

Canadian Pilgrim

Newsletter of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants

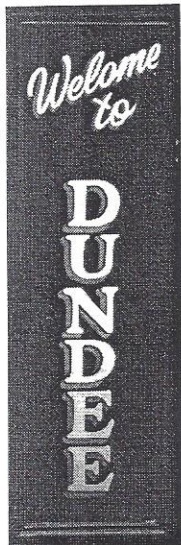
D. T. Lahey, Editor

20 YEARS



The Year 2000 marks the twentieth anniversary of the founding of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants. The picture above is of our first annual Banquet, held November 21, 1981. It was the bringing together for the first time of members and guests who had not met before, and unfortunately now, nineteen years later, few names are recalled. But here they are, the guests at the first Mayflower Banquet.

The few that are now known are : On the lower left, Margaret Owen and Marshall Dean. On the far right is Mel Donald and second from him is his wife Lola. Standing behind Mel with the folder is Father McGivern, and at the far end of the row is Col. Harry Pierce. In the middle of that row is Ruth Ferguson, and behind her is her husband, Ralph. Next to Ruth on the left is Bessie Owen, mother of Margaret. Beside Father McGivern is Lynne Pierce O'Keefe, daughter of Harry Pierce; behind him (with the beard) is Lynne's husband, and on his right, Bruce McGivern. If any reader recognizes any of the other attendees, please let the Editor know.



*the
editor's
world*

D T Lahey
Editor

*Nobody's
perfect!*

On a trip to Scotland recently I was greeted each morning by this sign which helped to make the day a little brighter. I wonder if the management has noticed the error yet.

NEWS FLASH: I've just discovered that one of my 9-great-grand fathers is also an ancestor of Lizzie Borden! (*Thanks to [www.UFTree.com/Famous Family Trees/Borden](http://www.UFTree.com/FamousFamilyTrees/Borden)*)

Everyone agrees that the Year 2000 is a momentous one. Some say it's the beginning of a New Century. But they're wrong! The new century does not begin until next year. Some say it's the start of a New Millennium of peace, hope, and charity. But that's next year too. No, this is the Year of the Mayflower, the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants. And that's what we celebrate in this issue.

The Easter season is now upon us, when it is tradition to hold the Easter Egg Hunt. This edition is something like that.

Scattered throughout are golden nuggets of archival lore dealing with the founding of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants twenty years ago. Can you find them all?

Hint: start on page one!

Newcomers

Welcome to the following 16 new members:

Karen M. Little, 8 Blackwater Cresc., Mackenzie, B.C. V0J 2C0 (#311, Soule)

Andrea E. Lahey, 11-9 Foggyley Gardens, Dundee, Scotland DD2 3LD (#312, Brewster)

Russell S. Mann, 38 Village Dr., Ste. Anne, MB R5H 1H4 (#313, E. Fuller)

Vernon A. Saunders, 1373 MacCleave Ave., Penticton, B.C. (#314, Alden)

Amy-Irene Seward, 13011 - 123A St., Edmonton, AB T5L 0L3 (#315, Alden)

Martha T. Olmsted, 80 Academy Ave., Ancaster, ONT L9G 2Y1 (#316, Warren)

Stephen W. Crosby, 503 Brookmere Cres.SW, Calgary, AB T2W 2R2 (#317, White)

Anne Steinbacher, 6578 Michaelangelo Crt., North Gower, ONT K0A 2T0 (#318, Brewster)

Jeffrey M. Steinbacher, P.O.Box 247, Richmond, ONT K0A 2Z0 (#319, Hopkins)

Kevin C. Smith, 6171 No. 2 Rd., Richmond, B.C. V7C 3L3 (#320, Brewster)

C. Baillie Howard, 85 Woldale Ave., Oakville, ONT L6L 4R9 (#321, White)

Pauline V. Shaw, 1110 Portner Rd., Alexandria VA 22314 (#322, Alden)

Barbara A. Lauer, 653 Lakeshore Rd., Dunnville, ONT N1A 2W6 (#323, Warren)

Christopher D. Cameron, 80 Summerset Cresc., London, ONT N6K 3M3 (#324, White)

Richard P. Crosby, #4 - 1728 28th Ave., Calgary AB T2T 1J6 (#325, White)

Jane C. Crosby, 1004 - 1155 Beach Ave., Vancouver, B.C. (#326, White)

Family relationships: Amy-Irene Seward, niece of member Ardis Kamra; Anne & Jeffrey Steinbacher, mother and brother of member John Steinbacher; Kevin Smith son of member Marion Smith; Barbara Lauer, mother of new member Martha Olmsted; Christopher Cameron, nephew of new member Anne Steinbacher; Richard & Jane Crosby, sibs of new member Stephen Crosby. We are very sorry to report the passing of new member, Andrea Lahey, daughter of Editor Dale Lahey and his wife Peggy.

IN MEMORIAM

For this issue, please see the
Necrology Report
on page seven.

Our Governor's Message



The year 2000 is well underway and so far as we know nothing calamitous has occurred. We are in a new century, some say a new millennium (although there are those who will celebrate this on 01 Jan. 2001), and it is time to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Canadian Society.

It started with 28 'Charter Members' and now our membership is approximately 235.

