preserve them for future generations. It will conduct workshops for multicultural organizations and historical societies interested in preserving their records.

## Muskoka Workshop Recreates 1888 to Mark OHS Centennial



Muskoka Pioneer Village in Huntsville was the setting for this year's Summer in the Village program. Photo: Leonard Davis.

By Meribeth Clow  
OHS Workshop  
Co-ordinator

A five-day workshop entitled **Reflections of Our Past: A Look at Life in 1888** was held from July 18 to 22 at the scenic Muskoka Pioneer Village nestled in the hills of Huntsville. This workshop celebrated the OHS's Centennial by focusing on everyday Ontario life in 1888, the year in which the OHS was founded.

On the first day, Joyce Lewis of the OHS gave an overview of 1880s life and then led a tour through the Village. In the afternoon, Maureen Hunt, chairperson of the Huntsville LACAC, conducted a tour of Huntsville's 1880's architecture.

Peter Ledwith, Curator of Collections at the Ontario Agricultural Museum in Milton, explored farming practices in Ontario in 1888 on the second day. Participants also toured the Village's outbuildings and farming equipment.

On the third day, July 20, participants took a culinary trip to the 1880s when Dorothy Duncan discussed ingredients, cooking and baking techniques, recipes, and menus. Patricia and Peter Wood demonstrated ice cream making.

A mid-day box social on the fourth day allowed participants to explore Victorian leisure activities. They made their own decorative boxes filled with treats and then auctioned them off as was the custom in 1888.

A special bonus was made available to those who registered for the full five-day program — a complimentary ticket to the play, *Letters from the Bush*,

performed by the North Muskoka Players.

On the last day of the workshop, craft experts demonstrated embroidery, basketry, stencilling, wood painting, the making of simple toys, and quill work.

The success of this year's Summer in the Village program

is due largely to the hardwork and support of the co-sponsors — the Muskoka Pioneer Village and the Huntsville Centennial Centre. We extend a special thank you to Sandra Macpherson, Curator of Muskoka Pioneer Village, and to the speakers and demonstrators.

## Ontario Agricultural Museum Celebrates Department of Agriculture's Centennial

The Ontario Agricultural Museum, located along Highway 401 near Milton, is celebrating

the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Department of Agriculture. In 1972 the Department was renamed the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture & Food.

In the words of Clay Switzer, Deputy Minister, "1988 provides all of us with an opportunity to consider agriculture and food from an historic perspective; to honour significant achievements; and to set the agenda for the future."

He has encouraged all branches of the Ministry of Agriculture & Food to participate in activities focusing on achievements in agriculture over the past 100 years. A wide variety of promotional materials, portable displays, special events, and documentary histories have been planned and will be available throughout the year. Anyone interested in the above materials or a listing of events should contact Paul Poyntz, Centennial Co-ordinator, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture & Food, 801 Bay Street, Toronto, Ont. M7A 2B2, (416) 965-1858.

To museums and historical agencies throughout the province, the Ministry's centennial provides the opportunity to work in co-operation with the local Agricultural Representative's Office and Rural Organization Specialists to promote the heritage of the agri-food industry in your area. In addition, the Ontario Agricultural Museum has prepared a booklet (See *Ontario Agricultural*, p. 6)

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## Welland Canal Data Base Project

The National Archives of Canada hold original lockmaster records of the period 1854-1928 of the Welland Canal (incomplete holdings). Save Ontario Shipwrecks is asking for your input and suggestions. What type of questions would you be asking of this data?

An estimate shows that 4,000 vessel passages per year, totaling 300,000 ships, passed through this system. Researchers will now be able to track their ship of interest around the Great Lakes, instantly analyze types of vessels, cargoes, destinations, and in some cases

even captians' names are available from this data.

This important project will require expert assistance from many quarters. Save Ontario Shipwrecks is asking for your input and suggestions. What type of questions would you be asking of this data?

We will be using IBM compatible equipment. Please respond as early as possible to Ken McLeod, Historical Committee Chairman, Save Ontario Shipwrecks, P.O. Box 605, Osgoode, Ont. K0A 2W0.

The Ontario Historical Society  
5151 Yonge Street  
Willowdale, Ontario  
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## Guide to Anglican Church Records to be Published

A Research Tools Grant has been awarded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada for a publishing project sponsored jointly by the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario and the Ontario diocesan Archivists, in consultation with the General Synod Archives. The project focuses on the preparation and publication of *A Guide to the Records of the Anglican Church in Ontario*.

This book will serve as a guide to the archives of the ecclesiastical province of Ontario, and each of the seven diocesan archives in Moosonee, Algoma, Niagara, Ottawa, Ontario, Huron, and Toronto.

The guide would be the basic finding aid for the records of

each of the eight repositories. It would assist in clarifying the location of collections and would be of use to scholars in the historical field as well as to genealogists.

The Diocesan Archivists are the supervising team for the project and the project co-ordinator is Mary-Anne Mihorean, the Archivist of the Diocese of Toronto.

Two archivists have been hired for the project, Ken Wilson of Ottawa and Matthew Szybalski of Toronto. Where appropriate, Cathedral archives and theological college archives will be included. This work builds on the preliminary survey of holdings, completed by Kelly Gormely last year, work also funded by SSHRCC.

## War of 1812 Essay Contest

The 175th Anniversary Committee for the Battle of Lake Erie, in cooperation with the Lake Erie Regional Studies Program at Firelands College and the Maumee Valley Historical Society, is sponsoring an essay contest commemorating 175 years of international peace between Canada and the United States.

The Committee is seeking scholarly essays that examine

the War of 1812 in the Old Northwest. The winning essayist will receive a \$500 prize and will have his or her essay published in the *Northwest Ohio Quarterly*.

Send manuscripts to Mr. Gerald Altoff, Perry's Victory and International Peace Monument, P.O. Box 549, Put-In-Bay, OH 43456. The deadline date for manuscript submission is December 1, 1988.

## Winner of Thomson Vacations Cruise Announced

Anna Marie Tarrant of Toronto was the winner of the Thomson Vacations seven-night cruise for two. The cruise will begin in Montreal and will extend through Quebec City; Halifax; Summerside; and Gloucester,

Massachusetts.

The winner was selected from the names of those who registered for the full program of the OHS Annual meeting this past June.

## Executive Director's Report

By Dorothy Duncan  
OHS Executive Director

### It's Great to be 100!

This centennial year of the founding of the first provincial historical society, The Pioneer Association of Ontario — the ancestor of The Ontario Historical Society, has been full of very pleasant surprises already. As we all know the Centennial Committee had a series of events already planned for 1988 that signalled a very busy year. In addition, the unexpected keeps happening, and this has added to the fun of being 100.

The Voyageur Heritage Network's Spring Meeting in Mattawa in April recognized the anniversary of the OHS, and wished us well for another 100 years with a popular joint workshop entitled *Ontario's Native People*.

The Guelph Historical Society also honoured this Society in April at their Annual Tree Planting Ceremony at the John Galt Gardens with the planting of a tree dedicated to the OHS.

The Ontario Archaeological Society nominated us for an Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History with the citation: "The Ontario Historical Society is nominated on the occasion of its centennial anniversary as the premier heritage organization in the Province of Ontario."

Our President, Dr. Douglas Leighton, was present at the Ontario Genealogical Society Seminar 88 Conference to receive the OGS Award of Merit. The Conference was held at the University of Ottawa, and the OHS Award was given for "The Society's many contributions in the historical and genealogical areas that have qualified it abundantly for the Award of Merit."

The Ontario Heritage Foun-

dation has confirmed that an historical provincial plaque will be erected to the Society before the year is out, containing the following text:

The foremost historical organization in the province, The Ontario Historical Society, originally called the Pioneer Association of Ontario, was established on September 4, 1888 largely through the efforts of the Reverend Henry Scadding. It initially operated as a federation of local groups and was primarily concerned with the promotion of British-Canadian nationalism through the study of history. Reorganized in 1898 and incorporated with an expanded mandate the following year, the Society became increasingly involved in the movement to preserve archival records and historic sites. It also assumed more scholarly pursuits, including a publication program, in addition to encouraging and co-ordinating the activities of local historical associations and museums. Today the Society continues its many efforts to preserve, interpret, and publicize Ontario's multifaceted heritage.

