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History NOW

No. 1
January 1997



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An Artistic Touch

The Historical Society of Alberta is always pleased to welcome membership renewals. Usually the cheque is recorded, the records updated, and the envelope thrown away.

However, one envelope has sat on Margaret's desk for several months because she can't bear to part with it.

The reason she is reluctant to throw it away is that on the left hand side is a painting — a delicate watercolour. A white house, with thatched roof, trees, flowers and sky.

Thank you Nick Ochotta — we appreciate your 'artistic touch'.

Imagine...Historical Praise For Medicine Hat's St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church

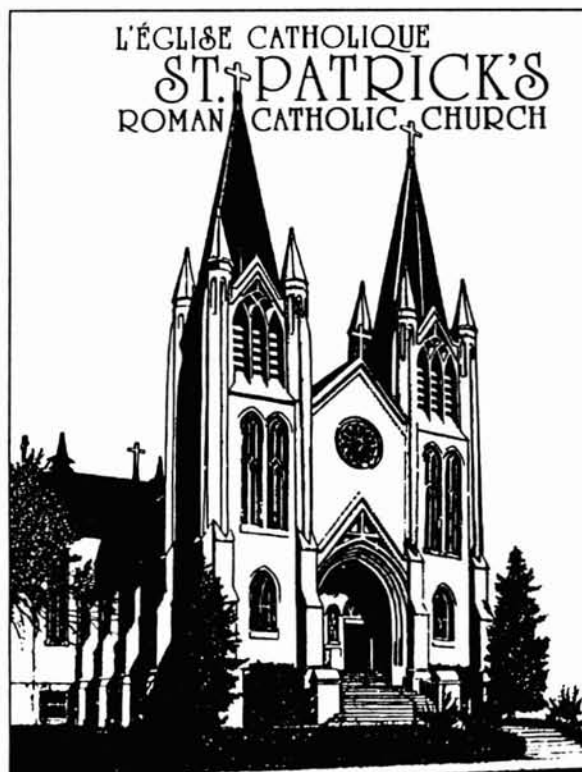
by Marcel M.C. Dirk

Imagine yourself a parishioner of Medicine Hat's St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church in 1912. Along with your fellow members, you have decided to sell the old, small wooden building downtown and erect a new structure across the river. You engage an American architect, Manley N. Cutter, who draws his inspiration from medieval European cathedrals and presents plans based upon the principles of Gothic architecture: soaring spires and vaulted

ceilings intended to raise peoples' hearts and minds to God. You hire a Vancouver contractor, Purdy and Henderson, who rigs a large motor driven mixer to a tower so a drum and cable elevator and immense conveyor pipes can pour concrete from the bottom of the foundation to the top of the highest cross.

Now imagine yourself a parishioner in 1914 when construction is completed. You rejoice in the dedication of the cornerstone Deo Optimo Maximo (Latin for To God,

Most Good, Most Great) and the consecration of three bells, Felix, Elizabeth Mary, and Mary Adelaide (named after their donors, engraved with religious imagery, and pitched to chime in the keys of D, F sharp and A). You despair, however, with costs having risen from \$63,000 to over \$100,000 there is no hope of completing the interior (masses will have to be celebrated in the basement for nearly the next twenty years) and you worry about the \$4500 Carrera marble altar and communion rail inside as birds flit in and out of what some locals have taken to referring to as the largest pigeon coop in Canada.



courtesy: Jim Marshall

continued on page 4

The Historical Society of Alberta is a registered charitable organization.

Donations are gratefully received to help further the work of the Society which includes the publication of *Alberta History* and this newsletter, *History Now*. Donations are tax deductible and will be acknowledged in *History Now*, unless otherwise requested.

History Now is published quarterly. We welcome information about your upcoming or past events, activities, publications, etc. They should be in the hands of the editor prior to deadline.

Submission deadlines:

Mar 1 for Apr-Jun issue
Jun 1 for Jul-Sep issue
Sep 1 for Oct-Dec issue
Dec 1 for Jan-Mar issue

Send copy to:

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Editor, History Now,
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Welcome to new members

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David Hopkins, Calgary
Dr. David J. Carter, Elkwater
Joan and Peter Bate, Calgary
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J.K. Moore, Calgary
Ernest & Dorothy Hodgson, Edmonton
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Allan D. Taylor, Alberta Beach
Normandeau Cultural & Natural History Society, Red Deer
Miss A. Hislop, Red Deer
Richard B. George, Sidney, B.C.
Gary Hill & Ruth Smith-Hill, Edmonton

Thank You for Your Donation

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Membership Application

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
Prov: _____
Postal Code: _____ Telephone: _____

Individual \$25; \$5 for each additional adult at the same address.
Is this a renewal? Yes ☐ No ☐
My particular interest in Alberta's heritage is _____
My occupations is/was _____
I would like to assist The Historical Society of Alberta ☐

President's Report

by Kathryn Ivany

I hope that the holiday season just passed was joyful for all our members. Good wishes for the new year and may it bring health and happiness to you all during 1997.

