

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

April, 1978

Dutch Elm Disease Denudes Area City Will Replace Says Arborist

Barbara Potter,
Parks & Environment Committee,
New Edinburgh Community
Association

On March 8, I held a small meeting at my home with committee members Cheryl Matson and John Arnold, and Mr. Brian Smith who is Senior Arborist with the City of Ottawa's Tree Maintenance Department.

We expressed to Mr. Smith our deep concern over the loss of so many of the beautiful shade trees in New Edinburgh because of the fatal Dutch Elm Disease. We asked Mr. Smith whether it would be possible to institute a tree-planting project for the whole community. He said that such a project is not possible at this time as his Department is budgeted for the planting of only 1800 trees per year for the whole city and that it was difficult to keep up with the demand.

However, Mr. Smith encouraged individual citizens of New Edinburgh who would like the city to

plant a tree on city property in front of their houses to call Tree Maintenance at 725-3311 and put their names on the list. The city will plant young Ash, Linden or Maple trees without charge. These trees are a good size — 2½ to 3 inches in diameter — and are planted in the spring and autumn, most of the work being done between mid-September and the first snowfall. There is a waiting list, but Mr. Smith says that if you call now chances are good for getting your tree in the autumn of 1978, or the spring or autumn of 1979. He asked us to emphasize the fact that tree planting can only be done on city property — that strip of land between your front lawn and the sidewalk. So don't call if you were hoping for a tree in your garden; you'll have to take care of that yourself.

Let's start now to replace the greenery we are losing along the streets of New Edinburgh. Call 725-3311 and order your tree: Ash, Linden or Maple.

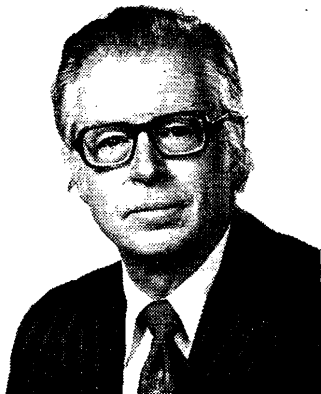
Active Communal Involvement

Gordon E. Cox Untimely Death Saddens Many Area Friends

by John M Fraser

Neighbours and colleagues of Gordon Cox were shocked and saddened to learn of his death in a Vienna street accident recently. He and his family (wife Beverley and two of their four children) had lived at 128 Stanley Avenue before leaving for Vienna in January 1977 where Mr Cox served as Canadian Ambassador to the Mutual and Balanced Force Reduction Talks.

A native of Toronto, Mr Cox, 60, joined the Department of External Affairs in 1946 after service in Britain with the RCAF during World War II. His many years in Canada's foreign service included postings to Ankara, Washington, Vienna (as charge d'Affaires in 1954) and London. More recently he served as Canadian Commissioner to the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Vietnam (1962-4), Deputy Permanent Representative at the United Nations in New York (1964-9), and Canadian Ambassador to Thailand (1969-72). When last in Ottawa Mr Cox was Senior Advisor and Acting Vice-



President (International) of the International Development Research Centre.

It was during this period that the Cox Family moved to New Edinburgh, where Gordon was known to many residents for his active participation in the New Edinburgh Community Association. He will be remembered by many of us as a good neighbour and a good friend and by those who knew him while serving abroad as an able and effective representative of Canada.

Meet Your 1978 NECA Executive



The 1978 NECA pictured above left to right are: Top Row: David Henry, Heather Matthews, Ray Boomgaardt, Anne Buie, Bob Strachan, Ed Browell, Claire Vandelac, Robin Hamilton Harding, Sharon Staseson, Frank Anglin, Barbara Potter, and Roberta Butler.

Report on Annual General Meeting

by Heather Matthews

"The time has come the walrus said
to talk of many things
of tunes & songs & some fine
routes
of traffic circles & swings."

The turnout was not large but those who attended the general meeting on Thursday, February 16 at Mackay Church Hall where an interested and lively group.

Bob Knox, the outgoing president chaired the meeting and after reading of the minutes and a financial report he began a review of the year's activities, highlighted by the presentation by himself of the community's position on roads to the Ontario Municipal Board Hearings. This didn't inspire much discussion because we're at a wait-and-see stage now.

Bob Strachan next out-lined his committee's proposals for slowing traffic through the neighbourhood which included traffic circles at some intersections along Crichton Street.

The traffic circles would take the form of small islands, perhaps with little evergreen trees on them. The idea would be to discourage traffic which short-cuts through the "Burgh" Motorists would not have a clear run for blocks the way they do now.

Reaction ran from uncontrollable laughter to earnest approval. There were many objections which varied from safety concerns to worry about the litter that would collect around the base of the islands and although the tone was generally negative a sympathetic voice was heard in favour of trying an experiment this summer as part of the continuing study of traffic problems in the area.

Several people in the audience had come in response to the traffic committee's proposal to reroute the number 83 bus around the neighbourhood. After much heckling and a speech by one irate lady, (namely myself) waving a handful of bus schedules, a motion to leave the bus alone was easily carried.

There was confirmation from City Hall on the plans for a playground in the schoolyard and then a report from Remo Caldato on the Restoration of the Minto Bridges. He had information, confirming that Treasury Board had granted the million dollars necessary to save the three historic spans.

Then to the main reason for the meeting... election of a new executive.

A slate of 12 from about 16 or 18 who ran was elected.

President — David Henry, 139 Stanley Avenue, 749-7811, 996-2321.

Vice-President — Heather Matthews, 38 Charles Street, 746-7419, 235-4586.

Secretary — Ray Boomgaardt, 62 Crichton Street, 746-0861, 992-8615

Treasurer — Anne Buie, 283 Crichton Street, 745-0768

Bob Strachan, 79 Crichton Street, 746-1067, 238-1234

Ed Browell — 161 MacKay Street, 749-4349, 992-4714

Claire Vandelac, 135 Stanley Avenue, 746-2474, 237-2607

Robin Hamilton Harding, 108 Crichton Street, 746-5742, 776-7222

Sharon Staseson, 3 Putman Avenue, 741-6407

Frank Anglin, 120 Stanley Avenue, 741-4480, 994-9395

Barbara Potter, 151 Stanley Avenue, 749-1808

Roberta Butler, 37 Charles Street, 746-2076

Jean Robert Gauthier, MLA Ottawa East rose to say that although he was hopeful, news of the money being secured was by no means official and he praised last minute work by Bruce Grant which enabled him to lobby for the bridges.

