



Life In The Past

Nelson Hicks' Journals
October 1929

Transcribed by Sarah Moran Collier

Oct. 3 - Mrs. Spafford died this morning about Ten O'Clock. She was up to Archie's. I started in to Pick McIntosh.

Oct. 5 - Mrs. Spafford's Funeral was held at the Valley both Mr. Smith and Mr. Horton conducted the services.

Oct. 8 - Finished picking the McIntosh. Howard Crimmon bought them and took them just as I picked them from the trees to Picton for Box packing.

Wed. 9 - Wrex and got the corn ready for the binder to cut.

Thur. 10 - We dug out the late Potatoes had a very nice crop this year about 40 bushels

Fri. 11 - Wrex and I cut the corn not a very big crop this year Lloyd down again today Sold Ray Welbanks a new 60. Royden last day going to the Factory. After dinner we all went over to Picton Kathleen and Edith Williams came home with us.

Sun. 13 - Mirt Wrex and I took Kathleen over to Picton then we went up to Jake's for a while

Mon. 14 - Finished plowing the Point field. We are having fine weather now.

Wed. 23 - Mirt and I went back to Lloyd's and then Lloyd and Luise went with us to a chicken Pye

Thur. 24 - Lloyd factory closed. And he is fitting it up for to keep cars in for the winter Mirt and I went over to Belleville and then came home.

Fri. 25 - I plowed. Wrex helping Thomas Rose pick apples.

Sat. 26 - We are having some cold weather now. I am still plowing. Royden picking apples for Harry Grimmon. Wrex helping T.W.Rose.

Sun. 27 - We all went to church. Archie & Ing called on their way home from Walts.

Mon. 28 - I went around to Hamilton Welbanks. Lloyd was down trying to sell Albert Cooper a car. Floral and Wrex picking Spys.

Tue. 29 - I plowed on the Flats. There hasn't been very many salmon. I have only got Three.

Wed. 30 - Election Day for the Ontario House. Horace Colliver and James Porte in the field. Colliver wins by a Majority of 629 votes. Also Furgeson relected by an increase Majority.

Thur. 31 - Floral had a Hallowe'en party there were a lot of young people came dressed in all kinds of fashions I guess they all had a good time.

Nelson Notes... Anecdotes and background about Nelson's diary entries.

Mrs. Spafford died on October 3. This is probably Mirt's mother, Nelson's mother-in law, also the mother-in-law of Nelson's brothers, Archie and Jake. So the family were in mourning together and the brothers are mentioned here.

Nelson reports the local electoral results, a majority for Horace Colliver, who represented Prince Edward in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario from 1923 to 1926 and from 1928 to 1934. He was a wholesale grocer, canner and coal dealer. He also served as Mayor of Picton in 1918. The 1929 Ontario general election was the 18th general election held. The Ontario Conservative Party, as Nelson notes, was re-elected, led by George Ferguson.

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Elections

By Doug McGregor

To my mind the Federal election that just passed has been a disaster. I can't recall a previous election with so many vitriolic attack ads and so little substance with regards to platforms, and as the election progressed it even got worse. All the parties seem to assume, that their best way to get elected was by crapping over the opposing candidate and or people they are associated with. A lot of the discussion also seemed to take the electorate for fools, tossing out trinkets such as selective tax breaks as if they were a float in a parade dispensing candy to the spectators.

Of course to place this solely on the shoulders of the parties isn't entirely accurate. Anyone who follows social media saw heated and dis-respectful debates between various proponents touting their cause or party.

I don't fully comprehend how we got here. Clearly the world is an angrier place these days and sadly it has permeated into Canada as well. It has somehow become acceptable to lie, be rude and insult people. However, how it has become a mainstay of Canadian electioneering is not obvious to me. We all know if enough mud is thrown, some will stick but in past elections that strategy, as objectionable as it is, hasn't always worked.

