

Community, Past, Present & Future



Family History Newsletter

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The Family History Newsletter is a publication of the Maple Ridge Historical Society

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The Family History group supports members with their family history research.

Members have ancestors from around the globe. We respectfully acknowledge that the land on which we live, work, and play is the traditional and unceded territory of the Katzie First Nation and the Kwantlen First Nation Peoples.

We meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 7pm virtually until further notice.

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Brothers in Arms

By Catherine J. Magee

The Maple Ridge Family History Group recently took on a project to flesh out the actual lives of soldiers named on the Maple Ridge Cenotaph. The focus, of course, was on the soldiers themselves, and how they connected with the Maple Ridge area. Many families were affected by this great loss of humanity in the First World War, and part of the project was to identify any other family members who may also have served. We wanted to honour not only those who paid the ultimate sacrifice, but also those who served, and returned. This is a story of how a soldier named on the Cenotaph, and his brother, were truly brothers in arms.



Private Henry Robert Cullum FLETCHER
Detail of image with permission of Linda Mattis

Robert Fletcher (No. 464538) signed up for service with the Canadian Over-seas Expeditionary Force (CEF) in Vancouver on November 17, 1915. The information recorded on his Attestation Paper (a form used to gather information about the applicant) includes that he was born in London, England in 1876, was married, and was a farmer in “Warnock” [Whonnock], BC. He had already been part of an active militia (the 104th Regiment) for eight months when he signed up. He had an “apparent age” of 39 years and was declared “fit for service”. Robert had, however, lied about his age and was 46 years old, having actually been born in 1869.

Robert went overseas in April 1916 and was sent to France in August of that year. He participated in the Battle of Vimy Ridge but around that time became very ill with what was referred to as “congestion of the spleen”. He recovered enough to be sent back into service, but in August 1917 he was shot, and died of his wounds received in action with the 47th Battalion. He was 48 years old and is buried in a French Military Cemetery. His name is on the Maple Ridge Cenotaph.

During his hospital stay for his congested spleen, Robert’s doctors included in their notes (which are part of his full service file) that in 1896 he had typhoid fever, and they also made notes on his family members’ medical histories to see if there were any underlying familial health

concerns. One line noted that he had a brother who was killed at the Somme in September 1916, so that was my next line of investigation.

Christie West Fletcher (No. 2119 and 107212) was Robert's younger brother. Christie also signed up for service with the CEF in Vancouver, on December 4, 1914, almost a year before Robert signed up. After confirming that this was, in fact, Robert's brother, I became interested in one entry on his Attestation Paper.

10. Have you ever served in any Military Force? *Yes, B.L.H. (India) Lumsden's Horse S.A.*
If so, state particulars of former Service.

Some of the writing was hard to decipher but I could clearly read "India" and "Horse". When Christie joined the CEF he joined the 2nd Regiment Canadian Mounted Rifles so that seemed to confirm the horse aspect. But what were the rest of the letters. "B.L.H." or "B.T.H."? What was that word before Horse? What did S.A. stand for? Given that both brothers were born in England, I thought the "B" might stand for "British". I finally discovered, through many internet searches using wild cards and wild guesses, that the full translation was "B.L.H. (India) Lumsden's Horse S.A.", but that still needed more translation. Eventually I found a fascinating story attached to that single line.

The "Bihar Light Horse (India)" was the name of a unit out of Calcutta, India where a sub group of 54 men (Lumsden's Horse S.A.) were granted leave to go to South Africa in 1900 to fight in the Second Boer War. The answer to "why" they did this might never be known, but these must have been exceptional men to even consider such a venture. Further searching gave confirmation through a website showing a "List of members granted leave to proceed to South Africa with Lumsden's Horse" with the name of "Trooper C.W. Fletcher" listed as one of these 54 men. Another mention in the book *The History of the Lumsden Horse, A complete record of the Corps from its formation to its disbandment*, edited by Henry H.S. Pearse (War Correspondent), published in 1903 shows the entry under "A Company, Section 2, Trooper Christie West Fletcher, Indigo Planter, Dholi Concern, Mozufferpore, Tirhoot", which I'm sure is another fascinating story worth researching.

In the First World War, Christie was promoted to Lance Corporal before being wounded and missing, and for official purposes, presumed to have died "on or since September 30, 1916" in the trenches near Courcellette at the Somme.

Robert gave his family's medical history on Feb 28, 1917 and by then he knew that his younger brother had been killed five months earlier. Robert, himself, would succumb to his wounds six months after that. So, in under a year, both brothers had been killed in the First World War and buried half a world away in France. They were truly brothers in arms.

The loss of two brothers/sons/husbands is a tragedy for any family, but it was a sad story repeated for many Canadian families of that time.

The Cenotaph Project was started years ago by Annette Fulford when she wondered about the life of a soldier whose name appeared on the monument. Using Annette's original work and guidance, the complex project was most ably directed by Gina Leigh, and organized by Alberta McNamara. Andrea Lister provided editing and website development planning, and Brenda Smith taught us much about citations. In addition to those, other volunteer researchers were Alice Campbell, Debbie Spouler, Diane Rogers, Gunter Rebele, Joy Mooney, Lynne Currie, and me. I think I speak for all of us when I say we were honoured to research these men who gave everything for country.