Nine Portfolios Assigned For Ongoing Issues

At the first meeting of the New Edinburgh Community Association, held shortly after the Annual General Meeting in February, the following people were appointed to existing portfolios:

Heritage Committee: Roberta Butler, Roberta is familiar with the NCC and City Hall.

Traffic Committee: Bob Strachan. Bob was asked to continue in this work and to make a report to the executive in the near future.

School Advisory Committee: Robin Hamilton Harding. Robin was asked to look particularly at the long term future of Crichton School.

Publishing Committee: Heather Matthews

Community Council: Sharon Staseson

Membership Committee: Frank Anglin — It was noted that each member of the executive was responsible to increase membership but that receipts or membership cards would be

needed. Robin Hamilton Harding indicated that he could assist with any printing required.

Constitution Committee: Claire Vandelac. The value of making donations to the association tax deductible was noted. Claire is to submit a report on the constitution in May.

OMB, Regional and Municipal Gov'ts: Ed Browell Parks and Environment Committee: Barbara Potter Federation of Community Associations: to be contacted by David Henry.

New Edinburgh Community Association



David Henry
President
Community Assoc.
Exec.

President's Message

It looks like it's a positive year for the Community Association, if the first two Executive meetings are an indication. The attitude of the Executive reflects a general spirit of, "this is what we want for New Edinburgh" instead of the earlier somewhat beleaguered attitude, when highrises and highways threatened to dominate the community.

One of the important catalysts in this change is the newspaper, and we have Gaye Applebaum and Heather Matthews to thank for that. We also owe a large vote of thanks to last year's Executive, who laid the foundation for the newspaper, and a number of other potential developments.

The 'Burgh was represented at the Ontario Municipal Board hearings by Bob Knox who did an excellent job in presenting our case, particularly on the Regional Government's plan to develop the Beechwood-Hemlock and the Vanier arterials. No decisions have been made by the OMB, but it is quite apparent that the population growth projections upon which much of the Regional Plan was based, were incorrect. It could be that we do not need big highways through the Centre of the City after all!! From discussions, I have had with NCC and Regional Government officials, it is quite obvious that if the Vanier Arterial were to be built it would be a major inter-provincial highway link between Montreal and Western Quebec. Although its called a Parkway, one official, has stated that once built, it would be impossible to keep heavy commercial traffic off it. That means we could end up with another Queensway.

New Edinburgh and surrounding communities have one of the lowest parkland to people ratios in the City. It's far below the ratio prescribed in the Regional Plan. The Construction of the Vanier Arterial will leave us with an ugly road, and half as much parkland. The scarcest resource in the inner city is parkland, and I think we should protect it.

Ed Browell, working on internal traffic, has been successful in getting the traffic planners to program an extended left turn green signal at the Beechwood-Crichton Street intersection, which

results in through traffic to Quebec moving via the St. Patrick Street Bridge and not down Crichton Street. Bob Strachan continues his work toward improving the traffic flow situation within the Burgh.

Barbara Potter is in the process of organizing a "plant-in" for the Burgh, which is designed to compensate for the loss of the stately elms.

Under the heading, "Please dump elsewhere", I should mention that a number of people have asked about the ugly snow dump in the New Edinburgh park. Nobody likes it and I think its time we brought some pressure to bear on the NCC, to ensure that it doesn't happen again next year. The City says it will clean up the mess after the thaw, but that's not the point. The point is that we should press for the development of the dumping ground as a park with grass and trees. It would be a good "hire a summer student" project.

MONEY!!! We're short of it! The main source of funds is the Associations' membership fees. Frank Anglin is organizing a membership drive and we hope that there will be a good response from the Community.

We will continue our efforts to get the City to undertake a Neighbourhood Study. The City has stated that it won't be done this year due to the lack of funds. This Study would form the basis for a number of planning decisions relating to traffic, parkland, heritage, and other community facilities.

I would like to mention one aspect that makes the work of our Community Association somewhat more complex than others. We deal with three different levels of government, the City, the Region and the NCC. Within these three groupings there are a political and administrative bodies. There are a number of different people. Gathering information on a particular issue can be a very time consuming, as it involves contacting a number of different people and departments. If anyone would like to help please contact the person on the Executive who deals with the subject you are interested in.

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Editor: Gaye Applebaum; **Associate Editor:** Heather Matthews; **Advertising representative:** Anne Buie. Advertising rates available on request.

Notes From City Hall Spring Cleanup

No special pickup for furniture. With regular pickup — furniture, appliances, garden refuse in plastic bags, branches in bundles, 4ft & less than 50 lbs.

No building materials — wood, bricks.

No car parts.

Do not use cardboard boxes because they fall apart in damp. Use plastic or metal cans with lids & handles, or plastic bags.

Put refuse out after 9 p.m. night before; before 7 a.m. of pick up.

Newspapers are best put in strong grocery bags. Do not tie with string as string interferes with recycling process.

For bottles & tins suitable for recycling the nearest depot is at St. Laurent & Innes Rd.

The Community Council adds:

Don't forget to save anything of value for the neighbourhood garage sale in the fall.

Free time in the afternoon?

**Come out and play
Euchre**

**Every Wednesday
afternoon
starting April 12
at Crichton Street
School**

**1:30 - 4:00 p.m.
50c towards refreshments
Phone Ethel Proulx for further information: 745-4443**

New Edinburgh News

**welcomes
your participation**

**If you would like to
contribute ideas,
comments, suggestions,
articles, get in touch
with:**

**Heather Matthews —
746-7419**

**Gaye Applebaum — 741-
1854**

**Deadline for the mid-
June issue is Friday, May
26. Submit all news items,
articles, community
events by the above date
to 7 Avon Lane.**

Mount Membership Campaign Seek Full Communal Support

By Frank Anglin

Did you miss joining the New Edinburgh Community Association (NECA) this year? Our current membership list shows that some of last years members have not renewed. Possibly a few have moved to other communities, but probably we are missing those who for one reason or another could not attend the last general meeting. It would be nice to hear directly from those residents of New Edinburgh who have not joined for the current year. In order to try and get all the members of our community interested in NECA, we are planning to have a spring membership campaign. This campaign is being held not only to collect the \$2 single or \$3 family membership fee, but also to obtain your opinion as to what activities NECA should be involved in. Items already under study are — proposals to change traffic patterns in the community,

— preservation of the heritage aspects of New Edinburgh — neighbourhood improvements, — zoning, — playgrounds and parks, . . .

