

T H E Q U A R T E R L Y

Published by the St. Lawrence County Historical Association

Editor - Atwood Manley, Canton, New York
Associate Editors - Nina Smithers, Bette L. Mayhew, Charles Lahey

Vol. IV, Number 3

Canton, N.Y.

July 1959



Picture at Left: - Claire J. Smith (second from right), Morristown Central School, winner in Senior Division, county-wide "Year of History" Essay Contest. Shown with her are, left to right: Larry Dean, third place, Colton-Pierrepont Central School, Karen VanKennen, second place, Heuvelton Central School, with them are: Senator Ernest I. Hatfield, State Chairman "Year of History" Observances; Senator Robert C. McZwen, of Ogdensburg; Mrs. Nina Smithers, County Historian.



Picture at right: - Senator Hatfield is shown conferring first place award in Junior Essay "Year of History" Contest to Layton Dewey, Potsdam Campus School. Other two Junior winners also shown are Crispin Hollinshead, Potsdam Campus School, and Constance T. Wood, Colton-Pierrepont Central School. Senator McZwen at the left, Mrs. Smithers at the right.

HIGH SCHOOL "YEAR OF HISTORY" ESSAY CONTEST

Forty-nine St. Lawrence County Youths Submitted Manuscripts

An important part of St. Lawrence County's observance of New York State's Year of History was the Historical Essay Contest held for Senior and Junior high school students this spring. Cash prizes of \$15, \$10 and \$5 were awarded in each division. The Judges were: Lewis Barber, instructor at Ogdensburg Free Academy; Arnold Northrup, Supervising Principal, Hermon-DeKalb Central School; Elwood Simons, Rossie. The winners were: Senior Division (Grade 10-12): - First Prize, Claire J. Smith, Morristown Central School, "Memoirs of an Old House"; Second Prize, Karen Van Kenmen, Heuvelton Central School, "Sesquicentennial of Our School"; Third Prize, Larry Dean, Colton-Pierrepont Central School, "Workhorse River." Junior Division (Grade 7-9): - First Prize, Dayton Dewey, Potsdam Campus School, "Dr. Harvey Thatcher, Inventor of the Glass Milk Bottle"; Second Prize, Crispin Hollinshead, Potsdam Campus School, "The Chesters of New York"; Third Prize, Constance T. Wood, Colton-Pierrepont Central School, "A Visit to New Amsterdam."

MEMOIRS OF AN OLD HOUSE

By Claire Smith of Morristown

Oh my goodness, I'm so happy! It does look like some people are coming to live in me. I was so lonely for the last few years, when I had no family to shelter. There aren't many of us old stone houses left, and we do like to keep busy. My fireplace, which has been closed for many years, is now being restored. I wonder if these people intend to use it, as my first occupants did.

My new owners are wondering about my history. Oh, the things I could tell them if they would listen to me! I would tell them about how Archibald Jamieson helped carry cement while I was being built around 1830. Archie was only twelve years old then, but there was a job for everyone when a house was being built. The men built chimneys, laid stone, and hewed wood, and it was the women's job to feed them.

The kitchen, and especially the typically large fireplace along one wall, was the center of activity in my younger days. The fireplace, made of stone, was used to heat the house as well as cook the food. Right next to it is the bread oven, which is made of brick. I remember so well when Rachel Gilmour used to do her baking in that oven! First she would build a fire inside the oven, heating the bricks thoroughly. When this was done, she removed the coals and popped her bread into the oven, leaving it there to bake. When it was done, she took the fragrant loaves out with a long-handled shovel. I used to be so proud of my oven with its beautifully rounded brick top!

The fireplace was also used as a gathering place for visitors to the Jamieson place, as I was called. Imagine the homey feeling surrounding it when corn was popping over the coals, or perhaps maple syrup boiling in the black iron kettle, while several rugged old scotsmen were reminiscing about the "auld countrie."

I remember Aunt Lizzie Gilmour, who was known around the neighborhood as being rather odd. She always said she was "brought up with the 'coos'." She compiled scrapbooks filled with clippings of murders and all the sensational items she could find. Aunt Lizzie had brought her cat over with her from Scotland in a bandbox. This cat had a kitten, and the men loved to tease Aunt Lizzie by saying they would kill the kitten. To this threat she always retorted, "If ye kill the kuttin of the cot I bro't frae Scotland i' a bandbox, it'll nae be weel wi' ye!"

