



## It's a far cry from the Namking Cafe

Generations from now, few Kinsmen will have the opportunity to forget their humble beginnings or the man who founded their club.

On Feb. 23 the Kinsmen club planned to open the Hal Rogers National Headquarters Building in Cambridge.

The \$750,000 three-storey contemporary building, set into the side of a hill on a prime piece of the city's parkland, will be dedicated to Rogers - three days and 60 years after he founded the club in Hamilton.

It's a far cry from a small gathering in a Hamilton cafe in 1920 when Rogers and 11 other young men met to set the wheels in motion.

Nor would Rogers know at the time that the small band of men would grow to 18,000 strong in more than 600 clubs across Canada.

When Kinsmen administrators first started talking about a new headquarters they didn't anticipate the swell of support from members across Canada.

"At first we thought of buying a building in Toronto and leasing office space to companies to help with the costs," Executive-Director Peter Hanly says.

"In 10 years we had moved five or six times and we felt it was time to get a building that would meet our future expansion needs. We would rent the space we didn't need until we were ready to expand."

When it was raised with Kinsmen at a national convention the response was overwhelming. Soon after,

money started flowing in from various clubs, Hanly said.

"At that point we realized we had the capability to build our own building," he said.

As word spread, Kinsmen clubs started talking with their municipalities about sites. Seven were suggested including Chilliwack, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Markham, Mississauga, Guelph and Cambridge.

"Cambridge was the best site for a number of reasons," says Hanly. "First the site available to us was in a park on a hill with a commanding view of Highway 401. The land was available for one dollar a year for 99 years and finally the City of Cambridge was fully co-operative."

Hanly says the new headquarters is "a dream come true for thousands of Kinsmen."

He says, "It's a testament to the strength and quality of the organization and the people, both men and women, who are members in the family of Kin, numbering nearly 40,000 from coast to coast."

The 14,000 square foot building houses the administrative offices, work and supply areas, seminar and board rooms.

Reception rooms, a lunch room and a kitchen are also part of the facility.

The most dramatic characteristic of the building, according to Hanly, is the Founder's Wall, which runs

the height of the three storey structure. Here, silver coated bricks identify supporting clubs. A bust of Hal Rogers is set in the area and the club's archives are found here.

The cost of the building, at \$750,000 is substantially more than the \$500,000 the club first expected to raise.

Clubs are not required to donate anything at all to the new building but already \$600,000 has been raised.

"Contributions are totally voluntary and when you consider that Kinsmen clubs contributed approximately \$43 million to community service work last year - we are doing well," Hanly says.

The executive-director says the organization will not have to mortgage any part of the building because he is confident the money will be raised.

The organization did consider cutting costs at one time.

"We removed the elevator (for use by the handicapped) from the plans but members protested loudly and pledged more contributions to keep it," Hanly said.

Opening ceremonies are planned at the site on Feb. 23. The Prime Minister is expected to be present for the festivities.

In addition Kinsmen representation from every province in Canada will be attending.

## Cystic fibrosis emerges as major Kin concern

To say the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation relies on the Kinsmen association would be a serious understatement.

The foundation receives somewhere in the neighbourhood of one-third its budget from Kinsmen and Kinettes.

Last year, the August edition of Kin magazine indicated \$767,000 had been raised by Kinsmen and Kinettes for CF research during the year.

Since 1964, it has been estimated the Kinsmen-Kinette contribution in direct donations has been worth \$2.5 million.

Kinsmen involvement with cystic fibrosis research

began in 1963 when Bill Skelly of the Kinsmen Club of North York, Ont. asked Dr. Douglas Crozier to speak to his club.

Dr. Crozier works in the cystic fibrosis clinic at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto.

When he explained the genetic disease to the North York club, word was spread through neighbouring clubs and proceeds of a 1964 tag day were donated to CF research.

The Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation was asked to make a formal presentation to Kinsmen and in June 1964, cystic fibrosis was adopted as a major Kinsmen project.

In addition to raising funds, Kinsmen and Kinettes actively promote public awareness of the disease and the value of research through information booths at fairs, trade shows and schools throughout Canada.

Club members also support a month-long summer camp in Ontario for older cystic fibrosis patients.

Six of the eight Kinsmen districts support cystic fibrosis work in addition to several, other heavy financial commitments in several districts.

Peter Hanly, executive director of the Association of Kinsmen Clubs, says CF continues to draw an increasing commitment from Kinsmen districts.

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