

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

NEXT MEETING

Through the courtesy of the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Hon. Lucien Lamoureux we are to be privileged to hold our next meeting in what is now the summer residence of the Speakers at Kingsmere.

This residence was acquired by W.L. MacKenzie King and named The Farm. It was here that he died in 1950. The front part of the building was the original farm house of Henry Fleury, one of the early settlers in the area.

The Hon. J.W. Pickersgill, P.C., well known as a public servant and parliamentarian, will speak to us about Mr King and his Kingsmere associations. Mr Pickersgill is an acknowledged authority on the subject and we need hardly urge you not to miss this rare treat.

The time is 8 p.m. sharp and the date is Tuesday, 29 May 1973.

The Farm can be reached from the Kingsmere road by travelling down the Swamp Road (the access to Moorside) and turning right at the first main cross road. The house is on the left - a short distance from the corner.

LAST MEETING

April 10th which should have been a "lovely early Spring day" crossed us up and turned out to be decidedly wintry again with four inches of snow, icy conditions and traffic problems galore. This did not help attendance at the meeting that night.

Those who did brave the weather had an interesting and unusual evening. Through the efforts of Alan Powell, Mr Leo Murphy and his son Kenneth a large number of water colours were mounted for display.

Mr Murphy gave us an enlightening talk on the artist, F. FitzRoy Dixon, who was his grandfather and who painted in the Gatineau country at the beginning of the century.

Because of its appeal we may arrange a repeat performance of this program under conditions of salubrity.

TEA ROOM TIME AGAIN!

We are pleased to announce that Moorside Tea Room opens for the 1973 season on 18 May with the original cast of managers. May Mulvihill and Jean Chapman, despite some travelling inconveniences, have agreed to carry on for one more season and for this we are grateful.

The menu has been expanded slightly and the prices kept low with the staff and surroundings as pleasant as ever.

Pamper yourself a little and take family and friends out to the most congenial dining establishment for miles around!

HISTORY REPEATS IN ESSAY CONTEST

In this year's historical essay contest Philemon Wright Regional High School provided all the winners. The contest was well organized by Edouard Laberge ably assisted by his committee of two - Carol Martin and Raymond Watson. Again the judges were Marian Roberts and Col. Macintyre. We are indebted to all those mentioned.

By way of variety and, we hope, stimulation of future efforts a brief assembly was organized through the co-operation of the Principal and Vice-Principal of the High School at 10 a.m. on Friday, 27 April.

On stage we had Mr McQuarrie, Vice-Principal who acted as chairman, members of the committee, the two judges, Mr E.F.Hartwick, Director-General of the Protestant School Board of Western Quebec and several history teachers. In the audience were members of the Society's Executive, parents of some of the winners and a large number of students.

The winners were:

1. Judith Geggie for "The Development of a Community in Lower Canada - Wakefield" - \$100.00.
2. Sylvia Wilkinson for "The Gatineau Park and its Surroundings" - \$75.00.
3. Alfred Lee for "The National Capital Region" - \$50.00.
4. Louise Dumouchel for "MacKenzie King Estate of Kingsmere" - Honourable Mention and \$10.00.
5. Peter Stranks for "Betsy the Squaw" - Honourable Mention and \$10.00.

Edouard Laberge gave a brief critique of each essay and your president presented the cheques. The consensus seemed to favour this type of presentation of prizes and who knows? Maybe a few seeds of interest were sown in the minds of the student audience. We shall await the germination.

SOME SUMMER SKI INTEREST

Mary Brough has asked us to advise all members that the National Ski Museum is a going concern with significant information and equipment from across the country on display much of which is related to the early history of the sport in Canada. The museum is located at 457A Sussex Drive, Ottawa and during the summer the visiting hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily except Sunday. Why not schuss in!

Arthur Davison,
President.