

# TELLING OUR STORIES

Volume 8

SEPTEMBER 2017

Issue 4



## THE GREAT WAR GALA

EMBROIDERED CARDS:  
UNRAVELING THE PAST

ABORIGINAL  
CONTRIBUTIONS  
FROM THE PEACE

SNEAK PEEK  
OF ARCHIVES WEEK

## OFF TO WAR

THE SOUTH PEACE  
HEEDS THE CALL

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*Cover: Adrien Ponthier de Chamaillard (1886-1916), Second Lieutenant in the French Army, standing in a World War I trench. Adrien served with Gabriel Basly, ca. 1914 (SPRA 164.02.01)*

Note on Photographs: Photographs featured in *Telling Our Stories* are unedited, apart from minimal cropping. In cases where substantial cropping may impact the context of the photograph, this will be noted in the caption.

## A Publication of the South Peace Regional Archives

**Our Vision:** Preserving and Sharing the Past.

**Our Mission:** The purpose of South Peace Regional Archives is to gather, preserve, and share the historical records of municipalities, organizations, businesses, families, and individuals within the region, both now and in the future.

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## Letter from the Editor

This publication of *Telling Our Stories* marks my first issue as Editor. It is clear to me already that the Archives has an incredible team of staff, volunteers, and members. *Telling Our Stories* would not be possible without their continued support.

Although our regular subscribers will notice a new cover design, you will still find the quality content you know and love within these pages. If you are reading this publication for the first time, welcome. *Telling Our Stories* and the success of the Archives depends on you, as a member of the community we serve.

This issue commemorates the South Peace involvement in World War I. As you read these pages, imagine the excitement of representing your country as you enlist in the military (p. 8). Question why it is difficult to identify Aboriginal soldiers (p. 13) or how patriotism might be reflected in a silk card (pg. 14). Finally, consider the role archives play in commemorating the wars of the past (p. 16, 24).

How might your stories intersect with our stories? If the contents of this issue intrigue you, I hope you will consider visiting the Archives, learning more about the Soldiers Memorial, or attending our Great War Gala event. Join us in remembering.

Sincerely,



Alyssa Currie



Above: Soldiers, some injured, sitting in mud behind a trench wall. The soldier holding a stretcher (right) may be Edward Heller, 1916 (SPRA 194.02)

### Take Note: A Sneak Peek at Archives Week

The Archives Society of Alberta is happy to announce its theme for Archives Week 2017: Alberta and the Great War. The theme is a commemoration of the end of World War I. As part of the commemoration, the ASA is creating a themed calendar with images from collections across Alberta. We are very pleased to announce that one of our images is the cover page.

In keeping with this year's theme, we are revamping the community room display at the Grande Prairie Museum. The display will feature archival photographs and documents from our collections that depict the war experience, both at home and overseas. We have also planned a series of blogs to help bring context to archival holdings related to the era and to set the tone for our Great War Gala coming in October. The blogs will be lists of ten books to read, shows, to watch, best fashion trends of the period, trench slang, and more.

THE FRIENDS OF THE ARCHIVES SOCIETY

cordially invite you to attend

THE GREAT WAR

GALA

13 OCTOBER 2017

DINNER LOCAL MUSICAL TALENT DANCING  
COSTUME PAGEANT SILENT & LIVE AUCTION

DOORS OPEN 6:00<sup>PM</sup> DINNER 6:30<sup>PM</sup>

\$100 PER TICKET

\$800 PER TABLE

THE POMEROY HOTEL  
GRANDE BALLROOM

HISTORICAL DRESS ENCOURAGED

# Featured Fonds: Gabriel Basly fonds



Above: Gabriel Basly in World War I French Army uniform, ca. 1914 (SPRA 164.02.05)

**1906-2004. — 2 cm of textual records. — 21 photographs. — 33 postcards.**

## Biographical Sketch

Gabriel (Gaby) Rene Basly was born on March 28, 1885 in Gennevilliers (Seine-St. Denis), France, a district on the Northern edge of Paris. He was the seventh child born to Jules Alexander Basly and Amelie Marie Lecouvreur. His father was “chef d’atelier d’entrepeneur,” a shop foreman in an artisan type workshop. Gaby’s mother had been a widow when she married Jules Basly. She brought two daughters with her: Leontine and Blanch. It was with this second daughter, Blanch Charbonneaux, and her family that Gaby would come to Canada.

When he was 15 years old, Gaby was apprenticed as an electrician to “Compagnie des Chemins de Fer de L’ouest,” (Railway Company of the West) at Champs de Mars. This rail station is situated in the 15th Arrondissement (district) in Paris, south of the Eiffel tower along the Seine.

At the time, young men in France were required to serve in the army for three years, so at the age of 21, Gaby enlisted in an infantry unit at Caen, County Calvados, where he was living with an older brother who was his guardian, his parents already being deceased. When he immigrated to Canada in 1907 with Jules and Blanche (Charbonneaux) Pivert, he notified the French Government about his move and inquired about his army status.

Gaby and the Pivert family took out homesteads in Big Valley, Alberta, about 67 km east of Innisfail. Gaby filed on part S.E. 16-36-9-W4th in 1907 and received his patent for proving up on the homestead in 1911.

In August 1914, Gaby was informed by the French Consulate that he should report for mobilization with his army corps, so with several other young men from Big Valley who were also French, he made his way back to France to “save the motherland.” He was placed in the 17th Company of the 302 Infantry Regiment, and in August-September of 1914 fought in the Battle of Lorraine, which was a disaster for the French. During the next year, the 302 Regiment lost so many of its soldiers that it was dissolved and Gaby was moved to the 311 Infantry Regiment, just in time to fight in the Battle of Verdun (June 1916), where he served as a message carrier.

It was in the Battle of Verdun that Gaby earned his “Croix de Guerre,” an award for bravery. The citation reads, “Basly, Gabriel No. 1156, of 7075 13th Comp. has assured communications with the company, with the greatest disdain for danger under a bombardment of the most violent kind during attacks on the 15th, 16th and 17th of June 1916.”



A postcard from the Gabriel Basly fonds showing Canadian troops in World War I

## Custodial History

The records were preserved by Gabriel Basly’s niece, Paulette Pivert Hrychiw, who deposited them in Grande Prairie Regional Archives in 2004.

## Scope and Content

The fonds consists of military papers, photographs and postcards from Mr. Basly’s time in the French military; leases and records concerning his farm; two photographs of him after

the war; and papers detailing his relationship with Veteran’s Affairs. There is also a paper written by Paulette Hrychiw, based on the papers in his collection and supplemental research, detailing his movements with the French Army and her memories of Uncle Gaby, with whom they lived from 1939 to the 1960s.

Again, because of heavy losses, Gaby was transferred again to the 255 Infantry Regiment, which is the number that appears on his uniform, and in April 1917, he was granted permission to travel back to Canada on a three-week leave.

Gaby never went back to the war. His relatives and friends from Big Valley, who had also returned to France at the outbreak of the war had all decided that they would be fools to return. They had given three years of their lives and lost many good friends and former neighbours from Big Valley.

Gaby settled back into farming, and in 1926 headed for Grande Prairie with the Pivert brothers (Blanche & Jules nephews) to start a new life. There he acquired many horses, working the land with them in the summer and hauling coal in the winter. He also worked as a “Bull Cook” for a lumber camp at Big Mountain.

