

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

NEXT MEETING

Those of you who wish to know more about a somewhat mysterious figure with local connections will want to join us for our next meeting to be held in the West Hull Community Centre, Old Chelsea, Que. at 8 p.m. sharp on Thursday, 25 February 1982 .

We are most fortunate in having June Creelman give us an illustrated talk on "Mackenzie King and His Estate in Kingmere". June is an Ottawa girl who studied Canadian History at Trent University; worked at the reconstructed mission of Sainte-Marie among the Hurons near Midland, Ontario and, for the past four years, has been with the Interpretation Service of the National Capital Commission.

Those of you who heard her brief, but lively, presentation at the last meeting will find this talk much more comprehensive, with a different emphasis, based on extensive research, and accompanied by a slide show which, we understand, is unique, to say the least.

You will be sorry if you miss this opportunity to be edified and entertained.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING

Once again we were fortunate in having good weather for this meeting on 4 February 1982 (this was really our January meeting). The weather contributed toward our having an attendance of 20-25....the facilities provided by the Chelsea United Church were of the best....brief reports touched on another year of activity and some progress.the financial report presented by our Secretary Treasurer, Sheila Strang, was very well received, and deservedly so, since it revealed receipts of \$13,788.26 and expenditures of \$10,605.70 which took us 'into the black' to the tune of \$3,182.56 - very gratifying.... although, as of last season, we ceased being responsible for the operation of Moorside Tea Room we still maintain our small indoor museum there....the 19th Annual Auction Sale made a net profit for the Society of \$1,475.88 and we are contemplating our 20th Sale for 28 August 1982.. ...we have held the line on membership fees for this year, which has elicited some favourable reactions, but we will have to review this situation toward the end of 1982....the Essay Contest yielded six essays in 1981 and Bob Phillips reported on a new approach, suggested by the Essay Committee, of which you will hear more details in due time....we had seven meetings and an auction day during the past year....our annual publication, 'Up the Gatineau!' for 1981 actually yielded a profit of \$57.10 despite the fact that members and some others received complimentary copies....Phillip Journeaux was again appointed our auditor....the present Executive was returned to office for 1982 except that Isobel Ryan has moved to the Advisory Committee, at her request; Carol Martin has accepted an appointment to that Committee and Bob Phillips has transferred to the ExecutiveHeritage Day and Canadian Heritage magazine were promoted on behalf of The Heritage Canada Foundation....during the year a donation of canned goods valued at about \$125.00, surplus to the Moorside Tea Room operation for 1980, was donated by the Society to the Gatineau Memorial Hospital....following the business reports and discussion some members added to the interest of the occasion by participating in a SHOW and TELL, or simply TELL, session....another year - our 20th - is now consigned to the records as we look forward to renewed activity, in a variety of fields, in 1982.

DUES ARE DUE

Our uninflated dues are now payable. If you have not already paid them (and many of you have) why not divest yourself of "one of those things I must do" by doing it NOW! All it requires is a cheque for \$3.00 single/\$5.00 family sent to Sheila Strang, Secretary Treasurer, Old Chelsea, Que. JOX 2N0.

There, aren't you relieved for having got that off your mind?

'UP THE GATINEAU!'

The 1982 edition - our 8th - is now having its 'birth pangs' and should be going to the printer within a week or so. It is expected to be off the press in April or May.

Need we remind you that complimentary copies are sent only to paid-up members ?

HAPPY THOUGHTS

With her cheque for renewal of membership in the Society, Mrs. C.R. (Bertha) Holt of Victoria, B.C., who, as a member of the well-known Wilson-Cross clan, grew up in our region, wrote us a charming letter in which she paraphrased a popular saying to read: "You can take a person away from the Gatineau, but you can't take the Gatineau away from a person!"

With her letter was enclosed the following heart-warming sentiments which she had composed:

THOUGHTS ON BEING OLDER

You have time to do things you never dreamed of doing at any other time in your life. You discover qualities within that have lain dormant until now.

Exciting! Yes!

Looking, really looking at the beauty all around us. The flowering trees, roses, holly, even the stark outline of a leafless tree against the sky.

My heart sings....
"How Great Thou Art! "

One day I passed an injured monarch butterfly lying on the sidewalk. I turned back lifted it gently and placed it on a low bush. I had never done anything like this before.

I think God saw me....
I felt warm inside.

One day out walking, I see a gardener trimming his trees. (It's that time of year). I tell him how much pleasure his garden has given me. He smiles and his face lights up with joy.

Is there anything wrong with saying "Hi!" to the school children on the street? They need our approval and friendliness. Or, try tapping a stranger on the shoulder, and say, "You look lovely this morning, has anyone told you so?"

Belonging to a volunteer group in the community has its rewards. New friends, fellowship, responsibility and worthwhile work.

The joy of giving of oneself not to oneself is the answer.

Last but not least, when you are older You write things like this and send it to special friends, and you are special.

Arthur Davison
Arthur Davison,
President