But the rest is a mystery to me and I am at a loss to explain it. However I am increasingly of the opinion that when we don't like something in our society it is our responsibility as citizens, to engage, articulate positive changes and advocate for them. It's a lot of work to do this and listen before acting but it is so important to do. Perhaps we should all be issued a set of rights AND responsibilities with our citizenship documents.

Where does this all leave Canada? This style of electioneering will leave more and deeper divides in the nation than there ever has been before and will not go away quickly. Apart from the polarization of causes, Alberta feels increasingly hard done to, BC feels threatened and sentiments of Quebec separation are lightly being stirred again. This damage creates social unrest and greatly impedes government's ability to move forward. But the leader next at bat is going to have to identify and drive common ground that will allow the nation to pull back together. Healing will ultimately come under the right unifying leadership and the presence of common causes such as global warming that we all need to deal with.

When faced with divisiveness in the world, Ronald Reagan famously built common ground with Mikhail Gorbachev in an unorthodox way by asking, "What would you do if the United States were suddenly attacked by someone from outer space?" The dialogs lead to a mutual commitment to help each other under such a "common" threat. There's nothing like an extinction event to focus minds!

The things I was glad to see move somewhat forward on were a national pharmacare program and gun control in response to the escalating violence on our streets. I was however greatly disappointed on the lack of credible thought through plans to deal with the climate crisis and fiscal responsibility.

At the end of the day we now face the reality of being at war with our own planet and it's a fight we can't shirk and must win. I hope that is the common issue we can all rally behind and figure out how to move pragmatically and expeditiously forward on.

In the meantime can the Leafs please, please, please win the Stanley cup this year ... just saying.

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Wednesday, Oct. 9 was the scene of an outstanding potluck lunch at South Bay United Church at 12 noon. Ten ladies were present to enjoy this delicious repast.

President, Sandra opened the meeting with our theme hymn, purpose and Lord's Prayer.

Karen's devotional started by quoting the scripture – Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth. Then she proceeded to show the ways that our group contributed to provide what is needed or useful to others. Sometimes it's helpful to review these things especially at Thanksgiving.

Eight members answered roll call with Thanksgiving remembrance. Fifteen sick calls were made.

Maureen announced we were invited to service lunch for people attending the house tour Sunday, Dec. 8 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. She is to get more information and report back to the group.

The ladies were also informed and invited to a 90th birthday celebration for Sid Drury at Milford Town Hall on Sat. Oct. 26th from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Some discussion took place concerning the duties of the caretaker for the church.

Final plans were made for our craft and luncheon Christmas celebration Sat. Nov. 16th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Luncheon is \$10.00 which features homemade soups, sandwiches, desserts, and bake table.

Our meeting concluded with an interesting and informative presentation by Jan Collier on her trip to the Holy Land. Thank you, Jan.

We closed with our U.C.W. prayer.



The South Marysburgh Recreation Board

The Marysburgh Mummers

The Milford Fair Board

Meetings, Events, Announcements

Recreation Board Meeting

Milford Town Hall
Wednesday, November 13, 7:30 pm

Fair Board Meeting and AGM

Milford Town Hall
Thursday, November 14, 7:00 p.m.

Wii Bowling

Milford Town Hall
Thursdays 1-3 pm
October 17 to December 5

Diane Walker's Christmas Workshop

Milford Town Hall
Saturday, December 7 10 am - noon
Space is limited to 20 people
Register @ vidvar@kos.net

Marysburgh Mummers present

"Hickory Dickery Dock, the Panto"
Mt. Tabor Playhouse
December 5 to 8

Annual New Year's Levee

Jackson's Falls Inn
Wednesday, January 1, 2020 from 1-3 pm

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Buried Roots

By Braydon Scully

What Do Wine Scores Really Mean?

You see them everywhere. At the LCBO, in magazines, wrapped around the necks of bottles, or on hanging tags at wineries you visit. Wine scores are almost ubiquitous, but what do they really mean and can you just go by the number? We all know high numbers are better, your teachers, parents and everyone else has always told you to get better grades and improve your scores.