Gaby died on May 4, 1966 at the age of 80 years. He is buried in the Grande Prairie Municipal Cemetery.

Below: Gabriel Basly at Martincourt: first man on left among French soldiers having dinner in the trenches, ca. 1914 (SPRA 164.02.17)



# Featured Photographs: Off to War



Left: Charles T.M. Turner and Billy Langland, ca. 1915. Charles joined the Peace Time Militia in 1910-1914, and in 1915 he was loaned to the British Imperial Army until the end of World War I. While staying in France he met and married Jeanne Dubois (likely the Jeanette to whom this photo was inscribed). After the war, they moved back to Calgary and in 1920, they came to DeBolt, AB, in search of homesteads. (SPRA 2011.44.04)



Left: A group of World War I enlistees gathered outside of the Pool Room on Grande Prairie's 100th Avenue, ca. 1914 (SPRA 032.08.08.0898)

Below: Harry Tuffill with Maud Shattock and her brother Alf, ca. 1914. Alf was killed during the war. After the war, Harry married Maud and returned to the Peace Country. (SPRA 056.01.085-4)



Left: William J. Noll on horseback leaving to go join World War I. "I leave the ranch to go to war Winter 1917." (SPRA 2014.061.014c)

Bottom left: Five men in World War I uniforms standing on the main street (100 Avenue) of Grande Prairie, 1915 (SPRA 555.04)

Below: The Beaver river boat is carrying freight and men who are going to enlist, ca. 1915 (SPRA 024.01.09.28)



# A Lumberjack Remembers

By Phil Nilsson

*Our serial this year will feature excerpts from A Lumberjack Remembers, written by Phil Nilsson. Phil is the grandson of Peter and Johanna Nilsson, who emigrated from Sweden in 1906. Phil was born on March 8, 1920 in Battle Lake, Alberta to Peter and Johanna's son Nils Hjalmar and his wife Harriet. This excerpt begins in September 1957.*

In late September 1957 we had a lot of rainy wet weather that eventually turned into snow. This shut down all our dirt moving operations because the ground was so saturated with moisture. Earl and I decided we should try to get out to the Kakwa because we couldn't do anything else. We took our Allis Chalmers HD 11 bulldozer, hooked a rubber-tired farm wagon with a flat deck behind it, loaded up with food, bed rolls, a power saw, axes and shovels, took Lloyd Hansen and Ted Rintoul with us and began the slow journey to the Kakwa.

We left late in the afternoon and planned to go as far as the Big Mountain Creek forestry cabin that night. We had permission from the Forestry Service to use the cabin. There was a good crop of partridges that fall, so we took along a .410 gauge shotgun, and by the time we got to the cabin we had enough birds to have a feast for four. I got the job of cleaning and frying them, while the rest prepared the other food, and we fared sumptuously on this fresh meat and other food. We went to bed early, for we knew to make it to the Kakwa the next day would require a real early start the next morning.

After bacon and eggs the next morning we were on our way. We made quite good time (3 to 4 miles per hour) until we got just beyond the Musreau Lake turnoff. There were some windfalls across the road from there onwards. The smaller ones we cut out with the power saw, but every once in a while we would have to unhook the dozer from the wagon and push the larger windfalls out of the road. This

process continued until we got down the second lift of the Kakwa River hill. This was the area where the year before much of the timber had blown down. The opening created by this allowed the wind to have open sweep at the smaller trees along the road and had blown them across it. Because it was already dark and it was only a mile or so to the camp, I decided to walk ahead and get a fire going and get water so when the dozer and wagon arrived we could make something to eat.

It was hard walking in the dark for about half the way to the camp for the windfalls were so thick. There was quite a bit of snow left in this area also, from what must have been a two and a half foot snowfall. When I got to the camp, was I ever in for a surprise! This heavy, wet snowfall had caved in the roof of the 20'x40' office building. In the dark it looked a real mess, really worse than it was. It took the other men over an hour to clear the road and arrive with the food and bed rolls, so I had a hot stove and hot water ready for our evening meal. We soon ate and went to bed because we were all played out from the long day and the hard work.

Early the next day we went out and looked over the rest of the camp and the sawmill. Other than the office building everything was in quite good shape. We had planned the spring before that we would enclose the mill in a building which was 24'x128'. We had sawed the lumber before we left so it was ready for this construction, and we were pleased that the mill had remained plumb and true on its piling base, so we could start building as soon as we arrived with the crew. We found a few washouts in our logging roads, especially on the river hill, but that was a usual spring runoff happening.

We wanted to look at the timber we were going to log the upcoming winter, but before noon that day it started snowing and turned quite miserable. We put the logging plan on hold until the storm would be

over. While we were waiting for the storm to end we decided to try and lift the caved-in roof on the office building. We found the west wall on the building mostly upright and that the east wall was almost flat on the ground with the gable ends pulled in but quite upright. We got a large railroad jack and some square timbers from the mill, crawled into the centre of the caved-in roof, and started jacking it up...

...The fall freeze-up didn't come as we had hoped, so we had to take our crew in by sloop much of the way again. But we did get in there and built the building over the sawmill, and did a lot of other improvements because the weather would not cooperate with the necessary frost we needed to get our logging show underway. The frost finally came about the end of November and we started sawing on December 2. The roads remained poor though, in fact they were so bad most of the crew didn't have their vehicles in camp yet. About one week later we had rain and a chinook, causing a flood, which took the lumber company's bridge out of the Wapiti River. The water remained very high afterwards and the weather stayed warm. Between these two things, a new bridge couldn't be built and the river wouldn't freeze so we would have an ice bridge. We thought we might even be stranded at camp for Christmas that year.

The many hours we spent building this new sawmill started to pay off. Our lumber production was between forty and fifty-five thousand board feet a day that December. We were elated as we saw things starting to turn around economically for us. We were also happy that the weather turned quite cold on about December 20, giving us some hope that we would be able to get home for Christmas...

...The ice bridge was being worked on yet, trying to build the ice thick enough to haul lumber over. Cars and pickups had already been crossing on it. We stopped the trucks on the south side of the river

and went on foot to examine the ice. We decided to send the flat deck truck over the ice first because it was the lightest, and it made it without falling through. We then had all the crew walk across to lighten the second truck, and it also made it. Because I was loaded the heaviest, we decided I should drive out to the island about a third of the way over the river, and then over the last two-thirds of the way we would either tie the steering wheel to keep the truck straight, put it in first gear and let it go on its own until someone would catch it on the north side. The other alternative was to winch it across with the flat deck truck that was already across, so no one would be in it in case it did fall through the ice.

So I ventured very cautiously with the truck towards the island, and when almost there, kaboom, the back end of the truck broke through the ice, but it remained stuck on the ice at a forty-five degree angle with nothing but ice chunks and water below the rear wheels. The ice was like honeycomb and we found out the water was seven feet deep under the truck, more than enough to submerge it if it had completely gone through the ice.

There was a load of bridge planks on the bank, so we carried them, piece by piece, to cover the hole in the ice behind the truck so we could unload the light plant, thereby giving us a chance to get the truck unstuck. With the light plant off and with a lot of chopping to slope the ice so the wheels could climb on top again, and using frozen-in driftwood on the island as an anchor, we winched the truck out. I then drove the truck the rest of the way across the river, not cautiously this time, but as fast as it would go in second gear.