I was always humming with activity in the late summer at corn-husking time. Everybody had a cornfield and the men went from farm to farm husking corn. In those days everyone loved a chance to have a social gathering, so the women came along for a quilting bee. They bustled around the kitchen, preparing plenty of food for their hungry menfolks, and then they settled down to quilt, sew carpet rags, and talk. How those women did talk! They didn't get a chance to see each other very often, and they took advantage of this opportunity to hear and spread all the latest gossip. Births, weddings, and deaths were all discussed with equal interest, and there were plenty of each in those days. Allen Gilmour had four daughters and two sons, and they all married, so in that family alone there was lots to talk about. The women kept busy, though. Their fingers were sewing as fast as their tongues were clacking, I do believe.

The men were busy out in the fields, so I couldn't hear them, but I'm willing to bet my stone walls that they did their share of gossiping, too. They must have worked hard, because they were one starving bunch of men when they came in for their dinner. The women had been busy for days preparing the food, making as many as twenty-four loaves of bread and sixteen pies.

Soon after I was built I passed into the hands of Allen Gilmour, who was born in Paisley, Scotland, in 1805, and with his parents emigrated to America in 1821. Allen's father James, who was a weaver in Scotland, ran into difficulties over in the old country. Apparently his partner left him with many debts, but, being an honest man, he sent back money from America until they were all paid. James was a thoughtful man, too. His mother-in-law, Mrs. Howie, was accustomed to drinking tea in Scotland. Even though money was scarce, James always saw that she had her tea. Allen, who married Rachel Craig in 1826, was a good farmer, and I've heard it said that he brought his farm from a "state of nature" to one of the most improved in this neighborhood.

I remember Allen Gilmour not only for his honesty and integrity, but also for being a great talker. He loved to tell tales of bonnie Scotland, and many's the time I've seen him sit in front of the fireplace with his children on his knee, filling their little heads with fact and fiction, they listening as eagerly as he was talking. One night Allen was visiting with his friend, Mr. Day, who lived about six miles away. It came time for Mr. Day to start home, and as it was a long walk through the woods, Allen accompanied him. They were so engrossed in swapping stories that they kept walking each other home all night, and were still going strong in the early morning.

The Gilmours raised sheep, whose wool Rachel washed, carded, dyed, and spun. She used to sit at her loom in the kitchen and weave beautiful red, white, and blue coverlets.

Rachel didn't have to worry about fuel for the fireplace, because the men took care of that in wood bees. There was one bee to cut and draw the wood, and another to saw and split it. The men often got together for barnraising bees, also, for there were many barns to be built then. It was a time of bees, and the womenfolk were carried through the winter with them.

Allen cared for his family well, as evidenced in his will, where he stated that his son John should furnish for Rachel "all needful fuel prepared for the stove, of good quality."

Allen Gilmour died January 25, 1880, leaving me in the hands of his son John F. Gilmour. John had two daughters, Elizabeth and Mary Janette, who was called Mame. At her father's death Mame came into the possession of the Jamieson Farm, as I am called. Since they had another stove in the house, and my fireplace was no longer needed, it was filled in with bricks and stones, and sealed securely with plaster so no drafts could come through.

The fireplace remained closed until my present owners, who are also decendants of Allen Gilmour, cleaned it out to see what they would find. They have made me very happy to see my fireplace being used once again, even if it's not the same as in days gone by.

Yes, these thick old stone walls have been here for a long time, and have witnessed a great deal of happiness, and sorrow, and contentment. I have stood the test of time for 130 years, and I hope I am good for at least that many more.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1) Family Bible, with clippings
- 2) Deed and Search for the Jamieson Place
- 3) Family letters and diaries
- 4) Stories and anecdotes passed down by older generation

DR. HARVEY D. THATCHER

Inventor of the glass milk bottle

By Dayton Dewey of Potsdam

Dr. Harvey D. Thatcher came to Potsdam in 1860, at the age of twenty-five years, intent on "making good" at his drug store after being burned out earlier in Canton, New York. It was his destiny, however, not to be given fame as a druggist and doctor, but to give to the world an invention that revolutionized the milk industry and which saved thousands of lives, - the milk bottle!

