



CLAN MacLENNAN CANADA

Central Ontario Branch

President -David R. MacLennan, 70 Pleasant Ave., Dundas, Ontario L9H 3T4
Treasurer -Elizabeth Prebble, 83-2301 Cavendish Drive, Burlington, Ont. L7P 3M3
Secretary -Ruth Ann MacLennan, 627 Milverton Blvd., Toronto, Ont. M4C 1X8
Committee-

David & Kitty MacLennan, 70 Pleasant Ave., Dundas, Ont. L9H 3T4
Harold & Evelyn Griffiths, 34 Hironnelle Place, Don Mills, Ont. M3A 1V8
Robert & Kay MacLennan, 340 East 12th Street, Hamilton, Ont. L9A 3Y1
Robin & Marg MacLennan, 2 Johnston Street, St. Catharines, Ont. L2N 5K4

Past Presidents (Ex-Officio)

-Doug MacLennan, 1342 Farrel Avenue, Delta, B.C. V4L 1V2
-Elizabeth Prebble, 83-2301 Cavendish Drive, Burlington, Ont. L7P 3M3

MESSAGE FROM THE CLAN PRESIDENT

David R. MacLennan

In the December Newsletter we told you that we had invited Chief Ruairidh to attend the Fergus Scottish Festival in August 2000. Clan MacLennan will be an honoured clan that year. We have the Chief's acceptance so we are looking forward very much to his presence to represent Clan MacLennan at Canada's premiere Scottish Festival.

Members of the COB will attend several Highland Games in Ontario in 1998-99, leading up to the big Millennium event at Fergus. We urge you to join at any or all the events you can.

Your COB Executive has been planning for the 2000 Games and we are committed to provide travel expenses for the Chief to and from Fergus. We also would welcome any contributions towards the 2000 fund.

The Executive met in March and the following items were discussed, not necessarily in order:

COB AGM - to be held on 30 May at the home of Marg & Robin, 2 Johnston St. St. Catharines, Ont.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED. The meeting will start at noon with a pot-luck lunch. Please confirm attendance by calling (905) 935-7110 and advise your contribution to the feast. Our Treasurer Elizabeth reported that our finances are in good order and we now have about 50% of our 2000 Fund goal for the Chief's visit. Fundraising efforts continue and we hope for new and innovative ways from all who have an interest in the Clan.

COB members Andy and Melanie McLennan, who operate "LONDON HOUSE B&B" at 80 London Rd. W, Guelph, Ont. N1H 2B7, Tel. (519) 824-6847 have offered free accommodation for the Chief during his visit to the Fergus Festival.

The current issue of the CELTIC HERITAGE newspaper from Nova Scotia has our ad. for the Clan MacLennan Association announcing Chief Ruairidh's acceptance of our invitation to Fergus.

Please try to join us at one of the events listed in this letter to get involved in the on-going promotion of our Clan Association. We are counting on you to spread the word of the Clan to work towards Fergus 2000.

Yours Aye,



Editors Notes

This year our AGM will be on Saturday May 30 at 12 noon in sunny (We hope!) St. Catharines, or more accurately Port Dalhousie. Marg and I would like to welcome as many Clansfolk as possible at 2 Johnston St. for a potluck lunch followed by the meeting. Coming from Toronto on the QEW, exit at 7th Street Louth, cross over the QEW, right onto Lakeshore (T junction) and about 2 km. to Johnston—second right after the Lions Club. As the map shows, alternative exits are Ontario or Lake Sts. but, because Port is small and very popular in the summer, traffic can be slower using these exits. I don't think you will see any bananas but come South anyway!

Items for discussion at the meeting include:

- Treasurer's Report (see Summary)
- Membership Drive & Newspaper Ads
- Scotland connection (WFCLMA)
- Festivals in 1998 (see Events)
- Fergus 2000 and Chief's visit
- Maxville appeal
- Executive elections

EVENTS IN 1998

May 30 AGM, St. Catharines, 12 noon.

June 16, Georgetown Highland Games

June 27/28 Hamilton (Ancaster) Games

July 18 Cambridge Games

August 1 Maxville Games

August 7, 8, 9 Fergus Games

August (TBA) Sarnia, Almonte Games

FLOWERS OF THE FIELD

We gratefully remember Ellen McLennan (Glasgow), who died on Dec. 5, 1997. For years Ellen was our main contact in Scotland and will be sorely missed. Please see the Obituary in the attached Scottish Newsletter for January, 1998.

