



Society Newsletter

There, too, go I!

Port Hope & District Historical Society

Executive Council

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Joan Parrott*

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[Interim]*

*Secretary/Treasurer
Joan Smith*

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**Preserving the past
for future generations**

Where war with its black
woes
Or flood, or fire, or famine goes
Here, too, go I!

Wherever strength and skill can
bring
Surcease to human suffering
There, to, am I!

I go wherever men may dare.
I go wherever woman's care
And love can live —

If earth in any quarter quakes
Or pestilence its ravage makes
My help I give.

The cross which on my arm I
wear,
The flag which o'er my breast I
bear
Are but the sign;

I am the ambassador for you
I do what you would surely do
If you were there!



— From the GM War Craftsmen, March, 1945

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This beautiful poem and illustration was the subject of an advertisement sponsored by General Motors in support of the National Red Cross Campaign in 1942. The nurse will be remembered as Miss Anna Neagle, as she appeared in the Red Cross motion picture, "There Too Go I." These tireless workers were asking for public support to keep alight the lamp of humanity.

Faced with a shortage of male workers and demand for increased production of related materials, women across Canada traded in their aprons for overalls and worked long hours learning and using skills previously considered the domain of men. Over a quarter million women were involved in the war effort alone, working as welders, in electronics, lathe and drill press operators. Women also served in all three armed services both in Canada and overseas, in perilous duties such as ferrying planes — and some gave their lives.

During the Second World War, almost one million Canadians enlisted in the armed forces and almost 45,000 Canadians died; 53,000 were wounded. — From *Canada Remembers* [1995]

President's report



PHDHS [former EDHS] is pleased to have the support of the following business members

Happy New Year 2011 to everyone!

Even though we are in Florida, USA, and enjoying little warmer weather, we did have a colder December — and even frost three mornings.

Rod and I had to cover up all our flowers around the house, but the farmers lost most of their fruit trees and vegetables. It's the coldest December on record so far south.

We've been going to different places and workshops and have seen some interesting items, plus birds and butterflies!

I am looking forward to taking up responsibilities as President of the Port Hope and District Historical Society, as well as volunteering again at Dorothy's House Museum, and planning some weekend events for the summer months.

I want to thank the Executive for their support while I'm away and carrying on with the usual monthly meetings and traditional Dinner.

Thank you

Joan Parrott
President

Dorothy's House Museum 30th Anniversary 2011



Mark Leggette, 3, and William Aiken, 89

Pony Express rides the trails

Garden Hill [1967] — Youth and age joined forces on this occasion to deliver a transcontinental link of pony express messengers which were carried more than 6,000 miles by horseback from Mexicali, Mexico to Expo 67 in Montreal. Three-year-old Mark Legette and 89-year-old William Aiken carried the mail along a portion of the Garden Hill—Campbellcroft route. Mr. Aiken was the oldest messenger on the entire horseback route. Both he and Mark were local residents.

The purpose of the trip was to draw public support and government interest in the preservation of nature trails and horse trails. Al Leggette thought up the idea. Along the route across Canada he picked up messages from various municipal officials in towns and villages to be delivered to Queen Elizabeth when she visited Montreal. The plan was to arrive in Montreal, July 3 to coincide with the arrival of the Queen.

In Port Hope, Mayor Michael Wladyka sent a letter on behalf of the town council and enclosed a wooden nickel commemorating the Cochingomink reunion, and Durham MPP. Alex Carruthers sent a message from Garden Hill on behalf of the citizens of Durham County.

—Adapted from the *Peterborough Examiner*

Memories from old Port Hope – 1910



Boughen farm north of Port Hope east side of 28 Highway — Harvey Boughen on the wagon, 1936 L-R, Harvey Boughen, Mr. Palmer, John Boughen, 1926

“Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa”

Those of you who frequent the Port Hope High School website will find this story [below] as part of a continuing dialogue between a number of the school's alumnus. This story is about a frightening incident in the life of young Harvey Boughen, when he was five years old in 1910. Here it is as told by his son, John Boughen, a member of the Port Hope and District Historical Society [PHDHS]

I will tell it the way my Dad told me years ago. My Grandfather, John, had taken a wagon load of apples in barrels into Port Hope and was backed up to the loading dock at the Midland Railway Roundhouse and storage sheds. They were unloading the barrels when a Grand Trunk train going over the trestle to the south, blew its whistle and spooked the team of horses hooked up to the wagon. They took off running out of the Midland Railway yard.

