



# Canadian Pilgrim

NEWSLETTER OF

*canadian society of mayflower descendants*

Spring 1991

Vol. XI No. 18

## BOARD OF ASSISTANTS

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### EDITOR

Susan E. Roser, 4137 Tremaine Rd., Milton, Ont. L9T 2Y1

Past Governor: Rev. Melvin V. Donald

Members at Large: Leon Warmiski, Paul Hill



## Semi-Annual Meeting



DATE: 11 MAY 1991, 2:00 p.m.

PLACE: 397 Brunswick Ave., Toronto (Fellowship Room, Church Army premises)  
Parking at rear; by subway - to Spadina, exit on Bloor, walk west to Brunswick.

The Board always tries to plan an interesting afternoon and this Spring Tea is no exception. Miss Katherine White (member) has very graciously agreed to give a recital of selected music of the 16th century. Katherine is a vocal & music student at the University of Toronto and is a very talented young lady. Also planned for the afternoon is the showing of a video tape, "Roanoke Island". This is a fascinating story of the disappearance of a small English settlement off the coast of North Carolina in 1587.

Please plan to attend - we'd love to see you!

# touring plymouth colony...



"On the 23rd day of May 1855, some workmen, while excavating a trench for the pipes for the water works, exhumed parts of five skeletons. The exact spot of their discovery was the space in the middle of the road upon Cole's Hill lying between the two points, five rods south, and two rods north, of the foot of Middle-street. Some of the bones laid bare by the workmen were replaced in the trench and the remainder collected by the town authorities for the purpose of verifying their identity as bones of the Pilgrims, and giving them a proper interment. One of the skulls was placed in the hands of Professor Oliver W. Holmes of Boston for examination, who, after a critical comparison with specimens in the cabinet of the Massachusetts Medical College, pronounced it a Caucasian skull, and thus, without doubt, the skull of one of the early settlers of Plymouth." (From, Pilgrim Memorials (1855) by William S. Russell)

The bones found on Cole's Hill in 1855 were placed in the Canopy erected over Plymouth Rock. In 1920 the Canopy was replaced by the present Portico, erected by the Colonial Dames of America. At this time the General Society of Mayflower Descendants erected a sarcophagus on Cole's Hill, under which the bones were finally laid to rest. In addition to a listing of the names of those who died the first winter is the following inscription:

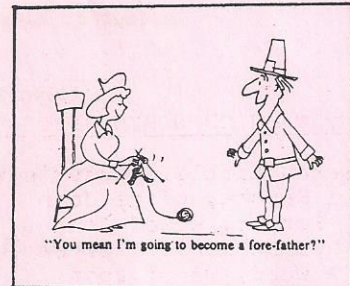
"This Monument marks the First Burying Ground in Plymouth of the Passengers of the Mayflower. Here under cover of darkness the fast dwindling company laid their dead, levelling the earth above them lest the Indians should know how many were the graves. Reader! History records no nobler venture for faith and freedom than that of this Pilgrim band In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and cold they laid the foundations of a state wherein every man, through countless ages should have liberty to worship God in his own way. May their example inspire thee to do thy part in perpetuating and spreading the lofty ideals of our republic throughout the world!"

\* \* \* \* \*



On a trip to Plymouth last September, the Editor and her husband found themselves lost while touring Duxbury looking for historic sites. You can imagine their surprise when they came

to the end of a dead-end road and looked up to see a stone marker (3-4' high) with the following inscription: "Site of the homestead of Captain Myles Standish the Military Leader of Plymouth Colony." Further into the small, well-kept clearing is a huge boulder (approx. 5') with the inscription: "Here stood the house where Captain Myles Standish lived and died".



There are a multitude of genealogical & historical societies across Canada & the U.S. In this issue we feature the following:

## GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA



The Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society was founded in 1878. The Genealogical Association, a successor of its Genealogical Committee, was formed in 1982. Membership is open to all who are interested in Maritime research.

Annual dues of \$15.00 include three issues of *The Nova Scotia Genealogist* (approx. 60 pp.). For those with N.S. roots this publication is extremely interesting. For example, the summer 1990 issue contained Family Bible records, an 1853 letter from Scotland to Cape Breton, death records, extensive book reviews, immigrant weddings in Café Breton, New England Planters census returns, sources for research, recent acquisitions at the Archives of N.S., plus more. The journal also publishes queries which I have personally found to be very successful. Interested persons should write to the Association at: P.O. Box 641, Station M, Halifax, N.S. B3J 2T3



## THE GOVERNOR WILLIAM BRADFORD COMPACT

One of the many active societies for Mayflower descendants, this Society was formed in 1951. Members meet each August in Plymouth, or in Sept. during the Congress.

