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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As I look out the window the leaves have left the branches of the trees and taken flight spreading themselves throughout the neighborhood and beyond. It sort of reminds me of my ancestors who left the comfort of their home and spread themselves out.

During the past summer I have found relations mainly in Nova Scotia, Ontario, Saskatchewan and the state of Washington that I previously knew nothing about.

The A.G.S. branch here in Lethbridge is moving along in membership. Our goal of increasing membership by 10% was reached. I would like to thank all of you for joining our family. I hope we were able to meet your needs. We struggled to find ways to increase our revenue. The yard sale didn't happen this year primarily because the hardworking volunteers needed a rest from this activity. There was no one to pick up the torch. I would like to thank those who, when completing their membership for last year, donated to the branch treasury. It was certainly appreciated. If you have any ideas how to increase revenue please let me know.

There was participation from the local level that helped with the Alberta Genealogical Society as they participated at the Casino in Edmonton in September.

I would like to give Muriel Jolliffe a big thank you for her continued work on the Lethbridge Birth, Marriage and Death's. Her work is extremely well done and is an important source of local information. Winn Evans and her friends continue to work on gathering information from local cemeteries. The marriages and births from the Claresholm newspapers continue to be done. There is a volunteer who is now beginning to work on the papers from High River. Thank you University of Calgary and your www.ourfutureourpast.ca website.

At this time I would like all of you to read the article by Ian Dew found in the newsletter and think about how this project will benefit research in S. Alberta.

Our former president Eleanor McMurchy is looking to fill the slate of new officers to help with the genealogical work in the Lethbridge area for the years 2007-2009. What can you do? How can you help? If she hasn't contacted you by now contact her and volunteer. Remember this branch like all others is only as successful as its members volunteer. Thank you for support over the past two years.

Kenneth Young, President

EDITOR'S MESSAGE



This is our third issue of 2006! I first want to do a recap of past two months. In September we had Ian Dew come and speak to us about his Southern Alberta Historic Newspaper Digitization Project (see article following). On October 19th a number of us went out to the Fort McLeod Family History Center to see their facility and to hear a presentation by George Kush on the History of the Royal Mounted Police. He gave an exhilarating talk and brought along a picture that he is painting of a Royal Mounted Police Officer in the 1870's. Would like to thank these two individuals for their presentations.

If you want to submit articles, genealogy humor, websites or have any queries you want us to print feel free to contact us. You can send your submissions to our A.G.S. Office at (403) 328-9564 or send an e-mail to lethags@theboss.net

Susan Haga, Newsletter Editor

Regards to Genealogy Interest in the Afternoon

Anyone interested can e-mail Ken Young at Ken_Jeannie@teacher.com or phone (403) 394-2231.



The Southern Alberta Historic Newspaper Digitization Project

Newspapers provide genealogist not only personal information but also insights into the social, economic, and political times and places of our ancestor. Currently a project to identify, preserve and provide free public access to historic newspapers of Alberta is underway at our University of Lethbridge in collaboration the project co-ordinator., Ian Dew, a professional librarian, affiliated with NextLibrary Inc. which specializes in digital conversion and administrative and technical support. The project could grow to 200,000 pages. It will preserve these valuable historic documents, and enhance public access for students, scholars, and researchers, and further the cause of family history.

Digitization, a process of transforming analog information into digital representations is the primary means of storing images in an electronic form suitable for transmission and computer processing. It facilitates the creation of database which when indexed is accessible and searchable on-line giving access to images, headlines, articles, and photographs. This project has been designed and is developing Digital Library. The first phase of the project, SAIR, Southern Alberta Information Resources) involving (1) identification, (2) description of preservation data, and (3) organization of the available historic information sources, is presently available online at website <http://nextlib.com/projects.htm> Select Greenstone Experimental Project.

Local municipalities, libraries, museums, historical societies, heritage organizations, women's institutes, and agricultural societies are invited to become involved in identifying and locating existing local historic newspapers for inclusion in the inventory and database. As with all worth while projects, funding is critical. Local commitment and participation is essential for accessing regional and provincial funding sources. The Lethbridge and District Branch of the Alberta Genealogical Society, and AGS. itself have support for this project with letters of endorsement.

What can you and I do? First, identify and locate historic newspapers in our communities for the project? Second, make a financial donation to support the project. All donations will be greatly appreciated, \$5, \$10, \$20 or any other amount you wish to contribute to move this project forward. Financial contributions and information about local historic newspapers may be sent to:

Mr. Ian Dew, SAHND Project Director,
NextLibrary Inc.
#123, 214 – 905 First Avenue South
Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 4M7

LETHBRIDGE FAMILY HISTORY CENTER

Sat. November 4th-9:30 a.m.-Basic Internet

It will include using browsers, e-mail, mailing lists, message boards, search engines, anti-virus and preventing identify theft. Pre-requisite: Basic computer knowledge. **Instructor: Mary Tollestrup**

Thurs. Nov. 9th-7 p.m.-PAF Insight-Ordinance Index, Compare Databases and Match/Merge.