Harvey Dexter Thatcher was born in Newport, New Hampshire, on December 28, 1835. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Thatcher. He attended the academies of Newport, New London and Washington, N.H., and later in Potsdam and Ogdensburg schools. When he was nineteen he went to the University of New Hampshire in Durham and became a school teacher. He taught in Potsdam and Walton, Kentucky. He went to New York City's Pharmaceutical school in 1856. Graduating in 1858, he became a Pharmacist at the "Broadway Drug Store". He turned attentions, however, to medicine in 1858. Going to Ames College in Ames, Iowa, and Eclectic College of Cincinnati, he graduated with a medical degree in 1859. Coming to Canton, New York, late that same year, he started his first drug store and doctor's office. The great Canton fire in 1860 caused much damage and destroyed more than half the business section including Dr. Thatcher's store. With almost everything lost, he moved to Potsdam. Here he started his second drug store and doctor's office on Main Street. He later moved it to Market Street. In that same year he formulated the Orange Butter Coloring made from vegetable oil. Dr. Thatcher also established trade for it in every state and in Canada.

Young Dr. Thatcher married Olivia Adelaide Barnhart of Barnhart's Island, St. Lawrence River, N.Y., on October 4, 1865. She later died of polio.

It wasn't until 1886 that Dr. Thatcher invented the milk bottle or the "milk jar" as he called it. He got the inspiration on a hot summer day in 1884. He was 48 years old and now a prominent druggist and physician. As he was walking along Market Street, he stopped to watch the milkman make a delivery. The lady of the house came out and handed the milkman a quart pitcher. He took it and filled it from the traditional 40 quart dip can. While he was collecting his three cents for the quart, a little girl dropped her rag doll in the can. When the milkman returned, noticing the doll, he calmly fished it out. Then he continued on his route. Dr. Thatcher became very concerned after seeing this. In his home, at 100 Market Street, Potsdam, he turned out on his lathe a crude shaped bottle of wood. He called it the "milk jar". It would be made out of glass and be able to carry milk to each person.

Because there was no company in the north country that could manufacture these bottles, he went to the Whitall-Tatum Company in New York City; makers of ink bottles. Since there were no machines to make that shape, at the time, the bottles were hand blown. The first bottle appeared odd to the unaccustomed eyes. It had this description: it was ten inches tall, and four inches wide at the opening. The bottle weighed thirty ounces and cost a little over ten cents a piece. It had a picture of Dr. Thatcher milking a cow into a special sanitary pail. On top was written "Absolutely Pure Milk" and on the bottom, "The Milk Protector".

Since Dr. Thatcher could not persuade a dairy in Potsdam to buy his bottle, he went to Ogdensburg. Three dealers there bought four hundred bottles each at fifteen dollars a gross or ten cents a piece, making a total of forty dollars. They also agreed to pay fifty dollars royalty, which together was ninety dollars. The total

sum was two hundred seventy dollars for 1200 bottles in Ogdensburg. So the city of Ogdensburg became the first place in the world to have glass milk bottles. Dr. Thatcher received his patent in 1887 for the milk bottle.

Harvey Dexter Thatcher in 1889 formulated the Sugar of Milk Baking Powder. It was made of cream of tartar, 67 parts; bicarbonate of soda, 29 to 31 parts; and sweet milk, 4 parts. In 1893, he entered his Baking Powder and milk bottle in the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. He won an award of merit for the baking powder, which he advertised by baking 8,000 biscuits daily. Dr. Thatcher won another award of merit for his "Common Sense Milk Jar."

This is the recipe Dr. Thatcher used to make his biscuits to advertise his baking powder which sold for fifty cents a pound: 1 quart of flour, $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon of salt, 3 even teaspoons baking powder. Mix well and sift. Add a piece of butter the size of an egg. Add sweet milk to soften for moulding. Roll and bake for 20 minutes in hot oven.

Dr. H. D. Thatcher's factory on Depot Street, which he had greatly expanded, burned to the ground. He was not fully insured and he suffered a \$100,000 loss from which he never recovered. In 1902 he accepted a post as trustee at Clarkson College. In 1917, the late Ira Kendall, Mr. Robert Burns and Dr. Fred L. Dewey took over the factory on Raymond Street which made milk caps, and butter, and cheese colorings. Dr. Thatcher died in poverty at the home of a friend. It was on a Sunday afternoon, May 24, 1924 at the age of 89. Funeral expenses were paid by a collection taken among his friends. The funeral was held at Trinity Episcopal church, Potsdam, with the Rev. William Hamilton officiating. He was interned at the Bayside cemetery Potsdam. The Ogdensburg Journal said in its Saturday, August 4, 1948, edition - "Dr. Thatcher's milk bottle invention is greater and better than that of Pasteur." He had some fifty patents on various inventions.

I interviewed several people about Dr. Thatcher. This is how they remembered him:....

Mrs. Adelaide Heath, longtime resident of Potsdam, recalls Dr. Thatcher when she was a young girl, as being "a small man, fast walker and who had a pointed gray beard. He seemed to be an intellectual."