### LACAC Conference:

The first Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) Conference in several years was held in Sault Ste. Marie June 9 to 11 at the Holiday Inn, and the OHS attended. In co-operation with the Conference sponsors, The Sault Ste. Marie LACAC, we co-ordinated *The Marketplace of Ideas, Services and Products* to assist LACACs across Ontario in researching, preserving, and restoring the rich architectural heritage of Ontario.

### Books and Bookaholics!

On Saturday, June 25, The

OHS held the **Second Great Ontario Book Sale** in our parking lot at the corner of Yonge Street and Empress Avenue. All proceeds from this sale went to support the Young Ontario Program of the Society, which sponsors programs for young people between the ages of 6 and 16.

### It's a Birthday Party!

Plan now to come to Gage Park in Brampton on Sunday afternoon, September 4 between 1:00 and 5:00 P.M. for our birthday party. Music, demonstrations of pioneer crafts and skills, birthday cake and lemonade, and fun for all will commemorate the founding of the Pioneer Association of Ontario (our ancestor) on September 4, 1888. Plan now to be there.

### Bracebridge Antique Show and Sale:

Then its back to Muskoka in August to participate in the Bracebridge Antique Show and Sale, sponsored by the Bracebridge Historical Society, at the Bracebridge Memorial Arena, August 11-13. Our Society will be selling books, holding a free draw every hour, and making friends. Drop in and see us, and if you need more information about the show, call the co-ordinators: Marjorie Chapman (705) 764-1967 or Mary Ann Kelly (705) 645-5393.

### Heritage Canada Heads East:

Mark your calendars now for the Heritage Canada Foundation Annual Meeting to be held in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, September 8-10. The provincial representatives' meeting will be held on September 7 and the provincial historical societies' meeting will be on September 6. For further information contact the Heritage Canada Foundation: (613) 237-1066.

## The Ontario Historical Society gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the following donors:

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Simcoe County Historical Association in memory of Andrew Hunter  
Waterdown East Flamborough Historical Society

Remember, a donation to The Ontario Historical Society is tax deductible!

## OHS Sponsors Workshops in French

The OHS will be co-sponsoring a series of workshops and special events in French this autumn, beginning at the end of August. They will be held in north-eastern Ontario. Contact the OHS office for further details.



## Ontario History Focuses on Sara Jeanette Duncan



Sara Jeanette Duncan

By Laurel Sefton  
MacDowell  
Editor, Ontario History

The lead article in the June issue of *Ontario History* is on the social thought of Sara Jeanette Duncan. It is written by Paul Litt.

Duncan is perhaps best known as the author of her "Canadian" novel *The Imperialist*. Over the past quarter century, she has been the subject of a biography by Marian Fowler entitled *Redney* and several scholarly articles. A critical study of her work has been published, selections from her early journalism have been republished, and so

has her novel.

Part of the reason for this renewed interest in Duncan is that she has been claimed as a predecessor of the modern feminist movement. Also her work has become the focus of a spirit of literary nationalism among literary critics. She has been examined as both a historical figure and as an artist, and her life and work have been seen as a part of Canadian cultural history. This approach has validity, for Duncan wrote widely and perceptively about Canadian society in her day.

Paul Litt considers Duncan's social thought in terms of the dominant political creeds of her day and discovers that consistently on issues of cultural nationalism, women's rights, and social inequality, she was a 19th-century liberal, deeply committed to individualism and self-improvement as necessary factors that contributed to social progress.

Readers will enjoy this well illustrated article about a very talented woman. In addition, the June issue contains other articles, an informative "Notes and Comments" section, and a substantial number of book reviews on recent publications.

## The 78th Fraser Highlanders Offer Free Lecture Evenings

As Canada's premier Heritage Regiment, the 78th Fraser Highlanders have, as part of their mandate, the command to preserve and perpetuate the history of Canada. This is accomplished through a number of endeavours, one of which is offered to interested groups and organizations.

The 78th Fraser Highlanders' Speakers Program, a free lecture evening, can be booked for clubs, groups, or organizations. An officer of the 78th, dressed in

full 18th-century military regalia, gives an illustrated talk on the history of the 78th and its place in the history of Canada and opens the floor for questions and discussion.

Bookings may be made by contacting the Garrison officer at Fort York Garrison Command Office, P.O. Box 987, Station "F", Toronto, Ont. M4Y 2N9, or by phoning the Garrison Adjutant at (416) 457-9450. Please allow three weeks notice.

# Music at Sharon Salutes OHS's 100th Birthday

By Catherine Brydon

Sharon Temple has long been renowned as an outstanding architectural gem and an important legacy of the pioneers who shaped our province. However, in the past eight years, it has earned another measure of respect as the concert hall in which the summer music festival, Music at Sharon, takes place.

In 1981 the Temple of Peace in Sharon, Ontario, just north of Newmarket was 150 years old and a festival of music was begun as a suitable way of celebrating the occasion. The tradition of concerts at Sharon dates back to the early 19th century when a group of families under their leader David Willson broke away from the Quakers and formed the Children of Peace. Music was integral to the life-pattern of the group both in their religious and every-day lives. The Temple, completed in 1831, was intended for 15 worship services a year at which both a small choir and band would take part.

A unique museum program, Music at Sharon, is an appropriate way of bringing history alive as well as introducing some of Canada's foremost musicians to audiences in a rural Ontario setting. The festival, under its founding Artistic Director Lawrence Cherney, has developed a consistently excellent reputation for quality and innovative programming. Always included in the series are concerts with "heritage" content, in particular, works known to have been played during the heyday of the Children of Peace. This unique festival concept of classical music at an historic site has drawn audiences from all over the province and beyond.

This summer 13 concerts were performed on weekends between July 9 and 31. All concerts were held in the Temple with the exception of a silver



The interior of the Sharon Temple showing the Ark surrounded by pillars labelled after the Apostles. The Temple was built between 1825 and 1831. Photo: Anne J. Grieve.

band concert, which was held outdoors.

All five "heritage" concerts were dedicated in honour of the OHS centenary - four Sunday concerts on July 10, 17, 24 and 31 as well as the Saturday evening performance on July 23 "Images of Canada: 1888" with The Elmer Iseler Singers. This concert took a look at the music of Canada and Europe in the year the OHS was founded and includes a re-enactment of an address by Sir John A. Macdonald on the evils of free trade!

In addition to the outdoor concert with the Hannaford Street Silver Band there was a tribute to American musical heritage on July 17 in which the team of Joan

Morris and William Colcom demonstrated their versatility with ballads of the 1880s, ragtime and Broadway songs. On July 24 a program titled "Wit, Wisdom and Song" with mezzo-soprano Janet Stubbs and actor Christopher Newton highlighted music by Arthur Sullivan, Noel Coward, George Gershwin, and Cole Porter with readings from humourists Stephen Leacock, Oscar Wilde, and Dorothy Parker. The final concert in the OHS series, "The Irving Berlin 100th Anniversary Show," on July 31 featured the popular pianist and singer, Gene Di Novi.

CATHERINE BRYDON is the Publicity Director for Sharon Temple and Music at Sharon.

## The OHS Welcomes Its New Members

**Brampton:** Paul Federico  
**Caledonia:** Historical Automobile Society  
**Chatham:** Mary Angela Tucker  
**Downsview:** Evelyn B. Baker  
**Elmira:** Elinor Rau  
**Etobicoke:** Gail Cranston; Nadine Maksimchuk; Doris J. May  
**Gloucester:** Lillian & Ron Kitchen; B. & M. Ring  
**Goulais River:** Dustine King  
**Haliburton:** Leopolda Dobzen-sky  
**Hamilton:** Julie Galbraith; V. Joanne Packham  
**Huntsville:** Great Claybelt Historical Society  
**Islington:** Denise B. Gray  
**Kanata:** Margaret Hartshorn; Ottawa Valley Field Trips  
**Kingston:** Jean R. Baxter; Fairfield Historic Park  
**Kitchener:** Mrs. H. Jasper  
**Lakehurst:** Charles Taws  
**Lanark:** The Mill of Kintail  
**Lindsay:** Norbert E. Krommer  
**London:** Glen Curnoe  
**Mississauga:** Lisa Hill; Wendy Jones  
**Mountain:** Preston Scott  
**Navan:** Cumberland Township Historical Society  
**Nepean:** Lt. Col. John G. Price