The answer to this one is complicated. I have used and referenced other reviewers scores in past articles for this column, so I am perhaps as guilty as anyone of feeding the beast that the wine rating game has become. But first some history.

Ratings and scores for wine reviewers really took off and came to public prominence when influential wine reviewer Robert Parker Jr. started using the 100 point scale for his publication *The Wine Advocate* in 1978. The scale, which actually only goes from 50 to 100 points, was meant as a tool for consumers to help them determine the quality of a wine based on flavour, colour, aroma, appearance and overall quality level. This 100 point scale is widely used today in similar or slightly altered forms by many publications and reviewers around the world.

Alternative systems are also used and you may see some of these referenced in magazines or wine stores. *Gambero Rosso* magazine in Italy uses a "Tre Bicchieri" system" awarding between one to three glasses (bicchieri) to wines it reviews. Three Glasses means extraordinary, Two Glasses means very good and One Glass means good. Anything not "good" receives no rating.

Another system used primarily by UK based writers such as Jancis Robinson MW (Master of Wine) who utilizes a 20 point rating system. This system actually only uses scores ranging from 12 to 20. On her website she defines the ratings as follows:

- 20 – *Truly exceptional*
- 19 – *A humdinger*
- 18 – *A cut above superior*
- 17 – *Superior*
- 16 – *Distinguished*
- 15 – *Average, a perfectly nice drink with no faults but not much excitement*
- 14 – *Deadly dull*
- 13 – *Borderline faulty or unbalanced*
- 12 – *Faulty or unbalanced*

She also notes that they "are not very comfortable with scoring wines because it is so difficult to encapsulate a wine's qualities in a single score."

The most serious issue with these systems in general is two-fold. One, is that the rating in and of itself does not really let you know whether you will actually like a wine and, two, that marketing pressures and competition among some reviewers have led to what I will define as rating inflation.

Let's tackle that second point first. It seems to me - and I have admittedly done no statistical study to back this thought up - that scores for wines seem to be increasing all the time. It seems very common now to see ratings and scores in the high to very high 90s routinely. Scores which seemed to only be quoted once or twice a year for a reviewer now seem perhaps to get used a lot more. One way to increase the use of your name and perhaps direct traffic back to your website or publication is to get your score quoted on bottles, labels, stickers and in advertising of all kinds. One sure way to do this is to rate a wine really high. There is nothing a winery's marketing department or a stores sales manager likes more than to quote a high score and see more product move out the door. So we see a 98 point score and as consumers we assume that this must be a near perfect or absolutely exceptional wine. Digging a little deeper reveals that the particular reviewer quoted adds a "value" component into the rating that increases the score because the wine is less expensive. So the wine which sells for \$16.95 at the LCBO gets this rating based a lot on price whereas on a purely subjective basis it is an 86 point wine from most other reviewers.

At the end of the day ratings are truly something that can only aid in your selection of a wine to buy. If you are looking at ratings as a buying input you must get to know a particular reviewer and how they rate wine and most importantly how your palate lines up with theirs. Above all it is most important to read the full tasting note that most reviewers provide. These details, on flavour, aroma, colour, intensity and so on, truly provide the key details that you need to know about a wine. Whether a wine rates 88 points or 96 points, it really only matters if the style of the wine, the production of it and how it tastes to you, lines up with your expectations.

So where does that leave all of us?

For this column, I have chosen not to provide numerical ratings of my own. There are more than enough ratings out there for you to reference from other reviewers. Where I think it appropriate or relevant I may reference scores for some wines in future columns. Generally, if I mention a wine it is because I like it, I think it is reasonable "value" (value being highly subjective), and that I think you might just enjoy it as well. My goal here is only to encourage readers to perhaps try something new, to get out and see what the County and other regions of the world have to offer and to in general enjoy wine and food and great company when they can.

In Vino Veritas!