*Phil Nilsson on the right with Don Cissell who was instrumental in urging Phil & Earl to move the sawmill operation to Grande Prairie for better opportunities with the then "Grande Prairie Lumber Company". (Photo courtesy of Fay Brederson)*

# Beaverlodge Bash:

## Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Beaverlodge Experimental Farm

The Beaverlodge Research Farm celebrated 100 years of operations on 14 July with an open house featuring archival displays and a recreation of one of W. D. Albright's lantern slide shows. The open house also featured field plot tours of the station's annual field crop research and visiting research scientists discussing the work at Beaverlodge. The Farm is located near the northwestern Alberta town of Beaverlodge with modern laboratories on 360 acres.

W. D. Albright was instrumental in the development of the Beaverlodge Experimental Farm. In early 1914, Albright wrote to the Director of Dominion Experimental Farms, Dr. J. H. Grisdale, offering to do a few tests on his own farm to increase the amount of knowledge available on crops suitable for the area. He was given grants in 1915 and 1916 to carry out more work and in 1917 the government offered to lease 20 acres of his land and pay him a part-time salary to conduct experimental work, thus establishing the Beaverlodge Dominion Experimental Sub-station. Albright assumed the position of Superintendent on April 1, 1919. The sub-station continued to increase in size and staff in the succeeding years and buildings, including an experimental threshing barn with a bunkroom and office, a silo, log boarding house, garage, greenhouse, portable hog cabins, gothic-roofed barn, bunkhouse, and small staff houses, were gradually added. The Government finally bought the farm (about 318 acres) in 1940 and in 1941 the sub-station achieved full station status.

Various experiments were undertaken at the research station with different types of crops, livestock, and methods, allowing the station to provide suggestions to farmers in the area. Connected with the Beaverlodge sub-station were five illustration stations: two in British Columbia at Baldonnel and Pouce Coupe and three in Alberta at Fairview, Dreau, and High Prairie.

Albright spent his summers visiting most communities

in both the Alberta and British Columbia sections of the Peace River country "attending field days, visiting the five illustration stations to collaborate with their owners and operators" and lecturing, frequently against the backdrop of his lantern slides. Many of the slides were produced from his own photographs.

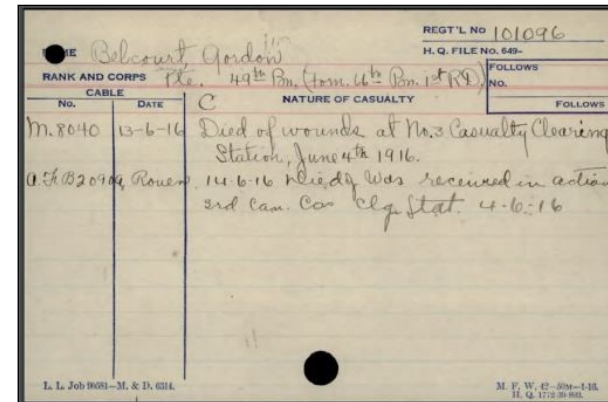
In 1937, Albright went to Ottawa to be editor of the publication *Fifty Years of Progress on Dominion Experimental Farms 1886-1936*. About the station, Albright wrote, "Developing from experiments voluntarily conducted in 1914, the experimental substation at Beaverlodge, Alta., some 100 miles north and 200 west of Edmonton, has in several phases attained almost the stature of a full-fledged station. It serves particularly a population of about 70,000 in the Peace and adjacent territory as well as that in the Athabaska watershed to the southeast and in the north-central portion of British Columbia to the west. It maintains touch, besides, with frontier outposts far down the Mackenzie, so that its field really covers the greater part of a drainage basin of 682,000 square miles—by far the largest area served by any branch station in Canada."

Albright worked until 1945 when illness forced him to retire. He died a year later.

Over the years, many crop varieties were developed at the farm. Today, the Beaverlodge Research Farm and its substation Fort Vermillion, are part of the Lacombe Research Centre. This is the most northern agricultural research establishment in Canada. No longer developing crops, Beaverlodge specializes in the research and development of technology for improved production systems for crops, honey bees and other pollinating insects adapted to environmental conditions in northwestern Canada. Research at the Fort Vermilion site focuses primarily on the adaptation of technologies for this northern agricultural area.

Congratulations to Beaverlodge Research Farm on their productive past. The farm seems well poised to have an enduring and useful future.

# "For King & Kanata" Aboriginal Peoples' Contributions to WWI



It is difficult to know what contribution in numbers Aboriginal People from the South Peace made during World War I. Nationally, out of a population of almost eight million, 620,000 people eventually served in the Canadian Expeditionary Force between 1914 and 1918. Of these, over 4,000 status Indians can be identified. This represents an enlistment rate around 35% of the male, status Indian population. This was close to the general average for the white, male Canadian population.

The number of 4,000 is not an accurate representation of total numbers of Aboriginal men who enlisted in the CEF nationally. Attestation forms did not indicate race so it was only those status Indians who were registered through the Indians agents that are included in this number. The number also does not indicate Métis, Inuit, non-status Indians, or status Indians who 'snuck in' during the early days when the government was not keen to enlist them.

Nationally, notable WWI Aboriginal soldiers include: Corporal Francis Pegahmagabow, Canada's most decorated First Nations soldier and First Nations rights activist; Oliver Milton Martin, a Mohawk airman who went on to become the highest ranking First Nations officer (Brigadier General) in the second world war; and Private Patrick Riel, grandson of Louis Riel. It will take some research to discover who of our War I Veterans

listed in the Soldiers Memorial are of Aboriginal descent but two that we know are Gordon Belcourt and Henry Ferguson.

Private Gordon Belcourt was born at Lac St. Anne to Magloire and Constance Letendre, early Métis settlers to this area. Gordon enlisted at Lake Saskatoon on 17 July 1915. At the time, he owned land on the outskirts of Flying Shot Lake. He joined the 9<sup>th</sup> Reserve Battalion and left for France in April 1916. On 28 September 1915, he put in a request to be transferred from the 9<sup>th</sup> to the 49<sup>th</sup> Regiment. Gordon was wounded in June 1916 (shell or shrapnel wounds to his left side and leg) at the Battle of Mount Sorrel, which was a prelude to the Somme offensive. He was transported to the 3rd Canadian Casualty Clearing Station hospital where he died on 4 June 1916 from the wounds he received. Gordon is buried at Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery in Belgium.

Private Henry Ferguson, son of St. Pierre Ferguson, was born in Grouard on 19 July 1899 (1900?). He enlisted in June of 1918 and served with the 1st Depot Battalion, Alberta Regiment. After the war, Henry filed on a homestead at O-78-5-W6, and on 24 March 1933 he married Marion Christopherson at Christ Church in Grande Prairie. The couple raised eleven children. In 1942, Henry once again enlisted in the army, serving with the Veterans Guard in Lethbridge. The family moved to the Rycroft area after the Second World War. Henry died on October 17, 1980 in Spirit River.

Belcourt and Ferguson are just two examples of local Aboriginal men who joined the fight in WWI. The real numbers most likely match the local average. Research to identify regional Aboriginal soldiers will continue. If you have information that would help us build the biographies for the soldiers on our memorial page, please contact us at [info@southpeacearchives.org](mailto:info@southpeacearchives.org).

