

## **FREDERICTON BRANCH – Charter – 11 May 1974**

### **1974 Spring**

The new Fredericton, New Brunswick Branch was granted a charter at the annual meeting on May 11 by the U.E.L. Association of Canada. During the latter part of 1971, Mr. E.J. Chard made a systematic enquiry to ascertain the feasibility for a U.E.L. branch to serve Fredericton, N.B., as a focal point, where once several thousand Loyalists had settled throughout the greater part of that province.

Many persons were keen on the formation of a branch that was easily accessible to attend in the heart of this Loyalist country. Miss Louise Hill, a staunch Loyalist and author of a well known book on the historic city, indicated great interest in the search for more branch supporters.

In the Fall of 1972 an informal gathering was held by Miss Hill resulting in great enthusiasm for a branch of their own by many who attended, but delay followed by the persons attempting to complete documentary proof for applications.

Clearly there was an urgent need for the Dominion Headquarters to expand our library facilities of books and documents on New Brunswick. Many of these resources were soon acquired, Moreover, there was a greater need to seek out a few persons who were very knowledgeable on Loyalist genealogy particularly on central New Brunswick. With the acceptance for membership of persons with several years of active work on Loyalist families and on genealogy we assembled probably the most knowledgeable Loyalist genealogical group on any area-Miss Louise Hill, Mr. George H. Hayward, Mrs. Earl W. Walker, and Mrs. Elizabeth Sewell. Dr. Esther Clark Wright, well known for her book-- Loyalists of New Brunswick, has added her support of becoming a member with the expressed wish to join this branch. Other persons also have qualified for membership and several applications are nearing completion and many more are in preparation.

If any reader has friends or relatives who may qualify for membership and has ancestral roots in this vast part of New Brunswick, please contact Mrs. Earl W. Walker, 825UnionStreet, Fredericton, N.B. E3A 3P5 or phone (506) 472-4648.

### **1976 Spring**

Special guests at the charter night of the Fredericton Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, were Lieut.-Gov. and Mme. Hedard Robichaud accompanied by aide-de-camp Capt. G. D. Robertson; Education Minister, Gerald Merrithew, representing Premier Richard Hatfield; and Mayor Elbridge Wilkins and Mrs. Wilkins.

Chairman Dr. C. Fred Everett spoke of the significance of the date of Oct. 8. It was 192 years after the arrival in this area of a number of Loyalist families. These people spent the first winter in hardship, since they arrived too late to be able to build proper shelters.

He also spoke of the aims and objectives of the association, and paid tribute to those he considered had been most involved in the establishment of the Fredericton branch. These were Miss Louise Hill and Mrs. Earl W. Walker of Fredericton, and especially Mr. E. J. Chard and Mr. George Hayward, of Toronto.

In his remarks the Honorable Hedard Robichaud spoke of his pleasure at being present, and mentioned the part the Loyalists had played in the establishment of the Province of New Brunswick.

Mr. Merrithew spoke from the point of view of his job as minister in charge of natural resources, as well as being of Loyalist descent. He said the branch should begin now to prepare for the observance of the 200th anniversary of the coming of the Loyalists.

The chairman expressed his thanks to the staff of the Provincial Archives for their cooperation in arranging for the event. In reply, Michael Swift, Provincial Archivist invited the members to hold future meetings there.

Following a short musical interlude by the woodwind quintet of the RCR Band, membership certificates were presented by Dr. W. Stewart MacNutt, professor emeritus of the history department of the University of New Brunswick and chairman of the Loyalist studies program at the university.

Dr. MacNutt is author of several books on the history of this area with special reference to the Loyalists. A certificate was presented to Fred Gunter of Fredericton, a fourth-generation descendant of the Loyalist Andrew Gunter, who came with his father (Conrad Gunter) to the Queens County area. Mr. Gunter also accepted the certificate of his son Andrew Gunter of Kentville, N.S.

The other recipient was Ernest Friars, of Oromocto, descended from Christopher Sheck who came to the Sussex area and who was the first innkeeper there.

Dr. MacNutt then introduced Dr. Esther Clark Wright of Wolfville, N.S. author of "The Loyalists of New Brunswick" and other books on the history of New Brunswick. He paid tribute to her as the first to make a detailed study of the New Brunswick Loyalists. Dr. Wright spoke about the reasons behind the decision of many of the Loyalists to leave their homes and come to Canada. The charter was accepted by Miss Louise Hill on behalf of the Branch.

The secretary, Mrs. Earl W. Walker, called the roll of members, and each member present answered with the name of his or her Loyalist ancestor. There are 45 charter members.

The guest speaker, Dr. Stephen Patterson of the history department of the University of New Brunswick spoke "In defence of diversity," and was concerned with the conditions in America at the time of the revolution.

He stressed the fact that the Loyalist came from various ethnic backgrounds, all social classes and different religious groups.

This special event was a very successful affair having a large and enthusiastic attendance. The occasion ended with refreshments arranged by Dr. and Mrs. Everett and a social hour.

Invitations are extended to anyone anywhere who can qualify for membership to join the Fredericton Branch and other members who wish to transfer to this branch will be welcomed. Write to Mrs. Earl W. Walker, 825 Union St., Fredericton, New Brunswick.

## **1976 Autumn**

### **Obituary – John R. Cambell**

**J**ohn R. Campbell of Ripples N.B., died at Victoria Hospital, September 14, 1976 in his 95<sup>th</sup> year. Mr. Campbell was predeceased by his wife, Lilla Bell Young in 1974.

He is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Herbert Sewell, Fredericton: Mrs. Roy Holliday, Regina; Mrs. Raymond Larlee, Orlando, Florida; Two sons, Clifford, Fredericton; and Reid, Ripples, all are charter members of the Fredericton U.E.L. Branch as well as two of the fourteen grandchildren, Mrs. Edward Pauley and Mrs. Linda Kennedy.

#### Obituary – **Bowen B.C. Smith**

**B**owen B.C. Smith of Saint John, N.B. died at Saint John General Hospital, October 26, 1976

Mr. Smith was a charter member of the Fredericton U.E.L. Branch.

He is survived by his wife Ethel K. (Thomas) Smith of 2280 Ocean Westway, an Associate member, one son, five daughters and 13 grandchildren.

Daughters Mrs. Stuart Henderson is a charter U.E.L. member of the Fredericton Branch, Mrs. Camp a member of the Shelburne Branch and Mrs. Margaret Stead Assistant Dominion genealogist and Vice-President of the Heritage Branch, Montreal.

#### **1977 Autumn**

**T**he Fredericton Branch was approached early this spring by a student from the University of New Brunswick to sponsor a project under the "Young Canada Works Program".

The project he proposed was to index the early editions of the Royal-Gazette, continuing until 1867 or as far as time would permit. This newspaper has a high Loyalist content and it was decided by the Executive to undertake this venture, and a sustaining vote was received from the membership. This project put no financial responsibility upon our Branch, merely the time involved in meeting with the many people necessary to set up the project, and later in the interviewing and hiring of the students to do the work. Our Past President, Dr. C. Fred Everett and the then Secretary, Mrs. Julia Walker bore the brunt of organizing the project. Mrs. Walker has continued to be our representative in the project and has tended to the many details that arise from it. The New Brunswick Provincial Archives, on U.N.B. Campus, has assisted this project by supplying the students with a place to do their work and by the daily overseeing of their task on our behalf. The completed index will be housed at the Archives, and will be of great assistance in Loyalist research.

At our annual meeting held on May 25th. we were privileged to hear a taped copy of a radio broadcast produced earlier in the spring by the local CBC station. The program prepared by Marjorie Whitelaw was on Loyalists and their many interesting items.