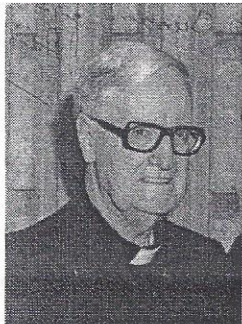
A good portion of our growth has occurred in the past 5 years. Primarily our members reside in Canada, but we also have some in the United States. Conversely there are several Canadians who belong to the General Society and have their membership in one of the State Societies. Because of our geography we are spread out over a wide area. It is therefore difficult to provide member services and events equally to everyone.

Although we have attracted many new members in the past few years, there are many potential members who have

little or no interest in the Canadian Society. Why can't we attract more people to join our Society? Is it because this part of North American history is viewed to be American? One of our members from the US suggested we must somehow identify with some specific part of Canadian history (in the same way the Americans "hijacked" a long celebrated giving of thanks at harvest time and changed it into a national holiday). The United Empire Loyalists seem to have accomplished this. They have their own day in Ontario and a very popular festival in Saint John, NB (and possibly other events which I don't know about). What part of the history of Canada can we be identified with?

Perhaps the recognition, and numerical size we would like to achieve only comes from a sustained period of 'community' work to arouse the interest of potential members and the public at large. The formation of Colonies was set up to provide the basic 'infrastructure.' This being done it will require the vision and work of many Society members. Moral and other support for these efforts must come from the Board of Assistants. We would like to hear from all our members with comments and ideas. Together we can help to perpetuate the legacy of those who came to North America nearly 400 years ago. *Paul Hill*

Meet your Board of Assistants Our first two governors



Reverend Father, Dr.
James McGivern, SJ MBE

Father McGivern had a distinguished career. He joined the Society of Jesus in 1925, and was ordained a priest in 1937.

In 1940 he was appointed Chaplain to the Canadian Army, and retained that position for many years after the War in the Active, Reserve, and Regular Army. He was named a Member of the British Empire (MBE) by King George VI. He taught in Jesuit colleges in Regina, Montreal and Toronto. He was founder of the RCE Military Museum, Chilliwack; co-founder of the Military Historical Society, London Branch; founding secretary of the British Columbia Museums Association; and of course, founder and first governor of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants. He was archivist for the Diocese of Toronto, editor of *Our Heritage*, and staff member of Martyr's Shrine, Midland.

He was recalled as "part Friar Tuck and part G. K. Chesterton" with his "love of people and his longing to share with others any discoveries he made."

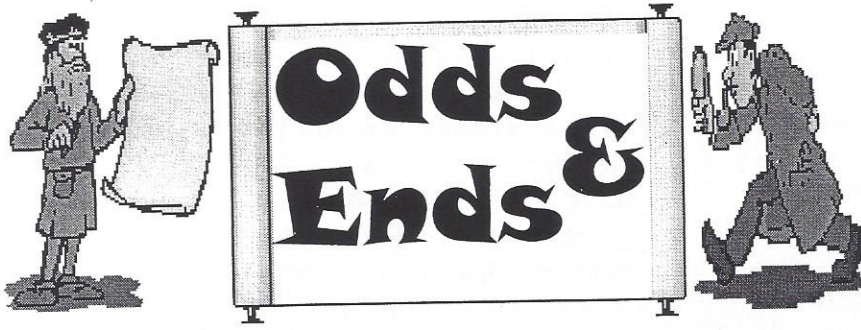


Colonel Harry F. Pierce,
MBE ED D.Psy(Oxon)

Harry Pierce was born in Quebec. He served with the Canadian Army in World War Two, and retired about 1980 from his position as Consultant to Devonshire House, the University of Toronto. He was member

number 2 of the new Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants, and with the inception of our Society he was appointed Deputy Governor. When the first Governor, Father McGivern, died in 1982, Harry assumed the position of Governor and Historian.

Harry is recalled as a soldier of the old school who believed it was less troublesome, more efficient and effective, to do it oneself, rather than entrust a task to underlings. So few meetings were called, and Harry carried most of the information about new members and the business of the Society in his head. Sometimes you *can* take it with you. At least, when Harry Pierce died suddenly in August 1983, the 'records' went with him, and the surviving Assistants were left with the task of reconstructing the work of the Society.



DID YOU KNOW President Wilson's private railway car was named the *Mayflower*.

CAN YOU BEAT THIS? King Abdullah II of Jordan claims to be "a descendant of the 7th Century Prophet Mohammad."

THE HUMAN COMEDY Some notes found on the internet: "I'm always late. My ancestors must have arrived on the *Juneflower*." "I found out that half of my forefathers were female." "I have one son named George and one named Robert. Does anyone know who the father is?"