# Embroidered Cards: Unravelling the Past



Left: An embroidered card from World War I, "To my dear little friend Jeannie from Bob Leslie with best wishes for a merry Xmas and Happy new year." (SPRA 1996.5.3)

Like Bob Leslie's "Dear Little Friend Jeannie," thousands of Canadians received beautiful hand-embroidered postcards like these from soldiers writing from the trenches of the Great War. It is estimated that over ten million of these cards were produced during the war years.

World War I "silks" as they are known, were hand-stitched onto long roles of silk, usually up to twenty-five designs per roll, then sent to factories for cutting and assembly into card frames. Most postcards, like Jeannie's, were produced in France. While they were designed for mail as postcards, most were sent in protective envelopes. We know this because very few of the cards that survive have postage affixed and most have little writing. This is certainly the case with Jeannie's cards.

Embroidered silk postcards existed as early as the 1900 Paris Exposition but they soared in popularity during the First World War. Machine produced cards were also in existence but their colours were never as

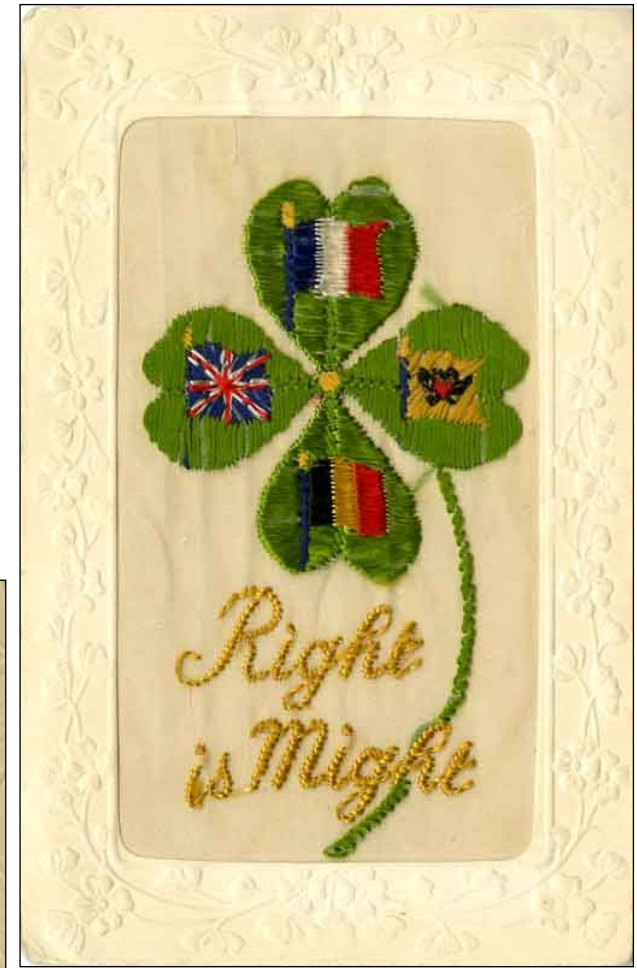
bright and they never achieved the popularity of the hand-stitched cards. The last known production of the hand-embroidered cards was in the mid-1920s.

Prior to the war, flowers were the most popular designs; during the war, regimental badges were most popular, followed by flags. As you can see in these postcards, flags often were embroidered into the larger design. The British and French flags adorn Jeannie's Christmas card, and the flags of Britain, France, Belgium, and I believe Basque, are embedded in the shamrock and butterfly designs. Both the butterfly and shamrock cards include a patriotic slogan and a remembrance slogan. This reflects the most popular themes of the cards created during the war – affection, patriotism, and remembrance.

Bob Leslie sent two of these postcards to Jeannie. We believe he is Pte Robert Bruce Leslie, originally from Scotland. A homesteader in the Peace River area, Leslie enlisted in Calgary in June 1915 and was killed in action in France on 21 August 1917. His body was never found and he is memorialized at Vimy Ridge.

"Jack" Pringle also sent a card to Jeannie. This is likely Lt John Pringle who walked to Edmonton from his Spirit River homestead to enlist in 1914. Finding the Edmonton regiment full, Pringle made his way to Valcartier, Quebec. Rising in the ranks from Pte to Lt, Jack was killed in action in France in 1916 after single-handedly taking out a German machine gun post.

Sadly, we do not know who Jeannie was. These cards are three of many paper artefacts from the Pioneer Museum Society of Grande Prairie & District fonds whose provenance is not clear. She was obviously someone very dear to the men who used their precious free time and money to send her these bright, affectionate messages from the front. If anyone has any clues as to her identity, we would love to hear from you.



Above: This card was sent to Jeannie from Jack P. (John Pringle) in France, 16 February, 1916. According to the message on the reverse, on October 2, 1916 word reached Spirit River of his death in action. (SPRA 1996.5.1)

Left: An embroidered card from World War I. This card was sent from Belgium on 1 July, 1916, "with best love to Jeannie from R.B. Leslie" (SPRA 1996.5.2)



# The Soldiers' Memorial

The South Peace River country of Alberta supplied thousands of recruits for the World Wars. They flocked to enlist, even though it meant a long journey often starting on foot, then by train and boat.

The South Peace Regional Archives is creating an online memorial to the soldiers from the South Peace area who were involved in defending our country. We currently have over nine hundred First World War soldiers listed... and the list is growing.

Many South Peace soldiers were wounded during their time overseas. Some of the injuries were easily visible, leaving the victim with scars, maybe robbing him of a limb. But there were invisible injuries too. "Shell shock" was a phrase coined during World War I

to describe a form of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder that soldiers suffered as a reaction to the heavy bombardment they were under in the trenches. The condition was poorly understood, and sympathy was rare - sufferers were often considered weak or cowardly. Among those diagnosed with this condition were South Peace soldiers **Albert Allard** and **Malcolm Johnston**.

**Albert Allard** was born on April 25, 1894 in St. Roch L'Achigan, Quebec. He came to Donnelly, Alberta in 1914 and filed on a homestead at NE 1-78-21-5. On April 23, 1915, Albert was on a ration party at Ypres when a shell burst close to him, knocking him down. He was not rendered unconscious, but his shoulder was injured. He was invalided to England to be treated for various injuries/illnesses, including shell shock. On May 4, 1915, his Medical Case Sheet read: "much improved, but not really well." Three months later, he was sixteen pounds lighter than his usual weight, and his shoulder was still

somewhat stiff. Worst of all, he was in a very nervous condition, "his whole being quivering all the time." He was sent back to Canada in August of 1915 because of nervous shock. After the war, he sold his land to Dr. Gauthier and returned to Montreal.

*Regimental Number: 26402*

*Rank: Private*

*Branch: 21st Reserve Depot Battalion; 14th Battalion*

**Malcolm Johnston** was born in Selkirk, Manitoba on February 27, 1874. As a young man, Malcolm served with the Canadian Mounted Rifles in the Boer War. After being discharged, he came to the Peace Country and in 1910 settled in Spirit River. In July of 1916, Malcolm enlisted once again in the Canadian army.

While invalided to England in October 1917, he married Lilly Veal Pierce of Kent. In November he was invalided to Canada. Malcolm had suffered from epilepsy since before the war; he suffered from weakness in his right arm and leg; and he had had a brain hemorrhage while in France. On January 4 or 6, 1919, Malcolm died in Edmonton or Ponoka, just a few weeks after the death of his wife. His death was related to his war experience; some sources indicate that the cause was shell shock.