**Niagara Falls:** David A. Briggs  
**North Bay:** Mary Jane Asselstine  
**North York:** Vertical File Librarian, North York Central Library  
**Norwich:** Norwich District Archives  
**Orleans:** St. Matthew High School  
**Orono:** Dorothy Barnett; Mr. L.T. Wilson  
**Oshawa:** Douglas J. Luey  
**Ottawa:** Gordon Cullingham; O'Malley Communications Inc.; W. Michael Wilson  
**Peterborough:** P.A.C.A.C.  
**Port Hope:** Joan Cavanaugh; Robb Demill  
**Richmond Hill:** Jean Henderson  
**Scarborough:** Erla Downing; Ellesmere-Statton Public School; Scott & Debbie Magder  
**Smiths Falls:** Rideau Waterway Coordinating Assoc.  
**St. Catharines:** Jane Donegan  
**Stouffville:** Susan White  
**Sutton West:** Anne Crinson  
**Tavistock:** Tim Mosher  
**Temagami:** Township of Temagami  
**Thunder Bay:** Lois Heald  
**Tillsonburg:** Andrew Cook

**Toronto:** Joan Carter; M. Christine Castle; Elinor Cavanaugh; Margaret Duncan; Ann Fort-Menares; Donald C. Gibson; Frances Johnston, Museum of Promotional Arts; Ms. T. Leaton; John S. Nicks; Ontario Council of Girl Guides of Ontario; David W. Rudkin; Duncan Scherberger; Matthew Szybalski; George W. Woods  
**Uxbridge:** Ms. P. Balfour  
**Waterloo:** Robert & Norma Hounsell; Julie de Martigny  
**Westport:** Rideau District Museum  
**Willowdale:** Dr. James Carson; J.S. Heritage Displays Ltd.; Gino Matrundola, MPP; Larry Noonan; Lorraine Williams  
**Windsor:** Don Learn; Nevi Rusich

### Out of Province

**Saskatoon, Saskatchewan:** Prof. John E. Lyons  
**New York, New York:** New York Public Library  
**Youngstown, New York:** Old Fort Niagara

## Authors of Local Histories Struggle to Sell Books

By Ross W. Irwin

The OHS was formed a century ago with the objective of "developing the study of history." In more recent times the Society has fulfilled this objective through a publication program and a series of workshops and annual meetings.

I expect the majority of OHS members are interested in community history due to an interest in a museum, the promotion of a heritage building, or the writing of local history. The OHS, in its successful series of workshops, addresses the writing and publication of community history.

For the majority of authors of community history the pleasure is in the researching and writing of the manuscript. They then

face the major problem of publication and the more difficult problem of selling the book.

A major publisher will have no interest in a small community history. The author may be fortunate and receive a cultural grant, or the municipality may pay for the book. Often it is left to the author to pay the costs.

In due course, 500 to 2,500 books are printed, depending on the author's optimism. What's to be done with them? The author turns into a salesman/distributor, peddling a few at a time, and soon learns that he or she was not cut out to be a salesperson. Market outlets are scarce.

While I hesitate to do so, I will use a personal example. I printed 1,500 copies of a com-

(See *Author's Struggle*, p. 4)



## Upcoming Events

**August 20-21:** The Essex Region Conservation Authority is holding a **Craft Fair and Blueberry Social** at the John R. Park Homestead and Conservation Authority. Contact the Essex Region Conservation Authority, 360 Fairview Ave. West, Essex, Ont. N8M 1Y6, (519) 776-5209.

**September 8-10:** The 1988 **Heritage Canada Conference**, entitled *Managing Our Cities: The New Collaboration*, will be held in Charlottetown. Planners, developers, city officials, and citizens groups will discuss the latest trends in city management. The program will include debates, workshops, and exhibits. Contact Heritage Canada, 15th Annual Conference, P.O. Box 1358, Station B, Ottawa, Ont. K1P 5R4, (613) 237-1066.

**September 10:** Campbell House in Toronto is continuing its herbal workshops with this one on **Reaping and Harvesting**, a look at harvesting and preserving herbs for culinary use. Contact Roberta Corey, Campbell House, 160 Queen St. West, Toronto, Ont. M5H 3H3, (416) 597-0227.

**September 18:** The Myrtleville House Museum in Brantford is

celebrating Canada's national fruit with their **Apple Day '88** festival. Contact the Myrtleville House Museum, 34 Myrtleville Dr., Brantford, Ont. N3V 1C2, (519) 752-3216.

**September 30 - October 1:** The **Ontario Black History Society** is holding its annual meeting in Toronto. Contact the Ontario Black History Society, Ontario Heritage Centre, 10 Adelaide St. East, Toronto, Ont. M5C 1J3, (416) 867-9420.

**October 2-7:** The Bruce County Museum in Southampton is sponsoring a special event called **Chores & Chuckles** that will explore the winter preparations of a pioneer family. Contact the Bruce County Museum, 33 Victoria St. North, Southampton, Ont. N0H 2L0, (519) 797-3644.

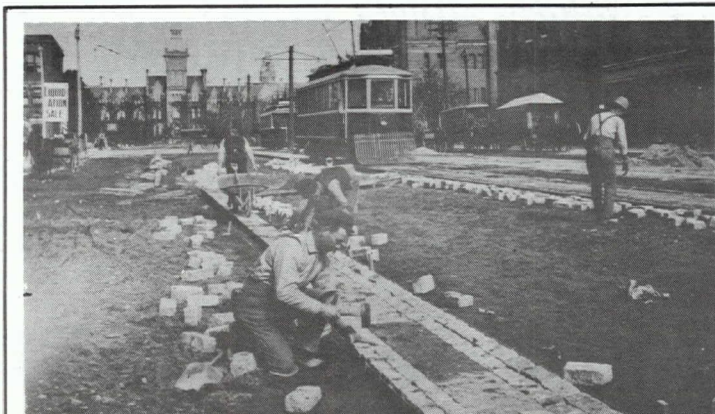
**October 6-8:** The Welland Canals Foundation Inc. is sponsoring the **Third Annual Welland Canal Rally** and the **William Hamilton Merritt Lecture** program at Brock University in St. Catharines. These events are jointly sponsored by the Welland Canals Foundation, the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority, and Brock University. Contact the Welland Canals Foundation, P.O. Box 745, St. Catharines, Ont. L3R 6Y3, (416) 682-7203.

**October 22-23:** The **Ontario Archaeological Society** is holding a symposium entitled *Ontario Archaeologists Abroad*. This 15th annual symposium will comprise a series of lectures presented by archaeologists who work in Ontario and abroad. Contact Charles Garrad, The Ontario Archaeological Society, 126 Willowdale Ave., Ont. M2N 4Y2, (416) 730-0797.

**October 21-23:** The **Ontario Museum Association** is holding its annual meeting and seminar this year in Peterborough. Contact the Ontario Museum Association, 465 King St. East, Toronto, Ont. M5A 1L6, (416) 367-3677.

**October 27:** The **Multicultural History Society of Ontario** is holding their annual meeting this year in Toronto. Contact the Multicultural History Society of Ontario, 43 Queen's Park Cres. East, Toronto, Ont. M5S 2C3, (416) 979-2973.

**October 28-30:** **Save Ontario Shipwrecks** is holding their annual meeting and seminar in Kingston this year. Contact the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes at Kingston, 55 Ontario St., Kingston, Ont. K7L 2Y2.



Photographs from the City of Toronto Engineer's Collection 1890-1910 were recently featured at the Toronto Market Gallery. Photo: City of Toronto Archives.

## Young Ontario Programme Explored Children at Home in the 19th Century

By Cathy Febraro  
Co-ordinator, OHS Young Ontario Programme

Young people aged 6 to 12 were invited to discover how 19th-century children worked and played in the OHS's Young Ontario Programme, "Home Sweet Home," held June 17 and 18 at the Yorkdale Holiday Inn in Toronto. The program was held concurrently with the Society's 100th Annual Conference and the Annual Museums Workshop, also based at the Yorkdale Holiday Inn.

The home life of a child in the 19th century was not always pleasant in every respect. However, even if there was hard work to be done, one could still gain a sense of accomplishment (and relief) when the task was

completed. Sometimes there was even the chance to indulge in playful amusements. "Home Sweet Home" focused on the more positive side of life for children in the 19th century.

The program featured visits to some of the historic sites in the Toronto area as well as hands-on involvement. Participants gained a sense of what the early settlers experienced as they left a familiar homeland for a different land, where they met with many challenges as they attempted to carve out a new "home sweet home." In various historical settings, participants also had the chance to help with such household chores as cooking, butter churning, and spinning as well as play the games that young people took part in long ago.

