



BHS Quarterly



Spring 1996

Brant Historical Society 1908-1996

Volume III No. 1

©Brant Historical Society 1996 ISSN 1201-4028

BRANT HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
Past President
Vice-Presidents

Ruth Lefler
Ed Pancoe
Bob Deboer
Ralph Cook
Gloria Neamtu
Dan Ciona
Jim Selmes
William Croome
John Bonfield
George Beaver
Jo Brennan
Angela Files
Glen Gillis
Hank Hedges
John Johnson
Anthony Olszowy
Ken Strachan
Anne Westaway
Brian Wood

Secretary
Treasurer
Assistant Treasurer
Brant County Warden
Directors

BRANT COUNTY MUSEUM BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Brant County Councillor Steve Comisky
(Chairman)
Brant County Councillor Bob Taylor
Brant County Councillor Art Mackenzie
Brant County Warden William Croome
Members Margaret Chandler
Ruth Stedman
Edwin Eason

DIRECTOR/CURATOR Susan Twist

BRANT COUNTY MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

57 Charlotte St., Brantford, Ont. N3T 2W6

THE MUSEUM IN THE SQUARE

Second Floor, Eaton Market Square
1 Market St., Brantford, Ont. N3T 6C1

President's Reflection

Volunteers - one of the Brant Historical Society's greatest resources! Did you know that the Society has benefitted from over 3500 volunteer hours since 1995? Each of the many jobs is tackled with enthusiasm, helping in all ways ... with children's programs, working in the Reading Room, helping at the Museum in the Square and at Charlotte Street, serving on the Board of Directors, cataloguing, baking pies ...

No task is too small to be appreciated or too large to be undertaken. A big "Thank You" to all of our volunteers.

New volunteers continue to be welcomed aboard. If you are interested in becoming a part of this vibrant group, please call our Director/Curator, Susan Twist at 752-2483 or 752-8578. She will be delighted to hear from you.

Attendance continues to increase at our monthly meetings (third Wednesdays at 8 p.m.) at 57 Charlotte Street. Please check your programme schedule for upcoming events and plan to join

us.

The Brant Historical Endowment Fund continues to grow. This is an important part of our future. Thank you for your outstanding support in 1995 and your continuing support in 1996. I extend a personal thank you to our renewing corporate members. It is with your generous support that we are able to preserve and share Brant County's historical riches with your companies and our community.

With springtime's regeneration, we to look forward to continued growth in the Brant Historical Society and its community.

Ruth Lefler

Special thanks are due to the volunteers who baked pies, cooked stew, operated the bar, arranged decorations, cleaned up, and did a thousand other jobs at our third annual Irish Heritage Night on March 16th. A grand time was had by all, and we couldn't have done it without your help. Thank you!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Chiefswood To Re-Open by Angela Files

Four Short Articles on Black History contributed by Angela Files

B.H.S. Antique Show & Sale by Bob Deboer

In Memoriam: Dr. Robert Baxter and Mr. Percy William Brant

The Cockshutt Plow Company by Cliff. Jones

p. 2

p. 4

p. 6

p. 6

p. 7

Chiefswood, Home of the G.H.M. Johnson Family, to Re-Open by Angela Files

Chiefswood Mansion, the home erected in 1853 by Chief George Henry Martin Johnson (1819 - 1884) as a wedding gift for his English bride Emily S. Howells is scheduled to re-open to the public in the Fall of 1996. As the only pre-Confederation Indian "mansion" yet surviving, the efforts put into its preservation and restoration are certainly worthwhile.

The house was built in the early Georgian Classic style, representative of 1850's architecture in Upper Canada. The structure originally sat on large rocks, which have been replaced by a solid cement base in the recent restoration.

The exterior of Chiefswood is of stucco or rough cast frame construction, with long shuttered windows. The walls of the house were built using plank-on-plank construction. The planks were staggered to give a key for the plaster finish on the inside and the outside. Originally, no nails were used in the building of the house, just wooden pegs driven into holes bored by augers.

Inside the house were wide heavily-panelled doors which led to a large hall from both the front and back doors. The front door faced the road taken by visitors coming overland, and the back

door faced the Grand River, a common route of transportation for Indians and Europeans alike.

The lower rooms had beautiful French doors that led to spacious lawns and a garden. A graceful walnut staircase led to the second floor.

The dining room and living room were connected by four massive folding doors. The parlour had a Greek-styled mantel. There was also a library filled with literary classics.

Illustrious visitors of the day to the European-styled Chiefswood were:

In the following paragraphs, I have attempted to trace the ascending paternal line of the poetess E. Pauline Johnson. Records of the Johnson family Bible, newspaper obituaries and tombstone inscriptions have made it possible to draw this direct line.