It is your collected opinions which will be used by the executive of NECA in their representations to city and provincial governments so speak up!

What will your dollars be used for? This newspaper mainly, as we do not cover all of our costs from advertising. NECA would like to produce six issues this year in order to inform you of the neighbourhood activities past, present and future.

If we miss you this spring this does not mean you have to miss your community association. A call to any members of the executive or to Frank Anglin at 741-4480 or Tony Lovink at 749-7011 will send someone around with a membership form.

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**SALLY HUTCHISON 749-0455
MARIA LAURIE 741-5304
PEGGY MORAN 745-3270**

Tell your youngster to go to a house where the Block Parent sign is displayed.

THE NEW EDINBURGH DAY CARE CENTRE

will hold its

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 20**

**at 7:30 pm
in the Day Care Room
Crichton St. School**

The meeting will include the election of new officers and discussion of the new Summer program. Parents who hope to enrol children in summer or fall of 78 are invited to attend.

Municipal Election Year

Area Concerns Neglected Need 'People's Candidate'

by David McNicoll

Well along with Christmas and Easter our Annual Community Association Meeting pulled gamely out of the station a few weeks ago. The memory of the meeting has become a blur of raised hands, opening presents and eating chocolate bunnies.

As usual it was a tough affair so for those of you that missed it (presumably you would be the 80 per cent that were too bored to vote in the last municipal election) here's a free sample: — **Traffic** — too much.

B gets up, notes that 100 per cent of the world's traffic goes down his street. It should be reduced. (applause from B1, B2, B3 etc.)

A gets up, says that she is an ardent supporter of traffic control but she wants it understood at the onset that no traffic at all can go down her street. (applause from A1, A2, A3 etc., one shout of 'bravo')

C gets up, says that he is an ardent supporter of traffic control too but he wants it understood at the onset that no traffic at all can go down his street. (applause from C1, C2, C3)

Good Spirit, D, gets up and says that the answer is to send the traffic to that ubiquitous, thankless, community 'Somewhere Else'. (Who can really blame D?). You won't believe me but we even discussed getting rid of one of our bus routes — to improve the traffic situation!

Surely the natural person to bring some control to the meeting would have been our alderman. And where was our elected alderman? Nowhere. (I can't mention his name because we vote for any name we can recognize on

the ballot. We are such turkeys. I will give you a clue—he's practically the only part-time alderman in Ottawa.)

However I spring to his defence to point out that: — we sent him no invitation covered with embossed, golden letters, we sent him no bevy of appropriately attired young women from the community to throw flower petals along his path and it is true that no sleek, black limousine waited for him out on Sussex in order to whisk to the meeting. Heavens, even our federal member visited the meeting, bless his little election ear.

Now — 1. Of course our new executive represents a way for our views to be channelled into the political system. However it is NOT part of this system. (Our group is part-time, we have no resources or actual power.)

2. The job of alderman is as full time as any regular job. We need a full time alderman.

3. We need an alderman that represents our concerns.

Therefore (here it comes) we need a people's candidate. It must be the responsibility of our executive to find a suitable candidate for the next municipal election. After this open-to-the-community selection, the community association would then lend its support to the candidate. Once elected we "take our chances" like everybody else but at least we would be in the right ball park. This alderman would have to deal with us A, B, C, D's all the time. It's a hell of a job but it's the only game in town. Otherwise our views and the views of our executive have no place to go.



Drawing by Heather Matthews

JACOB

Jacob Burton, a blond cherubic 3 year old can often be seen playing on Keefer Street where he lives. His hobbling thick blond curls and seraphic expression inspired the poem below.

JACOB

Jacob came from Dickens —
your little self a bundled man
of other century,
I can't connect you with
what I know:

newsprinted pain
outright guile
Out from this frowned-on frame
you step,
curly as an Oliver, and
smiling.

by J. A. Stevens

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Handyman 749-8835.

HELP WANTED

Babysitter needed for well-behaved boy 5, and girl 8, 3:30 - 5:30 and Professional Days. Your home if nearby Crichton Street School or mine. Good salary. Start August 21 or 28. Write giving name and telephone number to Box 12, New Edinburgh News, 7 Avon Lane, Ottawa.

Wanted - Someone to sew heavy drapes for large house. Call 746-7419 evenings.

Do you have something to sell, swap, or exchange? Do you have a service available to area residents? Send your classified advertisements to Gaye Applebaum, 7 Avon Lane or phone 741-1854.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir;

From: New Edinburgh News — February, 1978: Page 2 —
"Traffic," paragraph 2 about Crichton Street:

How come? Traffic on Stanley Avenue which is now out of control will increase. A child has already been hit by an automobile at the corner of Stanley and Keefer. Have you ever tried to shovel the entrance to your driveway between 7.00 a.m. and 8.00 a.m.? There is a continuous flow of traffic from Vanier to Hull. The reverse happens between 3.30 p.m. and 4.30 p.m.

"Stop Signs" (3 way) should be placed at the intersections of Stanley and Keefer, Victoria, Charles and Thomas. The ideal would be to close Stanley off at Sussex and continue the park through to John Street. The Sussex end of Stanley is only an extension of the City Hall parking lot anyway and it is a dangerous turn, particularly in the winter.

Two SCHOOL BUSES (Public and Separate) pick children up at the corner of Stanley and Keefer which must also be borne in mind.

I find it difficult to understand how this matter got this far without consideration being given not only to Stanley Avenue but also to MacKay Street.

Sincerely,
H. Anson Green.

Dear Editor:

I thought the February issue of your paper was the best yet. Two items brought back memories; first, the note on School Patrols. Back in the 1940's Crichton School had a very active Home and School Association. When it was suggested that the pupils in Ottawa schools might assist the traffic authorities by acting as safety patrollers at school crossings, there was consternation in the executive of our association. We envisaged our tender little ones standing out in the middle of Crichton Street directing traffic. A special meeting was called and a letter of protest fired off to the authorities. Within a few days of the meeting the safety patrols were installed and have been working successfully ever since. I still feel sheepish when I see the children at their allotted posts. The same group of overanxious mothers, however, were able, through their representations, to have the school yards at Crichton School paved.

