

Mayflower
Society

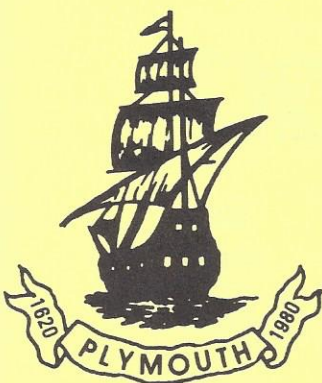
CANADIAN MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS

NEWSLETTER

October 1982

Vol. II No. I

"We know on whose shoulders we stand."



Editorial

Our newsletter can be likened to a small child; we are just learning how to walk but we'd rather be running! We have not had a great deal of success with receiving material for our former newsletters, a problem we are attempting to rectify. Our new format will contain items of interest to all of us. We will include Plymouth Church & Court Records (in alternate issues), genealogical and historical data on Plymouth families (contributions from members would be helpful here), historical events and sites in Plymouth today, as well as regular columns. We will have a section devoted to "Queries" whereby members may place ads at a cost of \$1.00 each asking for genealogical information on a family line. Our "Special Features" page will contain stories written by our members, so get your pen & paper out!

We hope to publish the newsletter four times a year. While its initial size will be small, the number of pages and frequency of publication will increase with my experience as editor and the support of our members. Occasional special bulletins and publications from our Governor will also be sent out.

The success of our newsletter will largely depend on the support and contributions from members. I would sincerely welcome ideas and suggestions to better our paper - stories, articles, items of interest etc. This newsletter belongs to all of us, it is the one link that keeps us in touch with each other. Let's make it work!

In fond memory of our founder and first Governor, I would like to dedicate this first newsletter to Father James Sabine McGivern.

Headquarters & Library:

*Mrs. Susan E. Roser, Editor
289 Glen Oak Dr.
Oakville, Ont.
L6K 2J6*

*H.F. Pierce, M.B.E., Gov. & Historian
162 Walmer Rd.
Toronto, Ont.
M5R 2X9
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TOURING PLYMOUTH COLONY...

Did you know that:

- The oldest house still standing in Plymouth is 342 years old! The Richard Sparrow House was built in 1640.
- Plymouth's Fort was torn down in 1677 but its timbers were not used to heat the fireplaces. These were granted to William Harlow for his house which he built that year. It is still standing today at 119 Sandwich Street.
- The Standish Monument located on Captain's Hill in Duxbury is 130 feet high and took 17 years to build, being completed in 1889.
- There is only one house still standing in Plymouth where original Pilgrims are known to have lived. Who can name the house, the builder and the year? (Send your answers for next issue.)

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CALENDER OF EVENTS

Compact Banquet, Sat. Nov. 20, 1982

Notices giving full details will go out in plenty of time, but please let the Governor know if you plan to attend and the number in your party. The final arrangements cannot be made until it is known how many to expect. Contact Gov. Pierce today!

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SPECIAL NOTE: Insignia will be worn on the left breast at all Compact meetings, dinners and teas. It is customary to wear decorations in miniature at all these events.

Insignia may be ordered through our H.Q. See Mayflower Quarterly, May 1982, Vol. 48, No. 2, pp. 84-87 for price list. Payment should be made in advance in U.S. funds to the Treasurer. Delivery takes up to 10 weeks.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH RECORDS

For the sake of authenticity, no changes (or corrections) will be made in the spelling or grammar of the entries. The records begin in 1667 and although they do not go into great detail, the later records show numerous baptisms, deaths and church transactions.

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1667

Death of Gabriel Fallowell, aged above 80 years, a very pretious, lively christian, one who maintained much communion with God day & night, he dyed, December 28, 1667.

1669

Mar. 1 - dyed John Dunham, the godly & well esteemed Deacon of the church, one of 80 years old.

Apr. - dyed blessed Mr. Reyner, then Pastor of the church at Dover.

Aug. 1 - Robert Finney & Ephraim Morton chosen Deacons.

