



EARLY PAEDIATRICS AT QUEEN'S

Our next meeting on 17 March should be especially interesting, touching as it will do on history and the health of children. Our speaker is Dr. David Alexander, who was born in Edinburgh, Scotland and graduated in Medicine from the University of Edinburgh. His past graduate training was in Paediatrics in Baltimore, England and the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. He served two years in the Royal Navy; came to Canada in 1960. Although 'retired' from Queen's where he is an Associate Professor in the Department of Paediatrics, he continues with undergraduate interviews, curriculum design and teaching.

He has been a visiting professor in Saudi Arabia, Uganda, Scotland and Guyana. His wife Dr. Jean Alexander, also a paediatrician, practices in the Child Development Centre at Hôtel Dieu Hospital. His talk will trace the history of child health care in Kingston and at Queen's beginning with the efforts of the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph to deal with a typhus epidemic in 1847 when over 90 orphans were taken in by the Sisters of the first Hôtel Dieu Hospital at 233 Brock Street. Queen's became involved in 1861, when children's health was combined with obstetrics and diseases of women. Be sure to attend on St. Patrick's Day in the Wilson Room, upstairs in the Kingston Public Library at 130 Johnson Street, 7:30 p.m.

QUEEN'S SEMI-CENTENNIAL

At our February meeting, Paul Banfield of Queen's Archives presented a whimsical account of the committees, disagreements and self-puffery of the political, ecclesiastical and academical officials who proposed, planned, conducted and celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Queen's College at Kingston in 1839 or 1840 or 1841. Read about it in *Historic Kingston*, a year from now.

HERITAGE EXHIBITION

What if you had a party and nobody came? That is what happened to several heritage groups who set up displays in the Memorial Hall of City Hall on Thursday 18 February. A combination of winter snow, the icy winds off Lake Ontario and traditional Canadian ennui conspired to bring a monumental hush to the proceedings. Never mind, it presented a great opportunity for the participants to learn about each other's heritage activities. Beside ourselves, there was LACAC, the Frontenac Historic Foundation, the Kingston Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society, Fort Henry, Bellevue House and printed Passage Books. Of particular visual interest were some of the drawings prepared by Inglis & Downey Architects in the restoration of James Reid Furniture's two adjacent stores at 252 Princess Street. The historical fidelity, workmanship and colour treatment are quite outstanding

and a great credit to the city. Founder James Reid (1829-1900) began business in 1854, furniture in front, funeral home to one side. The 1912 Orpheum theatre, next door, was absorbed and expanded to show furniture, its proscenium and tin ceiling still intact. A large marqu e now graces the front, all in exquisite taste. We wish the fifth generation of the family continued success. And, by the way, we did manage to sell \$55. worth of books from our stand at City Hall. Our thanks to those members who helped staff our display: Wally Breck, Isobel Trumpour, Bill Fittell, Martin Betcherman, Phil Quattrocchi and Jim Warren.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We are delighted to welcome five new members to our Society, and we look forward to their full participation in our activities. They are Donald G. Woods of Kingston, Tom Meers a student member, Peter Milliken, MP, also an Honourary Patron, and Dr. James and Margery Low of Kingston. We remind our readers that all are welcome at our meetings, whether members or not. Nonetheless, we encourage our members to invite their friends to join our Society. The greater our critical mass, the more we can accomplish. To this end, Membership Chair Joe Boucher points out that the membership brochure was placed in with the last newsletter to bring in new faces. Your friends may join at the next meeting, where Joe will set up a recruiting stand. Incidentally, we appreciate those who have so promptly paid their 1993 dues. There are still a few who have not, and we know where you live. Back in Nelson's day they used armed press gangs. And you know our respect for historical precedent.

DISTINGUISHED BENEFACTORS

Arthur L. Davies and his son Michael Davies are well-known to all Kingstonians as former publishers of The Whig-Standard which had been a family business since 1926, when Rupert Davies, later a Senator, purchased The British Whig founded in 1834 and amalgamated it with the Kingston Daily Standard. The Davies family have been long time members of our Society and philanthropists to many worthy organizations in this city. We are grateful for their latest unsolicited contribution of two thousand dollars to the Kingston Historical Society. Thank you, friends.