MISSED IT BY THAT MUCH In 1610, ten years before the *Mayflower* landed in Plymouth, the Dutch were sending boats up the Hudson to a point near Albany to trade with the Indians. By 1614 they had built a fort on Castle Island just south of what is now the Port of Albany. In 1624 a group of French speaking Walloons and some Dutch traders landed at Albany and became the first permanent settlers. (By *Li GovArt Young of the Albany Colony, Mayflower Chronicles, May 1999*)

WOULD YOU BELIEVE IT! The April 1999 issue of the newsletter of the Hawaii *Mayflower Society, Ka Pupu NihoNiho*, reports this 'true' story from an early newspaper: "Death, in London, no date: Patrick Rofer had long indulged in habits of excessive drunkenness, so that his fame became saturated with alcohol. Just prior to going to bed and while in the act of blowing out his taper, his breath took fire, which communicated to his lungs, and his limbs were scattered about the room; his head was driven through the wall and broke the leg of a man in the room above." (Attributed to the *Eastport (Maine) Sentinel, 12 June 1819*)

TENNESSEE 1894 "Crock Floods died last night owing this paper ten years subscription. It is reported that he said just before he pegged out that he felt like he was floating upwards. No doubt about it. Crock was so low down that he had to slide uphill to get into perdition." (Thanks to the *Mayflower Quarterly, February 1993, p. 72, which claimed this was a 'true' obituary.*)

PLYMOUTH 1713 In this year a rascally fraud was perpetrated by Jael (Hobart), wife of Governor Bradford's son Joseph, and her brother. When Joseph was 82 and almost blind, he asked his wife's brother "to write me a will." The will was to provide for all of Joseph's land to go to his only son, Elisha. Joseph's brother-in-law obligingly wrote a will and presented it to Joseph who signed it. As it later turned out, the will that Joseph signed gave his land to his wife, not his son. How did this happen? The will as written was not read aloud to Joseph. The facts emerged at probate hearing and the judge refused probate on the grounds that Joseph had been deceived by his wife and brother-in-law. (Thanks to *The (Arizona) Mayflower Log, July 1999*) *Perfidy never pays amongst mayflowerites. But elsewhere — well, read the tale on the right!*

Where there's a Will A tale of Perfidy

A Cunning Cobbler

Many years ago, the husband of an old lady died without making his will, for the want of which necessary precaution his estate would have passed away from his widow, had she not resorted to the following expedient to avert the loss of the property. She concealed the death of her husband, and prevailed on an old cobbler, her neighbor, who was somewhat like the deceased, to go to bed at her house, and impersonate him, in which character it was agreed that he would dictate a will, leaving the widow the estate in question. An attorney was sent for to draw up the writings. The widow, on his arrival, appeared in great affliction at her good man's danger, began to ask questions of her pretended husband, calculated to elicit the answers she expected and desired. The cobbler, groaning aloud, and looking like a person about to give up the ghost, feebly answered, "I intend to leave you half of my estates, and I think the poor old shoemaker, who lives opposite, is deserving the other half, for he has always been a good neighbor." The widow was thunderstruck at receiving a reply so different from that which she expected, but dared not negate the cobbler's 'will,' for fear of losing the whole of the property, while the old rogue in bed — who was himself the poor old shoemaker living opposite — laughed in his sleeve, and divided with her the fruits of a project which the widow had intended for her sole benefit. (Thanks to *George Taylor, Guelph, Ontario*)



The Business Page

Moving?

We continue to be plagued with the return of the newsletter marked "Moved – left no address." IF YOU ARE MOVING, please let the Society know your new address, so we can ensure delivery to you.

Postal Codes

An incorrect postal code may be the cause of non-delivery of your *Mayflower Quarterly*. If your MQ envelope has an incorrect address, please let us know.

The Web

Don't forget our web site at www.mayflower.org/canada/canada.html or www.mayflower.org. We expect a new format soon. Watch for it!



Canadian Certificates

Canadian membership certificates are still available at a cost of \$5.00. Please contact the Canadian Historian Susan Roser if interested (see address on page nine).

Great News! — NS Colony

Plans are now underway for a new Nova Scotia Colony. Members from N.S. have been contacted by Susan Roser with great response so far, and we hope the founding ceremony will take place later this year. Susan is handling all arrangements. If you have not yet been contacted, please get in touch with her. Congratulations to our Nova Scotia members!

Donations

WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL TO members who choose to donate to our Society.

Our thanks go out to

Lucille Cron

and

Gregory Biefer

for their donations.

Billington Family Society

The newly-formed Billington Family Society has its primary goals to research and share information. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact:

Carl Anderson

3107 Holland St.

Erie PA 16504

The fees are \$10 per year.

New Library Books

Mayflower families for Five Generations, Parts 1 & 2: Descendants of Richard Warren, by Robert Wakefield.

Centennial History, General Society of Mayflower Descendants 1897-1997, by Duane A. Cline, published by the General Society.

These books are located in the Mayflower Collection in the Canadiana Room of the North York Public Library, Toronto. (*Joyce Cutler, Librarian*)

Dues Notice!

Haven't paid yet? Please remember that year 2000 membership dues of \$40 are due **Nov 30, 1999**. Please send payment to:

Allyn Dean, Treasurer

86 Constance St

Toronto ON M6R 1S6

Our society depends on your dues and donations.

Why not pay for several years in advance?

Semi-annual Meeting and Spring Tea

8 April 2000

Location: The John McKenzie House, 34 Parkview Ave Toronto, Ontario (directions below)

Time: 1:00 - 4:00

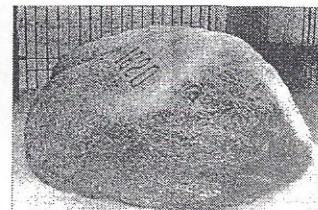
Cost: \$10 per person, or \$15 per couple.

