MANITOBA BRANCH – Charter – 19 May 1937

1933 November
Provincial Branch of Manitoba

During the visit of the Governor General to Winnipeg in 1932, a number of United Empire Loyalists took part in the reception extended to the Earl of Bessborough on the grounds of Deer Lodge Hospital.

On October 2nd, 1932, the first meeting of this Branch for organization purposes was held in the Prairie Rooms, Marlborough Hotel, Winnipeg. A committee was appointed to discuss by-laws and the nomination of officers.

In February another meeting was held at the same place and a representative number of members were present. Appointments were made and it was decided to hold Branch meeting on the second Monday in each month.

The President, Col. I. R. Snider, O.B.E., V.D., read a paper on "Early History of the U. E. Loyalists," and Mrs. Harriet A. C. Grieve, a record on her forefather, the Honourable Rev. Jonathan Odell, which included extracts from his poetry. This meeting was held in March.

At the regular April meeting a short address was given by Sergt.-Major Ryan. Also in April Mrs. Colin H. Campbell opened her home for a bridge party in order to raise funds for the Branch. An enjoyable evening was spent and a substantial sum realized.

In May the Ladies’ Committee entertained the members in the Auditorium of the Y.W.C.A. During the evening a flag presented to the Branch was dedicated by the Rev. Canon Carruthers.

At a regular meeting of the Branch in September it was decided to appoint a delegate to represent this Branch at the Loyalists Celebration held at Fredericton, N.B., on October 8th, 1933.

In order to celebrate the 121st Anniversary of the Battle of Queenston Heights, a social evening under the auspices of the Ladies’ Committee, was held on October 13th, in the auditorium of the Y.W.C.A. at Winnipeg. Members were invited to bring their friends and about two hundred guests were present. A pleasant feature of the evening was the presentation of decorations to W. J. Pozer, Esq., retiring Vice-President, for his important contribution towards the extension of the Branch, and to A. J. Hughes, Esq., for his splendid services in organizing the Manitoba Branch. Sergt.-Major Ryan's address was a vivid description of the Battle of Queenston Heights and surrounding district.

These activities have contributed materially to the success and expansion of the Winnipeg Branch.

1965 November

Two new members were welcomed into the Winnipeg Branch:

Miss Lillian I. Cook, descended from Latham Stull, 1749a soldier in Butler's Rangers. His wife was Catherine Hutt.

Miss Esther Alberta Heinz, descended from Micajah Purdy, 1766-1944, son of Gilbert Purdy of Neubergh, Ulster County, New York. Gilbert Purdy joined the British Army in 1777 at New York and died while in the service of the Corps of Guides and Pioneers.

-E. A. Fletcher
The officers of the Winnipeg Branch are: President-Mrs. Stephen J. Sametz, 339 Academy Road, Winnipeg; 1st Vice-President-Roy II. C. Baker, 16 Erie Bay, Winnipeg; 2nd Vice-President-Miss Margaret Pugh, 477 Brock St., Winnipeg; Hon. Secretary-Miss Beatrice Brodick, 448 Greenwood Place, Winnipeg; Genealogist -C. N. Howse, Esq., 95 Niagara St., Winnipeg; Con. Corr. Secretary-Major E. A. Fletcher, M.B.E., Q.C., 110 Crescent Towers, 250 Wellington Cres., Winnipeg.

1966 April

At the March 24, 1966, meeting of the Winnipeg Branch, two new members, Mrs. Kathryn Taylor Scott and Miss Kathryn Dianne Scott, daughter and granddaughter respectively of Major and Mrs. W. II. Hunt were welcomed into regular membership. Major Hunt, formerly, genealogist of the Winnipeg Branch is well known in Loyalist circles for his research into genealogical and historical matters published in his book, Birthrights, a Genealogical Record of Canadian Branches of the Hunt, Scott, Ives and Farewell Families.

The U. E. L. ancestors of Mrs. and Miss Scott are Daniel Scott, formerly of Rupert, Vermont, and his wife, Lois Hurd. Daniel Scott joined Lieutenant Colonel John Peters' Queen's Loyal Rangers in June, 1777, and saw service with the British army under General Burgoyne in the campaign of 1777. Following the capitulation at Saratoga he served in Canada in the Second Battalion of the King's Royal Regiment of New York and in Major Edward Jessup's Loyal Rangers from which he was discharged on December 24, 1783, when the Loyal Rangers were disbanded.

Daniel Scott and his family subsequently settled in Caldwell's Manor where they lived until 1800 when they acquired land at Sweetsburg, Quebec.

1967 Autumn

At recent meetings of the Winnipeg Branch several historical talks have been given by members on the ancestral roots of the Loyalists.

Reports of their research have been heard from Professor C. N. Rowse, Mr. C. G. Lyon, and Mr. Harry L. Softley. Major W. H. Hunt presented a paper on early Connecticut-Canadian families. Mr. J. J. Milne showed slides of his eastern trip including some on the U. E. L. museum at Adolphustown.

We feel particularly fortunate in having Mr. Harry L. Softley join our group. He is a descendant of Simon Van Kleeck UE, who had the good sense to have a jumping horse ready to show to the rebel officers when they came to restrict his movements. Mr. Softley has visited the Archives in London and has many interesting stories to tell. Mrs. Caroline Dunn is another new member and we are looking forward to the report of her research. She is a descendant of Sergeant Conrad Peterson.

The Winnipeg Loyalists have secured many old petitions and the early church records of Christ Church in Sorel and are preparing a census of English Quebec, circa 1790.

The annual church parade in May was held at St. Mark's Anglican Church in St. Vital.

The branch received notice of the death of Guy Smith Vaughan Lyon who died here at the age of 86. Mr. Lyon is the seventh generation descendant of Henry Lyon, founder of Newark, N.J. in 1666. His grandfather, Major Amos Hawley Vaughan, surveyed the Hudson Bay reserve that eventually became the centre of Winnipeg and later he started the development of Selkirk.
**1968 Spring**

The Annual Meeting was held after a dinner on February 22nd at the Marlborough Hotel with all officers being re-elected by acclamation. Mr. J. J. Milne led a discussion on the painting— in the Historical Series from which our Christmas cards are taken.

Major W. H. Hunt reported that the arrangements were completed for the erection by the Winnipeg Branch of a Bronze Plaque in our Manitoba Legislature Building by the entrance to the Archives. The plaque, 27" x 30", will carry the 1789 Order-in-Council, No. 25, that provided for the "U.E." Mark of Distinction with additional wording by a committee consisting of Major Hunt, Chairman and Prof. C. N. Rowse, Mr. C. G. Lyon, and the President, Mrs. S. J. Sametz.

Our Genealogical Committee has made many contacts with members of the new Quebec Branch, an area of historic interest to many of our members. Committee members have acquired over 50 reference books on Colonial families of interest to Loyalists.

Meetings were held during the season at the home of our President, Mrs. Sametz, and Prof. and Mrs. Rowse, and Major and Mrs. Hunt. Our members are looking forward to the Centennial of Manitoba in 1970 to commemorate the Wolsley Expedition which included many from Loyalist districts in Ontario and Quebec who later returned with their families and traditions of loyalty and service, to help build the Canadian West.

The March meeting was held at the home of Major and Mrs. Hunt.

Genealogist Mr. C. N. Rowse welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Robertson who are tracing their ancestry, and offered to give them any assistance he could.

Major Hunt reported that the Plaque was now in the Legislative Building and that it would be erected by the Architect. The cost of the plaque was $400.00.

Mrs. Sametz read a letter from the Dominion Council wishing to know our opinion on who should be able to attach U. E. to their name. The letter contained the information according to Lord Dorchester. We discussed this at length, and Major Hunt read our branch by-laws concerning this matter. Mr. Rowse said that lists from British Commissioners should be available and that these should also be taken into consideration with the Lands Boards. Mr. Rowse, Major Hunt, Mr. Lyon and Mrs. Sametz were appointed a committee to study this letter and bring a report to the next meeting.

Mr. Rowse, as Genealogist, mentioned a 1783 speech from the throne in the British Parliament which states that U. E. means Unity of Empire not United Empire.

A complete "tracing" of the plaque was on display. Mrs. Sametz reported that she had written to the Lieut. Governor and to the Dominion President, Mr. Chard, about the unveiling of the plaque, a suitable date, and other details. Mr. Milne, who has had experience with Unveiling ceremonies, agreed to advise the Committee in its plans to make this a simple and dignified ceremony.

The unveiling ceremony will take place on May 28th.
THE UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS

THIS PLAQUE COMMEMORATES THE ARRIVAL ON CANADA'S SOIL OF THOSE BRITISH SUBJECTS WHOSE LOYALTY TO THEIR KING, FAITH IN GOD, AND COURAGE TO ENDURE HARDSHIPS CAUSED THEM TO SACRIFICE THEIR HOMES IN THE AMERICAN COLONIES, AND TO PIONEER IN THE CANADIAN WILDERNESS.

THE MARK OF HONOUR, U. E., AUTHORIZED BY ORDER-IN-COUNCIL NO. 25, PASSED AT THE CITY OF QUEBEC ON NOVEMBER 9, 1789, AND APPROVED IN LONDON IN 1790, WAS CONFERRED UPON THE LOYALISTS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS.

"N. B. THOSE LOYALISTS WHO HAVE ADHERED TO THE UNITY OF THE EMPIRE, AND JOINED THE ROYAL STANDARD BEFORE THE TREATY OF SEPARATION IN THE YEAR 1783, AND ALL THEIR CHILDREN AND THEIR DESCENDANTS, BY EITHER SEX, ARE TO BE DISTINGUISHED BY THE FOLLOWING CAPITALS AFFIXED TO THEIR NAMES U.E. ALLUDING TO THEIR GREAT PRINCIPLE THE UNITY OF THE EMPIRE"


1969 Spring

The Winnipeg branch opened our autumn meeting at the home of Professor and Mrs. C. N. Rowse, with Mrs. Sametz in charge. Mr. and Mrs. C. Robertson, speakers of this evening, gave an interesting review of the Battle of Queenston Heights. The Robertsons are familiar with this district and this knowledge, accompanied by a map of the battle area, considerable research, plus aid from members in the Niagara district, made the military aspect given by Mr. Robertson, most interesting.

Several amusing stories surrounding the events of that period, given by Mrs. Robertson, added up to a most enjoyable and informative evening.

Professor Rowse, our genealogist, introduced a new member, Mrs. Caroline Dunn, a descendant of Conrad Peterson, a member of Jessup's Rangers, who settled in Leeds and Grenville country in Ontario.

In November, we met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Milne, with the vice-president, Miss Margaret Pugh, in the chair. Our president, Mrs. Sametz, and family, were on vacation in Connecticut. The secretary reports that Mrs. R. Ashmore gave a most interesting review of the book "Canada and the American Revolution 1774-1784" by Gustave Lancetot. Everyone enjoyed her humorous account of this book and the research put into it.

In January the meeting was held January 30 at the home of Major and Mrs. W. H. Hunt. After a lengthy business discussion, we were shown a group of articles by a member, Mrs. Brew, a descendant of Chief Joseph Brant. Chief Brant travelled twice to the court of George III of England. In 1786 upon his return he was given by the King a place setting of china dishes, and a silver medal some three inches in diameter. Mrs. Brew also has two small "miniature" paintings - one of Lord Rawdon, for whom an Ontario township
is named, and the other of Chief Brant himself. We thank Mrs. Brew for the opportunity to view such valuable keepsakes of a bygone era.

We continue to contact ill members and regret the inability of Mrs. Purdy Hinds to attend our meetings. We have several prospective members busily engaged in researching their ancestral origins. The great distances from the scene are at times a deterring factor.

We regret to record the passing of Herbert Silas Redmond Lyon UE, on January 21, 1969, in Winnipeg. Born at Cartwright, Manitoba, he was a prominent businessman in Winnipeg for many years. He served in the Royal Flying Corps in World War I and held a commission in the Royal Canadian Air Force. His mother's family, the Vaughans of Quebec, were of U.E.L. descent and were among the earliest settlers of Winnipeg. His Lyon ancestors came to Newark, N.J., over 300 years ago and also were prominent in the early development of Winnipeg. His nephew, the Rev. Patrick Vaughan Lee, conducted the funeral service and interment in the family plot in St. James cemetery.

1969 Autumn

The annual meeting was held in the MacDonald Room of the Marlborough Hotel on February 27th. Following the dinner, Miss Margaret Pugh, president, called on Major W. H. Hunt who, on behalf of the members, presented a corsage to Mrs. Stephen Sametz, the retiring president. Since Mrs. Sametz was present at the inception of this branch this was a small token of appreciation of her years of service.

Mrs. C. N. Rowse, wife of our genealogist, and a lady of varied interests and talents, gave an account of the time spent in Canada by Baroness Riedel, wife of the commander of the German troops under General Burgoyne. The Baroness travelled with her three small daughters from Germany to be with her soldier husband in Canada. During her stay she faithfully recorded the suffering and privations encountered in primitive surroundings. From the dismal cellar under bombardment at Saratoga to a prisoner of war camp in West Virginia, she showed a true pioneer spirit. Her writings qualify her as our first woman war correspondent.

In March, Mrs. Sametz was hostess. Best wishes were sent to Major E. A. Fletcher on the occasion of his 83rd birthday. A project for the immediate future is compiling the early history of the Winnipeg Branch. This is to be directed by Mrs. Sametz. Each member is to produce data, stories, etc., of their own ancestors.

The April meeting of the Winnipeg Branch was held April 24th at the riverside home of Mrs. T. C. Dunn, one of our newest members. Miss Margaret Pugh presided.

Since Manitoba is looking forward to its centennial next year, we passed a resolution supporting the provincial government centennial committee in their efforts to have the Queen visit Winnipeg some time during the summer of 1970. We expressed a desire to be given a supporting role in some capacity in the celebrations. We welcomed Mrs. Holland as a new member.

The Winnipeg Branch of the U.E.L. Association held their annual Church Parade on May 11th at 11 a.m. We attended services at the Canadian Forces Base, St. Andrews Chapel, Protestant, with the Rev. John Klingbeil as Chaplain. A history of the memorial windows in the chapel was given by Mrs. R. E. Ashmore. The beautiful memorial window to the Rev. Bidwell Lane, D.D., is a United Empire Loyalist link with the past. Born near Prescott, Ontario, he lived a brief time in Manitoba prior to his untimely death in 1892 at 48 years of age. Rev. Lane’s grandparents were U.E. Loyalists from the Bay of Quinte and Prescott areas.
It was also the memorial day service for the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps and Mother's Day. All mothers were presented with beautiful carnations by the smaller children. The ladies of our organization were pleased at being included. After the service the group met at the home of our President, Miss Margaret Pugh, and her mother, Mrs. R. Pugh, for refreshments and coffee.