## Across the Province

The **Niagara Historical Society** and the Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library celebrated Janet Carnochan Day this past June 4. Special displays of Carnochan's published writings, photographs, letters, and memorabilia were highlights of the day's exhibits.

A new canal museum is being established in the centre of Smiths Falls, the mid-point of the Rideau Canal. It will be named the **Rideau Canal Museum**. Its exhibits will focus on artifacts relating to all aspects of the canal, including its history. Plans are underway for restoring the old Woods Mill Building and using it to house the museum.

The **Tillsonburg District Historical Museum** celebrated its 15th anniversary last June 18 with a garden party. The festivities included a formal cake

cutting ceremony, a rowing regatta, a concert by a local school band, and a Maypole dance. The museum will move to new quarters in the historic Annandale house.

The **York Pioneer and Historical Society** is following their successful restoration of the Scadding Cabin with the replacement of the cabin's herb garden. The society and Metropolitan Toronto Parks are co-operating on the project, which is expected to be completed this summer. Scadding Cabin is on the grounds of the CNE and is open weekends during July and until the CNE opens, when it is open daily until the fair closes.

The **Aylmer and District Museum** in Aylmer opened its first major exhibit of 1988 last March. Entitled *Communica-*

*tion: Getting the Message*, the exhibit focused on the work of Alexander Graham Bell and the development of the telephone, the telegraph, and other forms of communication. The show closed on June 17.

**Heritage Mississauga** has appointed its first full-time Executive Director. Susan Steen assumed the position last spring.

The **Huron County Pioneer Museum** in Goderich has recently undergone major renovations to demolish parts of their old museum to expose the original 1856 school around which the museum was built. Their new facilities include the construction of a second building that will be used for storage at an off-site location. This building project included the restoration of the original school building.

## Authors Struggle to Sell Books *(Continued from page 3)*

community history, *Mariposa: The Banner Township (Victoria County)*, in late 1984 without a heritage grant. The book retailed at \$24.50 and was sold to retailers for \$15, the usual 40% discount. (Many community histories have a very small profit margin to allow for sales outlets, and retailers need to make a living also.) I planned to sell 500 within the township, 500 in the surrounding areas, and 500 elsewhere. Over 700 were sold within the township.

The real problem was the shortfall in the other target areas due to a lack of sales outlets that would carry community histories, even on a consignment basis.

The OHS membership will no doubt agree that community

history is important and records many people's struggle for survival. So what is to be done? One can always limit the number of copies printed but the cost per book (unit cost) becomes very high. The cost can be prohibitive then unless large grants are available. One obvious plan is the development of a marketing scheme, possibly sponsored by the OHS. I list a number of issues that might be considered.

1) What are the policies of bookstore chains regarding community histories? Do local managers have discretion with this?

2) The OHS might identify some larger bookstores that would carry community history books, even if they are selective

in geographical area.

3) While the column "From the Bookshelf" is important for initial announcements, it would be of value to maintain on a regular basis a printed list giving title, author, source, and cost of books still for sale.

I hope others will offer suggestions to a problem that will become more acute as the centralization of bookstores continues. The majority of our population does not have the opportunity to choose a community history over a general history book when looking for reading material. It is even more vital, therefore, that we work now to establish successful marketing strategies so that publication of community history remains viable.

## Ormsby Memorial Fund

The Department of History at Brock University has established The William G. Ormsby Memorial Fund to assist the study of history at the university, especially through the provision of scholarships. Contributions

should be sent to the Finance Office, Brock University, payable to Brock University on behalf of The William G. Ormsby Memorial Fund. Donations are tax deductible and official receipts will be issued.

## OHS Centennial Events & Workshops

In 1988 the OHS is marking a century of service to the preservation of this province's heritage with these workshops and special events.

DATE	EVENT/WORKSHOP	LOCATION
Sept. 4	It's a Birthday Party!	Gage Park, Brampton
Sept. 11	Centennial Button Launch	Espanola
Sept. 15	The Heritage of Ontario Cemeteries	North Bay
Oct. 1	Writing & Publishing Community Histories	Woodstock
Oct. 15	Profit from Pictures	Aylmer
Oct. 15	Sharing Our Native Culture	Timmins
Oct. 29	Using Local Heritage Resources to Meet Ministry of Education Curriculum Guidelines	Chatham
Oct. 29	Making It Look Good: Displays, Graphics, & Labels	Simcoe
Nov. 5	Promotion & Presentation	Port Colborne
Nov. 19	Deck the Halls	Smiths Falls
Nov. 26	Serve It Forth	Timmins

For further information on these and other workshops for 1988, contact the OHS at 5151 Yonge St., Willowdale, Ont. M2N 5P5, (416) 226-9011.



## OHS Past Presidents Remember:



(Left to right) Fred Landon, George Macdonald, J. J. Talman, and Dave Williams at the 1940 OHS Annual Meeting in Orillia. Photo: Dr. Talman.

A series of articles covering several OHS past presidents will run throughout the year in the OHS Bulletin. In the Centennial issue, the series began with the recollections of the Society's longest-standing member, Dr. J. J. Talman.

In this article Dr. Talman's views on the future of the Society are covered. His comments are excerpted from an interview he gave for the OHS Bulletin last January.

Also on this page is an article by Dr. Elizabeth Arthur. Dr. Arthur served on the executive from 1973 to 1981 and was president from 1979 to 1980. Her outstanding contribution to the Society was recognized in 1986 when she received the Cruikshank Gold Medal.

### Talman Stresses Need to Reach Broader Public

In the 1940s the OHS experienced some very difficult days. Recently when Dr. Talman was asked if he could foresee another critical period for the OHS, he responded by saying that the OHS's membership and range of programs have grown beyond the expectations of many. He cautioned however, against an overdependence on government funding. "I'm not worried about the [future of the] OHS. But I do see the population base changing, and there should be some recognition made [by the OHS]

of that change. The Society is going to have to broaden its base.... A bigger and bigger percentage of our population doesn't have very deep roots here."

Dr. Talman pointed out that the great variety of cultural backgrounds of the people of Ontario today makes it necessary for us to find new ways in which we can make our heritage relevant to this changing population. He cautioned that we must not ignore this diversity.

However, when asked if

changing demographics would threaten the study of local history, Dr. Talman replied, "I think there is a fundamental interest in local history. As people get older they have a tendency to be more interested in their past."

He went on to conclude that our aging population would seem to ensure the continued growth of this important aspect of our heritage. Dr. Talman noted that the increasing popularity of genealogy is further evidence that we will continue to be interested in our roots.

### Arthur Overcame Distance Barrier

By Elizabeth Arthur

My being an OHS president while a resident of Thunder Bay may well have recalled Dr. Johnson's famous dictum about a woman's preaching: no expectation that the job should be done well, but surprise that it should be done at all. (Incidentally, I am convinced that sexist language will be eliminated in this country long before expressions of regional prejudice.)

Now, eight years after both the Society and I survived my presidency, I retain the record of operating from a base 600 miles further from Toronto than any other president. Distance did impose a number of problems.

One was happily solved, in my view at least, by delegation of many duties to a long-suffering and able executive. Additional telephone and travel costs were amicably shared between the Society and me. At all times, I was acutely aware of the type of activities a president might concentrate upon at long range, and the result was a revision of the constitution, and a good deal of preparatory work on publications that appeared later.

It is increasingly clear, however, that more than miles separate the OHS from potential members and leaders. Physical distance can be overcome, and the increased staff in the Toronto office should make it easier

for someone from (say) Red Lake to break my distance record. But it continues to concern me that the "heritage" we seek to preserve has so often been the heritage of one region and even of a minority within that region. We have progressed from the time when Canon Bull, the second president, convinced the Society that it could safely convene for its annual meeting farther afield than Brampton. But it is useful to recall the brief success and eventual failure of another of his initiatives: the extension of affiliated society status to the Six Nations Indian bands, at a time when not even all the Loyalists could co-exist in the OHS.

## Salute to Former OH Editor, William Westfall

William Westfall served as editor of *Ontario History*, the Society's scholarly journal, from 1984, when he took over from Roger Hall, to December 1987, when Laurel Sefton MacDowell assumed the editorship.

During Bill's tenure, *Ontario History* continued to grow on the firm foundation established by its previous editors.

