

TORONTO BRANCH

1932 February

Regular meetings were held during the year 1931, at which special talks and musical programmes were given as follows:

January 8.-Officers for the new year were elected, after which a musical programme was rendered by the following artists: Madam Ida Wagner, Mr. Charles Felardean, Miss Anne Connor, Mr. Gordon Brown, Mr. Wm. F. Thompson.

January 23.-The meeting was held at the Toronto Reference Library. Mr. Sigmund Samuel gave a talk, illustrated with slides, on "With the United Empire Loyalists in Canada."

February 12. - Major D'Arcy Hinds gave an interesting talk on "The British (Irish) in America before Columbus."

March 12.-"Early Days in Kingston, Ontario," were described by Major C. M. Wrenshall.

March 16.-The Hon. W. G. Martin, Minister of Social Service of the Province of Ontario, was the speaker at a luncheon held in the Royal York Hotel.

March 20.-Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Foster gave a highly enjoyable reception for the Loyalists at their home "Dalwalmar", Forest Hill.

April 9. - "Renowned United Empire Loyalists" was the subject of an address given by Mr. A. R. Davis.

May 14.-Captain H. H. Van Wart spoke on "Russia - The Downfall."

Many Loyalists attended a picnic held in May at the Howard Homestead, High Park, Toronto.

August 3.-More than three thousand Loyalists gathered at Hay Bay Church, the old U. E. L. shrine at Adolphustown, Ont., and listened with deep interest to addresses describing the services and sacrifices of the U. E. Loyalists.

The speakers on this occasion were: The Rev. T. P. Perry of Gananoque, President of the Bay of Quinte Conference of the United Church of Canada; the Rt. Rev. Bishop C. A. Seager, M.A., D.D., LL.I.;>., of the Anglican Church; Hon. W. G. Martin, Minister of Social Service of the Province of Ontario; Lieut. Colonel Herbert Alley, Director of the Toronto Centennial; Alderman Dr. Kinnear of Belleville; W. S. Herrington, K.C., the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, A. F. & A. M.; W. S. Morden, K.C.; Major V. McLean Howard, President of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada; the Reeve of Adolphustown; the Warden of the County of Lennox and Addington; John A. Weese, M.P.; Chas. Hambly, M.P.P.

W. C. Mikel, K.C., of Belleville, acted as chairman. The ladies of the Adolphustown United Church served both dinner and a buffet lunch.

October 8.-Mr. Percy J. Robinson, of St. Andrews College, Aurora, Ont., gave an address, illustrated with slides on "The Toronto Portage, 1615-1793."

November 11.-The President and three members of the Association placed a wreath on the Cenotaph, City Hall, Toronto, on Armistice Day.

November 12.-Brigadier General Langdon spoke on "Toronto Harbour Improvements." His talk was illustrated with slides.

December 10. - Nominations were received for officers for the year 1932. A very enjoyable musicale was rendered by the following artists: Miss Wilhemena MacLean Howard, soloist; Miss Muriel Gidley, pianist; Mr. Jack Neilson, violinist.

January 28, 1932-The Annual General Meeting was held at the Granite Club.

February 11.-An interesting paper on "The History of the Ogden Family" was read.

1932 August

At a meeting of the Toronto Branch of the Association, held on Thursday evening, March 10th, at Sherbourne House, Lieut. Col. C. J. Ingles gave an interesting historical sketch of the Queen's Rangers. He pointed out that as this regiment is one of the oldest on the continent to-day, it has special claims to kinship with all United Empire Loyalists, and recalled many fascinating anecdotes of the regiment during their campaigns.

On behalf of the Ladies' Committee, Mrs. E. T. Reburn presented a handsome silver flower basket to Mrs. Howard Shaw, the retiring secretary of the Ladies' Committee.

At the close of the meeting a social hour was held, when tea was served by the hostesses, Mrs. Neil McLean and Mrs. M. V. Gutzeit.

A large meeting of the Branch was held on Thursday evening, April 14th, at Sherbourne House, when Prof. A. H. Young, M.A., D.C.L., of Trinity College, gave a most enlightening address on "Some Loyalist Parsons." Prof. Young told of the many hardships that these brave men of the Church underwent in order to cling to the tenets of their faith -to worship God and to serve their King. He also read extracts from many lengthy letters written by these parsons to their friends and fellow-workers both in Canada and England.

The tea hostesses for the Social Hour which followed were Mrs. George A. Shaw and Mrs. J. B. Dennis.

At 11 o'clock on the morning of Sunday, May 15th, at St. John the Baptist Church, the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada called together a large number of its members for the annual church service. An inspiring sermon was delivered by the Rector and Chaplain of the Toronto Branch, the Rev. Canon Baynes-Reed, D.S.O.

The annual picnic of the Toronto Branch was held on Friday afternoon, June 24th. The charming and historic "Millwood," home of Mr. and Mrs. Warwick Wrinch, Lambton Mills, was placed at the disposal of the members and friends. Mr. and Mrs. Wrinch were host and hostess to about one hundred guests. It was a happy coincidence that the date of the picnic fell on the 89th birthday of Col. George A. Shaw, a pioneer of the Association. Col. Shaw and Mrs. Shaw were both present.

Mrs. E. T. Reburn and her Ladies' Committee arranged the central table and served tea throughout the afternoon.

1933 November

The Toronto Branch have concluded a most successful season filled with interesting events which add materially to the prestige of the Association. Besides the regular meeting held throughout the winter McInnis pointed out "The National Significance of Popular Songs", and a very complete paper on "The De Lancy Family and the Revolutionary War" was given by Mr. Harold E. Dennison.

The luncheon held at the Royal York Hotel on June 15th was a marked success. The first complete figure of a set which are to be presented to the City of Toronto and to be placed as a memorial in Old Fort York upon its restoration, was unveiled before this gathering. The membership were quite pleased with the correct detailed execution of the work upon this unique and educational contribution to the many fine monuments in this city.

months, the membership took an active part in the Annual Church Service, a luncheon at the Royal York Hotel. the Annual Picnic, and sponsored for the second year a booth at the Canadian National Exhibition.

At the regular monthly meetings a number of speakers delivered interesting addresses on subjects of keen importance to all Loyalists. The speakers and their subjects were as follows :-Professor E. R. Arthur, F.R.I.B.A., gave an excellent account of "Early Ontario Architecture"; Cap. J. S. Carstairs. traced the "United Empire Migration-its Origin-its Members-its Settlement and Achievements". Mr. J. Campbell

The membership participated in an enjoyable outing at the Annual Picnic. which was held in June at Playter Farm, Holland Hill, near Holland Landing.

The Booth at the Canadian National Exhibition was under the direction of the Memorial Committee, and two of the figures which will make up the U.E.L. Memorial Collection were on view. Those who worked at the booth during the two weeks of the Fair, report that a keen interest in the Association had been shown by the thousands of visitors who asked for literature. The Ladies' Committee, who had their members act as hostesses each day, are largely responsible for the great success of this undertaking .

Under the guidance of the Lady Vice-President, Mrs. E. T. Reburn, the Ladies' Committee had a very busy and successful season. Business meetings were held each month at Sherbourne House with an occasional extra meeting at one of Robt. Simpson Company's private rooms. Two very successful showers were received of socks and other woollen garments, which were donated to the Victoria Hostel for men, the Scott Institute and the Victor Mission. Representatives of the Committee attended the Travellers' Aid Annual Meeting, the Maternity Welfare Council and the Women's and Child Welfare Council. They also assisted Mr. Brownlow Card in the production of his play, "Laura Secord", which was held in Eaton's Auditorium on May 13th. Under Mrs. J. A. Harvey's supervision an exhibit of U.E.L. Pioneer Handicraft work was shown at the Handicraft Guild of Canada.

1963 April

The Toronto Branch has concluded a successful season of 1962. Besides the regular meetings held the second Thursday of each month (summer months excepted) the membership has taken an active part in the Annual Church Parade at St. Paul's Avenue Road Church, various fund raising projects and the annual picnic.

At the regular monthly meetings a number of speakers delivered addresses on subjects of keen interest to all Loyalists. The speakers and their subjects were as follows: Mrs. Ross Glassford, "This, You Can Take With You"; Mrs. Gilbert Bagnani, art exhibit "Heritage de France"; Mrs. Ethel Brant Monture, "Pauline Johnston and her Poetry"; Mr. John Melling, "Indians and Ourselves"; Mr. Oliver R. Summers, "Glimpses of Soviet Russia" ; Professor J. M. S. Careless, "Confederation of Canada"; and Brigadier D. G. Ketcheson, "The Problems of Indo-China". At several of our meetings we had the added enjoyment of guest soloists. These talented singers, Mr. Jim Smith, baritone; Miss Frances Linderfield, contralto; Mr. J. McNabb, baritone; Mrs. Rita Paterson, soprano; Betty Parkes, soprano; and Joan Rutherford, contralto were introduced and accompanied by Mrs. John R. Huffman, music convenor.

Three scholarships were awarded on behalf of the Organization for outstanding history marks in Secondary Schools. Winners this year were Miss Mary Joan Edmonds, Mr. Hershel Zeifman and Mr. John Kolish. Miss Edmonds was present at the November meeting.

The Ladies of the Branch hold a dessert luncheon and business meeting on the third Thursday of each month at the headquarters. They have sponsored several fund raising projects in the past year - a Tea and

Garden party at the home of Mrs. Arthur J. Mercer; a mixed bridge party and tickets sold for Eaton's Fashion Show. The Annual Picnic was held in June at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. Stanley Honsberger, Willowdale. The event was very successful with over 100 members present. The Annual Christmas party took the form of a dinner under the direction of the Ladies' Auxiliary. The Chaplain, Mr. S. E. Clark, delivered the Christmas message, and this was followed by carol singing led by Mr. H. S. Honsberger, and a programme by the Italian Choral Club conducted by Miss Giustina Grison.

The membership was increased by thirty-six regular members and six associate members in 1962.

1963 November

The installation of officers for 1963 and the presentation of the 1962 reports took place at the January meeting. In the following months we had very interesting speakers, including Mr. H. S. Honsberger, who gave an illustrated address, "The Far East"; Mr. Frank Carrington spoke on "Antique Furniture and its Care"; Mr. John Rempel outlined the "Development of Ontario's Architecture"; and Mr. Vernon S. Steven's subject was "Aging Successfully". Musical portions of our meetings have been enjoyable through the talents of Averill Piers, pianist, who was introduced by Miss Helen Perkins and Miss Alice Moir, soprano, introduced and accompanied by Mrs. John R. Huffman.

The Ladies Auxiliary have been busy as usual with their Dessert Luncheons held once a month. In April, the ladies enjoyed a "Pot Luck" luncheon meeting at the home of Mrs. J. C. Williamson in King City, and in May they met at the home of Mrs. J. Reid Robertson. To raise money for scholarships the ladies sold tickets for Eaton's Spring and held a Spring Tea, Bake Sale and Treasure Trove in May at the Headquarters. Before and after the regular November meeting, the ladies are holding a White Elephant Sale.

The Annual Church Service was held at Deer Park United Church on Sunday morning, May 12th, 1963. As a departure from the annual picnic, the membership was offered a planned trip to Niagara. Forty people left on a fine Saturday in June. In the town of Niagara, the group visited historic St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, with its unique raised pulpit and old fashioned pews; also the Museum, which houses an interesting collection of article lent or donated by local families ; then on to the McFarlane House, which was used in the war of 1812 as a hospital by both sides, and now rebuilt and furnished by donations from the old families of the district. On the fine grounds the group enjoyed a picnic lunch. Then on to Fort George, built by the British opposite Fort Niagara. At Queenston, the travellers walked up to view the fine fine scene up the river. Returning via the Queen Elizabeth Highway, the group enjoyed dinner at Prudhomme's.

Plans for the annual Christmas party, to be held December 12, are underway.

By Miss Merion Ketcheson

1964 April

Since the last report of this Branch to the Gazette, two meetings and the Christmas Dinner Party have taken place at Headquarters on Prince Arthur Avenue. At the November meeting, Alderman May Robinson UE, who is Chairman of Metro Toronto Housing and Welfare, and Vice-Chairman of Metro Toronto Housing Company, spoke on the subject, "It Can Be Fun Growing Old." Mrs. Robinson spoke in her usual pleasant and sincere manner, telling her audience of present housing for the elderly, and of proposals for future apartment-type accommodation. The guest soloist of the evening, Miss Marilyn Duffus, contralto, was introduced and accompanied by Mrs. John R. Huffman, music convenor.

The Annual Christmas Party for members and their families was most enjoyable, with 112 in attendance. The traditional turkey dinner was convened by the Ladies' Auxiliary under the capable direction of Miss Jeanice MacLaren, the Lady Vice-President. Mrs. Huffman, entertainment convenor for the party, once again succeeded in arranging an excellent programme. The Christmas Message, presented by Pastor S. E. Clark, was followed by carol singing led by Mr. H. Stanley Honsberger. The Jennie Bouck Singers, special artists of the evening, entertained delightfully with Christmas songs, carols, and other selections. A feature of the January meeting was the showing by Mr. and Mrs. Ross Glassford of pictures of their recent trip abroad. At this meeting, officers and convenors of committees presented their reports for 1963, and the installation of officers for 1964 took place.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Toronto Branch continues to hold monthly Dessert Luncheon and Business Meetings, with Miss Isobel Robertson as hostess.

On Thursday, April 16th, the Ladies Auxiliary will visit the Mohawk Chapel and the tomb of Chief Joseph Brant at Brantford.

Four High School students were recipients of scholarships presented by the Toronto Branch. For obtaining high marks in history, Miss Janet Stubbs, Miss Ellen Coburn, Miss Sharon Howatt and Mr. Paul Reid each received \$50 at school commencement exercises.

At the March meeting Mr. H. B. Rodine, Superintendent of Indian Schools addressed the branch on Highlights in Indian Education.

We welcomed 14 regular and three associate members in 1963.

By Mrs. Marvin W. Bannan

1964 November

The April meeting was addressed by Mr. Charles H. Williamson, whose very interesting subject was "American Pattern Glass". Mr. Williamson brought, for our inspection, many fine pieces of the pattern glass he has collected. At this meeting, Miss Giustina Grison, contralto, delighted the members with several selections. Miss Grison had very capably conducted, and had been soloist with, the Italian Choral Club at our 1962 Christmas Party, and we were happy to welcome her again.

In May, a coloured film entitled, "The Quality of a Nation" was the feature of the meeting. The audience saw a cross-section of Canada, from the Changing of the Guard at Ottawa to a Provincial lumber mill in North Burnaby. Miss Marnie Patrick was the soprano soloist. Mrs. J. R. Huffman, music convenor, introduced and accompanied both Miss Grison and Miss Patrick.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Toronto Branch held a Spring Tea, Bake Sale and Treasure Table at Headquarters on the afternoon of Thursday, June 4th. Mrs. E. H. Hargreaves was the capable convenor of this enjoyable and remunerative event.

The Annual Church Service, this year held at All Saints' Anglican Church, the Kingsway, on Sunday morning, May 10th, was well-attended.

On a sunny, warm day in June - the 13th - members and their families gathered for the Annual Picnic, at "Hillholme". Mr. and Mrs. H. Stanley Honsberger had once again offered the grounds of their lovely home on Old Yonge Street for the picnic, which was enjoyed by the young and not-so-young alike.

Mrs. G. R. Weir of the Toronto Branch celebrated her 91st birthday at her summer home Smith's County, Digby, N.S., June 28th. It is of interest to know that this is the original Grant of Land the Crown gave to her Loyalist ancestor.

The Toronto Branch lost one of its oldest members this September in the death of Mrs. George Sylvester Faulkner. Mrs Faulkner, who was the former Jennie Connolly had resided in the Stirling and Belleville area for the past ten years, on June 28th. she celebrated her 103rd birthday. On the occasion of her birthday she received messages from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and from Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson.

by Mrs. Marvin W. Bannan

1965 April

In December we had, no doubt, one of the most memorable of our Christmas parties in the Great Hall of Hart House at the University of Toronto. A number of U.E.L. members made a special effort to attend this great Christmas dinner and party, and renew old acquaintances, despite the cold snow night.