The agenda of the 2 day meeting in Sept. 1990 included a wreath-laying ceremony at the Gov. Bradford statue, a candlelight supper at the John Bradford house in Kingston, memorial service on Burial Hill and a gourmet luncheon at the Capt. Gamaliel Bradford house in Kingston. (Busy group!) Annual dues are \$5.00 and include their newsletter. The Historian is Mrs. L.W. Pogue, 5204 Kenwood Ave., Chevy Chase, MD 20815.





# Plymouth Church Records



1706



## PERSONS BAPTIZED

- Mar. 24th - Abigail, ye daughter of William & Susannah Shertleff  
 - Elnathan, son of Elisha & Sarah Holmes  
 May 5th - Mary, daughter of Job & Mercy Otis  
 June 2nd - Peter, son of Helkiah Tinkham  
 Aug. 18th - John, William, Seth, Jonathan, Hannah, Mary & Thankful, children  
 of John & Mary Barnes  
 - Ebenezer and Mercy, children of Ebenezer & Hannah Eaton  
 Jan. 12th - Nathaniel, son of Lt. Nathaniel Morton

## MEMBERS ADMITTED

- June 30th - James Cole, approx. 80 yrs.  
 July 14th - Humhry Turner, Mary Palmer  
 Aug. 4th - Ebenezer Eaton & wife Hannah  
 - Mary, wife of John Barnes



Burial Hill

## MEMBERS DYED & DISMISSED

- Mar. 10th - Mrs. Wait dismissed from Boston to us  
 Nov. 12th - Sarah Dunham, wife of Samuel Dunham dyed suddenly

## TRANSACTIONS

- Apr. 18th - A General fast on which contributed for George Holmes 4£10s6d  
 Oct. 17th - A General thanksgiving on which contributed for Samuel King Sr.

## CONTINUATION OF WOMEN ADDED TO YE CHURCH

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Mrs. Sarah Little, pastor's wf                     | Lydia, wf of Abial Sherleff              |
| Abigail Faunce, wf of John                         | Hester, wf of Elkanan Cushman            |
| Hannah Foster, wf of John                          | Lydia, wf of Job Cushman                 |
| Batheshua Nelson, wf of Sam., dyed 1717            | Rebecca, wf of Thomas Phillips           |
| Sarah Atwood, wf of John                           | Hannah, wf of Francis Curtice            |
| Hannah Morton, wf of Ebenezer                      | Martha, wf of Thomas Morton              |
| Hannah Doten, wf of Elisha                         | Lydia, wf of John Faunce                 |
| Mary Eastland, wf of John                          | Mary, wf of Thomas Clarke                |
| Elizabeth Ffinney, wf of Josiah                    | Mercy, wf of Ignatius Cushing, dyed 1717 |
| Mary, wf of N. Thomas                              | Patience, wf of James Cob                |
| Experience, wf of John Holmes Sr. (dis.to Plymton) |  |

1707

## PERSONS BAPTIZED

- May 4th - Martha, daughter of John & Rebecca Parke  
 - Hannah, daughter of Nathaniel & Martha Howland  
 July 6th - Delight, daughter of Joseph Otis, Esqr. at Scituate  
 Aug. 3rd - Annah Norcutt upon her admission into ye church  
 Aug. 31st - Susannah, daughter of Elizer & Hannah Jackson  
 Nov. 16th - Hannah, daughter of Hezekiah & Bethiah Bosworth  
 Jan. 18th - Mary, daughter of Capt. James Warren  
 - Thomas, son of Thomas Howland  
 Feb. 22nd - Sarah, daughter of John & Mehetabell Doten  
 Feb. 29th - Nathaniel, son of William & Susannah Shertleff



## MEMBERS DYED & DISMISSED

- May 15th - dyed Mrs. Priscilla Warren aged about 74 yrs, a christian of an  
 eminently excellent spirit  
 July 24 - dyed Remember Jackson, ye wife of Abraham Jackson Sr., in ye 70th  
 year of her Age, a pious Christian  
 July 23 - Elezer Ring & wife dismissed to Plimton

(to be cont-d)