Presentation: Video — Indians at Plymouth

Refreshments: Coffee, tea and desserts will be provided.

Friends and family are more than welcome. We look forward to seeing you.

Directions: In Toronto, from Highway 401, take Yonge Street North to Empress Avenue on your right (the North York Civic Centre and a Novotel are on the left); turn right and go two blocks to Kenneth Street; turn left and go to Parkview; turn left and the McKenzie House is a short distance along on the right.



The Fall Banquet — meet our members

We met in the elegant surroundings of the Toronto Cricket Curling and Skating Club. Many new members and new faces were in attendance. 'Dr. Pat' delighted us with a refreshing talk on 'History in 1620.'



Right: Our guest speaker 'Dr Pat' Stanford and our Governor, Mr. Paul Hill



John and Martha Olmsted. Martha was introduced as our newest member at the banquet, and presented with her membership certificate

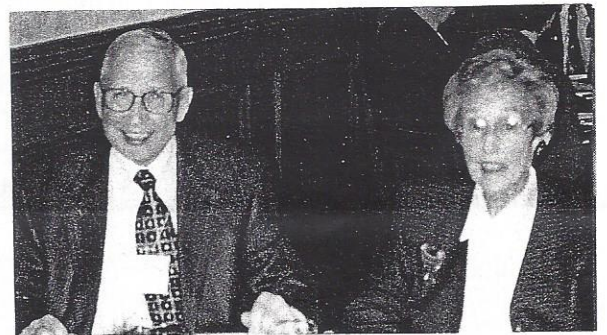


Elizabeth Goodrich, another of our new members. Elizabeth works in computer graphics, and will be helping our Historian Susan Roser, to construct our new Web Page. We look forward to it.

Below: George and Ruth Crawford



Dirk and Sheila Schaap. Sheila was one of our new members at the banquet.



Marion S. Tait and Sandra Tennant



Barbara and Peter Lauer. Barbara is another of our newest members.



Minutes of the Annual Meeting and Compact Luncheon

The Compact Luncheon was held 13 November 1999 at the Toronto Skating Cricket and Curling Club. Governor, Paul Hill opened the meeting with a warm welcome to all those attending, and thanked Mr. Keith Bain for making the arrangements for the Banquet.

The minutes of the last general meeting published in the *Canadian Pilgrim* were passed on a motion by Miss Owen. Mr. Paul Hill led us in singing the Mayflower Song as a tribute to our two countries. He then read the Mayflower Compact as recorded by William Bradford.

Mayflower roll call read by Ms Deborah Clarke. Twenty of the passengers on the Mayflower had descendants present. It is safe to say that our guest, Dr Patricia Stanford was on her feet the most times. She claims 16 Mayflower passengers among her ancestors including Richard More. As you recall there are only 42 proven descendants of Richard More in the entire General Society. Dr. Pat has hopes that her Mayflower cousin, our former Governor, Keith Bain will be able to prove his descent from Richard More as well.

Necrology report by Mr. Allyn Dean. The Canadian Society has lost five members this year. #284 Charles R. Adlard died 18 Dec 1998, a descendant of Bradford. He joined the society 1 July 1998. #164 Harold Van Wyck died 28 Aug 1998. A descendant of Alden he joined on 16 Jan 1993. #248 Jean Macleod died 10 May 1999. Descended from Stephen Hopkins she joined 22 July 1986. #62 Ruth Ferguson died June 23 1999. She served as our Elder and joined the Society 15 Jan 1982 as a descendant of Richard Warren. #312 Andrea Elinor Lahey died 19 Oct 1999. A descendant of Brewster, she joined 20 Sept 1999.

Treasurer's report given by Mr Allyn Dean. 27 people have joined our society this year. We have lost 12 members (5 deaths, 5 resignations and 2 dropped for not paying dues) making a net gain of only 15 members. Our Society has 235 members which includes 71 life members and 164 regular members, eight of whom have not paid their 1999 fees. 47% of our membership live in Ontario, 33% live west of Ontario and 13% live east of Ontario. 7% live elsewhere. The B.C. Colony has 31 members; the Alberta Colony has 43 members. There are 16 members living in Nova Scotia where we hope to see a new colony created in the coming year. Mr. A. Dean reported we have \$2466.88 in one account, \$1728.63 in another account and \$715.62 in our U.S. Account. We have two G.I.C.s, both due April 2000 (\$10000 @7.875% and \$2500 @3.45%.

Historian's report given by Mrs. Susan Roser. The bad news is that our fees have increased mostly due to the increase in

General Society Fees. Supplemental lines are now \$70, and the fee for family members to join is \$50. Our yearly dues are \$40. Mrs Roser praised the work of Miss Margaret Owen, one of our charter members, a long time board member who was instrumental in keeping our Society going in the early days. She introduced, Sheila and Dirk Schaap. Sheila was approved in July and is a descendant of William Bradford. Mrs Roser then presented a membership certificate to our latest new member, Martha Olmsted. Martha was able to give Mrs Roser a complete documentation of her line at their first meeting at her family summer home just outside of Plymouth, Massachusetts. Mrs Roser is now finishing her 7th year as Historian. By the end of 1999 she will have had approved a total of 158 new members. She would like to see that number approved on a yearly basis.