Well, the 90th anniversary year has finally arrived. In 1907 members of the Legislative Assembly signed their names to an Act to establish the Historical Society of Alberta.. Their recognition of the value of remembering where we have been should be an inspiration to the present generation. Those early legislators' understanding of what they had done, as well as what they were doing in 1907, were the basic ingredients of Alberta's History.

This year, the Historical Society of Alberta celebrates ninety years of activities, publishing and promoting Alberta's heritage. I hope you will all join us in this celebration. I suspect some of you will have memories of special events you have attended, interesting people you met, or trips you took with the society. Some of you may even have photographs or other mementos. Would you consider sharing those with us? You could write a letter, or lend us your photographs (perhaps even let us copy them). I would like to gather our HSA history in a special exhibit for this year's Annual General Meeting to be held in Lethbridge.

The membership campaign goes forward now, and we still need your help to identify potential new members and to help activate those who would like to take a role on executives within the chapters.

Sales of the latest Alberta Records Publications Board are encouraging — but there are still members who have not read *A Preacher's Frontier*. (see details and order form on page 7). The board is considering several manuscripts for the next publication due out in 1998.

Even while we look back over the years to 1907, the work of the HSA will go on, to ensure that history is preserved for the future.

Thank you for your support and assistance.



32nd Annual Northern Great Plains History Conference

September 24th to 27th, 1997
Doublewood Inn, Bismarck, North Dakota, USA

Co-sponsored by the State Historical Society of North
Dakota and Bismarck State College

The program committee for the 1997 Northern Great Plains History Conference requests proposals for papers and sessions on all areas of history.

A brief summary of prospective papers, with participant names, addresses and telephone numbers, and a short paragraph on each presenter, chair and commentator will be welcome.

The committee will assume that all those whose names appear in the proposals have agreed to participate. The committee especially invites individuals — professors, public historians, independent

scholars, or graduate students — who do not have a full session organized to submit proposals for consideration. Please send a one-page summary of the proposed paper and a brief vita by March 31, 1997, to the program chair:

Janet Daley Lysengen, Editor
State Historical Society of North Dakota
612 East Boulevard
Bismarck, ND. USA 58505

email: ccmajl.jlysenge@ranch.state.nd.us
phone: 701-328-2799
fax: 701-328-3710

CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL
IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

HELPING CHILDREN BEAT THE ODDS

THERESA BENJAMIN
[HEALTH PROFESSIONAL]

Yesterday, she travelled 8 miles on foot,
crossed 1 river by canoe,
provided health counselling
for 20 mothers,
met with 40 traditional birth attendants,
and immunized 100 children.
[It was an average day.]

Theresa lives in Freetown,
Sierra Leone, where she is part of
an international team of health
professionals working to rid
the world of six preventable child-
killing diseases. **The odds can be
beaten... and you can help.**

For more information on how you
can help support this program,
please contact:

Canadian Public Health Association
1565 Carling Avenue, Suite 400,
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1Z 8R1
Telephone: (613) 725-3769
Fax: (613) 725-9826
E-Mail: infoclip@cpha.ca
Canada's International Immunization
Program is financially supported by CIDA.

Imagine...

continued from page 1

Next imagine yourself a parishioner in later years. In 1932, when the nave is finally finished, you marvel at an engineer turned priest's false wooden ceiling suspended to make heating more affordable. In 1955, when one of the most colorful and longest serving rectors makes an announcement, you are surprised two large stained glass rose windows from France will be installed in the transepts. In 1978, when an engineering study finds water seeping inside, deteriorating the concrete and rusting the reinforcing rods, you agreed with the recommendation that copper be cladded over top of the roof and the outside walls be resurfaced.

Finally, imagine yourself a parishioner in 1996. After study by the national Historic Sites and Monuments Board, you are informed your church is one of the country's finest examples of Gothic Revival architecture. Then, after review by the federal Department of Heritage, you are told your church is to be designated for its design. And on November 9, after listening to the city's mayor, Medicine Hat's MLA, and the local MP all praise the building and acknowledge the vital importance of history, you sit with five hundred others as a plaque is unveiled marking St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church as Canada's latest historic site.

St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church is located at 238 2nd Avenue NE in Medicine Hat and should be a stop for any HSA member interested in this province's architectural heritage.

Canada-Wide Health and Medical Archives Telephone Information Network

The Network is a non-profit reference, advice and communications service specifically for practitioners, researchers and custodians of healthcare and medical archives in Canada.

The purpose of this service is to help researchers, custodians of archival materials, and others find answers to research problems and get advice on practical issues associated with keeping healthcare and medical archives.

The service will also foster professional networking by providing access to current news and information of interest to the archival/research community, such as announcements of upcoming meetings and conferences, professional education and training opportunities, and new acquisitions.

Who can use the Network? Professional and volunteer archivists, records managers and curators. Professional and amateur historians and researchers interested in the history of Canadian medicine and healthcare. Healthcare practitioners, hospital administrators and records managers, and healthcare agency administrators. Members of the archival and research communities seeking access to current news and information related to healthcare and medical archives in Canada, or wishing to announce events, programs or activities related to the history of Canadian Healthcare and medicine.