*Regimental Number: 154864*

*Rank: Sapper*

*Branch: 1st Canadian Pioneer Battalion; Canadian Railway Troops*

**For more information on our soldiers, visit <http://southpeacearchives.org/wwi-south-peace-soldiers/>**

**For further reading on shell shock, see [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shell\\_shock](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shell_shock) and [http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/wwone/shellshock\\_01.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/wwone/shellshock_01.shtml)**

## Malcolm Johnston

Malcolm Johnston was born at Lower Fort Garry, Manitoba. His father, James Johnston had come west with Sir John Franklin's expedition, and remained as a pioneer fur trader.

While still in his teens Malcolm enlisted for service with the Canadian Mounted Rifles in the Boer War and when discharged and home again he decided to seek his fortune in the far northlands.

Coming to Athabasca Landing later to Shaftesbury settlement on the Peace River he became imbued with the desire to serve as a missionary to which endeavour he devoted a number of years.

About 1910 he removed to the Spirit River district where his sister and brother-in-law, Mrs. Fred J. H. Bedson and husband were located. In this new field he accomplished much good in his chosen work until the call to arms was heard in 1914. Walking out to Edmonton he enlisted in the Pioneers Regiment and went overseas with the first contingent.

While invalided in England in 1917, he met and in October of that year married Lilly Veale Pearce of Orpington, Kent, England.

Badly shell shocked he was shortly sent home and died in Edmonton hospital on January 4th 1919, a few short weeks following the death of his wife.

## ATONEMENT

By W. D. ALBRIGHT

(Dedicated by the author to the memory of his brother, the late F. S. Albright, B.A., of Calgary, who fell at Passchendaele, October 26, 1917, as a private in the ranks of the C. E. Forces.)

A little lad, he played about the farm,  
Gentle and gently bred, the scion of God-fearing  
country folk.

No British blood they claimed; German and Swiss  
And Holland Dutch they owned,  
Although Canadian-bred for several generations,  
Save for the father's mother, who, of Prussian birth,  
Had come to Canada a little girl and taught  
Her children and grandchildren to revere  
The Fatherland: Had trained them gently  
And had sung the fine old German melodies,  
The rhythmic songs and folk lore of the Rhine,  
Instilling something of the love she felt  
And cherished for her kin.

Yet good Canadians they always were,  
Schooled in the lore of British history  
And all the age-long legacy of British thought,  
Inheritors of Magna Charta and of true  
Canadian democracy; British to the core.

Teuton and Saxon comrades was the theme;  
Blucher and Wellington were in proud memory twinned,  
Blood that flows rich and free  
Forswears allegiance but reluctantly,  
True-hearted patriots hold the old land dear.

When war broke out he was in Britain's capital  
Upon his wedding tour. There at the world's metropolis  
He felt the full, strong beat of British purpose;  
Attended service in Westminster Abbey  
And was stirred with pride to note  
The strong, devout and quiet temper  
Of the race of England.

Returned to Canada; resumed his practice,  
A rising lawyer in a Western town,  
With brilliant future beckoning in his profession  
And perchance in public life,  
Early he grasped the import of the struggle;  
Foresaw the prospect of a universal call;  
And, though repugnant was the soldier's life,  
The thought of carnage and the lust of strife,  
The awful hell of war as waged today,  
He soon resolved to go.  
But his associates, short-manned by many volunteer  
enlistments,  
Were doubly loath to lose his services,  
Yet all the while he felt the call of duty.

The rape of Belgium, Serbia's cruel fate,  
The Lusitania crime, Nurse Cavell's death  
Were stunning blows. To think that Germany  
Should thus defile her honor! This cannot be  
Peace-loving Germany our fathers knew.  
These are demented people, military-mad,  
Drunk with ambition, assuming Might is Right,  
And supplementing Might with cunning and intrigue.  
This menace to the world must be subdued  
By freemen's blood, else Freedom perish,  
Trampled beneath the Junker's iron heel.

And so not British birth nor German heart  
Impelled him to the fray. It were a larger aim  
Than any country. The pulse of human brotherhood,  
Of justice, honor, truth beat through his veins,  
The cosmic soul of Universe, that breaks down prejudice  
And will some day sweep away  
The artificial bounds of Empire and of State  
And will unite the world  
In one grand bond of brotherhood  
In civilization's cause.

Enlisted in a Western regiment, with private rank,  
A splendid factor in recruiting his battalion,  
Promoted soon to sergeantcy. Reverted that he might  
More promptly draft to France to fill a gap  
In gallant Canada's depleted ranks,  
He fell in Flanders, killed at Passchendaele  
In his first action. All one man could he did  
To fight the fight for human liberty,  
Atone for Germany's atrocious crimes  
And make the world safe for democracy.  
He gave his Teuton blood to save the world  
From Prussianism. Could Frank or Celt do more?

He fell in Flanders, but his memory lives  
Resplendent in ten thousand loving hearts,  
For none who knew him but admired the man,  
His sterling character and nature true,  
And many knew the kindness of his heart  
By concrete acts. In life respected;  
Honored in his death; atoned, the honor  
Of the race from which he sprang,  
Praise God, not all is perfidy!

O Canada, remember well and heed:  
Not all your blue blood flows through Saxon veins;  
Not all high purpose crowns the Allies' cause,  
Within the German heart there dwells  
A soul that yet shall live, when,  
Chastened by the introspection of defeat,  
The common people come into their own,  
Their autocratic tyranny dethrone,  
The military mania disown,  
And Wilson's words become of present tense.

O Germany, behold the light of truth:  
The genius of British liberty, that grants dominions  
freedom,  
Cements them in a firm, unflinching aim  
To fight for Freedom. E'en her alien-bred,  
Upon whose aid you counted, not all prove traitors  
For not a few join hands to war against autocracy,  
Legions may dash their columns 'gainst the ranks  
Of freemen, but in vain! The thin red line,  
Now khaki-clad, is valiant as of yore.  
The God of battles fights on Freedom's side.

# Forgotten Triumph: The Battle of Hill 70

By Kaylee Dyck

*O guns, fall silent till the dead men hear  
Above their heads the legions pressing on:  
(These fought their fight in time of bitter fear,  
And died not knowing how the day had gone.)*

*Tell them, O guns, that we have heard their call,  
That we have sworn, and will not turn aside,  
That we will onward till we win or fall,  
That we will keep the faith for which they died.*

*(excerpt from "The Anxious Dead" [1917], believed to be the final poem penned by John McCrae before his death)*

Following the Canadians' remarkable victory at Vimy Ridge, the British High Command decided to attack the coal-mining city of Lens with the purpose of diverting the attention of the German Army away from Passchendaele. The plan was to storm the city directly, but Lieutenant-General Arthur Currie, the newly-appointed commander of the Canadian Corps, knew that such action would be far too costly and of little benefit to the Allies. Lens may have been heavily fortified, but Currie knew that if his men could take control of the high ground surrounding the city, particularly Hill 70, the Germans would have no choice but to counter-attack in order to defend their stronghold. As at Vimy Ridge, Currie's judgement and planning proved to be impeccable once again.

