Edith Medhurst

Picton woman marks 101st birthday

By MARG HAYLOCK Staff Reporter

PICTON - Edith Florence Medhurst, who sailed from England to Canada aboard a sail and steam schooner to meet and marry a cavalry officer, today is celebrating her 101st birthday at Hallowell House.

Born in 1877 at Westhall, Kent, Mrs. Medhurst was one of 12 children. Her family operated a large catering business in Tonbridge, Wells and when she was still a small child decided to immigrate to Canada.

After arrival, the family settled in Toronto and Mrs. Medhurst met and married Major Nahor Medhurst, when in her late teens.

A cavalryman during the first
World War, her husband at one time
trained horses for a musical ride.

Mr. and Mrs. Medhurst were overseas throughout World War One and afterward lived for a time in Saint John, New Branswick.

Mrs. Medhurst noted she has travelled through many parts of Canada and has genuine enthusiasm for the country.

In 1936 she and her husband settled in Prince Edward County at his retirement and the couple began an active life in the community.

The Medhursts, who lived on Washburn Street in Picton, opened their home to flyers based at Camp Picton and in gratitude many of the servicemen began correspondence with the couple, following the war. Mrs. Medhurst still receives cards and notes from airmen entertained in her home during the war years.

Major Medhurst died in 1951 and his wife remained keenly interested in local activities. She became involved in projects sponsored through the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, here and earned life membership in the IODE lodge.

Mrs. Medhurst celebrated her birthday this afternoon during a small party attended by residents of Hallowell House, family members and friends.

Her son Harry Medhurst of Bloomfield was present for the occasion but a second son, James, of Florida was unable to attend.



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