Porky Grant's recollections of snow removal in New Edinburgh 50 years ago, in which members of the Slinn family were involved, reminded me of a little ditty my husband used to sing to the tune of "All the King's Men":
"Slinn's horses, Slinn's men,
They marched up the street
And they marched back again.
Slinn's horses, a-a-and Slinn's men."

Yours truly,
Edith Short

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Excerpt from the Brief Presented to the Commission on Declining School Enrolments in Ontario, by the Crichton School Advisory Committee on March 13, 1978. Eric Adams, Chairman

Mr. Commissioner:

We appreciate very much this opportunity of appearing before you today to express the views of some parents, teachers and members of a community whom we represent, on the very important problem of declining enrolments in our Ontario schools.

The Crichton School Advisory Committee believes that Crichton Public School has made a very positive contribution to education in this area of Canada over the last 103 years of the School's existence. Indeed, as recent developments have demonstrated, we believe that Crichton School will continue to provide leadership in educational matters in this area for many more years. Because of this, we humbly feel that we can help to shed some light on certain areas of the problem before us. But before I do so, I should like to add a little background first.

Background

Crichton Public School is the oldest operating school in the Ottawa Valley. It is located in the centre of the New Edinburgh community which borders the Rideau River to the west, the Ottawa River to the north, and the Village of Rockcliffe Park to the east. This neighbourhood is older than Ottawa itself and can boast of having a school as early as 1838. The present building, which has been in existence since 1906, has served several generations of families, some of whom still live in the "Burg". In 1919 the school was expanded to its present size to accommodate over 350 students.

Enrolment History

Crichton is a JK to grade 6 elementary school with a current enrolment of 106 students, served by a teaching vice-principal, two grade teachers, a kindergarten teacher, and a part-time French teacher. The enrolment history of Crichton reflects a marked decline since 1970 when it was 219 to an all time low of 73 in 1974 and 1975. Since then, contrary to the general trend in the City and throughout the Province, Crichton's enrolment has shown a significant increase in relative terms: 85 in 1976 and 106 in 1977.

The Crichton Experience

As we see it, the two major factors that affected Crichton's enrolment since 1971 were (a) the introduction of early French Immersion and (b) the removal of the school boundary system. Other

factors such as busing, late French Immersion and the imbalance between French and English programs have subsequently contributed to the problem of declining enrolment in the English stream in certain schools of which Crichton is no exception.

The Crichton School Advisory Committee was very conscious of the declining enrolment problem and in the fall of 1972 formed a task force to study the education, economic and community use of the School in order to thwart the threat of closure, which was very real then.

In November 1974 at a public meeting held in the School, my Committee recommended (a) a City-Board study of the problems of small schools caused by declining enrolment; (b) that Crichton be considered a pilot project for alternate uses; and (c) that the Board organize a conference for all small schools within its jurisdiction. All three recommendations received positive consideration by the respective authorities.

The City of Ottawa engaged a firm of engineering consultants to examine the school building and site for alternate uses and to conduct a survey of the community to determine its recreational and social needs. As a result of the consultants' report and further discussions between the School Advisory Committee and the various bodies concerned, a private day nursery, a dancing studio, and a municipal art studio were opened in the School in the fall of 1975. At the same time, the City and the Board introduced recreational programmes in the School for all ages. These measures not only used up vacant classrooms but also revitalized the School and made it once more the focal point in the community of New Edinburgh. We believe that these measures have also encouraged new families to come into the community and to send their children to Crichton.

Meanwhile the Board in May 1975 held a conference for small schools at which 17 were represented. This conference recommended that the Board establish a Small Schools Committee to study the problems of small schools in Ottawa that are affected by declining enrolments. This was done and in the fall of last year that Committee proposed to the OBE that 4 Policy Statements relating to declining enrolments be adopted. This was accepted by the Board.

One policy recommends that "constructive adaptive

procedures" be considered where enrolment decreases. We believe that we have responded positively to these procedures by being twinned with another school; by having a teaching vice-principal; and by having multigrade classes accepted by the staff, parents and students alike. All these measures have helped to reduce teaching costs and introduce economy and efficiency into the system. In our view, we should cease to be criticized by some as a drain on the financial resources of the system; on the contrary, the "community school" enhances the system and has many tangible benefits to offer our children.

The Future

With the above in mind, it is my Committee's view that we must now continue planning realistically for the future in order that our past efforts are not wasted.

The biggest dilemma affecting the school enrolment in our area is the option for French Immersion. No firm conclusions on its results seem to have been reached by the educators; many parents are still bewildered and not certain as to what direction they should go.

For many, a good basic English education at the elementary level with core French is still an essential. However, the need for late French Immersion and improved core French for children in the English stream is becoming more noticeable as more families move in and out of the Ottawa area. As the Federal Government's policy on bilingualism becomes a reality, there is concern among many parents, both in the English and French Immersion streams, that imbalances in enrolments in resources are being created.

It is for this reason that the parent advisory committees of Crichton and Rockcliffe Park Schools are presently developing a new concept whereby schools in the same area can share their educational programmes in English and French, and their resources — physical, financial and human — by regrouping their Grades in the respective schools. Hopefully, this would maintain a balance in school enrolments, a balance between English and French streams, and a balance between educational use and community use of the facilities. At the same time the broader community approach would not destroy the community school concept in which so many of us believe. For if you destroy the school, you destroy the community in the process.

I thank you for your attention.

What's Cooking...?

Jewish Apple Cake

From Margaret Klein
formerly of Crichton St.

A traditional recipe that has made the rounds of New Edinburgh homes for decades.

Grease and flour a 10" spring form pan with tube or a large Angel Cake pan. Cut 4 or 5 apples into thin slices. Coat with mixture of — 2 tbsp. cinnamon, — 5 tbsp. white sugar.

In a large bowl mix together
3 cups all purpose flour
3 tsp. baking powder
¼ tsp. salt

2 cups white sugar
1 cup oil (sunflower or corn)
½ cup orange juice
2½ tsp. vanilla
4 eggs

Mix until smooth, batter will be thick. Alternate layers of batter and apple slices starting with batter. Bake at 350 degrees for 1½ hours.