# Welcome Aboard!

Historian Arthur Harris reports several new membership applications are underway. We would like to welcome our newest arrivals:

Mrs. Kim Prince, 2576 Spruce Needle Dr., Mississauga, Ont. L5L 1M6 (#138,#55561, HOPKINS)  
Mrs. Rosemary Jenkins, 297 Granville St., Summerside, PEI, C1N 3B1 (#139,#55562, HOPKINS)  
Ms. Penelope J. Henneberry, Site 6, Box 9, RR#5, Armdale, N.S., B3L 4S5 (#140,#55563, HOPKINS)  
Mr. Paul R. Hill, 70 Broomfield Dr., Agincourt, Ont. M1S 2W1 (#141,#55564, Life, WHITE)  
Mr. John D. Kelly, 5711 Bluebell Dr., W. Vancouver, B.C., V7W 1T2 (#142,#55565, HOPKINS)  
Ms. Catherine Ann Clubb, 274 Turkey Hill Rd., RR#2, Brome, Que., JOE 1K0 (#143,#56122, ROGERS)  
Miss Susan Hill, 70 Broomfield Dr., Agincourt, Ont. M1S 2W1 (#144,#56123, Life, WHITE)  
Miss Katherine Hill, 70 Broomfield Rd., Agincourt, Ont. M1S 2W1 (#145,#56124, Life, WHITE)  
Ms. Ada Snow Smith, 205 Willow Ave., Fredericton, N.B. E3A 2E3 (#146,#56049, HOPKINS)



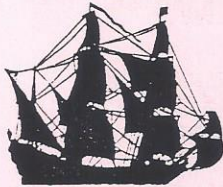
By angels borne they fly to rest,  
We know 'tis well nay more 'tis best  
When we our Pilgrim path have trod  
We hope to meet them all with God.



- Epitaph from Burial Hill

## In Memoriam

Dr. Wilfred Perrin, Brockville, Ont. #51  
Mr. Edward White, Belle Mead, NJ #109



## FROM THE GOVERNOR

Our Annual Dinner meeting last November marked the end of the year of our 10th Anniversary. We had about 40 members and guests in attendance to hear an excellent talk given by our Past Governor, Rev. Mel Donald.

Mel and his wife Lola had spent some weeks in England and Holland last summer touring areas of significance in Pilgrim history. In addition to studying the locations of interest they took many photographs, so the talk was beautifully illustrated with a selection of slides. It was one of the most informative presentations I have heard on the geography and history of our Pilgrim background.

Each year at our Annual Dinner, I always think of all of those members of the Society spread out across the country who cannot attend these meetings because of the great distances involved. It is, of course, only because the largest percentage of our membership is located in Southern Ontario that the meetings have been held here. Perhaps sometime in the future our numbers will increase to the point where important meetings and events can be shifted around from province to province.

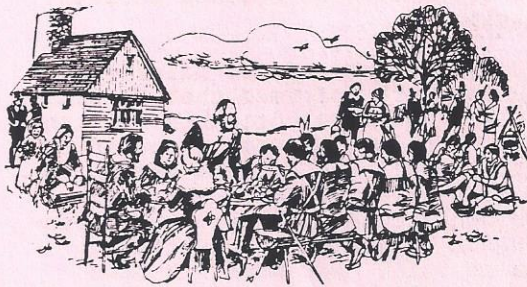
In regard to the matter of growth, our membership slowly but steadily increases and I was pleased to learn recently from our Historian, Arthur Harris, that he is currently dealing with seven applications for membership plus another twenty-one recent inquiries about applying for membership. Certainly, an encouraging sign.

There is probably no region in the country with as many potential members as the Maritime Provinces. This is where many hundreds of Pilgrim descendants migrated to during the latter half of the 18th and the early 19th centuries. Consequently, we are trying to publicize the existence of our Society in the Maritimes as well as in other parts of the country. To this end, a new position was created on the Board of Assistants last year to be filled by someone responsible for publicity. Mr. Paul Hill, who was elected member-at-large at the Annual Meeting in November, has volunteered his services as head of our Public Relations Committee. Paul is now hard at work finding ways to raise our profile throughout Canada.

We need to increase our size as much as we can because in numbers, of course, there is strength. Anything individual members can do in their own areas to make us better known and to encourage new members will help a great deal.

G. Keith Bain,  
Governor

# Society News



The 10th Anniversary Compact Dinner was held Nov. 17th at the Primrose Hotel in Toronto with approx. 40 members and friends present. The occasion was celebrated with a large cake, complete with a chocolate Mayflower and Plymouth Rock, which followed a very delicious turkey dinner.