The Network is administered by the Centre for Research in Information Studies at the University of Toronto, and is principally funded by the Hannah Institute for the History of Medicine.

For 24-hour, toll-free access to the Network, please dial 1-800-281-INFO (1-800-281-4636). In the Toronto metropolitan area please call 416-978-6738.

Services provided: Advisory assistance; Research assistance; Communications and Networking.

Network Website: <http://www.fis.utoronto.ca/research/cris.htm>.

Inquiries please contact the:

Centre for Research in Information Studies,
Faculty of Information Studies,
University of Toronto,
140 St. George Street, Toronto ON, M5S 3G6.
Phone: 416-978-7093.
Fax: 416-971-1399.
email: research@fis.utoronto.ca

First Canadian Feature Film

—Now on Video

Canadian filmmaker Nell Shipman's classic tale *Back to God's Country* is now available on video cassette. The video includes a musical score based on the film's original title song.

Shot in the winter of 1919 at Lesser Slave Lake in Alberta, and in California, the film features scenes of the Great North Woods, eskimos, wild animals, a dogsled chase, and a heroine—Shipman.

It was her first hit film and it has not been available on video before," said Tom Trusky, director of the BSU Hemingway Western Studies Center. Shipman, born in Victoria, BC in 1892, "had an incredible rapport with animal actors," noted Trusky. "She insisted on location shooting whether that be on the ice of Lesser Slave Lake, or sailing around San Francisco Harbour, or racing through mountains in California.

The musical score on the video was composed and performed by London-based musician Lindsay Cooper. She based her composition on a copy of the sheet music of the film's title song "Back to God's Country," which Trusky found at UCLA. The print on which the video is based was restored by D.J. Turner of the National Archives of Canada.

To purchase a copy of the video, call the Boise State University Bookstore at 208-385-4031.

The Fort Whoop-Up Interpretive Society Capital Project—Interpretive Centre Site Redevelopment and Enhancement

The Fort Whoop-Up Interpretive Society was founded in 1973 to operate the Fort Whoop-Up complex in Lethbridge's Indian Battle Park. "A Window on the Past, a door to the Future" aptly describes the Fort Whoop-Up Interpretive Centre, built as a reconstruction of the original fort of 1869. Authentic displays and working demonstrations give the visitor a glimpse of life in the Canadian western frontier.

The brief but eventful period portrayed at the Interpretive Centre is rich in both local and national historical significance. The intrusion of American traders initiated a new era of commerce in this unsettled land. Their illicit exchange of whiskey and guns for buffalo robes led to the formation of the North West Mounted Police in 1873. The NWM Police trek westward from Fort Dufferin, Manitoba in 1874, signalled the beginning of the end to Canada's "wild west". The Mounties occupied a portion of the Fort until 1892, but legitimate trade continued. The nearly two decades following Confederation saw Fort Benton bull teams from Montana haul wagons laden with trade goods and supplies into the Canadian Prairies. The Whoop-Up Trail, carved hundreds of times by hundreds of iron tires, opened up the area to entrepreneurs. Soon the valley's coal seams were being mined, ranches built and Lethbridge was founded.

Dramatically, and within a few short years, the area now called southern Alberta was changed forever from a land sparsely inhabited by the native peoples, to one being rapidly colonized by the white man and influenced by his conflicting culture. The resulting impact on the Blackfoot Nation and an awareness and understanding of their culture are integral parts of the story portrayed at the Fort Whoop-Up Interpretive Centre.

The present day river valley setting in

**Box 1074,
Lethbridge, Alberta
T1J 4A2**

Indian Battle Park overlooks the site of the Last Great Indian Battle between the Cree and Blackfoot Nations. Under a 'Fee for Service Agreement' with the City of Lethbridge, the Society provides interpretive programs and visitor and community services. A portion of operational funding is provided

Vision Statement: A Window on the Past; A Door to the Future

by the Urban
Parks for the
Future program.

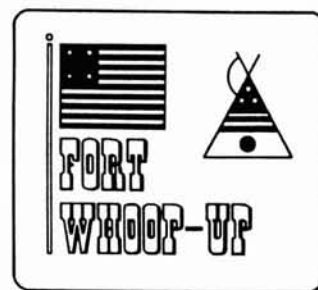
The Fort services more than 15,000 visitors annually including more than 3,500 school children participating in educational programs. It continues a long tradition of community initiatives to recognize, preserve, and promote the local and national significance of Fort Whoop-Up. The Fort Whoop-Up Interpretive Society is an institutional member of the Alberta and Canadian Museums Associations, and subscribes to museums standards promoted by these organizations.

As an interest in history has grown so has the demand for the Fort and its programs. It

Mission: To preserve and interpret our past with excellence in historical representation

is therefore embarking on a capital project to increase the size of the galleries, display areas and meetings rooms and so accommodate more visitors and offer functionality during inclement weather. It is also planned to offer greater representation of First Nations Peoples in displaying the culture and history of the era. Along with esthetic changes and increased space the facility is addressing the need for barrier-free access to the disabled.