When asked what he saw as the publication's mandate, Bill replied, "to publish the best work on the history of Ontario and to encourage not only high-quality writing but to encourage new scholars, new perspectives, and new methodologies on the past."

"*Ontario History* should publish the best work it can find and should encourage not only new economic and political perspectives, but also new social and cultural ones that include the history of immigration, rural history, new social groups, and

women.

Professor Westfall has made a number of important changes to *Ontario History* during his editorial term. Among them are alterations to its appearance — changes were made to the layout, type style, and cover design. Bill added a managing editor to the journal's staff, expanded the book review section, and added research notes and commentaries. The publication also grew from just under 300 pages per year to over 400.

Westfall said that the continued health of *Ontario History* depends upon its maintenance of an arm's-length relationship with the OHS. "It's very important that the OHS not interfere with editorial functions, which should be entirely in the hands of the editors."

"*Ontario History* is the leading scholarly voice in the writing of Ontario history. To tamper with this [publication] could destroy

the reputation it has built up over the past 90 years."

In concluding, Bill pointed out that the Editorial Board deserves a special note of praise for their ongoing support and assistance to *Ontario History*.

Professor Westfall's relationship with Society is, however, ongoing. He is currently involved in the production of the special centennial volume for the OHS, *Patterns of the Past*, due to be published this fall.

Bill is also working on a book for McGill/Queens Press, entitled *Two Worlds: Studies in Protestant Culture in Ontario*. In addition to these books, he is writing a history of the teaching of theology in the Diocese of Toronto with Thomas McIntyre.

The Society wishes Bill every success in the future and extends to him its heartfelt gratitude for his contribution to *Ontario History*.

## London Old Boys Reunions Live Again



The Old Boys Reunion of 1908 included this parade of carriages. Photo: B. White.

By Pat Morden

We tend to think of nostalgia as the prerogative of the present. But every generation has looked back nostalgically to its youth and sighed for the "good old days."

Nostalgia was the impetus behind the London Old Boys Reunions, popular in the early years of this century.

The first Reunion, held in 1897, was the brainchild of Nicholas Wilson, a London educator who retired in that year after 50 years of teaching. Noting that many of his former pupils were scattered across North America, he suggested that they, and all former Londoners, be invited home for a special visit.

The idea grew in popularity until, by 1900, there were delegations of Old Boys from six Canadian and nine American communities. Athletics, band concerts, parades, a picnic at Springbank Park, a day excursion to the popular Lake Erie resort of Port Stanley, and many other events were held. The Chicago Old Boys hired two special trains of sleeping cars for the journey, and brought with them the band of the First Regiment, Illinois National Guard!

The Reunions were held annually at first, and then less frequently. The 1914 Reunion was

interrupted by news of the outbreak of war and the next was not held until 1923. The Old Boys were back in 1926 to help celebrate the centennial of the first settlement at London.

The last Reunion was held in 1938. It featured among its many events a beauty contest, a ball, garden parties, speed boat races, and street dancing. The centrepiece was a "Mammoth Pageant-Spectacle" depicting the history of London.

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of London's last Old Boy's Reunion, the City revived the custom. Reunion '88, held from July 1-5, celebrated London's past with parades, concerts, special displays, and other events. "Heritage and Horizons," a souvenir program and short illustrated history of London since 1938, is being published in conjunction with the Reunion.

To us, the London Old Boys Reunions are redolent of a simpler, more innocent time. It is ironic that the Old Boys of 60 years ago felt much the same way about their past. As one reflected in the 1923 souvenir booklet:

... With all their limitations and without the blazing lights and the motor cars and the movies, and the other thrill-producers of the present, the old days were happy days.

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# Museum News

## Section 38a Job Creation Grants Are a Good Deal for Museums

By Sandra Macpherson  
Curator, Muskoka Pioneer Village

In 1987 Muskoka Pioneer Village received a grant of \$53,000 from the Unemployment Insurance Commission under the Section 38 Job Creation Project. No matching funds were necessary. Eighty-five percent of the funds pay the wages of those hired and 15% of the grant is for the materials those workers need to do their work.

How does this grant work? The U.I. Section 38 Job Creation Projects are designed to provide opportunities for those persons who are unemployed (and receiving unemployment insurance benefits) to use their skills and be paid a top-up rate to a maximum of \$318.00 per week. Organizations, businesses, and individuals are eligible to apply. Municipal agents are eligible if the province agrees.

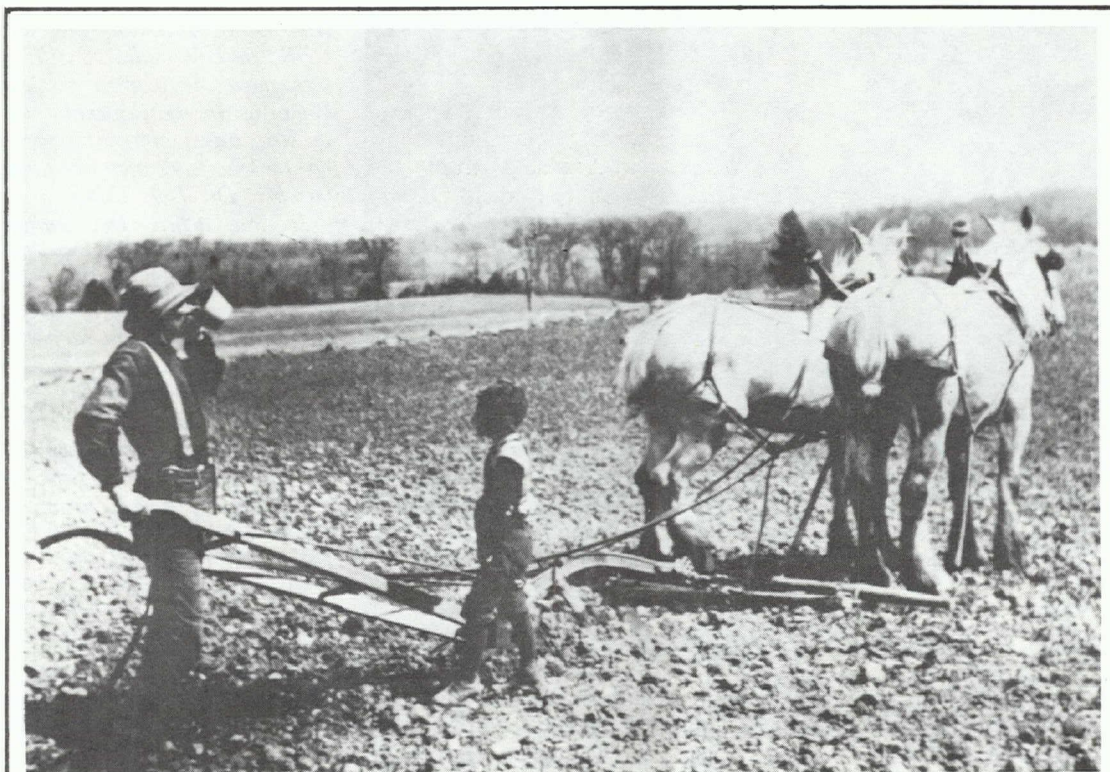
Muskoka Pioneer Village submitted an application and was awarded approval for six people: a computer operator for eight months, two carpenters for four months, a librarian for six months, a heritage planner for

eight months, and a writer/graphic artist for five months. Each employee was approved for the maximum wages. Materials were approved to \$8,000.00. This is based on \$125.00 per position per week and goes towards construction materials, paper, telephone calls, travel expenses, and the like.

Projects must be completed within the time frame of the grant approval. Non-profit organizations may be exempt from employer portions of the funding.

It was well worth the extra bookkeeping, hiring, interviewing, supervision, and training to have these skilled people working in our museum. We renovated our offices, developed and catalogued the research library, as well as the books in the collection, produced a guide book to Muskoka Pioneer Village, collected data for our master plan study, and entered a lot of data about our collection onto the computer.

Contact your local Canada Employment Center or the Employment Development Branch of the Federal Government of Canada for more information.



A farmer takes a break from the hard work of ploughing his field. Photo: Ontario Agricultural Museum.

## Ontario Agricultural Museum Celebrates

(Continued from page 1)

describing farming and farm life in Ontario 1888, which is available upon request and is intended to encourage museums, historic sites and the public to use the museum's library/archives for information on agriculture and rural life in Ontario.