Mr. Paul Hill thanked Mrs Roser for her efforts in making our society grow and praised all our former Historians including Mrs. Kate Berscht who helped him with his membership. Throughout the meeting Mr. Hill complemented all those who serve on the Board of Assistants of the Canadian Society.

Librarian's report given by Mrs. Joyce Cutler. Mrs Cutler announced we have four new additions to our Library collection: two of the silver books (John Alden and Richard Warren), the MFIP book on William Brewster and a book on Philip Delano of the Fortune. An updated list of our books can be found on the 6th Floor of the Canadian Room in the North York Public Library. Mrs Cutler thanked her daughter in law and her grandson for the help in preparing our catalogue.

Report of the Nominating Committee. On a motion by Mrs. Joyce Cutler seconded by Mrs Myrna Geldart the following people were elected: Captain - Dale Lahey, Recording Secretary - Deborah Clarke. There were no nominations from the floor.

Five kernals of corn told by Mrs Susan Roser. The five kernels of corn are a reminder of the starving time of our forefathers. Poor crops, bad hunting, the wrong kind of netting for fishing, and the arrival of 35 passengers on the Fortune without provisions or supplies caused much hardship for our ancestors. It was not until the harvest of 1623 that the Pilgrims were able to face the long winter without fear of starvation.

After the toast to the Queen of England and the President of the United States we enjoyed an excellent lunch.

Mr. Keith Bain introduced our Guest Speaker Dr. Patricia Stanford, Governor of the California Society and Chairman of the Junior Membership Committee. *Deborah Clarke, Recording Secretary*

History of the Canadian Society

Long before the creation of the Canadian Society in 1980, Mayflower descendants living in Canada had an interest in joining the Mayflower Society. Most of these were forced by the lack of a Canadian Society to join a State Society in the adjoining United States. By 1980 there were 77 such members across Canada, with 45 of them living in Ontario alone.

It was at this point that Father James McGivern, who had considerable experience in establishing new organizations in Canada, took it upon himself to contact these Canadian members, with the view of establishing a Canadian Society.

His efforts met with success, and by the Fall of 1980, he was able to report to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants in Plymouth that he had collected 29 signatures, 28 of whom were General Society members and who became our charter members.

The General Society suggestion that we call ourselves the Ontario Society was rejected and we were chartered as the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants on October 18 1980 in Toronto, Ontario by Governor General Frederick Low and Mr. Robert Thurtle, Chairman of the Membership Committee.

The first board of Assistants were: Governor Father James McGivern; Deputy Governor Col. Harry Pierce; Secretary Mrs. Lynn O'Keefe; Treasurer Rev. Melvin Donald; Captain Miss Margaret Owen.

Despite a small executive, the Society in its first years remained very much a one-man show, first of Father McGivern, then of Colonel Pierce. However, progress was modest but sure. Mel Donald recalls, "Dr. McGivern called his committee together two of three times but no minutes were kept. A Society tea was held in the Spring of 1981 at Holy Name Church out on the Danforth. Dr. McGivern started a newsletter which he called the *Canadian Pilgrim*. He also served as the Historian. On November 21 1981 the first annual Compact Dinner was held in the Holiday Inn in downtown Toronto. Dr. McGivern had also built up a valuable genealogical library including a complete set of the New England Register, and he donated these to the Society to found its library."

But at this time disaster was to strike the young Society. Mel Donald recalls that "In the late Spring of 1982, 18 months after our inauguration, Dr. McGivern visited Plymouth to confer with the Historian General concerning a number of outstanding applications. Within a few days of his return to Toronto, he was suddenly stricken with a fatal heart attack."

With Father McGivern's passing, Harry Pierce became both Governor and Historian, and in a "move of genius" asked Susan Roser to become editor of the newsletter.

But the Society was also beginning to experience some potentially serious problems. Mel Donald recalls, "I remember advising Harry in the Spring of 1983 that we would have to postpone the next issue of the newsletter because of money problems."

But a greater disaster was to strike. Again, Mel recalls, "In the summer of 1983 I left Toronto on a western Canada trip, expecting to check in with Harry at the end of the summer. To my amazement and shock, at the end of August I learned instead of his sudden seizure and death! So suddenly I found myself acting as Governor, Deputy Governor, Historian, and Treasurer! Our Society was born in the Fall of 1980. Our first Governor served 18 months, our second one 16 months. There was a fair amount of confusion in the paper work."

Original Charter Members

- #1 Father James McGivern
- #2 Col. Harry Pierce
- #3 Mrs. Lynn O'Keefe
- #4 Rev. Melvin Donald
- #5 Mr. Nathaniel Brewster
- #6 Mrs. Ruth Walsh
- #7 Miss Margaret Owen
- #8 Mrs. Bessie Owen
- #9 Mr. George Bain
- #10 Mr. Keith Bain
- #11 Mrs. Rene Cadieux
- #12 Mrs. Madeline Warren
- #13 Miss Marian Worthen
- #14 Mrs. Beatrice Warmski
- #15 Mr. Leon Warmski
- #16 Mr. Vance Pierce
- #17 Mr. John Bryant
- #18 Mrs. Margaret Blackley
- #19 Mrs. Mary Munn
- #20 Mrs. Rose Young
- #21 Mrs. Bernice Allen
- #22 Mr. Raymond Hadden
- #23 Mrs. May Schultz
- #24 Mr. Roy Spooner
- #25 Mrs. Abbie Thompson
- #26 Mr. Clyde Soule
- #27 Mr. Francis Barnes
- #29 Mr. H.W.D. Prince

Member #28 of this list was a certain Mr. Warner of Ottawa, whose membership was never approved. His number was later assigned to another member.

