

BHS Quarterly

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President's Reflection

What a busy summer at the Brant County Museum & Archives! Our summer students, Kathryn Cottrill, Tara Derksen and Sarah Van Dyk, are to be commended for the fine work that they accomplished this year. Thank you very much for your dedication.

Anne Byard, the Museum's Education Officer, did an excellent job with the Children's Summer Museum Club. The Brantford Expositor was able to capture some very interesting photos of the children in action.

Renovations became a part of the summer's activities. The downstairs interior of 57 Charlotte Street has been painted, thanks to the generosity of Harold & Goetz Ltd., and volunteers Glen and Julie Gillis, Morley Lefler, and Anne Westaway. New carpet will be installed to cover the front hall and stairs, thanks to Harding Carpets Ltd.

The exterior of the older part of the building is receiving a facelift in the form of the removal of several layers of paint from the brick. I like the new look. Stop in or drive by and see it.

A presentation was made by myself to Brant County Council in August. Our current situation involving possible payment of property taxes and increased insurance costs at 57 Charlotte St. was outlined, and the Council members were asked to reconsider their stance on transferring the property's ownership to the Historical Society after April 30, 1997.

Be sure to visit the Museum in the Square to see the new display, "Brant County: From A to Z". You will find many local artifacts on display. The mall site was very busy this summer, with many local citizens stopping by, as well as visitors from as Europe and across North America.

Our volunteer corps continues to grow. If you want to help out with any of our projects, please contact Susan Twist at 752-2483.

The Brant Historical Society resumes its schedule of monthly meetings after our summer recess. Meetings and lectures are held on the third Wednesday of each month. Check the listings on the last page for the dates and topics.

continued on page 9 Reflection

Celebrating our
89th year
of operation!

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Brantford's Newspaper Pioneers, Part II

by Ken Strachan

Ken Strachan, Editor Emeritus of The Expositor, presents the second article in a series on the history of journalism in Brant County.

On October 12, The Expositor will be 144 years old. It's remarkable that Brantford's most enduring business enterprise was launched by an argument. That argument in 1852 was between Major Lemmon, the redoubtable proprietor of The Brantford Courier, and Henry Racey, a local entrepreneur, auctioneer, and clerk of the Brantford Division Court.

According to F. D. Reville's *History of Brant County*, it was "a dispute over some account, and ended by (Racey) telling the Major in language more forceful than conservative, that he would show him that there were others who could run a Conservative paper as well as himself."

And so, on Oct. 12, 1852, The Conservative Expositor was born, a four-page broadsheet of almost solid type and one-column advertisements.

In those days, starting up a newspaper was relatively simple, requiring only a hand-press, some page forms and typecases – plus and editor and a printer. In 1854, The Expositor would be advertising for two Journeyman Printers, wages \$7 a week. (Not that they would be assured of \$7 every payday. A later editor recalled times when part of the Expositor pay would come in the form of vouchers from local merchants, who had used them to pay for some of their advertisements in the paper.)

In the 1850's, and later, many small weekly papers sprang into being, not so much as to make money as to advance a political cause.

Brantford now had two newspapers supporting the Conservative interest. This was one too many, and in 1855 The

Conservative Expositor was taken over by C. E. Stewart (who would later marry a Racey daughter) and "Conservative" disappeared from the masthead.

This began a long and vigorous feud between The Courier and The Brantford Expositor, now the voice and champion of the Reform movement.

Sometimes the feud got a little personal. At various times, The Expositor gleefully reported Major Lemmon's expulsion from the Orange Order, and his falling into the Grand River, with calls for "Lemmon-aid!", and proposed at least one fictional wife for him. (Major Lemmon would eventually marry a lady of his own choice.)

The provincial election of 1873 saw partisan journalism at its best, or worst.

This began a long a vigorous feud between The Courier and The Brantford Expositor, now the voice and champion of the Reform movement.

In Brant, a young lawyer, Arthur Sturgiss Hardy, was the Reform candidate, and J. J. Hawkins his Conservative opponent.

The Expositor had just become The Daily Expositor (price 3¢), and hardly a day went by without the news columns and editorial column praising Hardy and Reform, while thundering at Hawkins and the Tories – and The Courier.

Hardy won, but only by 198 votes, and Hawkins had a majority of 70 in the town of Brantford itself. The Expositor commented:

"Our Conservative contemporary in the agony of his grief tries to find consolation in the fact that the defeat of his party is not so bad as it might have been ... Beyond question the majority for Mr. Hawkins in Town would have been less than fifty if it had not been for the infamous and malicious libel published by our contemporary in his Saturday's

issue ... Mr. Hawkins will have the opportunity of making good the charges if he can, and if he fails to offer one tittle of evidence in support of it, as fail he must, he must prepare to be branded as a coward who would stab his opponent in the dark ..."

The "vicious libel" published in The Courier on the eve of the election, and repeated in hundreds of handbills distributed throughout the riding, was that the Reformers were intolerant of Roman Catholics.

This was the difficult beginning of a brilliant political career for Hardy, a son of Mount Pleasant. He never lost an election, and became Premier of Ontario in July 1896, resigning that office because of ill health in 1899. He would retire from politics in 1901, and die that same year.

The turn of the century brought significant change to The Expositor. In 1900, the newspaper was sold by its proprietor, William J. Watt Jr., a lawyer who was respected as an editor, and R. S. Shenstone, the business manager.

The new owner was T. H. Preston, who had been successively a journeyman printer, reporter, editor and proprietor of the Winnipeg Sun. He was a breath of fresh air in Brantford, a dynamic man who built the business, and the splendid Expositor building, now just 100 years old. He was here, there and everywhere – head of the Fair Board, president of the Board of Trade, a school trustee, on the hospital board, a pillar of his church, president of the Canadian Press Association, etc., etc. Plus, he served as a Liberal MPP for South Brant from 1899 to 1908.

Meanwhile, back at The Courier, Major Lemmon had been succeeded in 1890 by his wife's two nephews, Ralph M. and F. Douglas Reville. Ralph sold out to his brother in 1913, and the Courier Printing Co. Ltd. was formed with J. W. Brewster as president and W. F. Cockshutt, J. W. Watkins and F. D. Reville as directors.