The 1988 season at the museum will be kicked off by the official opening of the 1910 one-room schoolhouse. Originally located just a few kilometres west of the museum in Halton County, this stone structure is typical of the many schoolhouses that once dotted the rural landscape.

"Rural Reflections - Portraits of a Century" is this season's feature exhibit. It will be located in the museum's Gambrel Barn from June 27 until September 5. This photographic competition and display will reflect the impact of rural life through the creativity and artistic talents of both amateur and professional Ontario photographers.

A special feature of the exhibit will be photographs taken in the province's rural community prior to 1945.

On August 21 the museum will hold the Family Corn Festival. Musical entertainment, and a whole host of live

demonstrations will be featured throughout our 32-hectare site.

On September 11, the Museum will hold its annual Harvest Fair recreating an old-fashioned fun-filled country fair. Traditional crafts and plowing demonstrations, horse judging, livestock displays, and prize winning entries will be featured. Come and enjoy!

On the September 24 weekend Christmas in the country comes early! Forty-five booths of unique homemade crafts ranging from quilts, stained glass, pottery, jewellery, folk art, and more combine to attract thousands of visitors to the annual Christmas Craft Fair.

## Advisory Council for Museum Assistance Program Formed

A seven-member advisory council of museum and heritage experts was recently formed. This initiative is in line with the May 1987 announcement that the process of peer review would continue when the National Programs of the National Museums of Canada were moved to Communications Canada.

The council will advise the Communications Minister, Flora MacDonald, on applications for funding submitted by museums, galleries, and related institutions under the Museums Assistance Program of Communications Canada. Until now, advice on grant applications was provided to the Board of Trustees of the National Museums of Canada by the National Programs Consultative Committee.

Four members of the advisory council previously served as

members of the Consultative Committee. They are: **Huguette Dussault**, professor at Télé-Université (Université du Québec), where she teaches distance learning; **Yorke Edwards**, former director of the Royal British Columbia Museum; **Margaret S. Machell**, Centennial Chair, Ontario Historical Society and a lifetime member and former archivist of the Art Gallery of Ontario; and **Kenneth McLaughlin**, professor of history at the University of Waterloo.

Newly appointed are: **Olive Dickason**, professor of Canadian History at the University of Alberta; **Louise Dusseault-Letocha**, professor of Art History at the Université du Québec à Montréal; and **Gregg Finley**, former chief curator of the New Brunswick Museum.

## DISPLAY TIPS:

### The Exhibit Installer's Toolbox

By Joan Scott  
J.S. Heritage Displays Ltd.

"A workman is only as good as his tools," and the job can't be done without them.

A complete toolbox is a must for every exhibit installer. The few minutes spent checking to make certain that everything is in place, including the tape measure someone needed for only a second last week, will be worth it later.

An exhibit installer must be a jack-of-all-trades, and the toolbox should include most of the following:

scissors, hammer, staple gun and staples, plexi-cutter,

screw-driver with a variety of heads, exacto knife (two or more sizes) and spare blades, awl, needle, tape measure, ruler, nails, screws, eyehooks, cornice hooks, and pins in a variety of sizes, monofilament fishing line — colourless and two different breaking strengths, thread, wire of different strengths, a variety of tape (masking, double-sided archival, scotch), gluestick, markers, pencil, and typists white-out.

And believe it or not, all this will fit very compactly into a standard toolbox!

By Martin Rainbow  
Curator, Mattawa & District Museum

Negotiations are underway between the Mattawa Historical Society and the Archdiocese of Pembroke to work out an arrangement where the Historical Society can lease the former Ste. Therese Catholic Church in the Town of Eau Claire.

A five-year lease, with option to purchase, is being negotiated to determine the feasibility of opening the building as a local history museum. If the project is successful within the first five years, the Society can then purchase the building and maintain it as a museum permanently.

Although not in use for nearly ten years, the building has retained most of the interior furnishings, and has had little vandalism. Minor repairs and painting is all that is required to bring the building back to its former glory.

Locally the building is a landmark and highly thought of amongst former parishioners. A new church was built in Mattawa in 1962 when the congregation needed larger quarters, making the Church in Eau Claire obsolete.

This building is believed to have been built in 1884. It is typical of small-town churches in the area and is located on the

route to the Eau Claire George Conservation Area, which attracts more than 5,000 visitors over the summer.

If the new museum can attract half of these visitors it will be successful. The Township of Calvin, where the Church is located, celebrated its centennial in 1987. The township's collection of artifacts, along with some artifacts from the collection of the Mattawa Historical Society, will be displayed in the building which will eventually be restored.

The Mattawa Historical Society currently owns and runs the Mattawa & District Museum located in the Town of Mattawa on Explorers Point. This museum was opened in 1984, and steadily increasing attendance has proven that the museum is a success. Although most of the museum's visitors are tourists travelling through Mattawa, there are also a fair number of local visitors. It is hoped that the two museums can work together, and people who visit one site will be encouraged to visit the other. Together the two museums may prove to be even more successful.

This project is a major undertaking for the Mattawa Historical Society, and we would appreciate the advice of any other society who has undertaken a

similar project and could help us identify potential problems. Also the society would appreciate it if anybody has photographs, information, or artifacts that might be of use. Contact us at Box 9, Mattawa, Ont. P0H 1V0. It is hoped that the building can be opened to the public this year in order to raise the funds necessary to hire summer staff, and to help pay the costs of restoring and repairing the building.

## HISTORIC DEEDS AND PLANS

Reproductions of Ontario's original township maps, depicting all the names of grantees and showing the locations of their grants.

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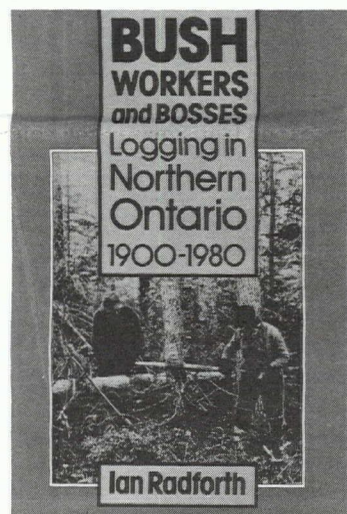
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# From the Bookshelf

**The Bibliography of Ontario History/Le Bibliographie de l'histoire Ontarienne 1976-1986** edited by Gaétan Gervais, Gwenda Hallsworth, & Ashley Thomson lists every book and article written on Ontario history, both in French and in English, for the period. (1987) 450 pp. Available from Dundurn Press, 1558 Queen St. E., Toronto, Ont. M4L 1E8 for \$39.95 hc.

**Bush Workers and Bosses: Logging in Northern Ontario 1900-1980** by Ian Radforth is a detailed look at life on the job for logging workers during the period that witnessed the modernization of the work itself and the relationship between the workers and the bosses. The author examines the technological development, changes in demography and the labour market, an emerging labour movement, new managerial strategies, the growth of the consumer society, and rising standards of living that occurred during the period and affected this industry. (1987) 336 pp. Available from University of Toronto Press, 5201 Dufferin St., Downsview, Ont. M3H 5T8 for \$42.50 hc and \$17.50 pb.



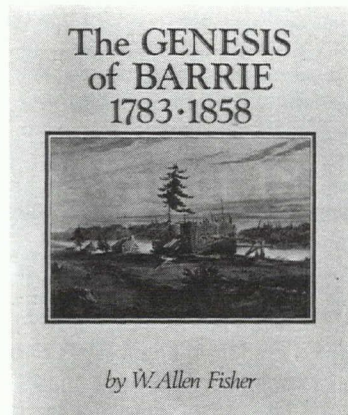
**Checklist of Parish Registers 1986**, 4th edition, revised by Patricia Birkett, National Archives of Canada is an expanded update of the earlier 1981 edition and offers a cross-reference listing of parish registers available on microfilm or microfiche at the National Archives. A new feature of this edition is the comprehensive geographic index. (1987) Available from the Canadian Government Publishing Centre, Supply and Services Canada, Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0S9 for \$12.00 in Canada and \$14.40 outside Canada.

**Firm Foundations: A Chronicle of Toronto's Metropolitan United Church and Her Methodist Origins 1795-1984** by Judith St. John explores the impact this church has had on the cultural and social life of Toronto. (1987) 224 pp., 76 illustrations, indexed. Available from History Book Committee, Metropolitan United Church, 51 Bond St., Toronto, Ont. M5B 1X1 for \$10.00 plus \$1.50 postage.