The proposed expansion of The Fort Whoop-Up Interpretive Centre and its increased historical exhibits will provide



enrichment to the citizens of Lethbridge and the community of Southern Alberta. All those who visit, whether from near or far will be invited to sample a taste of our past. From our First Nations Peoples to the early settlers, our unique Canadian history will come alive in stories, artifacts and exhibits. In promoting and understanding our heritage we open "A Window on the Past; A Door to the Future" for present and coming generations.

As an historical, cultural and recreational facility, The Fort Whoop-Up Interpretive Centre is ideally placed to offer recognition and appreciation to the generosity of those Foundations, Corporations and individuals who have contributed to the enhancement of this facility. The Fort Whoop-Up Interpretive Society's plan for recognition is:

- half page Thank You to sponsors in a Newspaper advertisement;
- a recognition wall on the inside foyer of the Interpretive Centre;
- invitations to all sponsoring donors and grantors to the Dedication Ceremony and Grand re-opening of Fort Whoop-Up;
- full media coverage (including television, radio and newspaper) of the dedication and re-opening of the Fort;
- logos of significant sponsors on the Fort Whoop-Up Society's letterhead (leftside column) for a period of a year following project completion.

The Society's charitable registration number is 0929240-50.

For more information call 403-329-0444 or Fax 403-329-0645.

Contact: Richard Shockley, Executive Director

U of C Medical Students reap benefits of history

by Robert G Moyles

For most medical students, the pressure of trying to start a career in medicine means the time spent on non-essential, non-credit things—like eating and sleeping—has been pared down to the bone.

Why then did 40 out of 68 first-year students choose to attend the non-credit History of Medicine course offered by the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Calgary (U of C) last year?

Perhaps these students recognized the value of history and the importance of understanding it. Or, perhaps they caught the excitement and enthusiasm that program chair Dr. Peter J.E. Cruse exudes when he talks about it. Whatever the reason, medical students at the U of C are gaining a greater understanding and appreciation of their future profession from this program and its chair.

The History of Medicine program began on the wards. There, a younger Dr. Cruse was astounded by the lack of knowledge new medical students displayed about the history of their profession. Dr. Cruse had read Sir Thomas Browne's 17th century book *Religio Medici*, and felt that "A professional is a craftsman who knows the history of his craft." Out of these initial experiences came the History of Medicine program and, 25 years later Dr. Cruse is now the Alberta Medical Foundation (AMF)/Hannah professor.

History courses are often associated with boring lectures filled with dates and names, and hours spent poring over dusty old stacks of books in dimly lit libraries. The History of Medicine program, however, takes a fresh "hands on" approach to integrating an understanding of the past with a vision of the future. Students in this program spend only a portion of their time researching history; the rest is spent actually performing tasks in the

present and predicting where the profession will go in the future.

During the day, students attend seminars. They are paired and allocated a preceptor to

guide them through their research topic. Topics for research and study are drawn

"... a page of history is worth a volume of logic."
Oliver Wendel Holmes, Jr.

from significant anniversaries and examined in the context of the medical profession. For example, the 900th anniversary of the Crusades led students to investigate the medical problems most prevalent at that time, and the 200th anniversary of the discovery of vaccination led to an examination of that important technique during this past year.

Workshops held in the evening have students actually performing the modern-day version of techniques they have studied, then they try to determine how these techniques might evolve in the future. With the 100th anniversary of the Klondike goldrush occurring next year, students should expect some fascinating topics to emerge.

Students not only gain from the study and analysis of history, they benefit from the experience of speaking and presenting as well. Every year at History of Medicine Day, students have the option of giving a 10-minute presentation on a paper they have researched. These presentations are judged by the AMF board of directors and the best three are selected to present at the annual general meeting of the Alberta Medical Association. As well, every year some students submit their abstracts to the Canadian Society for the History of Medicine and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. It is quite an honor and invaluable experience for any student when the paper is accepted.

Next year will mark the 25th anniversary of the program at the U of C and Dr. Cruse

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Digest* - September 1996

is excited to be entering his second year as chair of the program. The U of C History of Medicine Days for the coming term will be held March 20 and 21, 1997 and AMA members are welcome to attend. If history is any indication, the next 25 years of the program should teach future physicians many important lessons.

The Heritage Press

For those of you who always seem to be working on a new project, be it your memoirs or the history of your family, there is finally an answer to that age-old question: Now I've written it, what do I do next?

Patricia Chapman, a book editor with more than two decades of experience in several countries, has established a new kind of publishing company. Called The Heritage Press, it is dedicated to producing professional-quality publications in very small print runs.

"Traditionally, authors of local or personal histories stood very little chance of having their books accepted for publication by the major publishing houses—not because their writing was poor, but because the subject material was simply too specialist to warrant commercial-size print runs."

Heritage Press, initially started 20 years ago in New Zealand, is now in Canada where it shows what can happen when a book is properly published.

Family history may not have a wide commercial appeal, but it is definitely of historical importance.