In *News and the Southams*, a 1968 corporate biography, Harry Bruce notes that W. J. Southam had been approached in 1918 by these "wealthy Brantford gentlemen who three or four years ago purchased control for political purposes", but had made no headway against the established Brantford Expositor. Bill Southam at first sent the gents away, but then made a deal, exchanging a block of Canadian Crushed Stone stock for The Courier.

What he wanted was The Courier's Canadian Press franchise for a morning publication. If he could get it transferred to Hamilton, he could threaten the afternoon Hamilton Herald and Hamilton Times with competition from a morning Spectator, with all the CP news. His price for peace in the marketplace would be a deal to double the price of all the Hamilton newspapers, to two cents.

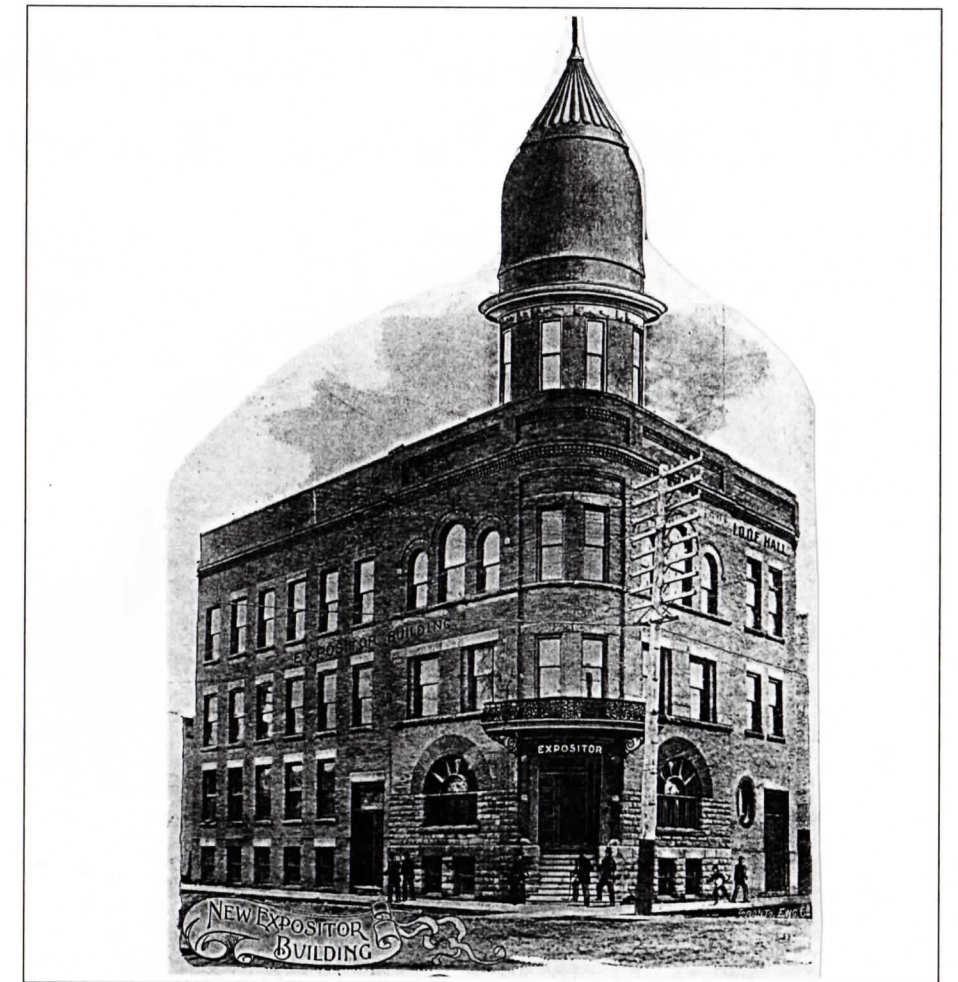
That didn't happen then. But Southam successfully used similar tactics in an even more devious scheme to engineer a city-wide price increase in Hamilton two years later.

Southam closed The Courier on January 1, 1919, "made a small profit by selling subscription lists and goodwill to The Expositor, and reported he had had a barrel of fun."

Thus ended a newspaper rivalry that had enriched and informed life in the Brantford region for over 65 years. It was the end of an era.

It was a long way from the time when someone would launch a newspaper to win an argument, to promote ideals and ideas.

Happily, Brant County's newspaper history, which began in the 1830's with The Sentinel's bold voice for reform, even rebellion, is rich with weeklies that were published with passion, commitment, humour – and elements of blackmail. We'll visit these times in the third and possibly last segment of this series.



The New Expositor Building, 1895

WHATSIT?

Thanks to the valiant efforts of our volunteer researchers, the "Whatsit" mystery posed in the last issue of the "Quarterly" has been solved. The mystery object is an "egg scissors".

Egg scissors were used to perforate the shell of a soft-boiled egg, so that the "lid" would come off cleanly.

Other guesses were "some sort of surgical instrument" (ouch!), and a comb for horse's tails.

Thanks go to Mr. William LeConte for supplying the mystery item.



Picturesque Ceremony: Mortgage on B.M.E. Church Publicly Burned

by Angela Files

Part X in a series on Black History in Brant County

The ceremony of "burning the mortgage" of a place of worship is conducted when all the debts against the building of the edifice have been paid. The following account of the burning of the mortgage on the present British Methodist Episcopal Church appeared in the June 12, 1902 edition of the Brantford Expositor, page 6. It is remarkable that this congregation was able to pay off the debt of building the church in only six years!

The ceremony of "burning the mortgage" was performed with befitting state and solemnity in the B.M.E. church last evening before a large and deeply interested audience.

The occasion marked an important event in the history of the church. It meant that the church was absolutely free of debt, and that the mortgage incubus which had so long hung over the congregation was finally lifted. The long hours of toil and effort by earnest souls had not been in vain. It meant the consummation of hopes long looked for, the fulfillment of plans diligently carried out. It was, as one of the speakers aptly phrased it, a second emancipation.

And the happy result, which last evening's ceremony celebrated, may largely be attributed to the unselfish and unceasing efforts of the pastor, Rev. Henderson Davis, and his wife. When Mr. Davis assumed the pastorate of the church just two years ago, he was faced with a small congregation and an indebtedness of over \$400.00. By his Christian character, his zeal for God and human-

ity, his large manliness, his broad views of citizenship his eloquence and sincerity, he drew together a large congregation and gradually assumed an enviable position in the public eye. Not only that, but in a short space of two years he has been instrumental in clearing off the large indebtedness on his church, and in bequeathing to his successor a united and prosperous congregation and an unencumbered church property.

Rev. Mr. Davis closed his pastorate in Brantford on Sunday evening last, when he preached a touching farewell sermon to a large congregation. He has been called to Portland, Indiana, whence he leaves on Thursday morning.

Not only among his own people, but by a great number of other citizens, Rev. Henderson Davis is known as a speaker of magnetic quality and rare eloquence. Few who were present at the memorial service to the late Queen Victoria in the Drill Hall will ever forget his invocatory prayer on that occasion. It thrilled all who heard it by its natural and simple piety and yet wonderful power. It was choice in diction, powerful in appeal, natural in delivery. On several occasions Mr. Davis has exchanged pulpits with other ministers in the city and on every occasion delighted those who heard him.

... in a short space of two years he has been instrumental in clearing off the large indebtedness on his church ...

At the gathering last evening, Mayor Wood presided, and with him on the platform were Mr. T. H. Preston, M.P.P., Alderman Leitch, Rev. Henderson Davis, and Revs. Messrs. Graham, Pritchard, Currie and Holden of Woodstock. All these gentlemen made pleasing addresses in the course of which they all paid warm tribute to Mr. Davis and his interest in the progress of the B.M.E. church.

The choir of the church sang a number of plantation songs very pleasingly, among them being "Rise and Shine", "Oh that I had the Wings of a Dove" and "Higher Ground".

The following address from the congregation to the pastor was read by Mayor Wood.

W. Henderson Davis;
Dear Brother:

We, the members of the B.M.E. church, have been called upon to bid you good-bye. It is not with pleasure that we do so, but with feelings of regret. We are well aware that your work at times has been trying, yet we feel that with Christian fortitude, courage, and love, you and your beloved wife have laboured in our midst. Difficulties have been surmounted. Debts have been paid. The gospel of the Lord Jesus has been faithfully preached. Faithful visiting among the sick has been done. And as you look back over the past we must say that the seed which has been sown will be watered by the spirit and bring forth fruit to the honour and glory of God.

As you leave our shore to join with the brethren in the adjoining republic in the sublime work of leading men to God, we want you to know that you and your beloved wife have our most earnest prayers, our deepest sympathy, our choicest benediction.

Trusting that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit will be your companion, your guide in all your undertakings.

Trustees: John Lucas
(signed) C. McComas
Thomas Snowden

In his reply Mr. Davis said he had endeavoured to do the work of a Christian minister. It was the duty of every minister of the gospel to engage in the work of building up and arousing, not only by precept but example, the people among whom he labored, and to point

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100 Years of Worship: 1896 - 1996

Balfour Street United Church

by Ruth Lefler

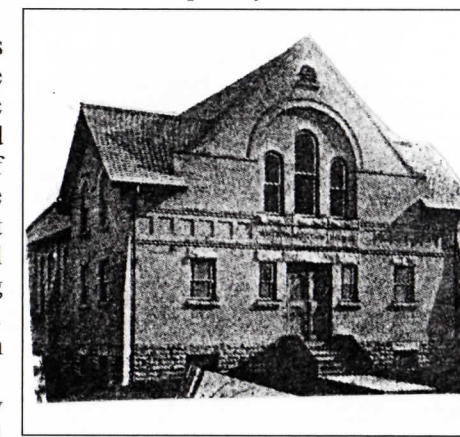
Dr. William Cochrane of Brantford's Zion Presbyterian Church saw the need for a church extension in West Brant. Mr. and Mrs. Christie (the grandparents of Don Robinson, an active member of Balfour Street United) offered their home for Sunday School classes.

By 1862, the Sunday School was growing so rapidly that arrangements were made to meet in King's Ward Public School on Oak Street. It was later called Ryerson School, and presently the site of the Branch 90 Legion. In checking the 1875-76 Brantford Directory, it states that at the school each Sunday, Sabbath School was held at 2:30 p.m., and preaching services were held at 3:30 and 6:30 p.m. Rev. James Miller, missionary, was in charge.

In 1876, the school board withdrew permission to use the school and a small building was built on Balfour Street for Sunday School and evening services. It was used until the present structure was built in 1896.

Throughout this time, the population of West Brant was growing rapidly as a result of industrialization in the city. The Grand River Navigation Company, the Grand Trunk Railway, and later, in 1886, the Brantford Street Railway helped open up the area. Brantford became a city in 1877, as Balfour Street Church and Sunday School were being formed.

Many of the men in West Brant would have been employed at nearby factories, especially along the canal: The Flouring Mill, Brantford new Mills and Brant Mills. They put out an average of about 350 barrels of flour per day.



Balfour Street Presbyterian Church

Franklin Ott's Sheepskin Factory was located on Oxford Street (now Colborne Street West) near the iron bridge. It was established in 1857.

The Broom Factory of Jackson Forde and Son, and Waterous Engine Works on Market Street South also employed many West Brant men.

The streets in West Brant, upon which these families built their homes, received their names from people who had

participated in the community. Balfour Street was named after Gabriel Balfour, who first held the position of clerk for Brantford Township, and then the Town of Brantford from 1857 to 1872.

Wade Avenue was named after Henry Wade, who came to Canada in 1835 and opened a drygoods store on Colborne Street. Gilkison Street was named after William Gilkison, grandson of the Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, Alexander Grant Gilkison. William Gilkison came to Brantford with his family in 1832. He bought land in West Brant and named it Oak Bank after his home in Glasgow, Scotland. He also founded the town of Elora.

October 25, 1896 was a very special day in the life of Balfour Street Church; the cornerstone of the present structure was laid on that day. It is quite possible that the white bricks used to construct the church were made at Blacker's Brickyard, located alongside the Grand River at the bottom of Farringdon Hill. Clay was available from riverbank at this point. Bricks were formed, stamped with a "B", and fired. The resulting white bricks were used in many of the older structures in West Brant.