The dinner was much enjoyed in the Great Hall with its classical architecture. It was a festive setting for a Christmas party with the Yule logs in the huge fireplace at the end of the Hall, and the tables softly lighted with candles. After dinner our President, Mr. D. John DeMille welcomed everyone with the his fine Christmas message. Mr. Joe McCully, Warden of Hart House, brought us greetings. The Esso Choristers, one of the finest of their kind in Toronto, were very generous in supplying the musical part of the programme and were introduced by Mrs. J. R. Huffman, musical convenor.

At our January meeting, Mr. and Mrs. George P. Wood showed us their coloured slides of their trip to Australia and New Zealand and Elizabeth Thomasvary delighted everyone with her violin solos.

The guest speaker at the February meeting was Mr. John R. Remple whose subject was "Polygonal Buildings in early Ontario" interestingly illustrated with slides. Mr. James McNabb was the baritone soloist for the musical portion of the evening.

By Mrs. Charles D. Hall

1965 November

At the April meeting of the Toronto Branch, Miss Kay MacFarlane, President of the Ontario Historical Society. was our guest speaker, her topic being "Pioneer Life in the Kingston and Bay of Quinte districts."

In May Mr. Walter A. Frisby spoke on "The Culture of Various Nationalities Now Living in Canada."

In June we arranged to have two chartered buses take eighty-two members and friends on a t.our of historic Niagara-on-the-Lake. This trip was sponsored by The Niagara Historical Foundation. Dinner was at Prudhommes, with its interesting surroundings.

A tea at the Granite Club was held on October 5th with an exhibition of Mrs. Philip Moorhouse's fine collection of rare old Canadian glass. The hostesses were: Miss Jeanice MacLaren (Lady Vice-President), Mrs. D. J. DeMills, Mrs. E. H. Hargreaves and Mrs. James Lovekin.

By Mrs. Charles D. Hall

1966 April

At the November meeting of the Toronto Branch, Mr. Hugh Robertson, son of one of our active members Mrs. J. R. Robertson, spoke on "Preserving Toronto's Architectural Gems of Photography." His address was illustrated with black and white slides covering a wide selection of buildings of early days. He is Canada's outstanding photographer of Architecture, and he was chosen by Professor Eric Arthur to do the photography for his book 'Toronto, No Mean City.'

Our December meeting was held in the Great Hall of Hart House at the University of Toronto. This was our second Christmas dinner party in the Great Hall with its classical architecture, and lovely setting. The Yule logs burned in the huge fireplace and the tables were lighted with candles. After dinner the President Mr. D. John DeMille welcomed all with his Christmas message. Mrs. J. R. Huffman, our musical convener, presented the Jennie Bouck Singers, a musical delight to end a lovely evening.

The January meeting was the Installation of Officers for 1966. Mr. H. S. Honsberger showed fascinating slides of his and Mrs. Honsberger's "World Tour."

Dr. Gordon Murray, M. B., F.R.C.S., of England and Canada was the guest speaker at the February meeting. His address was "Research in Medicine."

In March Major (Rev.) J. S. McGivern, S. J., M.B.E., C.D., B.A., M.A., PhD., F.R.G.S., spoke on "Family Research and the Loyalists of Nova Scotia." Major McGivern is a member of the National Genealogical Society of America, Archivist and Historian of the English Canadian Jesuits.

Some of the new members in our Branch are Mrs. A. W. S. Bennett, Mr. Brian Andrew DeNike, Mr. Kelly Lee Cochrane, Miss Karen Ruth Stenson, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. H. Nicholls, Mrs. Violet Regina Kennedy, Mr. Edward Alexander Currie, Jr., 'Mrs. Clinton E. Martin, Miss Gail Florence Anne Ran cier, Mrs. Jean Carson, Mrs. B. R. P. McGillivray and Rev. and Mrs. John R. Waldie.

It is with regret we announce the death of Mrs. Margaret James and Mrs. Aurelia Sarah Snell and Mrs. Edward Harold Thomas.

All the April meeting the guest speaker was Mr. W. J. Patterson, M.A., Superintendent of Historical Sites for Upper Canada Village and Old Fort Henry who gave an excellent presentation of film and address "become Acquainted With 'a Living Museum' Upper Canada Village."

The annual church service of the Toronto Branch will be held on Sunday, May 15th at 11 o'clock in Yorkminster Baptist Church at Yonge Street and Heath Street East, one block north of St. Clair Avenue.

1967 Spring

The Toronto Branch of the United Empire Loyalists held three meetings this season, the first in October, at which time the guest speaker was Mr. Stanley G. Loucks UE, a member of this branch. His subject was "The Historical Development of Upper Canada Village" which he illustrated by colour slides of villages submerged by the St. Lawrence Seaway Development.

The musical entertainment was provided by Anna Parks, soprano, accompanied by Mrs. John Huffman. The evening ended with a social get-together including refreshments. At the tea table were Mrs. W. W. Duncan and Mrs. A. M. DeNike.

In November the guest speaker was Colonel C. B. Briggs, (Ret'd) Resident Supervisor of Historic Sites, Johnson Hall, Johnstown, N.Y. His subject was "The Loyalists and the Mohawk Valley". This was a talk on the revolutionary period in the Mohawk Valley using the Johnson and Butler families as examples, Colonel Briggs mentioned a banquet is held each year usually in October, to which Loyalists are invited. The speaker was introduced by Mr. Allen Ball, president of the Toronto Branch. Guests for this meeting were members of the Governor Simcoe Branch, Toronto, and their president, Mr. Michael Spohn thanked the speaker. The musical entertainment was provided by Erwin Powrie, tenor, accompanied by Mrs. John Huffman. This was followed by a social period when Colonel Briggs answered individual questions. At the tea table were Mrs. Dorothy Bedser and Miss Jeanice MacLaren.

The annual Christmas Party in December was held in the Great Hall in Hart House. It was a pleasure to welcome members of the Governor Simcoe Branch as well as members from St. Catharines and Hamilton and the Kingston area. A total of 154 were in attendance.

Everything looked festive with Christmas decorations candle - lit tables and the brightly burning fire in the huge fire-place at the north end of The Great Hall. Out of town guests from Hamilton were Mr. and Mrs. Colin Mills and Mrs. Merrill. The St. Catharines' branch was represented by Mrs. James and Miss O'Loughlin.

A splendid program of solos and choral numbers, having for a central theme the Christmas tradition, was provided by the Jennie Bouck Singers with Mrs. Bouck conducting. This was the second time We have been favoured by this well balanced and well - disciplined group. The attention accorded during each number and the applause which followed, registered its own acceptance.

The death occurred on Dec. 22nd of Miss Marion Ketcheson UE who will be missed greatly. She was Secretary of our branch as well as of the Dominion Council for over twelve) years.

By Mrs. Charles D. Hall

Obituary: **Miss Jessie Ketcheson UE**

It is with sincere regret that we publish this memoriam to the memory of the late Miss Marion Ketcheson.

Marion was born in Wallbridge, Ontario, and spent her summers at the family cottage at Crowe Lake.

Miss Ketcheson was Dominion Council Secretary for 12 years, and in April 1966, due to health reasons, took the position of Dominion Council Corresponding Secretary. She was Secretary of the Toronto Branch at the time of her death.

Those who were closely associated with Miss Ketcheson will ever remember her cheerful and friendly manner. It was this friendliness that has brought the branches closer together through the years.

1967 Autumn

The Toronto Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada celebrated their Centennial Birthday on Wednesday evening, May 17, 1967, at 23 Prince Arthur Ave. Members of the Governor Simcoe Branch were present along with many other guests. The programme was sponsored by the co-ordination of two ladies, - Mrs. A. Watt Somerville and Mrs. J. R. Huffman, with the Vice President, Mr. Stanley G. Loucks, who was Acting-President and Chairman.

After a short business meeting the Acting-President, and the Assisting Genealogist, Mrs. Somerville, extended the right hand of fellowship on behalf of the Toronto Branch, to the two new members - Mrs. Pamela Hillier, and her cousin Miss Barbara Hancock.

Miss Violet Murray, dressed in a sparkling gown of a Belle of the Gay Nineties, delighted the audience with the singing of two groups of old favourite songs. In the second group she had everyone join in. The accompanist was Mrs. Emma Proctor. Mrs. J. R. Huffman, lovely in an old-fashioned gown of lace and taffeta, assisted the accompanist.

Marvin W. Bannan, B.A., Ph. D., Associate Chairman and Professor, Department of Botany, University of Toronto, presented his colour slides, - "A Sentimental Journey." His outstanding pictures from across Canada - wild flowers, animals and landscapes - all of which made the audience proud of our beautiful country.

The ladies and gentlemen, attired in old-time Canadian dress, formed a picturesque group at the front of the hall where eighteen of them were presented with various Canadian flags by Mrs. Somerville and Mr. J. P. Lovekin.

Mrs. J. P. Lovekin, Mrs. H. R. Pollock, Mrs. W. H. Elliott, and Mrs. E. H. Hargreaves presided at the Tea Table. The large Centennial Birthday Cake, decorated with candles and a stylized maple leaf was cut by the hostess, Mrs. J. C. Williamson.

The Acting-President expressed a vote of thanks to all the participants who made the Centennial Party such an enjoyable event.

1968 Spring

The October meeting of the Toronto Branch was devoted to the presentation of Programs and Projects for this year's meetings, Programs for the monthly meetings and projects in which the Toronto Branch may participate.

At the regular meeting on November 15th, a photo was presented of the members of the Toronto Branch in 1903, the gift of Col. S. L. Spicer, former president. Mrs. Sherrill Dorling, secretary, made the presentation to the branch on behalf of Col. Spicer. The picture was a "sulphurized" photograph, now brown, of the branch members planting a tree in Queen's Park.

Acting - president Stanley Loucks had, four days previous to the Spicer presentation, found among loyalist records in storage, a 1903 sketch map of Queen's Park. showing the tree adjacent to Grosvenor Street.

A very interesting talk on the Indians and their reservations was given by Mrs. Ralph Mills at the November meeting. The talk was accompanied by slides.

The December meeting, as usual was our Annual Christmas Dinner held in the Great Hall at Hart House, University of Toronto. The entertainment for the evening was provided by the Ezzo Choristers. Over one hundred and seventy U.E.L. members, their families and friends attended. The Governor Simcoe Branch was invited to join us and there was a good turnout from the sister branch. Five members of the Hamilton Branch drove to Toronto to enjoy the evening. The musical programs at each of the above mentioned meetings were arranged by the Branch's musical convenor, Mrs. John R. Huffman.

New members -

Mrs. H. A. Jackson, Montreal
Mr. T. H. Lincoln Rice, Guelph

Obituary: **Allen Servos Ball UE**

During November the Toronto Branch suffered a great loss in the death of the President Mr. Allen Servos Ball after a long illness. Mr. Ball joined the Branch in 1961 and served two years as Vice-President before assuming office in 1966. Fitting tribute was made to Mr. Ball at the meeting of the Branch.

Mr. Ball was born in Toronto in 1899. attended Huron St. School. and later from the first day of its existence the University of Toronto Schools from which he graduated in 1916.

He entered the abbreviated wartime course of the Royal Military College in Kingston. Upon completion of the course he undertook pilot training at Scarborough. In early 1918 he was sent to England and commissioned as an officer in the Royal Flying Corps, which soon became the Royal Air Force. He served in England until 1919 when the Canadian forces returned to Canada.

For twenty years he was actively associated with militia regiments of Artillery and Cavalry, among them being The Ontario Mounted Rifles, The Mississauga Horse and the Governor-General's Horse Guards. Interest in the Niagara area and Loyalist history began in early boyhood as his family took great pride in their firm roots in British Canada. His middle name "Servos" attests to the close ties of the Servos and Ball families in Niagara for more than one hundred years before his berth. A great Uncle was George Brown, founder of the Globe and often referred to as a father of Confederation.

A voracious reader and lifelong "History Buff" Mr. Ball found Scottish, French medieval and American Civil War History deeply engrossing. He had a deep and abiding sense of Empire born as he was in a late year of Victoria's reign. Nourished by Kipling and Scott and being by inheritance and education of consistent and thorough loyalty to the crown.

Mr. Ball is survived by a daughter Mrs. Arthur Webster, of Bethesda, Maryland and a sister Miss K. L. Ball of Richmond Hill. Both are members of the Toronto Branch.

1968 Autumn

The Toronto Branch program sheet begins with the following retrospect of Centennial Year. "We can now look back upon the things which were identified with Centennial Year - and indeed what identified Centennial Year! The stimulation generated by "looking back" i.e. History, in other words, is carrying over into 1968. Probably each Historical Group or Society has awakened or re-awakened - to a new sense of purpose. In our case- The United Empire Loyalist Association - we can re-assess our endeavours to carry out the chief purpose of our organization. Literally, tens of thousands of people, scattered across Canada, must be true descendants of U.E.L. ancestors. How many of them realize this? This is not "ancestor worship", it is a legitimate part of one's education to know of important events, people and places."

This Branch has many activities planned for the fall season, a dessert luncheon will be given in The Library of the Women's Art and Lyceum Club on Oct. 22nd and on the 30th the Ladies' Auxiliary have

planned a Bridge. The Annual Christmas Dinner is to be held in the Great Hall, Hart House, U. of T. on Dec. 4th.

The Governor Simcoe Branch has extended invitations to the Toronto Branch for Nov. 14, to hear Col. Charles E. Briggs, Curator of Johnson Hall, Johnstown, N.Y., speak on the subject-The Ross Raid on the Mohawks, 1781.

Members sincerely regret the passing of the following members, Miss Alice Wetherell UE, Mrs. John R. (Phyllis Bogart) Huffman UE and Mrs. Vernon S. (Rita M.) Stevens.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Again this year the members of the Branch extend an invitation to all U.E.L. members and their friends to join with them in their popular and gala Christmas party.

The dinner will be held Wednesday' Dec. 4, in the Great Hall at Hart House. The price of tickets is \$4.50 each.

Reservations accompanied by cheques should be received before November 23rd by Mr. Norman E. Horn, Secretary, The Toronto Branch, 21 Prince Arthur Avenue, Toronto 5, Ont.

1969 Spring

Our fall meetings opened 'with a pictorial trip to the Mohawk Valley, the Schoharie Valley and along the Hudson River, covering the district settled by the Palatines. We visited many interesting churches along the way; also visited Johnston Hall. One charming slide showed Co!. Charles B. Briggs of the Hall, taken with our President, Mr. Stanley Loucks and Mrs. Loucks. We were indebted to Mr. Loucks for a very interesting and informative evening. Tea was served after the meeting.

At the November meeting, Mr. Wm. Hambly, one of our own members, gave us his reminiscences of Cabbage Town. Having lived there and known the people, the houses and the moods of this historical section, Mr. Hambly made his address so very interesting that we count our Society fortunate to be one of several to hear his paper.

Once again, the traditional Christmas dinner of the Toronto Branch was in the Great Hall of Hart House. The pre-dinner social hour allowed time for visiting old friends and greeting guests. Mrs. Somerville's colourful name cards were wonderful icebreakers. There were about 136 people present-40 from the Governor Simcoe Branch and 12 from Hamilton, including the President of the Dominion Council, Dr. and Mrs. Dillane.

Our President, Mr. Stanley Loucks, Mrs. Loucks and our Lady Vice-President, Mrs. J. Williamson, received; the ladies looking very "Christmasy" in their gay dresses and corsages. The Great Hall had a very festive appearance with a trimmed tree, candelabra and a lighted red candle in half a grapefruit at each place. A large log fire was burning at the far end of the room.

Following the dinner, Mr. Loucks welcomed everyone and called on Mr. Horn to introduce Mr. Tomkinson of the Webb Memorial Handbell Choir. He gave a very good picture of the History of Bellinging, going back to the days when there was only one bell in a church tower, and explained the need for the novice to have a small bell to experiment on, as more bells were added.

Then Mrs. Tomkinson took over and directed the four ladies and two gentlemen who rang bells-sometimes they used two or just one-depending on the selection being played. Everyone was sorry when their programme came to an end. We were invited to view, at close range but not handle, these fragile, expensive bells. Mr. John De Mille, graciously as usual, expressed the thanks of the audience. Thus another successful and interesting year for the Toronto Branch came to its close.