To read more about the soldiers whose names appear on the monument, please visit Honouring Those Who Served – Maple Ridge Museum:

<https://mapleridgemuseum.org/honouring-those-who-served/>

To search military records of the First World War:

<https://recherche-collection-search.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/help/pffww>

Farming Facts From Farmers
Whonnock Speaks for Itself

In our first Whonnock advertisement we said we would give you some specific statements about Whonnock farms, made by the farmers themselves. Well, here they are, and more are to follow. We might add that we have had wonderful growing there, as the right time was chosen in landing their name to any wildcat advertising, particularly as they would derive absolutely no benefit from it and would only bear their own good name.

Whonnock, B. C., April 6, 1910.
Messrs. Rogers & Black,
Burns Block, Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sirs.—In reply to your enquiries as to the amount of tomatoes grown and shipped from the plot I was speaking to you about, I might say that from five hundred plants, or about one-third of an acre, I realized \$100 net. That is here in Whonnock, where I would have made a great deal more. The variety is one called 'Early and Early'. In regard to the gooseberries—on a plot of ground 40x42 feet of bushes planted three years I realized \$30 net. Yours respectfully,
George Swadlow

Whonnock, B. C., April 5, 1910.
Mr. Robert Fletcher,
Whonnock, B. C.

Dear Sir.—I got your copy of the black current, though only three years in the ground, but to reach as certain pounds of fruit on each bush. From a small patch of bushes near the house we took in something over \$50. Sincerely yours,
Robert W. Fletcher

This is all we have to say until Monday. Think I am in the interval and, whenever, if you want to know in any thing that is really good right now, something that can make you an independent man, writing you tells me what that means you may add, right now, not in the future, for your money, time and labor—can you turn money into Whonnock farm lands.

Come in and ask us about Whonnock farms.

Whonnock Representative
ROBERT FLETCHER
Whonnock

ROGERS & BLACK
Burns Block, Cor. Carrall and Hastings. Phone 6315

Robert was, at various times, a real estate agent for Rogers & Black and property assessor for Maple Ridge. This is one of his advertisements for property in Whonnock.

VANCOUVER DAILY WORLD, 9 APRIL 191, 37

Mapping Their Journey—The Results

By Gina Leigh

Those who read the March 2024 issue of this newsletter may recall there was an article about the New Year's Challenge. One of the purposes of the annual challenge is to encourage members to take another or different look at their research. In this case, "create a map illustrating their travels" which might include timeframes, distances, transportation modes, etc.

This challenge meant reviewing censuses, passenger lists, personal correspondence and so on to plot the route(s). Including photographs, newspaper articles, scenic postcards, and personal stories filled in the story of the journey and added visual interest.

The challenge was tackled in a variety of ways by members of our group:

- Janice Davis used terrain and satellite imagery in Google Earth maps to pinpoint important family locations in Belfast, Ireland, and her grandmother's homes in Ontario, Saskatchewan, and British Columbia. On the Google map, Janice added in photos of family, buildings and landscape features with explanatory text, which could be viewed with a mouse click.
- Brenda Smith presented a different aspect of how maps are useful. She focused on the community in proximity to her great aunt Nancy's flour mill in Shropshire, England. Brenda revealed the community in which Nancy worked and lived by including photos and setting out distances from the mill to the home of the man Nancy married, and to the homes of family members.
- From Gunter Rebele we learned about his ancestor's occupation of ox driver in the 1600s. For 400 years up to 200,000 Hungarian Gray oxen were driven annually more than 800 kilometers over seven weeks from the lowland steppes of Hungary, through Romania and Austria to Germany. Each driver would move between 100 and 200 oxen. Maps helped us better understand the geography and distances travelled on foot required by this occupation.
- Cathy Magee's great-grandparents lived in Marble Rock, Floyd County, Iowa (1890), Minnesota (1903) and on to Stettler, Alberta (1906), before settling on their land east of Stettler. Cathy's maps pinpointed locations where family lived in the states and province, then expanded the maps to give a broader

view of the counties. Her grandfather wrote to the *Marble Rock Journal* newspaper, enabling Cathy to include newspaper articles with her maps and providing details about the lives of her family and their communities. Maps also showed how the decision by the Canadian Pacific Railway to lay rail tracks in a different location led to the demise of Haneyville, AB, established by her grandfather.

- Annette Fulford's maps explained where her First World War "war bride" grandmother lived in England through to her arrival at the Port of Quebec. Excerpts from her grandmother's letters written aboard ship to family in England described the voyage. Letters and postcards revealed the first sights of Canada.
- Alice Campbell's maps traced her husband's ancestors from small town Poland to Glasgow, Scotland, then to Western Canada. She started with a map of Poland and included both an image of an oil painting of the ancestral town from 1857 which she found online and current views. An old map of Glasgow showed the two areas where the family lived. Alice added photos of the dock area depicting the family's view of Montreal in 1902. Early 1900s maps showed the towns where the family lived in Manitoba and Alberta, and the route travelled by wagon to the homestead near Hanna, AB. A township map illustrated the proximity of the farm sections.
- I traced my grandfather's immigration to Canada, travelling by train from northeast Italy to Genoa in 1923. The passenger manifest and a postcard of the ship told how he got to New York. A contemporary railway map revealed the route travelled across the northern United States to his entry at the Port of White Rock, BC. Ocean Falls from Vancouver was depicted by a Union Steamship brochure map marking the stops the ship would have made up the BC coast.