ONTARIO'S STORM OF THE CENTURY

Last January 6-7, an ice storm hit so many communities hard, among them the Maxville/Glengarry area which is home to many MacLennans. Eileen (Ottawa) made contact and the following extracts from a letter she received from Jean (Dalkeith) give an idea of what life was like at the time:

"Fortunately we burn wood for heat all the time. We also could siphon soft water from a cistern in the basement but it was close with drinking water until bottles were sent in for the emergency shelter.

The army had sent soldiers to help... At noon they had soup and sandwiches at the shelter, in the evening a dinner. Some evenings we would have 100 or so. A few people slept on army cots but most were able to bunk with friends.

The farmers were especially hard hit. Cows have to be milked, watered, fed and cleaned—almost all done with electrical power. They were scrambling to have generators hooked up; some sharing with others. In off hours, these could be used for some heat, cooking and pumping water. On Jan 17, an industrial generator was hooked to the wires at the sawmill and that powered most of the village—about 37 buildings. On the 22nd the line was completed as far as Kirkhill—some 4 miles away but may not continue as it is not the normal power route."

It was agreed at the Executive meeting in March that we should put this to COB members. At present, therefore, will donors advise amounts of PLEDGES, so that we can set up a channel through a charitable organization which can issue official receipts. The timing of donations can meet on-going needs which are still surfacing as a result of the ice storm.-----Thanks.

ROOTS CORNER

We thought some time ago that members would be interested in tracing their roots through the Newsletter, so here is a request from Christine Adkin:

Seeking info on John Alexander McRae (b. ca 1814, where?) married 25 Oct 1859 to Christina McPhee of Goderich (b. 1831, Scotland). Their children: Christopher (b. 1860), Catharine (b. 1862) and John A. (b. 1864). John Alexander had a store in Seaforth. Christine died ca. 1870-1875. John Alexander became ill and a brother brought him and the children to Wardsville. All Wardsville records were destroyed in a fire. Any info would be appreciated.
Christine Adkin, R.R. 1, Charing Cross, Ontario NOP 1G0

SUBSCRIPTIONS

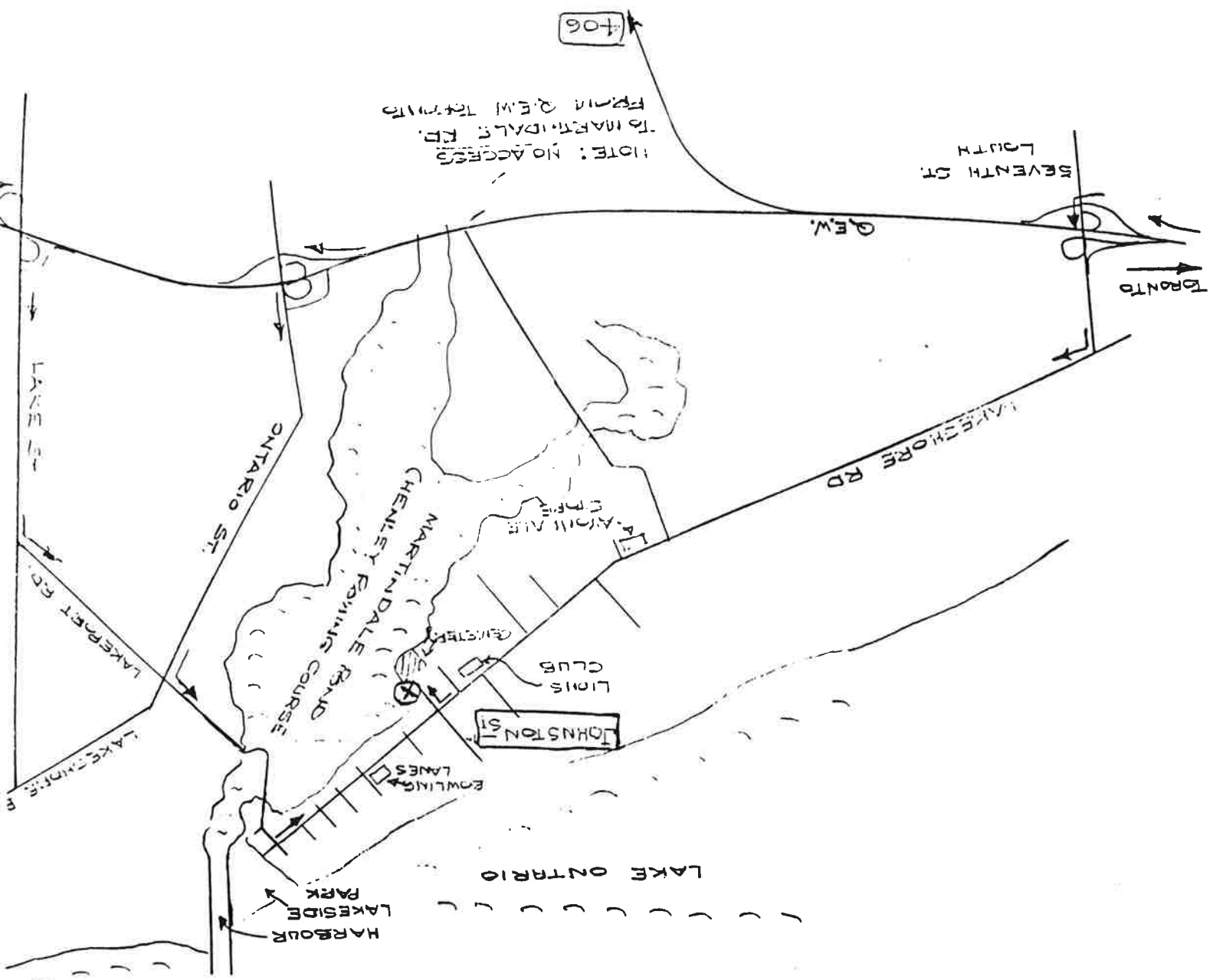
A summary of the COB's accounts is included.