**Genealogical Index to the Illustrated Atlas of the County of Simcoe** (including Mono & Mulmur Townships) by H. Belden & Co., Toronto, 1881, has been reprinted by the Sim-

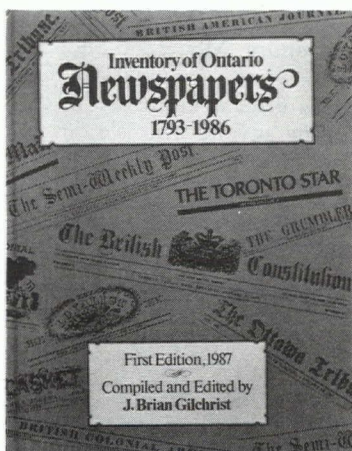
coe County Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society and is now indexed. Available from the Simcoe County Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society, Box 892, Barrie, Ont. L4M 4Y6 for \$5.00 pb.

**The Genesis of Barrie 1783-1858** by W. Allen Fisher covers the history of the area and includes black-and-white and colour illustrations. (1987) 114 pp. illustrated. Available from the Simcoe County Historical Assoc., Box 144, Barrie, Ont. L4M 4S9 for \$19.95 pb plus \$2.00 postage.



**The Hockley Story: 150 Years — 1837-1987** by Jack Brooksbank is an illustrated story of the pioneer Hockley family and the history of Hockley Valley and Village. Available from Jacques Bea Studios, Box 211, Hockley Village, R.R. 5, Orangeville, Ont. L9W 2Z2 for \$20.00 pb plus \$2.00 postage.

**Inventory of Ontario Newspapers 1793-1986** by J. Brian Gilchrist with a preface by Karen Harrison is a compilation of the work of the Task Force on Ontario Newspapers. This new publication provides a comprehensive listing of known newspapers and arranges them alphabetically by region. Nearly 3,000 newspapers are covered. (1987) 277 pp. Available from Micromedia Limited, 158 Pearl St., Toronto, Ont. M5H 1L3 for \$49.00 hc plus \$2.00 postage.



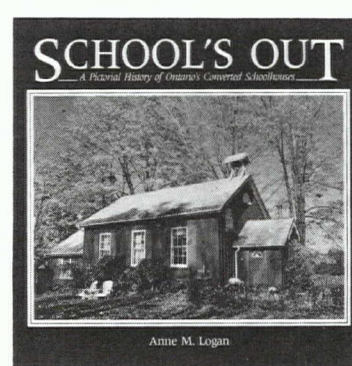
**An Oral Historian's Work** by Dr. Edward D. (Sandy) Ives is a videotape explaining and demonstrating, through actual interviews, the basic procedures required for producing a successful oral history project. The tape covers tips on evaluating your equipment, conducting pre-interview research, making contact with informants, interviewing and transcribing. The tape runs for 33 minutes and is available in VHS or Beta formats. Available from Sheldon Weiss Productions, Route 175, Blue Hills Falls, Maine 04615 for \$60.00 U.S.

**Parry Sound Directory 1898-1899** was reprinted by the Parry Sound Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee. The Directory contains listings of businesses in the area. (Reprinted 1987) 130 pp., illustrated. Available from 1898 Directory, Box 582, Parry Sound, Ont. P2A 2X5 for \$19.00 hc plus \$2.00 postage.

**Port Hope: A Treasury of Early Homes** by Tom Cruickshank and photography by John de Visser includes photos and descriptions of many of Port Hope's 19th-century homes. Examples of a wide range of architectural styles are featured in this lavishly illustrated book. (1987) 135 pp., illustrated. Available from Bluestone House Inc., 21 Dorset St. E., Port Hope, Ont. L1A 1E2 for \$39.95 hc. plus \$1.50 postage.

**Sports Pioneers: A History of the Finnish-Canadian Amateur Sports Federation 1906-1986** edited by Jim Tester covers the history of this organization, which was Canada's foremost amateur sports federation for nearly 50 years. Setting an example for non-commercial sports, the Federation numbered many fine athletes in its ranks, some of whom were of world-class calibre. (1986) 295 pp., illustrated. Available from Alerts

AC Historical Committee, 92 Hyland Dr., Sudbury, Ont. P3E 1R6.



**School's Out: A Pictorial History of Ontario's Converted Schoolhouses** by Anne M. Logan takes a look at the development of the schoolhouse in Ontario and then follows over 50 schoolhouses through to their conversion into residences. Colour photographs of these schoolhouses provide a fascinating overview of the large variety of architectural styles employed in these early schools. (1987) 84 pp., illustrated. Available from The Boston Mills Press, 132 Main Street, Erin, Ont. N0B 1T0 for \$22.95 hc.

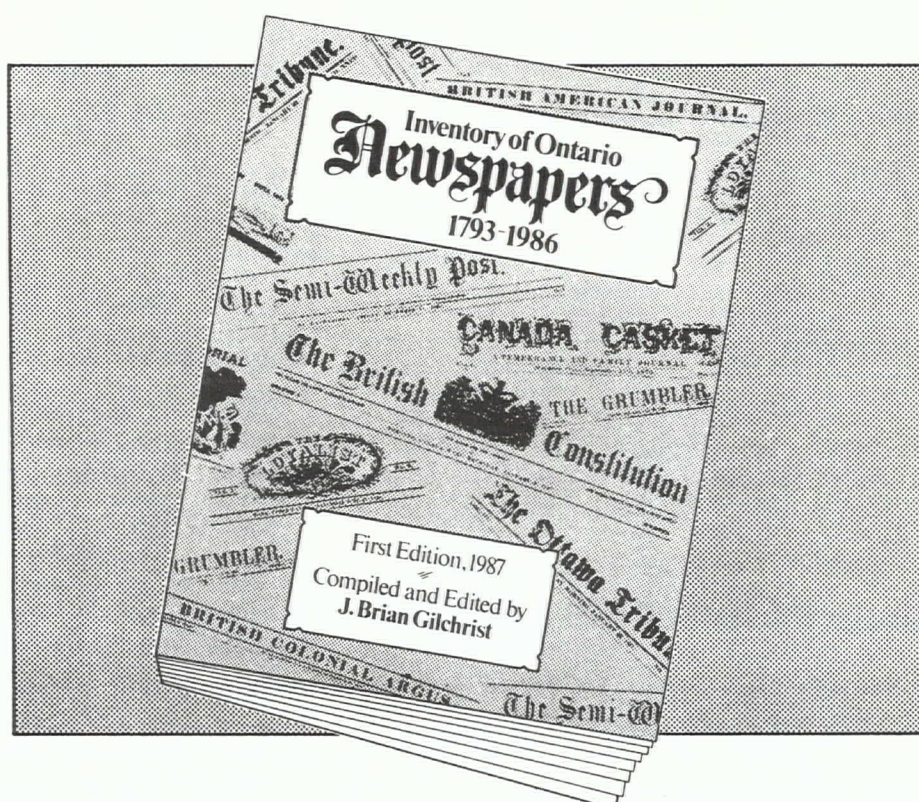
**Ontario 1610-1985: A Political and Economic History** by Randall White traces events from Ontario's "forgotten" French and Indian history to the remarkable postwar transition from a simple, rural-based economy to a complex urban administration. The book contains photographs, maps, and illustrations highlighting the cultural and

social significance of the events covered. (1987) 352 pp., illustrated. Available from Dundurn Press, 1558 Queen St. E., Toronto, Ont. M4L 1E8 for \$34.95 hc and \$16.95 pb.

**Smithman: Nearly a Century of Canadian Textile Manufacturing Under One Family** by H. Malcom Smith covers the history of one family's commercial experience through nearly a century. Historic photographs and illustrations are included. (1987) 96 pp., illustrated. Available from Smithman Publishers, 72 Cheritan Ave., Toronto, Ont. M4R 1S6 for \$10.00 cerlox bound.

**Walpole Island: The Soul of Indian Territory** by Nin. Da. Waab. Jig, meaning "those who seek to find" in Ojibwa, the native language of Walpole Island. This community-based research arm of the Walpole Island Band Council have attempted to capture the main themes of the Walpole Island story, illustrating them with a sample of events and word pictures of Walpole Island life. (1987) 128 pp., illustrated. Available from Walpole Island Council, Nin. Da. Waab. Jig, R.R. 3, Wallaceburg, Ont. N8A 4K9 for \$12.95 pb plus \$2.00 postage.

