

NEXT MEETING

This will focus on our annual Essay Contest of which the results appear below. It will be held on Thursday, 29 November 1979 starting at 8 p.m. sharp in the New Town Hall, Old Chelsea, Que.

The winners of our Contest have been invited to receive their awards and all of us will receive something more. We are fortunate in that Charles Lynch - Chief of Southam News, columnist, T.V. commentator, entertainer, summer resident of Kingsmere, sailor and a lot more - has agreed to attend and speak to us on a related topic of his choosing.

I am sure that you will not want to miss this special occasion and, accordingly, I urge each of you to bring one or two extra chairs to ensure that you will not be 'standing room only'.

LAST MEETING

Pat Evans works assiduously on discovering new branches and twigs in the ever-growing Wright family tree. Occasionally information comes to him "cut of the blue" which requires follow-up. He searches out archival material in the Outaouais and he does other research. All this represents a great deal of work on his part. But there are fringe benefits such as the people he meets and the experiences he encounters. It was from this fund of reminiscences that he regaled us on October 31st, earning, in the process, many complimentary remarks.

TOPS Our eighth annual Essay Contest has yielded something more to our accumulation of Gatineau lore and the following have been judged worthy of recognition for their efforts:

| <u>Prize</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Address</u> | <u>Title</u> |
|----------------|----------------|----------------------------------|---|
| First (\$500) | Gary Levy | Old Chelsea, Que. | The Ottawa and Gatineau Valley Railway, 1871-1901 |
| Second (\$300) | Lillian Walton | Ottawa, Ont. | Here Buried at Chelsea, Que. |
| Third (\$100) | A. de L. Panet | Ottawa, Ont. and Kingsmere, Que. | Kingsmere, Quebec |

Once again, we of the Society offer our congratulations to each of them for their contributions to the record of our local history.

CONSERVATION GATINEAU

At the last meeting, Bob Phillips made a plea for support of 'Conservation Gatineau' - a recently formed group which provides a forum for interested citizens on both sides of the Gatineau River, to discuss environmental concerns in a rapidly changing landscape. Already over 100 people have paid the \$2.00 joining fee and many more are needed to study problems, make suggestions and generally strengthen the work of conservationists.

If you would like to add your support, or simply get more information, please telephone Ann Geggie on 827 1560 or Bob Phillips on 827 3164. We commend this to your attention.

DOLLARS AND CENTS

We have some final figures for your information. The Society's 'profit', after expenses, on the 1979 Auction Sale is \$1,851.43 - up about \$170.00 over last year.

The Donation Box in our Moorside Museum produced \$132.08 which is somewhat less than previously but still represents generous voluntary support by many unknown benefactors.

HERITAGE CANADA ANNUAL

Betty and I made our way to Victoria in mid-October where I attended the annual meeting and conference of Heritage Canada. It was four days almost too full of exciting activities. One of the themes at the conference was "Main Street Experience" - the preservation and rehabilitation of the downtown. This and the other equally significant themes were developed by a diverse group of excellent participants supported by visual aids. There were also potentially interesting concurrent workshops which made choosing difficult.

Other diversions were tours of Butchart Gardens near Victoria; a day trip by bus via ferry to Vancouver to visit a proposed re-development in an older part of the city and then a conducted walk through part of the famous Gastown area. On the last day there was a bus tour of Victoria's Old Town winding up in Chinatown where we had lunch and later witnessed a colourfully-costumed Lion's Dance in progress.

The Annual Dinner featured delicious B.C. salmon and delightful W.O. Mitchell, the well-known author, who charmed us with tales of his growing-up days in Saskatchewan.

This is but a sketchy outline of all that happened and those responsible at Heritage Canada are to be congratulated on their choice of locale and for the conception and development of the whole program.

FEBRUARY 18

What, you may well ask, is the significance of February 18? In 1980 it happens to be the third Monday in February and that is the day for which Heritage Canada is embarked on a concerted campaign to have officially recognized as Heritage Day - and, incidentally as a mid-winter holiday - a day in which we can contemplate our rich heritage and how we can contribute to its protection.

This was mentioned in our October Newsletter and at our last meeting. It will be mentioned to you again and we hope that you will feel that it is worthy of your own support.

On October 8th, Pat Evans and I drove up the Gatineau as far as Kazabazua and Mont Ste. Marie. In addition to checking our sales outlets for 'Up the Gatineau!' we put up Heritage Day posters and even collected 10 names on the petition in support of the cause. Will you help?

ALL THE BEST!

Although it may be a little early to think about Christmas - the shops are at it already - this will be our last Newsletter for 1979 and so we, of the Executive Committee, hope that you may put aside personal and world concerns for a few days and have a thoroughly enjoyable and heart-warming Christmas. And may January first usher in, for you and for us, a new year in which we will find much to be thankful for!

12 November 1979

May Nineteen-eighty
Be not too weighty
- with worries!

Arthur Davison
Arthur Davison,
President.

Please remember to bring those extra chairs to the next meeting.