Governor Keith Bain spoke on the part the Pilgrims played in establishing the concept of a democratic government. Up to this point all colonies were run by a colonial Governor who had absolute power. With the signing of the Mayflower Compact and the beginning of the Congregational Church, the Pilgrims made an important step in creating a democracy.

Our Editor, Susan Roser, told the story of the First Thanksgiving and explained the significance of the five kernels of corn. The elections followed. Mrs. Kate Berscht is our Captain, Ms. Deborah Clarke remains Recording Secretary, Mr. Leon Warmksi continues as member-at-large, and our new addition is Mr. Paul Hill who joins the Board as member-at-large.

The highlight of the evening was the guest speaker, our own Rev. Mr. Mel Donald, Past Governor. Mr. Donald is a charter member and was the original Treasurer of our Society. After the deaths of Father McGivern and Col. Pierce, Mr. Donald found himself holding the positions of Governor, Dep. Governor, Historian and Treasurer. Mr. Donald entertained his audience with slides and a discussion of his recent trip to England and Holland where he visited the Pilgrim sites and followed the paths of William Bradford and William Brewster. This opportunity to see the homes and streets where the Pilgrims walked brought our ancestors to life before our eyes and gave us new understanding of the way they lived. At the conclusion of Mr. Donald's talk, Corresponding Secretary, Miss Margaret Owen, presented him with a gift (a limited edition plate, "The First Thanksgiving") and thanked him with her own composition written in verse which was much appreciated.



## Library



Historian Arthur Harris reports that our library holdings at the North York Library include the full set of MFIP booklets as well as the first four Silver MF5G books, the most recent being the Edward Fuller book. A reminder to interested researchers that a full listing of our acquisitions may be purchased (\$2.00) from our Historian.


Our thanks to member Mrs. Beatrice Warmksi of Oakville, Ont. for her donation of the book, "The Signers of the Mayflower Compact", by Annie A. Huxton. 1899.

Donations of books and research materials are very much welcomed and should be sent to the Historian

## Dues

At our Jan. Board Meeting, Treasurer Allyn Dean, reported that the majority of our members had not yet paid their 1991 membership dues, which were due Dec. 1990.

If you are among those who have been procrastinating, please send your dues of \$20.00 to our Treasurer OR do away with the necessity of sending yearly dues by purchasing a LIFE membership at a one time fee of \$200.00.



Deputy Governor Marshall Dean has very generously donated a ceremonial Canadian flag to our Society. At the General Congress in Plymouth last September, our flag was proudly displayed next to the American & General Society flags.

In order that we may display our flag at annual meetings, we are in need of a flag pole. If you have an extra flag pole "laying around" that you wish to donate, or know where one could be obtained at a reasonable price, please contact Mr. Dean.

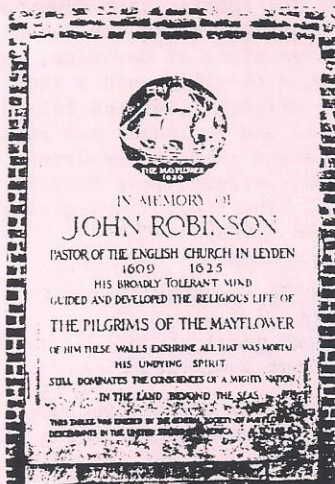
## ONTARIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY SEMINAR - MAY 24th-26th

Members may be interested in attending the upcoming seminar of the OGS to be held at Queen's University in Kingston, Ont. Highlights include guest speakers and branch display & sale tables. On May 25th will be featured displays by various historical & genealogical associations and local museums. Also featured on the 25th will be David C. Dearborn who will give two talks: "Getting the Most Out of a Research Trip" and "Genealogical Resources at the New England Historic Genealogical Society!"

