

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

NEXT EVENT

History is about to repeat itself. In the days when the Society was very young we had a meeting on the veranda of the mansion at Meach Lake originally built by 'Carbide' Willson.

Now, through the courtesy of Senator Connolly who represents the Dr. Gilhooly Estate, the present owners of the property, and thanks to arrangements made by Mrs. Marion Roberts, we are to enjoy another afternoon at the same location. This will be on Sunday, 31 July 1977 beginning at 2:30 p.m. sharp and the program will consist of the replaying of a tape on "Carbide Willson" which was a radio coast-to-coast broadcast early this summer called "Between Ourselves". The tape comprises interviews and comments by various people associated in one way or another with the subject including Marion who is his daughter. Following this there will be a guided tour of the beautiful grounds including the ruins of Carbide Willson's Power House and Phosphoric Acid Reduction Plant.

The first part of the program will be on the unfurnished veranda so you must bring your own folding chair unless you wish to sit on the floor and let your legs hang down. It will take place rain or shine. Unfortunately, we can -not offer Tea, on this occasion, because of lack of activated facilities.

Now for directions! Drive towards Meach Lake and just before you get there pass the NCC Parking Field used for those visiting the public beach at the southerly end of the lake. Turn right at the only such turn off the main road and drive up a steep hill; pass one set of gates with stone posts (lights on top) and proceed through the second set of gates flanked by red stone posts; drive about one quarter mile up this road; pass a large grassed area on the left with buildings in the background; approach a stone building (garage) with centre doors over which is a window box filled with red geraniums; turn full right and drive up the road a short distance to the main house. Park your car alongside the driveway and come on in. It is a lot less complicated to get there than it sounds but we wanted to be as specific as possible.

This magnificent estate is a surprising revelation in the midst of the woods adjacent to Meach Lake and the discovery thereof is worth the visit alone even without all the added features. If you do not know who Carbide Willson was come and find out about this remarkable inventor and entrepreneur.

LAST MEETING

Despite uncertain weather which included a few gentle sprinkles, between 60 and 70 people turned out on Sunday, 19 June 1977 for our Walking Tour of Wakefield. The party was divided into two groups with Norma Geggie directing one and Stuart Geggie the other. Our knowledgeable guides made the tour most interesting.

A happy conclusion to the afternoon was the Tea in St. Andrew's United Church for which Mrs. James Moore and her United Church Women provided well-endowed sandwiches and cakes.

The Society is grateful for all who contributed toward making this an afternoon to remember.

There are a few extra copies of our leaflet including map of the tour. If you would like one telephone Sheila Strang on 827 0420 and it will be sent to you in our next mailing.

BOOKING

The Macmillan Company of Canada has, at the request of the author, Conah McFee, sent us a copy of her novel - Sandbars - which has lately come off the press. It is the story of a young girl growing up in Ottawa and in a cottage on the Gatineau which probably explains why we were favoured with a copy. We appreciate the thoughtfulness of the author and we welcome this addition to our growing collection of books.

AUCTION '77

The big event of August is scheduled for Saturday, the Twenty-seventh. You will receive the details early next month. In the meantime please start collecting the items which will become someone's collectibles and be sure to implant the date in your mind.

SWITZERLAND'S GAIN By some sort of coincidence two of our Gatineau members and their families are leaving soon for Switzerland. Robert and Carol Martin will live in Geneva, he on a government posting and George and Joanne MacDonald will be in Basel on a year's sabbatical.

Undoubtedly, they will be opening Swiss Bank accounts but not the kind we read about in the press.

We wish them all well in their time abroad!

UP THE GATINEAU!

You will have received your free copy with our June Newsletter. If you wish additional copies, you, as a member, are entitled to a special price of \$1.00 - a saving of 50%. Simply telephone Sheila.

18 July 1977

Arthur Davison,
President,