

## THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

### NEXT MEETING

We are to be favoured with a talk by Mr Redmond Quain, Q.C., on the subject - FINDING HISTORY IN OLD RECORDS. This will cover the general area of what is to be found in the records of notaries who worked in the early days in the Hull region. These records are preserved for posterity in the Court House.

Mr Quain, one of our members, is eminently qualified to speak on this subject as he is a member of both the Ontario and Quebec Bars and has had many years of experience on both sides of the river. Come prepared to ask questions on this fruitful field for historical research in our area.

This meeting will be held at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, 29 October 1974 in the New Town Hall, Old Chelsea, Que.

This is a subject "right down our alley" so don't miss it!

### LAST EVENT

On Saturday 21 September 1974 we carried out our latest project, the trip to the Canadiana Village at Rawdon, Que. Thanks to some expert juggling on the part of Sheila Strang and with some help from members who dug out relatives and friends we left sharp at 8 a.m. with a full bus load of 47. This was made up of 17 members, 6 relatives and 24 friends.

After a couple of navigational diversions we arrived to be greeted with a glass of elderberry wine followed by a bountiful and delicious lunch in the old grist mill. We toured the many old buildings filled with furniture and artifacts appropriate to their respective periods and then it was time for another light meal in the form of afternoon tea.

We were guided over to Masonville, a few miles away, where we were enchanted by a lovely log church among the trees, vintage 1849.

Mr and Mrs Moore and their daughter Mrs McDonald were charming and informative and their staff members in each of the buildings, appropriately costumed, helped in transporting us back to rural Quebec of the 19th century - a memorable experience to say the least.

### A LOCAL LOSS

We have recently lost through death one of our original members, Mr Cecil Meredith. A life-long resident and a member of one of the founding families of Chelsea he was one time Secretary and later Mayor of this municipality.

He identified himself closely with us when, in 1965, he donated to the Society the old family cemetery one half mile above Chelsea wherein lie the remains of many of the early pioneers of the area as well as the honoured Pte Richard Roland Thompson.

We and the community will miss Cecil Meredith.

### AUCTION SALE '74

Although the forecast was anything but promising, sale day turned out to be just about right - a mixture of sun and shade - with a lowering of the high humidity level which had prevailed during the week. A brief shower at noon was hardly noticeable.

Thanks to the co-operation of our consignors the number of items was 350 or about 100 less than last year. However, by comparison, what they lacked in quantity they made up in quality. They were consigned by 50 members and friends and, in addition, 7 people made donations of 22 items with a sale value of \$176.25. For this generous gesture we are grateful.

The gross receipts were \$4,115.26 with taxes and included in this amount was \$170.32 from the raffle. This gross was about \$82.00 less than last year which makes this our second best sale ever and this involved less items and less work.

Registered bidders numbered 289 or 27 fewer than last year. However, they were an enthusiastic lot and a goodly number stuck with us until the end of the sale which came at 8.48 p.m.

Cheques in the amount of \$1,720.92 have been sent to our consignors and the Provincial coffers will be swelled by \$342.62 in sales taxes, auction duties and licence fees. After paying all our expenses the Society should benefit by about \$1,500.

### WHAT'S IN A NAME

At a meeting of the Executive Committee on 10 October 1974, Marian Roberts presented some information and proposes to gather more on the publication of booklets made up of our assembled historical papers and the award-winning essays. It is hoped that these booklets will come out at intervals as long as we have the material to fill them. They will be sent to members and some will be for sale.

To attract customers we want a title for the booklet which is bright, catchy and appropriate. All members are invited, even urged, to submit their suggestions to Marian Roberts at 827-0408 or by mail to RR #3, Wakefield, Que. A small prize will be awarded the winner. Deadline - 29 October 1974.

### FOR THE RECORD

There are still a goodly number of older people living in our region whose memories harbour a lot of local history. At our recent Executive Committee meeting there was much discussion on this rich source of material which is lost forever once these people are no longer with us.

We are getting information on the procurement by the Society of one or more good quality tape recorders. Assuming that this comes to fruition these recorders will be available to members who would interview these "oldest inhabitants" with the resultant tapes becoming part of our permanent library. Some of the more interesting material might be transcribed and published.

We need researchers badly and if you would be prepared to participate in this interesting and rewarding program will you please telephone Pat Evans on 827-2675 (evenings and week-ends).

Please do yourselves and us a favour by responding!

Arthur Davison,  
President.