HISTORIC KINGSTON

Editor Donald A. Redmond reports that Volume 41 of Historic Kingston should be in our hands early in March. Perhaps you are reading it as we speak. It contains the papers that have been delivered to the Society during

1992 and is always a good read. Back copies of Historic Kingston covering the years 1969, Volume 18, to the present date are still available for \$5. each. Earlier volumes are sometimes to be found in used book stores or may be referred to in your favourite public library.

MURNEY TOWER LIVES!

Kenyon Rutherford, Chair, and his Murney Tower Committee have presented a sensible plan for keeping our museum alive for another year. There was tentative agreement that it would be open from Saturday 22 May until Labour Day 6 September. One Chief Interpreter and two Interpreters will be hired to start work on 3 May and 17 May respectively. Staff will be recruited as soon as possible. The Tower will be open six days a week from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The uncertainty of grants poses difficulty in budgetary planning, but present projections based on 1992 experience are as follows:

Income:

Admissions	\$ 9,400.
Investments	2,000.
SEED Grant	2,600. (for staff)
Museum Grant	<u>3,400.</u> (for operations)
Total Income	\$17,400.

Expenses

Publicity	\$ 2,000.
Assoc'n Fees	200.
Bank Serv. Chge.	125.
Telephone	300.
Insurance	500.
Printing, Stationery	500.
Contingencies	375.
Salaries	<u>13,100.</u>
Total Expenses	\$17,100
Possible Profit:	\$300.

It should be noted that this makes no allowance for a paid professional curator, and that this staff short fall must be made up by a qualified volunteer curator with a small army of fellow volunteers. Your time and talents are needed now, before the summer season, for such activities as guiding tourists, craft and gift shop merchandising, sewing historical costumes, preparing inventories of artifacts in the Murney Tower and entering this information on our computer. We can do it, but only if all of us pull together. Start now by offering your spare time and expertise to Ken Rutherford at 548-8674.

HOT OFF THE PRESS!

We are pleased to announce that the first of our Historical Vignettes has been printed, a second is in galleys, and the third at the editing stage. Fourteen more will follow. To be congratulated is Wally Breck, author of French Nobility at Cataraqui, which provides an absorbing account of Count Frontenac, LaSalle and Charles LeMoyne and their adventures when Kingston was but a remote outpost in Louis XIV's empire. The second vignette will look at the long history of the Canadian Locomotive Company, whose checkered fortunes extended from 1850 until 1969. While most of its records were trashed when the company succumbed to diesel competition, enough remained for Stewart Renfrew to piece the story together. The third vignette, by Patsy Fleming, will provide an historical walking tour of Kingston's waterfront in the days of sail and steam. The cost of our first vignette is \$53.63 (typing, correcting, picture paste-up, printing, folding and three-hole punching. The selling price is yet to be determined but the intended readers are students in grades 7 and 8.

OLD STONE PHOTOS

Heather Dixon lives somewhere between Ottawa and Montreal. When rummaging through her attic, she discovered an old photo album. Like all photo albums, this one was undated and carried no captions. But with a good sense of history, she presented it to the Kingston Historical Society. Its dozen pictures showed some of the buildings of Fort Frontenac taken about 1900, and the 1841 five unit stone row house at 104-108 Montreal Street. Once the home of artillery officers, it is now the residence of civilians, including member David Warren's family. Of particular interest is an ornate wood verandah providing stairs to the second floor entrance, since vanished. The Armory next door has not yet been built, and the stone retaining wall in front is higher. From such photos, accurate reconstructions of historic buildings are possible. Meanwhile, a framed enlargement of the picture now hangs within the dwelling in the picture. Which brings up an interesting question. Along with other artifacts in our modest historical collection, what do we do with them? Some are in the basement of the Murney Tower Museum, damp and cold, though in glass cases or wrapped in plastic sheeting. They are almost totally inaccessible in the winter, when rusty iron doors are padlocked and the snow piles high. Other of our archival material is stored in Kathleen Ryan Hall, Queen's Archives, in a little attic room temporarily donated by the host. Here are stored back copies of Historic Kingston, the Society's old Minute Books, a small library, a collection of old newspapers, a lithograph of Queen Victoria, a chrome steel display stand, a few