In the early hours of August 15, 1917, Canadian troops began the attack by seizing the trenches

around Hill 70. Though the Germans had predicted the assault quite accurately, most objectives were reached early in the day. By 9am, the enemy had begun to retaliate, but with no success. The high ground of Hill 70 was captured by nightfall. Over the next four days, there were 21 counter-attacks in which the Germans used mustard gas and flamethrowers in addition to machine gun fire and hand-to-hand combat. But the gallant Canadians remained impenetrable - they were not to be shaken.

While later Allied attacks on the city of Lens itself did not prove successful, Lieutenant-General Currie and his men had achieved the desired goal of diverting the Germans' attention away from Passchendaele and weakening their defenses. An estimated 25,000 enemy soldiers were wounded or killed at Hill 70, while Canada suffered approximately 9,000 casualties.

It is rather ironic that this battle was staged in order to simultaneously succeed at Passchendaele, yet it was not until the Canadian troops were deployed from Lens to Passchendaele that Passchendaele was captured. A great tribute to the boys and men who became known as the "Shock Army" or "Storm Troopers" of the British Empire - epithets used not only by the Allies, but by the Germans as well!

To read about the experiences of South Peace soldiers who fought in the Battle of Hill 70, please visit our Soldiers' Memorial page. Here are the names of a few men who were wounded, killed, or decorated during this particular battle: **George Agar, Donald Francis**

Coffey, Andrew Elliot, Henry Jack Head, and Charles William Alfred Herbert.

## Sources:

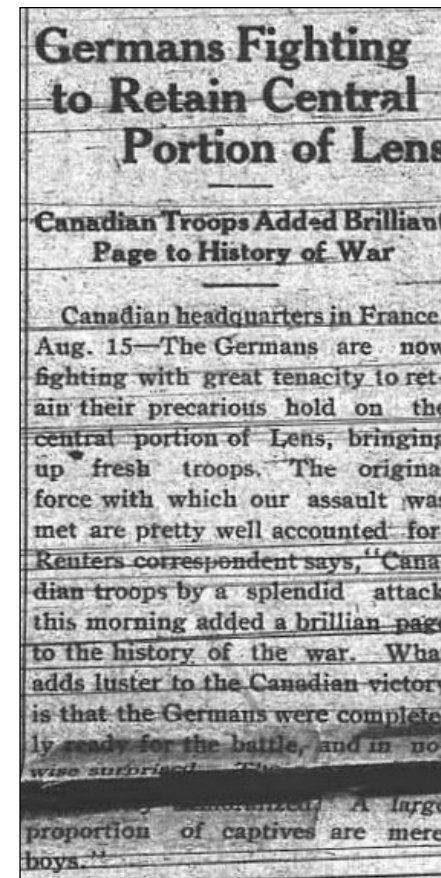
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Grande Prairie Herald, August 21, 1917

## Bzowy Revisited: Reader Contribution

You may remember a soldier by the name of Michael Bzowy mentioned in the December 2016 issue of our newsletter. This column caught the attention of researchers Jean Claude Charlebois and Lloyd Truscott, who shared with us a link to the diary of David Scott, a World War II soldier who served with Mike. Below is an excerpt from David's diary, as he describes his journey to a POW camp near the Polish border:

*Bankau, August 1944: As soon as I got on board I recognised Mike Bzowy, who was at Linton with me and had been shot down a few weeks previously. The trip was scheduled to take three days to Bankau. The worst was the crowded compartments with hard wooden seats. It was definitely not the ideal form of transportation and at night it was torture trying to sleep. The general feeling of the men was good; all were a little excited, for who isn't excited on a train journey through a strange country, even if the circumstances are not the best? The guards were not too bad; they got us hot water and gave us plenty of bread so we were well fed...*

*...At last we arrived at the tiny Bankau Station on Saturday 5th August, 7pm. We walked up the long road from the station preceded by wounded in a farm cart and were amazed to see our new camp. It was in the process of being built; the accommodation was in sheds. There was a goodly crowd watching us entering the camp, for there were quite a lot of us and we formed an entire new section. Mike was put in charge...*

*...Note. Mike Bzowy was a very interesting character. He was a Canadian of the first generation and his parents were Russian. His particular talent was in languages and he could make himself understood in the majority of European and Slavic tongues. He was also a natural leader and was good friends with everyone; when you talked with him he was always interested in you and what you wanted to say.*

# Looking Your Best: Fashion Trends from the 1910s

From Paris to the South Peace, the close of the Edwardian era heralded lasting changes to fashion trends. Everyday wear for the people of the Prairies remained largely the same as the previous decade: a balance of fashion and practicality. In many of the Archive's photographic records, it is difficult to distinguish home or farm clothing in the 1910s from those in the 1900s. For men, the new decade brought only subtle changes in style, aside from an increased abundance of military uniforms during the war years. In contrast, social dress for women experienced dramatic changes that are well documented in archival records.

More than seven thousand kilometers from the fashion houses of France, women replicated the latest styles— purchased from local department stores or sewn at home. Newspaper advertisements provide insight into relative cost of fashion within the area but photographs provide insight into how women implemented the styles of the time. Relevant photographic records capture social events of all kinds, including: regional milestones, meetings of community groups, weddings, and group picnics.

Limited access to material did not deter the men and women of the South Peace from looking their best when the occasion demanded. Women might refashion a Sunday dress by adding a new collar or decorative beads. Similarly, they could update a favourite hat by adding a fresh ribbon or feather.

On June 16, 1914 the opening of the Kathryn Prittie Hospital, commonly referred to as the Pioneer Hospital, drew a large crowd of Grande Prairie residents dressed in their best (pictured below). Lighter fabrics were both fashionable and cool for summer wear, but required special care and cleaning. Dark skirts were a practical and versatile alternative; paired with a cotton blouse and brooch, a simple skirt completed a ladies' day outfit.

**Clearing Sale of  
SUMMER  
White Wear**

Middy Waists, reg. \$1.25 now only 70c  
 Crepe & Lawn Waists, reg. \$1.25 85c  
 White Underskirts, reg. \$1.25 85c  
 White Nightgowns, reg. \$1.25 85c  
 House Dresses, reg. \$1.25 85c  
 Corset Covers reg. 35c and 40c 25c  
 Ladies Underwear, reg. 35c, per. gar. 25c

A complete stock of Groceries, Boots and  
Shoes and Men's Furnishings.

**W. COBLENTZ**  
Gaudin's Old Stand Clairmont



**LOOKING YOUR BEST**

Your figure is probably as good as any other man's. Dress it to the best advantage in a made-to-measure suit and overcoat, and notice the added ginger, style and dash to your appearance.

**Peck's  
MADE-TO-MEASURE**

—clothes for men add just the right amount of 'pep' to a man's figure. The remarkably comprehensive range of Fall Fabrics and patterns now awaiting your approval at our shop, together with the new style-plats renders the selection of your fall apparel a simple matter.

Every possible aid in making your choice will be gladly given you. Distinctiveness in tailoring, perfect fit, and prices to suit the individual—are all parts of our service.

Come in and let us demonstrate these things, as well as our current stock, to serve you well. Come in early—before the new stock begins to come of the best patterns are limited.

**W. Coblentz  
CLAIRMONT**

Long hems, high collars, and defined waistlines emphasised a tall, slim silhouette and dominated women's fashion during the first half of the decade—that is, until the impact of WWI reached fashion.