Also at this meeting the new slate of officers were elected. They were: President, Harold Brown; Vice President, Fred W. Hubbard; Secretary, Mrs. M.F. Barnett; Asst. Secretary, Mrs. E.W. Walker; Treasurer, Mrs. L.A. Duplisea; Genealogist, Mrs. H.H. Sewell; Historian. Miss Louise Hill.

Membership is welcomed from anywhere, Write Mrs. Earl W. Walker. 325 Union Street, Fredericton. N.B

#### **1978 Spring**

**T**he Archives Building, UNB was decorated with flags for the annual meeting of the Fredericton Branch. Miss Louise Hill and Mr. Lorne Duplisea decorated the speaker's area with the Union Jack of

the same type used in the time of George III (Cross of St. George, England and Cross of St. Andrew, Scotland). This flag was donated to U.E.L., Fredericton Branch by Mr. Fred Everett, past president.

Miss Susan Burke, historical resources, spoke on costumes and clothing from 1783 onward. Except for a few well-to-do Loyalists there is little fashion information available as they were too busy working to establish homes and provide a living for their families. There was a certain conformity of style and particularly of cloth as a standard type of cloth was issued as part of government provisions.

Mr. Stuart Gilmor, Dominion president, spoke on Canadian unity. He reaffirmed the stand of the U.E.L. as being firmly committed to a united Canada. Mr. Gilmor urged Quebec to remain in confederation. Speakers were thanked by Mr. Harold Brown. A social hour and refreshments followed the meeting.

The annual meeting of the Fredericton Branch was held April 5th at the Provincial Archives, with an election of Officers.

In an effort to pay tribute to one of energetic supporters a new category was added to our list of officers this year. Miss Louise Hill was sustained as Honorary President for her efforts in recruiting new members, and for having served as our President (Pro tem) during our pre Charter days.

Harold Brown and Fred W. Hubbard were re-elected as our President and Vice-President, respectively. Under their supervision this past year has seen a number of internal decisions made and projects carried out which have brought our Branch to a higher level of organization.

Two new members have joined the Executive ranks this year. Mr. William Olmstead was elected Secretary and Mrs. Margaret MacLean was elected Treasurer.

Our Genealogist, Mrs. Elizabeth Sewell has been returned to office for another term. She has expended many hours assisting applicants to complete the requirements necessary for membership since our Branch was formed, and many of us owe the acceptance of our applications to her expert abilities. Mrs. Sewell heads our Membership Committee, and may be contacted at 54 McKay Drive, Fredericton, N.B., E3A3S2.

The office of Historian was filled by Mrs. Cleadie B. Barnett, last year's Secretary.

A special sustaining vote was given to Mrs. Fred Hubbard for her excellent work on the Publicity Committee. Her efforts have resulted in exceptional press coverage of our activities.

One achievement of this past year has been a Record Deposit Agreement with the Provincial Archives. The organization of our files has been carried out by Mrs. Barnett and Mrs. Sewell. The purpose behind such an arrangement was to protect our records, yet have them easily accessible to the necessary persons. A Historical and Genealogical Collection will be included in these files, yet separate from the official materials. This Collection will be open to all who use the Archives.

Another achievement of this past winter was the drafting of a set of by-laws for our Branch. These rules were gleaned primarily from the decisions recorded in past minutes and were formulated into a preliminary draft by Mrs. Barnett. After consultation with the various members of the Executive the draft copy was prepared and circulated to the members preceding the annual meeting. They were adopted on an interim basis for one year, with a Committee to be set up to consider revisions.

Also, during the past year our periodic bulletins were expanded into more extensive newsletters, which many of our out-of-town members have favourably commented upon.

## 1979 Autumn

The annual meeting of the Fredericton Branch was held on April 17 at the home of Miss Louise Hill. President Harold Brown presided. New officers for 1979-1980 include Mr. Earle Rogers as President and Mr. F.W. Hubbard as Vice-President. Mrs. Leota Nason's application for membership had been accepted and her certificate received.

The Branch has been supporting a proposal to renovate the Old Loyalist Burial Ground; and has been in contact with the municipal government of the city. Mr. F. W. Hubbard volunteered to contact the proper authority in order to find out what action the city was willing to take towards the renovation.

The offer of Mr. George Hayward and Mrs. Hayward to act as delegates for the Branch at the 1979 Convention in May was welcomed.

Dr. Wallace Brown, Chairman of the Canadian Committee on Loyalist Studies and a member of the faculty of the University of New Brunswick, was introduced by the President. He led a discussion of the proposed celebration of the Province's Bicentennial in 1984 and the fact that the Loyalists' Bicentennial would precede that in 1983. The possibility of joining with the Saint John Branch for the 1983 celebration is to be investigated.

### Obituary: **Margaret Blanch Turner**

The death of Mrs. Margaret Blanche Turner of 82 Waterloo Row, Fredericton, occurred on October 12. Mrs. Turner was born at Red Head, Saint John County, on July 1, 1893, a daughter of the late James and Louisa (Bean) Osborne. Both of her parents were descendants of the United Empire Loyalists. She was the widow of Major General Guy Roderick Turner of the Corps of Royal Canadian Engineers. She was a member of Christ Church (Parish) Church. Mrs. Turner is survived by a son, Colonel Malcolm Turner of Fredericton.

### **PUBLICATIONS by Esther Clark Wright**

Planters and Pioneers, Nova Scotia, 1749 to 1775 This book consists of brief surveys of each of the townships of Nova Scotia which at that period included New Brunswick. There is a list of more than 3,000 heads of families with details, where available, of parentage, place of birth, marriage, and names of children. Price \$8.95.

The Loyalists of New Brunswick, Price \$6.50.

Sapphire Greens: The Story of the Steeves, Price \$2.50.

Alexander Clark, Loyalist, Price \$2.00,

## 1981 Spring

Plans for the Bicentennial in 1983 are being worked on with members of the Branch assigned to various projects under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hubbard. Committees are engaged on plans for the Loyalist monument to be erected in the Old Graveyard and on a financial campaign to raise funds for this. At the October meeting reports were received from these committees and those planning the 1983 Convention here.

Members were sorry to hear of the passing of Mrs. Elizabeth E. Tuffs of Fredericton on December 12. She is survived by Guy E. Tuffs, husband and children W. Elmore Tuffs, Ottawa, Mrs. Hillyard Nason, Saint John, all members of this Branch.

### **1981 Autumn**

**T**he Dominion President, Mr. John Eaman, visited Fredericton on September 10, at a meeting of the Branch held in the Provincial Archives on the University of New Brunswick campus.

Mr. Eaman spoke on what the focus of the United Empire Loyalist Association will be in the nineteen eighties.

The Fredericton Branch delegates to the annual Convention in Ottawa last May were: Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Dickinson of Carleton County, Mrs. Earl Walker and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hubbard of Fredericton. The convention was very informative and enjoyable. There is a great deal of enthusiasm in the Association across Canada.

A national meeting will be held in the Maritimes in 1983 when delegates from across Canada will meet in Shelburne . Nova Scotia and will visit Fredericton, Saint John, Kingston, N.B., and possibly other places en route. Volunteers will be required to assist with the visit to Fredericton. The dates are June 26 to 28, 1983.

New members of the Fredericton Branch are as follows: Mrs. Phyllis Bernard (Mrs. Donald Bernard) of Saint John, descended from James Gerow who came from Cortland Manor, New York, to Long Island in Queens County, N.B. Ghislain Long of Clair, Madawaska County, descended from Philip Long who came to the Eastern Townships, then to Clair, and who was for many years courier of the Royal Mail between new Brunswick and Quebec.

Phyllis Allen, Fredericton, descended from Benjamin MacDonald, First New Jersey Volunteers, who came first to Gagetown and then moved to Little River, Sunbury County.