Mr. Fred Hayes, retired New York State dairy inspector and personal friend of Dr. Thatcher, had this to say, "He was a small man of 5 feet 7 inches and he weighed less than 100 pounds. He had snappy blue eyes and was a very neat dresser. He could start anything but could never finish anything."

From a disheartening start in Potsdam Dr. H. D. Thatcher's milk bottle became accepted throughout the world. The invention was not really scientific but its effect in halting the spread of disease through milk for the past seventy-five years should not be forgotten. If it had not been for Dr. Thatcher inventing the milk bottle, would we still be getting our milk in forty quart dip cans?

Programs of the St. Lawrence County Historical Association for the remainder of the year 1959 are:

July 30-August 2, Waddington Centennial; August, Norfolk Sesquicentennial, Date to be announced. September 26, Pierrepont, Irving Bachelier Day; October, Canton, Annual Meeting.

Miss Vaughn Corse of Gouverneur has the distinction of becoming the 500th member of the St. Lawrence County Historical Association.

THE BATTLE OF THE WIND MILL

By Frank Raymond Rosseel

The summer tourist who takes the steamer at Clayton on the river St. Lawrence for the run through the Thousand Islands and on down to Montreal, passes through the theater of many stirring events in the history of that section of country.

At Ogdensburg, N.Y., fifty miles below Clayton, the site of a French fort is yet pointed out, and four miles below was Chimney Island, where much of the embankment of Fort Levi remained until recently.

Opposite Ogdensburg, lies the village of Prescott, Ontario. Not far from the wharf where the Montreal steamer touches at Prescott, stands Fort Wellington, near the Northern out-skirts of the village, and commanding the river. About a mile and a half below, a rocky point reaches out into the river, crowned by a massive stone tower, whose cap indicates, at once, to the experienced eye, that it is now used as a lighthouse. The tower is of such unusual size and so glaring with white-wash, that most tourists on a passing steamer will ask, "What is that great tower?" The reply will be more or less explicit and satisfactory according to the knowledge and disposition of the guide. If he knows his business he can entertain his party very highly, for an hour, by the narration of an incident in the history of the old tower, not reaching back to the French occupation of the country, but nearer by, in the year 1838.

Comparatively few people away from the border have read or heard much of the "Patriot War" of 1837-40, when a handful of Canadians, with the aid of patriotic but misguided citizens of some of the border states, strove to free Canada from British rule. Nevertheless those were very exciting times on the St. Lawrence, and that old stone tower now known as the Wind Mill Light, was held for five days by a plucky band of men and boys, and was finally surrendered under a cross fire from the land, and British armed steamers on the river. Early in November, 1838 unusual numbers of men were seen in the streets of Syracuse, Utica, Watertown and Oswego. Excitement had been running high and many depredations had been committed. About November 10th two schooners were loaded at Oswego in suspicious circumstances, from boats from Syracuse via Oswego canal. The steamer United States, Captain James Van Cleve master, which then plied regularly between Lewiston and Ogdensburg, left Oswego at nine o'clock Sunday morning November 11th for Ogdensburg. Among her passengers from Oswego were one hundred and fifty men who came aboard with little or no baggage. A number of boxes marked for Cape Vincent were among the freight. At Sackets Harbor the passenger list of the United States was swelled by the addition of twenty or thirty men, and at Cape Vincent she took on ten more. After entering the St. Lawrence river, and while passing through the Thousand Islands, Capt. Van Cleve was approached by a respectable appearing stranger who pointed out two schooners lying at anchor on account of head winds and narrow channels, said they belonged to him and were freighted for Ogdensburg, and requested the Captain to take them in tow. They were picked up and made fast, one on either side of the steamer. Seven or eight more men came aboard at French Creek. Soon after leaving the latter port, the passengers threw off all disguise and openly displayed arms. The two schooners proved to be loaded with armed men who now made their appearance, and it became apparent to Capt. Van Cleve that he was carrying to Ogdensburg an expedition against some Canadian point in that vicinity, probably Prescott. Two of the owners of the steamer happened to be aboard, who with the Captain held a consultation regarding what it was best to do. They determined to tie the steamer up, at Morristown (ten miles above Ogdensburg) long enough to send a courier ahead with news of the coming of the expedition. After waiting two and a half hours for the courier to do his work, the United States proceeded to Ogdensburg, arriving at three o'clock Monday morning.