In the year ending December 1968 Toronto Branch has approved Applications for Membership (members with U.E.L. Ancestors)

Mrs. S.G. Beckett, Willowdale, Ont. (Adam Loucks (Laux-Doux) Stormont Co.)
Mrs. A. W. Bishop, Toronto, Ont. (Ruliff Ostrom, GHastings Co.);
Mr. B. C. Clark, Oshawa, Ont. (Robert Clark, Ernesttown;
Mrs. H. M. Downie, Toronto. Ont. (Abraham Smith, Fort Erie);
Mrs. R. A. Flint. Islington. Ont. (Haunts Trumpour, Adolphustown);
Miss Jean Lorne flint, Islington, (Haunts Trumpour, Adolphustown);
Mrs. R. Glassford), Sundridge, Ont. (Parshall Terry, Kingston);
Mr. R.H. Hart, Claresholm, Alt. (Godlove Mikel, Ameliasburgh);
Mrs. L. MacMillan, Islington, Ont. (Henry Smith, Prince Edward Co.);
Mr.. A. K. Morris. Cooksville. Ont. (Daniel Spicer, Augusta Twp.);
Mr. A.D. Playter Jr. Member, Willowdale Ont. (George Playter, York, Ont)
Mrs. P. M. Shenton. Orillia, Ont. Henry Smith, Prince Edward Co.);
Mr. W. D. Smith. Sault Ste. Marie. Ont.(John Smith. Ancaster Twp.);
Mrs. A. L. Webster, Bethseda, Maryland, USA. (Jack Ball, Newark (Niagara);
Mr. H. A. Flint, Associate Member.

New members welcomed in January were: Mrs. Lillian D. M. Brown. Toronto; Mr. Roger A. Eamer, Chatham; Mr. Donald H. Jeffrey, Oakville; Mr. William H. Western, Ottawa

1969 Autumn

At the January meeting election of officers took place and Mr. S. G. Loucks was returned as president for another year. Mr. George Waters, Curator of Old Fort York, showed slides based on "Mrs. Simcoe's Dairy". These showed many of the more intimate details of life in those days-facts which many history books do not give.

Mrs. Martha Stewart Leitch, B.Arch., M.R.A.I.C., showed slides of the renovation of the St. Lawrence Hall, Toronto at the February meeting. She gave much information which gave a better appreciation of the tremendous task, and of the many details of the work.

In March, Mrs. Judith Sule, M.S.W., a staff member of the University Settlement House spoke of the work done amongst disturbed young people of the city. Entertainment was provided by a string ensemble of six children from the University Settlement House who were trained and conducted by Miss Joyce Gundy, A.R.C.T.

Mrs. A. Watt Somerville of the Toronto Branch has made considerable recovery from her lengthy illness in hospital and is now looking forward to receiving visitors at her home, Central Park Lodge, 10 William Morgan Drive, Room 615, Thorncliffe 1, Toronto 354.

Mrs. Somerville arranged for the Dominion Council a few years ago the impressive ceremony for inducting new members at a branch meeting. Several branches are now using this Order of Welcoming new members.

1970 Spring

Our fall meetings were very successful with greatly increased attendance. These were climaxed by the Christmas Dinner, held this year in historic old St. Lawrence Hall. This proved to be a perfect setting for a festive occasion. The guests were met at each table by a hostess, who had arranged her own centrepiece, thus ensuring that everyone was made to feel at home. A bouquet to Mrs. Williamson, our Lady Vice-president for these arrangements. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. David Lowe, who consented to lead the singing of Christmas Carols. Mrs. Lowe sang a few numbers, accompanied by her husband, adding greatly to the evening. The Toronto Branch was very pleased to have members of other Branches join us. It was a pleasure to see the President of Dominion Council at the head table. The easy accessibility and parking lot added greatly to the enjoyment of St. Lawrence Hall.

Mrs. Fred R. Branscombe, Chairman of The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Toronto Branch, held as her first meeting a luncheon at her home for the members of her committee.

Officers and Executive Member's for 1970 for Toronto Branch: President Richard L. Mudge; 1st Vice-president William B. Hambly; 2nd Vice-president R. Philip Smart; 3rd Vice-president Mrs. Hilda Jackson. Executive Committee: Dr. F. R. Branscombe, Mrs. Stanley K. Clark, A. Gordon Clarry, D. John DeMille, W. H. Elliott; R. Arless Flint, Robert F. Kirk; Mrs. Basil R. P. McGillivray, Mrs. Edwin McMillan, Mrs. J. C. Williamson.

ILLUSTRATED LECTURE

At the January meeting, Toronto Branch, Philip Smart gave an illustrated address on Old Brockville and Old Maitland, and told many memories of his younger days. Most of his slides were of waterfront landmarks. They also showed an interesting development in the architecture of this area, from the Regency farm house, Regency town house, to the two-storied cottages with gingerbread woodwork trim. One old half-forgotten landmark still to be seen, is the narrow stone bridge by the mouth of Campbell Commons Creek. This served as part of the original highway once used by Governor Simcoe and his wife and also by Loyalists on horseback before Highway 2 was thought of.

His amusing stories of the past gave Brockville a personality that caused comment from a couple of wartime military trainees, who remember another side to Brockville.

The two new members presented at the February 18 meeting were Mrs. A. H. Johnson, nee Fanny May Simpson, U.E., of Thessalon, Ontario, ancestor Obadiah Simpson, and Miss Frances Abigail Chisholm Ogle, U.E., of London, England, ancestor John Chisholm.

We offer sympathy to Mrs. Jenkinson, nee Mary Emma Glassford, UE, whose husband, Mr. John Hayes Jenkinson, B.E.M., of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, passed away.

At the March meeting the speaker was Mrs. Eula C. Lapp, President, Toronto Branch, Canadian Authors' Association, a member of the Bay of Quinte Branch, U.E.L. Association; Ontario Historical Society; Ontario Genealogical Society; and Toronto Branch of the O.G.S. The topic was "Deductions of an Amateur Historian". Mrs. Lapp is the author of a book, very soon to be published, in which intensive research was made into the genealogical records of several Loyalist families who settled in the Bay of Quinte area. This factual examination could be of positive assistance to many people desiring knowledge of their own family trees. The book, bearing the title: "To Their Heirs Forever", is being printed by the Picton Gazette Publishing Company.

Obituary: **Zella Lee Parks Robertson UE**

Mrs. John Reid Robertson, a conscientious and able worker in the Toronto Branch for many years passed away in November.

Mrs. Robertson, formerly Zella Lee Parks UE, was a direct descendant of Cyrenus Parks UE, whose grant of land consisting of 2,200 acres, was on the shores of Hay Bay. Some of the land was still owned by Mrs. Robertson at the time of her death.

Surviving the late Mrs. Robertson are two daughters, Mrs. Basil R. P. McGillivray and Miss Isobel Robertson, valued members of the Toronto Branch. There are also two sons, Mr. James Park Robertson and Mr. Gilbert Hugh Robertson, as well as eleven grandchildren and three great grandsons.

1970 Autumn

At a regular meeting we heard Mr. Bert Pratt of East York, speak on the restoration and development of the historic park in the ravine by Pottery Road. This nucleus of old buildings on old Don Mills is called Todmorden Mills. The three pioneers who are remembered in their homesteads are Hollowell, Skinner and Terry. Parshall Terry who was an ancestor of the late Melissa Glassford was a Loyalist from Wyoming, New York, who first served in a key position of rangers, and in 1792 was a member of the legislature in Simcoe's parliament. Mr. Pratt pointed out that Terry led a group of soldiers back into his own hometown in revenge for his earlier sufferings. He caused a successful massacre, but opposite to popular propaganda did not kill his parents and brothers, but brought them to the local stronghold for safekeeping. At the same meeting, Ruth Bishop played works by Brahms and a Nocturne by Chopin.

At a Spring meeting, Mrs. Eula Lapp from Mississauga spoke to us on values learned as an amateur researcher, for her new book: TO THEIR HEIRS FOREVER.

This book follows the travels of eight families from the German Palatine, by way of Ireland to Manhattan and then inland, until finally they reached the frontiers of Loyalist Ontario. The book thus tells of Methodist friends and cousins of Barbara R. Heck. Mrs. Lapp said that a person wishing to do an honest job of writing any local history book must be persistent, objective and must have some imagination. To simplify the work of writing keep a filing system rather than a finished notebook. Mrs. Lapp becomes so engrossed in her hobby that to visit the archives is better than a game of golf. Pianist, Anita Brown played works by Bach, Ravel and Chopin--The G. Minor Ballade.

During the April meeting of the Toronto Branch, Mrs. Robert Kirk and assistants, Mr. Arless Flint, Mrs. Basil McGillivray and Mrs. Lorna Laughton (nee Flint), told the regular meeting of progress and future plans in the filing system recently set up in our offices. Mrs. McGillivray stressed making a file of portraits and groups of families showing two such example collections. Mrs. Laughton explained how we can assist better in academic levels. Joseph Peleg, a violinist who has spent some time in Israel, played mature works of Brahms, Kreisler and Ravel.

Gaynor Jones and David Low, soloist and pianist (Mr. and Mrs. D. Low) presenting entertainment at a Toronto Branch dinner in the Saint Lawrence Hall.

We lost through death, former president, Dr. Stanley Clark. We have no new members recently though we have some filled applications, for Mrs. Kirk was busy chairing the By-law Committee for the past three months.

On May 20, Miss Alice Davidson, secretary to the Ontario Historical Society and president of York Pioneers spoke to us on the theme "Co-operation". She introduced her topic with two examples of demanding queries asking too much in a limited space of time, to point out that sometimes co-operation is a one way street. Miss Davidson cited examples mostly from her experience with the Historical Society. She pointed out that the Ontario Genealogical Society now has a referral system set up.

Also of note, her society put out a gossip type bulletin in which there is room to print what other historical organizations such as ours have done recently. There could be the possibility within a few years, that some hereditary societies and historical societies may hold offices under one roof, called History House. In this way we shall have more communication and be able to share the use of machines such as Xerox. A friend of Miss Helen Perkins, Miss Catherine Gordon, played four Chopin preludes of diverse moods. As an encore she played a set of three Scottish dances, published posthumously. We are fortunate to have had top quality musicians for the season, who have enjoyed playing for us, as much as we have enjoyed listening to them. We have Miss Helen Perkins to thank.

Our next regular meeting is in the autumn, third Wednesday of October.

1971 Spring

At a Fall Meeting of the Toronto Branch members and friends enjoyed the illustrated talk on the Fez area, Morocco, by the speaker, Miss Dale McGillivray, daughter of a member, Mrs. Basil McGillivray, who spent a year in Morocco, teaching English. Besides showing slides of human interest, showing views of villages, a wedding, a market, a holiday and acquaintances, she displayed several forms of native textile work, leather work, and silver work. Her favourite souvenir was an off-white dress, normally worn by brides of the Fez area.

Our Genealogist, Mrs. Robert F. Kirk, presented names of five new members: Stanley Eugene Dickie, 1089 Pharmacy Avenue, Scarborough, Ontario, ancestor: Hector Dickie. Keith Victor Moore, 483 Merton Street, Toronto 7, Ontario, ancestor: Jerimiah Moore. Norma Phillips Muir, 1141 Royal York Rd., Apt. 603, Islington 675, Ontario, ancestor: Martin Fralick. Mrs. Elizabeth Blair, 88 Lowther Avenue, Apt. 5, Toronto 180, Ontario, ancestor: John Cameron. Mrs. Marjorie Padfield Thompson, Box 184, Kirkland Lake, Ontario, ancestor: Hector Dickie.

At the November Meeting three members of the Ontario Society of Spinners and Weavers, namely, Mrs. Edna Blackburn of Caledon East; Mrs. Thelma Parker and Mr. Karl Killmayer, showed us examples of rugs and bedspreads made over a hundred years ago in Ontario, Quebec and New England. Besides trying to copy a pattern of the past, they have woven their own contemporary and creative patterns and weavedesigns, some of which have won top prizes in Canadian shows. Some of us saw actual carding, spinning and weaving for the first time. Mrs. Blackburn teaches the craft in her school and raises the wool on her own Australian type sheep. As much as possible, all dye their own wool, using natural dyes, including the traditional indigo and madder roots. Mr. Killmayer is a guest at many of our regular branch meetings, and is an example of a person with Austrian background, associating socially with Canadians who value our Loyalist ancestors and realize that many of our every day customs and institutions have evolved from our British past.

Some Toronto members travelled to Picton on June 13 and to Hamilton on October 17 to attend a luncheon and witness an executive meeting. Both were enjoyable days.

Toronto Branch

Soft light from the glittering chandelier in the ballroom of the Old St. Lawrence Hall enhanced the handsome attire of the ladies and gentlemen attending the annual Christmas Dinner held December 2, 1970.

New members of Toronto Branch and guests from Governor Simcoe Branch were present, in addition to an excellent attendance, of the membership. Head table guests were: Branch President Mr. Richard L. Mudge and Mrs. Mudge; Association President Mr. Michael Spohn and Mrs. Spohn; Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Honsberger; Mr. Philip Smart; Mrs. Stanley Clark and Dr. and Mrs. Fred Branscombe.

Enthusiastic participants in carol singing before and after dinner was under the up-tempo leadership of David Low, pianist. His talented wife, Gaynor Jones, soprano, delighted the audience with solos chosen from carols both modern and ancient.

1971 Autumn

At the Toronto Branch May meeting, three members spoke on research sources. The three were Mrs. Robert Kirk, Mrs. Basil McGillivray and Mr. Arless Flint, who keep excellent files for Toronto Branch in our 'back room'. Incidentally, we learned lineage with much history of the Dorland and Richardson families. Mrs. McGillivray showed how a simple Sunday class card led to the placing of an ancestor in Metcalfe Township when, before visiting the Methodist Archives in Victoria College, she had no more leads than the card. Mrs. Kirk showed how one can document a lineage through any one of four or five different sources, anyone being sufficient. Mr. Flint showed a history around the riddle of who was Sarah Dorland; after a few clues we find her to be a Miss Booth.

On June 12 thirty-seven persons turned out for a sunny and humid picnic at Black Creek Pioneer Village. Sunburns were the order of the day for some of us. We picnicked at tables set in an open hollow, while several cows lunched nearby to emphasize the bucolic setting. Coffee and tea were served on the spot. Afterwards most of us toured the village houses and, barns, at our own speed. The rain held off until evening. For a smoothly organized day, we have Mr. and Mrs. Carleton Strahm to thank. In addition, Miss Jeanice MacLaren, Miss Isobel Robertson and Mrs. Hilda Jackson helped meet us at the gate. We were glad to see Mrs. Lawrence Smith out.

At the Toronto Branch general meeting on Wednesday, March 17, 1971, President Mudge pointed out the exhibition of the paintings in oil and lithography by Lillian McGeogh, a member of the Women's Art Association . and of Toronto Branch U.E.L. Association.

Two student violinists, sisters Marlene and Phyllis Dankiew, accompanied by their teacher, Miss Gundy, played lively Bach third movement from his concerto in D Minor, and then a Slavic Dance.

Dr. Fred Branscombe introduced John Churchill, a twenty-eight year old film producer, who spoke on production, problems and fun with filming a documentary. He learned not to overfeed hens before the cameraman is ready to shoot. Dr. Branscombe ran the projector. We saw two samples of ten-minute movies aimed at the twelve year old student depicting Household Crafts and Recreation. For every ten minutes of good film we see, there are ninety minutes behind the camera, plus other worries. The movies were good from a sociological viewpoint for the film implied how interdependent pioneer people were on each other. The actors and the location were all of Black Creek, Pioneer Village.

Dr. F. R. Branscombe introduced the first in a series of speakers of 'Telling it as it was'. Mrs. Jean Smith has lectured at schools in costume, with her collection of wooden ware such as maple syrup buckets and

other items of domestic use. Mrs. Smith began to collect wooden ware ten years ago. Now she has about three hundred pieces to demonstrate activities of early pioneer days.