Charles Hubbard MacDonald of St. Marys, same descent as above.

Lawrence Earle. Bayley, Sussex, descended from Lieut. Justus Earle of Third New Jersey Volunteers who came first to Fredericton and then settled at Grand Lake, N.B.

Mrs. Mary L. Howie (Mrs. James R. Howie) is a descendant of John Pond of the New Jersey Volunteers who came to York County, N.B. in 1783. She is the mother of J. Robert Howie, M.P. for York Sunbury.

### **1982 Spring**

**S**ympathy is extended to two members of the Fredericton Branch who were recently bereaved. Mr. James R. Howie died in November, husband of Mrs. Mary L. Howie and father of Robert Howie, M.P. for York Sunbury. About the same time Mr. Lawrence Earle Bayley of Sussex lost his wife Margareta: Mrs. Bayley was the sister of another member. Mrs. Flora Arnold Brown, and was descended from the Loyalists Thomas Ganong and Benejah Northrup who settled in the Kingston area of New Brunswick.

This Branch is engaged in planning for the 1983 Convention and for the establishment of a Loyalist monument in the Old Grave Yard in the center of Fredericton. Several members attended a meeting in

Saint John concerning the 1983 convention, where representatives from the New Brunswick, Abegweit (Prince Edward Island), Fredericton and Shelburne Branches met to discuss plans with Mr. J.R. Zavitz, Chairman, Dominion Bicentennial Committee. Mr. Laurence Young of St. Andrews, a member of the New Brunswick Branch, was appointed as Registrar of the 1983 Convention.

The following members have recently had their applications approved, proving descent from a Loyalist ancestor: Paul Blanchet, Fredericton, descended from Lieut. James Harrison; Mrs. David L. Shufflebean, Palo Alto, California. from John Adams; Mrs. Florence May O'Brien, Winter Park, Florida, from Ebenezer Slocum.

## **1982 Autumn**

There was considerable discussion about the proposed Loyalist Monument to be erected in the Old Burying Ground, at the Annual meeting of the Fredericton Branch on 27 April, in the Provincial Archives. All members have been canvassed for a donation to the Monument. The fund is growing but further donations would be appreciated.

Plans for the national Loyalist Conference to be held in June 1983 in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia were discussed. A large group from across Canada is planning to attend. They will spend two days in Fredericton before proceeding to Kingston, Saint John and Saint Andrews, New Brunswick and then on to Digby and Shelburne, Nova Scotia.

While in Fredericton the visitors will stay on the University of New Brunswick Campus. Events planned in Fredericton are a panel discussion on New Brunswick Loyalist History, a trip to King's Landing, a tour of Loyalist Houses, a ceremony at the Loyalist Monument and a reception.

The election of officers for 1982-83; Honorary President, Miss Louise Hill; President, Dr. Fred Everett; Vice-Pres. and Chairman of the Conference Committee, Mr. Fred Hubbard; Secretary, Mrs. Julia Walker; Treasurer, Mr. David Underhill; Genealogist, Mrs. Herbert Sewell; Historian, Miss Beryla Gorham. Nearly 100 delegates of the Organization of Military Museums of Canada OMMC were welcomed by Brigadier General J.J. Morneault, Base Commander Gagetown to their annual conference on September 2.

Dr. C. Fred Everett, president of our Fredericton U.E.L. Branch, received permission from Major R.K. Malott, of OMMC for members of the Fredericton Branch to attend the meeting at which the guest speaker was Dr. Ernst Aichner, Director of the Bavarian Army Museum and Secretary General of the International Association of Arms and Military History. His subject was the history of the disbanded German troops who settled in Canada after the American Revolution.

Dr. Everett and Miss Louise Hill, Honorary President of the Branch, were greeted by Major R. K. Malott, (Curator of Collections, Canadian War Museum in Ottawa). Upon their arrival Mr. L. F. Murray, Director of the Canadian War Museum and organizer of the conference invited them to attend dinner. His Honour the Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick, Dr. George Stanley was the speaker. His subject was "Another look at the War of 1812", recounting how the 104th was raised in New Brunswick, proceeding in 1813 on snowshoes to Quebec, and how garrisons were established at Moose Island and along the St. John River.

It was a privilege for Miss Hill and Dr. Everett to attend this large dinner - an evening of perfect arrangements, military surroundings, splendid fare and a pervading interest in history.

### Obituary: **H. Elgin Snider**

Noted genealogist Herbert Elgin Snider, who traced his family tree back seven generations to United Empire Loyalist stock died on November 14, 1982 at age 75. Burial was at Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Toronto.

Mr. Snider was a life member of the Ontario Genealogical Society and belonged to the United Empire Loyalists, Fredericton Branch and the York Pioneers Society.

Born in the Beaches, Toronto, and educated there, he became a supervisor with London Life Insurance Co. During World War II he was stationed with the Royal Canadian Air Force at Calgary where he trained as an accountant. After the war he joined the Canadian Red Cross Society and was chief accountant when he retired in 1968.

It was after his retirement that Snider had time to pursue his roots. He scoured archives in Toronto, Ottawa and the U.S. and eventually wrote a book about his ancestors.

He traced the family back to Jacob Snider who emigrated from Europe in the early 1700s and settled in Pennsylvania. When the American Revolution broke out in 1776, four of Jacob's sons - Martin, Elias, Balthus and Peter - joined the New Jersey Volunteers and fought for the British.

Martin and two of his brothers were captured and sentenced to hang, but all three were subsequently pardoned and paroled. They rejoined the British forces and when the war ended, Martin accompanied the Loyalist migration to settle in 1786 at King's County, N.B.

The Toronto Historical Board has declared the Snider family homestead at 744 Duplex Ave. a historic site and last year Toronto City Council named a parkette at Yonge St. and Lytton Blvd. in honour of the family.

Mr. Snider leaves sons John, Ross, Brian and Stewart and 11 grandchildren.

-Toronto Star

### **1985 June**

**T**he ending of 1984 wrapped up two years of Bi-Centennial celebrations for the Fredericton Branch. During 1983, we celebrated the 200th anniversary of the landing of the Loyalists in New Brunswick and in early June we hosted part of the annual Dominion Convention of the UEL Association. This was the first time it was held outside of Ontario, and Fredericton was the first stop on a three-phase visit to the Maritimes. Our thanks go to Fred Hubbard for a well planned and executed program.

At that time we published a book listing the Loyalist ancestors of our memberships in the UEL Fredericton Branch. This book was prepared by Elizabeth Sewell and Cleadie Barnett. (A few copies are still available at \$7.00, postpaid.) On the suggestion of C. Fred Everett we prepared a float in the July 1 parade, in which members depicted the landing of the Loyalists at St. Anns (now Fredericton).

Our branch erected a large monument in the Old Burial Ground in the heart of Fredericton as a lasting tribute to the Loyalists who came to this area. This idea was submitted several years ago by Elizabeth Sewell, our Branch Genealogist. Those carrying out the project were many: Ernest Friars, Louise Hill and Guy Tufts were on the original committee. Mr. Friars, John Williamson, John Bliss, Roger Nason, C. Fred Everett, and Fred Hubbard all served on the second committee, meeting its completion in time for the October 8, 1983 deadline.

During 1984, we celebrated the 200th anniversary of the formation of the Province of New Brunswick. Our activities included participating in the unveiling of a monument to Edward Winslow, a prominent Loyalist. This was erected by descendants of Mr. Winslow, and took place in the Old Burial Ground in Fredericton.

During the 1984 Dominion Convention in Ontario, Miss Louise Hill (our Honorary President) was presented with a Merit Award by the Dominion Association. It was given in recognition of her many years of interest and service to the study of the Loyalists.

