

NEWCASTLE VILLAGE AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER ** July to October 1995

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SPECIAL, MONDAY, NOV 6TH...

Come and hear about the preservation of Ontario's natural resources...and see a slide show...Nov 6th 1995, at 7:30 p.m., at the Newcastle Community Hall. Allan Wainio from the Resources Stewardship and Development Branch, of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources...who has met with a good number of fishermen and knows a good fish story when he hears one...will tell us about a fish called "WILMOT" that he found in Dorset, Ontario. Come to this meeting and hear about this grand fish...that at one time lived here in the village of Newcastle...that was so long that if you touched its nose with your left hand...you could not reach to its tail with your right hand!

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All members...please...if you have a collection of any kind, get in touch with Mabel Goode at 983-5514, so you can participate in...

A SHOW OF COLLECTIBLES...

on display in the Memorial Library Room, Newcastle Community Hall, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday, November 24th and 25th. Come, visit with your neighbours, see the collection; bring a friend. There will be light refreshments.

THE SUMMER OF 1922...

The phonograph, or as the English called it "the gramophone," was a mechanical device in 1922. No electricity. You could hear your favourite tune in the dark...or by candle-light...when the electric power was turned off. That was very handy in 1922...a good number of people did not have electric power at that time. But that didn't stop them from hearing the most popular piece of the day... MOON RIVER as rendered by the Green Brothers and their marimba band, one of "His Master's Voice" records-just 85c at your local record store.



THE SUMMER OF 1922...

In July of 1922 children had arrived in Newcastle for a holiday and the ORONO NEWS of July 13th announced that: "A number of 'fresh air' children arrived here last week from Toronto and are billeted at a number of the homes of the village where they are enjoying the time of their lives."

The same paper asked: "Is there any truth in the report that 200 cases of old Scotch was unloaded from a motor launch at Port Newcastle during Monday night and as silently carried away by fast motor trucks in various directions!"

Another social note mentioned that: "Mrs (Dr) C.Harnden formerly of Bowmanville, spent a day or two with her one-time school chum Mrs Helena Rickard. Mrs Harenden is a daughter of of the late William Ivory who fifty years or more ago was a well known resident of this village <Newcastle> when he ran a custom carding mill on the Wilmot stream, the old mill standing on the site of the Galbraith chopping mill. The Ivory farm was bought by William Rickard, a fine property to the west of the village. We were pleased to meet her once again." - ORONO NEWS, July 13 1922.

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On Thursday, August 10th, 1922, the CANADIAN STATESMAN asked:

"WHERE DOES THE BLAME COME BECAUSE PEOPLE HAVE TO PAY SO MUCH MORE IN TAXES THAN THEY DID A FEW YEARS AGO?"

"The answer is quite easy. Mainly because of expenditures on making good roads and their upkeep..."

"There is a great kick over the increased country tax each year but the rate will never come down so long as present circumstances continue. Years ago municipalities were largely responsible for roadmaking. Now we generally hand it over to the county. Also, in the long past, we cared locally for the poor, now we send them to county homes. Educationally we used to pay school expenses almost wholly in the municipallity. Now we expect sheaves of grants to the high schools and a hundred and one institutions that councillors place requests for at county councils. The county treasurer does not own a mint, but in due course all these grants have to be re-imbursed by the local taxpayers."

"If we are to have paved roads running all over the country they must be paid for; if we want public buildings because they will look better and be more suitable for carrying on public business, they must be paid for; if we want more and better schools and more advanced education placed within the mass of the people, these advantages must be paid for."

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** - The house and shop belonging to Peter and Anu Thorne now known as NEWCASTLE HOUSE changed hands in 1922: "Mrs Edwin Beaman has bought the late John Pool property, north side of King Street, west of the bridge." - ORONO NEWS, JULY 13th.

** - In May, construction of the north and west wall of the Community Hall was under way. It was announced that the laying of the cornerstone would take place on July 1st, and that the Orono Band and baseball team would be on the program "for the doings" on July 1st.

** - The attractive beds of flowers in certain prominent places are a silent reminder of the value of a good live Horticultural Society to a town. Waste places are turned into beauty spots by the organization. - MAY 25.

** - One waste place in Newcastle that was not so neat in early 1922 was the corner of Beaver and King Streets where the Laundromat is today. The village livery stable had been on this corner and you can see an interesting picture of the building and a stage coach in OUT OF THE MIST on page 99.

** - Wilson Bradley bought this corner lot from Calvin S. Powers in August of 1856, at a time when Bradley's Livery Stables were advertised in the ORONO SUN as being on Mill Street, Newcastle. Mr Bradley was a busy man. He was the Newcastle constable, express agent, collecting agent, ran the livery stable, and advertised that "A limited number of Boarders can be accommodated."