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## The Inventory of Ontario Newspapers 1793-1986

Compiled and edited by: J. Brian Gilchrist Preface by: Karen Harrison

Genealogists, historians, sociologists and students will welcome the appearance of *The Inventory of Ontario Newspapers 1793-1986*, which has been compiled by the Task Group on Ontario Newspapers, with the financial assistance of the National Library of Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture.

*The Inventory of Ontario Newspapers 1793-1986* brings to light more than twice the number of newspapers cited in its predecessor, the *Union List of Canadian Newspapers held by Canadian Libraries*, published by the National Library in 1977. This volume presents the first comprehensive listing of known newspapers arranged alphabetically by location. From the well-known, prestigious papers such as the *Toronto Star* and the *Globe and Mail* to the more humorous and satirical titles such as the *Leamington Whizz-Bang*, nearly 3,000 titles are included in the *Inventory*.

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# OHS Museums Committee Turns 35!

## Part 2: The early years



The Board of Management for the Scarborough Centennial Museum, 1896 — moving into the 20th century. What does the future hold for museums in the 21st century? Photo: Rick Schofield, Scarborough Historical Society Archives.

By Dorothy Duncan  
OHS Executive Director

Problems of the Small Museum was the theme of the OHS Museums Committee's first workshop (believed to be the first in Canada), held at the Jordan Museum of the Twenty on May 14 to 16, 1954. Sponsored by the Museums Committee and

supported by the fledgling Canadian Museums Association and the Community Programs Branch of the Department of Education, the workshop attracted 45 delegates from across Ontario. Dr. Louis C. Jones, Director of the New York State Historical Association in Cooperstown, New York, was the keynote speaker. Three

practical workshops on museum administration, care of collections, and setting up displays made the weekend an unqualified success.

The unflagging Committee pressed ahead with plans for another program for museum workers in conjunction with The Ontario Historical Society Annual Meeting in Ottawa only five weeks later in June 1954. Among the topics covered were museums old and new, local museums and the tourist, local museums and the community, and problems of the small museum. These topics attracted a good attendance, and with them the Committee was truly launched in the field of adult education. Not a moment too soon, though, for museums were continuing to blossom, with a new one opening on an average of every six weeks!

The OHS Museums Committee became involved in 1955 in the controversial Ontario-St. Lawrence Development Commission project, which had been a concern of the OHS for some time. Meetings, submissions, and letters to both the Commission and Ontario Hydro through 1955 and 1956 reflect both the OHS's and the Museums Committee's concern that this vast project would destroy a unique historical record of archives, architecture, and artifacts. Eventually, a successful solution to the problem was found — Upper Canada Village was created.

The year 1957 brought another first for this group, and indeed for Canada, when the first week-long seminar was held at the Jordan Historical Museum

of the Twenty. It was scheduled for February 25 to March 1, 1957, and advertised as "the first meeting of its kind to be held in Canada for the purpose of studying problems common to every museum, whether it be art, history, or science." Speakers included Ruth Home; Walter Kenyon; B. Napier Simpson, Jr.; Dr. R. W. Dunning; P. Torno; H. D. Brown; W. G. Ormsby; K. R. Hopkins; Professor W. E. Carswell; and Alan Jarvis, Director of the National Gallery of Canada.

In 1956, the Museums Committee had become the Museums Section of The Ontario Historical Society and in 1960 developed its own by-laws. The 1961 issue of *Ontario History* was devoted to the Museums Section and to the museums of Ontario. That issue also included a new up-to-date listing of the province's 115 museums and a description of each museum building and its collection.

The Section's newsletter was published about every six weeks and covered activities of many of the other heritage organizations in Ontario as well as museums. It fulfilled the role of watchdog as well for it carried articles such as this in the #24, 1956 issue:

### Fenelon Falls - Blythe Farm:

The house of Blythe Farm is in danger of being demolished and the whole nation should be up in arms at the thought. This house was built in 1837 by John Langton.... His house should be preserved. No other building in On-

tario could claim to be of greater historic importance than this one. And not only is it historical, it has architecture. It is a delightful Regency cottage built of logs, and its room panelled in butternut wood is known far and wide. Can anything be done?

The *News Letter* was also the vehicle for letting museums know about available artifacts, exchanges of collections and assistance available to them.

Ruth Home was the *News Letter's* first editor. At a cost of 2¢ per copy to mail First Class, this publication contained news of the existing museums, as well as those in the planning and development stages, and carried notices of the Committee's plans and technical leaflets to assist museum workers. Museums were asked to contribute \$2.00 per year and interested individuals \$1.00 per year to help defray expenses.

Look for more on the growth of the OHS Museums Committee and its contribution to Ontario museums in the next issue of the OHS Bulletin.

## Evelyn Moore Price

A great friend of the heritage community and a very gallant lady passed away in March of this year — we all mourn the passing of Evelyn Moore Price.

A driving force behind the Ottawa Valley Historical Society and the Champlain Trail Museum, Evelyn also served as the museum's curator for many years.

In addition she found time in her busy schedule to write for many of the area newspapers, including the *Pembroke Observer*, the *Pem-*

*broke Advertiser*, the *Cobden Sun*, the *Renfrew Mercury*, the *Renfrew Advance* and the *Ottawa Citizen*.

She was also much in demand as a speaker in the Ottawa Valley, and will be sorely missed by friends, neighbours, and colleagues in the heritage community across Ontario. Our sympathy goes out to her family: Lindsay and Earl Price of Beachburg, Irene Risto of Marysville, Raymond of Belleville, Carolyn Burnett of Bramalea, and Donald of Tweed.



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## Information Wanted

Patricia Goldblatt, 187 Glencairn Ave., Toronto, Ont. M4R 1N3, is an M.A. student searching for 19th and early 20th century Canadian cast iron toys or information on foundries that might have produced them.

Shirley Lancaster (416) 889-0498 and Marjorie Stuart (416) 483-2106, Toronto Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society, Box 147, Station Z, Toronto, Ont. M5N 2Z3, are compiling an inventory of all burying places and family cairns in York County. They are looking for information on cemeteries in the county that are threatened by acid rain, vandalism, development, or of being forgotten.

Ania Lotoszek, Curator, Whitehern Historic House, Jackson St. at McNab St., Hamilton, Ont. (416) 522-5664, is looking for a McQuesten stove for Whitehern Historic House. Dr. Calvin McQuesten founded the McQuesten & Fisher Iron Foundry in the 1830s, which made stoves and other iron products.

Larry Noonan, amateur historian and author, MSSB, 80 Sheppard Ave. East, Willowdale, Ont. M2N 6E8, is interested in contacting anyone who is a descendant of a veteran of the Fenian Raids of 1866 & 1870. The purpose is to gather personal stories of the events, photos, etc. for a book.

The OHS Bulletin is the quarterly newsletter of The Ontario Historical Society, 5151 Yonge Street, Willowdale, Ontario, Canada M2N 5P5. Telephone (416) 226-9011. Publication dates for 1988 are January, June, July, September, and November; copy is due on the 20th of November. January, May, July, September respectively.

Inquiries concerning submissions and advertising rates should be directed to Sandra Sims, Editor, OHS Bulletin, 319 King Street West, Suite 301, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5V 1J5. Telephone (416) 593-6580.

Unsolicited manuscripts are welcome, but cannot be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. The views expressed by the contributors and advertisers are not necessarily those of The Ontario Historical Society.



The several classes of membership in the Society are: Individual/Institutional \$15; Family \$18; Sustaining \$50; Life \$300; Patron \$500; Benefactor \$1,000; Affiliated societies \$35. Membership is open to all individuals and societies interested in the history of Ontario. The OHS Bulletin is sent free of charge to all members of the Society. The Society's quarterly scholarly journal, *Ontario History*, is available to individual and affiliated institutional members for \$12 per year, and to nonmembers and non-affiliated institutional members for \$25.

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The members of the Executive Committee of The Ontario Historical Society are: John Bonser, *President*; Colin Read, *First Vice-President*; Beth Hanna, *Second Vice-President*; Douglas Leighton, *Past President*; James Clemens, *Treasurer*; Pam Handley, *Secretary*; John Abbott, Maurice Cabana-Proulx, Barry Gough, Jeanne Hughes, David McNab, Robert Nicholls, Stephen Otto. *Editor, Ontario History*: Laurel Sefton MacDowell. *Legal Adviser*: David McFall. *Executive Director*: Dorothy Duncan.

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