Send a SASE to:
The Heritage Press,
26 Bayberry Street,
Stouffville, ON. L4A 7Y9
or fax to 905-642-6064

The finest gift the Historical
Society offers

On Sale Now

\$14.95



A Preacher's Frontier:

***The Castor Alberta
Letters of Martin Holdom,
1909-1912***

A book about the
most exciting
moment in western
Canadian History—
the boomtime in an
Alberta town.

***"This book is a dandy, maybe
the most interesting volume
ever produced by the Historical
Society. Absolutely first rate."***

David C. Jones

Like all great storytellers, Holdom entertains as he informs, sometimes with humour, often with lively opinion, and always in bold, clear prose.

"This will be a great city someday," Holdom wrote of Castor. "People are making fortunes here every day. Building lots are selling at from \$50 to \$300, and they will be treble the value when the rail gets here." For a brief shining moment, Castor was likely the largest town in Alberta.

Herein reside the dreams of the boomtime from Stettler to Gadsby, Halkirk, Sullivan Lake, Castor and Coronation. Here also is the wrath of the prairies—drought, hail, killing frosts, blizzards, fires, and a spate of suffering: bankruptcies, poverty, terrible accidents, untreated illnesses, isolation, loneliness, madness, even suicide.

Learn:

1. How many times Martin Holdom threw up on the *Empress of India* en route to Canada.
2. Why an English girl compared to a Canadian miss was a "mere contortion of true womanhood."
3. What the CPR did to Castor that has never been forgiven.
4. What well known Alberta town Holdom visited so that he could later brag—"I have itched ever since."

The Historical Society of Alberta Book Order Form

I wish to order ☐ copies of
***A Preacher's Frontier: The Castor
Alberta Letters of Martin Holdom,
1909-1912***

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Prov: _____

Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Visa/Mastercard (circle one):

No: _____

Expiry Date: _____

Signature: _____

I enclose \$ _____

Postage & Handling \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Please add \$2.50 postage and handling per copy and \$1.50 for each additional copy. For 8-10 copies send \$10 (parcel post). For large orders contact the HSA office Telephone: 403-261-3662 or Fax: 403-269-6029.

The Historical Society of Alberta
Suite 325, The Lancaster Building
304 Eighth Avenue SW
Calgary, AB. T2P 1C2

**For HEALTH and
COMFORT—A History
of the Plumbing and
Heating Industry in Calgary
and Southern Alberta 1880-
1950 by S. Lorain
Lounsberry**

"Chose your plumber as you would your physician", was more than an advertising slogan. Over the years since the early 1900's in this province, the mechanical trades and businesses made significant contributions to the physical health and economic prosperity of the communities in which they worked. Through the history of the plumbing and heating industry in Southern Alberta, civic responsibility as well as the improvements in comfort and sanitary conditions can be traced.

"Through the history of the plumbing and heating industry in Southern Alberta it is possible to observe the development of civic responsibility as well as the improvements in comfort and sanitary conditions."

This history, written by S. Lorain Lounsberry, was commissioned by the Mechanical Contractors Association of Alberta, Southern District. The intent of the book is to produce a useful historical guide to the first 70 years of Southern Alberta's plumbing and heating industry.

As such it would seem to have a limited interest and audience. However, the author has linked the trades and businesses of plumbing and heating to public health and the installation of water and sewage systems by municipalities in order to prevent outbreaks of typhoid.

Also covered are the necessary by-laws and regulations introduced by governments concerning the proper installation of sewage systems.

In turn, the demands made upon the skills of the tradesmen increased. Training courses, apprenticeships, examinations of the craftsmen

led to the establishment in 1911 of The Technical School, (later known as SAIT).

To keep a high set of standards and provide a collective voice, various associations relating to the industry were formed.

The blossoming of craftsmen and business involved government to oversee operations, so the provincial Engineering and Planning Bureau was formed in 1932. Various acts and regulations were also passed.

While not visibly active in politics, the tradesmen worked with the government officials, formed family businesses, participated in community service groups, the church and local sports.

The book is therefore, a story of a family. A family that valued the role played by fellowship and the need for picnics, banquets, sports competitions, conventions, Christmas and New Year's parties.

Well researched, the book gives insights into the building of Calgary, its trades and craftsmen, along with photographs of people and places. Line drawings of tools, equipment and fittings used in the early 1900's are also included.

The chapters in the book cover the Beginnings; Frontier Alberta: 1880-1905; Boom and Bust: 1905-1930; A Changing Trade: 1930-1950; The People; Bibliography; Appendices and a list of sponsors for the publication.

The appendices are especially useful reference material for information about various associations, businesses and personalities during this period.