At Morristown open water was reached and the schooners let go from the steamer, and continued down stream, under canvass. The expedition was under command of John W. Birge of Cazenovia, N. Y. (who kept out of the way when the fighting took place) but the active hostilities were conducted under the immediate command of a Polish exile named Von Schoultz, a man who had seen considerable military service in his native country. He headed the force on one of the schooners. On reaching Prescott his vessel was run alongside of one of the upper wharves and he urged his men to land and attempt the capture of the town with fixed bayonets, but they refused. The schooner finally let go from the wharf and dropped down the river, casting anchor off Wind Mill Point. The other schooner in trying to enter the harbor of Ogdensburg ran hard aground.

Monday morning the United States was seized by the "Patriots" and pressed into service. After an unsuccessful attempt to release the grounded schooner, she made several trips from her wharf in Ogdensburg to the vicinity of the wind mill, each time encountering the fire of a British armed steamer (the Experiment) lying at Prescott. On the last trip back to Ogdensburg a cannon ball passed through the pilot-house, decapitating the man at the wheel. She was soon after surrendered to her owners. Early the same morning a six pounder cannon owned by the village of Ogdensburg, and a four pounder owned by the state of New York were seized and taken to Wind Mill Point. There was much sympathy for the cause, in Ogdensburg, and the local authorities were powerless to prevent what took place. No United States troops were at hand. A party of Patriots on the small steamer Paul Pry finally pulled the grounded schooner off. During the day the Patriots landed about one hundred and eighty men on Wind Mill Point, some from the schooner at anchor near by, and others who crossed from the American shore in small boats. They possessed themselves of the wind mill and of several stone dwellings. The walls of all these buildings were of great thickness and capable of withstanding a heavy fire. They also threw up breast-works of stone.

The United States marshal for the Northern district of New York arrived at Ogdensburg from Sackets Harbor about seven o'clock Monday evening, and an hour later seized the United States and had her machinery taken apart. The following morning both schooners were seized while lying at anchor in Ogdensburg harbor and their Captains and crews sent under arrest to Sackets Harbor. Col. W. J. Worth of the Eight United States Infantry, with two companies of regulars, arrived from Sackets Harbor Monday night, on the United States steamer Telegraph, and at once attempted to stop all communications between the American shore and the wind mill. Tuesday morning the first attack was made by the British on the garrison at Wind Mill Point. Troops were marched out of the fort at Prescott and advanced bravely to the attack under a most galling and disastrous fire from the rebels behind their stone walls. They were repulsed with serious losses, and were compelled to await the arrival of heavier guns from Kingston, as the cannons mounted in the fort were not large enough to reduce the enemy's defenses. The British armed steamers Experiment, Coburg and Victoria also participated in Tuesday's morning encounter which lasted two hours. On the morning of the 14th both parties, under flags of truce collected and buried their dead.

Thursday forenoon acting on the suggestion of Col. Worth, a prominent citizen of Ogdensburg who was personally acquainted with Col. Young, the British officer in charge at Prescott crossed the river to arrange for an interview between Colonels Young and Worth, looking to the release of the garrison at the wind mill. Col. Worth requested that they be allowed to return to the American side on a promise to go home and make no more trouble. The British officer could not officially consent to the unhindered departure of the invaders. He, however, said that the machinery of the Experiment was being repaired and that she could not be used before two o'clock next morning, and that the Coburg and Victoria had gone up the river. Col. Worth took the hint, and that night a party was sent to the wind mill on the Paul Pry with instructions to induce the garrison to return while they could.

Preston King (then postmaster at Ogdensburg, and during Andrew Johnson's administration as collector of the port of New York) was intrusted with the charge of this relief party. The garrison declined to give up and King was compelled to return to Ogdensburg without them. On Friday morning the 16th inst. the Steamers Coburg and Victoria arrived from Kingston, bringing more soldiers and heavier guns. A cross fire from a gun on shore and the steamers, was now opened and the fight renewed by the infantry.

After a severe engagement the garrison capitulated. They were exhausted by five days watching and fighting, and had run short of food and ammunition. They were taken to Kingston and tried. A large proportion of them were under twenty-one years of age. Most of these boys were allowed to go home, but the men suffered severe penalties. Many were hung and many more were transported to Van Dieman's Land.

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The Secretary Says . . .

By Malcolm A. Booth, Secretary

In our January Quarterly, we carried an item which said, "1859, Skillings & Whitney Brothers begin lumber business at Ogdensburg."

Mrs. Harry E. Nims, 192 Allen Street, Massena, wrote us with some added information about this firm, so we dug down in the history books and came up with even more information.