** - The livery business passed from Bradley to two Douglas brothers and then to a local Jackson family. By 1918 the livery stable was old and unused and in 1921 the ORONO NEWS suggested that the town fathers inspect "the very healthy growth of weeds on th west side of Beaver north of King. Nothing very suggestive of the N.H.S. motto "Newcastle the Beautiful." - AUG 18 1921.

** - Mr George Jamieson, bearing in mind our motto "Newcastle the Neat" has set out a cedar hedge on the east side of the lot left bare by the removal of the old livery barn, and the lot itself has been seeded to grass. - MAY 25 1922.

** - George Jamieson was Postmaster in Newcastle in 1922. He took over the job from Wellington Foster on the 1st of February 1919 and held the position until his death, January 5th, 1948. In 1923 the post office was moved to the Community Hall building, and was in the room where the day nursery is today.

** - Newcastle is getting more like a city every day. We now have a traffic cop at the King and Mill St. corner. - C.S. AUG 3.

** - Mr Gordon D. Conant, barrister of Oshawa, with Mrs Conant and two children, were guests of his sister, Mrs Walton Ball at Harris Lodge on Friday night. ** - Dr Walton Ball has generously granted the use of his convenient and spacious play ground to the Copper Beach campers for the summer and the girls have participated in many a game of lawn tennis, baseball and croquet, thereon. - CANADIAN. STATESMAN, AUG 3.

ROCHEFORT FAMILY...

We have been asked to find out what we can about a Rochefort family and a Himes family that lived in Bowmanville in the 1860's. Corintha Rochefort was the wife of Peter C. Himes who was a pump maker in Bowmanville, and George Benjamin Rochefort may have worked for Himes. In 1868, George Benjamin, of Bowmanville, received 2 patents, and at about this same time he had his picture taken in Newcastle. He appears to be about 20 years of age in the photograph. Anyone with information please contact the editor at 987-5433.

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A MINOTAUR & A WOODEN COW...

Here is an interesting question...!

Does everyone remember the MINOTAUR...and the thread that you had to follow to get yourself out of the LABYRINTH? How about a WOODEN COW? We are referring to the story of the young girl whose father was Minos, the King of Crete, and whose mother was Pasiphae who hid in a wooden cow, thus becoming the mother of the MINOTAUR. It was the young girl who had the thread and gave it to her close friend Theseus, and he killed the MINOTAUR...and he followed the thread and was able to escape from the LABYRINTH.

This is an interesting Greek story, especially for people who live in the Newcastle District because of the old hotel that use to be at the bottom of Mill Street near Lake Ontario, where Diana Grandfield's house is today. It was called the ARIADNE...the same name as the the young girl. The same name was given to a schooner ..."THE ARIADNE"...that sailed out of Port of Newcastle for a number of years, with Frank Gibson as captain.

The question is, why...and who...would name a ship "THE ARIADNE!"
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** - Mr and Mrs Geo.Brownhill, Mr and Mrs Green, Sr., Mr and Mrs Green, Jr., and baby, Mr Geo.Broughton and Miss May Broughton have returned to Toronto after a pleasant fortnight's stay at Ariadne.- CANADIAN STATESMAN, AUG 3 1922.

OUR EARLY SHOP KEEPERS...

On Dec 1st 1840, Richard Every sold 1/4 acre lot at the south east corner of King and North Streets to Eldridge Robinson Irish. That's the lot & the brick house, across from Dr Rod McArthur's, that Sam Cureatz used for an office. This house was once owned by Joseph Coulson, grandfather to Judge Lovekin, and in earlier days was the office of Dr Robert McIntosh, who lived in the house west of the village that became the Nel-Gor Castle Nursing Home.

Irish, called a yeoman of Clarke Twp in the deed, was married to someone named Margaret Jane, but that is all we know about him or her. Richard Every was the son of John Every and they were pioneer farmers of much of the land that was to become the village of Newcastle. Two years earlier Richard had been forced to sell 170 acres of Bond Head land at a Sheriff's sale.

He had also owned over 40 acres fronting onto King Street, but five years earlier...in 1835...he had sold that land to Henry Ruttan, the Cobourg Sheriff who had brought on the sale of the Bond Head land.


In Dec 1840 when Richard Every sold that corner lot to Irish, the two witnesses were Samuel W. Powers, shoemaker, and James Greig, tailor. Stephen Crandle had been gone from Rod McArthur's corner for 6 years and William McIntosh, father to Dr Robert McIntosh owned Stephen Crandle's tavern and what had been bush roads and lanes a few years earlier were now part of settlement.