She told us that the Loyalists lived in tents of cedar branches in Nova Scotia until established in log or frame houses. They used a paddle to beat liquid soap into clothes on riverside rocks and a scrubbing stick or wooden rollers to scrub on the rock. Later they used small tubs which were kept damp all week for water tightness. Maple ash soap and lye were used. Clothes pegs were about five inches long, some with metal collars. The scrubbing board had wooden ribbing, and the hand wringer was also made of wood. A long handled fork and paddle called a "dolly" was used to lift clothes out of boiling water. They wrapped the clothes around a wooden stick called a "smoother" and rolled a scalloped stick along it to iron clothes. Mrs. Smith showed us old irons, one with a charcoal burner. Another item in her collection was a beautifully carved maple wood Bible cover in one piece, into which one would slip a Bible.

Mrs. Smith pointed out that we are saving our heritage when we research family background. She reminded us that Quebec had the seigneurie system, in which a parcel of land belonged to "one" man, the lord or seigneur. His tenants and workers led a subsidized existence and knew that they would always be looked after. But Simcoe said: "Every" man may own land in Upper Canada. Thus the system set up by Simcoe was responsible for producing more self-reliant and deeper-thinking people, than the Quebec system. Simcoe also brought to Ontario, British law. Astonishingly, he abolished slavery in Upper Canada in 1793 over thirty years before Britain abolished slavery, though some slaves stayed on until 1818 in many households. Mrs. Smith deplored the loss of old buildings around Toronto such as City Hall. Concerned action is needed by large groups.

1972 Spring

The Toronto Branch Annual Christmas Dinner was held on Wednesday, December 15, in the softly lit King Cole Room at the Park Plaza Hotel. Mirrors on the ceiling and on posts reflected the indirect light, the candles and the pale green walls, giving an added charm to the ladies with their long evening gowns.

After partaking of appropriate beverages, we sat down to tables of eight places to enjoy a well served dinner. Later, after the speech by the president Mr. R. L. Mudge, Mrs. Ted Hargreaves read the proposed slate of officers for the ensuing year, and the assemblage approved the slate. Mr. W. B. Hambly who has been printing our Christmas cards, is to be our new chairman taking over after the January meeting.

Mr. Paddy Murphy whose real job is teaching school then entertained us with a number of magic tricks. His sleight of hand included stunts with rope, cards, Chinese rings and thimbles. It quite bewildered us. At the October meeting our member Mr. Stuart Gilmor, reported on the tour of the Mohawk Valley mentioned elsewhere in this issue. About twenty members from the branch participated. He quoted Colonel C. B. Briggs and other dignitaries with apropos words of welcome, and showed us slides from his collection and the collection of Mr. Loucks. The chairman of the bus trip, Mrs. Ward LeRoy and her closest assistant, Miss Louise Beck, both of Governor Simcoe Branch, attended the meeting. Those persons who went on the tour including those who arrived in their own cars, will have many good memories of the trip.

Places visited were Johnson Hall, fourth home of William Johnson in 1774; Stone Arabia Church and Herkimer House; Fort Johnson near Amsterdam, the third home of Sir William Johnson; Butlersbury of 1742, home of Walter Butler and one of his sons, John Butler of the Rangers - still kept privately in restored condition, and finally a return to Johnson Hall for a reception with Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution.

At the November meeting Professor Wallace McLeod of the Classics Department, Victoria College, Toronto, spoke of his sabbatical leave in Greece and Isles of Greece. He introduced the slide show with views of provincial landscape, followed by historical interpretation. Our interests were carried from the Byzantine world to the many medieval castles built at strategic points throughout Greece. In the fourth crusade, many European princes and barons took land, then in the hands of Byzantine families. The Roman Pope did not mind his church followers making attacks on the population that was under the influence of the other Pope at Constantinople. As a result, many crusaders built fortifications often on top of half-fallen Greek towers which had been built about 500 B.C. The coarseness of medieval construction was quite apparent, as opposed to the neat masonry of the ancient Greeks. The style of the Italian tower differs greatly from that of the English or the French. In about 1500, the Turks gained supremacy in this part of the world and we do not hear about any English influence again until the campaigns of the poet Lord Byron. Professor McLeod ended his lecture with a review of the three noble orders of Greek architecture. The professor and his wife are both members of our Association.

Thirteen-year-old Michelle Harper entertained us with three delightful piano pieces. She has a promising music career ahead.

New members this season are Helen Edwina Johnston (Mrs. Robert) of Queensville, (ancestor: Joshua Willson UE); Ella Ruth Smith (Mrs. Austin) of Toronto, ancestor: John Fennel UE); William Brainerd Carman of Pasadena., California, (ancestor: Michael Carman III, UE, of Morrisburg. area); Margaret Branscombe and Ellen Branscombe, twin sisters, Toronto, (ancestor: Arthur Branscombe of New Brunswick); John Grandy, Ottawa, (ancestor: Aeneas Shaw of Niagara and Toronto); Mrs. Lome Patterson of Guelph, (ancestor: John Howell of Kingston.)

As Mr. Norman Horn has retired, Mrs. Hilda Jackson is now our secretary, (office hours Wednesdays and Thursdays afternoons only).

The Toronto Branch continues to meet on the third Wednesday seven times per year, besides holding one dinner and one tour.

1972 Autumn

In honour of our seventy-fifth anniversary, we called the February meeting for an hour earlier, and after Mr. Stanley Honsberger asked the blessing, Mrs. Marie Deans-Buchan cut the birthday cake. The Ladies of the Ladies Committee had baked and whipped a good assortment of desserts for this dessert social. Some ladies dressed in evening clothes in honour of the event. More members arrived in time to listen to the business part of the meeting, and listen to the speaker of the evening. Mr. Hans D. Birk, a top authority of heraldry in Canada spoke to us on the origin and development of Coats of Arms.

At the April meeting of the Toronto branch Mr. Kenneth McPherson of the Ontario Archives spoke on sources of genealogical items available at the Ontario Provincial Archives. Researchers now find that many documents, such as memorials to land transactions, just to mention one source, are on microfilm.

The Ontario Archives has recently moved from the west side of Queen's Park Crescent to a new building on Grenville Street near the Women's College Hospital. Plans for longer hours are being discussed. The person who works during the day can then benefit from the possibly longer hours that the Archives may be open.

Our chairman of the speakers' committee, Rev. Father James S. McGivern, has fine contacts with the works of the last three speakers.

On May 17 the Toronto and the Governor Simcoe Branches met at the Women's Art Association gallery on Prince Arthur Avenue to hear Dr. Louis Tucker of Albany, New York State, speak on how the approaching bicentennial of the American War of Independence is affecting the commercial whims and attitudes of the American population. He debunked the notion that all signers of the Declaration of Independence were all moralistic heroes with the same leanings in political ideals. He commented that the Americans got a fair education of the other side of the question if they watched a recent television production about Lord North, starring Charles Laughton.

Dr. Tucker obtained his Ph.D. in history at Seattle, Washington. He is a former professor who has written several articles and three books. Presently he is assistant Commissioner of History' for the State of New York, We thank Dr. H.G. Walton-Ball, program convener of the Governor Simcoe Branch, for arranging for the excellent speaker.

Since early May, Toronto branch has regular office hours, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. with Mrs. Audrey Kirk as secretary.

Several members attended the picnic on May 27 at Todmorden Mills Park, Toronto. The weather was pleasant. After a short executive meeting and picnic lunch the group toured the following: museum, the Terry and the Helliwell homesteads and the old Don railway station. The park was a community centennial project for East York.

Three carloads of Toronto members drove to Her Majesty's Chapel of the Mohawks, Brantford, the following Sunday for a 3 o'clock picnic. Canon W.J. Zimmerman organized a fine service which included two hymns sung by Mohawks in their language. Ven. Archdeacon F .C. McRitchie dedicated the renovations for the Tomb of Chief Joseph Brant. This service marked the completion of a project of Toronto branch as coordinated by our active member, Mr. S.G. Loucks. Western Canadians may be interested to know that the ancestors of poetess Pauline Johnson are buried next to the Branch plot. The bell of the Royal Chapel came from an Indian Castle near Canajoharie, New York. The chief found it necessary to cache the bell on his first escape to Canada for the bell was heavy and noisy.

Since the executive of Toronto Branch learned that the Governor General planned to attend the annual Loyalist Church Service, at St. Alban the Martyr Anglican Church, Adolphustown, a trip on that day was considered very appropriate. The organizers, Mrs. Audrey Kirk and Mr. Philip Smart, found the day rewarding.

Thirty-five persons, including a few members from the Governor Simcoe Branch and the Women's Historical Society, took the chartered bus to Adolphustown. All enjoyed the trip by way of Trenton, Carrying Place, Consecon and Picton. The larger ferry accommodated the bus at Glenora. At Adolphustown Park we met other Toronto members and at least as many from the Bay of Quinte Branch, including the chairman, Mr. Charles Young, and gathered on the front lawn of the U.E. Loyalist Museum. Many of us had time to see both the museum and the nearby cemetery before finding a seat at the service, St. Alban's the Martyr, Though the service was not until 3.30 p.m., many local people, Quinte members, and those from Toronto had filled the church and half of the pavilion by 3 p.m. His Excellency's guards of honour were the scouts from nearby Sandhurst. The well trained choir, under Dr. George Maybee, came from St. George's Cathedral, Kingston.

The whole day went smoothly and four persons from the Toronto group met the Governor General and his wife at tea time. Refreshments were served in the pavilion. After the Governor General left in his limousine for a helicopter waiting in a field in front of the museum, the bus group took a return ferry ride, and accepted an impromptu invitation to the home and garden of Mrs. Donald Thompson of Picton, an

active member of the Bay of Quinte Branch. Mrs. Thompson has one of the best collections of glass and china in the county, much of it she uses in daily living.

We returned to Toronto by way of Wellington, Trenton, Carrying Place, Brighton and Port Hope.

1973 Spring

The 75th Birthday Tea and Fall Festival of the Toronto Branch was held on October 18 under the chairmanship of Mrs. C. Tisdale and Mrs. H. E. Hargreaves. The room was gay with fall flowers and leaves; also the tea table was graced by Mrs. Roy Belyea, Mrs. W. B. Dick, Mrs. M. R. Shamata, Mrs. H. S. Honsberger, Mrs. Ray Jafelace and Mrs. R. Bogle.

Mrs. Austin Smith and Mrs. Audrey Kirk manned a well laden "Touch and Take" table.

It was a real pleasure to see so many members, who have not been able to be out lately, joining with the rest of their friends.

The October meeting was fortunate to have as speaker one of our own members, Miss Marion Keffer. Her topic was Early Days In Vaughan Township. This was made the more vivid by her readings from a Cash Book kept by an early storekeeper--a very informative and amusing paper.

Miss Helen Perkins brought to this meeting a very capable pianist in the person of Linda Azuma of the Royal Conservatory of Music. Seldom does one hear such perfection and music from a 13-year-old lass. We were pleased to welcome her teacher, mother and sister.

On November 27, 1972 Toronto branch lost Mrs. Henry Day, (Mary Eleanor Timmerman, age 90) Mrs. Day was the mother of Hilda Jackson, Bess Wares and Alice Dunlop, and first cousin of a grandmother of Philip Smart.

Born in Odessa, of Loyalist Dorland, Booth and Fraser background, she married a Kingston doctor, also of Loyalist descent. For the last decade Mrs. Day has lived in Toronto and until a half a year ago regularly attended Toronto Branch meetings.

Again, Toronto branch held their annual Christmas-time dinner in the King Cole Room of the Park Plaza. Toronto weather for the day was favourable, a complete contrast with the Tuesday storm.

We sorely missed Mrs. Hambly, the wife of our president, who was under medical care. The head table was made up of presidents, namely: Dr. and Mrs. George Dillane from Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Ruttan of Governor Simcoe Branch, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Warner from Ottawa, President of Dominion Council, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Mudge, Mr. Mudge being past president of Toronto branch, and our President Mr. W. B. Hambly.

After we had the opportunity to participate at the bar, we sat down to dinner at 7.30 p.m. Misses Margaret and Ellen Branscombe carried in the Canadian flag, and the Loyalist banner, which some of us affectionately call the George III Flag. The highlight of the speeches was when Mr. Warner read a reply from the Queen, on the occasion of sending good wishes for her Silver Wedding. We broke away from the tables for ten minutes and then Mr. Philip Smart introduced a barber shop quartet, a branch of the Diplomats, under the business organization of Mr. John Wilson.

The quartet sang many sentimental numbers, and led us in carol singing. Also, they explained the structure of barber shop harmony.

Mrs. Colin Tisdale added that the person with a sticker of a poppy on the bottom of their coffee cup was to claim the floral arrangement at the head table.

Mrs. Hilda Day Jackson won this favour.. Mr. Hambly thanked Mrs. Tisdale, our president of the Ladies; Committee for arranging the details of the dinner.

We regret the passing of our beloved member Mr. Angus Gordon Clarry on January 24, husband of the late E. Janet Clarry.

1974 Spring

The October meeting was fortunate to have as a speaker one of our members, Mrs. Mary Beacock Fryer, M.A., who gave us an interesting and humourous address on "War Experiences of Some Individual Loyalists."

The November meeting's speaker was our own Rev. James S. McGivern, Speakers' Committee Chairman. His topic, "Virtue in Toronto Street Names", gave us a lively history of our city.

Again Toronto Branch held their annual Christmas-time dinner in the Plaza Room of the Park Plaza Hotel. After we had the opportunity to participate at the bar, we sat down to dinner at 7.30 p.m. Misses Margaret and Ellen Branscombe carried in the Canadian flag and the Loyalist Banner. Mr. Philip Smart introduced the entertainment for the evening, a quartet from the East York Chapter of Barber Shop Quartets, under the direction of Don Farris, and known by the interesting name of "Positive Outlook". The quartet sang many sentimental numbers and also explained the structure of barber shop harmony. Mrs. W.K. Nobbs of the Simcoe Branch won the floral arrangement at the head table.

It is sad to report several members have passed away during the year -- Mrs. Mary G. Hall, Mrs. Thomas F. Rahilly, Mrs. George Deans-Buchan, Mrs. L.E. Roe, and Miss Norma Brown.

1974 Autumn

The Toronto Branch members have enjoyed a variety of educational programs during the first half of 1974, commencing with "Interesting antiques, interesting stories." Mrs. Robert Kirk demonstrated a coffee grinder; Mr. Arliss Flint an ancient snuff box; and Mrs. Basil McGillivray a variety of items from her Loyalist ancestors.

In February, Mrs. T.G. Ryley of Toronto Art Gallery and the Grange gave a slide presentation on the story of the Art Gallery from the earliest days of the Grange to the present day impressive expansion. Musical entertainment was provided by Members of the Toronto Recorder Society led by our own Mr. Gordon Ford.

Our March meeting hit a lighter vein in the person of Donald H. Harron, famous author, playwright, actor, television and radio star. Mr. Harron presented his well known, humorous character "Charlie Farquharson" speaking on "Vignettes of Canadian History". The meeting was very well attended to enjoy this witty man as "Charlie" gave the Loyalists some amusing digs. Mr. Harron is the author of the best seller "Charlie Farquharson's History of Canada".

April's meeting brought us a serious note as Michael W. Lewis, Information Officer of Canadian Arctic Gas Study spoke to us on the MacKenzie Valley Pipeline. This is a tremendous national project equalling the building of the C.P.R. The estimated cost of the most expensive project is 5 1/2 billion dollars.

In May, Donald B. Kirkup, Public Relations and Research Director of A.E. LePage Limited spoke to us on Toronto; Past - Present and Future, with a slide presentation. Mr. Kirkup is an avid student of the history of Toronto and has published an illustrated book on this subject which he presented to each of the Toronto members in attendance.

On Saturday June 8th, a Bus Trip and Picnic was held at Pioneer Village in Doon. The Bus passengers enjoyed a tour of the Kitchener - Waterloo area before their arrival at Doon. After a picnic lunch, we toured the very interesting buildings of the Village which re-create the history of Waterloo County, with emphasis on its German Mennonite background. As well as the bus and carloads of Toronto members, we were joined by a group of the Grand River Branch. In spite of a slight rain, the event was enjoyed by all.

1978 Autumn

The members of the Toronto Branch have enjoyed a wide variety of interesting and educational programs during the first half of the year, commencing with a wine and cheese party in the refurbished members' lounge in January, prior to the regular annual meeting.

In February the speaker was John Moil', Ph.D., Professor of History at Scarborough College, University of Toronto, who gave a slide presentation entitled "History Behind the Iron Curtain". Various cities, people and customs of the U.S.S.R. were depicted on the slides. Musical entertainment was provided by Mrs. Arthur Staubietz, nee Dorothy Dingman, at the piano.

A Missionary Tour of India with the Rev. Frank West, S. J., as commentator was the March meeting's agenda, followed in April by a trip to the Yukon illustrated with slides by the Rev. Dr. H. H. Hokeby-Thomas.

In May the Toronto Branch played host to the successful three-day National Convention.

On Saturday June 9th Toronto Branch members joined with some eight from Governor Simcoe Branch and Mr. Hugh Teed and family of New Brunswick at a picnic at the historic Todmorden Mills park in East York. Mrs. E. H. Hargreaves and Mrs. J. C. Williamson organized games and gave out prizes. to the winners. An enjoyable time was had by all.

It is sad to have to report that several members have passed away during the past year. Mr. W. H. Elliott, Past President and Executive member, Mrs. V.E. Taplin, former Executive committee member, Mr. Wyndham Johnston. Mr. Austin Smith. Mrs. Alfred Lunday, Mr. Charles Henry Grant of Edmonton, Alberta, and Mr. George P. Wood on June 25, 1973.

1975 Spring

The October meeting was highlighted by the presentation of "Canadian National Exhibition films of Yesteryears" by Michael Filey, noted Toronto historian whose column "The Way We Were" appears weekly in the Toronto Sunday Sun. The first film of 1932 was black and white, made four years after sound came to Canada; while the second one of 1947 was in colour.

From there Mr. Filey got onto his favourite subjects of streetcars and boats. He told us that the "Trillum" originally built in 1910 to take passengers to Centre Island, was being repaired for summer travel in the Toronto harbour area.

Mrs. Wilson McConnell with his lovely wife Stella was our guest speaker in November. Mr. McConnell was with the Editorial Department of the now defunct Telegram. During his 43 years with the Tely, he came to know as close personal friends many of the outstanding personalities of this great newspaper. Once again Toronto Branch held their Annual Christmas Dinner in the Plaza Room of the Park Plaza Hotel. After we had the opportunity to participate at the bar, we sat down for dinner. turkey and all the trimmings.

After dinner, our Dominion President, Mrs. William Drew, installed the officers for the coming year. Mrs. David Webster, Sir Guy Carleton Branch, won the floral arrangement from the head table as the lady who had travelled the furthest to attend our festivities. Gaynor Low, accompanied on the piano by her husband David, favoured us with Christmas carols sung in her beautiful Welsh voice. Mrs. Low is a cousin of Mrs. Mary McGillivray. Then the guests enjoyed the piano stylings of Nancy Anderson, recently of the Briars Club, for dancing and singsongs. A most enjoyable evening was had by all.

It is sad to report several members have passed away during the year - Mrs. H.G. Cawthra-Elliott, Mrs. Oscar Clarke, Mrs. Stanley Davies, Mrs. A. Murray DeNike, Mrs. Wilton Elliott, Miss Margaret Gordon, Mrs. A.M. Thompson, Mrs. W.R. Thompson, and Mr. Harry Young.

1978 Spring

For the most part Toronto Branch general meetings have been held in the gallery of the Women's Art Association at 23 Prince Arthur Avenue, Toronto.

The first meeting of 1977 was held on January 19, a combined regular and annual affair. An informal reception prior to the meeting of wine and cheese was greatly enjoyed. The business included annual reports.

The February meeting held a treat of delightful songs by Joan Speed, soprano. After a short business session the guest speaker, Mr. John D. Silburn, B.S.A., B.A.Sc., M.Eng., spoke on the Restoration of Historic Structures. Mr. Silburn, a teaching master at St. Lawrence College in Brockville, gave a most interesting outline of his course, "The Preservation and Restoration Technology Program" which told us much of the problems and methods of erecting reproductions or the repairing of buildings of the Loyalist era. Mr. Silburn was a master of his subject and everyone thoroughly enjoyed his talk.

A joint meeting with the Governor Simcoe Branch in March was held in the Maurice Cody Hall of St. Paul's Anglican Church on Bloor Street East. The speaker was the well known and highly regarded Dr. Allan Walters and his subject was "The Loyalist Settlement at Cataraqui and the Bay of Quinte 1783-84". Dr. Walters' talk, and the slides he presented combined to make it appear that events were taking place before us rather than some two hundred years ago. His talk was one of the highlights of the year. Refreshments were served and those present, including guests from neighbouring U.E.L. branches, felt that the evening had been well spent.

At the April meeting business matters were attended to and members and guests were delighted with a short concert given by The University Settlement String Orchestra conducted by Joyce Gundy.

Mr. Carl Benn who is employed by the Borough of Etobicoke as Senior Historical Interpreter at Montgomery's Inn as our speaker. With the aid of slides, Mr. Benn showed the relationship between weapons, uniforms and battle tactics used during the war of 1812 and provided his audience with an interesting picture on this period of our history.

Following the business matters at the May 18 meeting those present were most enjoyably entertained by John Whittaker, tenor. After the musical portion of the evening's program Mr. J.D.M. Phillips, consultant, told members and guests what Harbourfront, Toronto has to offer in the way of services and facilities to community groups in and even beyond the Metropolitan Toronto area. Mr. Phillips' talk was very well received by members and guests and, without doubt, all present learned a great deal about this service provided by our City.

Our sixth meeting was something different. On June 4 at 11:30 a.m. members and guests met at the entrance to the Metropolitan Toronto Zoo on Meadowvale Road. We were given a very warm welcome by Mr. William J. Hedges, a senior member of the Zoo staff, who led a guided tour. The tour started with a ride on the train which passes through areas provided for natural habitation by deer and other native animals. We were taken through the main pavilions, saw the elephants and polar bears in their own compounds. After lunch we were each on our own and further areas were visited. It is impossible, in such a short time, to see more than a small portion of our Zoo and no doubt many of our members will make many return visits to such an interesting place.

At the October meeting members and guests were entertained by a Mini-Concert, the artists being Mary Rimmer and Grace Wilson, mezzo sopranos, and David Smith and Gordon Ford playing recorders. As usual, those present were delighted with the performance. Our speaker for the evening was Mrs. Mary Beacock Fryer, M.A., a member of Toronto branch and author of "Loyalist Spy" and "Escape". Mrs. Fryer's subject was "Gentleman Johnny and His Loyal Americans". A Bicentennial talk on General Burgoyne's surrender at Saratoga October 17, 1777. Mrs. Fryer almost brought to life those happenings of just over two hundred years ago and her audience enjoyed her presentation.

The eighth general meeting held on November 16, and entertainment was provided by Peggy Parsons, Isabel Smaller and Gordon Ford and the combination of viola da gamba and recorders was most pleasing. The speaker for this evening was Miss Edith G. Firth, Head of the Canadian History Department, Metropolitan Toronto Library Board and well known for the two volumes in the Ontario Series of the Champlain Society "The Town of York 1793-1815" and "The Town of York 1818-1834". In view of the recent move to the new Metropolitan Library building, Toronto branch was more than fortunate in having Miss Firth consent to addressing our members and guests. The title of Miss Firth's talk, which was accompanied by slides, was "Early Days in Toronto" and as no other person is known to be better qualified than Miss Firth on this subject, as was to be expected, our members and guests were treated to a most interesting story.

"Our last meeting of the 1977 year was the Christmas Dinner Party which was held on Friday, December 16, at the Park Plaza Hotel. the reception was at 6:30 p.m. and the tasty dinner was served at 7:00 p.m. The "Queen of Song", Rita Hall entertained those present with the piano and a great variety of her songs. . The evening was very much enjoyed by everybody.

Congratulations are due our president, Mrs. Donna Knight and the officers and committee chairmen of Toronto Branch, for a most successful 1977.

If one may make special mention of services which added so much to the enjoyment of our general meetings one must congratulate Mrs. Audrey L. Kirk, 1st Vice-President and chairman of the speakers' committee for her outstanding choice of speakers and Mr. Gordon J. Ford, chairman of the music

committee for the arrangement of such delightful musical performances and also the members who presided at the tea table at each meeting held at the gallery.

1978 Autumn

Toronto Branch held its first General Meeting of 1978 on the 18th of January, at its usual meeting place, the Gallery of The Women's Art Association of Canada, 23 Prince Arthur Avenue, Toronto. Members and guests enjoyed a Wine and Cheese Reception prior to the meeting which began with the singing of God Save The Queen followed by The Lord's Prayer. Reports of Officers and Committee Chairmen were received and the election and installation of the executive took place.

On February 15th, our second meeting of the year was held. Our Association President Mr. D. Stuart Gilmor UE, C.L.U., spoke on "The Unity of Canada". Mr. Gilmor presented his subject with great clarity and his audience listened attentively throughout his talk. Then' followed a delightful Tuba-Duo performance by Ronald Parker and Sal Fratia. The event closed with members' and guests enjoying tea and cookies.

Members at the March meeting greatly enjoyed musical entertainment consisting of a Guitar-Duo presented by Elswyth Fryer and Rob Theriault. Mrs. Dorothy G. Lampman, Genealogist of the Hamilton Branch, and well versed in Canadian History and Canadiana spoke on "Suffering Souls, Frontier Living, 1775-1810" which was indeed well presented and was thoroughly enjoyed.

At the April meeting those present were treated to a delightful Soprano duet by Ellen and Margaret Branscombe, members of our Branch. Miss Jeanice MacLaren, also of Toronto Branch, shared with her audience her hobby and knowledge on the topic of "Buttons". Her presentation included the display of a small portion of her collection which showed how, varieties of buttons are displayed on cards at shows in Canada and in the U.S.A. Miss MacLaren was a very interesting speaker on a little known subject.

While not a Toronto Branch meeting, it should be mentioned that several members of our Branch attended the Annual U.E.L. Convention our Association held at Medway Hall, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, May 5,6 and 7, this year, sponsored by the London Branch. The general organization was perfect and the hospitality delightful. Congratulations to London Branch.

The last Regular General Meeting of Toronto Branch held in the spring was on May 17. Those present were entertained by an outstanding solo cello performance given by Lala Steapells. The speaker was Mr. Carl Lee Shain, Past Chairman of the Toronto Branch of the Monarchist League of Canada, his subject being "The Monarchist Tradition". One could not have chosen a better topic to present to a Branch of our Association. Mr. Shain kept the full attention of his audience throughout his talk. The meeting ended with tea and cookies. Branch meetings will start again on October 18th.

1979 Spring

Toronto Branch commenced the 1978 Fall season with a get together for a one day bus tour of the Lake Simcoe Area. The bus left 21 Prince Arthur Ave. at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 16, and went to Keswick, then followed the scenic route along the southeast shore of Cook's Bay and Lake Simcoe. This was a pioneer area and later many prominent Toronto people built summer homes along the shore. St. George's Anglican Church and the cemetery where Stephen Leacock and Mazo de la Roche are buried were visited. The bus carried its passengers through Sibbald Provincial Park and on to the Briars at Jackson's Point where one of our members, Mr. John Sibbald, and his wife Barbara were hosts for a most

enjoyable lunch. The return trip was through Bradford and the Holland Marsh. All in all, it was a delightful day for the 31 persons who participated.

During the evening of Wednesday, October 18, the regular general meeting of the Branch was held in the Gallery at 23 Prince Arthur Ave. The meeting opened with the singing of God Save the Queen followed by the Lord's Prayer. Business matters were attended to and reports of committees received. The musical program was presented by a quartet, Jane Irwin, Joyce Richey, Peter Kohli and our member, Gordon Ford, and, as is usual, the performance was greatly appreciated. Seven associate members and a U.E. member, Mrs. E. Nelson Macnab were welcomed and congratulations were tendered to Mrs. J.E. Shenton, of Orillia on her becoming a Life Member.

The speakers for the evening were Lynn Cunningham and Phil Dunning whose topic was Camp and Army Life 1770-1785. They told us of the clothing worn during the Revolutionary period and advised on materials and patterns that would be used by persons wishing to dress in costumes during the bicentennial of the arrival of the Loyalists in Canada. Their presentation was educational and was greatly appreciated. The meeting closed with a social hour around the tea table.

The November regular general meeting was held on the 15th at the usual time and place, beginning with God Save the Queen and recitation of the Lord's Prayer. The musical program consisting of four selections presented by James McNabb, baritone, was greatly appreciated. The business session was short and our President welcomed six former Associate Members as U.E. Members and one U.E. Member joining Toronto Branch by transfer. Mr. Edwin Cooke, M.M., B.A. was the speaker of the evening and his subject was Modern Planning but Whither History. Mr. Cooke, who was a co-author of "Settlement History of Peel", told us of his involvement with planning and creating a regional identity and his descriptions of a great variety of situations were indeed interesting.

Our final meeting of 1978 was during the evening of December 16th when many of the members of Toronto Branch, by invitation of Mr. Charles J. Humber, President of Governor Simcoe Branch, joined with the members of that Branch at their Christmas Party which was held at the Royal Canadian Military Institute premises on University Avenue. The reception was at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7. Mr. Humber was Chairman. Grace was said by Fr. James S. McGivern, S.J., Lt. Gavin K. Watt, King's Royal Regiment of New York proposed the Toast to the Queen. A delightful dinner was enjoyed and the head table guests were introduced by Mr. Humber. Dr. H.G. Walton-Bell, Past President, Governor Simcoe Branch, proposed a Toast to The United Empire Loyalist and our Dominion President, Mr. John Aikman, gave the reply. Mr. Thomas A. Wardle, Jr. of Governor Simcoe Branch introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Reginald Stackhouse, M.A., B.D., Ph.D., Principal, Wycliffe College, The University of Toronto. Dr. Stackhouse delivered a talk of exceptional interest to all present. Mrs. Donna Knight, President, Toronto Branch thanked Dr. Stackhouse with a few well chosen words.

This ended Toronto Branch activities during the 1978 year.

1979 Autumn

Toronto Branch continued holding the regular monthly meetings at the Women's Art Association, below Dominion Headquarters. Mrs. Dorothy Coughlan selected excellent speakers for each of these meetings. For instance, at the October meeting, our speaker was Lieutenant-Colonel Norman Wright, the Honorary Commandant of Fort York. He told the story of this historic site on the Toronto waterfront, which once overlooked the bay. His speech was illustrated with coloured slides. and he brought with him a member of the fort's guard in full uniform.

The most challenging development of the past year was the introduction by our Vice-President, Father James S. McGivern, S.J., of a monthly bulletin which he named Fidelity -- most appropriate. Each issue contains from six to eight pages of news about members, and pieces of Loyalist history which Father McGivern finds, or has submitted to him by other members. This is a great advance over our former newsletter, which had only two pages with which to keep the membership informed on branch doings. As editor of Fidelity. Father McGivern has more space to inform us about the backgrounds of our speakers, and to alert us to all sorts of forthcoming events of interest. Members who find themselves unable to attend the regular meetings appreciate receiving this more comprehensive and high calibre bulletin.

Since the 1979 Annual Convention was held in our city, Toronto Branch members were able to attend in greater numbers than usual. The Governor Simcoe Branch was the host, which left us free to enjoy ourselves, not weighed down by responsibility. Nonetheless, some of our members, notably Dr. Branscombe, pitched in to help with part of the organizing, and of course, our delegates were vocal at the Annual Meeting.

1981 Spring

Obituary: **Stanley Graham Loucks**

With the passing of Stanley Graham Loucks in February, the Association lost a devoted servant of long standing. This quiet, unassuming man performed many valuable services for the organization after he became a member in September, 1963. Stan was descended from four soldiers who served in the King's Royal Regiment of New York, which did duty around Montreal, at Carleton Island and Cataraqui, and harried the rebels in northern New York State. These ancestors were Jacob Loucks, Adam Baker (or Becker), Philip Empey and his son William Empey. Jacob Loucks settled first in Fredericksburgh, and later moved to New Johnstown (Cornwall) . The other three moved directly to the New Johnstown townships after the regiment was disbanded.

Stan was born in Montreal in 1905, and in 1948 he married Elsie Hodgson. The couple moved to Toronto in 1961 and soon after he joined our executive. By 1966 he was a vice president, and served three years, then was elected branch president in 1969. He also served on various committees of the Dominion Council.

In 1971, Stan became treasurer of our Branch, but resigned in 1981 because of failing health. Stan and Elsie were loyal participants at the regular meetings of the branch, and at many annual conventions. With Elsie the branch and the entire Association share a sense of great loss. Stan was, in the words of a contemporary of his Loyalist ancestors, "a good and careful man."

Obituary: **H. Stanley Honsberger, Q.C.**

Mr. H. Stanley Honsberger, Q.C.. a long-time stalwart officer of the Toronto Branch passed away last year. He served as Branch President during the 1940's and 1950's.

It was mainly the effort of Mr. H.S. Honsberger along with assistance from Dr. H.G. Walton-Ball of the Governor Simcoe Branch that regenerated the Dominion Council following World War II. He served as Dominion President in 1954 - 56 and 1962 - 1964.

For Toronto Branch the highlight of the past year was our move to new premises -Suite 308, 344 Bloor Street West, postal code M5S 1W9. Our rooms, in an office building, are light and airy, with space to display our antique furniture, library and archives. Both the latter have been catalogued. Before our move we did not have room to display our books properly, and the archival material was stored in boxes. We hope, in time, to have our library open to the public. Already attendance at our general meetings is improving, for the accoustics are so much better than in our previous quarters.

We have heard many interesting speakers who shared their expertise on Loyalists with the membership and are planning to hold a workshop, to take place at the May general meeting. Our guest will be Libby Hancocks, the Dominion Genealogist, who will offer advice to associate members and others who wish to complete their family trees. One of our members, Mary Beacock Fryer, has recently completed a new book entitled King's Men: the Soldier Founders of Ontario. It is an history of the regiments of provincial troops (Loyalists) who served in Canada during the American Revolution, and later settled in what became Ontario. The Ontario Heritage Foundation was generous in funding the project, and the publisher is Dundurn Press, Box 245, Station F, Toronto, Canada, M4Y 2L5; the price \$24.95.

Father James McGivern, our president, has branched out in the field. of genealogy, going beyond the tracking down of his Loyalist ancestors. After taking his family tree back to Plymouth Rock in 1620, he has helped found a Canadian branch of the association of descendants whose ancestors came to the new world on the Mayflower. We of the Toronto Branch anticipate a renewal of enthusiasm and increased membership as a consequence of the change in our quarters.

1982 Spring

For the members of Toronto Branch, 1981 was much more than the bicentennial of the British disaster at Yorktown, Virginia, although we assisted indirectly in the commemoration of that event. The membership donated funds to the re-created King's Royal Regiment of New York, towards the expense of taking the corps to Yorktown to swell the ranks of the Provincials at the surrender ceremonies. The Royal Yorkers left their regimental colours in camp. That particular corps never did surrender, nor lose its colours to the rebels, and the modern representatives remained true to historical fact, which some of the Americans on hand thought rather strange. They could not understand.

Our new headquarters are working out well. Attendance at our meetings has improved greatly since our move to 344 Bloor Street West, so convenient for the subway. In fact, at the general meeting addressed by Gavin Watt on what transpired at Yorktown last October was so well attended that we ran out of places to sit. As a departure from meetings addressed by speakers, our May meeting was a workshop on completing genealogies. Our Dominion Genealogist, Mrs. Elizabeth Hancock, gave advice on family trees, ably assisted by her husband George.

Our discussions on an appropriate bicentennial project have continued, and one ambitious suggestion, which we are pursuing, is finding the means to build a Loyal Blockhouse at a spot accessible to tourists, where they may see how Loyalists operated during the revolution. An early bicentennial project, for 1982, is the approval of a grant to Dundurn Press, to subsidize the publication of Mary Beacock Fryer's new book, Buckskin Pimpernel, a biography of Captain, Justus Sherwood, the head of Governor Frederick Haldimand's British Secret Service, Northern Department. We are also contemplating the publication of a book, on family history, making use of our branch records and submissions from individual members. Ideally the book would, have an interesting account of the families of each of our members.

Our library and archives have been catalogued, and are available to interested persons, and we are arranging times when these will be open, other than during our meetings. Our objective is to have every

member working for the branch, one that will take time to achieve. All in all, Toronto Branch is thriving on Bloor Street.

1982 Autumn

Toronto Branch members took time out from busy schedules to round out 1981 with a well attended, old-fashioned Christmas Gala, complete with pine boughs, good cheer, excellent food and fellowship. January was our Annual Business meeting. In February Charles Humber gave us a stirring presentation "Tercentennial at Quebec City - 1908 - What It Implies for our Bicentennial". When we realized the enormity of what the people of Quebec City accomplished to make 1908 such a splendid success, we realized the extent to which we must increase our efforts to complete our plans for a successful Bicentennial. At our March meeting, Mr. Lorne St. Croix, who is in charge of the publishing program for the Ontario Heritage Foundation, told us about the program the Foundation sponsors to assist with publications; also, how to publish our family histories. In April our own Everett Drake presented "The American Civil War, 1851-61, discussing also the impact of this war on Canadian History. We digressed in May from our usual historical themes and enjoyed an evening with Geoffrey Fryer, learning about gemology and lapidary, complete with specimens and illustrations.

We are very proud of our library, which is at present under the direction of Dorrine McNabb. Dorrine and other members have worked tirelessly to accomplish this. Our library is open for all of our meetings, with our librarian in attendance to assist members research or browse. Also, members may avail themselves of this facility by arrangement with the librarian. Our librarian has purchased many worthwhile volumes to augment those on hand, including some she discovered on a recent trip to Boston.

Our costume committee met with the committee from Simcoe Branch and they are trying to assist every member make costumes for the Bicentennial. Patterns and information are available from our office.

We were very saddened in May by the passing of our beloved president, Father James S. McGivern, who was a tireless worker and crusader in our Branch. Robert Snetsinger, our vice-president, who had been very active in our branch took over the duties of president. Our members were familiar with Bob since his editorials have been the masthead for our Fidelity Newsletter since June 1981.

Ten months of the year we publish a monthly newsletter, Fidelity - containing news of members a bulletin board of forthcoming events, profiles of members, reports from our librarian, reports of conventions and news of interest to members. In this way, our members who are unable to attend meetings can be aware of what is happening and feel as if they are part of it.

Our first meeting of fall of 1982 will be in the form of a launching for Mary Fryer's book, Buckskin Pimpernel in October.

We have a busy executive and our membership and participation by members are on the increase. Everyone will be needed to make our Bicentennial a success.

Obituary: **Father James S. McGivern**

Father James S. McGivern, S.J., M.B.E., C.D., Ph.D., F.R.G.S., F.S.A., G.C.K.H., E.C.L.J., O.C.M., O.S.L., U.E. - Soldier, Priest, Historian. 1907 - 1982 - Late president of Toronto Branch United Empire Loyalists.

Father McGivern was born in Edmonton, Alberta. He received his education in many places - Vancouver, Collegiate; clerical studies - Montreal, Toronto, Holland, Germany, Austria, Ireland, England and Wales.

As an educator, he taught at Campion College, Regina. Loyolla College, Montreal, Regis College, Toronto. He was a chaplain in the Active. Reserve and Regular Armies with wartime service in Canada and overseas - peacetime service in Canada and Germany, retiring with the rank of Major. He was Assistant Chaplain. Christie Street Hospital. Red' Chevron and Sunnybrook Hospital. Father McGivern was founder of R.C.E. Military Museum, Chilliwack, B.C.; co-founder British Military Historical Society, London Branch; founding secretary B.C. Museums Association; founder and first Governor of the Canadian Branch of Mayflower Descendants. He was a member of the Most Excellent Order of British Empire, Chev., Order of Constine the Great, Chev., Order of St. Lazlo, life member of Clan MacDonald.

Father McGivern was a columnist for the Toronto Telegram. Among his published works are "History of Royal Engineers in B.C.", "Shadow Over Huronia", "Your Name and Coat of Arms", "In the Early Dawn; Brebeuf in Song and Verse", "Some Hidden Glories", "A Saga of the Church in Canada" and many other writings in papers and journals.

He spent his summers in the Huronia Country at the Martyr's Shrine.

His loyalist ancestors were named Savary, Snyder, Taylor (who served as Captain in the New Jersey Volunteers) and Squires. His Mayflower ancestry went back to Brewster and Hopkins.

Father McGivern was very active in Loyalists, not only as president of Toronto Branch, but also as a member of the Bicentennial Committee.

1984 December

The Toronto Branch bicentennial banquet was held at the Royal Canadian Military Institute on Saturday, April 7, 1984. The affair was an outstanding success, due to the efforts of the banquet convener, Dorrine Macnab, and her committee which included Mrs. Mary McGillivray, Miss Lois Gardner, Mrs. Dorothy Martin and Major Frederic R. Branscombe, our parliamentarian and adviser.

The speaker and guest of honour for the evening was the United States ambassador to Canada, His Excellency Paul Robinson, Jr., who attended with his charming wife, Martha. Mrs. Robinson was presented with a beautiful Laura Secord doll by the Dominion President, Charles J. Humber. Toronto Branch's senior member, former Governor-General of Canada, The Hon. Roland Michener, thanked Mr. Robinson for his participation in our bicentennial celebration. The former Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, the Hon. Pauline McGibbon, was presented with her membership certificate by Past President John DeMille. The head table guests were The Hon. Roland Michener, His Excellency Paul Robinson Jr., Hon. Pauline McGibbon, Mr. Humber, Dominion President, Mr. D. Stuart Gilmor, a past President of the Dominion Association, Mr. Robert Mutrie, President of the Governor Simcoe Branch, Mrs. Martha Robinson, Mr. Donald McGibbon, Mrs. Stuart Gilmor, Mrs. Charles J. Humber, Mrs. Shirley Snetsinger, Miss Margaret Branscombe, social secretary who introduced the speaker, and the chairman for the evening, Toronto Branch President, Mr. Robert W. Snetsinger.

Mr. Gilmor toasted the Loyalists and Mr. Snetsinger toasted the Queen and the President of the United States.

The honour guard was from The King's Royal Regiment of New York, and the music was by "Quintessence" .

Notables from the Governor Simcoe Branch were Dr. and Mrs. Walton Ball, Mr. and Mrs. John Mitchele and Col. and Mrs. Gordon Leggett.

On Friday, June 1, 1984, Toronto Branch officially presented five reproduction Loyalist uniforms to the Lennox and Addington County Museum in Napanee.

Regiments represented were: a sergeant, first battalion, King's Royal Regiment of New York; private, light infantry company, second battalion, King's Royal Regiment of New York; drummer boy K.R.R.N.Y.; private, Loyal Rangers; private, 84th Regiment of Foot, and the Royal Highland Emigrants.

Arrangements for acquisition of the uniforms and their authentication were coordinated by President Robert W. Snetsinger, under whose guidance every effort has been made to authenticate the uniforms and accoutrements. The King's Men: Soldier Founders of Ontario, by Mary Beacock Fryer, has formed the research basis for the exhibit. Technical assistance was from Mr. Gavin Watt of the Museum of Applied Military History, Mr. Roger McGuire of the 84th Regimental Association. Mr. Everett N. Drake, Toronto Branch Trustee, assisted the President, and Mrs. Hilda Szabo was the seamstress.

1985 June

Under our capable new President, Dorrine Macnab, Toronto Branch is gathering material for an additional volume to complement Loyalist Lineages of Canada, 1783-1983 which will include the membership applications for 1983 and 1984.

There are still some copies of the first edition left. If you are interested send your order to the Toronto U.E.L. Branch (new location) 234 Eglinton Ave. East, Suite 601, Toronto, Ontario M4P 1K5.

Obituary: **Mrs. Robert W. Snetsinger**

(Shirley) Edith Margaret Hoyle, beloved wife of Toronto Branch's immediate past president, Robert W. Snetsinger died suddenly on Feb. 5th 1985, in her 51st year. She had been taking radiation treatment for the second time in two years, at the Princess Margaret Hospital as an outpatient.

Mrs. Snetsinger was born and educated in Toronto, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hoyle. She married Robert W. Snetsinger in 1951.

Mrs. Snetsinger is survived also by her mother Mrs. B. Hoyle, her daughters, Susan B. Craig, M. Anne Aldridge, B. Jane Hill, her sons James T., R. Allan Matthias, Edward T. Snetsinger and ten grandchildren. Shirley combined a successful career as a film editor at C.F.T.O. Baton Broadcasting, where she had been employed for the past twenty-three years, with the raising of her large family. She developed a keen interest in Loyalist activities while accompanying her husband Robert to the various functions he attended in his capacity as president of Toronto Branch and was of great assistance to him in his Bicentennial work. Mrs. Snetsinger was an Associate member of Toronto Branch.

The funeral service was held at Saint Martin's by the Bay Anglican Church in Pickering on February 9th with spring burial at Salem cemetery, Colborne, Ontario.

1985 December

Mrs. Dorrine Macnab, President of the Toronto Branch holds the blue and white ribbon for the opening of the beautiful new Branch office on Eglinton Avenue. Mrs. Gwen Smith, Association

President cuts the ribbon. The ceremony was followed by a friendly social hour; many browsing through the numerous branch books.

On Sept. 28th, Toronto Branch started the season with a splendid luncheon, held at the historic Old Mill. In addition to our own members and others from nearby branches, guests arrived from Burlington, Owen Sound and Orillia. Among these were Dorothy Atkinson and Mrs. Moore. Accolades are due to Bliss Payne and Marjorie Flint for their attention to detail and their excellent choice of location and cuisine. Bliss and Marjorie can be depended upon to live up to their reputation as social conveners par excellence. Our busy President, Dorrine Macnab, was the chairperson for the afternoon, during which she announced the forthcoming official opening of our new office on Oct. 16th.

The official opening of Toronto Branch's new office was held on Oct. 16th at 234 Eglinton Ave. E. suite 601. Dominion President, Gwen Smith, cut the ribbon after she had congratulated the Branch on their new location. Carl Benn of the Toronto Historical Board gave an interesting address on British uniforms and accoutrements of the War of 1812, which was received with great enthusiasm by our members and guests. Among notables from the Governor Simcoe Branch were President, Doug Grant, Past President, Bob Mutrie and Mr. and Mrs. John Michele. Past Dominion President, E. J. Chard was also in attendance. Our President, Dorrine Macnab and her committee did a great job on the decor of the office and in the setting up of the library. Special mention should be made of the effort of House Committee chairman, Hilton Fulton for his hard work.

1989 February

Over the past year or two Toronto Branch has been changing the decor of the Branch office to better reflect our Loyalist heritage. Pictures featuring several Loyalist uniforms, as well as the illustrations from *Loyalist Lineages* now adorn the walls. Our latest acquisition is the Murray Killman print, "Scouting the Rebel's Lair." Butler's Rangers are well represented on our walls.

Our spring meetings ended with a successful New Members' Night. People who had responded to the tear-off brochure campaign were encouraged to attend and hear Branch Genealogist Dorothy Martin run through the harrowing experiences of filling out an application. Toronto Branch received brochure returns from all over North America. When it appeared that the applicant for genealogical or geographical reasons could best be served by Branches other than Toronto, that name was forwarded on to the appropriate Branch. It's only fair.

The new season began with an October meeting featuring Gavin Watt, Lieut-Col of the re-created King's Royal Yorkers, accompanied by several troops and camp followers. Gavin is no stranger to the Toronto Branch, and a good crowd heard the spirited talk for which he is so well known. He commented on the "missionary" role of the Yorkers. He deplored the Canadian Public's lack of awareness of the military aspect of the early settlement of this Province. He explained that the public has trouble grasping the identity of a green-coated soldier. Red is easy, as that is the stereotypical British soldier, but Loyalists dressed in green throw them. He also wonder why so many Loyalist descendants claim Colonels as their ancestors, when in fact in the Northern Dept. at the close of the war, genuine Colonels such as Butler were very rare. What 's wrong with the humble musketeer for an ancestor?

Toronto Branch helped to sponsor the Yorkers' 1981 trip to England. Gavin touched upon touched upon the highlights of that expedition, and his presentation was enhanced by a video of the same prepared by musketeer Ken Paterson. Who has done more for the Loyalist cause in this province than Gavin? Yet, Gavin will be the first to tell you that his background is not Loyalist.

During the same week, Toronto Branch members were invited to join with the Costume Branch for a pleasant dinner at the University Women's Club in Toronto. Toronto Branch members were grateful for the invitation, and co-operation between Branches is always welcome.

October also brought sad news with the passing of a former Toronto Branch Executive member, Delphine Schofield UE. From 1985 until ill health forced her to retire, Delphine took on the task of Membership for the Branch. She will be missed.

On a lighter note, the tenacity and dedication of the Branch Executive was demonstrated recently during a Branch Finance Committee meeting. Near the end of the meeting, the fire alarm went off sending the members down the six flights of stairs to the lobby. Was their enthusiasm for finishing the job at hand diminished? Of course not. They continued the meeting in the lobby, despite groups of firemen mingling about looking for a fire. The alarm was false.

By Peter Johnson UE, Toronto Branch

1989 December

One special event in the Toronto Branch schedule was the donating of two Military General Service medals awarded for service in the War of 1812 to the Toronto Historical Board at Fort York. These silver medals were only awarded to surviving veterans in 1848, so the number of medals issued was relatively small. Engraved bars attached to each medal indicate the engagement for which the medal was issued. The veteran's name was impressed along the edge of the medal. Toronto Branch member Peter O'Brien, for example, displayed a medal won by an ancestor who had served in several Peninsular War Battles (Napoleonic Wars).

The medals donated by Toronto Branch have actual "Canadian content". The first was awarded to a Native American ally, Antoine Wawalomette, who served at Chateauguay. The second medal was awarded to John McIntosh who earned it for his service at the taking of Fort Detroit in 1812. A little more is known about him. He was among those captured by the Americans at the battle of York in 1813, he was also the brother-in-law of William Lyon MacKenzie.

Toronto Branch President Neill Craven presented the medals to the Toronto Historical Board at Fort York on April 23, 1989. The ceremony also marked the 176th anniversary of the Battle of York.

Another special occasion was the Annual Convention at Lennoxville. Several Toronto Branch Members attended it, and a good time was had by all. Sir John Johnson Branch and Heritage Branch are to be congratulated for this success. Toronto Branch was represented by members as far away as Louisiana and Georgia.

Our speakers at monthly meetings in 1989 have included Dominion Genealogist Vanessa Bacola, Brian Gilchrist of O.G.S., Loyalist crusader Murray Killman, and going back to last November, Hugh Mac-Millan. This fall we look forward to hearing Fort York's Carl Benn, and historian Mary Beacock-Fryer.

Elsewhere, Toronto Branch has been encouraging exchanges of newsletters, not only with each U.E.L. Branch, but with both Loyalist and Rebel heritage groups in the States. Most recently, an exchange has been set up with *The Greens*, newsletter of the re-created New Jersey Volunteers, based in the greater New York City area. This exchange goes one step further and includes an exchange of articles between *The Fidelity* editor, and Todd Braisted, commander of the New Jersey Volunteers. A number of Toronto Branch members claim New Jersey Volunteer ancestors who settled in what is now Ontario, even though

that regiment disbanded officially in the Maritimes.

By Peter Johnson

1990 Spring

Recent meetings have featured Mary Beacock Fryer talking about research for her new book on Elizabeth Simcoe. Fort York's Carl Benn shed more light on the War of 1812 in the Toronto area, and Angela Johnson discussed Loyalist research. Our Annual meeting took place in January 1990 with Neill Craven UE beginning his second term as President.

Several Toronto Branch members have special reasons for looking forward to the television broadcast of the movie "Divided Loyalties." Toronto Branch members Ron Atkins, Ken Paterson, David Moore, Eric Lorenzen, Peter Johnson, and Sue Lorenzen, as well as Bay of Quinte Members Debbie and Richard Parks were involved with the filming last spring and summer. The King's Royal Yorkers were asked to perform the military segments. The Yorkers got more than they bargained for because they portrayed both sides. At various times they were cast as Yorkers, Rebels, Loyal Highlanders, Butler's Rangers and a few even portrayed Indians on one occasion. This led to unusual situations. For example the same Yorkers portrayed both Yorkers and Rebels at the Oriskany sequence. Thus they were firing at themselves in the film!

Work continues on the next two volumes of *Loyalist Lineages*, and both books are expected to be available before the 1991 Convention in Toronto. The original *Loyalist Lineages* appeared during the 1984 Loyalist Bicentennial and the next two will be released for the Bicentennial of Upper Canada next year.

Meetings this spring include an evening with President Frank Cooper, a session with Ian Mason of the United Church Archives, and a New Members' Night.

By Peter Johnson UE

1991 Spring

The year got off to a lively start for Toronto Branch, as many members attended the January 10th wedding of Shari Hicks Grills U.E. and Bob Snetsinger UE at Casa Lorna. Bob and Shari are both Toronto Branch members, (and Bob is a Past President), but they are best known currently for their Executive work in the Upper Canada Branch and the running of last year's successful Convention. The wedding could have doubled as a U.E.L. event, as those in attendance included members of Toronto, Governor Simcoe, Upper Canada, and Costume Branch.

The King's Royal Yorkers provided an honour guard with half dressed in red uniforms to represent Shari's 2nd Battn. Yorker ancestor, Lt. Henry Young UE, and the rest dressed in green to represent Bob's 1st Battn. Yorker ancestor, Matthias Snetsinger UE. A good time was had by all, and it goes without saying that the couple were splendid. We wish them well.

January saw some changes in the Toronto Branch Executive. Neill Craven UE is now Past President, having served with distinction as President for the past two years, and Peter Johnson UE is the new President. First and Second Vice-Presidents are Martha Hemphill UE, and Lois Gardner-Earl UE. We've welcomed two new members to the Executive. They are Ron Atkins UE and Jim Rumbarger UE. At the

same time we've said farewell to two members who have served the Branch very well for many years. Audrey Kirk UE will be busy with Dominion Council work, and David Dorward UE is quite occupied with *The Loyalist Gazette*. Both are former Presidents of the Branch.

This year will be one of the busiest in the history of Toronto Branch. Not only do we host the Convention this spring, but we are looking forward to the publication of the second and third volumes of *Loyalist Lineages*. Dorrine Macnab has chaired the committees looking after these mammoth projects.

Some of our spring speakers include Gavin Watt of the King's Royal Yorkers, who will be talking about Schoharie, an area of considerable Loyalist activity and unrest during the Revolution. The 210th anniversary of the Yorkers raid on Schoharie was celebrated last year.

On Wednesday, March 20, 1991, President Arnold Nethercott will bring our members updated information on the Association's activities.

By Peter Johnson UE, President, Toronto Branch

1991 Fall

The overriding concerns at Toronto Branch this year have been launching *Loyalist Lineages Vol. 2* and running the 1991 Convention. Happily these have been completed successfully, and Dorine Macnab who chaired the committees in charge of both is to be thanked. Convention coverage is printed elsewhere, so I need not repeat it here.

In March, President Arnold and Mrs. Nethercott favoured us with a visit, to keep the Branch informed about activities across the country. Our April speaker was Rev. Bill Lamb who has researched the history of Hay Bay Church near Napanee. It was built in 1792, and Loyalists were part of the first congregation. Bill is also a fine craftsman who has constructed a model of the Church.

In May, we had a New Members' Night, and we welcomed Louise Hope from the Ontario Genealogical Society. She focused on the holdings of the O.G.S. Library in North York.

In August, Toronto Branch mourned the loss of its distinguished member, the Rt. Hon. Roland Michener who passed away at the age of 91. We are so grateful that he appeared for an autograph session at the Convention in May. Several Toronto Branch members attended his funeral in Toronto. A memorial service was held in Ottawa the following week.

Toronto Branch begins the new season with a rare Sunday afternoon meeting to bring out members who find evening meetings difficult. In October our first regular meeting begins with a visit from the D.A.R., with whom we share a common heritage, even if they are on the wrong side!

By Peter Johnson UE, President, Toronto Branch

1992 Spring

Last November, Toronto Branch was delighted with a presentation by the recreated Butler's Rangers headed by Zig Misiak. The members of this relatively new group come from the Brantford area, and they are very enthusiastic! The presentation began with a skit set in 1781, just after the death of Walter Butler at West Canada Creek. A question period followed, and there was certainly much interest judging

by the number of questions. This group has been complimented by Gavin Watt of the King's Royal Yorkers, and he knows a good portrayal of Loyalists when he sees one. Other U.E.L.A.C. Branches may wish to consider having Butler's Rangers drop by at one of their meetings.

Our Annual Meeting took place in January, and the Executive remains almost unchanged for 1992. In February we anticipate hearing that congenial genealogist, Dan Walker from Delhi, Ontario, who will fill us in on research possibilities in Norfolk County. The following month we are looking forward to meeting Peter Dupuy, President of the Huguenot Society of Canada. It is not uncommon to find Loyalists who have Huguenot ancestry.

Our Branch members have recovered from hosting last year's Convention, and we look forward to going to Ottawa in May for the '92 Convention. We wish Sir Guy Carleton Branch success!

By Peter Johnson UE, President, Toronto Branch

1993 Spring

Congratulations to Robert A.J. Leckey, winner of the 1992 McCleary Scholarship Award sponsored by Toronto Branch. Robert resides in Aurora. His essay on Upper Canada in the 1790's is a fine piece of scholarship.

By Peter Johnson, UE

1993 Fall

REBEL-ROUSING SPEECH

Our March 1993 speaker was Bill Wightman of the Sons of the American Revolution. He provided the Toronto Branch with application forms and worksheets. The processing procedure is similar to the UEL Association with a fee of \$80.00. The first step is to fill the work-sheets out and forward to Mr. Robert M. Cruikshank, #1903, 500 Duplex Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4R . We have complete copies for anyone interested in applying to that organization!

1994 Fall

Obituary: **SNETSINGER, Robert Warren, UE**

Died suddenly on March 26th, 1994 at a Dominion Council Meeting at George Brown House. Beloved husband of Shari Hicks, UE and predeceased by his first wife Shirley. Father of Susan Beatrice Farr, M. Anne Aldridge, B. Jane Hill, James Snetsinger, Robert Allan Matthias Snetsinger, and Edward Thurston (Ted) Snetsinger. Stepfather of Laura Michelle Grills.

Robert was the son of James Matthias Snetsinger 1894-1958 and Ada Mary Warren 1895-1978. He was born in Toronto on Sep 27 1928. On Dec 7 1951 he married Edith Margaret (Shirley Hoyle who passed away in 1985). Many Branch members will recall fondly Robert's second marriage, Jan 10 1991 to Shari Elizabeth Ann Hicks at Casa Lorna in Toronto.

The funeral took place at St. Martin's Anglican Church, Pickering, on March 30th. Many UEL Association members were present, including a number of Toronto Branch members. A guard of honour,

partly composed of 1st Battalion King's Royal Yorkers, was present. Others were Yorkers, Toronto Branch members and Yorkers who were part of the honour guard at the 1991 wedding. Interment will take place this spring at Salem Cemetery. It's located along Highway 2 at Salem, a small community just east of Colborne, Ontario. It's the resting place of many Snetsingers.

Robert was a descendant of Matthias Snetsinger UE, 1755-1833, a 1st Battalion King's Royal Yorker who settled in Cornwall Township after the American Revolution.

Robert Snetsinger served the UELAC for many years. A staunch supporter of the Loyalist heritage, he served as Toronto Branch President in the early 1980s, taking over from Father McGivern who passed away suddenly. Robert was a constant figure at Dominion Council UEL meetings and a founder of Upper Canada VEL Branch. Recently he was working at building up a UEL video library. When an active person passes away, it is often said that they will be impossible to replace. Cliche or not, it's a statement that certainly applies to Robert Snetsinger. Our deepest condolences to Shari, Laura and the Snetsinger family.

By Peter Johnson, UE, Toronto Branch

Obituary: **DeNIKE, Andrew Murray**

Passed away January 10th, 1994, approx. 93rd year. Husband of Wahnita and the late Thrya Ketcheson. Father of Donald of Aurora, Douglas of Stroud, Clifford of Bettendorf Iowa, Barbara Cochrane of Aurora and two step-children. Grandfather of 17 and had 5 great-grandchildren. Mr. DeNike was a member of Toronto Branch UEL, the Monarchist League and Masonic Lodge Zeta #410. He was descendant of Andrew DeNike UE, New Jersey Volunteers.

DESCENDANTS OF JOHN CASS

Toronto Branch member and King's Royal Yorker, Ed Cass, generously donated a two-volume book on his family to the Toronto Branch library. The book is *Descendants of John Cass - 1675 of Hampton NH, Vol. 1 & 2*, by Dr. Donald I. Berry (1993).

The Loyalist ancestor was Josiah Cass, VE, 1738-1804, Yale graduate, and a man of several careers including teaching. Josiah was in the KRRNY as were two of his sons. One was a fifer and the family is still searching for his original fife. Ed owns an original of Josiah's book which contains family lists, land information and even some doodling. We hope to have more on the Cass family in a future issue of *The Loyalist Gazette*.

1995 Spring

Literally "tracing the roots" of the formation of the Toronto Branch has been a time consuming but fascinating occupation. . We are pleased to say that success was achieved when a document was located which provided the much needed "birth certificate" of the Toronto Branch. Here is the excerpt in part from the April 1931 Constitution and By-Laws, U.E.L.A. of Canada: "and whereas the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada did on the 9th of April, 1931, regularly pass and adopt a Code of By-Laws as aforesaid. And whereas the Central Council of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada was pleased to authorize and constitute a Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, in the City of Toronto, in the Province of Ontario under the name and title of 'The Toronto Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada' hereinafter referred to as the Toronto Branch.

For various reasons, the U.E.L.A. of Canada and the Toronto Branch shared the same President and Executive for about 20 years while branches were being formed and organizational changes made. Under these ByLaws, the branches could be local, municipal or provincial. Here are the names of the branches at that time: Hamilton November 1931, British Columbia, Vancouver, Brantford, Kingston, Saskatchewan and Manitoba all in 1932. Also the Governor Thomas Carlton Branch in Toronto was formed in 1932, with a majority of members from the Maritimes. In December 1933, the Governor Simcoe Branch was formed in Toronto None of these branches received their official charter (document) until 1939. Toronto Branch has yet to locate their charter.

I look forward to working with Toronto Branch's recently reorganized archival material. Special thanks to Kathie Orr and Martha Hemphill for their help and cooperation.

By Marjorie M. Flint.

2003 Spring

It's been a long, long time since Toronto Branch reported its activities so I hope you won't mind if I backtrack a little. On 19 June 2002 we combined with Governor Simcoe and Costume Branches and Dominion to present a Loyalist Flag to the Ontario Legislative Assembly. Lieutenant Governor James Bartleman was a pleasure to work with and it was exciting to be with the "Queen's York Ranger Cadets (the modern extension of Simcoe's Regiment). Two other events of "Loyalist Week" were a Toronto Loyalist bus tour and a Loyalist Evensong service with Bishop Michael Bedford-Jones UE (ancestors Cartwright and Canift). Also in June, we attended a book launch for "Stephen Jarvis U.E." at St. James Anglican Cathedral. *[Editors Note: a review will appear in the next issue.]* Toronto Branch is selling the book, as Stephen Jarvis is one of seven "Loyalist Burial Sites" that we have discovered to date.

You can also reach us there if you're looking for a library visit. We'd be only too happy to have you in for research. The Toronto Branch office is open Mondays from 1 :00-4:00pm; Tuesdays from 10:00am - 4:00pm; and Thursdays from 9:30-12:00noon. Also special appointments can be arranged. Our email is: torontoul@bellnet.ca.

The Branch was out and about in the community at a Mississauga Book launch (as Wm. Claus UE); Mississauga Canada Day Celebrations; Simcoe Day at Todmorden Mills (with Simcoe Branch); The Festival of Ontario - Her Majesty's visit; and in Thornhill at Heintzman House. We look forward to Mississauga Heritage Showcase in February as our next public event.

Past meetings included: Sher Letooze on "Durham Co. Loyalists"; Brian Gilchrist with "Searching for the Truth in Your Family History"

Upcoming meetings will be: Archdeacon J. Rathbone about the "Anglican Archives at McMaster University" in February; Prof. Wallace McLeod and "Masonic Loyalists" in March.

By John Dale Warburton UE

2003 Fall

Toronto Branch has spent the summer moving to a new location! We are now at 40 Scollard St, Suite 300, Toronto. A great location, just 3 short blocks north of Bloor St., around the corner from the Toronto Reference library and handy to the Ontario Archives!

Our office hours are Mon.1-4pm, Tue.10-4 pm and Thur.9:30-12:30 pm.

As always our branch library is open for your use, we ask that you call ahead of time so that we can have a volunteer there to assist you!

By Martha Hemphill UE

2004 Spring

In September the Toronto Branch celebrated the opening of its new office at 40 Scollard St. Suite 300. The colours were trooped in to Handel's "Music for the Royal Fireworks" and Dominion President Myrna Fox UE cut the ribbon officially declaring the facility open for business. One of the highlights was having our "Partnered Branch" President Logan Bjarnason UE of Regina on the telephone line with us for about half of the meeting!! He gave us his best wishes and listened as the program progressed. Speaker Jane Beecroft of the Community History Project outlined the story of Yorkville, our new neighbourhood. We even sang "The Maple Leaf Forever" which was requested by Branch member Mary Beacock Fryer UE. What joy it was to sing it with such gusto!! To bring the day to a close, Jane Beecroft led a two hour walking tour of historic Yorkville.

Just a reminder, that you all have a warm welcome to visit the Branch library (Mon. 1-4; Tues. 10-4; and Thurs. 10-12). Our new location also makes it easy to drop in to the nearby Ontario Archives and/or the Metro Reference Library across the street.

Sunday September 14, 2003 saw us in uniformed attendance at the Lewis Bradley House in Mississauga. The Bradleys settled what is now Port Credit. Lewis's saltbox style home now serves as a Museum. We staffed our Branch display and had available for sale copies of *Stephen Jarvis UE* by Ann Jarvis Boa UE and "The Families of Merigold Point". Lots of Loyalist history was shared especially with New Brunswick links.

Our September speaker was Brenda Merriman, noted Ontario Genealogist. She talked of "Loyalists she had Known...and Loved". These included Catherine Leech, Jephtha Hawley, Nabby Fairfield (D.U.E.), Staats Springsteen and Benjamin Sumner.

In November we were off to yet another Loyalist home. The Heintzman House, in Thornhill, started out as a humble log cabin belonging to Loyalist Anthony Hollingshead. After housing the Honourable George Crookshank (either UE or S.U.E.), it eventually came into the hands of the famous Heintzman family of piano fame. It is now a magnificent mansion. Included in our staff for the display was Toronto Branch member Denise Carre, a Hollingshead descendant.

"Uncovering the Past: Upper Canada's First Parliament Buildings" was the topic of Dr. Ron Williamson our November speaker. This should be a matter of interest for anyone with early Ontario roots but particularly for these whose ancestors served in the Parliaments between 1797 and 1824. The site of the first building has been located, had an archaeological dig, and been partially placed in public hands.

Dr. Williamson stressed that the battle is not yet over as one piece of the property is still in private ownership. He gave us the fascinating details of his team's dig and the publishing of an advocacy book *Government on Fire* and images of which accompany this article. They were created, in animation, by Balen Stunning Grillo Design and are courtesy of Citizens of Old Town. Adriana Balen was the technical wizard for Dr. Williamson's dynamic presentation. Let's get behind this project and give it our support (Gov. Simcoe Branch is already involved).

By John Warburton UE

2004 Fall

It is our hope to help with two cemetery projects in Toronto in the near future. We have made contact with both St. Andrew's — Scarborough and The Old Garrison Cemeteries. The former is the resting place of Archibald Thomson UE while the latter is the same for Christopher Robinson UE. The Loyalist *Rose*, plaques, flags and geraniums are in the plans.

Both these early pioneers fall within scope of the new "Home District Loyalist Project" that is being undertaken by Toronto Branch. We hope to document and recognize the Loyalists and their sons and daughters who settled in the Home District (as defined in 1836). This is a huge project and any help from members whose ancestors fall within the parameters would be greatly appreciated.

Our speakers for the spring meetings were educational and enlightening. Ruth Burkholder spoke on Ontario Genealogy; Janice Nickerson about Putting Flesh on the bones of your Upper Canadian Ancestors, and Gavin Watt told us about Females of the American Revolution.

In June, some of us joined Governor Simcoe Branch at St. James Anglican Cathedral.

We have been very busy around the community as we attended Simcoe County's Historical Fair; Showcases at both Mississauga Square One and Metro Hall and just this past Simcoe Day at Parkwood Estate in Oshawa.

This last event was jointly staffed with Col. John Butler Branch. "Parkwoods" was the home of R.S. and Mrs. Adelaide McLaughlin. We had a display of photos showing Mrs. McLaughlin dedicating the Cemetery at Adolphustown in 1956. The highlight of the day was the visit of Mr. and Mrs. P. Jackson. Diana Jackson is a granddaughter of the McLaughlins and was delighted to see Adelaide's family tree. We thank Col. McLaughlin for the continued housing of our Dominion office. The function was held under glorious sunshine in the beautiful gardens of this majestic house.

2006 Spring

In February, the Branch participated in a Heritage Showcase at Mississauga Square One. Many members, some costumed, shared the Loyalist story with the public.

The Branch created a highly successful gallery display in Mississauga. It ran from July to November 2005. The exhibit "*Powder Horn to Plough*" that showed the early settlement of UE Loyalists in Toronto Township (now Mississauga) was located in "*The Grange*" on Dundas Street West.

Mississauga Heritage Foundation Executive Director Jayme Gaspar and historian Matthew Wilkinson both provided the opportunity and helped to present the Loyalist story to the public. Matthew created an amazing display telling the history of families such as Merigold, Thompson, Jarvis, Silverthorn, Bradley and Robinson. "*The Grange*" was a country home of John Beverly Robinson SUE and now houses the offices of Heritage Mississauga.

Chief Justice John B. Robinson's son John Beverley was, in 1896, first president of the United Empire Loyalists Association of Ontario

The meat of the exhibit was the farm implements and artefacts recently presented to Heritage Mississauga by the Greeniaus family, who were amongst the “*Merigold Point*” settlers. Also featured were a powder horn and bayonet loaned by Black Creek Pioneer Village. A highlight for us was the use, for the first time in recent years, of our mannequins (they were nicknamed Rudy and Sam and have a long history with the UELAC). One represented the soldier aspect while the other was dressed as a farmer. The soldier’s uniform featured a shirt made by Mrs. Roger Reid. Victoria Kidd, a student in Mississauga, assisted in the set up. The event got local newspaper coverage twice.

The display was accompanied by a lively talk on 22 September. A Loyalist flag was presented to Heritage Mississauga. The whole effort is part of the Toronto Branch “*Home District Loyalists*” Project. A spin off was the locating of the gravestone of Loyalist James Falconer UE at nearby St. Peters Erindale.

On November 12 and 13, the annual Fall Fair was held at Heintzman House in Thornhill and we were asked to represent the Loyalist history of the house.

The original owner of the property was Anthony Hollingshead UE who had served in the New Jersey Volunteers. Amongst our visitors were a least two of his descendants. George Crookshank SUE, who next had the home, built an addition that included a glorious winding staircase. The house proudly flies a Loyalist flag and we are thankful for the opportunity to share the history of the house with the public.

Also in November, four members received Trillium Awards for their volunteer service to the Toronto Branch. Susan Ellsworth UE, Diane Reid UE and Karen Windover UE were each presented with five-year pins and certificates while Ed Cass UE achieved ten years. We think this system is a great way to recognize the hours and hours of work these folks have given to their community.

The Branch has begun what will probably turn out to be a massive project. “*The Home District Loyalist*” Project has as its aim: “*to identify UE Loyalists’ and their sons and daughters who settled in the Home District of 1837, with the emphasis on York.*” We chose the Home District of 1837 because it most closely covers today’s GTA. At that time the Home District included York County, which included present-day Peel and Ontario Counties, and Simcoe County. We would like to gather as much information as possible, including:

- place and date of birth, parents,
- military status in the American Revolution, War of 1812, 1837 Rebellion if applicable,
- settlement location, township, lot and concession,
- time period that they were in the Home District,
- the role they played in Home District,
- a short biography, • spouse and children,
- death and burial.

A full profile is our objective, but every mention, no matter how small is valuable. The sources for each piece of information must be fully cited. Copies to include in the files would be appreciated. We will be presenting updates as the task progresses.

For further information and contributions please contact: John D. Warburton UE, Kathie Orr UE or Martha Hemphill UE at TorontoUEL@bellnet.ca

By John D. Warburton UE

2007 Spring

In addition to our regular Branch meetings with informative speakers, the members of Toronto Branch have been out and about in the GTA. Our regular meetings featured: Ron Dale – *Loyalists and the War of 1812*; Gavin Watt – *Stories of Yorkers*; Bill Lamb – *Charles Wesley and the Loyalist Cause*. In November it was our pleasure to staff a display table at the Heintzman House in Thornhill. The Heintzman family, of piano fame, occupied this luxurious mansion. The property originally belonged to Anthony Hollingshead UE and afterward was owned by George Crookshank SUE. The mansion's early character can be revealed by the removal of a wall panel. A peak inside will show, quite surprisingly, a mud and straw wall. The house proudly flies the Loyalist flag in honour of its early history.

Earlier in the year, three of our members received pins and certificates to mark their years of continuous service with our Branch. Ontario's Volunteer Service Award is given annually to deserving volunteers who better the life of their communities. Our education and outreach to the Toronto area would not be possible without the dedicated service of folks like Karen Windover UE and Diane Reid UE, who both received their five-year pins. Ed Cass UE was rewarded for ten years of service to the Branch. In 2007 we will recognize six people. This Province of Ontario programme is a great way to say "Thank You" to your members for all their hours of work. I would strongly recommend it to all of our Ontario Branches that are not already using it. I understand that other provinces have similar recognition programmes. Again, congratulations and thank you to our recipients.

The fall saw us taking the Loyalist story to the Ontario Genealogical Society's Colloquium. The one-day event was very busy for us in the morning. It is always a pleasure visiting with OGS folk because they are frequently aware of the Loyalists and the fact that they may have one as an ancestor. We had been out to the OGS Seminar *From Buggy Whips to Microchips* in Oshawa in the spring, so this event was a nice bookend to close out the year.

We are still peeling back layers of time and revealing new information about those Loyalists who settled in what is now the GTA. If you had a Loyalist in the Home District (as defined in 1836) we would love to compare notes about the Loyalist and their family.

'Twas the night before Christmas. Well, no it wasn't ... but it was a couple of weeks before Christmas when twenty-five Branch members visited the Christmas bedecked Black Creek Pioneer Village. During a delicious turkey dinner at the Halfway House, the group was surprised by a visit from Father Christmas (an 1860s version of Santa). He was, in turn, surprised when they all joined in the recitation of Clement Moore's classic *'Twas The Night Before Christmas*. The meal started with a unique heritage grace. Some guests toured the village before and after dinner. Interestingly, the Daveys of Kingston Branch were spotted the following day leaving Christmas dinner at Black Creek's Halfway House. It seems to me that Christmas in the Village is a great way to spend a day with family and friends.

By John Warburton UE

2008 Spring

It was quite a year for Toronto Branch! Along with an abbreviated meeting schedule we took part in or hosted some special events.

July had a film crew from History TV's "*Ancestors in the Attic*" filming an episode in our office around Branch Member, Laura Lenson UE! Her husband Bill had sent the show a query about her Loyalist ancestor, William Foster UE of the King's American Regiment. We all eagerly watched the show for our fleeting moment of TV stardom!

A Genealogy Workshop was held in November. Kathie Orr UE led us through "*Loyalist Research: primary documents and their sources*" and "*Elizabeth Johnson – a case study in Pre and Post Patent*

Land Records.” It was a great afternoon in that we learned quite a bit from the talks, and welcomed several members who were unable to get out to weekday evening meetings, but were keen to get started on their UE research.

Christmas at Black Creek Pioneer Village is always so picturesque and delicious! Our Christmas luncheon was a great success and we were very pleased to share the event with members of Governor Simcoe Branch. The genealogy workshop and Christmas Luncheon have become annual events for Toronto Branch and every year the attendance grows as does the enjoyment.

By Martha Hemphill UE

2008 Fall

Spring started with an educational experience for us. In March, Toronto Branch members Richard Atkinson, Alex Lawrence, Diane Reid and Karen Windover, with special guest, David Hill Morrison (Grand River), attended Pleasantville Public School in Markham at the invitation of teacher, Miles Montgomery.

In costume, the attendees talked about conditions and historical data. The children had been studying the Loyalist period and, in order to finish their reports, came armed with questions that weren't in their history books. It was a two-way learning session.

Then, our travelling show was invited to a Historica event at Parkwoods in Oshawa on May 2. Unfortunately, we couldn't all make it. The event was attended by Karen Windover (in a loaner costume) and once again, special guest, David Hill Morrison. The children were all winners of local history contests and had some very interesting questions. Some even thought they were Loyalists!

June 19th saw the raising of the Loyalist flag at Queen's Park. The event was a joint effort with Governor Simcoe Branch and had a special guest in the person of His Honour, David C. Onley, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. His Honour gave a very specific Loyalist speech, which was extremely well received.

Toronto Branch continues to work diligently at the Home District Loyalist Project and hopes to continue with more educational events once the school season resumes.

By Karen Windover UE, Branch President

2009 Fall

Toronto Branch members joined with Governor Simcoe to enjoy a tour of “*Crèches of the World*” and a lunch at St. James Cathedral for Christmas. It was wonderful to see long-time member, and former Toronto Branch President, Fred Branscombe UE, in attendance. President Karen Windover UE donated a crèche from Ronda, Spain, to add to the collection.

Our January AGM was completed quickly and members were then given a chance to “*show and tell*” with some treasured family heirlooms. It was a great evening and nice to see the pride of the current holders of these items.

March 18 saw Jane Irwin give an invigorating talk about the subject “*Old Canadian Cemeteries; Places of Memory*”.

On 5 May, branch members Richard Atkinson, Linda Fawcett-Young, Alex and Anne Lawrence, Diane Reid, Karen Windover and special guest, Grand River member, David Morrison, participated in Historica at Cullen Gardens in Whitby. We were given a spot outside where Anne and Alex set up a period tent. Both Alex and Richard were allowed to bring their replica guns and we were quite a hit.

June 19th saw us again join with Governor Simcoe Branch to attend an indoor reception given by the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, His Honour, David C. Onley, also a Toronto Branch member. Immediately following the reception, we proceeded outside for the raising of the flag. His Honour deviated from his planned speech when he insisted that we sing Happy Birthday to Fred Branscombe UE who had turned 95 !

By Karen Windover UE

2010 Fall

Toronto Branch has been focused on increasing membership and making membership more relevant for existing members. Our annual AGM in January was followed by a rousing talk by Honorary V.P. Gavin Watt in February.

In April a number of costumed members, accompanied by special guest, David Hill Morrison (Grand River Branch), in what is becoming an annual happening, participated in Historica at Cullen Gardens in Whitby. We once again entertained and informed Grade 6 and 7 students to show what the Loyalists were.

In May, we participated at the OGS event at the airport. On Loyalist Day, June 19th, in conjunction with Governor Simcoe Branch, we hosted a Strawberry Social which was extremely well attended. We again partnered with Governor Simcoe on July 31st on a bus trip to Fort George (Niagara-on-the- Lake) to witness one of the largest re-enactments in recent history.