Chief Jacob Johnson, Tekahionwake¹
(July 16, 1758 - Dec. 1, 1843)

During the Anglican baptismal service of Jacob and his older sister Mary (Kahhehelaleh) at Fort Niagara, the children were given the surname of their godfather, Sir William Johnson, formerly of Smithtown, County Meath, Ireland. This was considered a great honour, because Johnson had been appointed by the British government as Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the League of Six Nations, and had gained their respect while in

office. Jacob was the progenitor of the Johnson family of Mohawks in Canada.

The inscription on his tombstone in the Mohawk Chapel churchyard reads:

"In memory of Jacob Johnson who was born in Sandusky, Ohio, U.S.A., July 16, 1758 and died at Grand River, Canada West, December 1, 1843 Aged

(Continued on page 3)



Chiefswood

Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone; Sir William Butler, soldier, author and traveller; H.R.H. Prince Arthur of Connaught; Lord and Lady Dufferin; the Marquis of Lorne and his wife, Princess Louise; Horatio Hale, native historian; the Prince of Wales; and Lord Sir Garnet Wolsley, military leader of the Red River expedition.

(Continued from page 2)

85 years Chief of the Mohawks".

Members of the direct descending family line of Pauline Johnson are buried in the same churchyard.

Chief John Smoke Johnson, Sakawanwaton²
(Dec. 14, 1792 - Aug. 26, 1886)

John Smoke Johnson was the first in the family to be known by his English name, although his father had been the first to bear it. The eldest son of Chief Jacob Johnson and his first Mohawk wife, he was born at the Johnson Settlement, north-west of the present Cainsville. He was a member of the Bear clan of the Lower Mohawks, and of full Mohawk blood.



Chief John Smoke Johnson

During the War of 1812, Johnson fought alongside John Brant, the youngest son of Joseph Brant, at the Battles of Queenston Heights, Stoney Creek, and Lundy's Lane. On December 30, 1813, John Smoke Johnson and two other native warriors set Buffalo on fire in retaliation for the burning of the Canadian town of Niagara. He was awarded a medal by the British government for his bravery during the war.

In 1815, John Smoke Johnson married Helen Martin (1798 - 1866), the eldest daughter of Chief George Martin (Onh-Yea-Leh) (1767-1853) and his wife Catherine Rolleston Martin (Wan-O-Wen-Re-Tah) (d. 1837), who had been taken captive near

Philadelphia by Mohawks during the American Revolution. She had been adopted by Chief Teyonhahwea (Double Life) and led a completely native life, never learning to speak the English language.

The British encouraged the Six Nations people to make Johnson a chief and speaker of their Council. It was then that he was given his Mohawk name. He had an extensive knowledge of the history and traditions of his people, knew how to read the wampum belts, and understood the Book of Rites.

Chief George Henry Martin Johnson, Teyonnhehkewea, Onwanonsyshon, Head Chief of the Mohawks
(Oct. 7, 1819 - Feb. 19, 1884)

Chief George Henry Martin Johnson was the second of the five children of John Smoke Johnson and Helen Martin. He was born in the area of Bow Park Farm. His father sent him to school in Brantford, then a small frontier village. His schooling was terminated when the Rebellion of 1837 erupted. He rode to Kingston to serve as a despatch rider under Sir Alan MacNab of Hamilton.

Later, he was placed in the household of Rev. Adam Elliott, an Anglican missionary, to help translate the Scripture into the dialects of the Mohawks. Here he met and fell in love with Emily Susanna Howells (1824 - 1894), an English girl who was Rev. Elliott's sister-in-law. Although both



Chief George Henry Martin Johnson

their families opposed it, they were married in St. Mark's Anglican Church in Barriefield on August 27, 1853.

Throughout his life, G.H.M. Johnson fought against the sale of liquor to native people and the theft of timber from the reserve. Twice, he was badly beaten for opposing the sale of wood for cheap liquor, contributing to his early death at 64 years of age.

The four children of Chief G.H.M. Johnson and Emily Howells were:

Henry Beverly Johnson (1854 - 1894)
Unmarried; in insurance business; died in Columbia, PA, and buried in the Mohawk burial ground, Brantford.

Helen Charlotte Eliza Johnson (Evelyn)
(1856 - 1937)

She did secretarial work and kept the family treasures and her sister's poetry for future generations. She willed Chiefswood as a home for elderly women.

Allen Wawanosh Johnson (1858 - 1923)

A teacher, he married Floretta K. Maracle, another teacher from the Bay of Quinte. No children.