Next Issue:

The Rebirth of the Society.

Don't miss it!

TIMELINE – THE WORLD IN WHICH THE PILGRIMS LIVED

A talk and slide show presented by Dr Pat Stanford

Although we as Mayflower Descendants have studied and tried to learn as much as we can about our ancestors and the difficulties they faced in Plymouth, we tend to ignore that other events were taking place in their world. Plymouth was not the first successful settlement in North America. The French had been living in Quebec since 1608. The colony at Jamestown, Virginia was founded in 1607 and was using slave labour by 1609. The Spanish had established settlements at St. Augustine, Florida (1565) and Santa Fe, Mexico (1606). The Dutch would arrive at New Amsterdam (New York) in 1624 and the Puritans would settle Salem in 1628 and Boston in 1630.

In 1618 two years before the Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock in 1620, the Thirty Years War began. European nations were fighting over religious and political differences. The great wall of China was already built by 1620. It remains to this day the only man made object that can be seen from space. Work on the Taj Mahal, built by Shah Jahan as a tomb for his wife would start in 1632. Louis XIII was King of France; Richelieu, his Cardinal. James I was King of England.

In literature there were such nota-

ble writers as Ben Jonson and John Donne. Advancements were being made in Science and Mathematics by people like Rene Descartes, Francis Bacon, Galileo, and Sir Isaac Newton. Rubins, Van Dyke and Rembrandt were the major artists of the century.

Plague was still a problem. Bleeding the patient would remain a major treatment of illness for many years to come, sometimes with fatal consequences. George Washington would die from loss of blood after being treated in this manner for laryngitis. However knowledge and understanding were improving in medicine as well. In 1628 William Harvey discovered the circulation of Blood.

Against this background 102 passengers and 40 crew members set sail on the *Mayflower*, a ship the size of half an American Football field. They were unique in that for the first time whole families went. Usually the women and children followed later.

Life was not easy for the Pilgrims. More than half of them died during the first year leaving their colony very vulnerable to an attack by hostile Indians, Captain Myles Standish, was on call 24 hours a day. He handled the security of the settlement as well as training and commanding their small militia. Dr. Pat described him as the Pilgrim version of 911. When the traditional European methods of fishing, hunting and planting failed, starvation became a real threat. With the help of such Indians as Squanto,

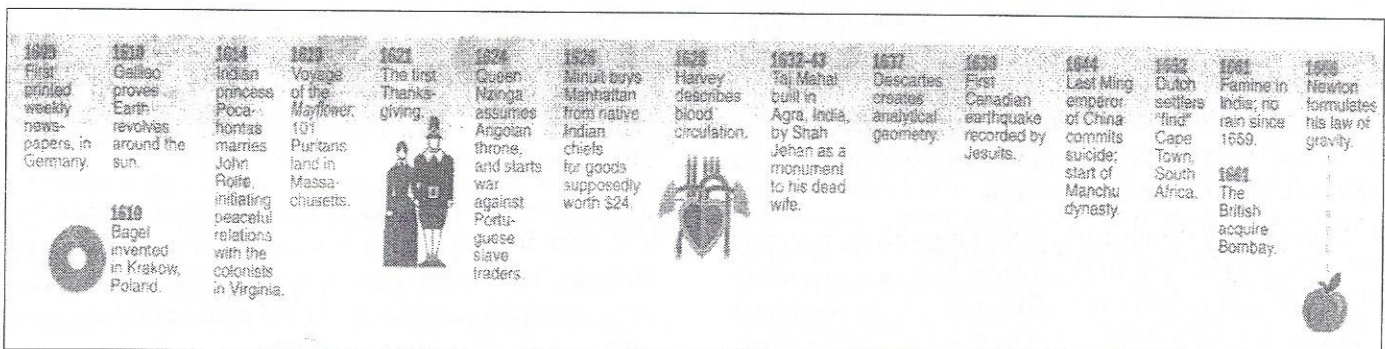
Hobbomock, Samoset and Massasoit, and the Chief of the friendly Wampanoags, our ancestors learned to plant corn, catch eels and stalk game the Indian way.

The women worked as hard as the men. At the time of the first Thanksgiving, there were only four women left to prepare a feast for the entire colony and 90 Indian guests. Each day a woman was expected to tend the sheep, do the laundry, milk the cows and pound the corn. (Corn mash was a basic staple of a Pilgrim meal.) She also had to maintain an herb garden. Here she raised the plants needed to dye woollens and linens, to season food and most importantly to treat the sick. A doctor would expect a family to have on hand any medicinal herbs he might need. Samuel Fuller the Pilgrims doctor made pills of beeswax and herbs to treat diseases. He also made house calls both day and night, caring for the sick, friend and foe alike.