Wartime shortages of leather, wool, and other textiles in Europe influenced trends around the world. As we can see from this 1917 newspaper article, government policies could dictated design.

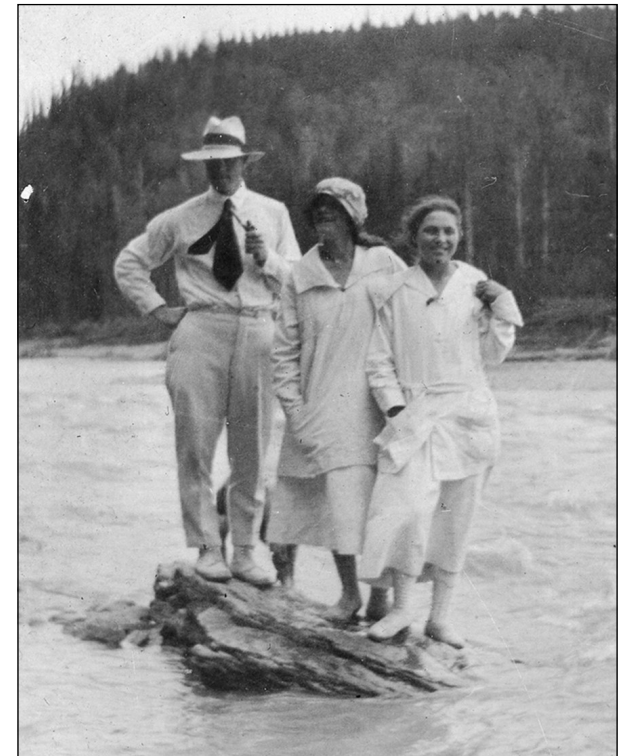
*This page, top left:  
[Clipping from Clairmont Independent  
22 Feb 1918]*

*Top right: At the  
River (SPRA 0557.24)*

*Bottom Middle:  
[Clipping from Lake  
Saskatoon Journal,  
25 July 1917]*

*Left page, top right:  
[Clipping from Lake  
Saskatoon Journal, 4  
July 1917]*

*Bottom: Opening of  
the Pioneer Hospital,  
1914 [cropped]  
(SPRA  
0032.08.08.0452)*



**No More Extreme Styles**

**U. S. Asks Women to Do Away With  
the Frills**

"Cut the frills in clothes," is a war edict to the fastidious from the council of national defence. In effort to institute an economy in wool for all concerned the U S government would have all men and women simplify their dress.

"Sacrifice patchpockets, flaring shirts, cuffs, unnecessary plaits and other frills," is the advice to the public issued from a conference of woolen and worsted manufacturers with the commercial economy board of the defence council.

No effort will be made to discourage the sale of goods made up in existing styles. The board and the manufacturers believe such a move would be wasteful. The campaign will be confined to next year's output.

The threatening shortage of wool for next year is causing grave concern and the board expects its program is to be of material assistance in making up some of the defects.

As material shortages increased and influential male fashion designers were called to war, female designers such as Gabrielle 'Coco' Chanel rose to prominence.

Female designers introduced trends still used today such as the V-neck collar and chemise style dresses. Although it is highly unlikely that any woman located in the South Peace area possessed a Chanel outfit in her wardrobe, we can nonetheless see her influence in the women's outfits pictured above. Silhouettes loosened and hemlines continued to shorten, eventually becoming a hallmark of the 1920s figure.

Whether you are searching for that perfect 1910s silhouette or simply looking to connect with the past, the archives continue to be a treasure trove of inspiration. Do you have photographs of friends or relatives looking their best? Consider adding to our repository.

# Canada 150: Harry Tuffill Photograph Album & The Lake Saskatoon Journal



Above: A page from Harry Tuffill's album (SPRA 056.01.077)

Family collections are rich historical resources. They often include photographs of the activities people engaged in and locations they lived or visited. Personal documents record births, weddings, deaths, certificates earned or acknowledgement of duties fulfilled. One family's life, however, is often a mirror of another's. This is the true of Harry Tuffill's family album. In his case, however, his is a reflection of the nearly 40,000 new British-born immigrants who returned to Europe as members of the newly formed Canadian Expeditionary Force at the outbreak of the Great War. Mr. Harry Tuffill was born in London, England in 1887

and immigrated to Canada in 1906, sailing on the Empress of Ireland. (That ship, sometimes known as "Canada's Titanic," sank in the St. Lawrence River on 29 May, 1914.) Like many new immigrants, he worked his way West, working at various trades in Hamilton and Toronto until 1909, when he was offered a position with Walter McFarlane's survey crew.

Over the next three years Harry helped survey the South Peace from east of the Smoky to the British Columbia border, and from the Wapiti River to the Burnt Hills. Like many new immigrants, Harry took out a homestead while he worked to save money for his future farm. His was located close to Buffalo Lakes on NW 33-73-7-W6th. The early part of the album reflects his new immigrant experience.

As young men do, Harry had big plans. He was going to marry his sweetheart, Maud Shattock, and settle his land but the Great War interrupted. Along with 60,000 others who volunteered by the end of 1914, Harry enlisted. He served with the 91st Highlanders from Hamilton. He served overseas until the end of the war. Many of the pages in this album document Harry's wartime experiences, both in training and in the field. But they are not just his experiences: many of the images include the faces of friends and comrades. This portion of the album demonstrates more than any other part how this is not just Harry's story.

Once the war was over, Harry returned to his homestead and married Maud the following year. Maud and Harry settled in as one of many new families in the area. With a small population, Harry, like many of those early days, was an active community member. Harry died in 1965 and his wife Maud many years later. The later photographs reflect this busy but quieter life. It was a life that sadly, over 60,000 Canadians never experience, which makes this album not just a record of what was, but also of what might have been.

The Lake Saskatoon Journal was a reflection of the newspaper business of the time. Laden with ads, some posing as news items, it included stories on a diverse range of topics, including news and analysis about the ongoing war in Europe. That the Journal was a weekly and not a daily likely had more to do with its population base than in a lack of interest in the news or a lack of news items for the paper. Technology was pushing a trend for large-circulation, advertising-based newspapers and the spread of the telegraph and the laying of the Atlantic cable in 1866 made world news more easily available and more timely. Reading the Lake Saskatoon Journal, evidence of these trends is obvious from the numerous stories from the war, bylines from other newspapers, and the prevalence of advertising.

The Journal initially was published and edited by Frank Heller and Gerald H. Heller. They ran the paper from April 1917 to April 1918, then sold it and the Clairmont Independent on 15 April 1918 to S. R. Tuffley. Silas Robinson Tuffley was an Englishman who made the journey to Canada in 1905. The west was calling and his first stop was Manitoba. By 1911 he was married to Margaret and living in Moosejaw, SK, but they were soon on the move again. Their son John Robinson Tuffley was born in Edmonton in 1913. In 1916 the family moved again and settled near Clairmont, their moving days done for a little while. Silas initially worked in real estate but then found a different calling.

Tuffley was an outspoken editor and unafraid to declare his opinions. Silas expressed his opinion a little too much. He was arrested and interned for the duration of the war for "... printing information detrimental to the efficient prosecution of

Right: The Lake Saskatoon Journal

the war." Below is a sample of his unpatriotic words: "It surely is one hill of a note to witness these pseudo Ally sympathisers living on the best in the land and waxing rich, while veterans (like poor Saunders – thrown into this faraway spot with a nine dollar pension, a dose of shell shock, shrapnel wounds, and minus a lung and a half, to make out the best he can and take dirt from any roughneck alien that happens to have a ten cent repair job) have to start all over again with every disadvantage."

