

## THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

### NEXT MEETING

We will feature a man of many talents at our next meeting on Wednesday, 29 March 1978 to be held at 8 p.m. sharp in the library of the Chelsea Protestant Elementary School which is located on the north side of the road between Chelsea and Old Chelsea - closer to the former.

Pierre-Louis Lapointe, historian, writer, teacher, researcher, conservateur, etc., who is now the Outaouais Regional Archivist for the Quebec Archives will speak on 'Archives of the Outaouais, their Collection and Preservation'. There will be a showing of slides as a supplement.

Since our Society will probably be actively involved, why not come and hear all about it from one who is fully qualified to tell us?

### LAST MEETING

We were all impressed with the accomplishments which have been made in the searching out and designation of heritage properties in the large area of Western Quebec in which the N.C.C. has an interest. Mr. Rolf Latte, our speaker, has been largely responsible for the achievement and he gave us a report on the evening of 1 March 1978. In addition, he showed slides and commented on many fine old buildings which are enjoying a renewed existence. It was a full evening of variety and interest.

### THE UNEXPECTED

We have been advised lately that The Royal Canadian Regiment Association - made up of retired and serving members of that distinguished regiment - will be sending a cheque for \$100.00 to assist us in the care of the grave of Pte. Richard Rowland Thompson - winner of the Queen's Scarf of Honour for exceptional bravery in the South African War - whose remains lie in our cemetery north of Chelsea, Que.

This unsolicited gift will be put to use in an improvement project next summer which will enhance the appearance of the plot in question.

We are grateful to the Association for this pleasant surprise.

### ESSAY CONTEST '78

We are trying to attract as much attention as possible to our Essay Contest with the hope that there will be greater participation.

Enclosed is a notice of the Contest. May we encourage your participation. If you are interested please make a note of the essential facts and then release the notice for distribution as requested below. This release would also apply, naturally, if you do not wish to compete.

Now here is where you can be of great assistance to us! Will you please place the enclosed notice on any bulletin board to which you have access such as in a church hall, recreation centre, local library, school, etc.

This simple act of yours might bring forth a winning essay. In any event, it will spread the word. So please help!

### ANOTHER PLEA

As of this date about half our members of 1977 have renewed their membership. To borrow a slogan - "don't wait for Spring, do it now!"

It would be a great help if we could tidy up our renewals this month so we can devote our energies to other things which demand attention.

PLEASE send yours now, if you haven't done so, to the Society c/o Miss Sheila Strang, Old Chelsea, Que., JOX 2N0 and do include your postal code for our records. In case we have not already implanted this in your mind, it is \$3.00 single, \$5.00 family - and we do want you and, only incidentally, your money.

WHC'S WHC As promised in the February Newsletter, here is the first of a series of mini-biographies of the members of our Executive Committee. I will start with the one I know best.

### ARTHUR WHITLEY DAVISON

Born in Brockville, Ontario, where he received his early education....entered the University of Toronto in 1925 where he won two scholarships and graduated with honours in Architecture in 1929, after having been elected permanent president of the graduating year of Engineers and Architects....had a private practice of Architecture, with offices in Brockville and Cornwall between 1934 and 1940....enlisted in the R.C.A.F. and served as a Works Officer, including two years overseas, until 1946 when he retired with the rank of Wing Commander....assumed responsibility for the construction and maintenance program for hospitals in the Department of Veterans Affairs as Director of Architecture and Engineering until retirement, after 25 years, in 1971....held several posts with his professional associations; is a past president of the Ottawa Branch of the United Nations Association and of the Ottawa Little Theatre; former vice-president of the Children's Aid Society and of the Ottawa Central Lions Club....elected to the College of Fellows of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada in 1977.... married to Betty, an artist, in the 263 year old Bruton Parish Church in Williamsburg, Va. and has twin step-daughters who have blessed them with five grandchildren....lives in Ottawa in the winter and on the Gatineau River above Chelsea in the summer....out of concern for early architecture, collecting Canadiana and an enjoyment of the area grew an interest in The Historical Society of which he is one of the founders and now president.

14 March 1978

*Arthur Davison*  
Arthur Davison,  
President.