To obtain copies of this book send \$10 (including GST), plus \$2.50 postage to **Mechanical Contractors Association of Alberta, Southern District, 204, 2725 12th Street NE, Calgary, AB. T2E 7J2.**

**Telephone: 403-250-7237
Fax: 403-291-0551.**

Book Reviews



**"all HSA books \$5"
plus \$2.50 postage**

HSA Book Sale

Alberta's Coal Industry, 1919, edited and introduced by David Jay Bercuson

The Formation of Alberta: A Documentary History, introduced by L.G. Thomas and L.H. Thomas. Edited by Douglas R. O'ram

Pioneering in Alberta: Maurice Destrube's Story, edited by J.E. Hendrickson

William Stewart Herron: Father of the Petroleum Industry in Alberta, edited by Dr. David H. Breen

Aberhart: Outpourings and Replies, edited by Dr. David R. Elliott

The Diaries of Bishop Grandin, 1875-1877, Vol I, translated by Alan D. Ridge. Edited by Brian M. Owens and Claude D. Roberto

Winter Sports in the West, edited by Elise Corbet & Anthony W. Rasporich.

Citymakers: Calgaryans After the Frontier, edited by Max Foran and Sheila S. Jameson

Canadian Railway Communications Insulators 1880-1920

by Mark Lauckner

Did you ever wonder how in the world to keep the myriad Canadian CD 143 insulator styles straight?

Now you can finally do it! Mr. Lauckner's new book is a "must read" for any serious Canadian insulator collector or history buff! This research effort is contained in over 280 information-packed pages covering the history, manufacturing and designs of CD 143 and CD 145 insulators. While this publication concentrates on glass insulators, many of the porcelain types of the 143 and 145 styles are also included.

The text begins with a brief history of Canadian railway communications and then delves into the aspects influencing the insulator design. The next section deals with the manufacturers of Canadian insulators and details the multitude of mold designs and threading techniques.

The bulk of the reference book is in Appendix 1 which consists of an exact description of each of the mold styles and a "complete" (i.e., those known to date) listing of the embossing varieties. Mark has painstakingly transcribed each of these embossings through metal foil transfers into full-sized black and white reproductions for the listings. Black and white photos of each style are also included as well as cross-section drawings of the molds used to produce each style. No other book contains this extensive catalog of mold shapes and designs.

Appendix 2 is a 12 page chart listing a comprehensive cross reference for all the known Canadian insulator numbering systems.

This is followed by the 3rd Appendix which contains 36 outstanding colour photographs of the insulators. The final Appendix covers insulator reference material.

The illustrations are comprehensive and impressive: 275 draftings of insulator molds, full-size photos covering all 68 major groupings, and over 300 drawings and 269 black and white photos turn this book into an exhaustive reference volume. The offset printing is big enough and black enough for "tired old eyes" to read! A further plus is that the book is available in a 3-hole punched heavy-weight paper version which will accommodate aperiodic updates which the author promises. You can also purchase the work in both hardbound and soft cover editions. This is *the* "Bible" for Canadian beehives — and the best reference work to hit the insulator hobby in some time: Don't miss it!

— review by Tom Katonak

To obtain your copy send to: Mark Lauckner, Mayne Island, BC, V0N 2J0

Phone: 250-539-5937

Spiral (not updatable)	\$39
3-Hole (updatable)	\$37
Hardcover	\$68
Update subscription service (10 new pages, 3-hole) mailed annually	\$12
Surface mail postage	\$ 7

The Petroleum History Society

The history of the Canadian petroleum industry is primarily a story set in Alberta. We—The Petroleum History Society—are here to preserve that story and to tell it. We invite you to join us.

In the past 12 years the Society has recorded 180 interviews and worked with ACCESS Radio to produce programs. It publishes a newsletter and provides speakers for history oriented luncheons. It has also sponsored the publication of a book, *The Great Oil Age*, provides a scholarship at the University of Calgary, and presents a series of annual history related awards.

The Petroleum History Society is actively collaborating with other groups working towards shared goals. For example we have a seat on the advisory board for the Turner Valley Gas Plant Interpretive Centre. We also have worked with CKUA ACCESS Network Radio on a series of broadcast programs on the industry's early history. Rebroadcast by popular demand, this radio series was one of the network's most successful programs. We have helped develop a second series of radio docudramas along with audio teaching materials for use in Alberta schools.

Memberships are:

\$10/yr regular membership

\$35/yr sustaining membership

Please mail to:

The Petroleum History Society
c/o The Canadian Association of
Petroleum Producers
2100, 350 7 Avenue SW
Calgary, AB. T2P 3N9



For a copy of the newsletter please contact the Editor (Mrs.) Jean B. Bridge, #15 45th St. Close, Sylvan Lake, AB. T4S 1K7

Central Alberta Historical Society

The September annual meeting began the second year of operation for this new Historical Society branch.

The program for October, held in the Kerry Wood Nature Centre, featured Jim Robertson, Head of interpretation for Waskasoo Park. He spoke on the history of the Gaetz Lake Sanctuary. This sanctuary adjoins the Kerry Wood Nature Centre. The decision of John Gaetz, in 1897, to leave this portion of his homestead in a natural state started a century old preservation project. The early, 1905, Red Deer branch of the Natural History Society worked with later members of the Gaetz family to establish through federal legislation the bird sanctuary designation. The Alberta Natural History Society were to be the sanctuary guardians. In particular one member, Kerry Wood, acted as honorary wildlife officer for 42 years. A new Kerry Wood book, *This Smiling Land*, tells a history of the Red Deer River area and the author's part in it. This book is available from the Kerry Wood Nature Centre, 403-346-2010.