While cake is still hot, melt ¼ lb. butter (not margarine) with 2 tsp. cinnamon and 5 tsp. sugar. Pour over top of cake and then cool. Better second day.

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Mark

Sunday, June 18

on your calendars for the second

Annual Picnic in the Park

Come and join your friends and
neighbours, from 12 noon on, on

MAPLE ISLAND, NEW EDINBURGH PARK
(between the Minto Bridges)

for a relaxing enjoyable community get-together
You provide your own blanket and picnic lunch

We provide crocks full of fresh lemonade and surprise entertainment
Further details in June issue.

Crichton Street School Highlights

Crichton Community School Council

presents the following

Interest Courses at Crichton Street School

Registration will take place April 13 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Crichton School

T'ai Chi Ch'uan

This is an ancient Chinese exercise system. It is characterized by deliberately slow, even and continuous movement, which is also circular, rhythmic and well-balanced. The practice of T'ai Chi Ch'uan gives the person an opportunity for relaxation and concentration. It offers physical, mental and emotional well-being in a modern world of rush and stress.

The course will be offered by Shirley Choi and will begin April 26 and continue to June 8 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The cost will be \$25.00 per person, \$45.00 per couple.

Ladies Slim & Trim

For women of all ages, this course combines the fun of slimming with games and standard exercises. The course will run on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 to 9:30, April 18 to June 15. The cost will be \$15.00 and the instructor will be Bernice King.

Arts & Crafts for Children

The course will run on Saturdays from 10:00 to 12:00 p.m. and will be for children 8 to 12 years of age. The course will be made up of painting, collage, mosaics, printing and paper crafts, sculpture and simple weaving. It will begin April 22 and run through May 27. The instructor will be Ms. Sylvia Tritthardt and the cost will be \$15.00.

Yoga

Mrs. Morrison will continue with daytime Yoga classes, Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The courses will run for seven weeks from April 19 to May 31 at a cost of \$15.00.

Library, or you may call 741-1904 during the day to register by phone.

Adult Drawing

Basic course in drawing, exploring the use of pencil, ink and charcoal while learning about line, composition, light and shade.

The object of this course is the enjoyment of drawing and helping each person to communicate individual expression and develop the senses of observation.

The instructor will be Sylvia Tritthardt and the cost will be \$15.00 for six weeks, from April 19 through May 24.

For the first class, students are asked to bring 4B flat sketch pencils, 2B round pencil, kneaded eraser.

Preschool Creative Drama

Victoria Van Wyck, teacher and consultant in preschool creative drama will be offering classes to children aged 3 to 5. The seven-week course includes rhythm, creative games, dramatization of nursery rhymes and familiar stories, improvisations and the use of music.

Please phone 238-4061 to register and for further information.

Victoria will also be offering a 1½-hour evening workshop for parents of preschoolers who are interested in reviewing the methods whereby one can stimulate the imagination and provide enriching experiences through dramatic play. Phone 238-4061 if interested.

Cake Decorating

A six week course will be given by Mrs. Jill Hardy. A Basic Cake Decorating Technique starting Wednesday, April 19 - May 24. Cost \$10.00.

March Break Holiday Fun

Andre Kingsley
Karl Parks

A special morning program was held at the Crichton School on Tuesday March 21, Wednesday March 22, and Thursday March 23. 84 children between the ages of 4 to 12 years took part.

Children came from New Edinburgh, Manor Park, Rockcliffe and one participant even was a visitor from Toronto.

The program run by Anne and Karen Denny, provided arts and

crafts, stories, films and sports activities for the various age groups. Approximately 28 attended each of the 3-hour-a-day programs.

Because of the response to this type of programming, it will allow us to provide more in this line of service and we would greatly appreciate any ideas you may have along these lines.

Please contact Karl Parks at 741-1904 or 749-7897 in this regard.

What I Did At March Break Program

by Stacey Northgrave



I heard that on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of the March break, there was going to be an activity at the school, 9:30 to 12:30 each morning. I went there, it was lots of fun. I am sure glad I went. First we would go to the gym and play a game. Then we would go to the lunch room and do some art. Finally we would watch 2 films. We did that each day.

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—We are available on a short term and weekends and holidays or weekly to care for your children in your home. References 745-5317.



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City of Ottawa
Recreation Branch

SUMMER FUN '78 offers many hours of daily theme activities which include;

- * Adventure Day in the lake district at Lac Philippe.
- * Mountaineering Day at Luskville Falls.
- * Beach Day at Mooney's Bay.
- * Craft Day at a neighbourhood school.
- * Mystery Trip Day to exciting locations in the Ottawa Valley

This programme is offered to boys and girls 7 to 12 years of age for nine, one week sessions, starting July 4 to September 1, Monday-Friday 9:00a.m.- 4:30p.m.

FEE: \$10.00 per week

REGISTRATION: May 3, 4 7:00p.m. to 9:30p.m.

LOCATION: Crichton Community School, 200 Crichton Street

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT OTTAWA RECREATION- 563-3222

COMMUNITINOTES



Profiles of People in the 'Burgh'

The Akagi Family

by Gaye Applebaum

In a few months, many people in the community will bid sayonara to the Akagi family as they reluctantly end their two year stay in Ottawa and head back to their rigours of life in a metropolis like Tokyo.

Hirokatsu Akagi was brought to Canada for two years to work as a research associate in ecological kinetics for the National Research Council. He is on leave from the Ministry of Health and Welfare's National Institute of Public Health in Japan. His research here has primarily focused on mercury levels in our lakes and rivers, and the effects on humans. When he returns to Japan, Hirokatsu will work in his former field of pharmacological research.

Well settled into the Canadian way of life in their Crichton Street apartment, their adjustment to the totally different culture was at first very difficult. Junko Akagi spoke no English at all when they first came to Canada and she knew only one other Japanese woman in Ottawa. Most of her days were spent secluded in her apartment with her then three year old daughter Michiko; her only excursions were the 4-times daily trip from the apartment, (they lived on Beechwood at first) to deliver and collect five year old Emi to Crichton Street school. "I was very afraid to go anywhere more," she said, "because I worried I might have to ask directions or some help. If I had to buy something during the day I would be too afraid to go into the store and try to explain."

Neither Hirokatsu nor Junko had had any previous exposure to Western foods or the Western way of cooking; Japanese marketing and cooking are unlike any Western methods. Both admit that this presented the most marked cultural difference and the largest hurdle to their settling in. Going into a supermarket to shop for the family's meal was, for the longest while, an ordeal of trial and error. Hirokatsu said, "I had never seen so many different cuts of meat and found it impossible to figure them out and how we should cook them." He would become confused and select his food by guesswork. Packaged and canned goods were equally confusing in their variety and their use. Their first six months proved the hardest.

But slowly, as she learned some English, and they met a few people, it became easier to feel more comfortable in the Canadian way of life. Just over a year ago, they moved to New Edinburgh, and Crichton Street, considerably closer to the school that both Emi and Michiko attend. It meant that both girls were closer to classmates houses and could go and play with friends after school. Junko then could take the newly Canadian-born Tadahiho for daily walks in the area parks.

Returning to Tokyo means returning to not only a different, but a more difficult life. While the government provides the Akagi family with an apartment for which they pay only a minimal rent (the equivalent of approximately \$10 monthly), the 3 room apartment is tiny by comparison with the 3 bedroom one they have been living in. The cost of living is so high that it makes the purchase of necessities a burden that weighs on almost everyone. Mr Akagi pointed out that Canadians earn 2.5 times more salary than their counterparts in Japan, and that food, clothes and medical care are far

were given the time and attention they needed at school. Their mother said that they even fight in English now!

Mrs Akagi plans to return to work when Tadahiho enters school in 3 years. It is difficult for women to work in Japan with young children, since there are very few nurseries, and those that they do have are extremely expensive. There are no subsidized day care centres such as the New Edinburgh Day Nursery to assist working parents. When she was in hospital giving birth to Tadahiho, both girls made use of the day care facility; in Japan people have always relied



The Akagi family in their Crichton Street apartment. Emi 7, Michiko, 5 and 1 year old Tadahiho who will soon return to Japan with their parents.

more easily affordable here than in Japan.

Tokyo, like every major city of comparable size is an overcrowded large, concrete and steel high rise labyrinth, with almost no inner city parks or playgrounds, or open spaces. Hirokatsu says that that is what he will miss most — the space. In Ottawa, and particularly in New Edinburgh, they have enjoyed having so much accessible parkland for family outings, for relaxation for sports. Even when he is not in the parks, he says that there is always a sense of spaciousness that you never find in Tokyo. He said that having spent two years here will make it harder to return to the tiny apartments and the big-city mentality where people never get to know their neighbours. Mrs Akagi said that she has been delighted that the girls have had the experience in a small school where it is like a large family. Michiko will enter a school with 5-6 Grade one classes alone, each with 30-40 children. "This style school (Crichton) I can find only in the country — in the mountains only."

Emi who is 7 and Michiko 5 had no knowledge of English or of Canadian customs when they arrived; now both are fluently bilingual and well integrated into their environment because they

on families but now families live further away and help is less forthcoming.

While they are admittedly sorry to leave the many friends they've made during their stay they are, nonetheless, anxious to see old friends and of course relatives. Hirokatsu explained, however, that his family lives in the southern tip of Japan and with gas costs now more than a dollar a litre (approximately \$4.00 a gallon) anything more than a trip, once, perhaps twice a year, is now out of the question. Rail fares are equally costly.

Mr Akagi felt that Japanese work too hard, and never have enough time to enjoy the little leisure they do get. Japanese work a six day week and only Saturdays are free for relaxation. With costs so high for the basics, there is little money left for leisure time amenities. More people are spending more time watching TV.

While they were in Canada the Akagi's did manage to see parts of eastern Canada, including an extended trip through the Maritimes last summer. Everyone they met was warm and helpful and left them with pleasant memories and favourable impressions of Canada's east coast.

They have visited Toronto, Montreal and Quebec and will do a trip down the eastern seaboard of the US prior to their departure for Japan, at the end of the school term.

Many people will be sorry to see the Akagi's leave. Michiko and Emi are well liked by their classmates and will be missed at Crichton School. The Akagi's have made several good friends both in New Edinburgh and at NRC.

The community wishes them well and hopes that they will return some day soon.

Brownies, Guides Plan For Fall

by Gillian Adams

In New Edinburgh we have a Brownie Pack and a Girl Guide Company. They belong to the Rideau Manor District.

The aim of the Girl Guides is to assist girls in character development by encouraging them to be responsible citizens of their country and of the world; by introducing them to adventure in the out-of-doors; by training them in skills which will help them to become good homemakers; and to experience the joy of giving services to others.

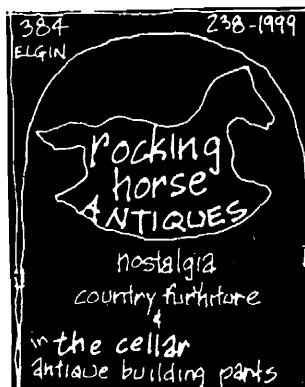
The 14th Brownie Pack meets every Tuesday at St. John Lutheran Church on Crichton Street from 6.30 to 7.45 p.m. Brownies are for girls 7 — 10 years old who meet as a Brownie Pack under the leadership of a Guider known as "Brown Owl".

The 14th Girl Guide Company also meets at St. John Lutheran

Church every Tuesday from 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. Guides are for girls of ages 10 to 14 years who meet as a Company under the direction of a Girl Guide Captain.

Registration for Brownies and Guides will take place on Tuesday, 12 September at 7 p.m. in the hall of St. John Lutheran Church.

The Girl Guide Movement solely depends on adult volunteers to help with the running of the Brownie Packs and Guide Companies. There are excellent training courses available in the Ottawa area for leaders. Volunteers are urgently needed in the Rideau Manor District. If you have been a Brownie or a Girl Guide and are 18 years or over and would like to help either as a leader or as a parent volunteer or in any other way, please do not hesitate to call Gillian Adams at 745-4887 for further information.



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Organizers Pleased with Results

Monte Carlo Night Draws Lively Crowd in Festive Mood

In the opinion of the organizers, the recent fund-raising Monte Carlo Night held at Crichton St. School was a great success. The evening was co-hosted by the Community School Council and the Parent Advisory Committee of the School and the \$800 which was raised was equally shared by these two Committees. The proceeds from the evening are currently held in separate bank accounts and will be used as needed by the Community School Council for programmes and activities at the school open to all children & residents of the Community; and by the Advisory Committee to finance extra requirements of the pupils at Crichton St. School.

More than 175 area residents and their friends attended the evening and from all appearances everyone enjoyed the games and socializing. A selection of interesting and exciting prizes was auctioned and paid for with winnings from the games tables.

A special 'thank-you' goes to the following who worked very hard to make the evening a success:-

Sharon Staseson who spent many hours on the phone collecting prizes, most of which were donated;

Sally Hutchison and Ethel Proulx who looked after refreshments;

Karl Parks who lined up the games and bar facilities;

Andre Kingsley who, with help from Karl, organized the lay-out of the games;

Bill Jones who looked after staffing the games tables and explained the rules;

Jean-Guy Charette who met a request for extra tables and did a wonderful job of cleaning up after the evening;

Robin Hood for his attractive posters advertising the evening;

All the parents and teachers who volunteered their time to work for an hour during the evening; and to

Sandra Ferguson who acted as co-ordinator.

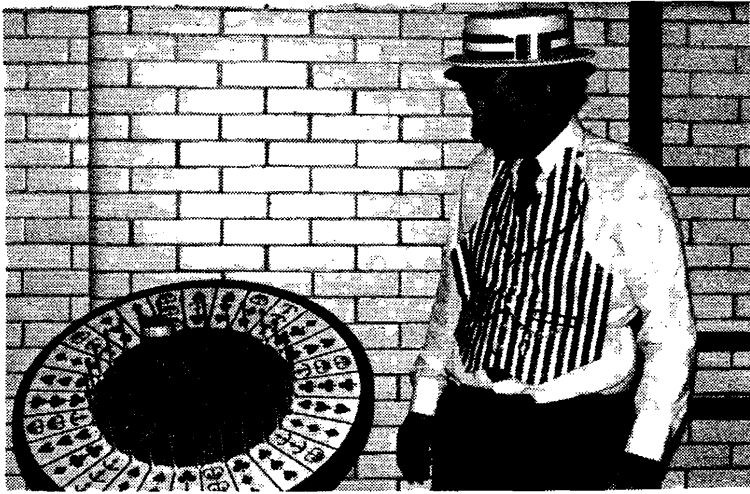
The organizers of the evening wish to thank all who attended and made the evening such a social and financial success and would welcome comments and suggestions as to other types of social gatherings you might like to see held at the school.

The New Edinburgh Community School Council and the School Advisory Committee Wish to Thank The Following Businesses For Their Most Generous Contributions In Prizes For The "Monte Carlo Night" Held March 11.

Le Jardin
Sorrentos Italian Restaurant
The Old Spaghetti Factory
Top of the Hill (Skyline Hotel)
Town House Motor Hotel
Scotts Chicken Villa
Poppa Joes
Tan-Ca-Luk Take-Out
Mac Donalds (Montreal Rd.)

The Chateau Laurier Hotel
The Ritz-Carlton Hotel
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The Hyatt Regency Hotel
Montreal
Voyageur Colonial
The National Arts Centre

Limelight Hair Fashions and the Diva Salon
Shirley Leishman Books
Domus
Baskin and Robbins (Montreal Rd)
Jordan Wines



Step right up and place your bets, says John Hutchison as he watches the Wheel of Fortune spin.



Part of the large turnout enjoying the warm and sociable atmosphere that was evident throughout the evening.



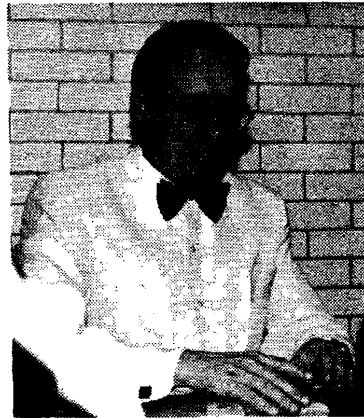
Excited winners of the trip to Montreal raffle, Wallace and Noreen Dias, recent arrivals in the community, embrace happily when their name is called.

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The Pop Shoppe (Roley's Shell)
The All-Seasons Racquet Club
Mr. Karl Parks
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And a very special thanks to Mr. Pronovost and the Beechwood IGA For Their Generosity In Supplying Coffee and Snacks.



Sally Hutchison enthusiastically sets the Roulette Wheel in motion for all the hopeful players.



Brian Northgrave (top, left) throws himself into the role of croupier — even to the white dinner jacket! Sandra Ferguson's face beams when unexpectedly presented with flowers for organizing the evening. Jack Ferguson enters into the spirit of things with his lively auctioneering of a bottle of liquid refreshment.

JOANISSE

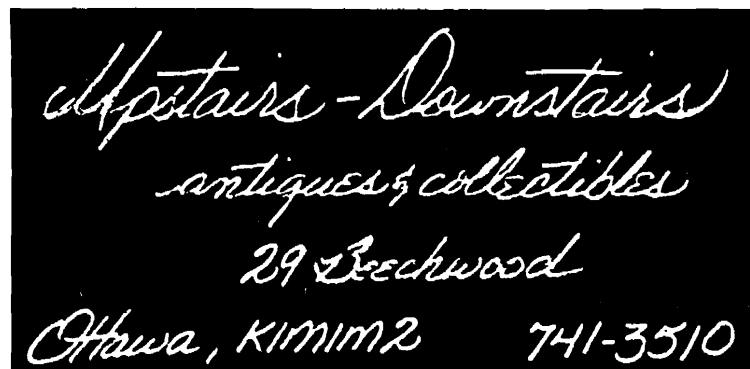


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When I Was A Kid...

John Askwith's Recollections of New Edinburgh

Introduction by Bruce Grant.

Mr. Askwith was born in Rockcliffe in 1841. In his late twenties he built and operated a sawmill in lower Rockcliffe on the banks of the Ottawa River. He then sold this business and went into building construction. After retiring from this, he was Chief Police Magistrate of Ottawa and was active for many years as a member of Ottawa City Council. It was chiefly through his foresight and energy that the City acquired Rockcliffe Park in 1899. He died in 1925.

The following reminiscences are reproduced from an article prepared by Mr. Askwith in 1923 and printed in the "Burgh Breezy Bits". The Blackburn house referred to is now the Prime Minister's residence and the steamboat landing known as Mansfield's Wharf was located directly behind. Queen's Wharf was located where the Ottawa Rowing Club still stands and the railway ceremony would have taken place on the approaches to the Macdonald-Cartier Bridge. The other references in Mr. Askwith's article will be self-explanatory.