Fortunately for us, with the harvest of 1623 life started to improve in Plymouth. In 1624 Captain John Smith described a thriving colony consisting of 180 persons, some cattle, goats, swine, poultry, 32 dwelling houses, a fort, and a watch tower. The Pilgrims had survived.

Mr. Allyn Dean thanked Dr. Pat for her interesting talk, and presented her with a gift from the Canadian Society. Dr. Pat provided hand outs for us to take home. (*Thanks to Debbie Clarke for this fine condensation of Patricia Stanford's talk at the annual meeting.*)

Below: Part of a timeline from the Toronto Star, 31 Dec 1999. Who were those 'Puritans' anyway?



BC COLONY OF THE CANADIAN SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS MINUTES

**Fifth annual general meeting, November 21,
1999, at the Stace-Smith Residence**

Members and Associate Members in attendance(15): Regent, Bill Brown, George Baldwin, Doreen Corbett, Frank and Joan Fishleigh, Rebecca Fraser, George and Melanie Hamilton, George Lydiard, Ken Potter, Bob Prince, Joan Stace-Smith, Trenor Tilley, Pat Walker, and Bob White.

Prospects and Guests in attendance (6) – Arlene Brown, Eleanor Lydiard, Pat Prince, Diane Potter, Dick Stace-Smith, Eunice Robinson.

The meeting was called to order at 2:20pm by Regent Bill Brown. Self introduction of Members, Associate Members and Guests. The Agenda was approved by Baldwin/Lydiard.

Agenda item 8 was advanced for convenience of our speaker: Introduction of Eunice Robinson, of the BC Genealogical Society, our guest speaker. Eunice gave us a refreshingly different approach to our ancestors and a closer look at what we should be leaving for our own ancestors, urging us to identify, photo-copy, and preserve both the seemingly trivial and the important aspects of our own lives. She outlined ways the BC Genealogical Society could help us in our searches and welcomed any of us who would like to visit or join their Society, even suggesting that some of their group might be potential Mayflower descendants.

Minutes of the last AGM were adopted as previously circulated. Carried Lydiard/Corbett.

Reports: a) Membership – George Lydiard reported our Membership status for 1999 is 25. This total includes 7 new members in 1998-9, and the loss of one member (Jean McLeod). The 1998 total was 19. Recommended by (and later moved by) George Lydiard that we collect dues from only one member of a couple. Carried Lydiard/Prince.

b) **Treasurer's Report** was given by acting Treasurer Joan Stace-Smith who suggested that the Annual Treasurer's Report be accepted in two segments – the first, Nov 22, 1998 to April 18, 1999 (statement presented by Jean McLeod at the semi-annual meeting held that date), and the second segment April 18, 1999 to Nov 20, 1999. Copies of both attached. Moved/Seconded/ Carried Stace-Smith/White. Joan Stace-Smith notified the group of her intention not to carry a "cash on hand" item in the future but rather to submit a bill at intervals as needed.

(c) **Nominating Committee:** In keeping with the principle of staggering of the officers (not having a complete changeover all at once), two officers were to be appointed this year. Regent Bill Brown asked George Baldwin of the

Nominating Committee to take charge of this portion of our meeting. George presented the nominations of Bob White for vice-regent and Joan Stace-Smith for Secretary-Treasurer, both individuals having agreed to let their names stand. As no further nominations from the floor were heard it was moved/seconded, and carried (Baldwin/Lydiard) that both nominations be accepted by acclamation.

New Business: (a) Regent Bill Brown put forth the suggestion of creating a Mayflower Badge. After discussion and the viewing of two samples, it was suggested that we see if one already exists. Further discussion was that we might be wise to leave flags out completely, as there could be questions of which flag.

(b) **Regent Bill Brown** gave us an update on Associate Member Pat Walker who did a research trip to New Brunswick last summer, and with the newly acquired data Susan Roser is hopeful that Plymouth will accept Pat's application.

(c) **Other new business:** Dale Philpott of Saanichton, BC, has extended an invitation to host the spring meeting.

8. Program: Our speaker was put earlier in the Agenda to give her the opportunity to leave early.

9. Motion of Adjournment at 3:45 pm Walker/Prince.

ALBERTA COLONY REPORT

Our annual meeting held at the Willow Park Golf & Country Club on November 6 1999 installed our new executive as follows: Regent Bill Parsons; Past Regent Peter Young; Vice Regent David Kelley; Vice Regent Neil Lund; Captain Margaret Brodylo; Treasurer Phillip Thorpe; Publicity Al Collins; Historian-Genealogist Kaaren Mathews; Secretary Ann Murphy; Entertainment Fundraising Leslie Chisholm; Elder Terry Smith.

Phillip Thorpe was our keynote speaker at our Calgary Dinner in which 29 were in attendance. Phillip's subject was "Historic Background of some Maritime Mayflower Ancestors."

There were 43 in attendance at our Edmonton Compact Dinner, many of whom were not members but had strong possibility of being descendants of a Pilgrim Father. Neil Lund presented a graphic documentation of the ship Mayflower.