Emily Pauline Johnson (1861 - 1913)
"Tekahionwake". A poetess, she was educated at home and at the Brantford Model School until she was about 16 years old. At an early age, she contributed poetry and prose to periodicals. Her first volumes were *White Wampum* (1895) and *Canadian Born* (1903). Her most famous publication was *Flint and Feather* (1912), and she also wrote a novel *The Shagganappi* (1913). She travelled for over sixteen years in Canada, the United States and Great Britain, giving recitals of her poetry in native costume and using her Mohawk name. She died in Vancouver on March 7, 1913, and is buried there in Stanley Park.

(Continued on page 6)

Four Short Articles on Black History

by Angela Files

Part VIII in a series on Black History in Brant County

These four articles provide brief glimpses into the lives of the Black citizens of Brantford and area.

"The British Methodist Episcopal Conference Held in Brantford, Ontario, June 1899"

Every year, the clergy and laymen of the British Methodist Episcopal Church gathered together for several days to discuss the administration, doctrine, and problems of the denomination. These series of meeting for discussion and consultation are known as "conferences". During the last week of June, 1899, the conference of the church was held at the British Methodist Episcopal Church on Murray Street in Brantford.

"In the reading of the address by Bishop Washington, the conference members were reminded to assist the aged preachers, widows and orphans in the various communities."¹ At this time, the good bishop was in England raising funds for this worthy cause.

"At the evening session the conference held a very interesting meeting on the "Race Question."²

It was noted that the Brantford church had formed a "Christian Endeavour Society" of Leaguers to train the young people in Biblical knowledge.

At the end of the conference, a memorial service was held for the late Rev. Samuel Lawson of Niagara Falls, South; Mrs. Drake, wife of Rev. W.R. Drake Sr.; Aunt Mary Brown; and William Butler, all of Brantford. The Brantford Weekly Expositor recorded the formation of the Christian Endeavour Society and the deaths of Mary Brown and William Butler.

Christian Endeavour Society Organized at the British Methodist Episcopal Church

"The British Methodist Episcopal Church branched out into a new field of religious work when a "Christian Endeavour Society" was organized in connection with the congregation".³ The young people of the denomination meet here in June next and the Christian Endeavour Society was organized in anticipation of this event. The Brantford and Brant County union took an active part in the formation of the new society.

President T. Hendry, Corresponding Secretary Miss Aggie Davidson and Miss Crandell, one of the more prominent members of Calvary Church, were at the British Methodist Episcopal Church Sunday night and addressed the object of the Society, the constitution, etc. were explained and the election of officers proceeded, with the following results:

Honorary President: Rev. W.H. Snowden

President: Rev. S.A. Lucas

Vice-President: Mrs. J. Smith

Corresponding Secretary:

Mrs. L. McComas

Treasurer: Mr. C. Walker

Convenor, Prayer Meeting Committee:

Mrs. J.A. Lucas

Convenor, Mission Committee:

Mrs. E. Thomas

Convenor: Social Committee:

Mrs. C. Snowden

"The Society starts out with a membership of twenty. The meetings will be held on Tuesday night and members of the union will be cordially welcomed."⁴

**TIME ON YOUR HANDS?
VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS
NEEDED FOR OUR PROJECTS!
CALL 752-1483.**

Auntie Mary Jane Brown (1822 - 1899)

In reviewing the old editions of the Brantford Weekly Expositor on microfilm, I came across this obituary of a former female slave, Auntie Mary Jane (or June) Brown. Her home on 101 Grey St. has been replaced by factory buildings, but her touching story has been preserved in the Expositor.

"Mary June Brown died Saturday at her home on 101 Grey Street, Brantford.⁵ The deceased was better known as Auntie Brown and was one of the city's unique characters. She was 77 years of age and had resided in Brantford for over half a century.

"She was born a slave on a Maryland plantation and escaped to Canada via the underground railway. At the time Mrs. Brown was twenty years of age and the impressions of her exciting adventures while leaving "the land of the free" were often retold for the benefit of interested friends.

"Quite recently, Mrs. Brown lectured on her adventures to a large audience at the British Methodist Episcopal Church and the event attracted much interest.

"Auntie" Brown was everyone's friend. During her long residence in the city she achieved an enviable reputation for industry and honesty. She was regularly employed in many of Brantford's homes and was treated with a confidence merited by long years of faithful service. She was a bright and jovial woman and many citizens outside of their own kin will miss the merry good nature of Auntie Brown."⁶

(Continued on page 5)

A Human Tragedy, March 1, 1898

The Body of William Butler (1853 - 1898) Found Frozen Stiff in a Swamp

"William Butler, a well-known coloured man, was found frozen stiff in Smith's Swamp, near the Hart Farm in Brantford Township on Wednesday. The gruesome discovery was made by three Brantfordites, Edward Martin, Nelson Street, and Walter and George Jackson. The trio left the city at an early hour to bring in a load of wood from Smith's Swamp. A few minutes before ten o'clock Martin rushed into the Brantford police station with the startling information that he had discovered a corpse in the bush.