It pleased God heavily to afflict this church & people by the Death of Capt. Thomas Southworth...He was a great Pillar in this church & in the dayes of blessed Mr. Reyner, after the death of Elder Brewster (whose Name is here very pretious & ever will be soe) when the church had agitations about the choice of a Ruling Elder, this Mr. Southworth was Judged by many of the church a very sutable man for that place, yet it was wisely foreseen by Govr. Bradford that the necessity of the Commonwealth would doubtless call for the improvement of his Talent in the magistracy & soe it prooved, for immediately upon the death of that Honourable Govr. he was chosen a magistrate & soe continued to his death. There were other Brethren that did exercise their gifts for aedification of the church in the vacancy of the ministry, yet such was the desireablenesse & excelling of his Gifts & graces that for divers yeares together he was expetially singled out by the church to carry on the publick worship, one part of the Sabbath, Elder Cushman ordinarily spending the forenoone & Mr. Southworth the afternoone. His Death was on Dec. 8 (about 53 yeares old) after a moneths sicknesse. His death was much lamented & is to this day, he was loved & feared & of such a conversation as commanded both. The church kept a day of prayer for his life, Dec. 1, but his time was come to dye.

1672

Feb. - dyed Mr. John Howland in his eightieth yeare, he was a good old disciple & had bin sometime a magistrate here, a plaine-hearted christian.

1673

Was a very awfull frowne of God upon this church & colony in the death of Mr. Thomas Prince the Governour in the 73d yeare of his Age. When this colony was in a hazardous condition upon the death of Govr. Bradford, the lott was cast upon Mr. Prince to be his successour, God made him a repairer of breaches & a meanes to setle those shakings that were then threatning, he was excellently

qualified for the office of a Governour, he had a countenance full of majesty & therein as well as otherwise was a Terrour to evill doers, he was very amiable & pleasant in his whole conversation & highly esteemed of the saints & acknowledged by all. In the time of his sicknesse the church sought God by Fasting & Prayer, but God would not be intreated any longer to spare him, but he dyed on March 29, & was honourably interred April 8.
 - Six more church members dyed this yeare.

1675

Warr with the Indians breaking forth, the church set apart July 21, to be kept as a day of Humiliation, Another on Jan. 5, Another Feb. 2, because of war & sicknesse.

1676

- The war continuing & also sickness, the church set apart April 19 for fasting & prayer, & also May 30, for same grounds.
- Phillip slain, war over.
- 7 church members dyed this yeare, all sisters, one of them was aged Katherine Fallowell, the Relict of Gabriel, a very pretious saint, fourescore yeares old, a widow indeed.
- Apr. 5 - The church gave 20s out of Capt. Willets legacy to the church, to Elder Cushman.

1682

Dyed

Mar. 17 - Benajah Prat...Sarah, the wife of Thomas (?)

Baptized

- Mar. 19 - Patience, daug. of (?)
- Theophilus, son of John Cotton
- Reliance, daug. of (?)
- Benajah, son of Deborah (?)
- Isaac, son of Samuel (?)
- James, son of John & Martha Cobb
- Isaac, Rebekah, Mary, chil. of Isaac Cushman
- Ebenezer, Jerimiah, (?)
- Mercy, daug. of (?)
- Abigail, daug. of Abigail Bryant
- Hannah, Manasseh, Ephraim, Joanna, Ruth, George, Timothy, ' / chil. of George Morton
- Joanna, daug. of John Morton

* * * * *

RECIPE FOR PILGRIM CAKE

Rub two spoonfuls of butter into a quart of flour, and wet it to dough with cold water. Rake open a place in the hottest part of the hearth, roll out the dough into a cake an inch thick, flour it well both sides, and lay it on hot ashes. Cover it with hot ashes, and then with coals. When cooked, wipe off the ashes, and it will be very sweet and good.

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BULLETIN BOARD

SPECIAL REMINDER: Some of our members have not paid their 1982 dues of \$15.00. Our Society depends upon donations and yearly dues for its survival. If you have overlooked this matter, please send your payment to:

Rev. Melvin Donald, B.Comm.
(Dep. Gov. & Treasurer)
14 Belsize Dr.
Toronto M4S 1L4

PHOTO-COPIER - We are in need of a small photo-copier until we can afford to buy one. If you happen to know where we could use or borrow one for a few months, call the Gov.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

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"A People which takes no pride in
the noble achievements of remote
ancestors, will never achieve
anything worthy to be remem-
bered with pride by remote
descendants."