Pre-requisite: Basic PAF and computer knowledge. This class will demonstrate how to search and identify your ancestors and find out if their temple work is already completed. **Instructor: Peter van Schaik**

Thurs Nov 16-7 p.m.—Researching in London Instructor—Val Ferguson

Thurs Nov. 23—7 p.m.—Researching in Germany—Instructor: Rena Derricott

Thurs. Nov. 30th-7 p.m.-Scandinavian Research—Instructor: Val Duncan

(Please pre-register at the FHC-phone 328-0206.
Remember to pre-register early for computer classes.)

ARE YOU ONE OF THESE MEMBERS?

A lot of members are like wheelbarrows: No good unless pushed. Some are like canoes: Need to be paddled. Some are like kites: If a string isn't kept in them, they'll fly away. Some are like footballs: You can't tell which way they'll bounce next. Some are like balloons: Full of wind and ready to blow up. Some are like trailers: they have to be pulled. Some are like lights: They keep going on and off. Many—thank heaven—are like the North Star: There when you need them, dependable, ever loyal and a guide to all people. **(Victoria Gen Society Newsletter—Mar/April 1986)**

THE FAMILY TREE

I think that I shall never see.
The finish of a Family Tree.
As it forever seems to grow .
From roots that started very low;
'Way back in ancient history time,
In foreign lands and distant climes.
From them grew trunk and branching limb,
That dated back to time so dim,
One seldom knows exactly when
The parents met and married then.
Nor when the twigs began to grow.
With odd named children, row on row.
'Though a verse like this is made by me,
And the end's in sight as you can see;
'Tis not the same with Family Trees.
That grow and grow through centuries.
(Source unknown)

A couple drove down a country road for several miles, not saying a word. An earlier discussion had led to an argument and neither of them wanted to concede their position. As they passed a barnyard of mules, jack asses and pigs, the husband asked sarcastically, "Relatives of yours?" "Yep," the wife replied, "in-laws."

DOCUMENTING SOURCES

Give Credit Where Credit Is Due!

To copy someone's work other than your own and claim it as your own research is called plagiarism. It is illegal. Acknowledge the work of others if you have used it in any way however small the benefit to your own work.

It is important that you record every source you use in finding your family. It is important to prevent plagiarism. Recording all sources also helps in random checks of work to verify its value and authenticity.

SOURCES:

1. **PRIMARY SOURCES:** These are the most valuable in any research. We should seek to obtain primary sources when they are available, regardless of how much other information we have already obtained.

- A. Birth/Christening Records. These usually occurred within a few months of the actual birth and are therefore considered the most reliable.
- B. Marriage/Banns Records. These are also considered primary in that the individual took part in the event. The ages may not be correct as most people were illiterate and therefore not always sure of their ages, but they knew who they were and what they were doing.
- C. Death/Burial Records. These may be primary or secondary depending on the accuracy of information. Many early death records didn't state relationships or other information to help identify the individual.
- D. Civil Registrations of BMD's.
- E. Personal knowledge in that you were actually at the event recorded.

2. SECONDARY SOURCES:

Any other source we use is considered secondary as the accuracy of any may be circumspect. Even family bibles may be written long after the fact and depend on the memory of family members. Family information may be used as a source when family members are providing information regarding their own family knowledge.

Suggestions for Documenting Sources

1. Document as you go.
2. Enter sources in a consistent format.
3. Enter a source only once.
4. List all sources for every event.
5. Don't abbreviate titles, names, or places.
6. Fill out as much information as you can.
(Val Duncan, Lethbridge Family History Center)

THE TABER TIMES TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 1924-pg 8

Mr. and Mrs. S.J. Layton are visiting in B.C.

Miss Edna Fellows had her tonsils removed last Tuesday.

Mrs. Lester Holman and Mrs. Bert Holman spent last week in Cardston.

Mr. and Mrs. A.L. Wood motored to River Bow last Sunday.

Mrs. Ralph Johnson of Barnwell is a Cardston visitor this week.

Mrs. J. Dobbs is entertaining a number of her friends this afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Upham of Blairmore are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Milne of Taber.

Miss Lila Speas, formerly of Taber, was married in the United States on May 23rd.

Jack Blenner Hassett and W. Morobetts spent last weekend in Lethbridge.

Roy Harris had the misfortune to sprain his wrist while cranking the car last Saturday.

Mrs. Titsworth was called to Raymond to nurse Mr. McMullin who is seriously ill.

A number of Public School children took advantage of the holiday on the King's Birthday to enjoy themselves at the river.