Paralleling the history of Balfour Street Church was another mission church in West Brant - the Oxford Street Methodist Church, located on what is now Colborne Street West in the current Sobey's east parking lot. It was formed on February 16, 1874 as a mission church by Henry Miles of Brant Avenue Methodist Church. The church was built and dedicated to God on October 17, 1875.

Some of the entries from this church's recording secretary's book still exist:

1901: the Board decided that hereafter, when wood is sawed, the person engaged to do so would throw it into the woodshed;
1909: the pastor reported 133 members in good standing and 17 on probation;
1914: the parsonage at 141 West Colborne Street was built;

1925: on October 11, the Golden Jubilee of

continued on p. 6

Mortgage, continued

them to a higher plane of morality and religion.

As a citizen he has been interested in every honorable object which he was for the advancement of the city. He regretted to leave Brantford. Everyone had treated him with consideration. Mr. Davis paid a warm tribute to the members of the ministerial alliance.

The ceremony of burning the mortgage then took place, and was very brief. Rev. W. T. Graham read Nehemiah V, and the pastor spoke briefly of the efforts that had resulted in raising the mortgage, and

the biblical authority for thus publicly destroying it.

Mr. Preston was the last speaker. He said that he had heard a great deal about burning ballots, but had never seen a mortgage burned before. It was a solemn event. It might be well called their second Emancipation Day. Debt was not always an evil, it developed sacrifice and effort, and he hoped that the church, now being free from debt, would progress as never before. He paid a warm tribute to Rev. Mr. Davis.

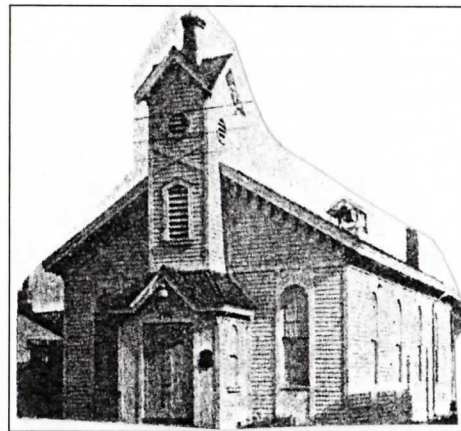
The meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

Oxford Street Church was celebrated.

This was to be the last celebration held in the church because, on November 1, 1925, the two congregations of Oxford Street Methodist and Balfour Street Presbyterian Churches joined and worshipped together for the first time.

On the following Wednesday night, the two congregations met under the direction of the Brantford Presbytery and were officially organized as Balfour Street United Church. Church union had taken place.

On July 18, 1929, another milestone was reached in the life of Balfour Street



Oxford Street Methodist Church

Church – the decision was made to construct a new Sunday School Building. Gifts and loans were in place. If the members of the congregation had been able to see the Depression of the 1930s that lay ahead, I'm not sure that the project would have been undertaken at that time. In 1943, the debt was cleared and the mortgage was burned.

The church bell that was donated by the Hartley Foundry (now McLean Foundry) to the Oxford Methodist Church was brought to Balfour Street Church and placed in the tower when the Sunday School was built.

During the 1930's, the Sunday School grew in attendance until it reached over 400 pupils. June Nicholson, a long-time member of Balfour Street Church, recalls that as a child, in 1933 or 1934, on one Sunday attendance reached 525 teachers and children.

The Brantford Boys' Orchestra was organized in 1929 by Mr. Goodwin and the Rev. A. R. McRae. It continued until 1934. The service of worship and the Boys'

Orchestra were broadcast over the private radio station 10BQ. This radio station was owned and operated by Mr. Tom Brown from 12 Terrace Hill Street.

Sunday School picnics and Christmas concerts played a major role in the life of the church.

June Nicholson mentions that the parents and children really looked forward to the Sunday School picnic. Some of the places where they were held were the Bell Homestead, Paris Lions' Park, Port Dover, and Mohawk Park. One picnic in Port Dover required 13 Lake Erie & Northern Railway cars to carry all of the celebrants.

Our own Mohawk Park holds great memories as well. The Balfour Street Church people went to the park via the Brantford Street Railway. The individual cars had running boards along the sides and boys would hop on and off as the cars moved along.

Christmas concerts got so large that they were divided up into two nights, with the primary and intermediate classes on the first night and the senior classes on the second night.

Anniversary suppers were important events in the life of the church. There were usually three sittings held in the gymnasium. Can you imagine the amount

of work that went into these suppers? The members of Balfour Street Church still carry on this tradition today.

Balfour Street United Church has been a positive presence in West Brant for over 100 years. A joyous 100th anniversary celebration and a wish for continued strength to share and build upon this rich legacy is extended to the members of the congregation.

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Notes from Oxford Street Methodist Church Recording Secretary's Book, Feb. 12, 1977 - May 12, 1914.

June Nicholson, historian for Balfour Street United Church. Interview.



A Concert Play in Oxford Street Methodist Church, 1907

An Interesting Chat with John Lowes about Brantford's Early History, Part 1

by Angela Files

It is interesting to read the stories of our community's by-gone days as told by old-timers to local reporters. One of these chats, with John Lowes¹, was published in the August 1, 1890 edition of the Brantford Weekly Expositor, page 8.

"Mr. Lowes, born in 1810, was a native of Northern England. He came to Canada at twenty-two years of age, located in Brantford which was then a little village of not more than twelve houses. There were three stores: I. Cockshutt, John A. Wilkes, Senior, and William Muirhead, first Mayor of Brantford.

"The village stretched to the bluff, now the south side of Colborne Street, from Cockshutt's nearly to the Grand River and the rest of the present site of the town.

Bog Morass² and Scrub³

"There was an oak bush, except an orchard where a pioneer named Nathan Gage had set aside on the north side of Colborne Street now occupied by the many principal mercantile homes in the city. Gage was an American and in the year of the rebellion (1837), some ultra-loyal citizen of Brantford maliciously girdled⁴ every tree in his orchard.

"About 1835, breweries, distilleries and mills sprang up.

"William Spencer, father of the late Hugh Spencer, was a pioneer brewer. For some years he tramped through the country with a pedlar's pack⁵ on his back selling small articles to the natives and about 1835, having accumulated sufficient dross of this world, he established a brewery upon the present location of the YMCA Building. His sons carried on the brewery near Watt's Mill and still later on in West Brant.

First Distillery

"The first distillery was established in a small premises in the rear of Mr.



Looking West Along Colborne Street, 1870's

Foster's present store. Whiskey was as cheap as water in those days, only twenty cents a gallon and (upon the word of Mr. Lowes) there were no headaches in it.

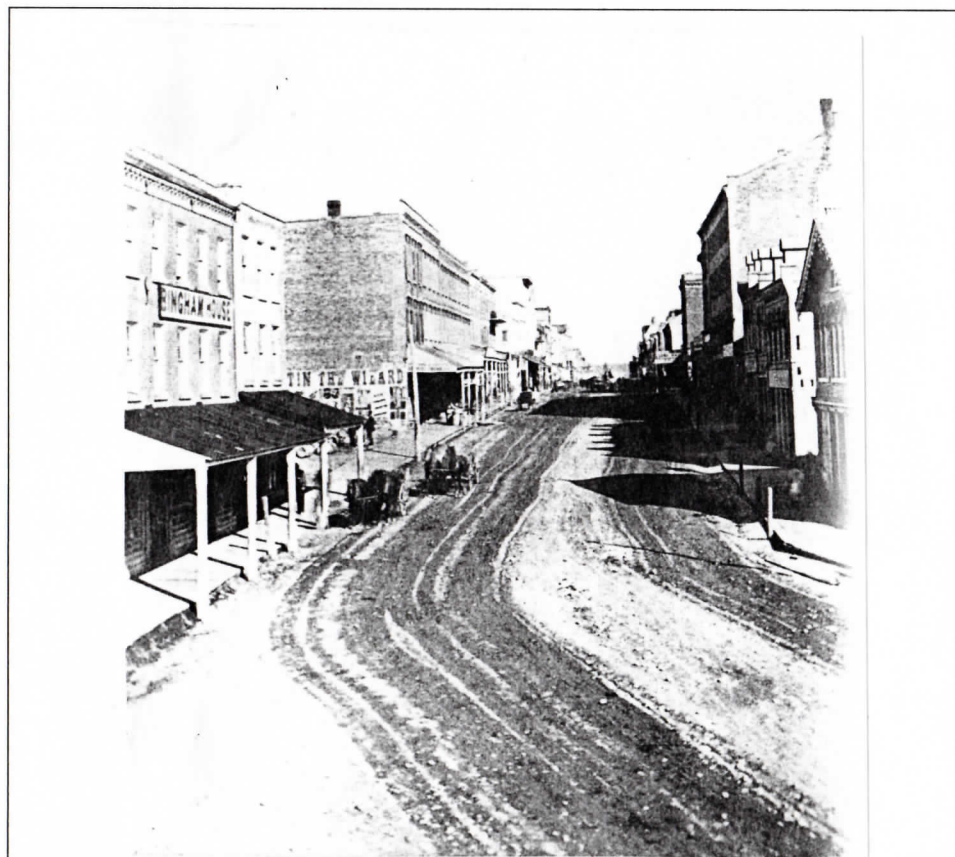
The First Manufacturing

"The first manufacturing to creep into existence was a carding and fulling mill⁶ which, in connection with a grist mill, was erected near the site of Hagle's Place. Along about this time, William Roy planted a fruit orchard just west of where the large binder factory of Messrs. A. Harris & Co. is situated. A man named Moore started the first market garden. His garden was at the foot of the hill where the Lorne Bridge now spans the flowing Grand River and was the most valuable land adjacent to the village. Mr. Moore refused \$100 an acre for it. At that time, the river

was dammed above the bridge with the stream divided further south. But one day the dam burst and plowed deep and disastrous furrows through the garden plot; henceforth, the river was allowed to have its own course. Years afterward, the widow Moore recovered damages from the town for the destruction of the property.

The Grocery Store of Mr. Lowes

"Mr. Lowes opened a grocery store on the corner of Colborne and Alfred Street, though East Ward was not laid out at the time. His was the first building erected by a white man in the ward. All about him was a wilderness of scrub oak inhabited by Mohawk Indians, as wild as any Indians were; but they were not troublesome. They could get unlimited whiskey in those early times and their wild



Looking East Along Colborne Street, 1870's

ponies constituted a bank on which they could draw funds at any time. When they ran out of whiskey and money, they would sell a pony. Bears and deer were also plentiful.

Vinegar Hill⁷

"The name was applied by an Irishman who came from that place of the same name. His native place was noted for its "ructions" among the women. On one occasion, when witnessing a fight between two worthless names, Mrs. Jinks and Mrs. Henstock, he exclaimed "Begorra, this is Vinegar Hill" and the name adhered until a few years ago.

The Old School House

"In the early days, an old log building stood where the city hall stands now, in which school and all township meetings were held. And the township meetings were often times scenes of the

The Building of the Canal

"When the canal was being built, John Hunter, who with his brother James had the contract for its construction, was determined to be Reeve. The vote was an open one and when the hour for closing nannies of the canal, each carrying a club beneath his coat, and they prevented anyone voting that was likely to cast a vote for Hunter's opponent. There was very little money afloat in the early days, very little. John A. Wilkes, Sr., conceived the idea of opening a bank and issuing money and his venture proved a paying one.

Leather Money

"John A. Wilkes issued leather money payable by him and while it supplied a great need, it helped make the banker richer. Mr. Lowes is an ardent

admirer of the Wilkes family. "They were a grand family, every one of them," said he "and I can fully express my admiration for them."

"Away back in the 1830's the little village of Ancaster promised to be a leading town in Ontario. Though not so large as Toronto, it was a much more prominent business centre and it was regarded as a most likely town. Hamilton was nothing and Brantford was small. But when the Loder's no longer held it up, the village lapsed into its present condition.

The Enormous Gift

"When Capt. Joseph Brant returned from his visit late in the eighteenth century with a promise of reward for his attachment to the British crown during the American Rebellion, few expected that he would be granted an enormous gift of land which the Haldimand Deed, dated October 1784, gave him. A copy of this deed is now in the possession of the writer. An extract from it will show that little value was placed upon this Canada of ours by his Majesty King George III.

"The document is given under the hand and seal of Sir Frederick Haldimand.

"With the disposal of this land, Brant was King and he distributed leases for 999 years to many of his friends with a lavish hand. The Smiths, the Kirby tracts, the Wilkes', the Lafferty tracts and others were all obtained from generous Capt. Joseph Brant, whose memory is preserved in bronze in Victoria Park, Brantford. The largest of these tracts was the Smith Tract. It included 1,200 acres.

"These and other historical facts were gathered from Mr. Lowes and there is much in the sketch to recall even later periods of our history. But this will be dealt with by somewhat younger men who have closely identified with it."

For our sesquicentennial celebrations in the year 1997, one of the most appropriate ways to celebrate these events is to revive some of the stories of the old-timers in order to appreciate the development of the village of Brantford to town (1847) and finally to city status in 1877.

End Notes

1. John Lowes. The obituary of John Lowes is located in the March 14, 1901 issue of the Brantford Weekly Expositor, page 2, column 3.

"Died in Dayton, Ohio – Mr. John Lowes passed away while visiting his children there.

"He was born at Moat Hill, Cumberland, England in 1810. At the age of nineteen he came to Canada and, after a short residence in Whitby, came to Brant County. He farmed in Onondaga Township until about thirty years ago, retired and came to Brantford. He leaves 6 children: two, Dr. Joseph Lowes and C. H. Lowes of Dayton, Ohio. ..." The rest of the obituary is illegible.

John Lowes is buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Brantford.

2. Bog Morass – a tract of low, soft wetland with soil composed mainly of decayed vegetable matter.

3. Scrub – an area of low trees or shrubs, collectively.


4. To girdle a tree is to cut away the bark in a ring about the trunk or a branch, killing the plant above that point.

5. During the early times when stores and merchant houses were scarce, hawkers or pedlars drove a thriving business throughout the country – some of them making large fortunes by it. They either travelled by horse or on foot, and they had to purchase licenses in order to follow their trade.

6. A carding mill is used to disentangle and comb fibres of wool, flax, etc. in preparation for spinning. A fulling mill cleans and thickens the cloth.

7. Vinegar Hill (elevation 395') is located in the central county of Wexford in Ireland, just west of the community of Wexford. It was the headquarters of the United Irishmen who, in 1798, from the hill attacked Enniscorty and were later defeated there by General Lake.

Could one of our readers inform us as to the exact location of Brantford's Vinegar Hill?



BRANT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
presents

The First Annual
**Antique Show
& Sale**

at The Sanderson Centre
For The Performing Arts
22 DALHOUSIE ST. BRANTFORD

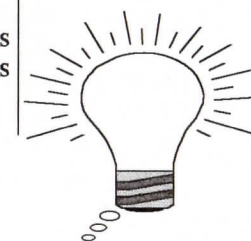
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1996
7:00 to 9:30 p.m.
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1996
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1996
11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Admission - \$2.50

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TO HELP**



**Got A
Bright
Idea For
History?**

**Why Not Share It In
The "Quarterly"?**

Reflection continued from page 1

Come and participate in our local history.

I would like to thank those of you who have shown ongoing support for the Brant Historical Endowment Fund by your generous donations. Contributions to the fund work toward a solid financial future for the Historical Society and the Museum.

Ruth Lefler

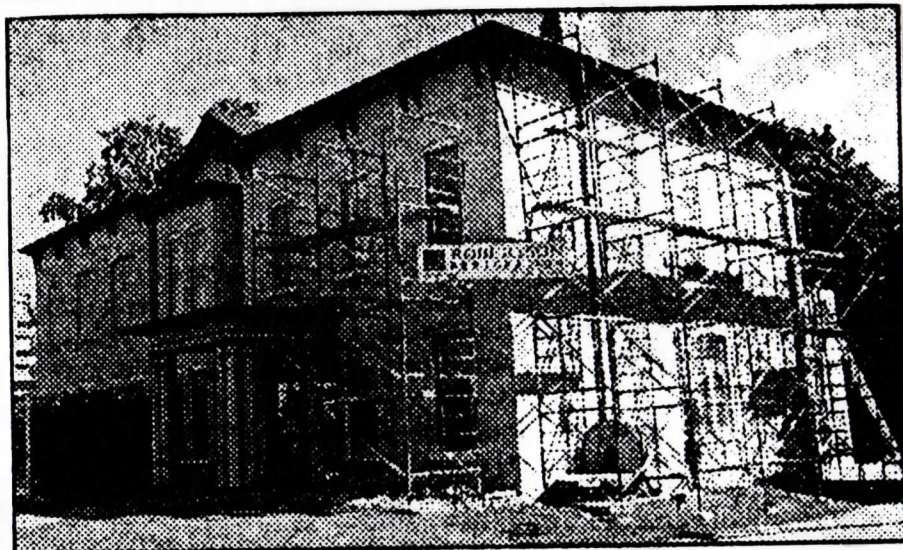
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Brant Historical Society gratefully acknowledges support from:

County of Brant

City of Brantford and Brantford Regional Arts Council

Ontario Ministry of Culture, Tourism & Recreation



Workers from Robertson Restoration are busy removing several layers of paint from the exterior brick on the older parts of the Museum building at 57 Charlotte St. The work is part of a much-needed renovation plan for the circa 1870 structure. *Expositor photo*

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The Brant Historical Society
57 Charlotte St.
Brantford, Ont.
N3T 2W6
519-752-2483

Endowment Fund Gifts

In memory of Murray Ross
B.H.S. Board of Directors

In memory of Marie Shantz
B.H.S. Board of Directors

In memory of Grant Hoshal
Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Kilmer

In memory of Inie Davidson
Ruth Lefler

Special Gifts

William Fuller
Mary Stedman

1996 Summer Museum Club Report

by Anne Byard, Museum Education Co-ordinator

Each year, the Brant County inventors was the focus of the second The Art of Architecture Museum & Archives holds 4 one-week Museum Club of the summer. Students programmes through the summer for learned that Bell invented more than the students 5 to 12 years of age. Each telephone! The children made their own programme has a theme related to some robots, and worked on their latest aspect of culture, be it arts, science, history inventions. A special treat was the opportunity to see the Museum's electron or natural history. While learning, the microscope, and to use some regular students participate in a variety of craft, microscopes to look at tiny things. The highlight of each club is a special field trip Friday trip was to the Ontario Science Centre – surely a fun-filled and educational day for all.

Life of an 1812 Redcoat

The summer started out with a history programme in which the students learned about the events leading up to the War of 1812-14, and life in Upper Canada in the early 1800's. Participants created a model of an 1812 soldier, built their own forts, and made Shako hats, handmade vests and Laura Secord fudge. The week ended with a visit to Fort George at Niagara-on-the-Lake, where they could see in person what they had been learning about.



Andrew Ard examines the electron microscope in the "Let's Invent" Museum Club. *Expositor photo*

Let's Invent!

An emphasis on Alexander Graham Bell, James Hillier and other Canadian

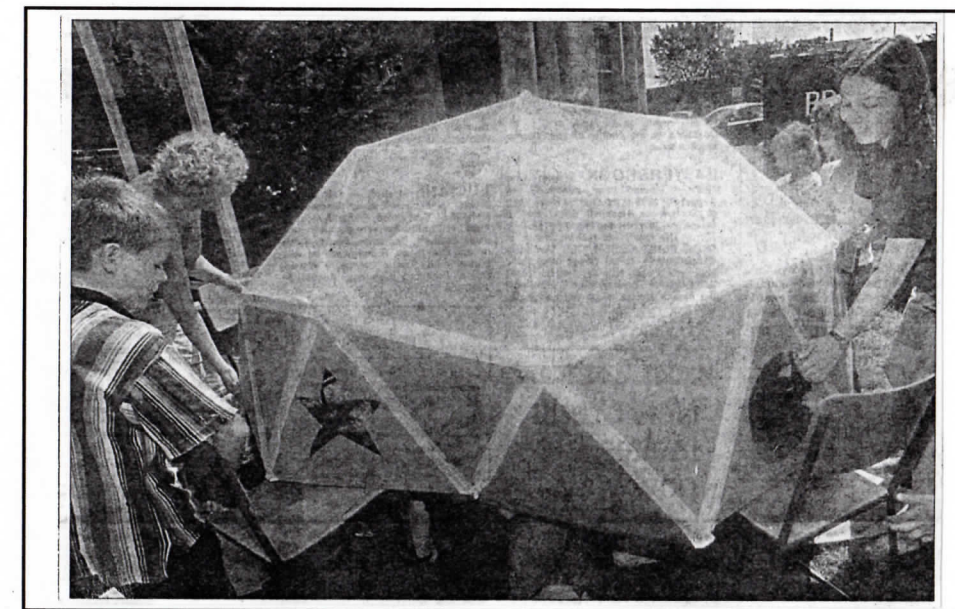
Living in our Environment and Liking It

August was certainly a busy time. Anyone who has been walking or driving near the Museum has surely seen the yellow fishes that participants painted at the storm sewers to remind people not to pour pollutants down them. Students also built recycling boxes for newspapers and visited a recycling plant. On Friday, they spent a day at Brant Park, where they swam, hiked, and played games. They also found two baby raccoons in trouble, and arranged for park staff to rescue them. What a day!

The components of buildings and how they fit together was the focus for the final week of the Museum Club. Students built many different structures during the week: a full-size geodesic dome "igloo", and models of the old City Hall, Brantford cottages and the Mohawk Chapel. Ruth Lefler lead a tour of downtown architecture, and Ron Kemp of Image Window Designs gave a demonstration on stained glass windows. The bus trip to Casa Loma in Toronto was considered a success.

The children not only built things, but made soups, doughnuts, crepes, quiche, brownies, muffins, cakes, chowders, salads and puddings. For some reason the cooking is always the students' favourite activity!

Enrolment for the summer broke all previous records, and Museum Summer Staff members Tara Derksen and Joan Ward, and our enthusiastic volunteers deserve considerable thanks for their efforts.



"The Art of Architecture" Museum Club's geodesic igloo. *Expositor photo*

NEW ACQUISITIONS

Book: "The 100th Anniversary of Wesley Church": *Margaret Chandler*
Service Writing Kit, Photos, White Farm Equipment Documents: *Wayne Hunter*
5 "Christian Herald" Magazines, 2 "Conservatory Quarterly Review" Magazines: *Allan Kneale*
Book: "Around the Burford Plain": *Mel Robertson*
Greeting Card Catalogue: *Sid Hodge*
W. Ross Macdonald's Speaker of the House Uniform: *Molly Haldenby*
Books: "History of Oakland Township, Vol. V": *Stuart Rammage*
Staff of National Canned Foods Photos: *Margaret Mitchell Storm*
2 Cans of Johnson's Auto Wax: *Robert Strong*
Child's Bobsled: *Ralph Cook*
Typewriter, T. B. Costain Documents: *Mary E. Caudwell*
Salvation Army and Music Photos, YMCA Programme, Honey Pails, Tea Tin, Tambourine: *Ruby Huntington*
"Let's Speak Up!" Record, Booklet: "Brantford: Sketches of Our Town": *Wendy Lickers*
Book: "History of Brant County": *Helen Feeley*
Flight Helmet, Newspaper Clipping: *Ivy Husing*
Cockshutt Parts Box, 4 Union Jack Flags: *Phyllis Foster*
Book: "Transformation in Canada's Deep South": *George Beaver*
Photos of Welders at Cockshutt's: *Fred Williams*
1914 Report to Parks Commission, Bell Homestead Souvenir Booklet: *Estate of Herman Smith*
Ruddy Mfg. Co. Staff Photo, circa 1910: *Doug Wonch*
5 Ladies' Hats: *Versa Care*
Blanket: *Eleanor Mezenberg*
Blanket: *Mrs. Steinmetz*
Blanket, Bottle Opener: *Mr. & Mrs. Frank Bricker*
Verity Plough Wrench: *Keith Swift*
Cockshutt Clothing and Memorabilia: *Lawrence J. Shortt*
2 Hat Pins, Button Hook: *Mrs. Peggy Wood*
Cockshutt Ashtray: *Peter Killey*
Brantford Postcard: *Eileen Farrell*
Massey-Harris Memorabilia: *T. Johnson*
Book: "Harvest Triumphant": *Gwen Wills*
2 Fermentation Vents: *Robert Tetrault*
2 Yardsticks, Carpet Stretcher, 2 Avro Anson Aileron Ribs: *William Fuller*
Massey-Harris Mower Knife Grinder: *Sherman Pettit*
Cockshutt Angel Figure: *Susan Butcher*
Key from Waterous Engine Works: *Marjorie Baskin*
Cockshutt Pay Stub: *D. Slaght*
Brantford Postcard: *Peter Tutt*

BRANT COUNTY MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

57 Charlotte Street, Brantford, Ontario N3T 2W6 (519) 752-2483

Admission:

Adults - \$2.00 Seniors/Students - \$1.50
Children - \$1.25 Under 6 - Free BHS members - Free

Hours: Wednesday to Friday 10 to 4, Saturday 1 to 4 Open Holiday Mondays.

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Membership Benefits

A Brant Historical Society membership offers

- ♦ free admission to the Brant County Museum & Archives
- ♦ exemption from research fees in the Archives
- ♦ monthly bulletins
- ♦ subscription the "B.H.S. Quarterly", our historical newsletter
- ♦ discounts on Heritage Bus Tours, Children's Museum Club, and other programs
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- ♦ Memberships are Tax Deductible!

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Publications List & Gift Shop Items

BRANT HISTORICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

A History of Brant County & its People: Jean Waldie	
Vol. 1/Vol. 2/Set	14.95/15/95/22.50
The Grand River Navigation Co.: Bruce Hill	21.95
St. George Continuation School: B. Wesley Switzer	7.00
Rural Schools of South Dumfries Township: J. C. Webster	8.00
How Brantford Cooked: Gift Shop Committee	4.50
Brantford Pottery: Robert L. Deboer	9.95
Brantford Arts & Entertainment: Robert L. Deboer	9.95
From Automobiles to Washing Machines: Robert L. Deboer	9.95
A History of Mohawk Park: Ruth Lefler	1.00
Tuscarora Township: George Beaver	5.95
Oakland Township: Angela Files (collator)	8.00
Lewis Burwell's Diary of the Indian Surrender: Angela Files (collator)	8.00
Brant County Place Names & List of Professionals and Trades, from Lovell's Directory & Gazetteer, 1855: Angela Files (collator)	5.95
Grand River Tract Assessment Rolls, 1816, 1818-1822: Angela Files (collator)	5.95
Grand River Tract Census, 1824, 1827, 1829, 1832: Angela Files (collator)	5.95
Directory of the Townships of Brant County, 1880: Angela Files (collator)	10.00
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HASTI-NOTES FROM STEDMAN POSTCARDS

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Happenings

September

B.H.S. Meeting

Wed., Sept. 18, 8:00 p.m.

at the Brant County Museum & Archives, 57 Charlotte St.

Earl Scarrow will provide an illustrated corporate history of The Brantford Cordage Company.

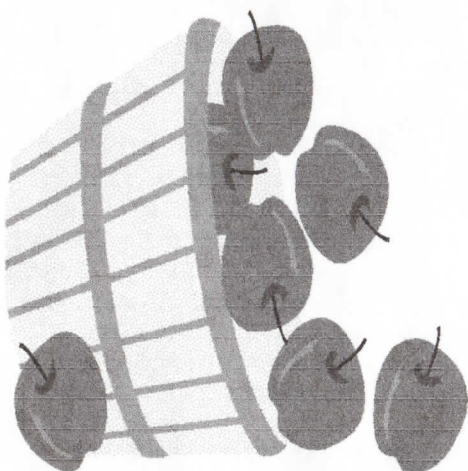
October

"The Barbed Wire Solution" Travelling Exhibition

Oct. 1 - Dec. 15, 1996

at the Museum in the Square, Second Level, Eaton Market Square

An exhibition developed in recognition of the 80th anniversary of the first internment operations in Canada, when over 8,000 men, women and children, mostly Ukrainians, were forced into 24 internment camps across Canada. The camps were not closed until 1920. From the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Centre.



Children's Museum Club

Fri., Oct. 11, 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-4:00

at the Brant County Museum & Archives, 57 Charlotte St.

Harvest theme, with crafts, activities and baking.

- Corn Husk Dolls & Wreaths
- Apple Pie
- Corn Chowder
- Harvest Decorations

\$10 for a half-day, \$20 for all day

B.H.S. Meeting

Wed., Oct. 16, 8:00 p.m.

at the Brant County Museum & Archives, 57 Charlotte St.

Deputy Police Chief Peeling will outline the history and changes in policing in Brant County.



Children's Museum Club

Sat., Oct. 26, 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-4:00

at the Brant County Museum & Archives, 57 Charlotte St.

Hallowe'en party!

- Wear your costumes.
- Lots of scary fun.
- Ghoulish treats.

\$10 for a half-day, \$20 for all day

November

Children's Museum Club

Fri., Nov. 1, 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-4:00

at the Brant County Museum & Archives, 57 Charlotte St.

Winter fun and friendship.

- Friendship Balls
- Make Randy Raccoon
- Toy & Book Trading Post
- Cookies and Hot Chocolate

\$10 for a half-day, \$20 for all day

First Annual

Antique Show & Sale

Fri., Nov. 15, 7:00 - 9:30 pm

Sat., Nov. 16, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Sun., Nov. 17, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

at The Sanderson Centre, 88 Dalhousie St.

Come and enjoy the show and sale, a Museum fund-raiser! To help out, call the Museum at 752-2483. Volunteers are the key to the show's success.

B.H.S. Meeting

Wed., Nov. 20, 8:00 p.m.

at the Brant County Museum & Archives, 57 Charlotte St.

Catherine Vernon, textile conservator, will discuss the preservation and maintenance of cloth articles.