Mapping their journey can be as expansive as crossing an ocean or a continent, or as close to home as the neighbourhood. All options tell us important facets of our ancestors' lives. Including photos, newspaper articles, family stories, or our own memories or experiences, help describe their lives.

Perhaps this summary of how the map challenge was answered will inspire a new approach or a different perspective to illustrate your ancestors' journeys.

Down the Research Rabbit Hole

Ed. Brenda L. Smith



Share the stories of your discoveries off the beaten track.

def. a rabbit hole currently connotes “a time-consuming distraction of one’s attention as happens when clicking through online links, following social media posts, or pursuing information.”

dictionary.com

You are invited to share your rabbit hole experiences. This is a safe space for you to confess your whims, because we have all been lost in the rabbit warren. And we especially welcome hearing about the amazing finds you make on these journeys.

This month I have a rabbit hole to tempt all of you. My cousin Marina Bennett has shared images of a tiny hand carved box from her family artifact collection. Her Little ancestors lived at Mara Lake in the British Columbia Shuswap area from before 1903 to 1918.

The carving is a glimpse into the history of the internment camps in the province during the First World War. The material is probably pine or spruce, and about 2.5” X 5” (6.36 X 12.7 cm). Shaped like a book, decorated with simple design on top and bottom, the lid is hinged with metal. The inscription, written in ink inside the lid reads:

Prisoner of War
Made by Shorty
Mara Lake Internment
Camp 1916



IMAGES MARINA BENNETT COLLECTION

If you choose to visit this rabbit hole, the carver’s identity is unknown. One of the challenges is to discover who “Shorty” was. Someone who is helping us with the puzzle is Arnold Badke, President of Vernon and District Family History Society. The Society has identified and arranged recognition for the seven Mara Lake internees who were buried in Vernon’s Pleasant Valley Cemetery.

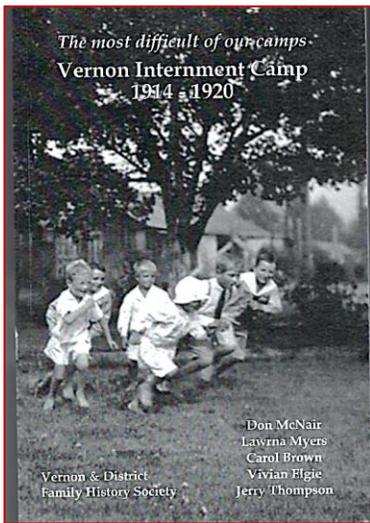
Further reading:

Canadian World War I Internment Legacy: a Program of the Shevchenko Foundation

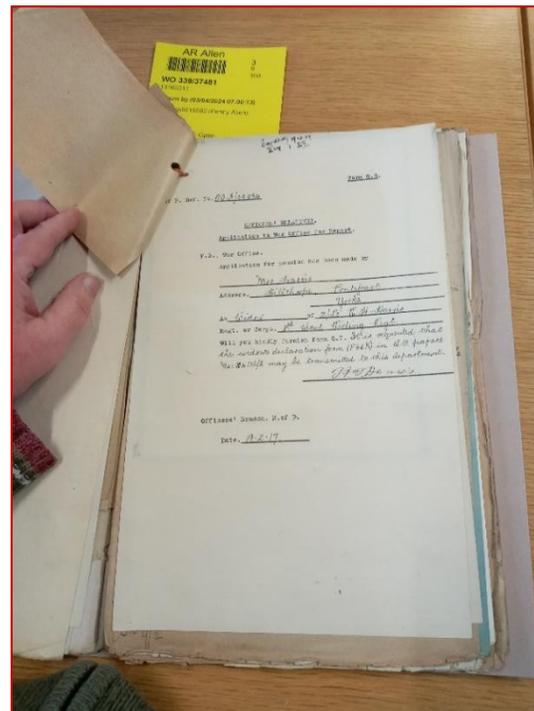
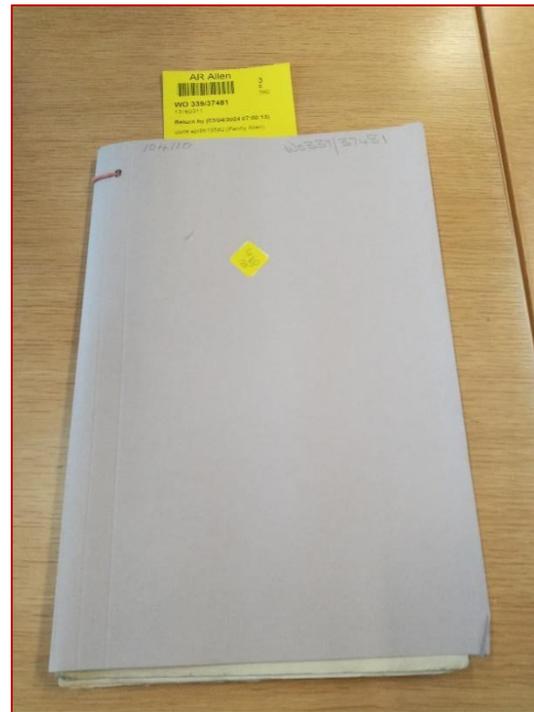
www.internmentcanada.ca/map-of-internment-locations/list-of-internment-camps/monashee-mara-lake-british-columbia/