The King's Birthday (June 3) was observed in Taber by the Schools, Banks, and Post Office closing. The vendors store was also closed.

It is expected that a number of local Masons will motor to Medicine Hat to attend the grand lodge meeting there on June 11th and 12th.

Mrs. Bain was the Taber delegate to the Women's Institute convention at Calgary, last week. She will give her report at the next meeting.

T. Bates of the P. Burns Company was in town last week and shipped two car loads of hogs, one to Calgary and one to Lethbridge.

Mrs. Norman Sproule and her sisters Miss Lang, teachers at Crescent School, left Monday evening for Toronto, to attend the funeral of their mother.

Mrs. Clarence Layton is visiting at Mountain View with her sister. She went by motor with her husband last week, the latter returning the following day.

Miss Elizabeth Popk's formerly of Rolling Green and lately of Spokane, returned to Taber last week. Rumor says that she will shortly change her name.

John Chu, who has been operating a tailor shop here since last summer, left for Blairmore last week, where he will start a Café in partnership with a local hotel cook.

Rula Johnson of Barnwell who is a patient at the Junior Red Cross hospital at Edmonton, is expected to return home shortly as her third operation did not prove successful and her condition not improving.

A reunion of the Layton family was held last week. Although S.J. Layton, J.P and old timer of the district was visiting in B.C. There were forty of the family gathered together. (Karen Ingram, Taber & District Museum Society.)

OBITUARIES WORTH READING

Anyone who has ever read the obituaries in a newspaper knows they are often more interesting than news reports written by reporters on any subject.

That's because an obituary—prepared by a close relative or friend of the deceased, frequently with the assistance of a funeral director—is, in a sense, the ultimate news story about an individual.

It tells the world that you are no more, and what's more it attempts to prove you were a fine person indeed, whose demise ought to be the sources of a great deal of sorrow.

Obituaries tell us much about the deceased – age, schooling, children, employment history, hobbies, etc. But they may tell us even more about the person who wrote the obituary.

For e.g., you can generally tell whether the obit writer is modest or a braggart just by the length of

obituary and how many days it is published. Some obituaries resemble job resumes with every minor accomplishment noted. It makes you wonder who that is supposed to impress, newspaper readers, or Saint Peter at the gates of heaven?

Understandably, newspaper owners love the immodest, for the modest will never make them rich as short obits cost less to place than long ones.

Obituaries are interesting, in part, for what they don't tell you. You'll never read in an obit that the deceased was a stubborn, petty person, but some folks are so. And you'll never read that the person cheated on his/her spouse or stole from his employer, but some folks do.

Judging from most obits, you'd think the only people to ever die are saints.

If true, that's good news for the rest of us. Maybe we'll live forever!

As readers, are we all fooled so easily by obits that are long on compliments and short on realities? Or, do we simply take them with a grain of salt, knowing perfectly well that people tend to speak of the dead only in glowing terms.

Perhaps, when all is said and done, we realize there is no point in criticizing a dead person. After all, it's not like he or she will get another opportunity to right any past wrongs.

Unfortunately, obituaries are all too often stuffed with pleasantries with the truth only to be found by reading in between the lines.

Still, that's not to suggest all obits are packed with falsehoods. Most are simply a bit too generous in their descriptions of the dearly departed.

And maybe that's better than being utterly honest. We all know the truth can be frightening, maybe even more frightening than the ultimate reality-death. (Lee Giles, Red Deer Advocate Ltd.)

THE ELUSIVE ANCESTOR

I went searching for an ancestor,
I cannot find him still.
He moved around from place to place.
And did not leave a will.
He married where the courthouse burned.
He mended all his fences.
He avoided any man.
Who came to take the census.

He always kept his baggage packed,
This man who had no fame.
And every twenty years or so,
The rascal changed his name.
His parents came from Europe.
They should be on a list
Of passengers to the U.S.A.
But somehow they got missed.

And no one else in the entire world.
Is searching for this man.
So I play gene-solitaire.
To find him (if I can),
I'm told he's buried in a plot.
With tombstone he was blessed.
But weather took the engraving.
And some vandals took the rest.

He died before the county clerks.
Decided to keep records.
No family Bible has emerged.
In spite of all of all our efforts.
To top it off, this ancestor.
Who caused me many groans.
Just gave me one more pain.
Betrothed a girl names Jones.
(Submitted by Helene Weaver—OGS 11504 BGOGS Volume
31 #2 May 2001)

WE ARE WHAT WE KEEP: CANADA'S ARCHIVES ARE IN CRISIS

The archives of this country are in perilous positions. Canadians have an acquaintance with libraries, museums, art galleries, concert halls and theatres, either as willing visitors, or because we were once press-ganged into school tours of them as children. But archives remain largely invisible to the public and the essential work they do pass largely unnoticed.

The Canadian Council of Archives represents about 800 members encompassing the largest provincial, territorial, university and municipal archives as well as the tiniest volunteer community archives. They hold tens of thousands of collections and millions of photographs reflecting Canadian life, from passenger lists of immigrant ships, government minutes, and diaries of settlers and early newspapers, artists and musicians — merely to skim the surface.

Expensive environmental controls are necessary to preserve aging, brittle paper, and archival work is extremely labor-intensive. Archivists must pour over volumes of material, organize it and write users' manuals so researchers can locate information. The federal government provides assistance to Canadian Council of Archives to

fund projects, train staff and coordinate programs. In 1992-93 this budget was roughly \$2.8 million, but by 1998-99 it had fallen to 1.8 million. (If no costs had been instituted and funding had kept pace with inflation, CCA grant would now be \$3.5 million.)

In terms of federal expenditure, this is a minuscule amount and downright paltry when weighed against need. The operating budget of 51 percent of this country's archives is \$50,000 or less and in a third of the archives 41 percent of holdings remain unprocessed and therefore inaccessible.

More alarming archives report that annual rates of acquisition have increased 200 to 700 per cent since 1985. In little more than a year, all storage space will be exhausted.

Statistics are a bloodless affair, apt to bewilder rather than enlighten. What do these figures mean? Certainly they suggest that part of our heritage is in danger. Certainly they suggest that the federal government ought to play a larger role in helping archives, and in particular our smaller institutions to collect, preserve, and make usable the raw stuff from which the narratives of this nation can be constructed. Archives have a saying, "We are what we keep." What we do not keep now is likely to be forever lost, inducing historical amnesia.

People researching their family's genealogy consult archives; land-claim settlements between first nations and governments often hinge on archival records; veterans seeking benefits may need to appeal to documents contained in an archive. They provide innumerable "practical" services to our citizens.

But even if most Canadians never consult archives in this fashion, hundreds of thousands of us enjoy our reference material that depends on archives. Iconic works such as Pierre Berton's *The National Dream* could not have been written without recourse to them. Margaret Atwood's novel *Alias Grace* credits the assistance of seven different Archives in its acknowledgments page. Daily, Canadians consume the fruits of archives when they read novels and histories, watch television, and theatre, or even view advertising.

Our sense of ourselves, our hopes for the future rely on an informed engagement with the past. The ultimate source of the stories we have told about ourselves, the fashion in which we revise and amend them in future, rests on accurate archival resources. But because Canada's archives are the least glamorous of cultural institutions, they have suffered neglect.

As the old saying goes, the squeaky wheel gets the grease. But the loudness of the squeak is not a measure of importance. Governments need to recognize that our identity as a people, any debate about that identity and any coherent discussion of the successes and failures of Canadian democracy are possible only if we have the means to explore issues intelligently. Those means reside in our archives, and they are under threat.

The concluding page of one of the great Canadian historical novels, Timothy Findley's *The Wars*, reveals its narrator in an archive, arranging letters, telegrams and photos as the archivist moves about the researchers at closing time, saying gently, "Late. It's late."

Nearly 30 years after the novel's publication, the archivist's words seem prophetic. It is late, time is running out. This deplorable situation needs to be corrected now. (Guy Vanderhaeghe—*The Globe and Mail*)

PROVING PARENTAGE: 25 WAYS TO DISCOVER AND DOCUMENT A PARENT-CHILD LINK

Your ancestor does not have a birth certificate. So you've hit a brick wall, right? Wrong. Birth certificates aren't the only way to prove parentage. Here are 25 other records or techniques you can use to identify and document your ancestral connections.

1. Child's Civil Marriage Record
2. Child's Church Marriage Record
3. Child's Baptism Record
4. Child's Civil Death Record
5. Newspaper Announcement--Child's Birth
6. Newspaper Announcement---Child's Marriage
7. Newspaper Obituaries for the Child
8. School Registration of the Child
9. Bible Records
10. Census Records
11. City Directories
12. Petitions to Government
13. Land Transfers
14. Local History Publications
15. Passenger Lists
16. Child's Military Records

17. Child's Pension Records
18. Child's Will
19. Parent's Will or Estate Papers
20. Newspaper Obituaries for Parents
21. Newspaper Obituaries for Siblings
22. Burial Records of Parents
23. Grandparent's Wills
24. Parents' Civil Death Records
25. Records for Siblings

(Family Chronicle-May/June-2006-44-49-Janice Nickerson)

HUDSON'S BAY CO. UNDELIVERED LETTER

Several hundred letters which were originally sent from England to employees of the Hudson's Bay Company between 1832 and 1867, were never delivered. These letters are still undelivered and are currently held in the Hudson's Bay Co. Archives within Provincial Archives of Manitoba.