My Dad, only five at the time, was sitting on the wagon seat hanging on for dear life. Grandfather John was still on the back of the wagon. The horses ran out onto Queen Street and headed north. The reins for the horses were dragging on the ground so Grandfather John got up over the wagon seat and moved forward on the wagon tongue between the two horses and tried to grab the reins. But he couldn't reach them and fell down from the tongue between the horses. He now found himself hanging on to the tongue upside down and was dragged

some distance until he couldn't hang on any longer. Eventually he had to let go, but not without a desperate struggle against being run over, or trampled by the horses. Meanwhile my Dad is still hanging on to the wagon seat and feeling pretty scared.

The horses are galloping quite fast now, north on Queen Street. Just then my Dad noticed a bunch of men standing around in front of the Town Hall. They saw what was happening so they ran out onto the street and formed a line and waving their arms and yelling, "whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa." Luckily, as the horses came up to the men they were able to grab the horse's bridles and stop the wagon. My Dad told me he was sure glad those men were there.

Now, in hindsight, if those men hadn't been there in front of the Town Hall the horses would have continued on up past where the Capital Theatre is now and reached Walton Street, they would have to turn either left or right. With the speed they would be going the wagon would probably have rolled over, and it's hard to say what would have happened to my Dad. I know now why there was a crowd of men standing around the Town Hall. It was a Saturday and Farmer's Market Day.

Further stories and correspondence by John and other Port Hope High school alumnus can be viewed on the Alumni site at: <http://phhsalumni.org/default.asp>

Crown Bottling Display received trophy for “Best Display” at Toronto Bottle Show 2008



The Crown Bottling Works was started in Port Hope in the early 1900s by owner and operator, Itheel [Ike] Walter. It continued operating into the 1930s until mass produced soft drinks became more dominant.

The Crown Bottling Works produced three products: Stone Ginger Beer which was sold in crock bottles only. Ike Walter also sold a coke-like drink called Cola-Cola, an orange drink called Orange Cola, and Dry Ginger Ale. These were sold in six and ten-ounce glass bottles.

The main area of distribution was Port Hope, Cobourg, Rice Lake to the north [Bewdley] and west to Newtonville. Stoma Ginger Beer was brewed twice a year and when one batch was used up, the second batch was bottled.

The Crown Bottling Works was solely in Port Hope and the name “Crown” for the bottle was used because the family originated in England. Helen Anne Haskill, granddaughter of Itheel Walter, displayed several of these artifacts [pictured above] at the Toronto Bottling Show in 2008. and received a trophy for the “Best Display”.



Itheel Walter [1870– 1953]

Stories wanted for publication

From the beginning, contributions from the whole membership have been encouraged by the Society, not just the executive members. The above is a good example of what can be easily fitted into the newsletter, given the limited space constraints. The story on page three is another good example of what the editor is looking for. We invite any Society member or general reader to submit a little piece of history for future issues.

Send your submissions to: cmorgan@eagle.ca

Events Calendar

Regular Monthly meeting at the Ganaraska Conservation Authority Meeting Room, Hwy 28 North, Port Hope, ON

Wed. Jan., 19, 2011 —7:30 p.m.

Guest: Ian Montagnes

Topic: Writing History

Wed., Feb. 23, 2011 —6:00 p.m.

Heritage Week Dinner [Theme: Pre-1867] at Calvary Pentecostal Church, 401 Croft Street E. Cost: \$20.00 per person. Please call 905-342-2657 for tickets. Prize for best costume

Sun. Mar. 27, 2011, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Historical “Pre-Confederation” Festival at the Port Hope Lions Centre, Thomas Street. Light lunch available. Admission \$2.00 per person.

For information: Call 905-342-2657 or www.porthopehistorical.ca

Wed. April 20, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.

Annual General Meeting and Show & Tell at the GRCA Conservation Meeting Room, Hwy 28 North, Port Hope.

Contact Information

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Membership Rates

Single \$15.00

Couple \$25.00

Business \$40.00

Life \$75.00

***Please note: Membership fees are now due for the calendar year 2011. Send your payments to postal address above.**