

## 1900s in Review

By Rosella Clancy

Our present-day reflections may take us to the early 1900s when crazy quilts, beaded purses and carnival glass were in vogue.

- At a recent auction sale I noted authentic crazy quilts boasting a variety of fabric scraps and lavish embroidery. Many members took pride in learning the appropriate stitches - buttonhole, herringbone, lazy daisy and French knots. Demonstrating embroidery skills and displaying examples of needlework might combine to make an interesting meeting. A pictorial coverage and copies of patterns could become Tweedsmuir entries.
- The Hay Bay Women's Institute featured a "History of Carnival Glass." This ornamental glass, also known as "Poor Man's Tiffany," can be a joy to collect and display. You might research its production in the heyday period of the early 1900s and include a display of tumblers, candy and serving dishes, powder jars and vases. This would provide members with an opportunity to view examples of the patterns and fine workmanship.
- Ontario is not only unique in its variety of landforms, but also in its variety of architectural styles. As Tweedsmuir Curators, consider capturing these features which make your community unique. Maybe it's the balance of rocks, trees and water, or the rolling farmlands. Or maybe it's the way the stones and bricks were placed to construct examples of heritage architecture.
- Tracing Your Ancestors in Canada* was revised in 1998. It briefly describes several categories - census records, vital statistics, land records, wills and estates and military and immigration documents. Copies are available from the National Archives of Canada at 395 Wellington St., Ottawa ON K1A 0N3. You might also enjoy reading pages 89 to 94 in the June 1999 issue of the *Reader's Digest*. "Peeking into Your Past" reveals the intrigue of genealogical research and shares helpful suggestions.
- Consider encouraging your members to write about a "20th Century Memory" which holds precedence over all other recollections. These brief writings, sad or humorous, will give later researchers an appreciation of the life styles in the 1900s.
- Twice yearly, Spring and Fall, I have had an opportunity as your Provincial Tweedsmuir Coordinator to make submissions to the *Home & Country* newsletter. Have you considered placing copies of these submissions in a separate folder? Your successor might appreciate your thoughtfulness!
- Lastly, would District Tweedsmuir Curators consider a section in the District Tweedsmuir Book where they can record the whereabouts of disbanded Branch Tweedsmuir Books?

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## Dunrobin WI Donates Heritage Quilt

Venetia Moorhouse of the Dunrobin Branch recently donated a 100 year old heritage quilt to the Erland Lee (Museum) Home. The "Crazy Quilt," composed of a multitude of scraps of fancy material, was made circa 1890 by the Mooney family in the London and Exeter areas of Ontario. The quilt was handed down and came into the possession of the Moorhouse family in Dunrobin. Because the Lee Home has a fine collection of heritage quilts and has the 1890s as its time frame, Moorhouse decided to donate the quilt to the birthplace of the Women's Institute.



Dunrobin WI member Venetia Moorhouse presented the 1890s "Crazy Quilt" to the Erland Lee (Museum) Home Curator Michael Gemmell.

Submitted by Venetia Moorhouse, Dunrobin WI, Carleton.

## In Honour of Madge Watt



Members of the Niagara District WI donned hats and gloves typical of the 1920s and '30s to participate in a play about Madge Watt, the visionary Canadian woman who founded the Associated Country Women of the World 70 years ago. Standing left to right are Marion Egerter, Joan McNeil, Jean Egerter, Carolyn Skulj, Naomi Nemeth and Pam Bronn. Seated from left to right are Doris Senior, Mary McCutcheon and Pat Woodruff. Proceeds from the event went to support the ACWW Project to combat iodine deficiency in Ghana, West Africa.

Submitted by Marion Egerter, PRO, Niagara District.