- Macaulay

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QUERIES

Queries should be brief and specific, no more than 25 words and contain your name and address. The following example shows the format to be used:

COBB - Wanted: Parentage of Henry Cobb who arrived
Plymouth 1629, marr. Patience Hurst 1631,
children: John, Edward, James, Mary, Hannah,
Patience, Gershom, Eleazer. (Name & Address)

Queries may be placed by members for \$1.00 each, \$2.00 each for non-members. Send your queries and payment to the Editor.

(Uh...by the way, any idea who Henry's parents were? -Ed.)

SPECIAL FEATURE

The following is an excerpt from the book "Not Merely Ancestors" by Susan E. Roser, copyright 1981.

" By April, the Great Sickness had left the Pilgrims and those remaining counted their blessings as the wild land around them sprung to life. The warm spring air replaced the cold that had greeted them months earlier and the sun's rays were sprouting forth blossoms and greenery. Unfortunately though, death had one more act to perform before leaving these brave people alone. After a hard day's work in the fields, Gov. Carver became ill and died, probably from a stroke. The tragedy was doubled when his wife Katherine died shortly after, some say from a broken heart. With the death of Gov. Carver, the second election in less than a month took place. William Bradford was chosen the new Governor and since still weakened by his illness during the winter, an Assistant Governor - Isaac Allerton was appointed.

The first wedding in Plymouth took place the following month. I have mentioned the birth of their first "American", Peregrine White; the bride was his mother Susanna, who lost her husband William in February. The lucky groom was Edward Winslow who suffered the loss of his wife Elizabeth in March. (Mr. Willison's quote about being "fond of the comforts of connubial bed and board..." seems to find some merit here!) Humour aside, the civil ceremony took place May 12, 1621. As it was their belief that religion was in no way involved with marriage, the church had no part in the ceremony.

There occurred that summer further developments with the Indians. In July a young boy, John Billington Jr., wandered off and got lost in the woods. He was missing for days but with the help of unfamiliar "out of town" Indians, the boy was found and brought safely home. John's stories about his great adventure among the Indians undoubtedly kept the other children spellbound for days! This was perhaps the first instance of the Pilgrims and Indians uniting together to help one another in a time of need.

The optimism felt by the settlers regarding their native friends began to dwindle in August when they had their first real Indian scare. Squanto and Hobomok (another Indian who had moved in with the Pilgrims) were taken prisoner by Corbitant, one of Massassoit's sachems who was already suspected of treason by the chief. Hobomok managed to escape and returned to Plymouth to enlist aid for Squanto. The armed men, led by Standish, quickly set out and succeeded in rescuing their Indian friend. The Captain also left an ultimatum for the vacant Corbitant, who had "accidentally on purpose" made himself scarce; either he shape up and behave himself, or the Englishmen would lower the boom! The impact of this courageous behaviour was astounding. The Pilgrims, who barely numbered fifty people, were handing out ultimatums to a people who, if they wished to, could bring the entire Indian nation down upon the lot of them. And to flabergaste the Indians even more, a half-pint of a man was doing the ordering! Standish certainly

gained respect that day as a man of courage. Tribes from surrounding areas, hearing of the fearless white warrior, quickly sent representatives to Plymouth to show their allegiance to the great white chief King James and his people. By autumn a treaty was made and signed by the sachems, or representatives, of the various tribes around Martha's Vineyard.

Governor Bradford and his group had plenty to be thankful for. They could now rest easier concerning the Indians; they had food on the table; a roof over their heads; and they had their most precious possession, religious freedom. It took many sacrifices, many lives, but they had attained their dream. It was only proper to show thanks, which they did at a Thanksgiving feast held around the 15th of October. Massasoit and almost 100 of his people were present at the celebration which lasted for three days. Despite today's custom and popular belief, the Pilgrims did not celebrate Thanksgiving every year."