In June our Branch played host to a group, the Active Retirement Association, from New Hampshire, USA. It had contacted us about a visit to N.B., and expressed an interest in getting a "view from the other side," of the Revolutionary War and its aftermath. Along with a tour of several places of interest, we held a luncheon, at which Dr. Wallace Brown, a History Professor and noted author on Loyalist subjects, was the guest speaker.

Again for the July 1 parade, our Branch entered a float having as its theme, the first winter, which was suggested by Beryla Gorham.

The crowning of our year was the Royal Visit on September 25. We were privileged to have an area reserved for the UEL's on the grounds of the Legislative Building. Many members were dressed in period costumes for the occasion.

At the closing meeting on the 6th of October, we acknowledged the generous gift by our life member, Mrs. Ruth Walsh, of a copy of the book, *Loyal She Remains*. Also, a plaque was presented to Elizabeth Sewell for 10 years of service as genealogist to our Branch. Her work included our pre-charter days.

### **1985 December**

**T**he Fredericton Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association has set a goal for each member to bring in at least five new members for the coming year.

The first fall meeting and incidentally the tenth anniversary of the granting of our charter was held on 8 October. David G. Bell, author of *Early Loyalist Saint John* and a newly published book *Newlight Baptist Journals of James Manning and James Innis. 1775-1810*, gave an exceptional talk on "The Rise and Fall of the Hammondites." parts of which were included in his book. This proved to be very interesting to all. Our new vice-president Mr. DeWitt, a young lawyer in Fredericton, gave the toast to the Queen.

### **1986 June**

**T**he Fredericton Branch held a fall meeting at the National Exhibition Centre October 8th on the 10th anniversary of the granting of our Charter. There was a good attendance of members, and invited guests were members of the Sunbury West Historical Society from Fredericton Junction. pro C. Fred Everett, president, conducted the opening ceremonies and Mr. Robert DeWitt vice-president proposed the toast to the Queen.

The guest speaker, David C. Bell, author of several books including *Early Loyalist Saint John, The Origin of New Brunswick Politics 1783-1786*, and his recently published book *New Light Baptist Journals of James Manning and James Innis 1775-1810.*, gave an interesting indepth talk on "The Rise and Fall of the

Hammondites" parts of which are included in his latest book. Mr. Bell was thanked by Mr. Fred W. Hubbard for the detailed insight he gave into this little known aspect of New Brunswick history.

Mr. Lorne Duplisea was presented his membership certificate by Mrs. H.H. Sewell, branch genealogist, but Mrs. Robert Letson Roy, Jr. was absent for her certificate. Miss Beryla Gorham, our historian and a very active member has taken up residence in Saint John. We wish her well.

The meeting closed with retiring the Loyalist Flag by Mrs. Julia M. Walker after which refreshments were served by Mrs. F.W. Hubbard and several members.

Mr. Guy Tufts, a long time member of our branch passed away at age 90 on 23 November 1985. We extend sympathy to the family especially to his daughter Mrs. Leota Nason and grandsons Mr. Gordon Tufts and Mr. William (Hill) Tufts, members of this branch.

On 28 October the United Empire Loyalists were honoured by a City of Fredericton Bicentennial commemorative service (celebrating 200 years as Provincial Capital) held at the Old Loyalist Provincials' Burial Ground on Waterloo Row. Many interested citizens gathered, some in Loyalist costumes. Flags flown for the ceremony were the Queen Ann Jack, now called the Loyalist Flag, the Union Jack and the City of Fredericton Flag. Dr. David Facey-Crowther, professor of history at the University of New Brunswick and Dr. C. Fred Everett addressed the gathering. A tablet was unveiled which gives the history of the Loyalist Provincials Burial Ground. Following the unveiling, those attending moved up the hill to the Loyalist Memorial in the Burial Ground where Rev. Canon Alvin Hawkes offered a Prayer of Remembrance. Miss Louise Hill, Honorary President, laid a wreath at the foot of the Memorial on behalf of the Fredericton Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada. Mayor Elbridge laid a wreath on behalf of the City. Mr. Wayne Knorr of the Fredericton Bicentennial Committee coordinated the event.

### **1986 December**

The annual meeting of the Fredericton Branch on May 29 was held in the Exhibition Centre with the president, Fred Everett, in the chair.

It has been suggested that our branch have a school essay contest to support the selection of a new branch name that will be more connected with the Loyalists. This would involve High School and Junior High District 26 of Fredericton.

Our genealogist Mrs. Elizabeth Sewell has reported that the branch now has 126 members with 4 applications being processed.

At an earlier meeting 'Dr. Tim Dilworth spoke to us on "Old New Brunswick Furniture". We are to distinguish between Loyalist furniture brought in and furniture made here.

At the meeting our honorary president. Miss Louise Hill. noted author of books on the Loyalists of New Brunswick, Historical Homes of Fredericton and The Old Burying Ground, was presented a lovely birthday cake in honour of her birthday.

### **1989 December**

The Hon. Muriel McQueen Fergusson has kindly accepted the invitation to be Patron of the Fredericton Branch and was present at the largely attended meeting held 3 May 1989.

The Hon. Muriel McQueen Fergusson graduated from Mount Allison University with a B.A., and was admitted to the Bar of New Brunswick in 1925.

In 1926 she married Aubrey Fergusson. Their home was in Grand Falls, N.R. His health deteriorated as a result of his service in W.W. I. He died in 1942. She was Judge of Probate, Clerk of the County and Circuit Courts, and Solicitor of the Town of Grand Falls, and in 1944 was appointed Enforcement Counsel in New Brunswick of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. She was Fredericton's first Lady Alderman. In 1953 she was the first Lady Senator, and became the first Lady Speaker of the Senate.

When Senator Fergusson decided to retire in 1976 a long list of her achievements was compiled; President, Chairman, Former President, Hon. President, Hon. Member and the Countries listed which she had visited as a Representative of Canada.

The Fredericton Branch is extremely fortunate in having a Patron of National renown. Let us all keep healthy and pay our annual dues so we can participate at her 100th birthday.

By Louise Hill, Fredericton

### **1992 Spring**

The renowned New Brunswick fall foliage was at its peak and the weather sunny and warm on Sunday, October 6th, 1991 when the Fredericton Branch, United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, held a joint meeting with the Saint John Branch at Gagetown, New Brunswick.

Gagetown is a charming village situated on Gagetown Creek, a branch of the Saint John river. It was established by the United Empire Loyalists when they came to New Brunswick in 1783 and has interesting homes of that era. One is owned by Reverend David Staples, U.E., of the Fredericton Branch. His house has recently been renovated and furnished in a suitable, gracious, Loyalist style.

Another interesting building in Gagetown is the Sir Leonard Tilley museum. Sir Leonard Tilley was one of the Fathers of Confederation and came from Gagetown. His home has been made into a Museum and is a popular tourist attraction.

The Saint John members drove "up river" from Saint John and the Fredericton members drove "down river" from Fredericton and the group of approximately seventy people enjoyed this scenic drive. A tour of the Museum was followed by a reception and tea at the elegant Gagetown home of Reverend David Staples UE.

It was a pleasure to welcome National President Nethercott UE. to our meeting. He addressed the gathering bringing members up-to-date on U.E.L.A.C news.

Fredericton Branch President Dr. Marc Smith and Saint John former President Dr. Munroe Bourne also spoke to the group expressing appreciation for Mr. Nethercott's visit and the tour and reception.

Everyone enjoyed the trip to Gagetown.

By Mrs. Lucy Hubbard, Publicity Chairman, Fredericton, N.B. Branch.