"New Edinburgh as I remember it three quarters of a century ago, ran from the present governor's gate west to Stanley Avenue, known then as Rideau Road, thence along Rideau Road to about 200 feet South of Charles Street. A cedar log fence defined the boundary between Village and fields.

In the early days, every year numbers of Indians used to come, both up and down the Ottawa, and camp opposite New Edinburgh on the low shore of the Ottawa at this point. For years, about five hundred Indians would camp there for the summer but the last of their Indian camps occurred about fifty years ago. Since that time the Indians have sought other haunts.

In those days the people of the Village could hear on a wintry night, the howling of the wolves which collected between the eastern end of the present St. Patrick Street bridge and the

Cemeteries. They came frequently in the winter months.

The great spring treat to which all the settlers looked forward was the "Sugaring off", the maple sugar and the maple syrup time. This took place at the sugar bush which was located somewhere about where Beechwood Cemetery is now.



Previously unpublished photograph from a personal collection. View of Rideau Falls with houses on Green Island in background. Early 1900's.

One industry very prominent in the early settlement, but which is now a thing of the past was the Cooper Shop. There were three in all, John McKinley had one in connection with McTaggart's brewery; my uncle Joseph English had another down in Rockcliffe, while there was a third run by a man named Patrick Burns of Green Island.

The first bridge across the Rideau was just west of the present Minto bridge on the West Channel. The road after reaching Green Island, ran diagonally across it, to the present bridge site on the East Channel. On this bridge a toll-gate was established. It was often out of repair and on one occasion a boy named Bill Thorne fell through the floor and was swept over the falls and drowned.

There was also a blacksmith shop at the end of the bridge on the west side of Sussex Street. Four dams were built between what was called McClymont's office and the falls for power purposes, the one succeeding the other as the ice and spring freshets carried the others away.

Two islands existed above the

present bridge, on one of which was erected a barn, but these were swept away over the falls as time went on.

One of the earliest industries and buildings in New Edinburgh was the distillery of Isaac McTaggart, which stood at the junction of the Ottawa River and Alexander Street, for that time Alexander

Street ran right North to the Ottawa River. There are still some remains of this early distillery standing in the rear of the Blackburn family residence on Sussex Street and overlooking the Ottawa river. This remnant is about all that is left of the ancient buildings and industries that 70 to 80 years ago lined the shores of the Ottawa river near the Rideau falls in New Edinburgh.

From the McTaggart distillery barge loads of whiskey were shipped out both by the Ottawa and the Rideau Canal. The whiskey was sent down the hill in a pipe into puncheons, sealed and shipped away to its destination. The distillery was driven by a big 35 foot over-slot water-wheel by water brought along the cliff in a three foot pipe, the power coming from the Rideau River. Hundreds of heads of cattle were fed from the refuse of the distillery. Pigs were also raised from this refuse and shipped away. The waste and surplus from the distillery were sometimes carried away in the open gutters of those days and nearly all the early residents kept a pig or two which fed at these gutters from the distillery's surplus. In the fall the residents would pick out their pigs, kill them, and salt the pork away, and have meat for the winter months.

All south of the log fence which marked the boundary of the, then, Village, was grain fields. The first school was situated in what was then known as the "Barn field" and was located about the site of

Bedard's butcher shop on Crichton Street. It had one large room with no divisions. David Wardrobe, brother of the late Rev. Dr. Wardrobe was the first school-master that I remember of.

The second school was on John Street in the stone house there yet and now used as a dwelling. Wm. Stewart, father of Robert Stewart ex M.P., was teacher in this. The third school was on Alexander Street, a couple of hundred feet south from Sussex Street and was taught by a woman named Miss Sterling. A man by the name of Glassford taught there; also a man named Hendrick who later committed suicide, also Thomas Tubman, Miss Luimsden and Wm. Stewart. This school was also used as a Church, Sunday School, Concert Hall and for other purposes. The next school was on the corner of Charles and Crichton Streets and the next on the present site of the school at Crichton Street and Dufferin Road, and was recently torn down for the present modern structure.

Sixty or seventy years ago, Rockcliffe was a hunter's Paradise, vast numbers of pigeons fairly broke the branches of the trees by their weight and numbers. It is said that it takes a ton of lead to kill a man in battle; I believe it took a hundred pounds of shot to kill a pigeon, such were some of the Marksman of these days. A man by the name of Randville, by the use of a decoy pigeon, in ambush, would manage to bag ten or twelve dozen every morning and sold them for a dollar a dozen.

I have seen flocks flying marshalled like soldiers, five hundred feet wide, and extending east and west as far as the eye could see. One thousand dollars has been offered by the authorities of the Zoological Gardens of Cincinnati for a pair of passenger pigeons. After waiting for a number of

years for evidence of their existence, it has finally been decided that the species is extinct.

The first steam boats on the Ottawa River were twin boats, decked over with a centre paddle wheel. Then there was the "Speed", the side wheeler which burned. Joseph Sherwood was pilot on that occasion and landed his passengers without the loss of a single life. His relatives still live here. The "Phoenix" rose out of the ashes of the "Speed", then came the "Peerless", "Alexander", "Plowboy" and "Empress", the later of which is still in operation here. There were many other boats on the Canal and River in those days, the "Rover", "Beaver", "Otter", "Sorel", the "Breeze", "Perth", "Prince Albert", "Maggie Belle" and "Mink". They were nearly all side-wheelers. The "Sorel" carried the first steam-whistle ever heard on the Ottawa.

When navigation closed on the Ottawa, freight was brought up from Montreal in traincars. These were single horse rigs, each loaded with about one thousand pounds and the trains were some-times half a mile long. Drivers were dressed in their picturesque red and blue toques and sashes and sang and sang songs along the road and had a real good time. The return trip took a round week.

We have now eleven railways centring in Ottawa. I remember when the first sod of the first railway was turned, opposite what was then known as Steamboat Hill and Sussex Street, now known as Queen's Wharf. The sod was turned just about where Sidney Kirby's office now stands. A platform was erected, speeches were made, "God Save the Queen" played, and cheers given for the new enterprise. I remember the late Honourable R. W. Scott and Mr. Edward McGillivray were present.

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