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*Personal Notices, Announcements
& Random Notes*



Pictured above, Milford's "Lemonade Dave" tests his new custom brewed coffee concept at the Scarecrow Festival; below, the Queen Bee herself, Natalie Comeau (with Ramesh Pooran of the Wellington Times) on the floor of the Crystal Palace during the Honey Festival she launched in October; left, Milford's Don Farrington being recognized by the Prince Edward County Memorial Hospital Foundation for his contributions to the new hospital and why he feels it's important to the community.



Thank you to The Friends of the Milford Library

A landscaping project is now underway at the Milford Branch! Riel Brown of Sweetbriar Garden Design has been engaged to create a community space / garden at the front of the library. Riel is a South Marysburgh resident who knows what flourishes (and what languishes) in Prince Edward County, where water accessibility is a concern. What will the installation look like? In an engaging merger of form and function, flagstone hardscaping will complement drought-tolerant flora and a native red maple tree; roundabout the shadetree will be seating, perfect for reading and relaxing, all in range of the library's free WiFi. The tree has already been planted, and soon the beds will be prepared for springtime gardening. We are definitely excited for what's to come—a welcoming space for library patrons to enjoy for many years!



Believe It or Not

My Lost Summer

How can you lose a summer? I lost mine because of a sprained ankle.

We were in the thick of haying, loading small square bales on the wagon to take to the barn. I was on the wagon and about to jump off to help load the bales. As I went to leave the back of the wagon, I stepped on a plank that wasn't fastened securely. This threw me off balance and instead of landing on my foot, I landed on my ankle.

Oh, the excruciating pain! I gritted my teeth and waited until the pain became bearable. I don't even remember how I got to the house.

My husband took me to the doctor as I felt I had broken a bone. Can you believe? The office wasn't open and we had to go on to the one filling in for him. Main Street, no less, and nowhere to park! We stopped outside his office leaving me to struggle in as best I could. What a relief! But – this wasn't the end of my bad day.

I was sent to the hospital for an x-ray. Another painful walk into the hospital and on to the x-ray department. No broken bones! But, tell that to my bruised ankle and my brain.

Events were blurred and vague for some time. I did manage to procure a pair of crutches but have you ever tried to do your every day tasks using crutches? It takes both hands with none left over to do anything else.

So, I had to make sure someone left the essentials to get a meal as I could sit and prepare things. We didn't die of starvation and eventually I was able to regain my "normal" life.

B.I.ON.



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Druella Acantha Malvina's Column

Gem for the month: Success is a marathon, not a sprint.

There is a senior citizen driving on a highway. His wife calls him on his cell phone and in a worried voice says, "Herman, be careful! I just heard on the radio there is a madman driving the wrong way on Route 280."

Her man says, "I know, but there isn't just one, there are hundreds."

Some more "facts" I can't prove:

- ◆ The Indian Atlas Moth has a wingspan of 30 cm.
- ◆ In Tibet, it is considered good manners to stick out your tongue at your guests.
- ◆ Los Angeles contains more cars than people.
- ◆ The largest spider in the world has a 10" leg span.
- ◆ Australian earthworms can grow up to 3 metres long.

A woman walked into the elevator tossing her keys up in the air and catching them. After one too many tosses, she dropped the keys and they disappeared between the open doors and the floor.

The elevator rider felt terrible for her until she cried, "Oh, no! Not again."

Are We All Heading This Way....

An elderly couple noticed they were getting more forgetful and asked the doctor what they should do. He suggested they write things down so they wouldn't forget.

At home, the wife asked her husband to get her a bowl of ice cream and perhaps he should write it down. The husband said he'd remember she wanted ice cream. Then she told him she wanted whipped cream on top. She told him to write it down but he said he could remember ice cream with whipped cream on top. Then the old lady said she wanted ice cream, whipped cream and a cherry on top. "Write it down", she said.

"No, I got it. You want ice cream with whipped cream and a cherry on top."

So, he goes in to the kitchen and takes 30 minutes to get what she wants. He hands her a plate of eggs and bacon.

The wife stares at the plate for a moment, looks at her husband and asks, "Where's the toast I wanted?"

The wheel of a grocery cart was making a horrible scraping sound. When she finished her shopping, she saw a careless woman and offered her the cart. She said, "It makes an awful noise but it works."