Judith Hudson Beattie, Keeper, Hudson's Bay Company Archives is keen to make contact with any descendants and learn more about the fate of the men. She believes that most of them were employed as sailors or laborers. The list is reproduced at website



<http://freespace.virgin.net/gordon.innes/hudson.htm> It shows the intended recipients name, their parish of origin, the name and relationship of the sender and their address where known.

The parish of origin is often misleading since it can mean where the men were hired, it's certain that London is where they came from (especially sailors).

Judith Hudson Beattie can be contacted by e-mail or you can write to her at Judith Hudson Beattie, Keeper, Hudson's Bay Company Archives, Provincial Archives of Manitoba, and 200 Vaughan Street, Winnipeg, MB Canada R3C 1T5. Telephone (204) 945-2626/Fax (204) 948-3236 (OGS Halton/Peel Branch Newsletter)

HISTORY BOOKS FOR SALE AT A.G.S.

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
The Bend—West Lethbridge	\$35.00
Coyote Flats Volume I	\$22.00
Coyote Flats Volume II	\$45.00
Drybelt Pioneers--Sundial	\$36.00
Fort Macleod--Our Colorful Past 1874-1924 Volume I	\$50.00
Heritage of High Country —Del Bonita	\$40.00
Raymond Roundup—1902-1967	\$50.00
Sons of Winds and Soil —Nobleford, Monarch & Kipp	\$35.00
White Caps and Red Roses —Galt Nurses (signed copy)	\$95.00
100 Years Between the River —Glenwood, Hartley & Standoff	\$35.00

(Plus shipping charges based on the weight of the book.)

PUBLICATION ORDER FORM

SHIP TO AGS # _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

PROV/STATE: _____

COUNTRY: _____

TITLE: _____

PRICE: _____

**POSTAGE & HANDLING FEE FOR FIRST ITEM
AB, BC, SK, MB
OUTSIDE CANADA
NON-CANADIAN RESIDENTS--PAY U.S. FUNDS
CANADIAN RESIDENTS PLEASE ADD 6% GST**

TOTAL

**SURPRISES FROM THE ST. ALBANS
CANADIAN BORDER CROSSING RECORDS)**

If your relative arrived in the United States between 1895 and 1952 you might do very well to consider the Canadian border crossing records known as the St. Albans Records. These records are poorly known, misunderstood and somewhat confusing. But they are a treasure trove, and useful in surprising ways.

People are familiar with Ellis Island Passenger Manifests. These were filled out by the steamship companies for the US Government. In the 1880's,

at the height of immigration, many people came to the US from Europe via Canada. The steamship companies promoted this as a cheaper and easier alternative for direct travel to the US. The US Government then decided it needed better records so it negotiated with the steamship companies to have them fill out separate passenger manifests for those declaring their intention to continue onto the US. Thus, passenger manifests for ships arriving at ports like Halifax, St. John, Montreal and Quebec City were prepared on US Government forms just like those used at Ellis Island and other US ports. Later, name indexes were prepared for these manifests so it is not necessary to know the ship, port and date in order to find the manifest.

Some people arrived in Canada without the intention of immediately continuing on to the US. In this case, their names should appear on the separate passenger manifests prepared by the steamship companies for the Canadian government. These manifests are in the Canadian National Archives. However, if a person later decided to come to the US as an immigrant, the US border crossing record should list the original arrival of person in Canada. The US record can be extremely useful for finding the Canadian record.

THE RECORD GROUPS

The National Archives has issued eight microfilm publications pertaining to Canadian border crossing records, including the passenger manifests for ships arriving at Canadian ports. There are both alphabetical and Soundex indexes to the names in the records although it is not always clear which index to use M1481 and M1482 are alphabetical indexes. The two record groups differ only in the ports of entry they cover.

Note that St. Albans refers to the central data collection point. Originally, all the records were held in Montreal but later the Immigration and Naturalization Service transferred them to St. Albans district office and the records became known as the St. Albans records. The choice of names is unfortunate as it undoubtedly causes some to miss their significance. M1464 and M1465 contain ship passenger manifests for Canadian ports. These look just like the manifests for ships arriving at US ports such as N.Y. The 2 record groups differ only in the ports they cover.

These records are poorly understood and somewhat confusing but they contain real treasures. If you suspect a relative entered the US via Canada, or left the US in order to re-enter for immigration purposes, it may be well worth the effort to look for border crossing records.

U.S. NATIONAL ARCHIVE MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS PERTAINING TO THE CANADIAN BORDER CROSSINGS

- M1481 Alpha card manifests of upstate N.Y. arrivals (1st publ) July 1929-April 1956
- M1482 Alpha card manifests of upstate N.Y. arrivals (2nd publ) July 1929-April 1956
- M1461 Soundex index to Canadian Border Entries through St. Albans, VT, district, 1895-1924
- M1462 Alpha index to Canadian Border Entries through small ports in VT, 1895-1924
- M1463 Soundex index to entries into the St. Albans, VT district through Canadian Pacific & Atlantic ports, 1924-1952
- M1464 Manifests of passengers arriving in the St. Albans, VT, district through Canadian Pacific and Atlantic ports, 1895-1954
- M1465 Manifests of passengers arriving in the St. Albans, VT, district through Canadian Pacific ports, 1929-1949
- M1480 Manifests of alien arrivals at Buffalo, Lewiston, Niagara Falls and Rochester, New York, 1902-1954

100,000 CANADIAN HOME CHILDREN

collectionsCanada.ca/archivianet/02011003_e.html

Shortly after Canadian confederation in 1867, the British began to send young children to the new country. There was no name for this “export” of young people at the time but eventually they became known as Home Children. This “export” continued until the 1930’s when it died out due to the Depression. During the time it was operating, Canada received five and a half million immigrants of whom 2% (100,000) were Home Children. Seventy percent of them settled in Ontario.

Although the majority of the children were between 7 and 14, they ranged in age from 6 months to the late teens or even early 20’s. Contrary to popular belief only a minority (about 30 percent) were orphans. Many were from abusive homes, others were, what we today call, street children; others had been in trouble of some sort or another. A surprising number came from families that were unable to support all their children.

Once in Canada, many of the older boys were sent to farms as cheap labor while the older girls were often used as “mother’s helpers”. Younger children were generally adopted. This arrangement suited both Britain and Canada. Although it could be viewed as a form of “passing the buck” on unwanted children, they were welcomed in Canada where there was always a greater demand than

Britain could supply.

The arrival records of these Home Children have been transcribed, thanks to the British Isles Family History Society of Great Ottawa (BHFHSGO). The society has scoured arrival lists looking for any mention of Home Children. The database itself is on the Library and Archives Canada website. The records themselves are somewhat sparse and, from the notations made by the transcribers, many would appear to have been difficult to read. The website only provides the index but it does give the microfilm reel number, the name of the ship and the departure and arrival dates this information will make a lookup of the original fairly easy.

The Empress of Ireland was one of the ships that carried British Home Children to Canada. This ship sank in a tragic accident in the St. Lawrence in May 1914 with a loss of life similar to that of the Titanic. As the ship was returning to the UK, no Home Children were involved.

Between 1869 and the 1930’s, Canada received five and a half million immigrants of whom 100,000 were Home Children.

(Moorshead-Internet Genealogy—Apr /May 2006)

OUR ANCESTOR’S MIGRATION PATTERNS: THE PUSH AND PULL EFFECT

Sooner or later, most dedicated genealogists reach the point at which they have exhausted their research in the country where their ancestors settled and lived. They are intrigued about learning where their families originated and how they got to where they settled. Migration and immigration becomes a new research focus.. Different methodologies and record types become vital, and international historical research becomes extremely important.

Successful genealogical research always means more than just collecting names and dates. The basic methodology genealogists must use involves starting with what we know and working backwards. It must also include gaining a broader perspective about the geographical locations of our ancestors, the historical and social events that influenced their lives, family situations and the personal motivations that spurred the decisions to relocate elsewhere.

There is more than just an understanding the motivations for migrating to a new place. There is also a two-fold influence in the decision-making process, a “push and pull” effect. The “push” consists of one or more reasons that motivate a

person or family to relocate, while the pull is what draws the migrating person, family or ethnic group to go to a specific place. While desperation sometimes caused people to flee intolerable conditions with no planned destination in mind, the relocation or immigration processes usually did have a focus or a plan. You need to learn as much as you can about the place of origin and the destination where your ancestors settled.

Geography, History and Sociology Studies

There are at least 3 areas of study that are important in tracing ancestors' origins and these must be examined for both the location of origins and these must be examined for both the location of origin and that of where your ancestors settled.

Location is the focal point of your quest. If you are looking in the wrong place at the wrong time, your chances of success are going to be compromised. If your ancestors were originally from Poland, it is imperative to know when they were there. That is because of the numerous border changes resulting, from the partitioning, annexation or seizure of the country by Russia, Prussia, Germany and Austria from the 1700's onward, and by the addition of western Ukraine and Belarus following WWI. If you don't know what government was in power at the time your ancestors lived there, you cannot hope to successfully determine what records may have been created or where these records may be. your geographical research will reveal information about historical and social events. A study of the times and places where your ancestors lived can reveal much about the incentives that "pushed" your ancestors to decide to relocate.

Why Do People Migrate?

1. Religious or Ethnic Persecution:
2. National Disasters: Drought
3. Famine: Drought and Plant Diseases
4. Economic Problems: The Great Depression
5. War
6. Political Strife/Turmoil
7. Following Family and Friends
8. Adoption—Orphan Trains
9. Slavery:
10. Forced Relocation of Native Americans
11. Criminal Incarceration or Deportment
12. Not First Son—Could Force Siblings to Leave
13. Great Financial Opportunity

Historical and Social Events That Can Affect Immigration

Certain events in history prompt people to move home or change their situation. It is therefore important to study the historical timelines of the country your ancestors came from as well as the country to which they emigrated.

<http://www.cyndislist.com/timelines.htm>

includes an entire categorized listing of timelines online that you may wish to explore, particularly with specific ancestors, and geographic areas in mind. You may also use your favorite search engine and enter the word "timeline" and the name of the country or region. You will find any number of websites that list significant historical and social events, and these can offer ideas for additional research you can conduct to learn more about the influences on your ancestors.

Methods of Migration

The other integral part to your research involves determining how your ancestors migrated or immigrated. In Europe, many people traveled with their essential possessions on foot or by cart, wagon, horse or mule from their place of origin to the port of departure. If they then emigrated to the

Depending on your ancestors' plans and where they were headed, they may have traveled by foot or by wagon in their
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Americas, or some other area, they traveled by ship across the ocean. Depending on the time period, it may have been a sailing ship or a steamship, thereby helping to determine the length and difficulty of their trip.

Remember that the port of departure may not have been the on closest to where your ancestors lived. Many European emigrants traveled in multiple stages in their migration process. Major packet ship service between Liverpool then became the most used departure port for English and Irish emigration. It also became a primary departure point for Germans and other Europeans. Other Germans traveled to the Netherlands to book passage on ships to America.

(George G. Morgan—Family Chronicle—January/February 2006)

Genealogical Restaurant Menu

"Fiche and ships with tantalizing sauces (sources).

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Colorado State Archives: Online Indexes

<http://www.colorado.gov/dpa/doi/archives/>

Include some unique items, such as voter registrations, Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Enrollment Index, and old-age pensions.

Pennsylvania State Archives

www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/overview.htm

Various military records, including Pennsylvania National Guard Veterans' Card File 1867-1921; World War I Service Medal Application Cards and Mexican Border Campaign Veterans' Card File.

For best results spend some time learning how to use ARIAS (Archives Records Information Access System) to search its 1.5 million records.

<http://www.digitalarchives.state.pa.us/>

1837online.com

Having finished its British vital-records indexing project, is onto something even bigger: Ancestors Onboard, a 30 million-name database of people leaving the British Isles from 1890-1960. You'll be able to download images of the passenger lists which include not just Britons, but those from all over Europe who boarded ships in Liverpool, London, Southampton, Hull and other British ports. No launch date yet but soon
<http://fwpubs.sparklist.com/t/2040165/3780034/1236/0/>
(Submitted by Eleanor McMurchy—Rootsweb Review: Rootsweb's Weekly E-Zine)

IRISH DATABASE

"Missing Friends" – an Irish database – is now available online. Boston College has posted a database of newspaper advertisements for Irish immigrants that were published in the Boston "Pilot" from October 1831 through October 1921. The advertisements were paid for by persons looking for family and friends who had lost contact. Many of them contain important genealogical details. The website, Information Wanted: A Database of Advertisements for Irish Immigrants Published in the Boston Pilot, can be found at: <http://infowanted.bc.edu/>

More information can be found in an article from the "Boston Globe" at "The Irish Immigrant Past Gets Tie To Today" (Boston Globe).
http://www.boston.com/news/education/higher/articles/2005/03/17/the_irish_immigrant_past_gets_tie_to_today/

FEDERATION OF EAST EUROPEAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES.

This organization is a home base for really great databases. Some of the databases are from Eastern Europe, but some also concern Eastern European immigrants who came to the U.S. One notable database is their San Francisco Call Vital Records Restoration Project which records people whose civil records were destroyed in the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. So far, nearly 122,000 records have been put into this database. Go to <http://www.feefhs.org>

FINLAND.

Those with Finnish ancestry should check out the Institute of Migration, which had more than a half a million passport entries (1890-1950), steamship records 1892-1910) and Finnish people who died outside of Finland. You can search for the names for free, but you'll pay \$12.00 for a one year subscription, which gives you total data access.
http://www.migrationinstitute.fi/index_e.php
Many people whose ancestors settled in the Stockett and Sand Coulee area may find this information valuable.

POLISH ROOTS.

This Internet site has a lot of helpful databases, including history, customs, culture, maps, you name it! But you really have to check out their 30,000+ marriage records which were recently added. www.polishroots.org.

CANADIAN WEBSITE

Canada Genealogy Centre. <http://www.genealogy.gc.ca/>
Library and Archives Canada—ArchiviaNet.
http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/0201_e.html
Our Heritage. <http://www.ourheritage.net>
Family Tree Magazine's 100 Best Sites
http://www.familytreemagazine.com/101_sites/2004/

ROOTS IN SWEDEN

SVAR, a department within the National Archives of Sweden. <http://www.svar.ra.se>

The Swedish Church records online. Will include records from the time period 1860-1905.