# A Pilgrimage through Leiden

In May 1990, members Eunice & Jack Watson were on a tour of Europe which included five days in Amsterdam. The Dutch portion of the tour covered a Holland Liberation Pilgrimage to celebrate the 45th Anniversary of the liberation of Holland in 1945. The following are some of their comments on their trip:

While in Amsterdam we spent one full day in Leiden, the city of the pilgrim fathers. When visiting the tourist bureau in Leiden we were informed that President Bush had visited Leiden the previous July (1989). In a beautiful brochure published for the occasion, the following quote has been taken, from the welcoming speech by Mr. C.H. Goerrop, Mayor of Leiden, to Mr. Bush: "Your roots are here in Leiden, Mr. President. This is apparent from the story of two sisters. The refugee French sisters Hester and Marie Mahieu, both married in Leiden around 1600, are the ancestors of American Presidents. Gary Roberts of the NEHGR in Boston has confirmed this to us. Hester's child was born here in Leiden in 1615. Her name was Jane Cooke. Her father, Francis Cooke, was a Pilgrim from Leiden and a signer of the Mayflower Compact. She is an ancestor of President William Howard Taft. But you are also, in our opinion, her descendant. Marie's child, Philippe de la Noye, was born in Leiden too. His grandchild - 7 times removed - was Franklin D. Roosevelt. But there is another lineage. The sisters Abigail and Sary Jenney were born in Leiden and departed on the Anne, the third ship. Two sisters, one president: you are, we also believe, a direct descendant of both".



After this interesting start to our day we were given a map for a walking tour of the city, especially the church, landmarks and some preserved homes where the pilgrims lived. The church was historic and beautiful (1200/1500). There was a service in progress by a minister who had been formerly in the Dutch underground during the war. Some points were translated for us, but we left as we considered translation was too much for two people. The church was full, as a result we did not see or hear as much of the history as we desired.

Leiden is a beautiful city and as Eunice said, it was hard to believe that the pilgrims would leave this beautiful city and country. However, their great desire for freedom of religion and the thoughts of a future well-being for their families in a new world dictated the move to America.

We visited the Canadian Cemeteries at Bergen o Foorn, Apeldoorn and Lifmegen where we paraded and paid our respects. The cemeteries are extremely well kept. We visited the House of Anne Frank which reminded us the results of previous tyranny.

The deep love, respect and remembrance the Dutch have for Canadians will never be forgotten.

On our return from Paris to London we visited the Canadian War Memorial at Vimy which represents 44,000 Canadians who lost their lives in WWI. The monument is so impressive and significant, we felt very proud to be Canadian.

Eunice & Jack Watson  
Ottawa, Ont.

## DUXBURY, MASS.: A PILGRIM VILLAGE



Be sure to look for a copy of the April 1991 issue of Colonial Homes. It contains a lengthy feature entitled "Duxbury, Mass.: A Pilgrim Village", with several beautiful pictures of historic spots, incl.



the Standish monument, Brewster homestead marker, Alexander Standish House, Delano Cottage and John Alden gravestone. Also included are illustrated articles on the John Alden House and the King Caesar House (with interior as well as exterior shots). Several other beautifully restored Duxbury homes are featured as well as a step-by-step historic tour up Cape Cod. A fascinating issue!!

# Researching Mayflower Families

The first article I wrote on this subject appeared in the Fall '89 issue and received a very good response from readers. In my travels through Pilgrim research I have come up with a few more interesting items about our ancestors:

**NAME CHANGES:** A nightmare for researchers looking for a birth record! Why did parents change their children's names? Read these examples:

Samuel Rogers was b. in 1673, the son of James Rogers who died 13 Apr. 1678. When Samuel was baptized in 1680 his name was changed to James in honor of his deceased father.

Patience Alger was two years old when her mother Alice d. 30 Jan. 1715/16 as a result of childbirth. The only surviving child, she was renamed Alice.

William Parsons Willis was b. May 1789, the son of Charles. Two months later his eight year old brother Charles Jr. died. You guessed it - William was renamed Charles Jr.



**ADOPTIONS:** Did adoptive children take on their new family's name or did they retain their given surname? The latter appears to be the case in the first two examples:

Giles Rickard and his wife Hannah Snow had no children. In his will, dated 13 Dec. 1709, Giles mentions his adopted child, Desire Doten.

In 1667, William & Mary Harlow agreed to "put out" their two year old son Nathaniel to the boy's uncle, Nathaniel Morton and his wife Lydia. Although the Mortons had many children of their own, the records state they "desired the child".

David Little and wife Deborah Clap were childless. They adopted Elizabeth Cudworth (b.1743), the child of David's sister, Mary Little. Unfortunately, Elizabeth died in 1745.

**TWINS:** They pop up quite regularly in the records so are not that big a deal. However, the names given to twins are sometimes interesting:



Lewis & Susan Higgins had twins b. 1740 in Standish ME - Aramantha & Arravesta. Now that's what I call creative naming!