The financial year runs from June 1 to May 31. Subscriptions for 1998-1999 are due at the AGM and are \$10 per family, regardless of age or life membership in Scotland. On receipt of your sub. a dated membership card will be issued with the next newsletter. If we do not have a record of your sub. a indicates arrears. Please remit soon to retain your membership.

For new members, please include- Title (Mr., Mrs., Ms. etc), first name, address, phone no., connection to the Clan and, if known, your roots in Canada

ACCOUNT SUMMARY

Balance May 29, 1997			
General Fund	429.21		
"2000" Fund	213.26	642.47	
Receipts			
Memberships	675.00		
Donations & Misc.	77.10		
Sales, Ferg. Draw	454.95		1207.05
			<u>1849.52</u>
Disbursements			
Membership Drive	289.45		
Extra for better tent for Games	176.44		
Fergus Rents	45.00		
Newsletters & s.c	221.39		<u>732.28</u>
Balance March, 10, 1998			
General Fund	725.53		
"2000" Fund	391.71	1117.24	



NOTE: NO ACCESS FROM Q.E.W. TOWARDS MARTINDALE RD.

406

SEVENTH ST
LOUTH ST

TORONTO

Q.E.W.

LAKECHORES RD

ONTARIO ST

LAKEPORT RD

LAKECHORES B

MARTINDALE ROAD
HENESY BOILING COURSE

LIONS CLUB

JOHNSTON ST

ROWLING LAMES

LAKE ONTARIO

HARBOR LAKE SIDE PARK

LAKECHORES B

CHIEF'S MESSAGE

Dear Clansfolk,

what has been quite an eventful year in the Clan's history has unfortunately ended on a sad note with the death of Ellen McLennan, the Clan's General Secretary. Ellen was a person of great character and humour who was also a serious and hard working Clanswoman, who very much took charge of most aspects of Clan affairs over the past while, and during some difficult times in Clan history. Ellen was not someone for beating about the bush, but was always directly to the point, and it was this strong personality which has helped keep the Clan on its toes and very much alive today. Ellen's hard work and enthusiasm will be greatly missed by many, and the Clan will undoubtedly suffer the blow of losing such an energetic clanswoman. I therefore join many others in conveying my sympathy to Ellen's husband James.

Earlier this year, the Clan welcomed the major step forward when the dispute over the Chiefship was finally resolved. This was certainly a highlight in the year and should be seen as one of the biggest moves towards a united Clan for some time. The world Council (World Federation of Clan MacLennan Associations) remains foremost in the current affairs of the Clan. It has had limited success, with Grafton, Australia, recently joining its ranks, but there are yet a number of associations refraining from joining. However, with some patience, we may yet find all associations within the world Council one day.