"That's okay," said the other woman as she took the cart.

"I have a husband at home like that."

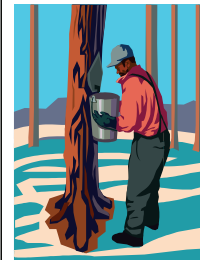
- ◆ I needed a password eight characters long so I picked Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.
- ◆ I'm on a whiskey diet. I've lost three days already.
- ◆ Slept like a log last night – woke up in the fireplace.
- ◆ They laughed when I said I wanted to be a comedian – they're not laughing now.
- ◆ I'm reading a book on the history of glue – can't put it down.
- ◆ Velcro – what a rip-off.

A mom texts, "Hi, son. What does IDK,LY and TTYL mean?"

He texts back, "I don't know, love you and talk to you later."

The mom texts him, "It's okay, don't worry about it. I'll ask your sister. I love you too!"

Exit Line: Give every man thy ear but few your voice.



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South Bay U.C.W. Upcoming Meetings & Events

Wed. Nov. 13th: U.C.W. will meet at South Bay United Church at 1:00 p.m. Devotional – Brenda Minaker; Roll call – wear a poppy; Objective – set up for luncheon; Program – Alice Miller; Lunch – Brenda Minaker and Alice Millers.

Saturday, November 16 – Luncheon and craft sale at South Bay United Church from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Luncheon is \$10.00 each featuring homemade soups, sandwiches and desserts. Home baking is available to take home along with beautiful craft items.

ST. PHILIP'S ANGLICAN CHURCH 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday, November 23

Christmas Bazaar
& Tea

COUNCIL CORNER

By John Hirsch, Councillor Ward 9, South Marysburgh

September was my month to be Acting Mayor if Steve Ferguson was not available for functions. In this position I also chaired both meetings of the Committee of the Whole and one Public Planning meeting. One of the Committee of the whole meetings was fairly exciting as we dealt with the Library Board's request to approve a \$2.7 million bid to complete the planned expansion.

As most will know, council did not approve the bid and sent the Board back to look at alternatives.

My view is that the Carnegie library concept must be continued which means that the additional funding needs to come from donors. The Library board believes they will attract the money they need from donors but without certainty at this point, it would be foolhardy for Council to approve a plan which could end up costing the County if donations cannot be found.

Council Activity

Committee of the Whole (COTW) and Council heard deputations from:

- John Ambrose on how grants from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities could help make the new library carbon neutral at no cost.
- Barry Davidson on plans for trail head improvements for the Millenium trail
- Ken How on progress of the Lovesong project to convert the former school in Bloomfield into affordable seniors housing
- And several more

All deputations can be viewed on the County's live stream or can be read in the agenda package for each meeting on the County website

Council and Committee of the Whole dealt with:

- Site plan approval for the new Sobeys plaza to be located across from No Frills in Picton
- Continuing the young and new farmers grant program
- Termination of the contract for the Ameliasburgh washroom project
- Approving a final 2018 surplus of \$145,900 to go back into reserves and \$2.7 million of cancelled capital projects which frees this money up for other needed projects
- The Farm 911 Emily project signs were approved. They can be obtained for \$55.
- Our search for a new CAO is coming to and end. I hope a decision can be made by Council by the end of October.
- Council completed its priority setting exercise. Results will be published soon for public comments

LOCAL EVENTS

The 2019 edition of the Milford Fall Fair was a huge success on September 14! Over 1200 attendees enjoyed a beautiful day with activities for all. There was even one lady who had attended the first fair in 1946 !!

Proceeds from the Fair helped "Back the Build" the campaign to fund the new hospital in Picton.

IMPORTANT NOTE !

I will be out of the country for the entire month of November on a long-planned trip of a lifetime to New Zealand and Australia. I will have wifi almost everywhere and should generally be able to communicate via email. For any issue that requires personal attention, please contact the Mayor.

I can be reached by phone, text and email.

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