(Not Merely Ancestors, Copyright 1981 by Susan E. Roser. All rights reserved.)

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THE GOVERNOR'S CORNER

If we are not thankful for what we have, let us be thankful for what we don't have. - H.F.P. (Paraphrased from unknown source.)

Let us be thankful for Susan Ellen Roser, our first editor.

Let us be proud of our inheritance. We will never meet finer people and friends than our Mayflower cousins.

Our Compact exhorts us to transmit the spirit, the purity of purpose and steadfastness of will of our Pilgrim Fathers to those who come after us. We cherish the memory of those who kept alive the spirit so that we have a 'cause' that is honourable and respected by all who know of the Mayflower and those who were her passengers.

In this very room Father Jim, our first governor, laboured long hours over many months. His spirit is here with us and promises to remain to guide our endeavours. He did his part to the nth degree. Let us do ours.

It takes several hours a day to keep our ship afloat and make progress towards our goal. Some of our organizing expenses have included the acquiring of a large ground floor room for our H.Q. and Library, the erection of book shelves exceeding \$300 and telephone & hydro overhead, month after month. In addition there is quite a heavy load of correspondence, following up on potential members, sending out worksheets, arranging transfers to our National Society, as well as the newsletter and postage & handling costs. All maintained as a contribution to our cause.

Think of posterity, remembering the Canadian Mayflower Descendants in your will, or have your lawyer add a codicil to your existing will. You will thus perpetuate your memory. Bear in mind that your genealogy extends in time some twelve to fourteen generations back to 1620 and beyond.

We are a National Order not a state chapter. We stand on our own feet in what is through us an International organization. In this respect let us be thankful for the inspiration of Bob Thurtle of Nevada who co-ordinated our various petitions and had our charter printed and inscribed. Gov. Gen. & Mrs. Low then came to make the presentation accompanied by Treasurer Gen. & Mrs. Almy. It was a glorious experience to witness.

Of late, Bob Thurtle has not been feeling well. It would be nice if we all sent Thanksgiving cards to him c/o Box 297, Plymouth, MA 02360. This would show our appreciation for all that he did for us, even before we existed as a strong, healthy, growing youth.

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We need advise as to how we may claim tax free (or tax deductible) donations from our members and friends. Would an accountant or lawyer please contact the Governor.

Our National Executive requires a Clergyman, Lawyer and Physician or Surgeon to complete our establishment. Any volunteers?

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The following have been nominated to serve on the Governor's Advisory Board for a three year period. We would like to have as complete coverage geographically as possible. Their main role would be to liaise with the media to get coverage locally throughout our vast country.

Susan E. Roser, Editor, researcher 5 Gen. Project, Oakville, Ont.

Mary Brewster Barbara McGivern, Public Relations, Toronto, Ont.

Mrs. A.E. Warren, Advisor on Membership, Hamilton, Ont.

Prof. N. John Bryant, Gov.'s Committee on Planning, Guelph, Ont.

Miss M.L. Worthen, Publications Consultant and liaison to the media in N.S., Shelbourne, N.S.

Miss Charlotte Winslow, liaison to the media in New Brunswick & 'encyclopaedia' of the Winslow Pilgrim Descendants.

Margaret Carter Brodylo, Regent, Calgary Colony, by her own initiative they came into being and have had many 'at homes' etc. through which they formed strong bonds.

Dr. Roy Spooner, Advisor for Kingston, Queen's U. and the Islands.

Nathaniel Brewster Esq., Advisor 5 Generations Project, liaison to media St. Catherines area.

H.W.D. Prince Esq., Advisor and liaison to the media in the Moncton area.

Philip Thorpe Esq., Advisor on Systems Analysis for our H.Q., Calgary, Alta. (I wish he would organize a system for our Regional Advisors to send all clippings etc. to our H.Q. so that all may follow our progress across Canada.)

Abbie H. Barnes Thompson, Organizer, Cambridge, Ont. area. (This lady was born in Scituate; now there is a bit of heritage!) She will advise us on the facts pertaining to our back-ground. J.Cheryl Barlow, Cobourg, Ont., has consented to be our advisor and strength in Marie Dressler's home town.