Last October, Kirsteen, Lorna and I returned to The Stone Mountain Highland Games in Atlanta, Georgia, where we joined the ranks of nine clan chiefs to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Games. This was a great success and Clan MacLennan in the United States is in good order. They did, however, state that at the moment they are not able to join the world Council for a variety of reasons, but were not totally dismissing the idea as a possibility for the future.

All is well with Kirsteen, Lorna and myself, and on behalf of the three of us, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you ALL THE BEST FOR 1998.

Yours aye, Chief Rualridh.

CHIEFTAIN'S MESSAGE

Dear Clansfolk,

it's summer on the Central Coast of New South Wales - sun, sand, surf and strawberries. STRAWBERRIES?! Well, at least a dozen or so each week - our strawberry patch isn't that big!

Come to think of it, I guess it's a bit like the WFCMLA, our World Council of Clan MacLennan. It's still young, struggling against changing conditions and in need of a little extra care and nurturing if we are to see it bear more fruit. Many of us were there at the beginning when the seeds were sown, well before our projected Gathering in Inverness in 1966.

Two years of hard work, 'phone calls, letters and faxes saw the WFCMLA slowly take shape and, in Inverness '96, a resoundingly positive vote was received for the fledgling association and its new constitution.

It would be a shame if the selfless endeavours of the people involved were not recognised for what they were, and still are - simply a genuine attempt to weld our individual groups into one cohesive unit with common aims and objectives for the benefit of MacLennans everywhere.

I hear that WFCMLA is about to publish its first Annual. Wouldn't it be great to see a contribution from every association on each continent? It's not too late to have your say, so contact the editor (Leon Vance, 25/19th Street, Warrawamba, NSW 2752, Australia) immediately to book a page or two.

My wife Anelle, sons William and Angus join me in wishing you ALL a healthy and happy New Year, with Peace and Good Times...and a bountiful crop of strawberries!

All the best, Chieftain Greg.

FLOWERS OF THE FIELD

Ellen McLennan: Glasgow. 

Suddenly, at her home in Mosspark, Glasgow, Ellen, beloved wife of our Clan historian, James McLennan.

Ellen was General Secretary of Clan MacLennan Association, and of the World Federation of Clan MacLennan Associations. She and James have been active members almost since the Association began, during which time they have served on the Council continually.

Much of Ellen's working life was spent in the travel agency business, the experience of which no doubt contributed greatly to her apparent talent as an efficient organiser.

During her years as Secretary, 31 Ascaig Crescent became effectively the headquarters of the Association. But, more than this, it was a welcoming haven for numerous visiting Clansfolk, many of whom will recall the unstinted hospitality and genuine friendliness, so typical of Glasgow folk.

Ellen's table frequently groaned under the weight of her bounty and culinary delights! She was a splendid cook and cheerful hostess. Her sense of humour knew no bounds, and she always enjoyed a "guid blether wi' her mony freens!"

During October last, she began to feel a bit under the weather, which resulted in several days hospitalisation for suspected heart problems. However, after her release and while under medication, she began to feel better, and was her usual cheery self.

Sadly, during the afternoon of Friday 5 December, while returning home from shopping, she collapsed on arrival. In spite of quick medical aid, she could not be revived. Doctors later confirmed that death had been so sudden that Ellen probably felt no pain.

On Thursday 11 December, the funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Alasdair MacLennan, Clan Chaplain, at Craigton Crematorium, Glasgow. Among the mourners Chief Ruairidh MacLennan represented the Clan, and Malcolm Lobban, President of the Association, spoke on behalf of members worldwide. Messages of sympathy came in from Chieftain Greg MacLennan, and presidents of MacLennan associations overseas.

We again take this opportunity to express our sadness at the passing of a fine Clanswoman, who worked tirelessly in her genuine love and concern for Clan MacLennan. Our thoughts go to James, sister-in-law Margaret and all members of the family.

Anthony Melles and Robert H. Macintyre 

Since the publication of our October 1997 Newsletter, we have received somewhat belated information concerning the death of two former Council members. Anthony "Tony" Melles was appointed World Co-ordinator of the Clan under the late Chief Ronald. In 1985 he was also Finance Managing Director of the Kintail Museum Company. At the same time his wife Sheila MacLennan, was Purchasing Director of the same company. We are told that Tony died during July 1997. Their son, Niall is also a member.

