

# Gord Farlow finds 1,000 year pedigree

**Contributed by E. P. Sherry**  
 There was an "Alice in Wonderland" touch to a recent trip to England and Ireland by 71-year-old James Gordon Farlow of 92 Martin St., Milton, who discovered that his Farlow ancestors have given their names to a township, were once substantial estate owners in the Old World and also that their family pedigree dates back for a thousand years.  
 In England and Ireland, he and his wife Lillian were entertained in two Gage Estates castles, where once his forebears enjoyed gracious living; while in England, Gordon examined 800-year-old Farlow heirlooms, which are now treasured antiquities.

Gordon and his wife were overwhelmed on arrival in England to find themselves guests of honor at a get-together of the Farlows, appropriately held at the township of Farlow in Shropshire, just 10 miles from Ludlow, and to which the Farlows had given their name. In a quaint old Anglican church, the local minister unfolded for them the history of Farlow parish and showed them the treasured Farlow silver chalice dated 1577, along with a font over 800 years old. Because of its great historical value, the chalice is ordinarily kept in a bank vault.

From records gleaned from a Shropshire library, they learned that in the reign of William the Conqueror, a Philip de Pharlowe was born of Norman and Saxon parentage and has his name inscribed in the Domesday Census Book. He was a grandson of Sweyn Godwinson, a Saxon of the Earl of Godwin family. A spokesman of Farlows also addressed them on the history.

Details of the Farlow family trees are contained in the family history "Farlows Over 1,000 Years". One of them, a Thomas Farlow, brought his family to Virginia in 1623 when he acquired a plantation and served for two years in the House of Burgesses.

In Ireland, Gordon was equally successful in his probe into the Farlow past. He had contacted the notable Irish genealogist Dr. McLysaght three years ago, who pinpointed for him the first Farlow to set foot on the Emerald Isle, a Captain John Farlow, who arrived with the notorious Oliver Cromwell in 1649.

Later at the 1891 Siege of Limerick, another Captain Farlow was killed in action and, strangely enough, he made the supreme sacrifice while fighting for the Irish under Patrick Sarsfield. It could therefore be inferred that the family loyalties were divided. Dr. McLysaght was able to establish that the first Captain John Farlow came from the township and parish of Farlow in Shropshire, England, and these are in written records.

At the small village in County Monaghan, Gordon and Lillian Farlow were entertained by the present occupiers, in the old Farlow farm house from whence his grandfather Robert Farlow emigrated to Canada in 1836. Robert established himself on a farm in an Irish settlement called Boyne (presumably named to commemorate the Irish Battle of the Boyne in 1690).

Two years later, he married an Irish girl named Elizabeth Boylan, a Protestant, and here we find another anomaly, since the Boylans were traditionally a very old Irish Roman Catholic family. Elizabeth was accompanied to Canada in 1829 by her parents, John Boylan and his wife Ann (nee Coote). They were both Protestants and it was the Cootes who gave their name to the County Cavan town of Cootehill.

where they owned a very large estate. In Canada, the Boylans farmed at an Irish settlement appropriately called Erin, Ontario.

While in Ireland, the visitors also called on Farlows at Inniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, and at Clontibret, Co. Monaghan. They also called on John Bowes and his sister Jean, who live near Killeevan, Co. Monaghan, and who have kinship with the Ontario Bowes settlers, on whose farm Bowes Church was built in 1837.

Robert Farlow, who was a cabinet maker before he left

Ireland, helped to build the Bowes Church and was later Bible Class teacher in it for 33 years.

Gordon Farlow's great grandfather was a Captain John Gage, who fought with the Colonials in 1812. And before he left Ireland, Gordon visited Rathlin Island, off the Co. Antrim coast, which has been owned by the Gage family since 1751. He also visited the large Bellerena Gage Estate, N. Ireland, and Gage Estate Firl Place, Sussex Co., England.

At his hotel in Clones, Co. Monaghan, before leaving for

Rathlin Island, he told me, "I have Irish blood in my veins and I have a deep feeling for the Irish people. I enjoyed my trip immensely, although it was tiresome for an elderly person. I found the pace more leisurely in Ireland than in England."

Mrs. Farlow also visited relatives in England.

The Gage and Farlow histories have been known for some time by the Farlows. They had previously been invited to the estates, as he had done favors for the author of the Gage history.

# News of the District

## WATERLOO

A \$65,000,000 program for buildings, equipment and campus development over a five year period was announced by Carl A. Pollock, chairman of the University of Waterloo board of governors. The university will seek \$5,500,000 in public support this fall for its program. General chairman of the Tenth Anniversary Fund is W. H. Evans of Toronto, chairman of Honeywell Controls Ltd. Mr. Evans, a member of the university's board of governors, is also president of the Canadian National Exhibition. In announcing the development program, Mr. Pollock said, "The University of Wat-

erloo must find approximately \$13,000,000 of the cost of development in the period covered in this campaign. The Board already has \$7,500,000 of this from the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the proceeds of the 1962 campaign. This leaves a balance of \$5,500,000 to be raised in an appeal to business, industry and individuals throughout the mid-western Ontario area served by the university, as well as national corporations.

"The major portion of the total cost, approximately \$52,000,000, will be provided by various sources, chiefly the province of Ontario through regular support formulas."

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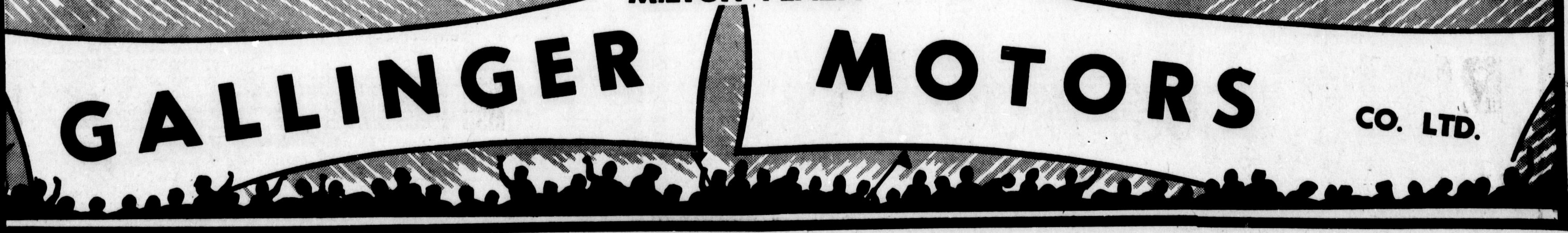


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