Library and Archives Canada. *Internment Camps: First World War*, source guide. www.central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.item?op=pdf&id=005-1142.27.001

On This Spot – Mara Lake
www.onthisspot.ca/cities/maralake



Vernon and District Family History Society has published a history of the Vernon Internment Camp. A few copies remain at \$30, and you can order directly. Box 1447 Vernon, British Columbia, Canada, V1T 6N7 www.vdfhs.com



WO 339/37481 at The National Archives of the UK (TNA).

PHOTO BY PENNY ALLEN

Though, you can check out these online resources:

Honouring Those Who Served
www.mapleridgemuseum.org/community-history-projects/

Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps (QAIMNC) www.qarancassociation.org.uk

And please visit Penny Allen's blog:
<https://ukcdngenealogy.blogspot.com/>

And another rabbit hole leads us on to new discoveries...

The community history project, Honouring Those Who Served, team members have toppled into quite a few underground habitations. Here Andrea Lister shares an update to the story of Annette Constance (nee Browne-Clayton) Harris in the March 2024 issue of this column.

Update to Mrs. R. H. Harris and the QAIMNS By Andrea Lister

Penny Allen, a Canadian genealogist based in the United Kingdom kindly said yes to my request to look at WO 339/37481 at The National Archives of the UK (TNA). The WO 339 series contains records and correspondence for Regular Army and Emergency Reserve officers who served in the First World War. File 37481 pertained to 2nd Lieutenant Robert Hugh HARRIS. Penny took pictures of the whole file – 49 pictures in total!

The file included Robert's attestation papers and correspondence regarding the dispersal of his estate. His biography has now been updated to include his service number, enlistment date, and physical description.

The record includes correspondence from Lieutenant-Commander John Smythe Harris of the Royal Navy, Hydrographic Department, Admiralty, Robert's younger brother. He married Josephine Theresa Willemar of Comox, BC, daughter of Reverend Jules Xavier Willemar and resided in England.

Annette's address is Queen Mary's Military Hospital, Whalley, Blackburn, Lancashire in November 1916 through to 1917.

A good reminder that not everything is online.

Technology Tips: First World War Personnel Records Database

By Andrea Lister

<https://recherche-collection-search.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/help/pffww>

Library and Archives Canada has been updating their website and that means that we need to adapt. It is important to remember that organizations do not update their websites on a whim just to frustrate us. Updates are often done to keep up with changes in internet browsers, for security reasons or to ensure that users can use a website from their mobile device.

Search the Database

The new search has a number of options including enlistment province/state and the ability to search for specific terms like a regimental number or unit.

1. Enter your search terms and click **Search**.

The screenshot shows the 'Search the database' form with the following fields and options:

- Available online: All
- Co-Lab contributions: All
- All these words: Enter one or more words that must be in the results
- This exact phrase: Enter an expression or group of words that must be in the results
- Any of these words: Enter one or more search terms that might be in the results
- None of these words: Enter one or more search terms that must not be in the results
- Date: Year (selected), Time period, Year: YYYY
- First name: Enter first name
- Last name: Enter last name
- Specific terms: Select one, Enter word or number
- Birth province/state: All
- Enlistment province/state: All
- Buttons: Search, Clear

2. Click on **Advanced search** to adjust your search.

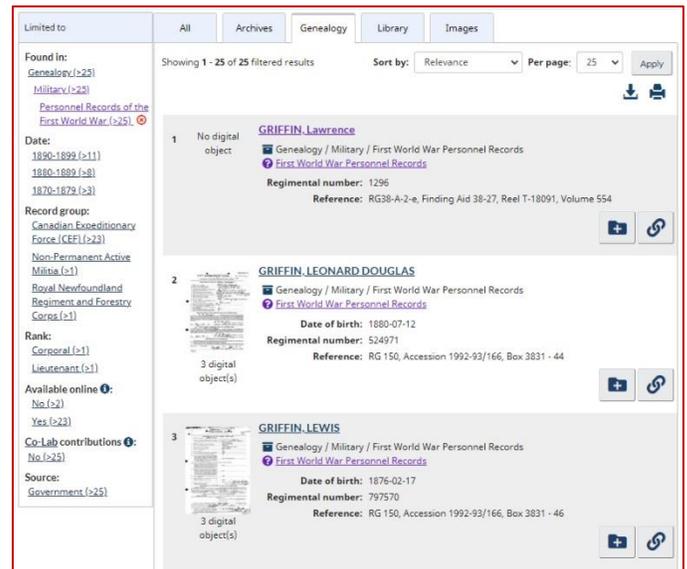


3. Remember that you can use wildcard characters in your search. Example: Griff*n to include Griffan, Griffen, Griffin, Griffon...

The screenshot shows the search form with the following entries:

- First name: |*
- Last name: griff*n
- Specific terms: Select one

4. More filters are available from the left-hand side of the search results. You can filter by record group: Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF); Non-Permanent Active Militia; and the Royal Newfoundland Regiment and Forestry Corps. You can also filter by rank: Corporal and Lieutenant.

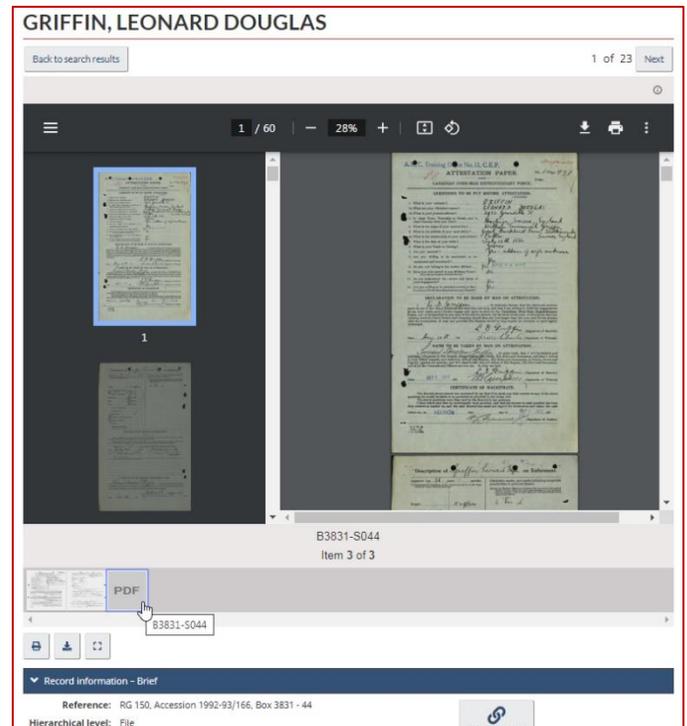


Viewing the Record

Not all records have been digitized but further information is available in the description.

1. Click on the soldier's name.

A view window will open.



2. Click the images to view the attestation images or click **PDF** to view the soldier's whole service file.
3. Click **enter fullscreen** for a bigger view or click **Download** to save the file to your computer.



Points to the Past

www.pointstothepast.ca

By Brenda L. Smith

Points to the Past



Points to the Past is a portal for original publications provided free to the residents of British Columbia's through the Electronic Learning Network, a consortium of the libraries of University of British Columbia, University of Victoria, and Simon Fraser University. The agreement allows access to Gale Primary Sources, nearly 200 million pages of digitized historical content – maps, photos, newspapers, manuscripts, pamphlets, portraits, and more. Access is available either through libraries or directly at the site with no log in or authentication.

This column explores a selection of individual collections from the 30 data sets nested within the site to introduce some of the potential for family historians to further their research. For a list of the collections see www.pointstothepast.ca/resources.html

What Happened to Canada's Grain Industry During the Great Depression?

For most of us, the Great Depression is part of our family lore: the Great Crash of the stock market, the Dust Bowl, relief camps. The accounts we think of are usually expressions of local experience. To put these stories in context we can use academic analysis, literature, local and other histories, and newspaper accounts.

I started this search outside of *Points to the Past* in statistics. The *Canada Year Book* has been a go-to resource for me since elementary school. More recently, Statistics Canada has made many of its reports available online, so I checked for the available material for the mid 1930s.

For me the question of what went on during the 1930s was renewed by a 1937 summary "Canada's leading domestic exports, fiscal years 1890, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, and 1936"

www65.statcan.gc.ca/acyb02/1937/acyb02_19370518000x-eng.htm

Looking just at the agricultural products, I found the following in 1930 Canadian dollars (\$1 CDN in 1930 converts to approximately \$17.18 CDN in 2024 money according to the Bank of Canada "Inflation Calculator").

Export Product	1930	1936
Wheat	15,752,475	148,578,975
Meats	15,030,671	24,220,802
Wheat Flour	45,467,195	19,382,617
Whisky	25,858,136	16,388,585
Fruits (chiefly apples)	9,593,484,	11,259,853
Cattle	13,119,462	7,360,179
Cheese	18,278,004	6,789,588
Farm Implements, machinery	18,396,688	6,344,437
Vegetables	11,240,747	4,860,294
Oats	4,055,855	4,520,822
Leather, unmanufactured	6,496,951	4,312,861
Fertilizers	7,990,313	4,282,933
Barley	10,388,735	3,674,119
Cereal Foods	2,431,137,	3,554,774
Bran and Shorts	2,582,484	2,988,324
Malt	64,736	2,919,996
Oatmeal and rolled oats	2,440,968	2,670,864
Tobacco, raw	1,504,264	2,664,681
Milk, processed	3,262,101	2,215,410
Butter	543,851	1,799,784
Wool, raw	1,576,342	1,645,767
Sausage casings	955,933	1,070,660
Seeds	3,237,774	681,103
Hay	2,007,944	613,215
Rye	1,451,640	291,643

Wheat, meats, oats, processed cereals, apples, and tobacco increased despite the severe economic downturn, but most other agricultural export values declined. So what caused these shocking decreases in Canadian agricultural output?

Points to the Past is an amazing pool of monographs, magazines, historical documents, and contemporary news sources that deliver international perspectives on this shared experience.

The following *Times of London* article names three events starting with the October 1929 stock market crash, that brought the Roaring 20s to a dramatic end.

BANKING IN CANADA

MR. JACKSON DODDS'S ADDRESS

The following extracts are taken from the address of Mr. Jackson Dodds, president of the Canadian Bankers' Association and general manager of the Bank of Montreal, delivered at the annual general meeting of the association, held in Montreal on November 14, in which he made a vigorous reply to criticisms of Canadian banks and banking:—

Thrice in the past six years have the banks been put to the acid test—the stock market crash of 1929, the abandonment of gold by Great Britain in 1931, the bank holiday in the United States in 1933. From all these they emerged with public confidence in them unshaken. The proven soundness of the banks under this triple onslaught was of incalculable value to Canada and to all Canadians during those days of stress and strain. The maintenance of the credit of Canada, its provinces, institutions, and people during the past six unprecedented years has been aided in large measure by the strength and cooperation of the banks.

THE REVISION OF THE BANK ACT

"BANKING IN CANADA", *THE TIMES OF LONDON*, 18 NOVEMBER 1935, ISSUE 47224, PAGE 23.

Another factor that we tend to take as given is the Dust Bowl, as if it was a decade of drought in central North America. During 1933, drought struck around the world.

In Case of Famine.

THE Department of Health for Scotland has issued a circular to local authorities calling for particulars of water supplies and of any measures that may be necessary to conserve and augment supplies likely to fall short in future. The drought of 1933 has left its mark on the minds of the authorities both central and local. With many burghs it was touch and go between scarcity and famine; and although Scotland has had copious rain during the winter, the avidity with which the soil has absorbed even the heaviest falls is proof that the ground last year was parched to a great depth. Moreover, there has been little snow—none in the plains and nothing like the normal on the hills; and for the deep-seated springs, which give the main body of the country's water supply, only heavy snow that lingers long is an adequate renewer. In a few weeks the year will be so far advanced that even a heavy snowstorm will not lie long, and if the summer should prove to be of average warmth and dryness the water problem is bound to crop up again. It would therefore be well if local authorities took stock of their water resources and found out approximately how they will stand in the event of another year of stress.

"IN CASE OF FAMINE", *ABERDEEN JOURNAL* (ABERDEEN, SCOTLAND), 24 JANUARY 1934, ISSUE: 24668, PAGE 6.

STEPS TO AVERT DISTRESS

NEW "WRECKERS'" TRIAL

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

RIGA, MAY 28

The Soviet Government to-day published a long decree about averting distress due to crop failures owing to the drought and the consequent increase in the cost of living. The decree embraces in detail not only industrial workers, but practically all sections of wage-earners in all parts of Russia, prescribing the exact extent of wage increases in each category.

Rain has recently fallen in many grain areas, but it is impossible to estimate to what extent it will be possible to rescue the crop, as the authorities have not issued comprehensive reports. Moreover, the amount of grain garnered in 1933 was grossly overstated officially. Now it has become known that the official figure of 89,000,000 metric tons given as the total grain yield in 1933 is based on a new system of calculation. The statisticians did not base the figures on the actual amount harvested as in other years, but on the estimated areas sown and the estimated quantity of standing crops, deducting 10 per cent. (much too low for Russia) as the probable wastage during harvesting.

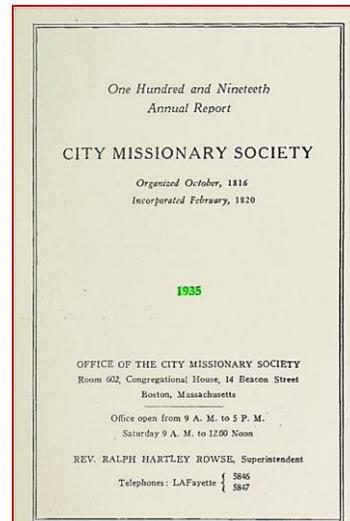
M. Osinsky, head of the Government Statistical Department, has now fallen into semi-disgrace, and is being attacked by *Pravda*, *Za Industrializatsiu* and other newspapers for the absence of reality in his statistics.

Drought in Eastern Europe resulted in relief shipments from North America and elsewhere. See the "Letters From Hell Index" for further insight into that story.

www.ahsgr.org/letters-from-hell-index

"CROP FAILURES IN RUSSIA", *THE TIMES* (LONDON), 29 MAY 1934, ISSUE: 46766, PAGE 13.

Government and private organizations instituted relief systems that involved payments to families, enhanced charity delivery, and labour camps.



ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH ANNUAL REPORT CITY MISSIONARY SOCIETY 1935, CITY MISSIONARY SOCIETY (BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS), VOLUME: 85.

MARCH OF CANADIAN STRIKERS

MR. BENNETT'S WARNING

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

OTTAWA, JUNE 25

The problem created by the band of malcontent unemployed who, after going on strike in relief camps in British Columbia, have been trekking eastward towards Ottawa, gathering recruits on the way, is causing the Government much concern. On Saturday Mr. Bennett and some of his colleagues received a deputation of eight representing the marchers, who are now camped at Regina. After hearing their demands Mr. Bennett dealt very sternly with them and warned them that they must desist from their present courses or take the consequences. Yesterday he made a statement in the Commons.