Constable Wallace was promptly detailed to look into the matter. The detective communicated with Coroner Heath and received instructions to bring the body to Brantford."⁷

How It Happened!

"Last Saturday morning William Butler of 175 Dundas St., Brantford disappeared... He was last seen in St. George

dressed in a dark suit of clothes, with a girl's Tam O'Shanter on his head...

Later in the evening, William Butler entered the dark swamp area in an exhausted condition and soon struck a slough where he lost his shoe. He wandered lost into the bush and swamp area. Finally, he lay down to die in freezing weather."

Who Was William Butler?

"William Butler was a powerful man of forty-five years of age. He left a wife and six children; the eldest, Minnie, is a bright girl who works at the Cotton Mills. He was employed at the Buck's Stove Works for sixteen years or up to three years ago since when he had not steady employment due to ill health."⁸

The footsteps of the son of a former slave could be traced to Tranquility, then his tracks were lost. The hour was late and the weather cold when William Butler struck Smith's Swamp! The human tragedy was that his powerful physique was unable to conquer the cold, dark, brutal conditions of nature.

End Notes

1. Brantford Weekly Expositor, June 29, 1899, Page 11.
2. Ibid.
3. Christian Endeavour Societies were formed to give young people religious instruction among the various Protestant denominations in the 1800's and early 1900's. these groups also provided recreational and cultural activities.
4. Brantford Weekly Expositor, March 2, 1899.
5. Mary Jane Brown is buried in Lot 949, Greenwood Cemetery, alongside Elmira and Adeline Brown.
6. Brantford Weekly Expositor, Jan. 12, 1899, page 3.
7. Brantford Weekly Expositor, March 3, 1898, page 6 (12).
8. Ibid.

B.H.S. Antique Show & Sale by Bob Deboer

The Brant Historical Society is sponsoring an Antique Show & Sale, hopefully to become an annual event, in the historic Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts at 88 Dalhousie Street on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 15 - 17, 1996 as a major fund-raising event.

The Antique Show and Sale will be held throughout the entire Theatre Complex, including the front, rear and lower lobbies, the rehearsal hall, the auditorium and the whole stage area, allowing for thirty-six booths, all of which have been rented to professional antique dealers who will be offering their wares for sale. Members of the general public attending the Show will be afforded not only an interesting and quality display of antiques and

collectibles in a novel and historic setting, but will also have the opportunity to tour this grand facility.

As you can well understand, this is a massive undertaking for the Society, one which will require many, many volunteers in order to ensure its success as a fund raiser, critical to the continued prosperity of the Society and the Brant County Museum as we experience funding cuts from all levels of government.

Twenty-two volunteers are required on Friday, November 15 from 8 a.m. until noon to assist with unloading and setting up the show, and again on Sunday, November 17 from 5 to 8 p.m. to help pack up and load.

Two ticket sellers and five people to control and direct pedestrian traffic

will be required on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, as well as two volunteers to assist in the Dealer/Volunteer Courtesy Lounge providing refreshments. Each day of the show has been broken down into shifts of approximately three hours duration.

If you are able to assist us with your time, or for more information regarding the times requiring volunteer coverage, please contact Bob Deboer at 753-4493 or the Brant County Museum at 752-2483.



In Memorium

Dr. Robert Baxter

This is an excerpt from the Grand River Branch of Kiwanians memorial service for Dr. Baxter performed by Rev. James W. Files.

Last Friday, Kiwanian Bob Baxter passed away after a lengthy illness. He had the respect of the members of our organization and the community. This was evidenced by the good attendance at his memorial service last Monday.

Bob had an impeccable character and this trait was manifested in his practise of medicine. He was a surgeon at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal, one of the world's leading medical institutions. The world famous neurosurgeon and author Dr. Wilder Penfield supervised Bob's internship. Dr. Baxter also taught at McGill's Medical School.

After his retirement from medicine approximately eleven years ago, bob and his wife Georgie moved to Brantford to be near their son, internal specialist Dr. Bill Baxter. Since coming to Brantford, Bob and Georgie joined Central Presbyterian Church, the Brant Historical Society and other community organizations.

Bob, a champion Highland dancer, was loyal to his Scottish heritage and committed to family, community and church life. If he was absent from Sunday

service, it was due to either illness or out-of-town trips.

In my numerous conversations with Bob, he told me that his mother wanted him to become a Presbyterian minister but his real desire was to be a medical doctor. He felt medicine was a calling to help others.

