

NEXT MEETING

Arthur Dunn has kindly agreed to speak to us again - this time on 'Church Bell Ringing in England' complete with audio-visual effects - at our next meeting to be held in the Chelsea United Church, Mill Road, at the northerly limits of Chelsea, Que., at 8 p.m. sharp on Thursday, 21 October 1982. Please note the change in date and place from our usual pattern.

Arthur has been one of our more popular and informative speakers in his previous two appearances and we can look forward to something new from him this time. He would have preferred delaying this talk for a month or two but because he is an accommodating person we will have the pleasure of his company on October 21st.

AUCTION '82

Well, it's over and although we may have shivered a bit in the fresh wind of a cool August 28th, at least we did not get rained on.

Statistically we were down in practically all departments but we still grossed about \$3,680.00, down some \$300.00 from last year. 38 consignors, 20 fewer than last year, brought in 351 consignments, down from 413 in 1981. Many of these were interesting and of good quality. Registered bidders, down over 50 from last year, totalled 193. One statistic which remained high was the number of volunteer workers and the level of their contributions in time and effort, without which there could have been no sale whatever.

Considering the cool temperatures, the economic climate, the on-going competition from a growing number of yard and garage sales and other factors, we are satisfied with the results of our 20th Annual Auction which is now consigned to history.

HERITAGE CANADA MEETING

The Annual Meeting, Conference and a series of Workshops of The Heritage Canada Foundation will be held in Regina, Sask., this year on October 13 to 17 inclusive, followed by a choice of two post-conference tours. The writer is planning to attend. If you are a member of the Foundation and are thinking of going I would be pleased to hear from you on 827 2598 or 235 1064.

MILLS IN THE GATINEAU

Arthur Dunn, one of our members, and a popular speaker at two of our past meetings, with assistance from Mike Bedard, another of our members, in response to our 'Search for History' campaign, plans a project to search out and record the details of all mills in the Gatineau, even those which may have been flooded out by subsequent Hydro or other developments and mills which now exist only in memory.

Both Arthur and Mike have some expertise in this subject and you may be sure that anything they produce will be well-researched.

If you can provide any assistance in locating mill sites in the region or any other information on early Grist Mills, Tanning Mills, Spinning Mills, Saw Mills, Fulling Mills, Ironworks, etc., please write to Arthur Dunn at 1287 Castlehill Crescent, Ottawa, Ontario, K2C 2B2 or telephone him on 225 4149. This is your opportunity to be a part of an exciting project which will add much to the local historical record. Act now as timing is very important.

ANTIQUÉ SHOW AND SALE

The Aylmer Heritage Association is holding its Eighth Annual Antique Show and Sale on Friday, 22 October, 6 pm to 10 pm and Saturday, 23 October, 10 am to 6 pm at The Barn, 92 Albert Street, Aylmer - behind the City Hall. 22 dealers will participate. Admission is \$1.25. For further information, if needed, please telephone Mrs. Betty Hay - (819)455 2240 or Mrs. Helen Peach - (819)684 5182. Judging from past performances this event should not be missed.

HELP WANTED

One of the members of the Executive of the Society and a first prize winner in its 1979 Essay Contest, Gary Levy, has been awarded a grant by the Association for Canadian Studies to write a biography on Arthur Beauchesne, longtime resident of Ottawa and Clerk of the House of Commons who authored 'Parliamentary Rules and Forms' in 1922 which is still recognized as the authority on the subject. Gary would greatly appreciate hearing from anyone who may have known Beauchesne. If you are such a person or if you know anyone who might be helpful in this regard please write to him at Old Chelsea, Que., JOX 2N0 or telephone him at his office on 992 6982 or at home on 827 0058. Gary would be grateful for any response to this request. Help! Help!

CEMETERY CONDITIONS

There have been occasional complaints about the condition of our cemetery one half mile north of Chelsea on Highway 105.

Although we attempt a modest program of grass cutting and tidying up each summer there was some delay in getting at it this season because the writer did not settle in the Gatineau this year as early as usual due to some necessary travel. In addition, the family lawn-mower required repairs which accentuated the delay in attention. However, extensive raking up was completed at a labour expense to the Society of some \$49.50. We do receive each year a small payment of \$25.00 from the Department of Veterans Affairs to care for the plot containing the remains of Pte. R. R. Thompson, the only Canadian winner of the rare Queen's Scarf of Honour. We have concentrated our care to this plot, the area around the stone cairn and the entrance road. We also remove dead trees or branches and tidy up in the whole area of the cemetery. In the meantime, the grass has been cut in the specific areas mentioned.

Prior to our acquisition of this cemetery and the access road thereto from the late Cecil Meredith about 18 years ago this area was a part of his cattle pasture. We fenced it, built the entrance road, put up the stone cairn and the entrance gate posts as well as removal of tangible evidence of its cattle pasture days. You can read all about this in your issue of 'Up the Gatineau!' for 1980. Other than the general tidying up referred to above we have not attempted any significant (and costly) improvements to the cemetery in general.

We did make application last autumn for some government funds to assist in the rehabilitation of the cemetery as a whole but because of tight budget conditions this was not the year for a favourable reception of our request. It is not inconceivable that there could be some funds found for this purpose next Spring.

Is there anyone in the Society who would care to relieve me of the responsibility of organizing the summer care - and possible rehabilitation - of this cemetery? In order to complete plans for 1983 will you be so kind as to telephone me, within the next month, on 827 2598 or 235 1064. I am serious in this request and any calls will receive an enthusiastic welcome.

4 October 1982

*Arthur Davison*, Arthur Davison, President.