

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

NEXT MEETING

For our next meeting in the New Town Hall, Old Chelsea on Wednesday, 7 April 1971 at 8 p.m. we are to be favoured with a return engagement by an old friend and member of the Society. Many of you will recall the interesting paper on the Kirk's Ferry area prepared and delivered by Mr. Pat Evans at a meeting some time ago.

In the meantime he has been absorbed in the filling out and extension of the Philemon Wright family tree. In the course of his geneological "digging" among descendants of that early settler he has unearthed a number of anecdotes and had a variety of interesting experiences too good to keep to himself. He will share these with us as a before-Easter event. Don't miss this one! It will help take our minds off the tail-end of a tough winter.

ANNUAL MEETING AND SOME HIGHLIGHTS

We had a bit of a break in the all-too-persistent prevailing bad weather for our annual meeting on 18 February and a reasonably good attendance resulted.

From the tenor of the reports it would seem that we had had another successful year in many of our activities. Jean Chapman reported on behalf of herself and May Mulvihill who have continued to add lustre to the name of the Society by their effective management of the Moorside Tearoom. Gross sales were up over \$3,000 for an increase in excess of 8% over the previous season. Many people are now regular patrons and among the new guests were the Prime Ministers of Denmark and Barbados....we have just about exhausted the second printing of our publication HURLING DOWN THE PINE for a total of almost 2,500 copies distributed. We are indebted to John Hughson and Courtney Bond for having authored the book and entrusted its publication to the Society and to Lid Ryan for an efficient and extended effort in distributing it....our little museum at Moorside continued to attract not only interest but also contributions of loose change to the extent of almost \$170....the eighth annual Auction Sale was the longest, best attended and most profitable ever, netting the Society almost \$1,200....although we had no formal Treasurer's report we are in a sound financial position with money in the bank....Jean Chapman in her capacity of Mayor of West Hull was asked to accept an honorary membership in the Society which she graciously did....there was much good talk about how the Society could expand its historical activities and it is hoped some action will ensue....various suggestions were made as to how the Old Town Hall could be put to fuller use....Charlotte Kirle and Pat Evans are to do a feasibility study on the publishing and distribution by the Society of a report of proceedings and historical items from time to time.... there were more suggestions with respect to having printed for sale postcards of the district, both historical reproductions and modern scenes....and so on for an hour and a half.

SHOWN AND TOLD

Our last meeting was enhanced by two of our members providing entertainment and enlightenment in a "show and tell". Miss Islay Johnston took us back to a time when Mantle Beds were popular and could be purchased from the T. Eaton Co. and Miss Lillian Clarke revealed the depth of her interest and knowledge in old lace - a most unusual hobby. We never cease to be amazed at the variety of people's "pets".

COMING EVENT

On May 19th at Larrimaq Golf Club Mrs. Dorian Cummings of Ste. Adele will show slides of her extensive collection of nature studies. More news later but in the meantime you can look forward to this evening when, hopefully, nature's local background will be green and not white.

A POSSIBLE COMING EVENT

We are investigating the possibility and feasibility of a train trip for members and others up the Gatineau in the autumn during the period of leaves in colour.

A SADNESS

A valued member of long standing passed away on March 11, 1971 in the person of Miss Mabel Smith. Many of us will remember her as co-hostess with Mrs. McDougall when we were entertained in the old Prentiss house in Chelsea last summer.

DUES ARE DUE

If you have somehow overlooked renewing your membership for 1971 Mrs. Thomas Hyslop, Kingsmere, Old Chelsea, P.Q. will receive at any hour of any day at the rate of \$2.00 per person. A little time and a small cheque will do it!

A REQUEST

Dr. Mary Burns, N.C.C. Historian, has written asking "does anyone have a picture of the stage coach (or the post-horn used) that functioned between Chelsea and Kingsmere in the time of the youth of the late Arthur Bourinot?" If you can help please call me at 235-1064.

Arthur Davison,
President.