1970 Spring

Our autumn season opened with a dinner at the Marlborough Hotel, October 16th. We were pleased to have as our guest speaker, Dr. J. G. Dillane, the Dominion President. Miss Margaret Pugh presided and introduced Dr. Dillane. The evening ended with discussions and queries about proposed changes in the bylaws, etc.

The passing of a member, Mr. H. Softley, was marked with a moment of silence. Mr. Softley's ancestors were the Van Kleeks who settled near Ottawa at Van Kleek Hill. The escape from rebel hands by Van Kleek and his well-trained horse makes an exciting story.

The November meeting was held on the 27th at the home of Professor and Mrs. C. N. Rowse. The president, Miss Margaret Pugh, was not present due to the recent illness of her mother Mrs. F. Pugh. The chair was occupied by Mr. J. J. Milne, the Vice-president. Members wished a speedy recovery to Mrs. Pugh and Mr. Stephen Sametz who is in hospital.

Clippings were read from local papers which held UE interest for the group.

Five new members were welcomed. Miss Elsie Dulmage, ancestor-David Dulmage; Mrs. John Gunn, ancestor - Van Koughnet; Colonel E. Prodham, ancestors-Samuel Willson, Ernest Fletcher of Toronto and a son of our Major A. E. and Mrs. Fletcher, ancestor-A. Fletcher; Mrs. Robert E. Ashmore, ancestors-Walter Davies, Caleb Closson.

Some members were given stories to read at home and report upon at a later meeting. This was a business meeting followed by refreshments and conversation-enjoyed by everyone.

Our January meeting on the 29th was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Sametz. We were pleased to see Mr. Sametz able to join us at the end of the meeting for a few minutes. He has recently returned from a lengthy hospitalization period. Mrs. Pugh, mother of our President, is also at home with a heart pacer. We are a hardy lot in the West, despite the vicious cold, and we had a splendid turnout. Miss Pugh took charge of the meeting.

Miss Dorothy Lane who has worked unceasingly, reported that at our next meeting she will have a full slate of officers ready for elections. Our thanks also to our Vice-president, Mr. J. J. Milne, for extra duties undertaken lately.

Mrs. R. T. Brew was our guest speaker of the evening, sharing with us her most recent trip to Australia and New Zealand, where summertime reigned over the Ladies' World Lawn Bowling Tournaments in Sydney. Mrs. Brew was on the team from Winnipeg, representing Canadian Ladies. Her trophies, gifts and souvenirs were beautiful and her pictures of sun and surf in the summer were in great contrast to the weather at home. Twenty-five below zero for the day's "high" is not suitable for Lawn Bowling nor surf riding.

Our next and annual meeting will be a dinner party at the Marlborough Hotel February 19th in the MacDonald Room
The annual meeting of the Winnipeg Branch of The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada was held in the Marlborough Hotel on Thursday, February 19, 1970, at 7 p.m., with a dinner, guest speaker and short business session. Miss Margaret Pugh presided. We were fortunate in having Mr. Guerney Evans who has been a prominent figure in provincial politics for almost twenty years. Mr. Evans dipped into our early Manitoba history with tales of fur-traders, explorers and early pioneers.

By Mrs. Ruth E. Ashmore

1970 Autumn

The annual meeting of the Winnipeg Branch of The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada was held in the Marlborough Hotel in February, with a dinner, guest speaker and short business session. Miss Margaret Pugh presided. We were fortunate in having Mr. Guerney Evans who has been a prominent figure in provincial politics for almost twenty years. Mr. Evans dipped into our early Manitoba history with tales of fur-traders, explorers and early pioneers. This is our Centennial year, and as the year progresses we become more aware of our historical background. Three hundred years ago the adventurer, Henry Kelsey--the first white man to join the buffalo hunt -on the open prairie-was followed by many others whose feats of endurance seem almost unbelievable in our modern world. Many of these earlier settlers were undoubtedly the adventuring sons and grandsons of the courageous loyalists. Mr. Evans stated that it would be no mean contribution that these men have made to the early Manitoba history. Unfortunately these records have not been kept. The only tie would be through a group such as ours. Mr. Evans claims loyalist ancestry and was promptly supplied with proper application forms by our genealogist, Mr. C. N. Rowse UE.

We welcomed Mrs. Fredrica Mary Boulton U E, of Burnaby, B. C., as a guest of her brother, Mr. C. G. Lyon UE.

The nominating chairman, Miss Dorothy Lane presented her list of those willing to serve on the executive in the coming year.

A pleasant break in the frigid Manitoba weather was responsible for a good turnout which included new and regular members.

The business meeting in April was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Milne. This was combined with a social evening.

For the May celebration of the "Landing of the Spring Fleet" our members were invited to attend, as a group, the service in St. Andrews River Heights United Church. So many responded to this invitation that our numbers were quite impressive. Following the service Mrs. R. T. Brew kindly asked us to come to her home for coffee.

1971 Spring

A meeting of the Winnipeg Branch of the U.E.L. Association of Canada met in October at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Sametz. Miss Margaret Pugh presided at the meeting, while in the absence of Miss E. Skinkle, Mrs. C. N. Rowse doubled as Recording Secretary and Genealogist, and read Professor Rowse's report. We welcomed a Mr. John Lawrence Samis, who is working on his ancestry.
We regret that Major and Mrs. A. E. Fletcher are both in hospital and wishes for a speedy return to health were expressed.

The business part of the meeting was used in discussing the rules, regulations and by-laws as handed down from Dominion Headquarters.

The members passed a motion to send a small donation to Headquarters to help with the funds needed for the U.E.L. Armorial Bearings Fee.

On November 27 the Winnipeg U.E.L. Branch held a meeting at the home of Professor and Mrs. C. N. Rowse. Miss Margaret Pugh, President, was in charge of the meeting at which time plans for the annual dinner meeting in February were made.

Professor Rowse as Genealogist welcomed Colonel A. E. Pridham as a qualified member with ancestor Samuel Wilson of N. & S. Gower, Grenville County. Colonel A. E. Pridham was invited to recount stories he had heard as a boy and had written down. The grandmother had lived in Ontario as a child. These little anecdotes were greatly enjoyed by the other members.

Another membership sent for approval (and since passed by Dominion Headquarters) is that of Miss Harriet Purdy of Balcarres, Saskatchewan. Miss Purdy is a retired school teacher and has spent a long time collecting data & photos of her family. We are sorry she is not near enough to attend our meetings. Her ancestor is Gilbert Purdy.

Professor Rowse, as speaker for the evening, took us on a most interesting tour of the Loyalist Trail of St. John, New Brunswick. This tour consists of visiting some twenty plaques, monuments and buildings – all documented by the Historical Group in St. John. By visiting each place, and thereby learning about loyalists, the visitor eventually earns a certificate for framing. The talk, accompanied by various maps and photos, was indeed informative as most of our group are not descendants of Maritime Loyalists and have scant knowledge of that area.

After the meeting, refreshments were served by the hostess, Mrs. C. N. Rowse, and the ladies of our social committee.

From the "Winnipeg Free Press" the following birth notice was taken:

**MORDEN**

(née Harper) are happy to announce the arrival of our third son Russell George Ralph, weight 9 pounds, 12 ounces on December 30, 1970. To honour our son we name him: Russell, after his grandfather, Fred Russell Morden; George after the first Morden who left Yorkshire, England, to settle in British America 1743; Ralph after the martyred Quaker Ralph Morden who was executed in 1780 by the state of Pennsylvania for his heroic assistance in the escape of Robert Land, a friend, neighbour and Loyalist who became the first settler in Hamilton, Ontario. Thus the Mordens came to Canada and it is our fervent wish that Russell George Ralph, born in Manitoba's Centennial Year, will contribute to Canada's greatness in the true United Empire Loyalist tradition. Thanks to Dr. R. Livingston and staff of the Women's Pavilion.

1971 Autumn
The annual May Church Service for the Winnipeg Branch was held on the 16th at St. Aidan's Anglican Church, with the Reverend Canon J. Russell Brown in charge. Miss Lane, a Vice-President, officiated in the absence of the President. Coffee was served in the Crypt.

1972 Spring

The October meeting was held at the home of our past president, Miss Margaret Pugh and her mother Mrs. F. Pugh. 20 members were present.

The President, Mrs. R. T. Brew, read from the Toronto Globe and Mail "Sentimental Journey" to Mohawk Valley, Johnstown, New York, and reported she had been in touch by telephone with Dominion Headquarters and the President, Mr. Michael Spohn, while in Toronto Thanksgiving weekend.

We regret to report the passing of Mr. Stephen J. Sametz, a very old and valued associate member of our branch, and husband of a former President, a member since the Branch was organized.

Plans were made for future meetings.

An hour's get-together was enjoyed over a delightful cup of tea.

The November meeting was held at the home of Major and Mrs. Hunt. 15 were present.

Regrets were expressed over our great loss in the death of Professor Rowse, Winnipeg Branch Genealogist. Professor Rowse will be greatly missed for his loyalty, his encouragement and strength in the Branch. Our sympathy goes out to Mrs. Rowse, and family.

The President read reports received from Headquarters, Statement on Younger Loyalists, Dominion Historian and Dominion Genealogist.

Our social evenings are much enjoyed by our members when we can really get to know one another over a cup of tea.

Obituary: C. Newell Rouse

On November 7, 1971, at his residence, C. Newell Rowse, beloved husband of Edith Rowse. Funeral service was held Wednesday, November 10th, at 2 p.m. in St. Luke's Anglican Church, Nassau at Stradbrook in Winnipeg, the Rev. H.G. Macdonald officiating, followed by interment in Chapel Lawn Memorial Gardens. Mr. Rowse was born in Bath, Ontario, and was a graduate of Queen's University later doing postgraduate work at The University and Royal Military College, joining the University of Winnipeg as an assistant professor of mathematics in 1947. Mr. Rowse served with the R.C.A.F. in Second World War rising to the rank of Squadron Leader, and subsequently was the Commanding Officer of the R.O.T.C. programme at the University of Manitoba. He joined the Department of Labor of the Province of Manitoba, and later the Treasury Department. At the time of his death he was associated with the Civil Service Commission where he was Director of Staff Relations. He was a member of St. Luke's Anglican Church; a member and past master of Fort Garry Masonic Lodge; and a member of the United Empire Loyalists: Association, serving as genealogist of the Winnipeg Branch. Besides his wife, Edith, Mr. Rowse is survived by a sister Radia (Mrs. B.V. Hall) of Oshawa; a daughter Janet (Mrs. C. Grant Saunders) of Winnipeg; two sons, Robert, at home; John, currently at the University of Minnesota; and a granddaughter Allison. Pallbear. ers were Messrs G.W. Holland, L. Giffin, J.A. Moir, J.W. Woodward, S.R. Crawford and W.W. Kenney.

-Free Press, Winnipeg
1972 Autumn

The United Empire Loyalists' Association Winnipeg Branch held its annual church parade to commemorate the Landing of the Fleet on May 14th, 1972, at 10.30 a.m. The members were guests of the congregation of St. Stephen's Broadway United Church. The minister of this congregation has recently moved here from Saint John, New Brunswick. The Reverend C.R. Miller was very well acquainted with the United Empire Loyalists.

The Winnipeg Branch holds its church service at a different church each year and the members present enjoyed Reverend Miller's informative sermon. We do appreciate an opportunity to worship with the various congregations. We sincerely appreciated the welcome extended to our Association at St. Stephen's by the Reverend C.R. Miller and his congregation.

1973 Spring

Major W. H. Hunt, Branch Historian, has completed the history of the Winnipeg Branch.

Winnipeg Branch met at the home of Mrs. R. T. Brew in October when plans for the winter meetings were made. In November at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Milne the speaker was the Reverend J. A. M. Edwards, associate minister of Knox United Church. Ordained at age 68, his topic was The Early Churches in Winnipeg, many of which have been torn down. In early days, worshippers at Central Congregational Church had to be there one hour before the doors opened to obtain a seat. Stirring sermons of lasting worth are still valid, other sanctuaries were Grace Methodist, First Baptist (now Calvary Temple), St. Stephens, St. Matthews. The members enjoyed a social hour chatting over old times with Mr. Edwards.

The Annual meeting and dinner of the Winnipeg Branch was held in the Oak Room of the St. Regis Hotel, February 22nd with eighteen members present and two guest speakers.

Mr. C. Robertson, whose application had just been accepted for membership and his wife were welcomed by the President who presided at the meeting.

The Annual reports were given and accepted. Two members' applications were accepted in 1972: Mrs. E. Pringle from Brandon and Mr. Dulmage of Regina, Saskatchewan. Two of our most valued members were lost to us, Mr. and Mrs. J. Sametz, and just before our meeting we were greatly saddened to learn of the death of one of our most active associate members, Mr. J. J. Milne just the day before the meeting. Mr. Milne will be greatly missed for his ever ready help and advice and for his loyalty to the Crown. The nominating committee's report was presented and accepted: Honourable Patron, the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, Honourable Patroness Mrs. F. Pugh UE; Past President Miss M. Pugh UE; President Mrs. R. T. Brew UE; 1st Vice-President Mr. Cecil Fletcher UE; 2nd Vice-President Miss Dorothy Lane UE; Secretary Miss Elsie Dulmage UE; Correspondence Secretary Mrs. H. Softley; Treasurer Miss Edna Skinkle; archivist and historian Major W. Hunt UE, and Genealogist Mr. W. W. Kenney.

1974 Spring

Meetings for the fall and winter season 1973-1974 were held in the lounge of St. George's Anglican Church in Winnipeg.
The Annual Meeting was held February 28. A buffet supper, supplied by the members was enjoyed. A two-minute silence was observed in remembrance of the loss of two members in the last year -- Miss Lillian Cook and Colonel E. A. Pridham.

The Nominating Committee report was accepted. President Mr. C. Fletcher; 1st Vice-President Miss D. Lane; 2nd Vice-President Mr. C. Robertson; 3rd Vice-President Miss E. Hinds; Secretary Miss E. Dulmage; Treasurer Miss E. Skinkle; Chaplain Mr. R. E. Palmatier; Standard Bearer Mrs. R.E. Palmatier; Genealogist Mrs. Ruth Ashmore; Archivist and Historian Mr. W. H. Hunt; Auditor Mrs. C. Robertson.

A new membership list of members complete with addresses and telephone numbers is to be supplied to each member along with a list of books available from our library.

Our Genealogist reported she had received enquiries from two prospective members to which she had replied.

Our Archivist and Historian is preparing the story of Major E. A. Fletcher which we trust will be in an early issue of The Gazette.

A number of letters from the Dominion Council were read and discussed.

Obituary: **Mrs. Ruth Estella Ashmore UE**

On March 30 Mrs. Ruth Estella Ashmore, U.E., in her 54th year, beloved wife of Robert Ashmore of Charleswood, passed away.

Mrs. Ashmore was a faithful member of the United Empire Loyalist Association, Winnipeg, formerly branch secretary and presently genealogist, and a keen student of poetry and Canadian history. Mrs. Ashmore will be greatly missed by the Winnipeg U.E.L. Branch and the Dominion Council. She is survived by her husband, Robert E. Ashmore of the Armed Forces, one daughter, Marian of Montreal, sons, Thomas of Drumheller and Cpl. Gordon of Cdn. Airborne Regiment, Edmonton.

In lieu of flowers donations were made to the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society.

**1974 Autumn**

The March and April 1974 meetings were held in the lounge of St. George's Anglican Church. A two-minute silence was observed at the April meeting in remembrance of the loss of our genealogist, Mrs. Ruth Ashmore, who passed away March 30, 1974. Ruth had contributed poems to The Loyalist Gazette in 1969.

At the March meeting the Winnipeg Centennial Celebration was discussed. Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Hunt were congratulated on having celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Several enquiries have been received regarding prospective membership and they have been invited to attend our first fall meeting October 24, 1974.

**WEDDING CELEBRATIONS**
Major and Mrs. W. H. Hunt, long time residents of Winnipeg, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at a family dinner on April 20. Thirty-one family members attended the celebration held at the University Women's Club. Major and Mrs. Hunt were married at Moose Jaw, April 22, 1914, and lived in Selkirk for seven years. They have four children, all of Winnipeg, Mrs. A.G. Scott, Dr. D. W. Hunt, Mrs. J. R. Carter and Mr. J. D. Hunt. There are 14 grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Major and Mrs. Hunt have been very active members of the Winnipeg United Empire Loyalists Branch and Major Hunt has been an outstanding member in the Association assisting with the formation of the Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch, Quebec, an historian and author of the history of his own Winnipeg Branch.

1975 Spring

The Fall and Winter meetings were held in the lounge of St. George's Anglican Church.

The Annual Meeting was to have been held February 27 but due to the absence of our President and 1st Vice-President, the Annual Meeting was postponed until the March meeting.

At the February 27 meeting a hot buffet supper, supplied by the members was enjoyed and we were pleased to welcome five prospective members.

A presentation of coloured slides "Winnipeg Present and Past" was shown by Mr. and Mrs. W. Rook. Many of the slides brought back memories of old Winnipeg.

At the January meeting, it was moved the executive stand as is for 1975.

Obituary: LENORE CALD WEL FLETCHER

On March 5, 1975 Lenore Caldwell Fletcher of Central Park Lodge, 70 Poseidon Bay, beloved wife of Ernest A. Fletcher. Funeral service was held at the Thomson Funeral Chapel. The Rev. William J. Hogman officiated with interment in Elmwood Cemetery.

Mrs. Fletcher was born in Saskatchewan in 1892 and had been a resident of Winnipeg since 1914. She was an associate member of the United Empire Loyalists and a member of the Ladies Auxiliary of Norwood United Church. Surviving besides her husband are two sons, Cecil and Harold and one daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth McLaughlin, all of Winnipeg; stepson Ernest of Winnipeg, eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; two brothers, George McIver of Vancouver, Jack McIver of California; three sisters, Nora of Transcona, Marjorie of Toronto and Celia of Missouri.

Major E.A. Fletcher served as Honorary Dominion Legal Adviser for many years during 1950's and early 1960's. Mr. Cecil Fletcher is President of the Winnipeg U.E.L. Branch.

The members of the Association extend their sympathy to the family at this time.

1976 Spring

The Fall and Winter meetings were held in the lounge of St. George's Anglican Church.

Buffet suppers were served at the November and February meetings. At the November meeting coloured films were shown by the president, Mr. Cecil Fletcher, one film entitled "Question of Identity--War of
1812", and the second film "Upper Canada Village".

At the January meeting, the nominating committee gave their report: President--Miss Dorothy Lane, Secretary--Miss Elsie Dulmage, Treasurer--Miss Edna Skinkle, Chaplain--Mr. R. E. Palmatier, Standard Bearer--Mrs. R. E. Palmatier. Telephone Committee--Mrs. Edith Rowse. We were pleased to have Mr. and Mrs. Palmatier at the March meeting to give a talk and demonstration on their hobby-lapidary--the polishing and cutting of stones. Samples of their work were shown--tie clips, tie pins, pendants, earrings.

**1977 Spring**

Meetings are held six times a year in the lounge of St. George's Anglican Church. At the October meeting, Mrs. Edith Rowse gave a most interesting talk on "John Singleton Copley" -- an artist who was a United Empire Loyalist. This was accompanied by coloured slides.

At the November meeting a buffet supper was enjoyed by the members, and we were fortunate in having Mr. John Bovey, Provincial Archivist speak to our members of what is available at the Provincial Archives. Mr. Bovey showed several coloured slides of their new location.

We are happy to announce arrangements have been made with the Provincial Archives to take care of our records and library in their new location.

The material has been catalogued by them and can be used by others interested in the United Empire Loyalists, but records or books cannot be removed from the Archives building. They are supplying us with a catalogue of the books and each member will be supplied with a copy. The latest book to be added to our library is "Pioneers of Upper Canada" and this will be passed among the members before being placed in the new location.

Two new members have been added to our branch in 1976: Mrs. Gertrude I. Gross, Brandon, Manitoba. Ancestor: Jacob Bastedo, emigrated from Schenectady, New York, to Stamford Township, Welland County, Ontario. Mrs. Eunice Clare Phillips, Brandon, Manitoba. Ancestor: James Leach of Elgin County, Ontario.

Owing to inclement weather the January meeting of the Winnipeg Branch was cancelled: The annual meeting and dinner to be held Feb. 24 was also cancelled, being in the midst of our first winter storm, so no meeting has been held since late in November. We were fortunate in being able to contact all members well in advance, also our guest speakers regarding the cancellations.

The following new members are being welcomed to the Winnipeg Branch:
- Mrs. Erwin Jacob Burg (Jacob Crysler), Milwaukee, Wis., ancestor, John Crysler, emigrated from Schoharie, New York to Morrisburg, Ont.;
- Mr. John G. MacKenzie, Killarney, Man., ancestor, John MacKenzie, born in Scotland, settled in Harpersfried, New York State, served in King's Royal Regiment and after 1783 settled in Glengarry County, Lot 4 - SSR.
- Miss Elma Beatrice Robertson, Hamilton, Ont., ancestor, Nazareth Hill, emigrated from New York to Marysburg, Prince Edward County.
- Miss Minnie Robertson, Hamilton, Ont., ancestor, Nazareth Hill, emigrated from New York to Marysburg, Prince Edward County.

The annual meeting of the Winnipeg Branch was held March 24 in the lounge of St. George's Anglican Church.
Membership Certificates were presented at the meeting to two members who have been having their family history traced for several months: Mr. John Cook, Winnipeg Man. Ancestor, John Cook, emigrated from Schoharie, New York to Onasbruck Township, Stormont County, Ont. Mr. Clinton Robertson, Winnipeg, Man. Ancestor, Nazareth Hill.

Nominating Committee gave their report as follows: Past President, Mr. Cecil Fletcher; President, Miss Dorothy Lane; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Elsie Dulmage; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Marie Robertson; Treasurer, Mr. John Cook; Chaplain, Mr. Reo Palmatier; Standard Bearer, Mrs. Reo Palmatier; Phoning Committee, Mrs. Edith Rowse; Assistant to Genealogist, Miss Elsie Dulmage.

The guest speaker, Mr. Eric Jonasson, president of Manitoba Genealogical Society, Manitoba Branch, gave a most interesting talk on what their association is doing to help one trace their ancestors. An enjoyable evening closed with tea and dainties.

Obituary: Wesley Walter Kenney

Suddenly on March 5, 1977, while holidaying in B.C. Mr. Wesley Walter Kenney passed away. He had been a native of Winnipeg all his life.

Mr. Kenney was an active member of Knox United Church, the Assiniboine Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 114 and the Winnipeg Branch of the United Empire Loyalists. He is survived by his wife Frances, mother Mrs. Flora Kenney, brother Rev. A.F. Kenney, and sister Mrs. V.R. Mills.

A memorial service was conducted by Rev. Bruce Roberts in Knox United Church on March 16.

1977 Autumn

The Winnipeg Branch April meeting was held in the lounge of St. George's Anglican Church. Miss D. Lane, President, presented a paper written by Mr. Lionel Merrill re: Hamilton Centennial Spectator which was well received by a good turnout of members.

Business items took up the latter part of the meeting which was followed by a social period with tea and dainties.

On May 12, the Winnipeg Branch joined with other organizations and English Speaking Union and Caledonian Women's Club at Hotel Fort Garry for a Commemorative dinner on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The guest speaker was Honourable Samuel J. Freedman, Chief Justice of Manitoba.

1978 Spring

Our membership has increased in 1977 and we anticipate several new members in 1978. All meetings are held in the lounge of St. George's Anglican Church. At the October meeting we welcomed four guests who are younger children of some of our regular members - Carol Fletcher, Wesley Pringle, Beverley Rowse and Bob Rowse. This was followed by a buffet supper. Miss Lane, President, read part of a paper "The Position Paper on Nomenclature" pointing out that "United Empire Loyalist" and "Loyalist" have usually have given broader inclusive definitions than "U.E." and "U.E. Loyalist." The members enjoyed an address given by Mrs. A. Pringle, from the American Vice-Council re Heritage of the two countries.
At the November meeting, Mr. J. Cook, Treasurer gave a talk with slides on Upper Canada Village. The presentation was of particular interest as Mr. Cook's great-great grandfather - Michael Cook was the owner of Cook's Tavern and it was at this original Tavern that Major General James A. Wilkinson, the American Commander-in-Chief had his headquarters during the Battle of Crysler's Farm, Nov. 11, 1813, also the Doctor's house in the village was the home of Mr. Cook’s grandfather and the birthplace of his father when it was located at Aultsville. This proved to be an interesting and informative talk.

We were fortunate in the weather for the January, 1978 meeting - no snow storm. Mrs. Molly Brew read a history on Joseph Brant, The Mohawk Indian Chief of Six Nations who was Mrs. Brew's great-great grandfather, and displayed such courage and loyalty to the British Crown during the Revolution of 1776. A display of articles included a china fruit plate, an apron and a picture of Mrs. Brew's great-grandmother. At the February meeting we enjoyed having Professor J. Daly, University of Manitoba, who has been chosen as Chairman for Manitoba for Canada week. Prof. Daly gave a talk on Unity and he has confidence in the Unity of Canada.

New members during 1977 and early 1978 - Mr. John Melbourne Cook, Winnipeg, Man. - Ancestor - John Cook; Miss Joan May Cook, Winnipeg, Man. - Ancestor - John Cook; Mr. John Frank Cook, Winnipeg, Man. - Ancestor - John Cook; Mrs. Patricia Faurschau, Portage la Prairie, Man. - Ancestor - David Manhard; Mrs. G. I. Gross, Brandon, Man. - Ancestor - Jacob Bastedo; Rev. Malcom Muth, North Battleford, Sask. - Ancestor - Jonathan Williams; Miss Dorothy Lee, Saskatoon, Major Fletcher was a Sask. - Ancestor - Jeremiah Lapp; Mr. George B. Pearson, Elkhorn, Nebraska-. Ancestor - Robert P. Campbell; Mrs. Eunice Phillips, Brandon, Man. - Ancestor - Mr. James Leach; Mrs. Jean Putnam, Winnipeg, - Ancestor - Mr. Joseph Pringle; and Mrs. Constance Stemsrud, Alexandria Minn – Ancestor – John Crysler

The annual meeting was held March 30 with a buffet supper being served at 6:00 p.m. The nominating committee gave their report: President - Miss Dorothy Lane; Past President - Mr. Cecil G. Fletcher; Chaplain - Mr. Reo Palmatier ; Recording Secretary - Mrs. Marie Robertson; Corresponding Secretary - Miss Elsie Dulmage; Treasurer - Mr. John M. Cook ; Standard Bearer - Mrs. Alice Palmatier; Genealogist - Miss Elsie Dulmage; Archivist & Historian - Miss Helen Holland; Telephone Committee - Mrs. Edith Rowse.

Mr. John Cook gave a report on the Position Pager which was followed by several questions.

Obituary: ERNEST ANGUS FLETCHER UE, MBE., ED, Q.C.

On January 19, 1978, Mr. Ernest Angus Fletcher, U.E., M.B.E., ED, QC, aged 91 years, husband of the late Lenore Caldwell Fletcher died in Winnipeg.

Mr. Fletcher was born at Peterborough, Ontario, March 27, 1886. He came to Manitoba in 1900 and received his LLB, from Wesley College, Winnipeg, in 1911.

During the First World War he served as a Company Commander, achieving the rank of Major. .

Mr. Fletcher was appointed QC in 1950 and retired from active practice in 1966. During the Second World War he served as Major with the Canadian Army and AJAG from 1944 to 1947.

Mr. Fletcher was a member of the Crescentwood River Heights Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, as well as a founding member of the Winnipeg Branch of the United Empire Loyalists Association and a member of Norwood United Church.
Mr. Fletcher served as Dominion Legal Adviser for the U.E.L. Association of Canada for several years during the late 1950’s and 1960’s

Predeceased by his wife in 1975, he is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth McLaughlin of Winnipeg, three sons, Ernest M. Fletcher of Toronto, Cecil and Harold Fletcher, of Winnipeg, nine grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

1978 Autumn

The guest speaker at the April meeting was Mr. Stuart Gilmor, Dominion President. Mr. Gilmor's topic "Unity of Canada" was well received, which was followed by a question period.

One of our new members, Mr. John MacKenzie of Killarney, Man., had his family genealogy printed in book form with hard cover "The MacKenzies of Raisin River". A copy of the book was presented to the Winnipeg Branch for its library.

New members accepted in the branch recently were: Mrs. D.S. Durr, Bromhead, Sask., Mrs. Helen Else, Elm Creek, Neb., Mr. J.G. MacKenzie, Killarney, Man., Mr. W.K. Wensley, LacVert, Sask.

Meeting adjourned with singing of "O Canada" followed by refreshments and the opportunity for the members to have a chat.

1979 Spring

The opening meeting of the fall and winter season - 1978-79 was held Oct. 26. A delicious baked ham dinner was served to 22 members. We were especially glad to welcome one of our members from Toronto, Mr. Ernest M. Fletcher along with Mrs. Fletcher.

Following the dinner, business items were discussed, the main topic being speakers for coming meetings. A social period followed as members were mingling and talking about their summer activities.

One member was accepted in October - Mr. Ivan Harold Root, Winnipeg, Man. (ancestor Staats Overholt emigrated from Pennsylvania to Clinton Township, Lincoln County, Ont.)

The January meeting of the Winnipeg Branch was held in the lounge of St. George's Anglican Church. A coloured movie film was shown "Prince Charles - the Family Prince and the Unity of Canada" was enjoyed. Our Manitoba winters do not make for a good showing of members. Meeting adjourned with the serving of tea and dainties and a social period.

At the February meeting we were fortunate in having as a guest speaker - Edith Paterson, well known columnist and writer. Mrs. Jean Putnam introduced Edith Paterson and her subject was "Early Winnipeg". She described Winnipeg from its origin in 1825 up to around 1950. Mrs. Paterson presented the Winnipeg Branch with an autographed copy of her latest book "Tales of the Early West". Miss E. Dulmage presented a book "Winnipeg 100 years", a pictorial history of Winnipeg compiled by Edith Paterson. These two books will be placed in our library in the Provincial Archives.

The March meeting was a dinner and our annual meeting. Our guest speaker, was introduced by Mrs. Alice Palmatier and Mr. Eric Wells spoke on "Early Manitoba" with a good supply of coloured slides. Mr. Wells was most interested in some of the tales of the United Empire Loyalists. Mr. Peter Warren and his wife joined our audience for Mr. Wells' lecture. This was followed by a business meeting. Mr. C. Fletcher
presented the nominating committee report as follows: President - Miss Dorothy Lane, Vice-President Mrs. Jean A. Putnam, Hon. Lady Vice-President - Mrs. Edith M. Rowse (Social and Telephone Convener), Past President - Mr. C. Fletcher, Chaplain - Mr. Reo Palmatier, Recording Secretary - Mrs. Beryl Pringle, Corresponding Secretary Miss Elsie Dulmage, Treasurer - Mr. John M. Cook, Standard Bearer - Mrs. Marie Palmatier, Genealogist - Miss Elsie Dulmage, Archivist and Historian - Mrs. Helen Holland. Mr. Eric Wells graciously offered to return next season as a guest speaker.

Obituary: MRS. H.L. SOFTLEY

After a lengthy illness, Mrs. H.L. Softley died on December 13th, at the Health Sciences Centre.

Mrs. Softley was predeceased by her beloved husband, King and her sister, Beryl Collins. She leaves to mourn her passing her son Donald, and her daughter and son-in-law, Beryl and Alister Pringle, and three grandchildren; also four brothers, Stan, Karl, John, and William.

Mrs. Softley was a member of The United Empire Loyalists' Association, Winnipeg Branch.

Funeral service was held at St. Philips Anglican Church. Rev. James Brown officiated. Interment was in Chapel Lawn Memorial Gardens.

Our Oldest Member- Mrs. May Stewart Brodrick

Mrs. May Stewart Brodrick celebrated her 100th birthday on February 6 with a reception in her honour at Central Park Lodge. Her daughter, Mrs. Helen Hare of Vancouver, B.C., shared the festivities and some family pictures with her mother at the reception. Born February 6, 1879 in St. Catharines, Ontario as May Stewart Wilson, Mrs. Brodrick spent her early years on the family homestead in the fruit-farming district of the Niagara Peninsula. After graduating as a nurse from New York Hospital, Mrs. Brodrick practised in New York City and Chicago for ten years. She came to Winnipeg in 1912, where she married Frederick O. Brodrick, horticulture and forestry professor at the Agricultural College of Manitoba. They had three daughters: Mrs. Katherine Harding, Middletown, N.Y.; Beatrice Brodrick, Winnipeg and Mrs. Hare of Vancouver, mother of Mrs. Brodrick's three grandchildren.

Mrs. Brodrick is a member of The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, Winnipeg Branch.

-- Winnipeg Tribune.

1979 Autumn

Meetings are held six times a year in the Guild Room of St. George's Anglican Church. At the October meeting a delicious buffet dinner was enjoyed by the members. A two minute silence was observed in memory of Miss Edna Skinkle. The speaker of the evening was Mr. J. Cook, our treasurer, who chose as his subject Chrysler Farm, Battlefield Park including Upper Canada Village. Mr. Cook's talk was supported by coloured slides. This was followed by a discussion of speakers for the coming meetings.

The November meeting was held on the 22nd and due to illnesses several members were absent. We welcome one new member - Mr. Gerald May of Boissevain, Man. It was suggested we have one of our meetings at the Provincial Archives. Bi-centennial plans were also discussed. Mrs. Edith Rowse gave a talk "Artists from United Empire Loyalists' Movement" along with coloured slides.

1980 Spring
Obituary: MISS EDNA SKINKLE

Miss Edna Skinkle was a long time member of the Winnipeg Branch having served in recent years as treasurer and recording secretary. She was a recent retiree of the Canadian Wheat Board. Miss Skinkle was also active in the former Chalmers United Church and many community organizations. Her devotion to the U.E.L. and her constant support has added greatly to the development of this Branch. Miss Skinkle is missed very much by all of us.

The Winnipeg Branch meeting for January was cancelled owing to the room being taken by a political convention. The next meeting was held on Feb. 28 - a cold evening, at 25°C below, but a good turnout for this time of year. Mrs. Edith Rowse introduced our guest speaker Edith Paterson. Mrs. Rowse outlined the career of Miss Paterson as columnist and writer. Miss Paterson chose as her subject "The trouble women had in early days in Manitoba" and we have certainly come a long way since the 1880's.

A small booklet containing the Winnipeg Branch Constitution and By-Laws has been brought up-to-date and supplied to each member. We wish to thank our Treasurer, Mr. J. Cook, for the work involved in this booklet. At present we have two members working on their applications which will be ready to be sent to Dominion Headquarters within the next few weeks. Three application forms were sent out during February. Membership certificate in January was sent to Mrs. J.D. McKay of Pilot Mound, Man., ancestor William May, who emigrated from Albany, New York to Grantham Township, Lincoln County, Ontario. We had four guests at this meeting: Mr. A.G. Scott, Mrs. T.H. Rosborough, Mrs. A.H. Stockton and Ms. Nora Hiam. The meeting closed with the serving of tea and muffins.

The March meeting was a dinner and annual meeting held on the 27th. Following the dinner, supplied by the members, our guest speaker was Mr. Eric Wells, well known in Manitoba for his interest in early Manitoba history. There followed a business meeting with reports from the treasurer, recording secretary and corresponding secretary. At present three applications have been sent to Mr. C.C. Strahm in Toronto for membership processing. The nominating committee gave its report for a two year term as follows:

Past President - Miss Dorothy E. Lane,
President - Mrs. (W) Jean A. Putnam,
Vice-President - Mrs. R.T. (Molly) Brew,
Recording Secretary Mrs. A.M. (Beryl) Pringle,
Treasurer - Mr. John M. Cook,
Chaplain - Mr. Reo Palmatier,
Standard Bearer - Mrs. (Reo) Alice Palmatier,
Genealogist and Corresponding Secretary Miss Elsie Dulmage,
Lady Vice-President and Social and
Telephone Convener - Mrs. C.N. (Edith) Rowse,
Archivist and Historian - Mrs. Helen Holland.

As guests for the April meeting on the 24th, we had Reverend and Mrs. Charles Milton of Deer Lodge United Church. They had taken a tour of the Holy Land in 1979 and obtained a great number of coloured slides. Members relived a trip with them from Athens, to Nazareth, Sea of Galilee, Jordan River and many more places of interest. Mrs. Milton had several items to display which she had acquired on the trip - wooden beads and a jug from Jacob's Well.

The meeting ended with the serving of tea and dainties. This was the last meeting for the 1979-1980 season. The next meeting is in October.

1980 Fall
Mrs. Pearl Hunt died at her home in Winnipeg, where she had lived for the last 53 years. Mrs. Hunt was born in Richmond, Quebec in 1885, attended Stanstead College, married William Harold Hunt in 1904 in Moose Jaw, moved later to Selkirk, and in 1927 moved to Winnipeg. She was a member of the United Empire Loyalists Association, Winnipeg Branch since 1934 also a member of PEO chapters A and B and a member of Riverview United Church. Her life was characterized by intense devotion to her family, a vital interest in the world and people around her and an indomitable sense of humour retained her to the last. At Stanstead College she played hockey on a team with Frank and Lester Patrick and was a close friend of Charley Price who played for the old Montreal Wanderers. She is survived by four children: Katherine Taylor (Mrs. A.G. Scott), Dr. Douglas William Hunt, Margaret Aileen (Mrs. J.R. Carter) and David Hunt all of Winnipeg.

The first meeting of the fall and winter season was held on Thursday, October 23, in the Guild Room of St. George's Anglican Church. A sumptuous dinner was served at 6:00 p.m. which was very much enjoyed by the members.

Membership certificates were presented to Mrs. T. (Muriel) Rosborough and Mrs. H.P. (Audry) Stockton, both of Winnipeg. Four membership applications were requested at this meeting.

After a short business meeting, our Treasurer, Mr. John Cook, told the fascinating story of the mass migration of thousands of Palatinates from Germany beginning in the spring of 1709, to Great Britain and America. Members.

1981 Spring

At the November meeting Mrs. Molly Brew introduced our guest speakers, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Tully, who traced their motor trip from Quebec through the Maritime Provinces, the Cabot Trail and the Northeastern United States. The colored slides shown included many villages on their journey. It was a most interesting hour to our members. A short business period followed when bi-centennial projects were discussed.

On January 22, members and friends enjoyed an evening with Mr. and Mrs. Len Roon, as guest speakers. Their subject was the village of Charleswood where they have resided for many years. The village of Charleswood is now part of the City of Winnipeg. Mr. and Mrs. Ven Roon have a wealth of information on the history of Charleswood covering the last 100 years. Coloured slides were shown of early churches and schools and old-timers of the district.

Tea and muffins finished off the evening. Hostess was Mrs. Helen Hollands.

1981 Autumn

At the meeting of the Winnipeg Branch on February 26 the speaker was Mrs. Linda McDowell, teacher-librarian at Kelvin High School and coordinator of Resource Team on Status of Women. Mrs. McDowell is a descendant of a United Empire Loyalist and her subject was "Pioneer Women of Prairie Provinces in History Not in the Limelight but in the Firelight". This was accompanied by coloured slides which the audience found very interesting. The last meeting for the season was held on March 26. A hot
supper was served at 6:00 p.m., and was followed by the guest speaker, Mr. Eric Wells, who spoke on the "Constitution." Members asked Mr. Wells numerous questions which were answered to the satisfaction of the members. This was followed by the annual meeting, conducted by Mrs. Jean Putnam, President. Reports were read from the Recording Secretary, Mrs. Beryle Pringle; the Corresponding Secretary, Miss Elsie Dulmage and the Treasurer, Mr. John R. Cook. The Nominating Committee moved that the executive continue for the season of 1981 - 1982. At present we have sent five applications to the Dominion headquarters for processing. The next meeting will be in October.

1982 Spring

The 1981 fall supper was held October 22 in the Guild Room of St. George's Anglican Church. Our treasurer, Mr. J.M. Cook, outlined the visit of Mr. E.J. Chard in September. The Bicentennial project for 1982 was discussed. Each member is to compile the story of their U.E.L. family history, which upon completion, would be set up in book form and placed in the archives. A social evening followed as members were discussing their activities in the last six months.

At the November meeting we were fortunate in having Miss Linda McDowell as our speaker. To compliment her talk on "Women in Politics," Miss McDowell showed coloured slides and postures of women active in Manitoba politics in the past 80 years. In the last six months membership certificates have been supplied to John David Kellington of Winnipeg (ancestor Simeon Van Kleck of Hawkesbury), Robert Barry Kellington of Winnipeg, (ancestor Simeon Van Kleck of Hawkesbury), Mrs. Bonnie L. Lauwig of Racine, Wis. (ancestor - Jacob Sipes), Robert Holroyd of Racine, Wis., (ancestor Samuel Austin) and an Associate Membership to Mrs. A.F. Connery of Tyvan, Sask.

1982 Autumn

The Winnipeg Branch continues to meet on a regular basis and has enjoyed a very interesting year.

An executive meeting was held Sept. 18, 1981 in the home of the president, Mrs. Jean A. Putman, to plan the coming year’s events and to establish meeting dates. On Oct. 22, a supper meeting was held in the Guild Room of St. George’s Anglican Church, Grosvenor Street. Nov. 26, a regular meeting followed by a talk presented by Mrs. Linda McDowell (teacher-librarian at Kelvin High School) on "Women In Politics" "Women in the Limelight, not by the Firelight." On Feb. 25, 1982 a regular meeting at which a nominating committee was established. This was followed by a slide presentation by Mr. and Mrs. L. Van Room on "Flowers and History". On March 16, a nominating committee meeting was held following luncheon in the home of Miss Dorothy E. Lane. March 25, the annual meeting was held following a hot supper. Mr. and Mrs. B. Metcalfe gave a slide talk on "Columbia and the Foster Parents' Plan."

The new slate of officers was installed with Mr. John M. Cook as incoming President. The list of officers for the coming year are: Hon. Past President, Mrs. (W.) Jean A. Putman; Hon. President, Mr. John M. Cook; Hon. Vice-President, Mrs. (Tom) Muriel Rosborough; Hon. Lady Vice-President and Social Convener, Mrs. Edyth Rowse; Chaplin, Mr. Leo Palmatier; Hon. Recording Secretary and Gazette Reporter, Mrs. (Alistaire> Beryl Pringle; Hon. Correspondence Secretary and Genealogist, Miss Elsie Dulmage; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. John M. Cook; Standard Bearer, Mrs. Leo Palmatier; Archivist and Historian, Mrs. Helen Holland. A highlight of the year was the May 12th visit of Mr. John A. Eaman. Following a tour of Dalnavert, home of Sir Hugh John Macdonald, a regular meeting was held, at which time, Mr. Eaman gave a stimulating talk.
Oct. 28 - A dinner meeting was held followed by a most interesting film - "Unbroken Line" - Government House and the Governors-General of Canada. We of the Winnipeg Branch look forward to a successful year.

1985 December

The Winnipeg Branch continues to meet five times a year at St. George's Anglican Church in Winnipeg. The President's Medallion was presented by Mr. John Cook to incoming president Mrs. Helene G. de Wit at our annual meeting in March, 1985.

In 1985, certificates were presented to John Brenan, who is descended from Col. John Henry Gesner, who had settled Chipman's Corners, N.S.; and to J. William Olmstead, descended from Thomas Ol~tead, who came from Connecticut and settled in Fredericton, N.B. During the summer, our president, Mrs. Helen de Wit, received her certificate. Her ancestor was Daniel Vail, who came from New York Province to Springfield Parish, Kings County, N.B.

At our final meeting in May, we were pleased to have Mrs. Shirley Smith, Hudson Bay Company Archivist as our guest speaker.

We have just published our first issue of our newsletter with Miss Blanche Miller as editor. Thanks for the praises from Mr. E. J. Chard.

We plan to have a display at the Manitoba Genealogical Society Seminar in October, and we look forward to the forthcoming year.

1986 June

The Winnipeg Branch has received a real boost from a long-time member. Mr. Anson B. Campbell has made a substantial donation for setting up a trust fund to be used to further the aims and objectives of the Winnipeg Branch, to purchase genealogical books for our branch library for members' use, and to provide refreshments for our branch meetings. Mr. Campbell was able to attend our Annual Dinner meeting in March. The branch will always be indebted to Mr. Campbell for assuring its success in this way.

It is a great pleasure for us to see enthusiasm grow with the years as Mrs. G. Stella McLeod, who will be 91 in July, showed us when she was presented her certificate by her cousin, Mrs. Helene G. deWit, our branch president. It was very exciting for her to receive this honour, and she has been talking U.E.L. to all her friends and relatives. Those attending were also very much interested in the president's display of documents and pictures used to prove Mrs. McLeod's descent from Daniel Vail, U.E. of Lot 13, Belleisle Bay, Springfield Parish, Kings County, New Brunswick. Mrs. McLeod continues to be active in spite of her advanced years. She resides at the Middlechurch Home in Winnipeg.

At another meeting we enjoyed a talk on functions of the Manitoba Heritage Federation by its president, Mrs. Ruth Breckman. The next meeting produced a link with history. Mrs. Molly Brew gave a very interesting talk about her descent from Chief Joseph Brant, Mohawk Chief of the Six Nations. The early photos and artifacts were especially interesting and added an extra dimension to the written record of Chief Brant.

Oldest Member Celebrated 107th Birthday By Mrs. Margaret Pugh (her niece)
May Stewart Brodrick (nee Wilson) was born on February 6th, 1879 and grew up with an older brother and younger sister on a fruit farm situated on Lake Shore Road between St. Catharines and Port Dalhousie in the Township of Louth in Lincoln County Ontario. In 1903 when few women sought careers, May S. Wilson trained as a nurse in New York City and was granted her R.N. in 1905 by New York University and was registered in Ontario in 1906. She did special duty nursing in New York and Chicago and at times travelled with her patients.

In 1913 she came west to visit her sister Charlotte in Winnipeg and met again Frederick Brodrick from St. Catharines who by this time was a professor of Horticulture and Forestry at the Manitoba Agricultural College. They were married that year and resided here ever since. They had three daughters, three grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

For many years she belonged to a number of organizations: The University Faculty Wives, the I.O.D.E., the United Empire Loyalists, the Conservative Association, the Horticulture Association and All Saints Anglican Church.

Mrs. Brodrick through her mother's side of the family is descended from Jesse Pawling, her U.E.L. ancestor and has a second claim through her grandmother and the Secord family. The first Pawling to come to American was "Henry Pawling, a gallant young Englishman of means, education, and enterprise who came in 1664 in the military expedition sent out by the Duke of York to secure the patent accorded him in that year by his royal brother, King Charles 11"1

Jesse Pawling was of the third generation a U.E.L., a member of Butler's Rangers, and the great-great-grandfather of Mrs. Brodrick. When the Canada Bill was passed in 1791; Pawling was one of the names included as property owners in Louth Township.2 The Pawling name for public service was well maintained as for example Mrs. Brodrick's grandfather Nathan Pawling who was Reeve of Louth four times in the 1860's.

At present, Mrs. Brodrick is a resident of Central Park Lodge, 70 Poseidon Bay in Winnipeg. Though she is obliged to use a wheelchair she is otherwise in remarkably good health. Though her daughters do not live in Winnipeg they have come to see her many times.

So on her birthdays, as her relative in Winnipeg, I help her celebrate with a party and cake shared by those eating in her area. This year she looked at her cards and recognized and commented on the senders. Her great age can likely be attributed to moderation in living, modern medical and nursing practice and, no doubt, to longevity on both sides of the family.

Mrs. Brodrick was always an actively interested member of the U.E.L. Association and served for many years as vice-president of the Winnipeg Branch, retiring in 1967.


1986 December

On October 23rd, the branch held a dinner meeting at St. George's Anglican Church. The guest speaker was Kathy Stokes, the special projects director of the Manitoba Genealogical Society. At the
November meeting Bill Olmstead, spoke on Family Reunions - "the Pleasures and Pitfalls of Family Associations." This was a very interesting follow-up from his very successful seminar on "One-name Family Groups" at the Manitoba Genealogical Society meeting in Brandon last August. Bill was so successful with this topic that it received Canadian Press coverage.

Also at the Brandon seminar, Helene deWit, president and Bill Olmstead, secretary, put on a U.E.L. display. Mr. John Cook, our past president of many years and genealogist, loaned us a lot of books from his own collection along with a U.E.L. mug and plate. Mrs. Molly Brew, a former president loaned us some very interesting artifacts and books on her ancestor, Chief Joseph Brant. These included a saucer over 200 years old, which was part of the Brants’ dinnerware, and pictures of Brant, his sister Molly, and her husband, Sir William Johnson.

Our president, Helene deWit, has put up a set of shelves in her home for the U.E.L. Branch library. She will be glad to look after donated books and to receive suggestions for further purchases.

We are sorry to report that our newsletter editor, Blanche Miller, suffered a heart attack and had to be hospitalized while on a European holiday last summer and underwent surgery on her return to Canada. We are glad to hear that she is improving and hope she will be back with us soon.

1988 April

November the nineteenth, 1987, proved to be a memorable occasion for all concerned.

It began with the arrival of the Dominion President at the International airport where she was met by President Bob Goatcher and his wife Shirley. Dr. Vanderlip was driven to the Viscount Gort to temporarily freshen up and deposit her luggage. She then re-joined the Goatchers and was taken to their home for dinner and conversation until it was time to leave for the informal branch meeting and reception that followed at St. George's Church.

Dr. Vanderlip was introduced to those members in attendance by President Goatcher who opened the evening and then turned the floor over to the guest of honour. Her topic was related to Canadian citizenship past and present plus the loyalty and diversity of the United Empire Loyalist Association and future expectations for membership growth. She was thanked by President Goatcher who then presented her with a tabletop replica of a Red River ox-cart on behalf of the branch. Dr. Vanderlip expressed her appreciation for the gift and the opportunity to personally meet each of the attending members. The social gathering was enjoyed by all and following, Dr. Vanderlip bid all farewell and was driven back to her motel by the Goatchers.

Edith Rowse, Social Convenor, Treasurer Albert Eros and Shirley Bailey Goatcher, Publicity person, were jointly responsible for the attractive table and toothsome edibles for the reception.

Friday, November 20, 1987, President Bob Goatcher, Treasurer, Albert Eros and Shirley Bailey Goatcher, Newsletter Editor, met Dr. Vanderlip informally for lunch at the Viscount Gort. Following a delicious luncheon, farewells were exchanged, the former members returned to their daily occupations while the latter prepared to resume her trip further west.

President Bob and Shirley Goatcher plan to take up their future residence in beautiful Nanaimo, British Columbia in the summer of 1988. Although they will miss the friendships made and enjoyed over the years in Winnipeg, they will enjoy the challenge of a new way of living.

By Shirley Bailey Goatcher UE, Newsletter Editor, Winnipeg Branch

1988 Fall
MOVING: Our former President, Mr. Robert Goatcher, and his wife, Shirley Bailey Goatcher, our former Public Relations and Newsletter person, are moving to Nanaimo, British Columbia. We shall miss them very much but hope they will become active in the Branch in their new home. Best wishes from your friends in Winnipeg!

1989 July

LOYAL TO THE LAST - Group Preserves legacy of our forgotten forefathers

According to most popular account, they were the enemy. Traitors, outcasts, the losing side of the Revolution. Eclipsed by the romance of flag-waving American patriotism, curiously muted by Canadian written history, the heritage of the United Empire Loyalists has largely been dismissed and forgotten by the population of the country they so profoundly affected.

But some descendants of these people, whose mass influx after the American Revolutionary War tipped the cultural balance, are dedicated to keeping that memory alive. Although relatively few in number now and growing older, people calling themselves United Empire Loyalists are still around.

"Our ancestors are the founders of the country, the pioneers who built Canada they had real intestinal fortitude," says Bill Olmstead, the president of Winnipeg's branch of the 3,000 member United Empire Loyalists Association of Canada.

"It's the pride of descending from them and part of our family's history. They changed the whole spectrum of Canada away from French."

During the 1770’s, 65,000 French speaking Canadians made up three-quarters of what would later become Canada but not for long. The arrival in 1783 of the original 60,000 defenders of the Crown forever changed the face of our country.

Moreover, most historians agree it was the British Tory traditions of these early refugees that gave Canada its distinct and un-American flavors.

Modern Loyalists have generally forgiven the first Americans for persecuting their defeated forefathers (often with tar and feathers) and for running them out of the States. But they will never forget, and the shadowy spectre of those ancient battlelines is not completely obscured. "No one's all right or all wrong - it's just a grey area," says Olmstead when asked how it feels to be cast as the bad guys by Americans.

But badmouthing the Yanks is definitely not a part of these Loyalists' activities. It is history in general that sparks their fires, and tracing family roots that preoccupies their time. Helene de Wit is the Association's genealogist and past president. Tracing back five generations for her daughter's grade nine English assignment intrigued her so much, the mother kept on going. "Genealogy is a disease," she says. "Once I get going, I can't stop - I'm living it all the time."

The ancestors of both de Wit and Olmstead were part of the initial inpouring from the thirteen colonies to what was then Nova Scotia. The sheer numbers of immigrant Loyalists (tripling the Nova Scotian population of 17,000) actually led to the formation of a separate province called New Brunswick. Smaller refugee contingencies landed in the eastern townships of Quebec and in southern Ontario. All were granted 200 acres of land by the British government as compensation for the property they had lost to their vengeful American victors.
All members of the modern Loyalist association must be descended from this stock. And they have to prove it. The research, documentation and detective work to establish such links - in light of the scarce and sketchy records - can take years, even lifetimes, but according to de Wit, that is the fun part.

"It's more fun than births and deaths, names and dates," she says. "You can get a total picture of the times." In the Winnipeg club, membership is a big concern. Most of 38 members are getting up in years, only 15 are active, and young people simply are not interested. It's a far cry from the 1930's when 400 Manitoba residents were involved.

It's important to keep the group alive, says Olmstead, to foster sentiments that are ingrained in the culture of their old arch-rivals. "If we cared more about where we came from and what our roots are, maybe there would be as much unanimity and flag-waving here as in the States."

Helene de Wit, U.E. writes:


I have not been able to find the original petition for this land, but I do know he came over on the ship Mercury in late 1783.

Below is a list of others granted land.

** NAMES OF LOYALISTS RECEIVING LAND ON THE NORTHWEST AND SOUTHEAST SIDE OF BELLEISLE BAY IN KINGS COUNTY, NEW BRUNSWICK consisting of 17,330 acres. - Source: Land Grant # 80, dated 12 January, 1787, Cornelius Nice and 126 others; N.B. Archives, Fredericton;**

The spelling is as found on document. No's. represents: the lot numbers

Names re-arranged in alphabetical order, by "lot" or "plantation" section.

**SOUTH EAST SIDE:**

Thomas Beatty #18; Joseph Brothers #20; David Close #19; William Crawford 1/2#14; John Hamilton #22; George Hazis; I(2-#20; Malcom McKenzie #21; Cornelius Nice #13; Eluid Nickerson #17; William Olive #21; Samuel Osborn # 1/2 Lot # 14; George Price 1(2-#16;Allan Price 1(2#16; John Small #22; John Frederick Stickel #15; Henry Arp #8; Seth Bryant 1/2-#8; Michael Earl 1/2-#4; Samuel Peters #2; William Peters ##3; Nathaniel Teed 1/2-#4; John Vail 1/2-#7 Moses Vail 1(2-#7; John Watt #5; Ephraim Wheaton #1; Uriah Wright #6; Samuel Boyer #3; John Lawton 1/2-#2; Catharine McNeal #2; Patrick McEwan 1/2- #1; William Young 1/2-#1; James Bulkeley 1/2-17; John Cook Sr. 1/2-#17; Richard Brown #16; William Roden #18; Randolph Snowden #15; Robert Andrew 1/2-#13; Ann Brown 1/2-#14; John Cock Sr. & John Cock Jr. #12; Jacob Drake & Jeremiah Drake #3; Joseph Drew 1/2-#6; Ann Drummond 1/2-#5; Edward Duffie 1/2-#11; Cornelius Fowler & Walter Fowler #2; James Grey and Justus Grey #1; William Kearney 1/2-#9; Elizabeth McCrea 1/2-#6; Patrick McEwen 1(2-#8; Charles McNeal #7; Anthony Reece 1/2-#10; Jane Milligan 1/2-#14; Henry Rodan 1/2-#11; James Rogers 1/2-#5; James Shanks 1(2-#9; John & Elizabeth Valleau #4; Thomas Walker 1(2-#8; Elizabeth Webster 1(2-#10;

Ann Brown 1/2-#8; Selick Dann #3; Patrick Fox #1; William Grey #s 5 and 6; Philip Heustis #4; Robert Lindsey #7; Jane Milligan 112-#8; Thomas Spragg #2;
NORTH WEST SIDE:

Caleb Davis #5; James Dickenson #2; Richard and John McDonald #3; Richard Spragg #4; Thomas Spragg #6; Caleb Spragg & Elijah Spragg #7; Ichabod Squire #1;

Henry Arp #11; William Balster 1/2-7; James Bulkley #5; Sarah Bulkley 1/2-4; Samuel Dickenson #8; Peter Drake #6; Uriah Drake 1/2-1; Joseph Drew 1/2-26; Ann Drummond 1/2-17; Edward Duffie 1/2-22; Henry Ellis 1/2-7; Aaron Fowler #12; Aaron Fowler Jr. 1/2-2; Peter Halleback 1/2-23; John Hamilton 1/2-20; Peter Hawn #9; Dorothy Kingston 1/2-19; Elizabeth McCrea 1/2-16; Malcolm McKenzie 1/2-21; Catharine McNeal 1/2-19; Jane Maskalyne #24; James Moffat 1/2-18; William Olive 1/2-21; Henry Radan 1/2-3; William Roden Jr. 1/2-23; Anthony Reece 1/2-22; William Roden 1/2-15; James Rogers 1/2-17; James Shank 1/2-3; John Small 1/2-20; William Small 1/2-15; Robert Spence 1/2-16; Richard B. Squire #10; William Taylor 1/2-4; Joseph Teed #25; Gilbert Theall(2-1; Tertullus ThealI12-2; John Urquhart #14; Daniel Vail #13; Thomas Walker 1/2-26; William Young #18; Caleb Carver #1; Abraham Downey 1/2-2; Daniel Jenkins #3; Thomas Kitchen #4; Mary Quain 1/2-2; Christopher Rupert #5;

Submitted by Helene G. de Wit, U.E. Branch Genealogist, Winnipeg

1990 Spring

Mrs. Stella McLeod, U.E. (born 14 July 1895), Winnipeg Branch member celebrated her 95th birthday on Sunday July 9, 1989 with her close family.

Letters of congratulations were received from Premier Gary Filmon and Lieutenant Governor George Johnson.

Although Stella lives in Middlechurch Nursing Home, just outside of Winnipeg, she usually takes the Nursing Home bus every Tuesday to Eatons in downtown Winnipeg, where she meets friends and family for lunch.

Mr. Anson B. Campbell celebrated his l00th birthday on Wednesday May 24th, 1989. A reception was held in his honour at Lions Place. A number of our branch members were able to participate with friends, acquaintances and former neighbours. Mr. Campbell was escorted into the hall on the arm of Mr. George Johnson, wife of our Lieut. Governor to the skid of the bagpipes. Presentations were made from former Employees, Government officials, and other acquaintances who were there to honour him. The Manitoba Telephone System made special preparations to have his younger brother, Victor (aged 95), who was in the hospital, talk to him via long distance from Edmonton.

Mr Campbell enjoys coming out to our branch dinner meetings, and we hope he will attend many more.

Grant #61 to John Holmes and 38 Others who received land in New Brunswick, known as "Long Island" on the western Shore of River Saint John near entrance of Washadamoc Lake, Queen's Co. containing 761 acres,

Under this Grant, my 4th and 3rd Great Grandfathers, Michael & Jonathan Ogden, were among the 39 Loyalists.

The 761 acres were divided into 84 lots, and given to 39 Loyalists as listed below (alphabetized for easier reading). The grant was dated 14 July 1786 by John Odell and registered on the 19th of July 1786, by T. Knox.
Henry Bulyea #7,61 & 61; Joseph Bulyea # 19; Nathaniel Coombs #55 & 69; Thomas Coombes #50; John Cromwall #18, & 20; Thomas Cromwell #67 & 68; John Delong #51; Edward Edwards #57; Daniel Fletcher #12; Daniel Gerow #11; James Gerow #15 & 25; Benjamin Golding #52 & 71; John Golding #5, & 10; Joseph Golding #13; Charlotte Haynes #56; George Haszis (Hayes?) #73, 74, 75 & 76; Richard Hewlet #33,34,5 & 36; John Holmes, #1, & 49; Caleb Merritt #31 & 32; Thomas McDonald #17, 65, 66; Jonathan Ogden #39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, & 47; Michael Ogden #48; Daniel Parent#53, 54 & 70; Thomas Peters #72; Gilbert Pugsley #8; Joseph Rathburn #27, 28, 29, & 30; Catharine Ritner #59; Andrew Schamper #60; Elias Secord #77, 78, 79,80; William Secord #81,82, & 84; Leonard Stipp #58; Jonathan Smith #37 & 38; Robert Smith #2; Mary Thomas #21 & 22; Jacob Van Wart #16; John Van Wart #23 & 24; James Wais #4, 14, & 26; John Watson #9; James Woods #6; Presented for information of others seeking their loyalist ancestors in New Brunswick by Helene de Wit UE.

1990 Fall

The Annual Meeting was held in March 1990, at the home of Mrs. Margaret Carter. The following were nominated and accepted as our new Executive for the 19901991 year:

President, William Olmstead
Vice-President, Al Eros
Secretary, Blanche Miller
Treasurer, Helene de Wit
Genealogist, Ava Collins
Program, Margaret Carter
Social Convener, Shirley Perron
Chaplain, Dorothy Lane

It was decided that in the future, our meetings will be held in the homes of our members, because the number of people who come out to our meetings do not warrant the cost of renting a room. Therefore, our branch meetings will be held at different members' homes. Homes have been chosen up to and including April 24, 1991. If you want more information or want to volunteer the use of your home for a meeting, please call either Bill at 269-6934, Helene at 668-4091 or Shirley at 254-8514.

Our phoning committee will call Winnipeg members to remind them, but if you are out of town check with one of the three members listed above.

On Mother's Day, 1990, several of our members met Mr. John Orr, our western representative to the National Board, at the Winnipeg Airport, when he stopped over on his trip back home to Vancouver to give us insight into the "happenings at the National Annual Meeting".

On Mr. Anson B. Campbell's 101 birthday this year, his housekeeper was kind enough to open her home so that several members could honour him. We all enjoyed the luncheon.

Mrs. Lois Dearden who has been an associate member for several years, has finally got all the documents she needed to prove her descendancy to John Farlinger. Our genealogist, Mrs. Ava Collins, is still waiting for the certificate from Headquarters. Congratulations, Lois.

The branch "active" library has been transferred to the home of Mrs. Ava Collins, who is our genealogist/librarian. If you want to borrow any of the books, or need information, please call her at 668-
9116 after 6:00 p.m.. The Branch's archival material is still held in the Winnipeg Public Archives in Winnipeg.

Several members of the Executive are working on bringing the Winnipeg Branch Constitution up-to-date. We hope that it will be ready for approval at the 1991 annual meeting.

By Mrs. Helene G. de Wit

1994 Fall

The Rev. Robert Campbell, Westminster United Church, Winnipeg, conducted a Sunday service on May 1st, 1994, at which members of the Winnipeg Branch were in attendance to commemorate the 211th Anniversary of the arrival of the "Loyalist Fleet" from New York, at St. John, New Brunswick, on May 17th 1783. Branch President Bob Stokes read from the scriptures.

A new Canadian flag was dedicated and received by Vice-President Margaret Carter, on behalf of the members. Flag bearers were Bill Olmstead and Walt McCaw.

Following the service, the Winnipeg Branch members and Rev. Campbell, wife Linda and son James (all Loyalist descendants) enjoyed a brunch at the Winnipeg Winter Club, hosted by John and Margaret Carter.

By Walt McCaw, Branch Genealogist

1997 Spring

The highlight of our year was the visit of the Dominion President, Ms. Bernice Flett. It was a great honour to have her visit our Branch and formally present our new charter as we once more became the Manitoba Branch. The charter was accepted on behalf of our members by Branch President Mrs. Margaret Carter, whose father had been an active member for many years. Past President Robert Stokes, also received his certificate as a Regular Member. It was heartening to have had personal contact with the Dominion President and to feel that the channels of communication between the two levels of the Association are open.

The Manitoba Branch has had an activity packed year. In September, after receiving notification that our invitation to host the Association's 1997 Convention had been accepted, we started to solidify our plans. There have been many convention committee meetings, too numerous to count! We have held our regular meetings, as well as our Annual General Meeting, at members' homes. The AGM at which President Bernice Flett was an honoured guest, followed a luncheon at the University Women's Club. We also had a Barbecue Supper in June and a Pot Luck Dinner in September.

In order to increase public awareness, we mounted a display at the Manitoba Genealogical Society Annual Seminar in Winnipeg, and also at the Special Area Groups (SAG DAY) (Social Studies Division). Both organizations draw attendance from the entire province and beyond. We are prepared to present programs about the Loyalists to groups with which we made contact at these events. Of particular interest is the discussion which took place at SAG about a permanent Jewish Loyalist display for the Jewish Museum currently being built in Winnipeg.
At both of these events we distributed our membership information and guidelines for our Young Loyalists Competition. This is our second year of working with the Young Historians' Committee of the Manitoba Historical Society. Information is available through the MHS Office (204) 947-0559 or through our Branch (204) 694-6183.

In February (Black History Month), we are planning a display featuring the story of the Black Loyalists at Holy Trinity Anglican Church in downtown Winnipeg, during the church's multi-cultural night.

1998 Spring

Our Branch is grateful to Association President, Bernice Flett, and Elizabeth Richardson, as liaison, for invaluable assistance, encouragement and support for the '97 conference in Winnipeg. Publicity for the event increased our membership.

The presentation of our Charter in 1996 by Mrs. Flett enables us to reach beyond the Winnipeg perimeter, the road surrounding the city, resented by many of those outside of its boundary who call those living within the city guilty of "perimeteritis".

The Manitoba Branch, in accordance with the advice given by Dr. Dorothy Duncan at the Winnipeg Conference, has been duly incorporated. This will protect its executive and members from personal liability should any unfortunate financial circumstances arise. Henceforth, our branch will be known as The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, Manitoba Branch Inc.

NETWORKING

- A manned display and sales table at annual provincial conference of social studies teachers enables us, for a minimal fee, to circulate information to every school division for distribution to individual schools within the Province.
- Souris Heritage Club, in southwest em Manitoba, will host a series of events during the Victoria Day weekend with Victorian parade, picnic, dinner, church service, etc.. Accommodation is available in Souris or Brandon about half hour away. Our Branch will be represented.
- Several Branch members became members of the Monarchist's League, the Royal Commonwealth Society, The Intrepid Society, and the English-Speaking Union. We have a membership in the Manitoba Historical Society which allows us access to their events and circulate our information.

THE BEST NEWS

The Manitoba Provincial Government has reversed its decision to delete Canadian history as a compulsory subject in the high school curriculum.

At the November meeting of our Manitoba Branch, we were pleased to ask Miss Margaret Pugh to become our Honourary President. She served several years as our President and latterly as Chaplain, and is the longest serving member of our branch. Manitoba's Chief Protocol Officer Mrs. Kathleen Brown, M.V.D., the guest speaker, told of her investiture at Buckingham Palace by Queen Elizabeth II. She presented Miss Pugh with a corsage of Loyalist Roses. (See Loyalist Portraits)

By Margaret Carter UE
1999 Spring

For the first time in many years, (if ever), eight certificates were presented at branch meeting in Winnipeg. The Manitoba Branch annual meeting was held at the University Women's Club, the historic home of the author, Ralph Connor. After a luncheon in the dining room, members adjourned to the lower level for the meeting. Those receiving certificates were; Jonathan Hunt, Lynn Roseman, (who had done the research and was responsible for applying for four other members of her family. Dianne Nerbas, the granddaughter of Major W. H Hunt, who for many years was active in the (then) Winnipeg Branch as one of its first members and the daughter of former members of the Branch, Albert and Katherine (Hunt) Scott. She is the niece of Margaret Carter, current Branch President. Miss Margaret Pugh, long time and honored member, Treasurer Ken Runions and the President participated in the ceremony.

My few months as Western Vice President have greatly helped our branch. I hope that through sharing information it will also be of great benefit to the other branches. The presentation ceremony was the work of the Chilliwack Branch. A "library day", on a Saturday, at the Manitoba Genealogical Society's spacious location and using its library, enabled members to make progress in their research. This was an idea borrowed from the Thompson Okanagan Branch.

At the Kingston Conference, someone suggested a sewing bee as a way to get the Branch costuming started. As a result, after only one session, several garments are in various stages of construction. Our deadline for completion is our annual Loyalist Church service May 9, at historic St. Andrew's on the Red, with lunch to follow at the Captain Kennedy's House close by. These have both been designated as National Historic Sites.

By Margaret Carter UE.

1999 Fall

The suggestion made by a branch member, to hold a sewing bee, resulted in the debut of Manitoba Branch Loyalist period clothing on eight branch members at the Annual Church Service in May. This year the Branch attended Old St. Andrew's on the Red, the stone church constructed for the Red River settlers in 1830. The Rev. Robert Sharman preached on Loyalist heritage, entirely from memory. (His first Canadian History teacher was Mrs. Linda McDowell, the President of the Manitoba Social Studies Teachers, who has four Loyalist ancestors. Linda has been of great assistance to our branch, especially in our attempts to become visible in the Manitoba school system.)

Following the service, the blessing of the seeds in the rectory garden, and tea at the rectory, lunch was served to fifty members and friends at Lower Fort Garry. It was indeed a most memorable day! The clothing was worn again on Saturday, the 24th of August during the visit to Winnipeg of Her Royal Highness, Princess Anne. Thanks to the fulfillment of a dream of one of its members, the Manitoba Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, was invited to be present at the unveiling of the Leo Mol Statue of Sir William Stephenson "The Man Called Intrepid" by Her Royal Highness, Princess Anne. This statue now occupies a place of prominence on Memorial Boulevard facing the Province of Manitoba Legislative Building.

The event was the culmination of the tireless efforts of Syd Davy, President of the Winnipeg Branch of the Royal Commonwealth Society, to have Winnipeg born Sir William Stephenson recognized for his many accomplishments. Sir William Stephenson contributed in numerous ways for the benefit of the Free World. Most outstanding was his role as head of the espionage during World War II. Ten members of the Manitoba Branch, seven of them in Loyalist clothing, attended the ceremony and the reception that followed on the
Legislative Building grounds. During the Princess's walkabout, Margaret Carter had the privilege of a brief chat with Her Royal Highness. Princess Anne commented on the period clothing stating that it acted as insulation in the warmth of the mid-day sun. Margaret shared her recollections of standing with her parents, as part of the then Winnipeg Branch UELAC, during the 1939 visit of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, the grandparents of the Princess. "We were loyal to the Crown during the American Revolution and as descendants of the original Loyalists, loyal we remain!"

2003 Spring

CONGRATULATIONS, HILARY CARTER ALTO, PHD, UE

Dr. Carter was awarded a Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Calgary.

Hilary was born in Winnipeg and attended Balmoral Hall School for Girls for ten years before completing her high school education at the University of Winnipeg, Collegiate Division. In 1979 she graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. After graduation she married Jussi Alto and moved to Calgary. Hilary worked in the oil industry for a number of years and then stayed home to raise their three children: Jaime 19, Owen 18, and Kevin 18. In 1996 she was awarded her Master of Science in Geomatics Engineering from the University of Calgary before continuing her studies to attain her doctorate.

2004 Fall

Liz Currie, a student at Gordon Bell High School in Winnipeg MB has been judged winner of the “It’s Cool to be Canadian Contest” sponsored by the Manitoba Historical Society and the Manitoba Branch of the United Empire Loyalists’ Association. There will be another formal presentation of a certificate at the school’s Awards Day in the fall. This contest was designed to help Grade 11 Social Studies students realize the many advantages of living Canada. This is a pilot project for youth involvement. For further information please contact Margaret A. Carter c/o the Manitoba Branch.

CANADIAN HISTORY ESSAY CONTEST

The Manitoba Historical Society and the Manitoba Branch want to learn about high school students’ appreciation of their Canadian Heritage. These two organizations are again sponsoring an essay contest for S3 students in Manitoba schools with a prize of $200.00. Second and third prizes will be book presentations. The essay should illustrate by examples from Canadian history the many contributions of our country to the world - for example: Macintosh apples, basketball, times zones and the Salk vaccine amongst many others. It should take into consideration the size of its population and its proportional impact on the world scene.

Contest Rules
1. Eligibility: Grade 11 History or English Students in Manitoba are eligible to enter.
2. Theme: Examples of Canadian inventions and/or discoveries that have benefited world citizens.
3. Length and Format: Typed or printed, double-spaced on 8 ½” by 11” paper, approximately 1000 words.
4. Documentation and Presentation:
   a) Theme must be developed in a logical manner using historical, current facts and data
b) Legibility, style and grammar will be considered in the judging of these written entries

c) All entries must include a bibliography, title page and footnotes

d) Students are encouraged to use a variety of sources

Entry must be received on or before
May 20, 2005 to:
Essay Contest
c/o Education Chair
2-1800 Wellington Crescent
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3P 2E5

For questions please leave a message on a virtual telephone line at: (204) 489-7180 and your call will be returned, or jmcarter@mts.net

2006 Spring

Lynn Francis UE of the Manitoba Branch, a great grandmother and descendant of Loyalist Peter Etter UE, participated with her three sisters, Margaret Oliver of Calgary, Alberta, Muriel Simister of Surrey, British Columbia, and Jean Gregory of Winnipeg, Manitoba, in “Mothership Adventures” for seven days, including a five-day kayaking tour of the Johnston Strait and the Broughton Archipelago in British Columbia’s Inner Passage. Their companions were younger by about twenty-five to thirty years and mostly athletic types, one being a champion swimmer and another a skiing teacher at Whistler. Three were marathon runners and most had kayaked before.

The Mothership, Columbia III, was formerly a missionary/medical ship that travelled British Columbia’s west coast. They ate and slept on board while kayaking and enjoyed a shore lunch each day. The scenery was breathtaking! One day, they went ashore and were entertained by Tom Sewid, a native at Village Island, who, in traditional greeting regalia, told his audience, sitting on logs before the remains of a longhouse, of the importance of the Potlatch. Another shore visit was to U’Mista Cultural Centre, which now houses masks and treasures finally repatriated from the Canadian Government after more than fifty years of lengthy negotiations. On their way back to Alert Bay they anchored for about an hour to watch for whales but none came too close. After a last lunch at Alert Bay they sailed back to Port McNeil. Driving south from there they stopped at Telegraph Cove, a World War II base and finally caught a ferry back to the mainland.

The novelty of this adventure for the four sisters was their ages, 72, 78, 82 and 83.

Three of Manitoba Branch’s Education Committee members, Bruce Wood UE, Committee Chairperson, Rod Nerbas and Margaret Carter UE, recently spoke to sixty students at Stanley Knowles School in Winnipeg who sat spellbound for two hours.

By Margaret Carter UE

2007 Spring

The Manitoba Branch UELAC held its annual luncheon on Tuesday, 16 January 2007 at the Masonic Temple in Winnipeg. Guest speaker for the event was Mr. William Neville, a Senior Scholar in the Department of Political Studies at the University of Manitoba. The theme of Mr. Neville’s speech was Canadians and the Canadian Identity and the title was Reflections on Our Present Discontent. Former Winnipeg Mayor, Bill Norrie, was in attendance and introduced the speaker.
The annual luncheon is a wonderful event that allows the Branch to gain exposure in the community and the timing of this luncheon corresponded with the release of the new teachers’ resource The Loyalists Pioneers and Settlers of the West that was on display for members and guests to peruse.

Ken’s research goes back to his earliest known ancestor, Vincent Rongnion (Runyon, Runyan, Runnion, Runions), a Huguenot (French Protestant) from France who came to America with Phillip Carteret on the ship Phillip from Isle of Jersey to Elizabethtown in 1666.

The master of ceremonies of the event was Branch President, Barbara Andrew UE. Planning and arranging was looked after by Rod and Dianne Nerbas, Bruce Wood, Lynn Francis, Peter Rogers, Norm Pound and Tom Walker.

By Barb Andrew UE, Branch President

2007 Fall

We are most fortunate that arrangements to hold the AGM and luncheon to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the founding of the branch will take place in the Oak Room of the Manitoba Club overlooking the Upper Fort Garry Gate. This may be a once in a lifetime opportunity for us to enter this historic building.

Elizabeth Richardson U.E., Dominion Archivist/Historian, has graciously agreed to attend and provide an informative history of the Manitoba Branch following lunch. It is hoped that all members, past and present, will attend this event and extend invitations to family and friends interested in the history of our organization.

The work of the branch continues throughout the year and does not take a summer vacation. Programs are organized, venues secured, newsletters prepared, contacts with schools and other organizations firmed up, finances monitored, bills are paid, research is conducted, geranium gardens are tended and the list goes on. Without all of these behind the scenes activities our branch would indeed suffer.

Copies of THE LOYALISTS: Pioneers and Settlers of The West are being circulated to educators throughout the province and contact has been made with the Brandon School Division to have involvement with history fairs held in western areas of the province.

We hope that teachers and UELAC members from all across Canada will have access to this booklet that tells of the achievements of some of the Loyalists and their descendants.

A tour of the Legislative Building (including the Loyalist Plaque of 1967) and lunch to follow at the Tavern in the Park has been arranged for Sept. 21st.

The Manitoba Branch will again have a display table at the Annual Social Studies Teachers’ Conference (SAG Day) in Winnipeg, Friday, Nov. 23rd.

2008 Spring

The 75th Anniversary Celebration of the Manitoba Branch took place in the ambience of the stately old Manitoba Club on Saturday, 3 November. There were forty-three members (past and present) and
guests in attendance. An excellent lunch was preceded by the Branch’s Annual Meeting and followed by an address by Fred Hayward UE, Dominion Senior Vice-President.

By Margaret Carter UE

2008 Fall

The Manitoba Branch started the year with attendance at the Premier’s New Year’s Day Levee. The Education Committee travelled to Brandon to give a three-school presentation. Its members, Bruce Wood, Rod Nerbas and Margaret Carter took the display to the University of Winnipeg for the Heritage Fair event sponsored by Historica. President Barb Andrew ensured that there was also a display at the Brandon Heritage Fair.

For the tenth year the Branch has been responsible for the Loyalist Garden on the lawn of Coronation Park just behind the building where we house our archives, library and current records. We are hoping to hire a student to catalogue our extensive collection.

The Branch is once more visiting different churches in the province for its Annual Loyalist Church Service. This year it took place at Broadway First Baptist in Winnipeg. We find it strange that two different Lutheran churches had declined to have us visit.

For the first time ever we took the display to the Lily Festival and Centennial Home Coming celebrations at Neepawa, Manitoba.

The Branch has designed a second questionnaire to better ascertain the wishes of the members. It will be circulated with the fall newsletter. It is of interest to note that almost half of the Branch’s members live in places other than Winnipeg.

On October 18 the Manitoba Branch will present a one-day Elizabeth Briggs Loyalist Workshop in collaboration with the Millennium Library. It will take place in the Carol Shields Auditorium on the second floor. For the months of September and October the Branch will have displays in the cabinets on the library’s main floor.

By Margaret Carter UE

2009 Spring

The Manitoba Branch has had a very productive year that began as in former years with several members attending the Lieutenant Governor’s Levee at the Legislative Building.

In March a regular meeting was held at the Winnipeg Winter Club with Rick Walker giving an illustrated presentation on the new Millennium Library where he is the Director of Library Services. An Open House was held at the Branch’s Resource Centre. In May, His Honour, The Honourable John Harvard P.C., O.M. opened Government House to the public, during Doors Open Manitoba. Along with several other heritage groups, members of our branch set up on the grounds.

The Annual Loyalist Church Service was held this year in early June at Broadway First Baptist Church in Winnipeg with lunch following at the University Women’s Club. Later in the month members gathered in Brandon to enjoy a tour of Daly house Museum and a picnic on the museum grounds, thanks to the efforts of Barb and Garry Andrew. Later in the month a two-hour drive took us to Belmont in south-western
Manitoba, the hometown of member Cathy Darbell. After a regular meeting a delicious turkey dinner preceded a tour of the Belmont and District Museum.

The Annual Meeting was held at the Millennium Library. For the months of September and October there was a most interesting Loyalist display on the main floor of the new building. In conjunction with the display Elizabeth Briggs, Manitoba’s foremost genealogist, presented a Loyalist Genealogical Workshop. She had studied our information for many months, accumulating considerable knowledge to add to her previous research in Canada and Britain. She has since presented other Loyalist workshops and carried the information to other areas of the province during her frequent presentations. Time out was taken for lunch and the Annual Meeting was conducted by Barb Andrew in her usual efficient manner.

The November Meeting was held at the Winnipeg Winter Club where, following a light lunch, Professor Wilson Brown, recently retired from the University of Winnipeg, presented an illustrated story about the Loyalist, William Marsh UE, the ancestor of his wife and historian/author Jennifer. Later in the month, in Brandon, Barb and several members from the southwest area of the province manned a display at the Brandon Learning Information for Teaching Conference. The same day Bruce Wood UE and Margaret Carter UE presented illustrated programs on Living in Loyalist Times to Grade 5 and Grade 11 teachers at the Annual Special Area Group Day Conference in Winnipeg, while Vera Ash and Cathy Darbell manned the display tables. A time for visiting and the Annual Cookie Exchange took place at the home of John and Margaret Carter.

Norm and Eileen Pound celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary in 2007. Amy and Ivan Forsyth UE celebrated their 60th in 2008.

Muriel Bernice (McIntosh) Thomson, a long-time member of the Manitoba Branch died on 21 December 2008 at age 86. She had been a faithful member of the Manitoba Branch for many years. We send condolences to her husband, Dr. Ashley Thomson, and the extended family.

There were new Loyalists grandbabies born. Congratulations to Barb Andrew UE, Alice Walchuk UE and Dianne Nerbas UE during 2008. Thanks to the hard work of Alice Walchuk UE, there have been seventeen certificates presented.

Alma Bentley UE donated a copy of her book The Way it Was: A Family Story. It begins with her Loyalist ancestry and finishes with her great grandchildren! What a wonderful gift for future generations!

By Margaret Carter UE

2010 Spring

What a wonderful year 2009 was for the Manitoba Branch! Our meetings and gatherings were very well attended and interest in our organization in Manitoba has certainly grown thanks in no small part to the continued visibility of our members (many wearing Loyalist period clothing) out and about in the communities of our province. The members of the Outreach and Education Committee continued spending countless hours honing their presentations and travelling to classrooms and other display venues throughout the province.

Although Mother Nature foiled our March meeting plans by providing very poor driving conditions, our planned speaker, Peter Rogers UE, graciously offered to postpone his slated presentation until April. It was well worth the wait and a very appreciative gathering enjoyed his well-put-together power point presentation on his Loyalist ancestor. In May, a number of branch members attended Government House dressed in period clothing during the Doors Open Winnipeg event.
The annual branch Church parade was held at the lovely Knox Presbyterian Church in Selkirk on June 14th. Our members were certainly a standout dressed in period clothing both at the church service and meet and greet following. Folks enjoying a Sunday Brunch at the Selkirk Golf and Country Club certainly had plenty of questions as we arrived for lunch.

Once again the "Red Geranium Garden" was planted and tended by member volunteers in Coronation Park in Winnipeg. The first event after summer break was held in the lovely town of Neepawa (which has been named the World Lily Capital) at the lovely old Presbyterian Church. Tours of the many beautiful heritage buildings were provided following a scrumptious lunch provided by the church ladies.

The Branch AGM took place in October and guests were treated to a mini demonstration and workshop with the Village Green-English Country Dancers. After watching several sets of the Sir Roger de Coverly reel, many of the members joined with the dancers and enjoyed a fun-filled half hour of instruction.

During the November meeting, the new executive members were installed and lively discussions took place on a number of topics. and a new slate of officers was elected during the November meeting, the new executive members were installed and lively discussions took place on a number of topics.

By Barbara J. Andrew UE, Past President

2010 Fall

On Sunday, 16 May 2010, members of the St. Andrew’s Society of Winnipeg along with the Manitoba Living History Society joined members of the Manitoba Branch UELAC for the annual Branch Church Parade. The event this year was at the historic Cathedral Church of Saint John in Winnipeg. Following the service and lunch, attendees were treated to most informative tours of the historic graveyard of St. John’s Cathedral and visited the graves of John Norquay (the sixth Premier of Manitoba); William Tupper (the second son of Sir Charles Tupper, one of the Fathers of Confederation); Sir Samuel Steele (of North West Mounted Police fame) and numerous other well-known citizens who contributed to the development of life in the West.

By Barbara J. Andrew UE, Branch Past President

2011 Spring

The Manitoba Branch held the first annual Heritage Dinner on Saturday, 25 September 2010, at Viscount Gort Hotel in Winnipeg in conjunction with the Prairie Regional Meeting. Dominion President Fred Hayward was one of the head table guests along with Prairie Regional VP Gerry Adair and wife Pat. The evening kicked off with a
Piper led Period Clothing Parade. After a very enjoyable meal the Association Honorary President, The Honourable Peter Milliken UE, treated the assembly to a most informative talk. Mr. Milliken, who is the longest serving Speaker of the House of Commons, addressed the role of the United Empire Loyalists, his ancestral roots both Loyalist of Upper Canada and 19th century settlers in Saskatchewan, as well as the three main roles he plays as Speaker of the House.

New Year's Day Levée

Manitoba’s first Lieutenant Governor, The Honourable Adams Archibald, held a reception at Upper Fort Garry on 06 September 1870, just days after arriving in the province, so he could meet the general populace. It marked the first of many social events presided over by Manitoba’s Lieutenant Governors.

Lieutenant Governor Archibald hosted his first New Year’s Levée on 02 January 1871 at Upper Fort Garry, where he established residence. Construction of Government House at 10 Kennedy Street was completed in the fall of 1883 and the first New Year’s Levée was held there in 1884, hosted by Manitoba’s fourth Lieutenant Governor, The Honourable James Aikins. The 1884 Levée began at four o’clock in the afternoon and lasted for more than two hours. Premier John Norquay and Cabinet Ministers C.P. Brown and A.A.C. LaRivière assisted the Lieutenant Governor and Mrs. Aikins. In addition to the general public, a number of distinguished guests attended. American Consul James Wickes Taylor and Archbishop Robert Machray were among those who presented their calling cards before joining the reception. The main table in the dining room was generously laid out with garnished platters of turkey, prairie chicken, partridge, duck, venison and other dishes for the enjoyment of the guests.

Over the years, the Lieutenant Governor’s New Year’s Levée drew an ever-increasing number of citizens until eventually the crowd could no longer be accommodated in Government House. Starting in 1971, the public Levée on New Year’s Day was switched from Government House to the more commodious corridors of the Legislative Building where Their Honours greet their guests. The main Levée continues to be held on January 1st in Winnipeg, the provincial capital, but the Lieutenant Governor also hosts Levées in rural communities throughout the year.

By Barbara J. Andrew UE, Past President

2011 Fall

Annual Church Parade took place on 15 May 2011 at North Kildonan United Church. The Reverend Marc Whitehead delivered a sermon entitled “In the Service of the King” in which he linked loyal service in the realms of both sacred and secular.

Rod Nerbas and President Peter Rogers presented the flags and Peter Rogers did the first reading.

The nine branch members who attended were given a warm and gracious welcome by the congregation and were invited to join it for coffee and conversation after the service.

The members then repaired to “Parry’s” at the NorVilla where they enjoyed an abundant brunch and excited much attention from other patrons.
A Royal Occasion

On 29 April 2011 Branch members were invited to join the residents of Shaftsbury Park Retirement Residence in Winnipeg for a celebration of the wedding of Prince William and Catherine Middleton. Vera Ash and Mary Steinhoff, both in costume, attended the event. They enjoyed viewing a tape of the Royal Wedding and joined the residents for afternoon tea.

Members residing in the western part of the province were invited to join the residents of Victoria Landing Retirement Residence in Brandon for a “wedding reception” to celebrate the royal nuptials. Residents wearing their finest millinery creations and Branch members in Loyalist period costumes enjoyed an afternoon of harp music and partook of strawberry shortcake and tea. Barb Andrew presented a short “History of the Loyalists” to the gathering.

Manitoba Members “Caught The Spirit”

UELAC 2011 Conference was very much enjoyed by the nine Manitobans that travelled to Brockville to partake of the festivities. A hearty “Hats off” to the organizing committee and the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch members who were excellent hosts. Many went that “extra mile” to aid fellow Loyalist Descendants with research assistance. Thanks for a job well done!

By Barbara J. Andrew UE, Past President

2013 Spring

Branch members took time during the summer months and early fall to catch their collective breath following the hosting of Conference at the Confluence before resuming UELAC activities.

Barb Andrew UE and Bob McConomy UE travelled to Regina to attend the Prairie Regional Mini-Conference 21-23 September. Hats off to the Saskatchewan Branch for hosting a most informative and educational weekend.

Saturday, September 29th, members gathered at Central United Church in Brandon for a business meeting and lunch. During the afternoon, the group visited the new Brandon General Museum & Archives, located in the Manitoba Government Telephone building, constructed in 1916. A tour of the newly-developed Victoria Garden at Daly House Museum to view the Red Geranium flowerbed rounded off the day.

Gates on Roblin in Winnipeg was the setting for the AGM on October 20th. Bob McConomy UE was elected President for the upcoming year. Following a lunch break, newly-installed President McConomy led the members in an organizational review of the branch.

During the November 24th meeting at Gates on Roblin, Margaret Carter UE presented the Past President pin to Peter Rogers UE. The afternoon program was presented by Bruce Chegus, Chair of the St. James Assiniboia School Board, and Grant Nordman, City Councillor for the St. Charles ward and Speaker of the civic council.
Once again, members of the Manitoba Branch, dressed in period clothing, attended the New Year’s Levee at the Manitoba Legislative Building in Winnipeg on January 1st and were formally presented to their Honours Lt. Governor Philip S. Lee and Anita Lee and Premier Greg Selinger. The afternoon event featured sleigh rides around the grounds, and entertainment by Chinese Lion Dancers, choral groups and choirs.

By Barbara J. Andrew UE, Branch Newsletter Editor

2014 Fall

On Thursday, 12 June 2014, Minister of Multiculturalism and Literacy, the Honourable Flor Marcelino, representing the Government of Manitoba, proclaimed the first United Empire Loyalists’ Day in the province.

A committee consisting of Margaret Carter UE, Robert McConomy UE, and Mary Steinhoff had been working for more than a year to bring this about.

A formal ceremony was held in the Manitoba Room of legislature, followed by a reception. Manitoba Branch President Robert McConomy UE served as master of ceremonies. He welcomed the guests and introduced the honourable minister. The Reverend Robert Campbell UE gave a blessing to the assembly.

Minister Marcelino brought greetings from the government and read the proclamation. She was thanked by branch secretary, Mary Steinhoff, who commented that it was fitting that the proclamation take place in a building promoted by two loyalist descendants, Premier Rodmond Roblin, and Minister of Public Works Colin Campbell.

Senior Vice-President Barb Andrew UE brought greetings from the Dominion UELAC. The ceremony was followed by a reception and the serving of light refreshments. Barb Andrew had been presented with a Loyalist flag by the UELAC publicity committee. The flag was raised in Memorial Park across from the Manitoba Legislative Building and it flew proudly for the day. There were some forty guests in attendance. In addition to members of the Manitoba Branch of the UELAC, there were members of the Commonwealth Society, the Monarchist League, and the Manitoba Historical Society.

It is hoped that the awarding of this Proclamation will become an annual event.

Rain, rain and more rain on Saturday, 14 June, played havoc during the annual branch picnic but, in true Loyalist spirit, a time of fellowship and food happened in spite of the wet weather when Ken and Jennifer Swanston opened their home for the event.
On Sunday, 22 June, Manitoba branch members joined the parishioners of St. James Anglican Church in the Historic Heritage old St. James Church on Tylehurst Street. The log church was built in 1851 and was used until 1922 when a new church was built on nearby Collegiate Avenue.

The Heritage Church is now used only in the summer, from the fourth Sunday in June until Labour Day. Many parishioners came in mid-nineteenth century dress for the initial service and were greeted by a pipe-band as they arrived. On this occasion, branch members were led into the church by a piper followed by the flag bearers.

The order of service, the hymns, and the readings are an exact replica of an 1852 service. Branch President Bob McConomy UE thanked the parish for inviting the UELAC members to join in the service.

By Barbara J. Andrew UE, Dominion UELAC Senior Vice-President

2016 Fall

The 2016 Church Parade of the Manitoba Branch was held at historic Little Britain United Church on Sunday, 15 May 2016. Members of the UELAC were joined by the Monarchist League. After the church service, members of the Branch and the Monarchists gathered for brunch at Larter’s Golf and Country Club to celebrate the Queen’s 90th birthday.

Members of the UELAC Manitoba Branch, Jennifer Swanston and Margaret Carter UE, along with the Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba, were at the reception at Government House in honour of the Queen’s 90th birthday.

United Empire Loyalist Day in Manitoba June 12, 2016

A Proclamation of United Empire Loyalist Day in Manitoba took place at the Manitoba Legislature on 09 June 2016. Attending in the visitor’s gallery to hear United Empire Loyalist Day proclaimed were: Cathy Darbell, Linda Campbell, Rev. Robert Campbell UE, Bryan Purdy UE, Margaret Carter UE, Dianne Nerbas UE, Mary Steinhoff UE and Rod Nerbas. Records in Hansard, 09 June 2016, outline the significant purpose of this day, set aside to honour our United Empire Loyalist heritage.

Red River Heritage Fair - Mary Steinhoff UE and Wendy Hart represented Manitoba Branch of the UELAC at the Red River Heritage Fair at the University of Winnipeg. This is an annual event held for students in Grades 4 to 11 and is good exposure for our organization as well as an opportunity to educate the public on the history of the Loyalists.

The Centennial Cemetery Project of the Manitoba Branch UELAC

Manitoba Branch selected a project to mark as many as possible Manitoba cemeteries where descendants of Loyalists are buried. The first step was to identify these cemeteries. This was done by: canvassing Branch members and doing research. To date, eight urban (Winnipeg and Brandon) and seventeen rural cemeteries have been identified.

The next step was to find a suitable product at a reasonable price. With the help of a $500.00 grant from the Dominion UELAC, we ordered four markers at a total cost of $540.00.

A plaque has been installed at Brandon Municipal Cemetery and another in St. John’s Cemetery in Winnipeg. The other two have been delivered to Elmwood Cemetery in Winnipeg and Virden Cemetery. This is a long-term project that is ongoing.

Congratulations to Ken Swanston of Manitoba Branch on achieving his “UE” status by providing acceptable documents to his Loyalist ancestor, Henry Clow UE. Ken’s certificate was presented to him on 19 March 2016.
Congratulations to Rachel Stampe, Dorothy Stampe, Sandra Stampe - Sobering, Judith Blanchette [nee Stampe] and Dale Baker, all of whom received their UE status. They are all members of Manitoba Branch and were presented with their certificates at the annual Branch picnic on 18 June 2016 by Manitoba Branch Genealogist, Alice Walchuk.

By Diane Heather UE

2017 Spring

The Manitoba Branch UELAC was invited, in August, to join the Monarchist League of Canada, Manitoba Branch “as we merrily continue in our celebrations of Her Majesty the Queen’s 90th birthday.” They held the garden party at the home of their patron, The Right Honourable the Earl and Countess of Orkney. The Manitoba Branch UELAC was ably represented by Margaret Carter UE, Ken Swanston UE, Jennifer Swanston, Vera Ash, Marjorie McConomy UE, Wendy Hart, Cathy Darbell, and Lynn Francis UE. The Earl and Countess [also known as Dr. Peter St. John and Barbara Huck] were gracious and entertaining hosts and their charming English-countrypark-themed yard was the perfect setting.

Judy McPherson, of our local Living History Society, decided that she would like to divest herself of all her “Loyalist Era” clothing. Margaret Carter UE purchased the entire collection and donated it to our Branch. Cathy Darbell has undertaken to store and sell the clothing and accessories as a fund-raiser for our group. The end result has been a nice increase in our funds and some interesting additions to our group’s period attire.

September is the month of our annual “out of the city” meeting. This year’s location was Steinbach, which is the hometown of Branch Member, Robert Custance UE. The meeting, held at the Mennonite Heritage Museum, included a lunch of authentic Mennonite dishes in the Livery Barn Restaurant, and a tour of the museum and village, complete with a working windmill that is used to grind grain.

In October, our Branch was represented at the annual SAGE [Special Area Groups Educators] conference by Peter Rogers UE and Mary Steinhoff. This is an annual conference held for educators and is good exposure for our organization. Several schools expressed interest in having a presentation on the Loyalists.

October’s meeting was very busy as we had Linda Horodeki of the Northeast Winnipeg Historical Society with a presentation on the Hamilton family. This prominent Winnipeg family conducted and recorded a great deal of very thorough psychic research at their home in the 1920s. Many visitors to the city, including Arthur Conan Doyle, attended the seances. Dr. Hamilton’s extensive papers, including photographs from his experiments, are at the University of Manitoba Library Archives, and Linda included many very interesting examples in her presentation. October also brought our AGM with a new slate of officers being elected. Their installation was postponed until the November meeting when Dominion President, Barb Andrew UE, attended and officially administered the oaths of office to Past President, Bob McConomy; President, Robert Campbell; Treasurer, Dianne Nerbas; Secretary, Mary Steinhoff; Genealogist, Alice Walchuk; and presented outgoing Branch President, Bob McConomy, with his Past President pin.
L-R: Past President, Bob McConomy UE; Genealogist, Alice Walchuck UE; Treasurer Dianne Nerbas UE; President, Robert Campbell UE; Secretary, Mary Steinhoff; Dominion President, Barb Andrew UE.

We also welcomed three new members who will be working with our Genealogist, Alice Walchuk UE, to achieve their UE status. Barb Andrew delivered a presentation on her role as Dominion President and the changes that she has been a part of. We were all very interested in the changes that have been happening and the reasoning behind them.

On 01 January our Lt. Governor, The Honourable Janice C. Filmon, hosted a Levee at our historic Legislative Building. The Loyalists were issued a special invitation and were presented to Their Honours, along with several other groups, before the event was opened to the general public. We were encouraged to wear period dress and mingle with the guests, giving us a grand opportunity to explain who we are and what our role in Canadian history was. We had a wonderful turnout and everyone enjoyed the visiting, the refreshments and the first class entertainment provided by the Winnipeg Police Service Choir, the Golden Chordsmen Barbershop Chorus, the World Village Gospel Choir, and the Esprit de Choeur Women’s Choir. The choirs performed on the Grand Staircase that made a magnificent backdrop as well as providing good visibility and great acoustics. Members of the Scouts and Guides assisted with serving the refreshments. Always nice to see young people involved! There were also complimentary horse drawn sleigh rides available on the Legislative Grounds for any hardy souls wishing to brave the minus 20 degree temperatures.

We are beginning our plans for the Dominion Conference that we will host in 2020. Mary Steinhoff and Wendy Hart will be the co-chairs. The projected dates are 10 to 15 June 2020. This would allow the attendees at the conference to participate in Loyalist Proclamation Day at the Manitoba Legislature. There is much more planning to be done but the conference will certainly include a chance to visit our nationally acclaimed Canadian Museum for Human Rights. Mary and Wendy are assembling a committee. Keep your eyes and ears peeled for more information.

By Diane Heather
2017 Fall

The Manitoba Branch started the year with a wonderful turnout at the Lt. Governor’s Levee that is traditionally held in our beautiful legislature building on New Year’s Day.

February is Black History Month but because we do not meet until March we had two speakers on black history address our March meeting. Mavis McLaren spoke of black history in a general sense and was followed by Jacqueline Sumter whose topic was The Black Loyalists of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Everyone learned a great deal and the question and answer period during which Jacqueline was ably aided by her sister, Donna Jacques Castillo, was a very lively and informative session.

April’s meeting was addressed by Linda Horodeki who again presented information on Winnipeg’s famous Dr. Hamilton. This time she dealt with his contributions to the fabric of Winnipeg’s society. As well as experimenting with and documenting paranormal activities, Dr. Hamilton was a physician who provided service to people from all walks of life. He was also a school trustee, a church elder, and an MLA. He advocated for fire drills in schools, free medical examinations of school children, playground activity and cookery and manual training classes. He favoured vaccination programmes, promoted safety in the workplace, body’s early accomplishments was a study of goiter in schoolchildren that led to the simple solution of adding iodine to our table salt.

04 May was the annual Heritage Fair held at the University of Winnipeg for school children in grades four to eleven. It is similar to a science fair except that the projects presented deal with history. There is then a “scavenger hunt” type question sheet which challenges students to find answers at the various display tables. Our branch feels that experiences such as this help to make students aware of our country’s history and our role in it. As our prize contribution, we ordered copies of the book, With Nothing But Courage, from the Dear Canada series. It is the diary of a young Loyalist in 1783, and is a fitting gift for heritage fair winners.

On Sunday, 07 May, some twenty members of our branch attended McClure United Church in Winnipeg for our annual church parade. McClure Church was chosen this year as it is the congregation to whom our current president, Robert Campbell, ministers. The congregation was very receptive to our presence and provided a reception with a light lunch after the service, giving us the opportunity to mingle with the members, talk about Loyalist history, and show off our period clothing.

The Proclamation of 12 June as Loyalist Day in Manitoba took place in the Manitoba Legislature on 01 June, the last day before the House rose for summer recess. The Proclamation was read by the Minister of Sports, Culture, and Heritage, the Honourable Rochelle Squires. The event was well-attended. There were twenty members of the Manitoba and Assiniboine Branches in the Visitors’ Gallery to hear the reading. Most were in period dress.

On 10 June, we held our Summer Wind Up and the highlight for me was that my son, grandsons and I were presented with our UE certificates. We were able to provide acceptable documents, with the wonderful help of our Branch Genealogist, Alice Walchuk UE, to prove our Loyalist ancestor, Michael Cryderman UE. Most interesting: it is a totally male lineage, all bearing the name Cryderman, up to my generation. A very proud moment for me.

By Diane Heather UE