

# Portraits from the Past...



Produced in the interest  
of Women's Centennial Activities in Ontario,  
by the Ontario Centennial Planning Branch,  
Department of Tourism and Information.

NOBLETON CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Proudly Presents

"Portraits From The Past"

Chairman - Rev. Reid  
Commentator - Mrs. R. Klein

- The Queen

Chairman's Remarks

Music '07

Music '67 - DMAS -

Baritone Soloist

- Portraits in order of their appearance -

1 Asin-Aki	Pat Brown
2 Catherine Tekawitha	Kathy Pickard
3 Madame Champlain	Mary Ball
4 Her Maid	Ethel Hawman
5 Settler's Wife	Helen Hunter
6 Mrs. John G. Simcoe	Margaret Scott
7 The Rural Belle	Kathy Bragg
8 Belle of the B all	Marilyn Hunt
9 Laura Secord	Ethel Dodson
10 Sarah Ashbridge	Jane McQuarrie
11 The Equestrienne	Velma Rowan
12 Queen Victoria	Joann Barker

Bolton Community Choir

13 Victorian Debutante	Esther Finch
14 The Chaperone	Pearl Mactaggart
15 Little Sister	Carol Lee Harris
16 Lady MacDonald	Olive French
17 Lady in Pink	Fran Macrae

David Crocker  
Warren Baguley

David Pearson  
Murray Pearson  
Ann Bishop

David Hughes  
-Farmer's Pride  
-For You Alone  
-You'll Never Walk Alone

18 Elder Daughter  
19 Youngest Daughter  
20 The Chatelaine  
21 The Skater  
22 Lady Tupper  
23 Annie Koerberg  
24 Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless  
25 Pauline Johnson  
26 Dr. Emily Stowe  
27 The Flora Dora Girl  
28 Beauty of the Court  
29 The Motorist  
30 Bathing Beauty  
31 Lady in Red  
32 Lady Aberdeen  
33 Persian Princess  
34 Mrs. John S. MacDonald  
35 Mrs. Edward Blake  
36 Lady Mowatt  
37 Mrs. Arthur S. Hardy  
38 Mrs. George W. Ross  
39 Lady Whitney  
40 Centennial Queen

Virginia Arnott  
Helen Holychuk  
Bertha Wilson  
Marion Douglas  
Lois Livingston  
Doris Hill  
Flo Walton  
Bonnie Collacutt  
Marie Armstrong  
Dianne Scarlett  
Glenda Rose  
Elsa Chamberlain  
Susan Dainton  
Sheila Tully  
Margaret Reid  
Ann Chamberlain  
Ruth Finch  
Inez McAllister  
Elsie Cwens  
Mary Hunt  
Bertha Kent  
Audrey Tizzard  
Sharon Clark

O Canada

Centennial Year - an exciting year for everyone of every age!

In July 1966 the Nobleton Women's Institute members decided this branch would sponsor the pageant "Portraits from the Past," Ontario's famous historical fashion pageant, the Province's birthday gift to the residents of the Province. Mrs. Art Biggs acted as corresponding convenor on behalf of the Institute. After writing to the Department of Tourism and Information, it was discovered that the staging of this pageant had to be a community project, and any money raised from the sale of tickets had to go to a centennial project. We accepted the challenge.

To form a core, or an executive, two representatives from the following groups united to be the guiding hand of what turned out to be a giant project: The United Church, Presbyterian Church, Anglican Church, Catholic Church, Skating Club, Lion's Club, Fire Department, Community Association, Women's Institute and Village Trustees. Many meetings were held and the master plan grew. Tickets were sold at \$100 per ticket and any money raised was to be spent on a set of Encyclopedia Britannica for the Nobleton Public Library, the set always to remain in the library.

The Community Association gave permission for the arena to be used for this pageant, and thanks to so many people the arena was turned into a centre worthy of this event. Our local builders erected the stage; the runway was rented from the Anglican Church in King City, and the completed stage was covered in white - colored carpets were added. The electricians lent their services to create an effective lighting system; the Bolton Community Choir kindly loaned their lighting equipment for the evening. With stage and lighting complete, colorful murals depicting the ten Provincial Emblems were placed to create an original background. These murals were painted by Greg McCarthy, one of Nobleton's high school students, for the Skating Club. The Skating Club in turn loaned these murals for the pageant. The rental of chairs and a piano completed the setting. Mr. Neate added two baskets of beautiful autumn flowers.

On Sunday night, September 17, 1968, the costumes arrived, and under the keen eye of the Wardrobe Mistress and her assistant, thirty-nine models were chosen from the one-hundred or so ladies assembled, all hoping to get the nod that she had been selected as a model. Dress rehearsals followed in preparation for the presentation on Monday, September 18th.

When 8:15 P.M. arrived on Monday, September 18th, the arena was filled with an enthusiastic audience. Musical numbers preceded the pageant, and this too brought us through the years. The first musical numbers took us back to the '20's when David Crocker and Warren Baguley played hits of that day. Then came the modern trend of music with David Pearson, Murray Pearson and Ann Bishop, who, with guitars and drums, made the arena echo with the beat. How the younger set, and the young at heart, enjoyed this. David Hughes was in excellent voice for the selections he chose to sing.

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Mrs. Robert Klein, in her lovely centennial gown, was the commentator, and as she read the script, some interesting and little-known historical facts about Canada's early women were told. These facts brought authenticity to the glamour and color of the costumes. The pageant opened with Asin-Aki, an Indian maiden, in a beige tunic and leggings with brown suedine trim, beaded mocassins, braids, red quill and strands of beads. There followed Madam Champlain, costumed in bronze satin, and her maid in navy broadcloth with touches of lighter color to complete her ensemble. The Equestrian costumes were stunning; the vibrant colors of each outfit were eye catching.

Laura Secord, the famous lady of history, wore beige suede, and she carried a milking stool. Lady MacDonald was in a one piece afternoon gown in delicate floral print, worn over a hoop. The elder and youngest daughters were most attractive, the younger one especially, with pantaletts, bonnet and slate for school. When the skater appeared, one wondered how she could ever have skated in such a costume - full length red velour complete with bonnet, barrel muff and white walking suit in green, with mulberry trim, the semi-bustle back was the "in thing" in those days. Dr. Emily Stowe looked her part in the severe mulberry-tone jacket and skirt. The floradora girl was a real crowd pleaser, with turquoise gown, large hat, gloves and parasol. Can you imagine playing tennis in a full length skirt and boater style straw hat. The tennis miss looked like she might swing a mean racket!

This report would not be complete without mention of the motorist; beige dustcoat, dickie and ruffled jabot. With this was worn a wide straw hat, voluminous veil and beige gauntlets - what a picture! The bathing beauty was completely covered in her costume of navy blue with red trim, flat bathing shoes, black stockings and navy and red cap.

During a brief intermission, the Bolton Community Choir provided musical numbers under the direction of Dorothy Addison, with Sadie Small at the piano. One of the outstanding events of the evening was the mass voices of the children, gathered around the stage, singing the Bobby Gimby Centennial "Canada." This was completely impromptu, and the crowd will never forget the thrill of those few moments!

The final part of the pageant depicted the six Premier's wives - Mrs. John Sandfield, Mrs. Edward Blake, Lady Mowatt, Mrs. Arthur Sturgis Hardy, Mrs. George W. Ross, and Lady Whitney. Each lady looked most elegant in the beautiful formal gowns.

As a fitting climax to an outstanding evening, Miss Centennial for Nobleton was crowned. Miss Sharon Clark, Miss Centennial, was gowned in a slim white peau de soir with red velvet cloak. White delustred satin gloves, diamond tiara and bouquet of red roses to match the cloak completed her ensemble.

A word of thanks must go to Mr. Peter Hunt, stage manager. Without Peter confusion would have been supreme. Also, to the many ushers who handled the crowd so well. Congratulations to a small village for a large job well done!

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In March, 1968, a complete set of Encyclopedia Britanica was purchased and placed on the shelves of the Nobleton Public Library. May the readers of these books know that it was a complete Community project that placed the books on the shelves, and feel proud to be part of such a community.

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Flo Walton



Inez McAllister  
Bertha Wilson



Sheila Tully



Ethel Dodson Mary Ball Velma Rowan



Velma Rowan



Doris Hill Pearl Mactaggart



Elsa Chamberlain