pieces of semi-antique furniture, a telephone and our computer. It is a quaint room with potential charm. It is used for small meetings of the Murney Tower Museum committee after obtaining the key from the Archives' front desk and ascending to the fourth floor. Thus do we preserve the history of Kingston.

LOONIE RAFFLE

On the surface, Bill Fittsell seems a quiet fellow, but beneath he has the spirit of a riverboat gambler. At our February meeting, he extracted a loonie from each of us, to participate in a draw. Thirty dollars was raised. The first winner would receive half the loonies, the second would be given a book. And the winner was Donna Fox, who promptly gave it back to the Society. Thank you, Donna. For myself, I'd keep an eye on Bill Fittsell who was last seen bidding on the Canary Wharf.

PICTURES ON PARADE

Bill Fittsell had the idea of arranging an historical art exhibit to celebrate our centennial. Already, he has held two meetings of his art committee, harnessing the talents of our Society's artist members. He needs your urgent help too. Do you have original paintings in your private collection which shed light on our Kingston history? It may be an old painting, oil or watercolour, which shows Kingston as it then was. Or it may be a modern painting of an historical building, person or setting. If you can help, please make a note of the artist's name, the date if known, the size of the framed picture and the subject, and relay this information to Bill Fittsell at the Whig 544-5000 or at home 549-8354. An early response would be appreciated, since the exhibition will be held in the Wilson Room and Lobby of the Kingston Public Library, 17 to 20 October, and time is of the essence.

AUDITING THE BOOKS

Your Society takes its bookkeeping seriously and, at year's end, ensures that its accounts and expenditures are properly checked. This year we welcome a new auditor, Douglas Maybee, of Manulife Financial, a Chartered Life Underwriter and a Chartered Financial Counsellor. His number is 389-3066.

Meanwhile we are pleased to announce that the Kingston Historical Society has paid off the debts of the Murney Tower Museum, permitting its new committee to begin the next tourist season with a clean slate.

THANKS TO FRAMEWORKS

The Kingston Historical Society has been fortunate, over the years, to receive the moral and material support of heritage-conscious members of the business community. Our thanks this month go to Wayne Morris of Kingston Frameworks Gallery & Workshop at 198 Princess Street, 546-1868. When selecting pictorial material for our modest Society exhibitions, Wayne has twice assisted us by dry mounting this rather flimsy stuff on foam core board to give it a more substantial, professional appearance, without charge. We appreciate it, Wayne.

HISTORIC HOCKEY

Back in 1969, enterprising Phil Quattrocchi founded the Historic Hockey Series which was so popular that it has continued until the present. To honour Phil on its twenty-fifth anniversary, 13 February 1993, Bill Fittell presented him with a framed poster designed in collaboration with Guthrie Graphics. We add our congratulations.

CANOE TO NEW ORLEANS ANYONE?

That irrepressible Phil Quattrocchi is at it again. Now he wants us to take part in an historical reenactment of Henri Tonti's canoe trip down the Mississippi in 1682. We are not talking a guided bus tour here. We are talking canoe. With paddles. Phil promises to supply all the pemmican we can eat. Has he ever told you about the time he discovered tobacco? And then what do you do with it, Phil?

