

JUNO REVISITED

Our April feature on the little wooden steamer JUNO has evoked much favourable comment, and we sincerely thank those who have responded to the article. The fact that so many of our features prompt the participation of the members is one of the most rewarding aspects of producing "Scanner".

One of the photos of JUNO which illustrated our article showed her unloading coal at a bunkers dock but we could not identify the location. One of our members, Rev. Raymond M. Donahue, of Algonac, Michigan, has come up with the answer. In his extensive collection, he managed to locate a postcard of the wooden steamer IRON AGE unloading coal at the very same wharf, and the card is captioned "Coal Docks, Sandwich, Ont.". Fr. Ray also notes that, in later years, this wharf, much altered, was still dispensing coal bunkers, known then as Empire-Hanna Dock No. 3. Considering that she was locally owned, it is not surprising that JUNO would be taking coal to a bunkers dock along the Windsor waterfront.

We also heard from Charles Taws, Curator of the Bowmanville Museum, who expressed an interest in joining T.M.H.S. and also sent along information concerning the latter years of JUNO. One of the items is a copy of an article from the October 10, 1914, issue of "The (Toronto) Evening Telegram", entitled "Unwelcome Tenants of the East End of the Bay". It was illustrated by a drawing of the much deteriorated hull of ERIE BELLE, the partially cut-down passenger steamer DUNDURN and, in the distance, the steamer JUNO, the latter apparently in fairly decent condition.

The article stated: "Three once prominent inhabitants of Canadian lakes and waterways, past their days of usefulness, are no longer welcome to the resting place found for them in the (Toronto) harbour, west of the plant of the National Iron Works.

"Orders have gone forth from the Harbour Commission to the effect that the hulks of the schooner ERIE BELLE, and the steamers JUNO and DUNDURN must find new quarters. Removal is necessary to make way for harbour improvement work.

"The ERIE BELLE used to be a 'topsail schooner' in the old days, the trimmest craft of her kind. She sank in the Chippawa Creek ten years ago. Recently she was raised by a Toronto dredging concern for the purpose of rebuilding her, but this was found to be too expensive. The new owner beached and abandoned her near the docks of the National Iron Works.

"The DUNDURN and the JUNO both belong to the Canada Steamship Lines. Last fall, the boilers and engine were taken out of the DUNDURN, and installed in a ferry steamer at Montreal. When the steel plates on the boat were stripped, it was found that the timbers in the hull were in bad shape and she was beached. The JUNO, one of the old wooden-hull freighters, was also hauled up behind the DUNDURN."

Mr. Taws also sent us a copy of an article entitled "The Cove - Out of the Depths", which appeared in the "Bowmanville Statesman" on August 9, 1951. It reads: "'The Old Wreck' has been sighted again. This fact and the seemingly unrelated one of revived interest in fishing off the shore from Willow Lake brings to mind an early bit of Cove history. For many years, part of an old ship lay partly buried in the sand and partly jutting into the water precisely in front of Cove Cottage. Other wrecks came and went but this particular one remained and became as much a part of the place as the very lake itself. It was affectionately known as 'The Old Wreck' and served as dock, diving board, wash stand, sand castle rendezvous and lovers' lookout. Finally the winters' storms accomplished their worst and took The Old Wreck from sight. No one knew where. This year, it has been found again, almost completely buried in gravel, not far from its original resting place.

"Recent comers to The Cove may wonder how the wreck first came here. Years