*

R.I.P. our late Governor, James Sabine McGivern, S.J., MBE, C.D., M.A., Ph.D.

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IN MEMORIAM

The following has been prepared in memory of Father James S. McGivern, our founder and past Governor, who died May 5, 1982 at the age of 73.

The son of Richard & Mary McGivern, Father McGivern was born in Edmonton, Alta. in 1908. He was educated at Vancouver Collegiate and received his clerical studies in Toronto, Montreal, Ireland, England, Wales, Holland, Austria and Germany. He entered the Jesuit Order in 1925 and was ordained in 1937. It was in Germany in 1939 that he was on the Nazi wanted list for administering last rites to a dying woman, an act which at that time was against the law. He narrowly escaped a search by the Nazis.

In 1940 he was appointed chaplain in the Canadian army. During the war he was with the First Army Tank Brigade & First Corps Engineers, a unit of 14,000 men of which he was chaplain to 4,000. He finished his service with the rank of Major and was named a Member of the British Empire (M.B.E. - an honor also bestowed upon our current Governor, Col. H.F. Pierce) in a personal presentation by King George VI at Buckingham Palace.

As Historian, Father McGivern held many positions. He was founder of the R.C.E. Military Museum, Chilliwack, B.C.; co-founder of the British Military Historical Society, London branch; founding secretary of the British Columbia Museums Association; co-chairman of the U.E.L. Ontario Bicentennial Committee; staff member of Martyrs' Shrine, Midland, Ont.; President of the United Empire Loyalists, Toronto branch; founder and first Governor of the Canadian Mayflower Descendants Society and was Archivist for the Archdiocese of Toronto for many years.

He was also an author, his deep interest in history prompted him to write several pamphlets and books. He wrote a column on history for over 15 years and was editor of "Our Heritage", a monthly supplement to The Catholic Register during the Canadian centennial year 1967.

He was very proud of his Mayflower ancestors having traced his father's line back 13 generations to Wm. Brewster & Stephen Hopkins. Knowing Father McGivern, how fitting that he was descended from a spiritual leader and an adventurer!

We are grateful to the Father for his diligent work in organizing and founding our Mayflower Society. We must all make a sincere attempt to match his endeavors to perpetuate the memory of our ancestors.

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!!CONGRATULATIONS!!

The Canadian Mayflower Descendants Society has won the membership contest for 1981 for having the greatest percentage increase in membership.

The Society name will be engraved on the bowl in the Mayflower Society House in Plymouth. We will also be receiving a Certificate of Award in the near future.

Our thanks to R.G. Thurtle, Deputy Governor General and Chairman of the Membership Committee of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, for relating the news to Governor Pierce.

(If we can get 10 or more membership applications approved we could win the contest in 1982 for a second year.)

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JUNIOR MEMBERS

We welcome young people under the age of 18 to join our Society and acquaint themselves with their Mayflower ancestors. The entrance fee for juniors is \$5.00, yearly dues also \$5.00. Life memberships for both adults and juniors is \$150.00.

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Please remember to help your editor and send in material for publication. Deadline for the next issue is January 1st, 1983.





MAYFLOWER COMPACT ANNUAL MEETING & DINNER 3 Weeks away from Oct 30th

Saturday November 20th 1982 7.00 p.m.