The history books tell us that in 1857, David N. Skillings began business on his own account in Boston. At that time, Charles and David Whitney, Jr., were also in business at Lowell. In 1855, Lawrence Barnes had begun a lumber business at Burlington, Vt. These three firms were started independently of one another, but in 1858 they merged.

In Boston, the united firm was known as D. N. Skillings & Co., in Lowell, Ogdensburg, Albany, Toledo, and Detroit as C. & D. Whitney, Jr., & Co., and in Burlington, Vt., and Whitehall as L. Barnes & Co. They also later started a branch in Indianapolis, Ind.

Business was begun in Ogdensburg in the spring of 1859, under the management of William L. Proctor, Mrs. Nims' grandfather.

In 1871, the firm changed its name to Skillings, Whitney Brothers, & Barnes, until Jan. 1, 1873, when Mr. Barnes retired, and the firm became Skillings & Whitney Brothers.

The mills and yards operated by the company at Ogdensburg were situated at the westerly terminus of the Ogdensburg and Lake Champlain Railroad.

Not only is Mrs. Nims the granddaughter of Mr. Proctor, but she was also related to the Barnes and Whitneys in the firm. Mr. Barnes was her grandfather's uncle, and one of the Whitneys was her father's guardian.

Her father, W. L. Pratt, was sent to the Ogdensburg branch of the company from Lowell, Mass., to learn the business under Mr. Proctor. He stayed and married the boss' daughter, Nan Proctor. Later he started his own lumber business at Adams, which he moved to Massena in 1904.

FROM THE COUNTY'S CRACKER BARRELS

(Including the names of all Town and Village Historians together with a continuing report of their activities)

BRASHER: (Mrs. Joseph O'Brien). CANTON: (Mrs. Karl M. Mayhew, Jr.). Will attend North Country Seminars at Potsdam State Teachers College and some of the Seminars on American Culture at Cooperstown. Cooperating with Pierrepont Historian, Millard Hundley, for Irving Bacheller Day to be observed September 26. RENNSELAER FALLS VILLAGE: (Mrs. Nina Wilson). CLARE: (Mrs. Leslie Colton). CLIFTON: (Mrs. George Reynolds). Taking paintings of typical Northern New York scenes to Highland Hotel in Massena to be exhibited for the summer. Have rejuvenated Cranberry Lake Honor Roll, repainting all the names personally, "It looks like new." COLTON: (Mrs. Lorena Reed). DEKALB: (F.F.E. Walrath). DEPEYSTER: (Mrs. Emery Smithers). A reunion of all teachers and pupils of the Warren and Fish Creek School Districts was held at the DePeyster Grange Hall, June 20. Old pictures and other mementos were displayed; dinner was served by the Grange. EDWARDS: (Miss Leah Noble). FINE: (Mrs. Rowland Brownell). FOWLER: (Mrs. Robert Yerdon). GOUVERNEUR: (Miss Helena Johnston). GOUVERNEUR VILLAGE: (Julius Bartlett). Gouverneur Garden Club and the junior organization planted four Norway maple trees in the village Park to replace trees over one hundred years old removed when highway was recently widened. They keep the memorial clock base decorated with flowers and have made plantings on the Noble Hospital Grounds. HAMMOND: (Harold Hibbs). HERMON: (Mrs. Kellogg Morgan). Working on our town's part in the commemoration of the "Year of History." County Historian, Nina Smithers, spoke on the "Year of History", at our Literary Club meeting in April -- On Sunday, June 28th the churches in Hermon and the one in West Hermon commemorated "The Year" by recalling the history of their churches. Each oldest member present, lady and gentleman, was honored at the service. HOPKINTON: (Mrs. Dorothy Squires). Doing research on Abbott genealogy by request of Mr. George Partridge, of Bronxville, a life member of our County Historical Association. "I found that decendants of Seth Abbott, Hopkinton pioneer of 1806, moved to Gouverneur, Fowler, Edwards, Childwold and other parts of the North Country. There must be many people now living in St. Lawrence County who can trace their ancestry back to this dauntless and brave-hearted Abbott, the farmer-shoemaker, a cripple, whose old frame house still stands in Hopkinton." LAWRENCE: (Mrs. Gordon Cole). LISBON: All members of our County Association were shocked to read of the sudden death of E. Earl Jones who so ably filled the office of Town Historian. Sincerest sympathies to his family and fellow-townspeople. LOUISVILLE: (Mrs. Lorraine Bandy). "I have been the recipient of many 'old books' donated by the townspeople who have become 'historically minded' since my exhibit on education, "Then and Now". Many of these books will have to be kept on display at Canton as our space here is limited. I have had a few genealogical reports to make and have been a "Cemetery Guide" to Seaway Tourists who have taken an interest in the removal of the cemeteries. My album is in constant demand so feel that my time on the project was well spent." MACOMB: (Mrs. India Murton). "Am preparing pictures, maps, scrap-books, etc., for an exhibit for a church group; also arranging a map and prints of old places to exhibit in a drug store window." MADRID: (Mrs. Margaret Thompson). The town clerk of Madrid, Frank O'Brien, died very suddenly and Burton Beswick will finish the term of town clerk. MASSENA: (Mrs. Ella Lahey). Massena's contribution to "The Year of History" was the celebration of the "Historical Present." On June 27 such celebrities as Queen Elizabeth, Vice-President Nixon, Governor Rockefeller, U. S. Senator Kenneth B. Keating, Power Authority Commissioner Robert Moses, U. S. Senator Jacob Javits, and Attorney General and Mrs. William Rogers attended ceremonies at Eisenhower Lock. An Art exhibit "Massena, Past and Present" is running through the summer at the Highland Hotel. Barnhart Island is now open to the public. Hundreds of Barber Shoppers gave an international concert at the New High School the evening of June 7th. MORRISTOWN: (Mrs. Doris Planty). Doing research on old stone house in the town in observance of "The Year." Listen to Radio WSLB Ogdensburg to History of St. Lawrence County every Tuesday morning 9:35. NORFOLK: (Mrs. Ralph Wing). "Pioneer Day" scheduled for August 22nd commemorating