HISTORIC CANADIAN MAPS

Shirley Harmer, Curator of Queen's Map and Air Photo Library, advises us of an inexpensive source of historical maps. Each is a beautifully printed facsimile, reduced to a sheet size of 17" x 22", on quality paper, suitable for framing. More than one hundred and fifty of these maps have been produced by the Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives. Two that will be of particular interest to Kingstonians and sailors are these: No. 120 'A Survey of the River St. Lawrence from Lake Ontario to the Galop Rapids, 1818, prepared as an Admiralty Chart by W.F.W. Owen, London 1828'. The other is No. 137 'Plan of the City and Liberties of Kingston by Thomas Fraser Gibbs, 1850'. Each of the maps is \$3. or \$2. for ten or more, plus \$3. per order for mailing costs. Place your order with the Association, % Cheryl Woods, Compiler, Serge A. Sauer Map Library, Department of Geography, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario. N6A 5C2. Or fax (519) 661-3750.

MARINERS' GRAND BALL

The jolly members of the marine Museum of the Great Lakes at Kingston (MMOTGLAK for short) are having a ball. I am serious. On Friday 19 March they will assemble in formal dress (presumably with swords) at the Ambassador Hotel for the Mariners' Grand Ball. The cost is \$46. per person. Details are available from the Museum at 542-2261 and reservations are essential.

GENEALOGISTS ALERT

The Kingston Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society (Kingston BOGS for short) will meet on Saturday 20 March 15 at 10 a.m. in the Wilson Room of Kingston Public Library, 130 Johnson Street. In Celebration of Our Past, five members will discuss interesting ancestors and display pedigree charts. Visitors are always welcome.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Frontenac County Schools Museum has moved to its new home. Out with your address book, and resolve to visit it at 559 Bagot Street, Kingston, Ontario. K7K 3E1. Their telephone is 544-9113. We wish them good fortune in their new home. By the way, the Frontenac County Schools Museum Association's address is at 5 Clergy St. East, Kingston, K7L 3H7. Their telephone is the same as the museum's, 544-9113.

FOR ITINERANT HISTORIANS

The Ontario Historical Society, of which we are members, has a new book which may be of interest to those whose interests and travels involve heritage groups other than our own. Entitled: Directory of Heritage Organizations and Institutions in Ontario, it is a comprehensive 156 page listing of about 2000 historical societies, museums, cultural heritage organizations, archives, cultural centres and First Nations Band Councils, plus an index and map. The modest price of \$15 includes GST, postage and handling. Pay your cheque to the Ontario Historical Society, 5151 Yonge St., Willowdale, Ontario, M2N 5P5 or Fax (416) 226-2740. Don't forget to tell them your name, address, telephone and postal code, or your book may wind up in postal heaven.

GREATER KINGSTON EVENTS

The Greater Kingston Tourist Office and the Kingston Area Economic Development Commission have favoured your editor with an eight page, count 'em, eight, list of activities and events taking place in Kingston in March. And this is winter! The town and the hinterland is

humming with activity. Rather than repeat it all here, why not pick up your own copy from KADEC, at 209 Ontario Street, opposite S&R department store. Their number is 548-4415.

GILDERSLEEVE LACROSSE TROPHY

Two members have complained, with some heat, of our failure to inform our members generally of the deliberations of your executive and council. Of particular concern was the disposal of the Gildersleeve Lacrosse Trophy which, in fact, was loaned (not given) to the Canadian Lacrosse Association who were celebrating their 125th Anniversary. Always anxious to please, your editor tracked down the story in New Westminster, B.C., Ottawa, and Kingston, Ont. The entire history of lacrosse in Canada was written in excruciating detail, complete with illustrations. No member would ever again ask a question about our lacrosse trophy. Unfortunately, your editor blew it. The article appears to have been misfiled, and suspicions will undoubtedly arise once again. Which may be a blessing, because we would like to publish your comments, complaints, suspicions and general curmudgeonliness in this newsletter. Letters to the editor, the more scathing the better, bring life to the paper but, more importantly, provide clues to the better management of your Society. Don't grumble in the editor's ear. Write it down and sign your name to it. Please don't tell me "Oh, I can't do that. Too many people know me, and I might hurt their feelings." If you are a chronic complainer, the other members already know it. If you have a worthwhile suggestion, sing it out. There may be many members who will cheer you on. This is Jim Warren.



The Age of Intellect