Mr. Bennett declared that the eastward march was the result of systematic propaganda carried on by well organized forces, which had induced a number of young men of good disposition to believe that they were victims of hardship and tyranny at the hands of the Government. He said the unemployed relief camps which they had left were not permanent but temporary institutions created to supply shelter, clothing, and food to single and homeless unemployed men. Their management had won warm commendation from impartial people who had inspected them. He himself had inspected two camps unannounced and believed their inmates were faring better than many Canadians living on farms or in cities. He quoted a cablegram sent from Paris by the International Union of Seamen and Harbour-workers to him which had demanded that the Government should not interfere with the striking dockers at Vancouver as evidence that the actions of the Canadian unemployed were being inspired by international Communistic organizations. He said the Government were determined to meet the challenge offered by their conduct, and orders had been given to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to prevent the marchers from trespassing any more upon railway property in their advance eastward.

"MARCH OF CANADIAN STRIKERS", *THE TIMES* (LONDON), 26
JUNE 1935, ISSUE: 47100, PAGE 15.

By focusing this search on the mid-decade, the results demonstrate rich opportunities for learning more about the Dirty Thirties and introduce context for my family's many different experiences. There were also tantalizing hints of social and economic change that we can recognize today in the Canada Pension Plan and Employment Insurance.

Research News

Tehran and Mashhad Censuses

<https://iranian-genealogy.com/2024/02/25/featured-resource-tehran-and-mashhad-censuses/>

Did you have relatives living in Tehran or Mashhad in the 19th century? If so, you might be able to find your ancestors in the censuses of Tehran and Mashhad.

The Tehran city censuses are from 1852-1853, 1869-1870, and 1899-1900

Census of Mashhad in 1878/9

The censuses generally recorded the names of the heads of households in the city at a given time. Additionally, they put these names into the geographical context of their neighborhood. For these reasons, these censuses are invaluable genealogical resources. Unfortunately, they are not text searchable.

Historic Maps of Western Canada

<https://past-presence.com/historic-maps-of-western-canada/>

A collection of fully digitized maps, sorted by year, for what is now Western Canada, from the Manitoba/Ontario border westward put together by Linda Yip of Past Presence. It includes diocese, gold, homestead, railway, and steamship route maps.

Aberdeenshire Collections added to Ancestry

www.ancestry.co.uk

- Aberdeenshire, Scotland, Police Records, 1818-1948
- Aberdeenshire, Scotland, World War II Related Records, 1940-1945
- Aberdeenshire, Scotland, School Admission Registers, 1852-1927

Angus Archives, Scotland Online

<https://angusalive.adlibhosting.com/home>

The Angus Archives' catalogue is now available online! For the first time, you can dive into a treasure trove of history, stories, and heritage from across Angus, all from the comfort of your home.

Explore objects, collection descriptions, archival material, archaeology sites and people records, such as early donors, artists and makers.

RootsIreland

www.rootsireland.ie

RootsIreland has added 16,762 new baptismal records for Ballyferriter parish, Kerry, 1807-1899.

Introducing the British Home Children Collection

www.findmypast.co.uk/blog/new/home-children-record-sets

Published in partnership with Library and Archives Canada, these four new sets of educational, work and travel records tell the story of Britain's Home Children – over 130,000 vulnerable and impoverished minors who were sent to live overseas in the 19th and 20th centuries.

- Canada, Home Children Inspection Reports
- Canada, Home Children Board of Guardian Records
- Lancashire, Liverpool, Children Sent to Canada 1883-1925
- Britain, Children's Legislation Correspondence

County Galway Burial Records

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/b42c38a841b84d2b8da39ebd9b6b3c00/page/Search-Burial-Records/>

Galway County Council has recorded and mapped more than 40,000 gravemarkers and their inscriptions in over 30 of the county's graveyards. These burial records are available to view online for free.

The Genealogist

www.thegenealogist.co.uk

- Residential and Trade Directories collection, back to 1744. Covering England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and the Channel Islands, and America, Canada, India, New Zealand and South Africa.
- Over 1,769,000 individuals to the Irish Catholic Parish Record Collection, covering over 80 parishes in County Tipperary.
- Over 1,263,000 Irish Wills.

Ancestry updates Ontario, Canada, Deaths and Deaths Overseas, 1869-1950

<https://www.ancestry.ca/search/collections/8946/>

Subscribers can now explore more than 43,000 newly added Ontario death registrations from the Archives of Ontario.

WieWas Wie

www.wiewaswie.nl/en/search/

For Dutch research in The Netherlands – original records available for many of the entries. When you do an advanced search be sure to use the English version. You can narrow down your search once you have results by Collection region, Document type, Organization, or Role. You can use the site in conjunction with the Ancestry:

www.ancestry.ca/search/collections/61286/

Planning a Trip to the BC Archives?

<https://past-presence.com/2022/09/05/what-you-need-to-know-to-visit-the-bc-archives-today-sep-2022/>

Are you planning a trip to the BC Archives in Victoria to do some research and are uncertain how it all works? Linda Yip has you covered. Her blog post has everything from costs, hours, lockers, offsite retrievals, what you can bring into the archives and what you cannot bring into the archives and how to load the microfilm machine.