<ONTARIO ARCHIVES, Every/Irish, Clarke land deed, no.5017>

Samuel W. Powers the shoemaker was probably born in New Hampshire. His brother Nathaniel, who farmed Lot 25, Clarke, just east of Orono...and had 12 children...was born in New Hampshire in 1787. Another brother, Thomas Powers, was a Newcastle tailor.

<DARLINGTON AND CLARKE, by John Squair, p.75>

Royal Theatre
BOWMANVILLE



WEEK AUGUST 14-19
MONDAY
 Douglas MacLean
 in
 "One Minute"
 Or sixty fools born in an hour!
 And Jimmy Knight, in love and
 in need of opm, set out to get
 them all!
 If you don't think his "Knight's
 99" can cure every ill from
 whiskers to falling arches—come
 and laugh while he proves old
 Barnum right.

WEDNESDAY
 Herbert Rawlinson
 in
 "The Desert Lover"
 Supported by a Wonderful Cast
 in
 "Cheated Hearts"
 The story of a Love That
 Drove a man to Desperate Ad-
 venture Round the World.

FRIDAY—SATURDAY
 William S. Hart
 in
 "The Whistle"
 For years he had heard the toot
 of the whistle as if it had been
 the call of a friend.
 Then it took away his boy and
 stirred in his life a struggle that
 thrills every soul who knows the
 meaning of love.
 A new heart picture with a new
 heart thrill.

SEPTEMBER
 4-5-6-7-8-9
 Fifth Annual
 Paramount Week
 An International Event

Samuel Powers married Catherine Walpole Doran and their daughter Jerusha Powers married the well known Newcastle merchant, Samuel McCoy.

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** - In 1922, George Joll tore down an old ice-house on North Street which was in a "tumbled down condition." It was at the rear of the Sons of England Hall. - ORONO NEWS, MAY 25.

** - Messrs Charles and Hiram Monagan, two of Newcastle's old boys dropped quietly into town this week to revisit the scenes of their boyhood and renew old acquaintances. It is 42 years since they left Newcastle and needless to say they see a great many changes and very few of the old familiar faces, but they enjoyed a chat with Jim Parker, "Dad" Eilbeck, Jack Douglas, Uncle Fred Elsworth, "General" Bill Jackson, Pat Kenefick and a few others that were the boys of Newcastle in the years gone by. - AUG 3.

The 1886-87 ONTARIO GAZETTEER & BUSINESS DIRECTORY reminds us who these people were. James Parker was a shoemaker; Jack Douglas was "John Douglas" of the livery stable; Uncle Fred was Alfred Elsworth, also a shoemaker, who was also the village photographer; General Bill was William Jackson, grandfather to Audrey Gogerty, who had a 2nd livery business in Newcastle; Pat Kenefick was a barrel maker, & "Dad" Eilbeck, was grandfather to our Society member Jack Eilbeck.

James Parker was born in Canada in 1849, of Irish parents, and he was married to a Scottish girl named Isabella who was 3 years his junior. George Eilbeck was 2 years younger than James Parker, and his wife Alinda was 5 years younger still. Both were born in Ontario, and in the 1886-87 directory Alinda is listed as having a "fancy goods" store. In a directory of 1916 the Eilbeck premises are described as "of large dimentions, where a complete variety of almost indispensable articles of furniture, upholstered goods, pictures, fancy goods, stationery, etc., which combine comfort and adornment in the home is handled."

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** - In 1922 cash prizes were won by 3 highschool students who had the highest marks in history. These awards had been given for a number of years as explained in the August 3rd issue of the CANADIAN STATESMAN. "Mr J. Scott Montgomery the Sec.-Treas. of the Board of Education has donated three cash prizes, \$5, \$3, \$2. Mr Montgomery is severing his connection with the Board and as a result these generous prizes will be withdrawn unless some other spirited citizen steps in..."

The winners in 1922 were George Crowther with 75 marks; Minnie Pearce, with 70 marks; Catherine McEachern, with 66.

** - In the spring of 1922, Dr Butler purchased a handsome new Overland sedan, and Ben Moise a new Ford touring car. - MAY 18.

Ben Moise could probably afford a new car in 1922 because he had sold out his paint and wallpaper business in 1920 to Walter Deline, who set up a barber shop, pool hall and ice cream parlour in the building. In 1950, Pauline Storcks, daughter to Walter, established "Pauline's Speciality Shop" in this same spot.

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CORRECTION: William Gibson (1806-1894) was from Yorshire, not Cornwall as stated on p.5 (line 3) of the May - June 1995 newsletter.

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Remember that our Memorial Library Room is open on Tuesday mornings. Drop in and see the latest additions to our collection.

Thanks to Ray Goode for building us a new Donations Board, and to Hazel Crago for hand lettering the names of donors.

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Annual Membership: SINGLE \$8.00; FAMILY \$12.00