the 150th Anniversary of the settlement of Norfolk has been cancelled due to circumstances beyond our control. OSWEGATCHIE: (Mrs. Monna Mayne). HEUVELTON VILLAGE: (Mrs. Ida Downing). PARISHVILLE: (Miss Doris Rowland). Attended the Workshop meeting in Canton and the Association Meeting in Ogdensburg. Sent in a set of "Did you Knows" for "The Year of History" radio program, sorting and re-classifying my historical material, helping with the exhibit planned for our Sesquicentennial, July 10th and 11th (note program elsewhere). PIERCEFIELD: (Mrs. Beulah Dorothy). PIERREPONT: (Millard Hundley). Working on the Bacheller Tour for the morning of September 26th. PITCAIRN: (No Historian). POTSDAM: (Dr. Charles Lahey). Busy preparing for the second North Country Seminar. ROSSIE: (Mrs. Virgie Simons). Getting exhibits ready for an historical church dinner this summer. RUSSELL: (Mrs. Dorothy Manning). STOCKHOLM: (Lindon Riggs). Making an up-to-date residential map of the town. WADDINGTON: (Mrs. Ethel Olds). Busy with the Waddington Festival of History plans.

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY YORKER PRESIDED AT SARATOGA SPRINGS CONVENTION



Roger Cota
Retiring State
Yorker President

President's Cup

"Every Yorker State President knows that at Annual Meeting he or she will receive the President's Cup. What Roger Cota, of the Foote's Followers Club, Canton High School, did not know was that he would receive as an additional honor a Who's Who statuette. Roger richly deserved the double distinction. On the statewide level he presided over the first Yorker State Council meeting ever held, at which time many important decisions, particularly regarding the Jerry Nelson Yorker Scholarship, were made. Throughout the entire school year he was in touch with his fellow officers and Counselors and Yorker Headquarters, working effectively with all. President of his Foote's Followers Club, instrumental in planning Adirondack District jamborees, writing a District constitution, serving on the St. Lawrence County Historical Association's Committee for Planning Historical Observances, honor student, president of his 4-H Club, member of the National Thespian Society, active in church, Sunday School, and Youth Fellowship -- these are the activities that marked Roger as an outstanding Yorker. Mrs. Gladys Merrill, Mrs. Phyllis Neadom, and Mrs. Rosemary Lansche were his Sponsors." - from May-June issue of "The Yorker."

May 8, 1959 was a day Roger will never forget. On that day he stood before over 3,400 of his fellow members and raised the gavel to call to order the annual Yorker Convention at Saratoga Springs. During his term of office the total Yorker membership passed the 7,000 mark.

FROM THE YORKER CRACKER BARREL

CANTON: Foote's Followers have worked on a new club constitution, made individual projects on the St. Lawrence Seaway, Presidents from New York State, historical places, minerals and air fields, a scrapbook of newspaper clippings on their community. Roger Cota received the President's Cup and also a "Who's Who Among Yorkers." Mrs. Gladys Merrill, Mrs. Rosemary Lansche and Mrs. Phyllis Neadom are club advisors.

