

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

NEXT MEETING

It is getting to be a habit of some standing with us but every year, for over 20 years, we have had, what we call, an ANNUAL MEETING although we have other meetings during the year. This year, that meeting will be held on Thursday, 19 January 1984 at 8.00 p.m. sharp in the West Hull Community Centre, Old Chelsea, Que.

There will be the usual brief reports on the activities of the Society during the past year and then we will get into what we have done for some years on this occasion. This will be your chance to 'take the floor' in a SHOW AND TELL or SHOW AND ASK session when you can tell us about some treasured possession and show it to us or simply tell us about some cherished memory. The rules are very flexible so, in effect, you can use an allotted 5 to 10 minutes before a built-in audience in any way that you please. We do hope that you will come and that you will feel like participating although you do not have to, if that is your preference.

LAST MEETING

On Thursday, 1 December 1983, Bob Phillips lived up to the reputation which he has earned with us, and with other groups, as a speaker with something to say and an effective and pleasing way of saying it. He is well qualified to give us his 'Reflections on Preserving History'

In addition, he engendered some of the most spirited discussion by members of the audience which we can remember. We thank Bob for his thought-provoking remarks and for getting us 'into the act'.

'UP THE GATINEAU!' '84 Within a few days preliminary action will begin on assembling material for the production of our annual booklet - No. 10 in the series. As in the past, we are seeking articles on Gatineau history - both short items and some longer ones. Please help us in this regard, if you can. We hope that you will take this request seriously and, if you can contribute something, will you be so kind as to telephone me on 235 1064 soon and we can discuss timing and other details. Time is of the essence so act promptly, please.

SAD LOSS

One of our long-time members and supporters passed away on 24 November 1983 in the person of Graham Spry, C.C., LL.D., F.R.G.S.

Your president attended the funeral on 28 November in St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church where the capacity attendance and the eulogy by Tommy Douglas attested to his accomplishments and the high regard in which he was held.

In a reply to our letter of condolence Mrs. Spry revealed that her late husband is buried in the old grave-yard in Old Chelsea, next to their son, Richard.

She expressed deep appreciation for our sympathy and wished the Society continued success.

SPIN-OFF

As a result of our participation with a display in the Antique and Historical Tent at the International Plowing Match at Richmond, Ontario, in the Fall (see our October Newsletter) we received a card, before Christmas, from Dr. Kenneth Hartin in his capacity as Chairman of the Committee which arranged for the displays in question. In this card he wrote - "We appreciated the cheerful participation of Dave (Castleman), June (Creelman), Sheila (Strang), Mel (Alexander), Tom (Hyslop)..... at the Match. You are an inspiration to volunteers. Congratulations." (I have inserted the surnames in the above in brackets)

In addition to his complimentary remarks, a cheque for \$50.00 from the Central Committee of the Flowing Match in favour of the Society was enclosed.

What a thoughtful and pleasant surprise for Christmas!

HERITAGE CANADA FOUNDATION

If you have a copy of Canadian Heritage for December-January you will have seen it and if you do not have a copy may I suggest that you make an effort to get one - even on loan.

Among a number of interesting articles I would draw your attention to "Tales of Two Cities" in which our Bob Phillips reports on the two day conference which covered the theme of the 10th anniversary meeting of the Foundation in Toronto in late September 1983. Bob was the Executive Director of what was then simply Heritage Canada from its founding in 1973 to 1978. His article is written in his usual perceptive and articulate way and it is well-worth reading.

DUES DUE

Here we are with the old familiar refrain which has a habit of being repeated every year about this time. Despite some steadily rising costs, which affect us, we have decided to 'hold the line' on membership dues. As was the case last year, the annual dues will be \$5.00 for both single and family memberships.

We do hope that you will continue your essential support, so necessary for the survival and growth of the Society, and that you will quickly reassure us on that score - if you have not already done so - by making out your cheque right now and sending it to: Sheila Strang, Secretary Treasurer, Old Chelsea, Que., JOX 2N0. Of course, you may also pay in cash, or by cheque, at the next meeting. Sheila will be there and in a receptive mood.

NOMINATIONS

As suggested at a meeting of the Executive on 14 July 1983, Helen Starnes, who has done such a good job organizing volunteers for the Auction Sale during the past few years, agreed to be Chairman of a Nominating Committee. Subsequently, a meeting was arranged involving her, the Secretary Treasurer and the current President. The Chairman contacted potential Executive members and also members of the Advisory Committee.

At the summer meeting of the Executive, Pat Evans, who had reviewed our Constitution, made some recommendations - more in the nature of amplification than changes. Suggested responsibilities for officers were made and his proposals were accepted, on the basis of which the following nominations were presented in Helen Starnes' report:

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| Past President | Mr. Arthur Davison | publications |
| President | Mr. Robert A.J. Phillips | presides at meetings, overview of other functions. |
| First Vice President | Cdr. Tony German | programs, membership promotion |
| Second Vice President | Mr. Patrick M.O. Evans | constitution, by-laws, archives |
| Secretary Treasurer | Miss Sheila Strang | minutes, correspondence, budget, audit, etc. |

Directors - Mrs. Carol Martin, Mr. Gary Levy, Mr. Howard Harris. *Arthur Davison*
3 January 1984 Advisory Committee - to be announced Arthur Davison, Pres.