This did not go over well with War Censors who were keen to promote the positive treatment of veterans and portray a united front in the war effort. The Lake Saskatoon Journal did not long out the loss of its owner and the town itself disappeared eight years later when the railway was built straight west from Grande Prairie, bypassing the lake.

After the war ended, Silas was released. He and his family relocated to B.C. His son John owned a store at the outbreak of WWII. Silas took over running the store after John enlisted. John never returned, perishing on 8 August 1944 from wounds he received in action. Silas died in Vancouver in 1970, and as far as we know, he never worked in newspapers again.

An attempt was made to resurrect the Lake Saskatoon Journal. In 1919, A.S. Lorimer of Carstain, AB attempted to purchase the Clairmont Independent and the Lake Saskatoon Journal. Despite its short existence, the "old news" in the Lake Saskatoon Journal has much to tell us about those small, confident, but ultimately short-lived communities that dotted the South Peace Region during its early days.



# Archiveology

By Josephine Sallis

This year, the theme for Alberta's Archives Weeks is the Great War. Canada is commemorating the one hundred year anniversary of several notable battles of WWI – Vimy Ridge, Passchendaele, and Hill 70. The SPRA will create a new display in the museum community room, blog posts and this themed newsletter as our part of the commemorative experience. Commemorating events are a way for us to remember our past and the role it plays in our present. Records are important tools for creating commemoration.

It all starts with the original creators and collectors. Sometimes they create a treasured scrapbook filled with photographs and special documents; sometimes they collect the same items in a couple of boxes with no apparent rhyme or reason. Either way, the donor has started the process of commemoration by choosing what they use to help them remember. If we are lucky, at some point, those creators decide to donate their collection of documents to an archive. That is where the archive's role in commemoration comes into play.

Once we embark on arrangement and description, we choose the records we deem 'archival.' We store them carefully and create finding aids to help researchers understand the collections but also to commemorate the collection and the people the collection represents. The simple act of writing a history and the time we put into creating item level lists is a process of commemoration. The material we highlight is also part of that. As an example, our online Soldiers' Memorial and our cemetery tours are examples of those processes.

We put a lot of thought into this work to encourage people to connect with the past through the documents, to remember what came before and to make better choices for the present and the future. All those choices and activities require time and space but it is important that we take the time and make the space for it. Ultimately, commemoration is about memory: what we choose to remember, how we choose to remember, and why we choose to remember. This is what we do at the Archive. This makes the archive a permanent, active site of commemoration.



The SPRA Cemetery Tour, 4 July 2017



*"The Peace is an invigorating country and vigorous are its people."*

-J. G. MacGregor, *The Land of Twelve Foot Davis*

Three months ago, in a used bookstore in Victoria, I stumbled upon a signed copy of James MacGregor's *The Land of Twelve Foot Davies*. It seemed fitting that less than a week before my departure to Grande Prairie to begin my position as Executive Director of the Archives, I would finally locate a copy of MacGregor's early local history.

My personal history begins in Dawson Creek, where I was born and raised. I left Dawson Creek in order to complete a Bachelors in English and History at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) before attending the University of Victoria (UVic), where I am currently completing my Masters in English Literature. I was first introduced to archives during my studies at the UNBC, when I had the opportunity to work as an Undergraduate Research Assistant in the

History department. I carried my interest to UVic where both my research and coop placements brought me back to archival work. My Masters project draws on 18th century records to reconsider William Blake's "The Tyger" within a broader discussion on animal confinement. As part of my Masters, I also completed coop placements, first as an Assistant Curator at the Pouce Coupe Museum and then as a Student Archivist at Library and Archives Canada.

I now find myself back in the South Peace region, invigorated and eager to bring what I've learned at these institutions to our Archives. I am looking forward to meeting all of you in person and continuing the work of our wonderful organization. Please feel welcome to join us at the Archives for morning tea—I'm always happy to chat with our supporters.

**We would like to gratefully acknowledge the**

**Bill & Laura Turnbull fund**

through the

**Edmonton Community Foundation**

The South Peace Regional Archives are very grateful for the financial assistance provided by the Bill & Laura Turnbull Fund.

The grant received was used to fulfill our goal of increasing community awareness of the Archives. Recent awareness activities include two cemetery walking tours and an archival display to accompany the Alaska Highway Roadshow.



## Happy Retirement Mary Nutting

The South Peace Regional Archives would like to extend our deepest congratulations to Mary Nutting on her retirement.

Mary's involvement with the Archives began even before its formal establishment. The initial archival survey she completed provided reference to essential materials that would become the building blocks of our institution. It remains in our collection today.

For more than seventeen years, Mary's dedicated service has connected the people of the South Peace region with our past. Under Mary's leadership, the Archives have grown to include more than 650 fonds, representing municipalities, community groups, families, and individuals. Through the Archives' many publications and events, she brought these histories to life.

Thank you for your years of dedicated service. We hope that you enjoy your newfound free time. You will be missed, but never forgotten.

*Photograph Credit: Bee's Photography*

## New at the Archives

### Thank You Donors!

The holdings at SPRA have all been donated by individuals, organizations, and municipal governments. You are our only resource for the preservation of the history of the South Peace.

Here are a few of our recent donations:

Alberta maps  
1923 & 1924

*By Everett McDonald*

Daily Herald Tribune 2nd Annual Cookbook  
1964

*By Betty Dyck*

*Far East to Far West* book  
*By Evelyn Millman*

Paul Pivert photos  
*By Paulette Hrychiw*

World War I pocket diary  
1917 - ?

*By David Schenk*

Klukas & Norris family documents  
1917-1980

*By Mathew Wozniak*

George Sayle personal records, including Isle of Man driver's licenses; 1930s report cards; and a 1939 marriage certificate booklet  
1925-1972

## WANTED

The South Peace Regional Archives is seeking a copy of the **Guy Community Book** for the reference library, to be used for research by staff, volunteers, and members of the community. If you know where we can find a copy, please contact us!

## South Peace Regional Archives Society Membership Application/Renewal Form

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Interested in being involved as a: \_\_\_\_\_ volunteer \_\_\_\_\_ board member

There are two types of membership:

Full membership--get involved in the society, attend meetings, vote on issues and run for office.

Associate membership--receive communications (like this newsletter) to stay informed about issues and happenings at the Archives.

This membership is \_\_\_\_\_ new \_\_\_\_\_ renewal

Full Membership  
\$20.00/person or \$30.00/couple \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Member  
\$15.00/person \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to donate to the  
South Peace Regional Archives \_\_\_\_\_

Total Membership and Donation \_\_\_\_\_

Please pay by cash or cheque to  
South Peace Regional Archives Society  
Box 687, Grande Prairie, AB. T8V 3A8  
Phone: 780-830-5105  
Fax: 780-831-7371  
E-mail: [director@southpeacearchives.org](mailto:director@southpeacearchives.org)

*thank you for supporting*

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REGIONAL ARCHIVES

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[www.southpeacearchives.org](http://www.southpeacearchives.org)

