

Mrs. Wm. Hendrie Entertains Aldershot Women

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Members of the Aldershot Historical Society were entertained at tea Thursday afternoon, Feb. 21, by Mrs. Wm. Hendrie at Gateside House in Hamilton. The Society is a group of women interested in preserving the history of Aldershot places and families. The Tweedsmuir History Book, one volume of which is completed, has been the group's project for a number of years.

The Hendrie family owned a farm and stables of racing horses on land donated to the Royal Botanical Gardens. The beautiful gates in Hendrie Park came from her family's home. In the time of Mr. Hendrie's father, one of the horses won the Queen's Plate. Mrs. Hendrie still wears a ring fashioned from one of the race's golden prize guineas, given to her by her husband.

Mrs. Hendrie was interested in old pictures of her family's property which vividly recalled her past. The first volume was left for her to study more closely.

Members of the Historical Society present were: Mrs. Harry Stevenson, Mrs. E. Banks, Mrs. Jack Quigley, Mrs. S. Wickens, Mrs. J. F. Carson, Mrs. Howard Gallagher, Mrs. Leslie Laking, who advised Mrs. Hendrie of the

book and Mrs. Henry Klodt, a direct descendant of Mr. David Fonger, the original settler of Aldershot. Miss Edith Olmsted was also interested in these pages of history.

Mrs. Wickens brought with her four paintings she had done from old photographs. One was the first school, another the old grocery store and post office located at Waterdown Road and Plains Road East. The third painting depicted ice-cutting on the Bay at Brown's wharf, now La Salle Park and the fourth was a view of the Hendrie house and stable as it was many years ago. Mrs. Hendrie was very pleased when this last painting was presented to her by Mrs. Wickens.

MRS. William Hendrie, of Gateside House, Aberdeen Avenue, remembers Canada's first prime minister as a "man who loved children."

"John A." used to be a guest in her parents' home. "That was before he was knighted and became Sir John A. Macdonald."

Since that time, Mrs. Hendrie, now 90, has had many of the distinguished of the past half-century as her guests.

ON MANTELS and tables, writing desks and shelves at Gateside House, their portraits are arranged . . . the late Governor Vanier, Lady Bessborough, and Mrs. J. Keiller Mackay affectionately to her.

Mrs. Hendrie's father, the late Adam Brown, MP and postmaster of Hamilton for more than 30 years, was as keen on Canadian railroad building as was John A., under whose leadership the Canadian Pacific Railway was built.

Her husband the late Col. William Hendrie, who died in 1924, was one of Canada's most noted sportsmen and had an outstanding military career.

Until his death, he headed the Hamilton Cartage and Transportation firm, Hendrie and Company, begun by his father in 1855.

RECALLING the years of her marriage at Gateside House, which was built in 1911,

In a recent interview at Gateside House, she looked back to the early years of her marriage and to the days when she first became active in Hamilton's community life.

Her marriage, in June, 1901, to Capt. William Hendrie, was termed by the press "a brilliant affair" and "one of the most fashionable gatherings that ever assembled in a

GATESIDE House is filled with portraits of Mrs. Hendrie's three children, six grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren, as well as many of her family.

She adored the races, although she never rode.

SHE CHATS of the Boer rebellion, the Boer War, fishing — after her husband's death — at Connemara in Ireland, when she visited the late Senator and Mrs. George Lynch - Staunton.

"We stayed at a lovely estate, owned by one of the directors of the Titanic . . . I remember one day, the first cast I made, getting two fish

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been buried with their legs crossed to show they had been twice to the Crusades; in the SPCA (her father founded the Hamilton Branch in 1887).

HER AUGUST appearance is deceiving. She has a genius for friendship, an ability to take time for the little things, to shed tears with the sorrowing and to do the practical thing for the needy.

She would sooner chat about her great-grandchildren than