GOUVERNEUR, Marble City Chapter: Re-enrolling in Yorkers after a lapse of two years, under the direction of Mrs. Georgiana Wranesh. Visited the Jefferson County Museum at Watertown, the Remington Art Memorial in Ogdensburg, and the St. Lawrence County Historical Center at Canton. Saw two movies on Colonial Williamsburg; made a scale model of Gouverneur Morris Mansion; and modeled clothes of the 1870-1920 period for a P.T.A. meeting. To raise money for their club, sold "York State Calendar and Travel Books." Attendance at the Madrid jamboree and the Saratoga Springs convention were highlights of their year. LISBON: A group of St. Lawrence and Lisbon Chapter members made the tour of Ogdensburg sponsored by the County Historical Association. Nine members of St. Lawrence Chapter attended Standard Shade Roller Open House June 13th. John Cardinal of Andrew O'Neill Chapter was elected President of the Adirondack District. Eleven of this chapter attended State Convention at Saratoga Springs with Mr. Richard Pinover, our sponsor. Joyce Jones was awarded a "Who's Who Among Yorkers" trophy. Miss Rachel Dandy was one of the six sponsors whose names appear in the first Yorker Sponsors Roll of Honor with 15 Years service. She receives the Special Yorker Pin as a reward. Miss Dandy was the only St. Lawrence County Yorker Sponsor so honored. MADRID-WADDINGTON: The Grasse River Chapter raised \$83 at a record hop and used \$62 to purchase a New York State Flag for the school stage. "They put the finishing touches to their year with a picnic," says Mr. Clifford J. Waas, their sponsor. MASSENA: Mrs. Rosemary Mahoney and Arthur Cassada, sponsors. The Andre Massena Chapter is learning how to work together and how to do historical research. Made booklets on the history of Massena and its prominent visitors 1957-58. Worked on 28 individual projects, made a film on the St. Lawrence Seaway, held a Christmass party and dance, visited the Remington Art Memorial in Ogdensburg and the Potsdam Museum. The daily sale of Nab cookies at milk break netted the club about \$700, which was used to help defray the expense of sending the entire club of over 100 members to the Madrid jamboree, and the officers and project award winners to the Saratoga Springs convention. Ronald Marose, vice-president, was elected Statewide Yorker Treasurer for 1959-60 and also won a "Who's Who Among Yorkers" award.

PARISHVILLE SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
July 10-11

(All past and present residents and friends of the town are most cordially invited).

July 10-11 - Exhibitions of Antiques and other artifacts.

Saturday, July 11

Parade and Guided Tour of historical sites.

11:30 - Dinner in school cafeteria. Reservations should be in by July 1.
Mail to Mrs. Elsie F. Bresee.

2:00 - Movies at School Auditorium.

5:30 - Supper in School cafeteria.

8:00 - Program in School Auditorium.

Sunday, July 12

11:15 - Special service at Union Church.

8:00 p.m. Service in Baptist Church.

Programs and history of town available by mail.

FESTIVAL OF HISTORY, WADDINGTON, N. Y.

July 30 and 31, August 1 and 2, 1959

Thursday, July 30

Morning: - Fishing Derby for Children.

Afternoon: - Swimming Races - Water Skiing - Sailing Demonstrations.

Evening: - Massena Barber Shop Quartettes - St. Regis Mohawk Dancers.

Friday, July 31

Morning: - History Exhibit - Boat Tours (tentative).

Afternoon: - Luncheon, 12:15, Community Room. Make reservations.
2:00 p.m., Town Hall, Historical Meeting, Movies of Project
Construction.
Base Ball game, School House Field.

Evening: - Block Dance (In case of rain in Town Hall).

Saturday, August 1

Morning: - Parade, 10 a.m.

Afternoon: - Horse Show, school field - Chicken Barbecue, 4:00 or 4:30 on lawn
of Town Hall. School cafeteria if rain.

Evening: - Entertainment - Fireworks on Ogden Island, sponsored by St. Regis
Paper Company.

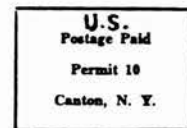
Sunday, August 2

Morning: - Services in all the Churches.

Afternoon: - Inboard and Outboard Races sanctioned by A.P.A. Association, bene-
fit Waddington Volunteer Firemen.

St. Lawrence County Historical Association

P. O. Box 251
CANTON, N. Y.



NON-PROFIT ORG.