The dedicated life of Bob to medicine reminds me of Dr. Luke, the writer of the third Gospel in the New Testament. Both men were used by God to help people achieve a better quality of life. In our vocation in life, whatever it be, we can be used and blessed by God. We must never underestimate the work of individuals, whether it be professionals, businessmen, tradesmen, labourers, etc.

At our Kiwanian meetings, Bob sat in the front row and listened attentively to the speakers. It was very common for different members to ask Bob medical questions.

One morning I said to him, "You must resent people asking you so many questions." His response was "On the contrary, I am flattered that people still ask me to share my medical knowledge at my age. Today, medicine is still making greater advancements that doctors of my time could ever have imagined."

Gentlemen, this spirit of caring and acknowledgment was with Dr. Robert Baxter. We will miss him!

Percy William Brant

Feb. 8, 1932 - Jan. 13, 1996

On January the 13th of this year, Percy William Brant, the great-great-grandson of Captain Joseph Brant, passed away at the West Haldimand Hospital in Hagersville, Ontario.

Percy was the son of the late Austin and Bessie Brant, brother of Philnese King (Mrs. Graham King), Elna, Donald, Sidney, Clayborne and the late Marjorie, Jean, Robert and Jake Brant. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. Percy was an accomplished musician and organist at the New Credit Church and other churches for many years. He recently retired from the West Haldimand General Hospital, where he was employed for many years.

Percy's name has been placed in the Memorial Book of the Brant County Museum.



(Continued from page 3)

END NOTES

1. "Tekahionwake can be translated as "Double Wampum Belt".
2. "Sakawanwarton" can be translated as "Disappearing of Indian Summer Mist" or "The Haze that Rises from the Ground in an Autumn Morning and Vanishes as the Day Advances". This mist was thought to be smoke from burning brush wood, hence the name "Smoke".

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

The Cockshutt Plow Company by Cliff Jones

In 1829, James Cockshutt, a Toronto storekeeper who had immigrated from Yorkshire, sent his teenage son Ignatius to Brantford to assist with the store of Batty & Co., one of his business interests. At this time, the town was only a few houses along the stagecoach road from Hamilton to London. The store failed and Ignatius returned to Toronto, but he came back in 1832 for another attempt.

This time, the business thrived, and Ignatius soon became a wealthy and influential business and community leader. His five adult sons, James G., William F., Frank, Edmund and Henry, followed him into business and industry.

James G. founded the Brantford Plow Works in 1877, with his father's financial support. At this time, agricultural land was being cleared rapidly in North America, and the inventive young man recognized an opportunity. He built a small three storey brick factory on his father's land on Market Street, south of the canal. With perhaps five employees, he began producing horsedrawn plows and scufflers, and other tillage tools. He invented several important developments and patents in plow design technology, including the "J.G.C." riding plow, a successful one-furrow riding plow designed for breaking prairie sod. In addition to his own machines, James manufactured the American-designed "Wiard" plow under license.

Not long after the business was established, James contracted tuberculosis. With his health failing, he reduced his involvement in the company and spent time in California, where he hoped that the climate and medical facilities could help him. It was decided to incorporate the business under the name of "Cockshutt Plow Company", with James as President. He died on October 16, 1885 at the age of 32 years, 9 months. His brother William assumed the presidency of the company, and was

in turn succeeded by his brothers Frank (1888) and Henry (1911).

With the continued growth of agriculture and the plow business, the company had expanded the Market Street in a haphazard manner until 1896, when it was gradually replaced, leading to a new building in 1898. This remained adequate until 1903, when 21 acres of land on Mohawk Street was purchased and a new plant erected.

Until this time, Cockshutt's had produced tillage implements of all sorts: plows, disc harrows, cultivators, scufflers, harrows, etc. With the development of the steam traction engine



James G. Cockshutt

and large gasoline tractors, the engine gang plow, a huge monster that could turn over a large acreage per day, was developed, and it became the industry standard. Cockshutt plows were a favorite of farmers and competitive plowmen the world over.

In 1911, two significant changes occurred for Cockshutt's. The business had expanded much that it was decided to make a public offering of stock. This attracted new investors, and spread out financial responsibilities. In Brantford, the company branched out into transportation with the purchase of

Brantford Carriage and Adams Wagon. Other carriage businesses were also purchased, and in 1924 they were combined into the Canada Carriage and Body Company. In addition to horsedrawn vehicles, the company ventured into the expanding market for specialized truck bodies and trailers.

These changes may have been the result of efforts by Henry Cockshutt, who became president in 1911 after many years with the company. His success in the farm machinery business earned him the nickname of the "Dean of the Implement Industry", and he was Lt.-Governor of Ontario from 192X to 192Y.

During World War I, the plant was active in the manufacture of war materials. As this was before the era of mechanized warfare, the military relied on horsepower to move, and many wagons and gun carriages were required. It is likely that these were built, as well as munitions.

In 1933, the Cockshutt Plow Company acquired controlling interest in the Frost & Wood Company of Smiths Falls. This firm had been making mowers, reapers and other harvesting machines for almost one hundred years. This association made Cockshutt a "full line" company, able to offer almost any implement that a farmer might want, including tractors with a Cockshutt paint scheme but made by other companies. It also permitted each company to make use of the other's distribution and sales networks, with Cockshutt's having a stronghold in the west and Frost & Wood in eastern Canada. By 1934, when C. Gordon Cockshutt, son of Frank, became President, there were company plants in Brantford and Smiths Falls, branch offices in Winnipeg, Regina, Saskatoon, Calgary and Edmonton, and distributing warehouses in Brandon, Portage la Prairie, Dauphin, Yorkton, Swift Current, Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Lethbridge, Red Deer, Montreal,

(Continued on page 8)

Saint John, Charlottetown and Truro.

With the entry of Canada into World War II, many of Canada's industries were awarded contracts for the production of war materials. Cockshutt's was no different. The main plant made landing gear struts for Lancaster bombers, engine manifolds for airplanes, and munitions. Canada Carriage, which became Brantford Coach & Body in 1944, made bodies for ambulances, trailers, trucks, and other military vehicles. A new division, Cockshutt Moulded Aircraft, was created in 1944 to manufacture plywood aircraft fuselages, first for the Avro-Anson training bomber and then for the DeHavilland Mosquito. A large \$1,000,000 plant was built on Market Street for the aircraft production line.

Over 1300 Cockshutt workers served in the war. With increased production, total employment rose to an all-time high of 6,000 during the war. Many of these workers were women, venturing into industry for the first time. The C.M.A. plant was designated an Industrial Training Plant, in which new workers could be instructed in unfamiliar trades. In 1944, Cockshutt's workers elected to unionize under the UAW-CIO banner, replacing the previous Industrial Council, a company union.

In addition to war materials, the manufacture of implements continued, but at a reduced rate. Grain planting and harvesting machines, such as the tiller combine (a combined tiller and seeder) and the No. 7 pull-type combine, were in high demand. Repair parts to keep older machines functioning were produced in quantity, this being more economical than making new machines. During the 1930's, many cash-strapped farmers had been unable to keep up payments on machinery, and the company had eventually written off these losses. But as the war increased crop prices, many of the old debts were repaid. Unfortunately, most of the receipts were taken by the government as taxes on excess profits.

As the war drew to a close, Cockshutt's designers and engineers put their latest plans into action, preparing for the coming boom in sales. After years of

making do with old machinery, farmers were going to be ready for new implements. The No. SP112 self-propelled combine was introduced in 1946, and immediately sold to the company's manufacturing capacity. The almost-new fuselage factory became the combine factory. But Cockshutt's boldest move was the production of their own tractor.

The company had previously sold tractors made by American manufacturers, with the Cockshutt name and paint. Hart-Parr tractors were sold from 1924, Allis-Chalmers machines from 1928 through 1933, and Oliver tractors from 1934 through the late 1940's. Cockshutt's first tractor, the model "30", was introduced in 1946, and was soon followed by the "40" (1949), "20" (1951), and "50" (1953). The Cockshutt line was significant because it offered the first commercially-successful "live" power take-off. This allowed machinery driven by the power take-off shaft to maintain its speed independent of the ground speed of the tractor. This was a boon to farmers who relied on balers, combines, forage harvesters and other power-driven implements, and it continues to be a key component of modern tractors.

The production of their own tractors made Cockshutt's a true full line implement company, and to acknowledge this fact, the company's name was changed to "Cockshutt Farm Equipment" in 1951.

To increase tractor production, in 1947 a \$1,500,000 foundry was built to make castings for them. Sales agreements made in 1945 with the American National Farm Machinery Co-operative Inc. and Gambles Stores, and Canadian Co-operative Implements lead to large orders for machinery, and Cockshutt tractors became known in the United States as "Co-ops". By 1951, Cockshutt's had purchased National Farm Machinery Co-operative Inc. and built some machines in its Bellevue, Ohio plant.

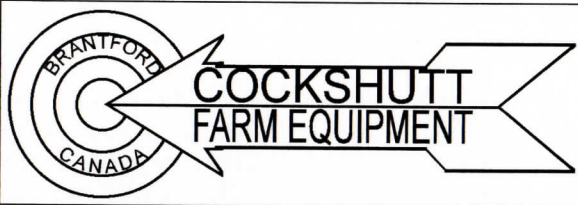
After a change of engine suppliers, the model "30" was uprated to the "35 Deluxe" and given a new paint scheme, and soon the whole tractor line was "Deluxe". Tractors were available with three different wheelbase configurations and engines for burning gasoline, distillate, diesel, or liquefied petroleum gas.

In 1957, the tractor line was redesigned and released as the "500" series. These machines featured distinctive styling by the award-winning Raymond Loewy group. Four models, the 540, 550, 560 Super, and 570 Super, were available, with a wide variety of options. The large 580 Super tractor was shelved after only three prototypes had been made.

The late 1950's was a time of reduced machinery sales and a declining stock market. Production at the Smiths Falls and Bellevue plants was terminated, and operations were consolidated in Brantford. In 1958, a considerable share of the company was purchased by English Transcontinental Ltd., leading to changes in the board and investment in real estate. In 1961, the company was broken up and sold piecemeal. The implement division was sold to White Farm Equipment, a new company which had purchased the Oliver Corporation some 15 months earlier. Brantford Coach & Body, one of the more profitable divisions, was one of the last to be sold, eventually becoming part of Trailmobile.

Staff reductions and chaos accompanied this time of change, and lasted through White's financial collapse in 1985, when all Brantford operations ceased.

"First in the Field: The Cockshutt Plow Company" continues until May 31 at the Museum in the Square, Eaton Market Square. Former employees of Cockshutt's are invited to come in and sign the exhibition banner, which will become part of the Museum's collection at the end of the exhibition. For more information call 752-2483 or 752-8578.



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.

THE MUSEUM IN THE SQUARE

Second Level, Eaton Market Square, 1 Market Street, Brantford, Ontario N3T 6C1 (519) 752-8578

Hours: Monday to Wednesday and Saturday 10 to 5:30, Thursday and Friday 10 to 9

Admission by Voluntary Donation

B.H.S. Publications Order Form

TITLE	UNIT PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL PRICE

* Please ADD \$3.00 to cover the cost of postage, ALL orders are to be prepaid!

ORDERED BY:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____ Telephone/FAX _____

Please make cheque payable to: **BRANT HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Mail or bring to:

Brant County Museum & Archives, 57 Charlotte St., BRANTFORD, Ont. N3T 2W6

Corporate Members

The generous support from our Corporate Members allows us to continue developing exhibitions and community programs.

- ♦ Amoco Fabrics & Fibers Ltd.
- ♦ Boddy, Ryerson
- ♦ Wells, Young, Szak & Bobor

New Members

- ♦ Bruce Pearce, Brantford
- ♦ Shirley Sills, Brantford
- ♦ Mona Staats, Hagersville
- ♦ J. Halabecki, Brantford
- ♦ Michael Diegal, Brantford
- ♦ Tammy Gunby, Paris
- ♦ Henry Hagey, Port Dover
- ♦ Linda Smith, Brantford
- ♦ Mr. & Mrs. Steve Schmitt, St. George
- ♦ Robert Glass, Brantford
- ♦ N. Sachak, Burlington
- ♦ Margaret Lorenz, Brantford
- ♦ Anne Howell, Brantford
- ♦ Gilbert Pickering, Brantford
- ♦ Nella Pusey, Brantford
- ♦ Fred Johnson, Brantford

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
- ♦ 10% discount on Gift Shop purchases over \$10
- ♦ Memberships are Tax Deductible!

Brant Historical Society Membership Registration Form

Individual	\$15.00	\$
Family	\$20.00	\$
Patron	\$25.00	\$
Benefactor	\$100.00	\$
Corporation	\$250.00	\$
Additional Donation		\$
Total Amount Enclosed		\$

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/PROVINCE/POSTAL CODE: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

Please make cheque payable to: **Brant Historical Society**

Mail or bring to: **Brant County Museum & Archives, 57 Charlotte St., Brantford, Ont. N3T 2W6**

Publications List & Gift Shop Items

BRANT HISTORICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

Jean Waldie Vol. 1 / Vol. 2 / Pair	\$14.95 / \$15.95 / \$22.50
The Grand River Navigation Company by Bruce Hill	\$21.95
St. George Continuation School by B. Wesley Switzer	\$ 7.00
Rural Schools of South Dumfries Township by J.C. Webster	\$ 8.00
How Brantford Cooked	\$ 3.50
Brantford Pottery by Robert L. Deboer	\$ 9.95
Arts and Entertainment by Robert L. Deboer	\$ 9.95
From Automobiles to Washing Machines by Robert L. Deboer	\$ 9.95
Directory: The City of Brantford 1880. Collator: Angela Files	\$ 8.00
Directory: The City Of Brantford 1883-1886. Collator: A. Files	\$ 8.00
Directory: The City Of Brantford 1877. Collator: W. Hunter	\$ 4.00
Directory: The City Of Brantford 1899-1900. Collator: A. Files	\$ 8.00
Census: The City of Brantford. Collator: Wayne Hunter	\$ 8.00

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Real Old Woodstove Cookbook	\$ 2.95
Rules of Etiquette of 1800's	\$ 2.95
Health Hints 1887-1924	\$ 2.95
Great Grandma's Health Suggestions from the late 1800's	\$ 2.95
Canadian Album Series - Wildflowers, Insects, Mammals, Birds	\$ 3.95
Children's Activity Books from	\$ 1.50

HASTI-NOTES & POSTCARDS

HASTI-NOTES FROM STEDMAN POSTCARDS	
Market Square (5's)	\$ 2.95
Mohawk Chapel (5's)	\$ 1.95
BRANT VISUAL ARTIST'S GUILD	
County Scenes (5's)	\$ 4.00
POSTCARDS	
Brantford, Ontario	
Lorne Park	
Glenhyrst Gardens	
Mohawk Chapel	
Hoodless Homestead	\$.25

NEW! NEW! NEW!

Pewter Pins and Frames Mini-Gardens
Wooden Feather Pins Wire Puzzles
Grand River Tourism Books and Video
Tin Ornaments Thaumatrope
Kubic Bubbles and lots more!

NEW (But Old)

Reville's
"History of Brant County, Vol. 1"
1982 Reprint
\$39.95

MAPS, POSTERS, & PRINTS

MAPS
Tremaine's County of Brant 1858
\$2.50
Bird's Eye View of Brantford 1875
\$5.00
Historical Map of Brant County
\$5.00
Discovers of Canada Map
\$5.00

POSTERS
Peelee Island Wine & Vineyards
J.S. Hamilton
\$20.00
Brantford Cottages
\$17.95

PRINTS
by Frank Adams
6 City Buildings
\$5.00 set or \$1.00 each

Happenings

April

"First in the Field"

Sat. Apr. 6, 1 p.m.

at the Museum in the Square.

Join us for the opening of our new exhibition on the Cockshutt Plow Company. Runs until May 31.

Easter Egg Hunt

Sat. Apr. 6, 1 - 3 p.m.

at the Museum in the Square.

Heritage quiz, egg hunt and prizes for all. Pre-register please.

B.H.S. Meeting

Wed. Apr. 17, 8 p.m.

at Brant County Museum & Archives, 57 Charlotte St.

Bruce McBlain will speak on "The Revolution in Agriculture in Brant County in the 20th Century".

May

B.H.S. Meeting

Wed. May 15, 8 p.m.

at Brant County Museum & Archives, 57 Charlotte St.

Ian Bell will demonstrate "Using Hand Tools to Create Furniture and Other Tools".

ART SOUP

May 23 - 24

in the downtown.

The B.H.S. is a partner in this innovative Children's Arts Festival.

RIVERFEST

May 24 - 26

at the Boys and Girls Club.

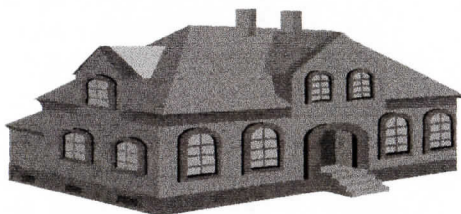
Look for our contribution as you come out for this great community festival.

June

B.H.S. Annual Yard Sale

Sat. June 1, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

at Brant County Museum & Archives, 57 Charlotte St.



B.H.S. Meeting

Wed. June 19, 7 p.m.

Location to be announced.

This meeting will include a tour of a local historic home and our Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.

Hamonic: The Building of a Ship

Tues. June 11 to July 31

at the Museum in the Square

This travelling exhibition tells the story of one of the great ships of the Great Lakes fleet. From the Collingwood Museum.

July & August

Canada Day

July 1

We'll be there for the celebrations!

Children's Museum Clubs

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

July 8 - 12:

The Life of a 1867 Red-Coat

July 22 - 26:

Let's Invent

August 12 - 16:

Living in our Environment & Liking It

August 19 - 23:

The Art of Architecture

Pre-Registration is required for all Museum Clubs. Please call 752-2483 for more information or to donate old sheets, pillowcases and fabric scraps for program use.

Endowment Fund Gifts

"On Track" Contributors:

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| ♦ Alannah McQuarrie | ♦ Daniel Deboer |
| ♦ Jack Pamplin | ♦ Karen Kajtar |
| ♦ Arthur Lefebvre | ♦ A. Binkley |
| ♦ Dr. Catherine Swan | ♦ Ed Pancoe |