## 1992 Fall

### Celebrating 125

About 100 people celebrated Canada's 125th anniversary with a garden party at the Fred Everett Farm, Island View, NB, on July 25th, 1992. All enjoyed the view overlooking the Saint John River and interesting perennial gardens.

The property was decorated with "Celebrate 125" posters and flags including the Red Ensign, the Union Jack, the Loyalist flag and the Canadian Red Maple Leaf flag. Numerous enquiries about the flags were directed to Fred Everett who is most knowledgeable about his collection.

The guests were free to roam the house and view the antique furniture. Outside we were served refreshments by servers dressed in attractive Loyalist costumes.

Dr. Marc Smith, President of the Fredericton Branch, gave a graceful speech thanking Fred and Kit Everett for their hospitality. He welcomed members of the York Sunbury Historical Society, the Genealogical Society of Fredericton, Ian and Shirley Smith, members of the Sir John Johnson and Fredericton UEL branches and their guests. Dr. Smith acknowledged the presence of Miss Louise Hill who was one of the founders of the Fredericton Branch and Honourary President. He presented a birthday card signed by all the UEL members to Mrs. Betty Sewell, the branch genealogist.

By Lucy Hubbard, Publicity Chairman

### A Year's Review

September 1991 our meeting included discussion of the restoration of Old Government House and plans for a joint meeting with the St. John NB Branch.

October 1991, seventy five members from Fredericton and St. John NB branches enjoyed a tour of the Sir Leonard Tilley Museum at Gagetown, NB, followed by a reception at the Loyalist home of Rev. David Staples, U.E.

November 1991, Dr. William Spray, Professor of History, St. Thomas University, spoke on *Varieties of Loyalists*. Senator Muriel Ferguson, Patron, and Miss Louise Hill attended.

February 1992, Dr. David Facey-Crowther of Memorial University, Newfoundland, spoke on the *King's American Regiment*. He has commenced research on a book on Loyalist Regiments.

March 1992, Dr. T. William Acheson, Professor of History, University of NB, spoke on *Religion and Money in Loyalist Settlements*.

May 18 1992, Dr. Marc Smith attended the Loyalist Day Celebrations and Dinner in Saint John, NB, sponsored by the Saint John Branch.

September 1992, our speaker was Ms. Dorothy Perkyns of Mount St. Vincent University, Halifax, NS, author of *Rachel's Revolution*, a Loyalist mystery fiction for young adults.

By Mrs. Lucy Hubbard, Publicity Chairman

## 1994 Spring

On Sunday, September 26, a very enjoyable social gathering of members of the Fredericton and New Brunswick Branches was held in Gagetown, N.B. Loyalists had the opportunity to tour the Tilley home (now a county museum) and the Queens County Courthouse (currently under restoration by the local historical association). Finally, refreshments were made available at "Claremont", the former home of the Loyalist de Vebers, and now the home and studio of Alleyne Coombes.

On Tuesday, November 9, a regular meeting of the Fredericton Branch was held at the Provincial Archives on the campus of the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton. Special guest for the occasion was Dr. Wallace Brown, Professor of History at U.N.B., and an honorary vice-president of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, who spoke on "George Washington and the Loyalists". On Saturday, November 20, members of the New Brunswick (Saint John) Branch will be guests at the home of the Rev. David R. Staples, Anglican Rector of Rothesay, N.B. The Rev. Staples, a member of the Fredericton Branch, had addressed the New Brunswick branch at its annual Loyalist Day Banquet on May 18, and had invited members to his rectory to view his collection of antiques and other artifacts of Loyalist New Brunswick.

Finally it is my understanding that the Halifax-Dartmouth Branch is prepared to undertake the hosting of the Annual Dominion Convention at Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, during the month of May, 1996. Further details will be reported about this by the regional councillor, Mr. Lewis Perry.

By (Rev.) Marc Smith UE, Vice-President (Atlantic)

### Loyalists Gather

The Fredericton Branch sponsored the annual joint meeting with the Saint John Branch in Gagetown, which was settled by Loyalists in 1783 and has many places of historic interest.

Fifty members toured the Sir Leonard Tilley Museum, the Sunbury Court House and the Art Gallery, followed by tea at Alleyne Coombes Loyalist home "Claremont" on the banks of the Gagetown River. Past president of the Saint John Branch, Elizabeth Hoyt Prescott, QC and Eleanor Allen, president of the Fredericton Branch poured tea and coffee. President of the Saint John Branch, Wallace MacMurray, addressed the group expressing the thanks of all present to Mrs. Coombes and the Fredericton Branch for a most informative and enjoyable day.

## 1995 Fall

### Flag Raising [from *The Daily Gleaner*, 19 May 1995]

The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, Fredericton Branch, sponsored the raising of the "Union Flag" at the Legislative Assembly yesterday.

In 1783 many people loyal to Britain came by ship to Nova Scotia and Saint John on 18 May 1783. Today, May 18th, is celebrated as Loyalist Day in honour of the early Loyalists.

### Further News from Fredericton Branch

The Fredericton Branch has had another successful year under the able presidency of Dr. Blair Orser.

The Branch meets in the faculty lounge of St. Thomas University, Fredericton. The opening meeting was held on September 27, 1994. Darrel Butler, Chief Curator at Kings Landing gave an interesting talk entitled Loyalist Material: Legacy to New Brunswick.

Each year in October the Saint John and Fredericton Branches hold a joint meeting. This year the Saint John Branch was host and the meeting was held in Saint Andrews on October 8, 1994. A tour of historic sites was followed by a gracious reception and tea at the home of Mrs. Joan Irving.

November 8, 1994 Dr. Sheila Andrews spoke on a Reading List for Loyalist Ladies discussing the literature available to Loyalist women.

March 22, 1995 Professor David Facey-Crowther, who is in the process of writing a book on the Loyal American Regiment, spoke on Officers and Men The Raising of a Provincial Corps. In the research he is doing for his book, Professor Facey-Crowther is encountering many unusual personages.

At our annual meeting, held May 9, 1995, the Executive was voted in and Mr. Harold Fanjoy spoke on Loyalist Huguenots. Many of us were surprised to find that some of our ancestors originally came from France and fled to the United Kingdom or America to escape religious persecution.

On May 18, 1995 an important event occurred. For the first time in Fredericton the Loyalist Flags were raised at City Hall and at the Legislative Assembly in Celebration of Loyalist Day. These will now be flown each year on May 18 to celebrate the landing of the Loyalists.

By Mrs. Lucy Hubbard, Publicity Chairman, Fredericton Branch

## **1996 Spring**

**O**n Saturday, October 7th, 1995 at King's Landing Historical Settlement Prince William, NB, 18 miles upriver from Fredericton, the annual joint meeting of the Fredericton Branch and the New Brunswick Branch from Saint John, was held.

The renowned Saint John River Valley was ablaze with autumn colour. Everyone enjoyed the drive to King's Landing amidst the beautiful varied shades of golden and red leaves interspersed with the dark green of the evergreens.

The large group gathered at the New Brunswick Heritage Building on the King's Landing site. In the building are stored antiques of every sort for use at King's Landing and the soon to be restored Government House in Fredericton. Repairs are done here and then the antiques are placed in the proper atmospheric storage.

Darrell Butler, the Chief Curator at King's Landing, led the group through the various rooms explaining the history and significance of the various pieces.

As well as the group from Saint John, a Loyalist descendant from Graham Texas was present, Mrs. Louise Street Witkowski. Her ancestor Samuel Denny Street was a prominent Loyalist in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

Following the tour the group was a delicious high tea in a secluded alcove of the on-site Axe and Plough Restaurant. Mr. Wallace P. MacMurray, President and Ms. Francis Morrissey, Genealogist of the Saint John Branch, expressed their thanks and appreciation for the most successful joint meeting.