The November CAHS program was a presentation on how it was to be a German prisoner of war for 32 months during WW II. Dennis Scott, a native Red Deer district farmer, gave his vivid recollections that has the quality of a yesterday experience. This presentation was given in an exhibit room of the Red Deer Museum. On exhibition was: The Poster War: Allied Propaganda Art of the First World War. The content of the display was a sharp contrast with the realities related by Dennis Scott.

Planning is in progress for another Central Alberta Historical Society bus tour. Points of interest in Southern Alberta and Charlie Russell country in Montana are the proposed itinerary.

Chinook Country Historical Society

The Christmas program held on December 12 broke the pattern for bad weather experienced on the nights of our events. In spite of the weather attendance at programs has been excellent

Over 100 people were at Fort Calgary for the talk on Colonel Macleod by Mr. Michael Craufurd-Lewis, including 21 Macleod descendants and spouses.

Road conditions for the November program at the Museum of the Regiments were not good, but over 30 people attended the excellent tour given by Jerry Svencicki. Ann Birch won a Museum mug, and Greg Nehring won a free membership.

We had so much response to our Christmas Dinner at the Zoo (150), that we had to arrange for a larger space! What an evening! The food was marvellous, venue spectacular — (don't miss the Zoo Christmas decorations), and the company

warm and friendly. Dr. Hantho won a bottle of wine with the Zoo label, and Mrs. Manning was the lucky winner of *Citymakers* and a year's membership.

Walter Lindenbach read his story on "Dear Old Fred". (Ask anyone at the dinner—they will explain!).

Thanks to our Program Director, Roland Kieken, for arranging Christmas dinner, to Harry Sanders who produced the beautiful name tags and tickets, to Kate Reeves for the CCHS Board Member tags, and to Diana Sim and Roberta Ryckman for the paper work and Roberta's organization of the registration.

Best wishes to all our members and friends for a happy, prosperous and healthy New Year, from the CCHS Executive. We have more excellent programs coming in 1997 — hope to see you there.

News & Views from HSA Chapters

The Association for Canadian Studies

The ACS, in conjunction with McGill University's Centre for Research on Canadian Cultural Industries and Institutions (CRCCII) and the National Library of Canada, are in the process of organizing an exhibition celebrating the 30th anniversary of Canada's Centennial.

"As part of this exhibition, we are bringing together objects from across Canada to document the range and diversity of the 1967 Centennial celebrations. We are particularly interested in objects (pins, posters, pamphlets, t-shirts, coffee mugs, plates, etc.) that are specific to local celebrations. Also of interest are photographs of specific events (parades, fairs, contests, etc.), of Centennial gardens or parks, that would document community participation in the Centennial."

Anne Whitelaw, Exhibition Curator is asking us for any such objects or documents that you would be willing to lend for this exhibition. Contact her at:

Association for Canadian Studies
209 St. Catherine est, Suite V-5130
Montreal, PQ, H3C 3P8
Phone: 514-987-7784
Fax: 514-987-8210
email: c1015@er.uqam.ca

Edmonton & District Historical Society

Write to
PO Box 1013
Edmonton, AB.
T5J 2M1

Every year the Edmonton Historical Board calls for nominations for the EHB Recognition Awards. The Recognition Awards honour those who have benefited the history of Edmonton, either through the creation of this history or through its preservation. Many important people have been honoured. Some of these were prominent Edmontonians, others have never been recognized or have been forgotten. It is a moving experience to rediscover the commitment of these people to the city of Edmonton.

If there is someone in the near or far past who has made a difference, send their name, a biography, and as much information as possible to the:

Recognition Awards Committee
Edmonton Historical Board
City of Edmonton Archives
10440 108 Avenue
Edmonton, AB. T5H 3Z9

January Program Notes

Beatrice van Loon was trained as a singer, violinist and conductor in Chicago and New York. She came to Edmonton in 1920 as the leader in an all-female ensemble performing at the MacDonald Hotel. She married a local dentist, settled in Edmonton, and was known henceforth as Mrs. J.B. Carmichael. She played in the violin section of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, conducted an orchestra at the University of Alberta, and in the mid-1930's founded the Edmonton Civic Opera Society, which she led for the next three decades. The presentation given by Wesley Berg on January 8, 1997, entitled "Mrs J.B. Carmichael: A Chicago Musician Finds a Home in Edmonton," will tell the story of her activities as a musician, conductor and teacher in Edmonton. Come and hear about this historical figure of the Edmonton Opera, 7:30 pm, January 8, 1997, Auditorium, Grant MacEwan Downtown Campus.



Lethbridge Historical Society

Write to
PO Box 974
Lethbridge, AB. T1J 4A2

The Annual General Meeting of the Lethbridge Historical Society was held November 28, at the Royal Canadian Legion in Lethbridge. Forty-three members and friends were in attendance. A dandy presentation by Allen Jensen of Medicine Hat was enjoyed by the entire audience. Mr. Jensen spoke and showed slides on Will James, the artist/writer from the early part of this century.

Year end reports were given. Our society remains in good shape, as in previous years.

Bill Lingard was re-elected president. There were no new members elected to the executive, however, one seat remains empty at the moment. We hope someone will come forward to serve as a councillor at our January 28th meeting.

Gordon Tolton left the executive. We will miss him, especially his efforts to put on enjoyable monthly programs and his work on the executive in general. Thank you, Gordon, our members appreciate all you have done for the society.

Our publication, *Boats and Barges on the Belly*, was the only one released during the past year. At present, there are six other manuscripts underway. One is a reprint and enlargement of our 1966 booklet on the 1870 Indian Battle at Belly River and another in immediate progress is on the development of business in Lethbridge, written by the late Dr. Alexander Johnston in 1982.

Our next program is slated for January 28, 1997, in the Theatre Gallery of the Lethbridge

Public Library. Guests will be the "Riders of the Plains Commemorative Troup", presenting a program on their efforts to restore and/or mark the original site of the NWMP fort in Fort Macleod.

Plans for the Historical Society of Alberta Annual General Meeting being hosted by Lethbridge in 1997, (the 90th Anniversary of the HSA), are beginning to gel. Events held during the convention may include the unveiling of a marker to commemorate the largest WWII POW camp in Canada. We will keep you posted about our plans in future *History Now* reports.

Of special note: in early November, two of our members were elected to positions in the Archaeological Society of Alberta, Lethbridge Centre. Our vice president was elected president, and our president, Bill Lingard, has a council seat within the same organization.

HSA Calendar of Events - January - March 1997

- Jan 8** EDHS **The Story of the Edmonton Opera.** Wednesday, 7:30 pm. Auditorium, Grant MacEwan Downtown Campus. Presentation by Wesley Berg.
- Jan 28** CCHS **Past, Present and Future Planning.** Rob Graham, City of Calgary Heritage Planner will talk on the process of designating historic buildings and districts in Calgary. Tuesday, 7:30 pm Beaulieu, The Lougheed House, 707 13 Avenue SW.
- Jan 28** LHS **Riders of the Plains Commemorative Troup.** A presentation of their efforts to mark the original site of the NWMP fort in Fort Mcleod, Theatre Gallery of the Lethbridge Public Library.
- Feb 5** EDHS **Natives, Newspapers and Crime in the Northwest Territories prior to 1885.** Wednesday, 7:30 pm. Auditorium, Grant McEwan Downtown Campus. Presentation by Rod Macleod.
- Feb 25** CCHS **Annual General Meeting,** Tuesday, 7 pm Fort Calgary Interpretive Centre, 750 9 Avenue SE. 7.45 pm the speaker, Diana Mansell, will discuss the 1928 Sterilization Act and the creation of the Eugenics Board, whose repercussions are facing Alberta courts today.
- Mar 5** EDHS **Why a Women's Archives Association?** Wednesday, 7:30 pm. Auditorium, Grant MacEwan Downtown Campus. Presentation by Nancy Langford.
- Mar 18** CCHS **The Chinese Community in Calgary.** Tuesday, 7:30 pm. Chinese Cultural Centre, 197 1st Street SW. Dinner (at your expense) and a presentation, The Chinese Community in Calgary.
- Apr 16** EDHS **John Rowand Night.** For information call 403-434-9145.

Answer to last newsletter crossword:

Across: 1. Edith Cavell, 9. Insulin, 10. Nicer, 11. Tide, 12. Edmonton, 14. Nation, 16. Anodes, 18. Blindman, 19. Tipi, 22. Laura, 23. Chinese, 24. Dene, 25. Ethier.

Down: 2. Dosed, 3. Till, 4. Canada, 5. VanHorne, 6. Located, 7. Sitting Bull, 8. Frank Slide, 13. Cold Lake, 15. Tribune, 17. Sarcee, 20. Irene, 21. High.

HSA Crossword



Across

1. WWII highway to Alaska
8. One time Edmonton newspaper
9. Curling skip's shout
10. Red Deer newspaper
11. Slangy affirmatives
12. ... Percé
16. Celsius unit
17. Well used catalogue of the past
18. Day of the wk
23. Farm implements
24. One time Calgary newspaper
25. Riel or Potts for example
26. Alberta pest or WW II aircraft
27. Burn the midnight oil

Down

2. Edmonton bridge
3. A former Alberta Premier
4. Mount named for a Methodist missionary
5. Tribe of the Blackfoot nation
6. Book of maps
7. Pond ..., NWT
12. Norway or Dayton
13. 26th letter
14. Site of tombs of Father Albert Lacombe and Bishop Vital Grandin
15. Alberta winter vacationer at times
19. What a legislature does
20. Weather condition during a chinook
21. Chasm
22. Alberta game fish

You have plenty of time to complete this crossword puzzle which was devised by a member of HSA. The answer will be published in the next issue of *History Now*.