Holiday Inn - 89 Chestnut street, Toronto

We have reserved the St. Georges Rooms East and West

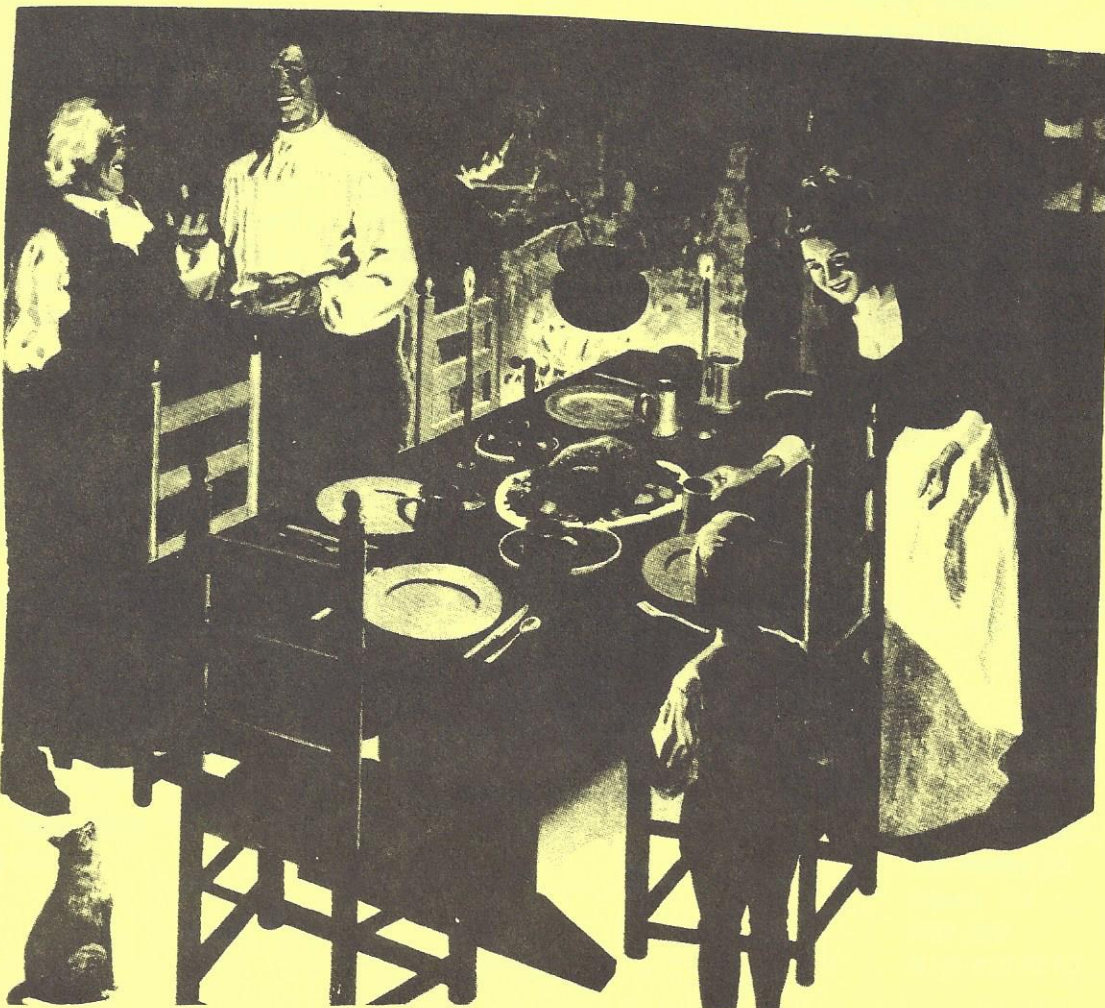
The price this year will be \$ 17.50 all inclusive for each person.

Kindly send your cheque now to the Secretary, made payable to the Canadian Mayflower Descendants ,C/O H.Q. 162 Walmer Road, Toronto, Ontario M5R 2X9



Treasurer Rev. Mel Donald is planning a Middle East Tour in March 1984, to include Israel, Jordan, Egypt Turkey and Greece.

Mr Donald has previously taken two similar Tours. If any Society member is interested contact Mr. Donald at 14 Belsize Drive, Toronto, Ont., M4S 1L4 Tel. (416) 481 4991



Miss Margaret Owen, Captain
It is with deep regret
that we announce the death
of her mother on October 21st
1982 following a serious
fracture and surgery.
Mrs. R.S. Owen was a
Bessie Soule and a
highly respected Charter
Member of our Canadian
Society, in her 88th year.
R.I.P.

A message filled

with sympathy

And understanding, too,

And hopes that comfort

and new strength

Will soon be given you!

Maria

In Memoriam
Bessie Soule Owen
G5MD 21,512

CANADA # 8