On 14 November 1995 our first regular meeting was held. Various matters were discussed and Dr. Blair Orser gave a report on the Maritime Executive Meeting held at Fort Beausejour, NB in July. We are all looking forward to the 1996 Convention in Halifax, NS.

Our speaker was Professor Eileen Wallace, Department of Education (retired). An intrepid and knowledgeable traveller and a skilled photographer, Professor Wallace gave an interesting and well-illustrated talk on Sweden, Finland and Denmark.

The next meeting will be held in March 1996.

By Mrs. Lucy Hubbard, Publicity Chairman, Fredericton Branch

## 1996 Fall

We have had interesting speakers in 1996. The first meeting was held Tuesday, March 12th, 1996 at the National Exhibition Centre on Queen Street. Mary Allwood was the guest speaker. She is a descendant of prominent Loyalist Edward Winslow, the man responsible for the formation of the Province of New Brunswick in 1784. Mary Allwood spoke on the history of the Winslow Family originally from Plymouth, Mass. The Winslows sailed from England on the Mayflower.

Our next meeting was Tuesday, May 14th, 1996. This was also our Annual Meeting when elections were held. We are pleased that Dr. Blair Orser will serve as President 1996-1997.

John Claus, History Post Graduate student spoke on Officers of Delancy Brigade. a Loyalist Regiment.

On May 18, 1996 the Loyalist Flags were flown from the Legislature and from City Hall to celebrate the Landing of the Loyalists, 1783.

To date in 1996 Membership Certificates have been presented to the following: Willa Albright - Ancestor Roger Barton Gerald V. Allen - Ancestor Michael Dennison Emma Hawks - Ancestor Lott Paterson Ronald Hawks - Ancestor Lott Paterson Charles MacDonald - Ancestor Henry Erb (8th Certificate) Robert Renouf - Ancestor Thomas Shearer

The following delegates attended the Convention in Halifax, NS in June 1996: Dr. Blair Orser and wife Anne, Dr. the Reverend Mark Smith, George Hayward and wife, Fred and Kit Everett, Andrew Gunter and Betty Sewell. Everyone had a most enjoyable time in Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Saint John, New Brunswick.

Dr. the Reverend Mark Smith was elected Parliamentarian and Dr. Blair Orser was appointed to the Dominion Council.

We look forward to a successful 1996-1997 under the able guidance of our President, Dr. Blair Orser, UE.

By Lucy Hubbard, Publicity Chairman, Fredericton Branch.

## **Isabel Louise Hill (1901-1996)**

Author, former librarian at the New Brunswick Legislature. Born 7 March 1901, in Niagara Falls, Ontario; died 14 Oct. 1996, in Fredericton, aged 95.

Isabel Louise Hill was the last person to be listed as "Miss" in the Fredericton phone book. All efforts by the local telephone authorities to warn her of the contemporary hazards of identifying her sex went for naught: Miss Hill she had been since she came of age in 1919, and Miss Hill- one of Fredericton's most venerable personalities - she would remain.

The only offspring of General Frederic William Hill, CB, CMG, DSO, and his wife, Henrietta Johnston, she grew up near the parade ground and retained vivid memories of her father leaving for Europe at the onset of the First World War. She was a dutiful daughter and never really left home, loyally caring for her father for years after her mother died.

Although she was born in Ontario, most of her life was spent in Fredericton, where the family moved at war's end. There, Gen. Hill was appointed the last chief commissioner of the New Brunswick Provincial Police. When he retired, the force was disbanded and the government began contracting the services of the RCMP.

For many years before her own retirement in the 1960s, she was the librarian at the New Brunswick Legislature and was a well-remembered figure. She had a witty, sometimes sharp tongue which endeared her to many, but vexed a few others. The painter Mary Pratt, whose father was once Speaker of the New Brunswick Legislature, remembers once taking her young children to Miss Hill's house on Waterloo Row to pay their respects.

"She dismissed us on her doorstep in less than a minute. She said she wasn't seeing people for the moment because she was studying the Russian Revolution. And that was that!"

But Ms. Pratt also recalls that it was Miss Hill who first showed her the huge Audubon Society books of bird drawings, which excited her early desire to draw.

A Tory romantic by instinct (her credo, she once declared, was "Fear God, Honour the Queen, Love the Land"). Miss Hill nevertheless decided in her 80s that the premier, Richard Hatfield, had abandoned the political principles she held dear, and during his last election campaign she would tell anyone who cared to listen how badly he would be defeated.

On election night, when it became clear that Mr. Hatfield had lost every seat, including his own, and that the provincial Conservative Party had been annihilated, she was asked whether she was surprised by the scope of the catastrophe.

"I was," she was widely reported as saying. "I never expected him to do as well as he did."

Her passion was Loyalist history, and the English-speaking settlers in New Brunswick who had fled the American Revolution at the end of the 18th century. A devout monarchist and Low-Church Anglican (to the end of her days, she considered any one who attended more than two communion services a year guilty of excessive religiosity), Miss Hill lived a life of simplicity and delightfully accruing eccentricity.

She was my own remarkable cousin, and I admired her enormously. The author of six books of local and Loyalist history (the last published in 1993 during her 92nd year), she had nearly finished a seventh on the history of the Old Burying Ground in Fredericton when she died after an illness of only a few days. Just a few years ago, we went for what turned out to be her last walk through that beloved cemetery. She was on a bit of a rant about the inadequate upkeep of the grounds when she spied a large weed that had grown up in front of the final resting place of one of her favourite Loyalists. I can't remember the name, but it was a soldier, so she had a special affection for him.

As she recited all his pertinent dates and relatives and business dealings, transporting me back to the 18th and early 19th centuries as if it were yesterday, she aimed her walking stick at the weed and then tried quite dramatically to smite it a mighty whack.

"Missed," she said in disgust. "I wish it had been the gardeners I hit. "

I asked her whether she felt anyone in Canada still cared about the Loyalists.  
"Care?" she asked, a little angrily, and then she paused a long time. It crossed my mind that the wrath of God was about to descend upon me, but she was only trying to think of the right answer. My cousin Louise always liked a pointed conversation.

She pushed her stick into the heart of the weed and ground it into the earth.  
"I care."

by John Fraser

*Editor's Note: This obituary of Fredericton Branch's famous member is from The Globe & Mail. 17 Oct. 1996 In addition to having been Miss Hill's cousin, John Fraser is Master of Massey College in Toronto and the author of Stolen China.*

## 1997 Spring

**T**here was an excellent attendance from the Fredericton and Saint John Branches of the United Empire Loyalist Association of Canada at the joint meeting held in Saint John, Saturday, October 19th, 1996.

Commencing at 10:30 a.m. at the Stone Church on Carleton Street, the group, led by Mr. Wallace MacMurray, Saint John past President, toured the historic church, Loyalist House on Union Street, the restored Loyalist Graveyard on Sydney Street and historic Trinity Church on Charlotte Street.

A delicious lunch was served at Trinity Church Hall. The President of the NB Branch of Saint John, Ms. Frances Morrissey, welcomed the Fredericton group. The President of the Fredericton Branch, Dr. Blair Orser, responded and thanked Saint John for their gracious hospitality.

Following the luncheon, the group toured the NB Museum in Market Square where guided tours of the Loyalist and Marine sections were provided. It was a most interesting, informative program.

At 3:00 p.m. a joint business meeting was held to discuss mutual concerns of both Branches. A tribute was paid to the late Miss Louise Hill, Honorary President and Founder of the Fredericton Branch.

The Fredericton Branch held a New Members Night, Wednesday, November 13th, 1996 in the Faculty Lounge, Edmund Casey Hall, St. Thomas University. Dr. Blair Orser, the President, was in the chair.