Who is your herstory heroine?

www.findmypast.co.uk/page/womens-history?

Play your part in writing women back into history. FindMyPast has uncovered five overlooked women's stories from their historical records. Vote for your favourite and they will commemorate the winner with a special plaque later this year.

Fortify Your Family Tree

www.family-tree-advice.blogspot.com/2024/04/purpose.html

DiAnn Imarinno Ohama advises on how to “handle your genealogy research like a pro.” Check out the blog post 16 April 2024 “Why are you doing genealogy research?”

TreeLines

www.treelines.com

Treelines helps you turn your tree into stories your friends & relatives actually want to read.

This is a collaborative, story-centric family tree website you and your family have been looking for. Whether you're an experienced genealogist with a fully built-out tree or a fledgling family historian unsure where to dive in, you'll find Treelines to be the perfect way to involve your whole family in adding meaning to your family's history.

Government of Canada Parliamentary Library Research Guides

www.lop.parl.ca/sites/PublicWebsite/default/en_CA/ResearchPublications#gsc.tab=0

You might find interesting background information in this timeline if your family participated in the agricultural industry in the 20th century.

“Dates of Historical Interest – The Grain Industry in Canada 1891 to 1998”

www.publications.gc.ca/Collection-R/LoPBdP/modules/prb98-2-grain/dates-e.htm

Family History Events

Abbotsford Family History Day

www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Abbotsford_British_Columbia_FamilySearch_Centre

- **All Day Family History Event**
Presentations are for beginners to seasoned researchers and lunch is included. Saturday May 11th, from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints at 30635 Blueridge Dr in Abbotsford. Free. Lunch provided.

Abbotsford Genealogical Society

<https://abbygs.ca>

Abbotsford's Reach Gallery Museum in Studio 2.

- **Never Seen Again** with Brenda L. Smith, May 16, 2024, 1:30 PM (PST). Free.
- **Strawberry Tea**, June 13, 2024, 1:30 PM (PST). Must RSVP.

North of Ireland Family History Society

www.nifhs.org/courses

Register by emailing education.zoom@nifhs.org.

- **Starting Out on WikiTree**, with Anne Johnston, May 24, 2024, 7:00 PM BST on Zoom.
- **Growing Your Family Tree** with Martin McDowell, June 26, 2024, 7:00 PM BST on Zoom.

Ontario Genealogical Society

<https://ogs.on.ca/2024-webinar-lineup/>

- **2024 Conference, An Interactive Experience: Explore, Engage, Enjoy!**, June 14-16, 2024. In person in Toronto. Fee: \$239 CDN members / \$279 non-members. A la carte options available.

- **Unearthing the Treasures in the Irish Registry of Deeds** with Natalie Bodle, July 4, 2024 7:00 PM EST.

Maple Ridge Historical Walking Tours

<https://mapleridgemuseum.org/historic-walking-tours/>

- **Cemetery Walking Tours** with Erica Williams. May 4, June 5, July 6, 2024, 2:00 PM meet at the gates at the end of 214 street (just off Dewdney Trunk Road). Free, please register.
- **Downtown Walking Tours** with Erica Williams. May 5, June 2, July 7, 2024, 2:00 PM. Meet at the large horse clock outside of City Hall. Free, please register.

Nova Scotia Genealogy Virtual Conference

www.nsgenconference.ca

- **Explore Your Ancestral Ocean Playground**, May 4-5, 2024. Via Zoom. Fee: \$39 CDN for GANS Members; \$69 for non-members.

Qualicum Beach Family History Society

www.qbfhs.ca

- **Trusting Your Sources: How Do You Know You've Found the Right Record?** with Marie Palmer, May 15, 2024, 6:00 PM PST via Zoom. Registration is required for non-members.
- **Fall Seminar 2024 Joint Seminar** with Campbell River Genealogy Society with Diane Rogers, November 2, 2024, 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM PST. \$10 for non-members. Registration required.

Surrey Libraries

www.surreylibraries.ca/services/family-history

Free. Registration required. Email or call to register.

- **Family History DNA Chat** Fridays, May 10, June 14, 2024, 2:30 to 3:30 PM. Cloverdale.
- **Fun Family History Friday**. Fridays, May 24, June 28, 2024, 2:30 to 3:30 PM. Cloverdale.
- **Online Research for Ancestors in Poland, Prussia, and Pommern** with Sigrid Pohl Perry, Friday, June 7, 2024. 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM, PST. Online via Microsoft Teams.

The Family History Group is a standing committee of the Maple Ridge Historical Society and we encourage, but do not require, that our members join the society.

We meet on the first Wednesday of the month, 7pm on Zoom until further notice. Email us at: mrfamilyhistory@gmail.com for information on how to join the meeting.

Canada celebrates Mother's Day in May and Father's Day in June. Through their research, family historians expand on the celebration of these special family members by including many generations of parents, grandparents and those who willingly took on one these important roles.

May 1, 2024: Celebrating Mothers & Grandmothers

June 6, 2024: Celebrating Fathers & Grandfathers

The May and June Short Programs offer an opportunity to honour these notable women and men in your family. How did their lives unfold? Enrich your family history by sharing their stories.

Have something to share? There's always time to hear about an exciting new find or an interesting family story.