Some couples seemed to have trouble thinking up two names at once. John & Mary Whiting had twin boys born in 1788 - John William & William John.

William & Lucy Payne had the same idea when their boys were born in 1804 - Edward William & William Edward.

**PATRIOTISM:** To some parents, selecting a name for their child deserved special thought and consideration. Some families had a Ben Franklin or an Andrew Jackson - the following family had a matched pair:

Capt. Simeon & Deborah Samson had 13 children, two of whom were named Martha Washington (b. 1779) and George Washington (b. 1781)!

Perhaps not considered patriotic, but certainly appropriate, was the birth of Joseph Valentine Snow, son of Joseph & Rebecca Snow. Does his middle name give it away? He was born 14 Feb. 1802.

**MEN & MARRIAGE:** Plymouth Colony had its share of men of remarkably strong constitutions. Rare was a widower who remained single. Did these men long for the comforts of marital bliss, or were their female counterparts more persuasive than we ever imagined?

John Fuller married his 1st wife, Hannah Thomas, in 1719 when he was 27. His 2nd marriage, to Lydia (Alden) Eddy, took place in 1762 when he was 70 yrs.-old.

John Turner carried this one step further. He was only 21 when he married his 1st wife. In 1769, at the age of 76 he married again and proceeded to father four children, the last when he was 83!

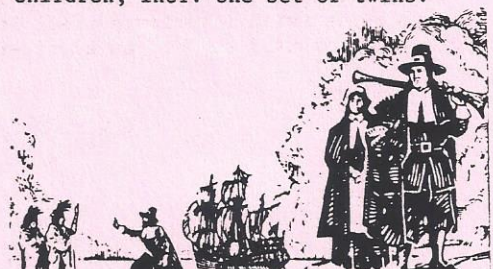
And don't forget the "hopelessly hooked", like Thomas Prence and William Bassett - they popped the question four times.

**MOTHERHOOD:** If the men were hardy, one can only say that the women were truly remarkable and endured what no woman today could ever imagine - the pitter-patter of 36 little feet!

Rebecca Egerton was 18 when she married Elisha Cooke in 1741. In the next 32 years, between 1742-1774, she bore 7 sons and 11 daughters - 18 children, all single births, no twins.

Asa Beals & Olive Cheney began their large family in Nov. 1790, two months after their marriage. In the following 22 years (1790-1812), Olive gave birth to 17 children, incl. one set of twins.

- S. Roser



**TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT**

Financial Statement for the year ending December 31st, 1990

Bank Balance GIC Total as per December 31st, 1989 Statement \$6974.66

**RECEIPTS Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 1990**

Annual Dues	\$1016.00	
Donations	79.85	
Application & Historian Fees	392.50	
Life Memberships	2100.00	
Library Lists & Newsletter sales	22.00	
GIC & Bank Interest	678.52	
	<u>4288.87</u>	11263.53

**DISBURSEMENTS Jan. 1 - Dec., 1990**

Postage	346.34	
Library	108.74	
Stationery, Printing	589.12	
Audit fee	10.00	
General Society Dues	916.19	
Alberta Colony	36.00	
Incorporation Fee	30.00	
Historian Fees	75.00	
Banquet (net)	19.80	
Rental of Premises	40.00	
Gift	55.70	
Bank charges	19.09	
	<u>\$2245.98</u>	9017.55

**BALANCES**

T.D. Bank accounts	817.55	
T.D. Bank GIC		
11.25% due 5 Mar. 1991	1500.00	
11.75% due 2 Jan. 1992	1125.00	
11.25% due 22 Nov. 1991	1025.00	
Canada Trust GIC		
10.5% due 3 Mar. 1991	1000.00	
10% due 24 June 1991	1000.00	
10% due 26 June 1992	1000.00	
11% due 16 Apr. 1994	1000.00	
City Trust		
10.25% due 4 June 1993	500.00	
Petty Cash	50.00	
	<u>\$9017.55</u>	\$9017.55
Life memberships & donations not yet in GIC's as received too late	385.00	

**Items of Interest:**

Interest per life membership	\$17.85	
Historian expenses versus application & historian fees	40.00 (approx.)	
Cost per membership	<u>\$16.11</u>	

Membership as of 31 Dec. 1990	-	115
Life Memberships "	"	- 50
Deceased in 1990	-	3
Dues overdue in 1990		2

Allyn Dean,  
Treasurer