The other belated report concerns Robert H. Macintyre, known generally as "Nick", who died on 18 September 1997. Nick was the architect who designed the proposed Kintail Museum and Clan Centre which, sadly, never became a reality due to lack of support. The design is nevertheless an excellent piece of work, which could be used given a chance in the future.

In a 'phone call from his wife Mary, in Inverness, she told how her husband, although of Clan Macintyre, had been a keen MacLennan supporter, and that he was always proud to wear a MacLennan tartan tie.

Our thoughts go out to these bereaved families.

World Federation of Clan MacLennan Associations

Dear Clansfolk:

On October 20th, 1997 in Inverness the Council of the World Federation of Clan MacLennan Associations met. In addition to the usual manners of business, the following transpired.

1. A logo for the Federation was accepted in principle. This depicts hand holding a dirk and targe. Lettering and small additions may occur.
2. The first £100 recipient of the William C. McLennan Trust for Gaelic/Celtic arts was Fiona Ellis of New South Wales.
3. The Council was informed of plans to establish an official website for the Federation. This will allow for individual associations to have their own page included under the general heading of the WFCMLA.
4. Plans for merchandising of Clan accoutrements were discussed. The Council believes that it is important the the Federation should organise to provide access whereby our associations may have a consistent supply of Clan accoutrements. It is therefore important that the Council is advised by the respective associations as to which items they may be interested in. Examples might be, for instance; clan badges, heraldic plaques; belts; sporrans; dirks; sgian dubh; pewter ware; tartans (ancient, modern, muted, etc); kilts; polo shirts; T-shirts; jackets, etc.
With such information we can properly advise suppliers on what articles are most desirable, thus eliminating much of the frustration normally experienced by MacLennan clansfolk when attempting to obtain Clan regalia on the open market.
5. It was suggested that the proposed Triennial Gathering of 1999 be changed to a "millennium" event (2000). It was felt that this would be an ideal time to attract overseas clansfolk as well as locals, as we enter the new millennium, to establish our roots. At such a time, we may also be in a position to "tap-into" other activities organised nationally.
The Council is interested in hearing the opinion of clansfolk everywhere. We are also considering a link-up with MacKenzies and Macraes and other traditionally Ross-shire clans for the future gatherings.
6. In conjunction with a millennium gathering, a contest soliciting new, original bagpipe music met with favourable response. Such compositions should be in commemoration of our Clan. Ideas for other artistic competitions would be welcome.
7. From the 1st of January 1998, a membership drive is planned for Clan MacLennan Association. This will be funded by WFCMLA and the Scotland association equally. We are hopeful that this Federation initiative will prove successful, and then pass annually from country to country.
8. The Scottish association, being the founding organisation and cradle of the Clan, will hence forth be named simply "Clan MacLennan Association". All other associations/branches should utilize a designation appended to this, of their choice.
9. It is necessary that member associations provide the General Secretary with up-to-date membership rolls, and that annual dues are paid promptly.

10. On the matter of genealogy, the Council agrees that the ongoing practise of collecting genealogical data from our members should be encouraged with perhaps greater emphasis. Such data should be stored carefully, possibly on computer. Individual family histories are the main source by which the Clan is properly identified. Families make up the Clan--and the Clan is one large family!

12. The possibility of providing educational opportunities or courses on MacLennan and Highland history, genealogy, music and other elements of Clan culture, was discussed. This is a comprehensive subject which requires careful planning. The possibilities are many, using computer web site, CD rom, video and audio tapes. Fees might be implemented as a means of raising funds. More discussion required, and suggestions welcomed.

Lastly, I see the World Federation entering the new millennium with an aggressive platform and mandate for progress. What we really need now is the support of ALL MacLennans and associate families to come forward and add their weight to the task of getting the Clan fit for the next thousand years. Come with us into a new and exciting future! All the best in the New Year! "Dum Spiro Spero!"

Jon G. McLennan MD.,
President WFCMLA.

FOOTPRINTS.

One night a man had a dream. He dreamt he was walking along a beach with the Lord. Across the sky flashed scenes from his past life. For each scene he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; one belonging to himself and the other to the Lord.

When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along his path of life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life.

This really bothered him, and he questioned the Lord about it: "Lord, you said that once I had decided to follow you, you would walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times of my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me."

The Lord replied: "My precious child, I love you, and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

Anon.