We recognize the work that Al Collins has done this past year in magnifying his stewardship of Publicity Director. The Society has received considerable coverage in our newspapers. Many letters and phone calls have come forth as a result. *Peter Young, Past Regent*

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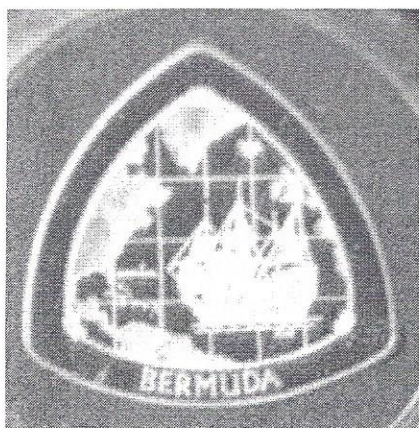
Editor's note: *This list of the Board of Assistants will ap-
pear once a year. Please keep it handy for easy reference and
contact. Members please inform me of corrections, change of
address, phone, email and fax numbers, if available. Thanks.*

Annual Financial Statement — 1999

1. STARTING AMOUNT	
BANK ACCT AND GICs	16281.35
Petty Cash	178.81
TOTAL	16460.16
2. RECEIPTS	
Annual Dues	4935.00
Donations	45.00
Life Memberships	00.00
Application fees	1635.00
Subscriptions	72.00
GICs & Bank Interest	797.50
TOTAL	7214.50
3. DISBURSEMENTS	
Postage	266.69
Library	609.06
Stationary and printing	79.78
General Society Dues	3319.50
Alberta and BC Colonies	148.00
Incorporation fees	30.00
Banquet loss/gain	(2.80)
Spring Tea loss/gain	(15.00)
Newsletter	922.20
Publicity	00.00
Rental	00.00
Misc.	64.17
TOTAL	5421.60
4 FINISH BALANCES	
Bank Accts	5487.47
Petty Cash	265.59
Canada Trust GICs	
7.875% due 15 Apr 2000	10,000.00
3.45% due 15 Apr 1999	2500.00
TOTAL	18253.06
5. BALANCES	
#1	16460.16
#2	7214.50
TOTAL	23674.66
#3	5421.60
#4	18253.06
TOTAL	23674.66

Bermuda coin

In the Fall 1999 issue of the *Canadian Pilgrim*, member Vern Vickery wrote, "I recently obtained from the Royal Mint a 1998 Bermuda coin, a \$3.00 proof silver triangular coin depicting the small ship, the *Deliverance*, the ship built from the wreckage of the *Sea Venture*, against a background map of the general area. It is very attractive and I am pleased to have it, as one of my seven ancestor Mayflower passengers, **Stephen Hopkins**, was one of the people who survived the wreck." However, a move and damage to the computer while *en route* caused a delay in receiving the coin image. We are pleased to present it now.

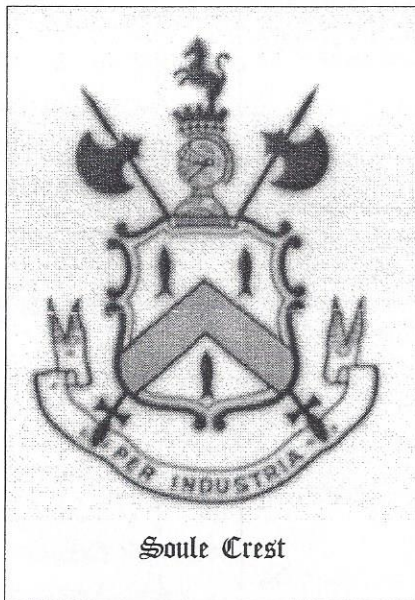


Wanted

Have you had your photo taken at a Mayflower monument or site or occasion? Send a picture with names and story for inclusion in the Newsletter.

The Soule Crest

Margaret Owen, former treasurer of our Society, has sent this copy of the Soule crest for inclusion in the newsletter. We welcome crests for other Mayflower passengers.



Soule Crest

YOUR GOOD LETTERS . . .

Where our readers *always* have the last word

"Dear Dale: Virginia Wallace was impressed with the coverage in the Fall *Canadian Pilgrim* on Mel Donald who is a cousin of hers." *Peter Young, Alberta Regent*

A Royal Mix-up

"Harry Pierce was Governor from the Spring of '82 to the summer of '83. Harry was, shall I say, sort of fond of pomp and glitter, so he got the bright

idea to call the Canadian Society, the ROYAL Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants. Without ever discussing this idea with me or anybody, he did this, and advised Plymouth of this name change. I believe the "royal" name even appeared on one or two publications from Plymouth.

"When Harry left us, we were confronted with this "royal" name. As far as we knew, in Canada one cannot just bandy around the prefix "royal." You must have special authority from Ottawa, and the chances are probably one hundred to one against ever getting permission. Harry certainly had never obtained such permission. What to do?

"Margaret Owen, who was then our Secretary, myself, and one or two others, decided that the on-going use of this prefix would be illegal, and we certainly were not going to embark upon any search for permission. We felt we just had to abandon this pretension. We wrote to Plymouth to inform them we did not have permission to use the "royal" prefix, and therefore to please drop it completely, which they did. End of story." *Mel Donald, Elder and former Canadian Society Governor.*

Editor's note: *Special thanks to Mel Donald for his time and help in providing material for this retrospective edition.*

We welcome Your Letters to the Editor

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