Tax Records 1642-1820 online: These records are searchable at parish level and contains information about Swedish taxpayers.

Swedish Census 1890 and 1900 online:

Two searchable databases containing all living persons registered in a Swedish parish on Dec 31st 1890. Over 10 million individuals!

“ALL THE IRISH RECORDS WERE DESTROYED”

Not so, according to David E. Rencher, AG, in a 1993 article for *The Irish At Home and Abroad*, a privately published newsletter in Salt Lake City, UT.

Of all the myths and erroneous rumors spread about Irish genealogical research, the constant misinformation concerning record destruction must be the most detested by those who know better.

During the 1922 Irish Civil War, the Public Record Office (PRO) at Four Courts in Dublin was destroyed by fire and seven hundred years of Irish records were lost. The PRO housed a number of key genealogical records of use to those researching their Irish ancestors. Today, the Four Courts complex has been completely restored. The wills, census records and Church of Ireland parish registers were among the casualties of 1922. Nearly two-thirds of the Church of Ireland registers were destroyed. None of the Catholic or Presbyterian church records were deposited at the PRO since they were not records of the State Church. While the Church of Ireland registers were the earliest records of christenings, marriages and burials in Ireland, it should be noted that members of the Church of Ireland constituted only about five to six percent of the population.

One-third of the C of I registers survived the destruction. All Protestant marriages were by license and thus are recorded in the marriage license indexes which did survive. Some births, marriages and deaths for this portion of the population were recorded in newspapers. Some major genealogies of Protestant families were compiled before 1922 in part from materials that were destroyed. Some of the registers were transcribed (copied) before the records were deposited (for a list see the 56th Report of the Deputy Keeper. Appendix VIII pp. 416-420). A number of genealogical abstracts were made by genealogists, further mitigating the losses. The actual effects of the losses were much less than the alarmists generally try to lend the novice researcher to believe. Ireland had, without a doubt, the most enviable census records in all of the British Isles. As early as 1821, there was a record of every individual by name. In the 1851 census there was an attempt to evaluate the population loss due to death and emigration from the effects of famine. Thus, there were two schedules appended to the 1851 enumeration which detailed 1) other family members not living at home on the night the census was taken and 2) those family members who had died since the previous census was taken in 1841, including cause of death and season (i.e. spring, summer, fall, winter) and year -1851 death.

The 1821 enumerations were largely destroyed in the 1922 fire. The census records for the period 1861-1891 were previously pulped for paper. Some fragments do exist such as the 1931 census of the County Londonderry. There are various lists of fragments which did survive. A good list is contained

in John Grenham's *Tracing Your Irish* (Dublin: G.II and MacMillan Ltd. 1991). Surviving fragments have been microfilmed and are at Family History Library.

For the pre-1858 time period, the 1922 fire caused the almost total destruction of all the wills, administrations, inventories and marriage licenses. The index to these documents survived for the most part. Numerous will abstracts were made by private individuals prior to 1922 and there are large collections at both the National Archives in Dublin and at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland in Belfast.

The loss of the Public Record Office in 1922 impacted forever the course of research for the Irish genealogist. However, it was only one national repository. Still remaining are all of the records contained in all of the other national repositories such as the Registry of Deeds, General Register Office, National Library of Ireland, Genealogical Office, Valuation Office and the Public Record Office in London. In addition to records at the national level, there are numerous records for local governments (i.e. incorporated boroughs), ecclesiastical records, occupational records, and records in private keeping such as auctioneer, insurance, school and hospital records. Irish, but by no means research is complicated by the loss of key records in 1922, but by no means made impossible. (BGOGS Vol. 27 #4)

WERE ALL YOUR ENGLISH ANCESTORS NON-CONFORMISTS

Non-con-form-ist (often cap) a Protestant in England who is not a member of the Church of England. Dissenter (1610-20: NON + CONFORMIST).

Before 1754 many Non-conformist couples chose a form of marriage service in their own church or chapel. Very few of these marriage records survive even if they were even recorded. Hardwicke's Marriage Act of 1754 was introduced to help solve these record keeping problems which even included some Anglican records. The Act made it illegal for all Non-conformists, except Jews and Quaker to have any weddings performed in their own chapels. These weddings had to take place in an Anglican church, before witnesses and performed by Anglican clergy. This continued until Civil Registration was introduced in 1837 in England and Wales. Following 1837, Nonconformist couples were allowed supervised denominational marriages in licensed churches or chapels or they could have a civil registration ceremony. It is interesting to note that many couples continued to be married in the Anglican church.