(Universities: continued from Page 10)

was born in Ireland and was a graduate of the universities of Aberdeen and Cambridge (1827-1881). He pioneered the field of anthropology. Then there was Sir James Cunningham MacLennan (b. Ontario and graduate from the universities of Toronto and Cambridge --1867-1935) who was known for his investigation of helium. And, finally, Hugh MacLennan (graduate of Dalhousie and Rhodes scholar at Oxford) the renowned author.

End.

NOTE: Some of the names listed by the author might raise a few questions. Similarly, there is a fair degree of controversy concerning the question of Logan-MacLennan kinship. However, Newsletter is always happy to publish all shades of opinion throughout the Clan. We thank John D. MacLennan for his article, which is here reproduced in full!----Editor.

REQUEST FROM TSAWWASSEN.

Greetings from beautiful British Columbia! If you have space and can sort out my jumble, can you publish some of it in Newsletter? I have also written to other branches for assistance.

My family is descended from one John MacLennan, of Inverinate, Kintail. He is thought to have had four sons, the eldest being Farquhar who, in turn, had four children: Alexander, Murdoch, Kenneth and Mary.

Alexander (1755-1826) married (1783) Isabella MacLennan (1753-1848) and came to Canada in 1803 on the "Neptune". They had nine children: (1) Donald, known as "The Java Man" who has descendants in the Netherlands; (2) Alexander, married Margaret Pettigale; (3) Roderick married Sara Ross (my g-g-grandparents, who had four children i.e. Kenneth, born in Kintail, Murdoch, Alexander and Donald, my g-grandad); (4) Farquhar; (5) Kenneth, married one Jenet Ross; (6) Duncan, married Mary MacMillan; (7) Flora, married Malcolm Ross; (8) Mary, married Ewen Dhu MacLennan; (9) Murdoch, married Janet MacRae.

My main object is to find descendants of all nine children of Alexander and Isabella. I just discovered descendants of Kenneth/Jenet two weeks ago, via internet. They live at Port Alberni, BC., about 75 miles from where I live. It's a small world! I am working on the project with my nephew who is more computer literate than I am. We still need information on the families of Farquhar, Alexander; Flora and Murdoch. We have a few names, but the genealogy is far from complete.

I seem to have amassed a lot of family information over the years. Some of the stories are quite interesting--"The Java Man" (featured in an earlier Newsletter). Then there was the fate of

the "Tonquin", off the coast of Vancouver Island; and my grandfather's trip to France, from Ohio, USA, by rail and sailing ship, for the good of his health, only to die in 1872. His body was shipped home as "dry goods" because sailors did not like to carry a corpse onboard!

Thus, my g-g-grandfather was born in Kintail; my g-grandfather, Donald was born in Glengarry County, Ontario. He and his brother, Kenneth, became orphans and were placed with an uncle, but at the age of twelve they ran away to USA.

My grandfather was born in Ohio, but returned to Canada when he reached eighteen. His cousin, Frank Pitts MacLennan, owned a newspaper in Topeka, Kansas. He prospered and built what is now the home of the Governor of Kansas, Cedar Crest. All fascinating stuff!

My grandfather's sister, Laura Seeley MacLennan, who lived in California, researched and wrote much of our family history during the 1930s. During her research, she made several trips to Canada.

As for myself, I was born in Saskatchewan. My own children were born in Ontario, and my three grandchildren were born in BC. I have a brother who was born in Chicago.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on excellent Newsletters. I read them several times, and find something stimulating on each occasion. Thanks also for an excellent job by yourself and other Clan councillors. Keep up the good work.

Yours aye,

Doug. MacLennan, 1342 Farrell Ave.,
Tsawwassen, BC., Canada V4L 1V2.
E-mail: macd@bc.sympatico.ca

DID YOU KNOW...?

In the Public Record Office, London, lies a series of documents joined together to form a sheet some 40 feet long and dating 1296.

Each document was a pledge of loyalty by Scottish noblemen to King Edward I of England (1272-1307).

This is known as the Ragman Roll, from whence the word "rigmarole" (fuss, palaver, lengthy procedure). This term was also used to describe the Hundred Rolls submitted to Edward in 1274-5. Due to the many seals hanging from them they had a ragged appearance.

Since the eighteenth century a "rigmarole" has been used to describe a rambling tale or yarn.

These are just two possible sources from which the word may have evolved. So says Nigel Rees in his "Why Do We Say...?" (Blandford Press, Poole, New York and Sydney (1987)).