Authorization has been given for the purchase of two new Loyalist flags to be flown on Loyalist Day, 18 May 1997, at City Hall and the Legislative Building.

The new dues structure was discussed and passed. The dues are payable by December 1996. Tribute was paid to Miss Louise Hill who died recently. Miss Hill was the founder of the Fredericton Branch.

Betty Sewell, genealogist for the Fredericton Branch U.E.L. presented Certificates to the new members giving the ancestor of each new member. They are:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Loyalist Ancestor</u>
Hilda Mae Bartlett	Capt. Benjamin Bradford
Barbara Jean Craig	Lieut. John Wightman
Daryl Currie	Joshua Currie
George Hayward	Francis Drake
(2nd Certificate)	

Mary L. McCullough	Andrew Smith
Ann Hayes Orser	Capt. Simon Baxter and Peter Snider
Beatrice Leone Schleyer	Samuel Smith
Wendell Fulton	Justus Sherwood
(Transferring from Upper Canada Branch)	
Eleanor Allen	John Yerxa
(2nd Certificate)	
Frances Frost	Michael Dennison
Virginia Bjerkelund	Col. Beverley Robinson

Mr. Wendell Fulton, diplomat, lawyer, politician and travel consultant, was guest speaker.

Mr. Fulton discussed the Loyalist contingent of thousands that landed in Saint John in 1783 following the American Revolution. The Loyalists brought with them democratic principles and the rule of law. They created the Province of New Brunswick in 1784. Their influence has been profound in the political, educational and business life of New Brunswick up to this day.

Mr. Fulton suggested that the Fredericton Branch design a home page for the Internet to reach a wider audience. Mr. Fulton was thanked by Dr., the Reverend Marc Smith. The next meeting will be held in March 1997.

By Lucy Hubbard, Publicity Chairman, Fredericton Branch

### **1997 Fall**

**T**wo meetings of the Fredericton Branch of the United Empire Loyalists Association of Canada were held in the first six months of 1997, both presided over by Dr. Brian Orser, President.

At the first meeting on March 12 Julia Walker, branch historian, was asked to prepare a history of the early days of the Fredericton Branch and Betty Sewell was named chairperson of the nominating committee to prepare a new slate of officers to be presented at the next meeting.

Guest speaker for the evening was Christopher Blair, a graduate student in history at the University of New Brunswick. He gave a most interesting talk about an archaeological dig on Bliss Island which is three miles southwest of Black's Harbour in the Charlotte County area of the Bay of Fundy. Loyalist Samuel Bliss lived there between 1783-1807 and many interesting artifacts have been found. Further archaeological studies of Bliss Island and of other islands nearby have been planned.

The Annual Meeting of the Branch was held on May 14. When the Union Flag was brought forward, one minute's silence was observed in memory of five members deceased since the last annual meeting. In response to roll call, each member present named the Loyalist ancestor from which his/her genealogy was traced. Genealogist Betty Sewell reported that the Branch had one of its most successful years of growth with fourteen new members completing their pedigrees. The new slate of officers was presented by Betty Sewell, chairperson of the nominating committee.

The guest speaker was Calvin Craig who presented a fascinating account of the 84th Regiment of Foot (Royal Highland Emigrants) of which his great, great, great grandfather was a member.

Having been raised in North and South Carolina, the 84th was distinguished as being the only "provincial corps" (as the loyal regiments raised in the colonies were styled) which ever became part of the British army.

Appreciative laughter responded to a statement that one of the requirements for enlistment in the Regiment was that each man had to have at least two teeth which met.

It wasn't until 1776 that the 648 members in each battalion were issued proper uniforms, which included the famous kilts which proved to be highly impractical in the deep snows of North American winters. This was rectified, but not until 1780, when Lt. General Frederick Haldimand wrote to the seat of government in Quebec for breeches.

Five companies of the 84th Regiment of Foot, which were stationed in New York, served in the southern campaign of the Revolutionary War. The 84th Regiment was also stationed at Fort Howe, Fort Cumberland, Fort Edward, Fort Anne, and other points, including Newfoundland. It was disbanded at Halifax in 1783.

John Craig served in the 84th Regiment from 1781 to 1783. Two hundred years later, one of his descendants has been keeping the peace in Nova Scotia for twenty-two years, namely, recently retired RCMP officer, Calvin Craig, who has returned to the land of his ancestors at Bonny River where the Craigs have lived since 1785.

Each member of the 84th Regiment was promised 200 acres of land. Eleven of them received grants in St. George, others got grants primarily in Hants County, Nova Scotia.

The land granted to Lt. Samuel Bliss on an island in Letang Harbour, which is south of St. George, has recently been located.

Gen. Hugh MacKay of the Queens Rangers was also given a grant of land at Bonny River.

In conclusion Mr. Craig noted that along the roads of North Carolina today, plaques mark the route which the United Empire Loyalists took north to New York.

Fredericton Branch member Dr. Marc Smith attended the National Convention held in Winnipeg, June 5-8 in his position as Parliamentarian of the National Council.

By H. May Bartlett, Publicity Chairperson

## **1998 Spring**

**T**wo meetings were held during the last six months of 1997. In October, a joint meeting with the New Brunswick Branch UELAC held in York-Sunbury Historical Society Museum in Officers' Square, Fredericton, featured a guided tour.

The building was once the officers' quarters for British battalions posted herewhen the city was a military outpost. Highlights: story of Loyalists who fled to New Brunswick after the American Revolution; rooms where subalterns huddled by the fire in 1840; a walk through a World War I Trench; the famous 42pound Coleman Frog, an amphibian found in nearby Killarney Lake and kept as a family pet; a room devoted to French-speaking pioneers, the Acadians, and a Victorian parlour filled with bric-a-brac; see a penny farthing bicycle, a collection of surgical instruments which belonged to a local doctor, and the delicately beaded wedding dress worn in 1900 by Lady Ashburnham, wife of the Lieutenant Governor. Items in this personal and eclectic display were donated by descendants of Fredericton and area families.

Mrs. Kathryn Hilder, Reference Librarian of the Harriet Irving Library at the University of New Brunswick, spoke at the second meeting, held on St. Thomas University campus. Her presentation on the resources on Loyalist history at UNB is of particular interest to members of the United Empire Loyalists' Association.

The Loyalist Collection, unique in Canada, is a special collection on microfilm of North American colonial and early Canadian primary sources from approximately 1760 to 1840, on the American Revolution and the early years of Loyalist settlement in British North America.

The collection, begun in the early 1970s, contains approximately 3,000 reels of microfilm and 700 microfiche. It contains only original sources such as correspondence, muster rolls, church registers and public records arranged in five categories: Church Records; Family Papers; Military Records; Public Records and Special Collections.

An inventory is in progress and may be accessed on the World Wide Web: <http://www.lib.unb.ca/collections/loyalist>.

By H. May Bartlett, Publicity Chair.

## **1999 Spring**

1998 - A good year? Yes, a very good year - interesting and instructive.

All meetings are opened with the marching in of the Loyalist Flag and are closed by the withdrawal of the same. This ceremony is performed by Branch Sergeant-at-Arms, Charles MacDonald.

The first meeting of 1998 featured an address by Pattie Brennan, the coordinator of "Fredericton 150", a series of activities set up to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Act of Incorporation of the city in March 1848. Preceded by an historical revue depicting some special feature of each decade 1848 - 1998, the 150 days between May 21 and October 17 were filled with art exhibits, an extensive photo display, publicity items on local radio and TV stations, a golf tournament, special presentations by many groups and organizations in the city, and climaxed by a gala ball in the Sheraton Hotel. These events have been of particular interest to Branch members as Loyalists had been heavily involved in the founding and development of the city.

At the annual meeting in May a new slate of officers was elected for the 1998 1999 year: President, Calvin Craig; Past President, Dr. Blair Orser; First Vice-President, Wendell Fulton; Treasurer, David Underhill; Recording Secretary, Eleanor Allen; Membership Chairman, George Hayward; Genealogist, Anne Orser; Historian, Elizabeth Sewell; Publicity Chair, May Bartlett; Social Convener, Thelma Everett; Sergeant-at-Arms, Charles MacDonald.

Four new members joined the Branch this past year: J. Eleanor McCarthy and her sons, Brian and Peter McCarthy, and Gail Rae Carter. One member, Eleanor Allen, received a second certificate.

Members were most happy to welcome Mrs. Bernice Flett, the National President of the Association to this meeting. She presented a detailed and encouraging report on the work of the Association at the national level. She performed the ceremony of transferring the President's Chain of Office from Dr. Blair Orser, out-going President, to Mr. Calvin Craig, President. She later attended the funeral of a recently deceased founding member, Mrs Julia Walker, in whose memory a donation was made to the National Presidential Trust Fund for prizes to middle school students who have submitted essays on topics related

to the contribution of United Empire Loyalists to Canadian History. Mrs. Walker's name will also be inscribed in the National Book of Remembrance.

Branch members who attended the Annual General Meeting of the National Association in Kingston in June included Dr. Blair Orser, Dr. Marc Smith and Andrew Gunter.

Fall events included a joint meeting with the New Brunswick Branch in Saint John in September and a local Branch meeting in October during which membership certificates were presented to William M. F. Price, two to Mrs. Mary McCullough and one in memoriam to the late Dr. Chesley Smith. Wendell Fulton addressed this meeting on the history and function of the 169-year-old, Old Government House including the various renovations and innovations that have been made over the years. It is presently being readied to serve as residence and offices for the lieutenant-governor and additional government offices.

At the final meeting of 1998, Mrs Elizabeth Sewell announced that she had e-mailed the report of the October meeting to President Edward Scott, who in turn had e-mailed it to UELAC members across Canada who had e-mail addresses. This was a first for the Fredericton Branch. In recognition of many years of devoted service to the Fredericton Branch, Mrs. Sewell has been made a life member of the Branch. The visiting speaker was Dr. William Spray of the faculty of St. Thomas University who spoke on the topic of "The Loyal Blacks" who emigrated in large numbers to the Maritimes following the American Revolution and have proved such a fine addition to the general population.

By H. May Bartlett, Branch Publicity Chair

### 1999 Fall

Sometimes the weather determines what the Fredericton Branch will do. This was the case on January 13, 1999 when Dr. David Bell of the Faculty of Law of UNB was scheduled to present an address titled, "The Rise and Disappearance of Mormonism in mid-nineteenth Century York County (of New Brunswick)". The weather did not cooperate and the meeting was cancelled. However, Dr. Bell kindly consented to make his presentation at the March meeting and gave a most interesting and comprehensive history of early Mormonism in this area.



At the same meeting, Dr. Marc Smith, on behalf of the Branch presented a beautifully inscribed certificate of life membership to charter member, Mrs. Elizabeth Sewell. Her years of dedicated service to the Branch have included, among other responsibilities, the offices of genealogist, membership convenor, head of the telephone committee, correspondent and historian. In addition she has represented the Branch at various national meetings.

The names of three new members for whom certificates have been received were added to the Branch roster: Mrs. Phyllis Christine Bartlett, ancestor Holden Turner; Mrs. Barbara Carroll, ancestor Abraham Masten; and Mr. Lloyd Dutcher was presented, by President Calvin Craig, two certificates for ancestors Colonel Elijah Miles and Peter Day. Nine membership certificates were issued during the year, bringing the Branch roster to sixty-four.

The Regional Vice-President of the National Association, Miss Frances Morrisey of Saint John, addressed the Branch on the Teacher's Handbook for the study of the Loyalists developed in Ontario for use in the public schools there. She displayed and explained the Coat of Arms of the UEL Association of Canada which was granted in 1972.

By H. May Bartlett, Branch Publicity Chair

## **2000 Fall**

**D**uring the first six months of the new millennium, two meetings of the Fredericton Branch were held in Old Government House.

First Vice-President Wendell Fulton chaired the first meeting in March at which Lt. Governor Marilyn Trenholme Counsell extended a warm welcome to the members present. Fourth and fifth membership certificates were presented to Mrs. Mary L. McCullough who received them through her descent from Robert Merritt UE and John Golding UE. Rev. Donald Burke received his membership certificate too. He is descended from William Burk UE who was the first medical doctor in the Grand Lake NB area. The 'e' has been added to the 'Burk' name since Loyalist days.

George Hayward, Membership Chairman, encouraged members to participate in the National Association's project of compiling a record of the graves of Loyalist ancestors, including photos of the actual gravestones.

The guest speaker of the evening was Kathryn Hilder the author of the Inventory of the Loyalist Collection, now housed in the Harriet Irving Library at the University of New Brunswick, which is the principal Loyalist research centre in and for Canada. The Collection is arranged in five categories of material: Church Records, Family Records, Military Records, Public Records, and Special Collections. She focused on Church Records, explaining access to and use of them in genealogical research. She is an Associate member of Fredericton Branch.

The second meeting of the Branch was held in April under the chairmanship of President Calvin Craig. The program featured an address by Robert Dallion, the administrator of Kings Landing Historical Settlement. He detailed the back ground and history of the Loyalist Regiments. This proved to be a most interesting and informative presentation.

The chief item of business was the election of officers for 2000/2001: President, Charles H. MacDonald, Past President, Calvin L. Craig, First Vice President, Andrew Gunter, Chaplain, Rev. Dr. Marc Smith, Treasurer, Shirley Thome, Recording Secretary, Joan Gunter, Corresponding Secretary, Elizabeth S. Sewell, Membership Chairman, George Hayward, Genealogist, Ann Hayes Orser, Historian, Eleanor Allen, Publicity Officer, H. May Bartlett, Social Convenor, Thelma Everett, and Sergeant at Arms, Lloyd Dutcher.

By H. May Bartlett UE, Publicity Officer

## **2015 Spring**

**D**r. W. Blair Orser, long-time physician and community builder, passed away in Fredericton, on 21 January 2015. He was 89.

Blair, son of Arnold and Edna (Nicholson) Orser, was born in Windsor, New Brunswick, on 16 April 1925. He is survived by his wife of 59 years their four married children and eight grandchildren.



After graduating from the Carleton County Grammar School in 1943, Blair received his B.Sc. (UNB) in 1947, his M.Sc. (University of Western Ontario) in 1949 and an MD (Dalhousie) in 1954. After a short time practising medicine in Saint John, he and his wife moved to Bathurst in 1955 where he practised family medicine until 1971. He became the Medical Officer and later Medical Director at Brunswick Mining and Smelting, retiring in 1988.

Very active in the community and medical fraternity, Blair served as Mayor of Bathurst from 1971 to 1974. His administration implemented a number of major successful initiatives including a modernization of city governance and initiation of large investments in water and treatment facilities that resulted in putting Bathurst years ahead of its counterparts in that area. He was the first chairman of School District 4, a member of the Canadian Forces Militia, President of the New Brunswick Medical Society (1965) and held a number of posts with St. John Ambulance including the role of Provincial Commissioner from 1984 to 1988.

Other community involvement included a very active role in the UNB Associated Alumni. He was a Knight in the Order of St. John, President of the Bathurst Rotary Club, Past President of the Junior Chamber of Commerce and President of the Fredericton Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada.