Bonnie Hollender, a teacher from Carleton School in St. Catharines, makes a book marker under the watchful eyes of Jim Hill, dressed as a Glengarry Light Infantry soldier from Fort Erie, and Alison Judd of the Mackenzie Heritage Printery Museum in Queenston. The Museums of Niagara Association, which includes 15 local museums and art galleries, held an education fair for teachers recently at the Education Centre, the headquarters of the district school board of Niagara, on Carlton Street in St. Catharines.
Deal Yourself In! • COME AND SEE •

A History of Printing

PLAYING CARDS

This year's feature exhibit:
"Dealing Playing Card History"

1997 Operating Season Highlights:
- Opening Ceremony, May 18
- St. Bartholomew Printer's Picnic and Book Arts Fair, Saturday, August 23
- Educational tours by appointment beginning Tuesday, May 6
- Summer hours 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily
- Sept. 2 - Oct. 31 by appointment

Shuffle Through the Exhibition at Mackenzie Heritage Printery Museum in Queenston, Ontario
Mackenzie Printery shuffles playing cards

The fascinating history and illustrations of antique and innovative playing cards will be the feature exhibit this year at the Mackenzie Heritage Printery Museum located at Queenston, north of Niagara Falls. The playing cards exhibit climaxing by an information Colloquium Saturday, October 4 will be the fifth annual printing exhibit feature since the unique museum began operations in April 1991.

All exhibit/colloquiums sponsored by the Mackenzie volunteer committee have been directly linked to printing history as follows: (1993) Upper Canada Gazette, published in Newark (Niagara-on-the-Lake) 1793, Ontario's first newspaper; (1994) Carl Dair, internationally noted as Canada's most famous type designer who began his career at Welland, (1995) Andrew King, Saskatchewan, Canada's prominent designer and printer of entertainment posters dating back to the early 1900s; (1996) comic creators and displays commemorating the centennial of comics.

The history of antique and innovative playing cards will be the feature exhibit this year at the Mackenzie Heritage Printery Museum in Queenston.

Niagara Advance
P.O. Box 430, Virgil, ON. L0S 1T0

Mackenzie Heritage Printery Museum

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Past exhibits have featured the Upper Canada Gazette, Ontario's first newspaper published in Niagara-on-the-Lake in 1793. Carl Dair, Canada's most famous type designer; Andrew King of Saskatchewan, Canada's prominent designer and printer of entertainment posters.

Trip to Canada Leads to Cartoon Haven

In addition, there was an exhibit throughout the summer of “100 Years of Comics,” and a display organized by Tim Rosenthal showing how the Sunday comics are created—from the cartoonists' pens (we all know that part) to (for example) American Color in Buffalo, where computers are used in today's coloring process.

The Printery's claim to fame is its collection of old printing presses, some of them the oldest in Canada.

Research now underway for the Mackenzie exhibit opening in May is being co-ordinated by printery director Laura McFadden of NOTL and Allison Judd of Queenston.

Niagara Advance, then it was another ride. Leski waited until we got in Tim's head mask, revealing a thick mane and we drove back to the States.
Mackenzie Printery Museum
Box 1824
Queenston, Ontario L0S 1L0
Telephone (905) 262-5676

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Mackenzie Printery: Russ Preston of the Lac du Bonnet (Man.) Leader demonstrated the use of the Linotype machine when convention delegates visited the Mackenzie Heritage Printery in Queenston, Ont. Looking on are Aline Preston and Raymonde Dorge of Winnipeg.

Home of the "Louis Roy" English Common Press
Charitable Tax Register No. 119465803R
ATTENTION DIRECTORS

A Serious Look at the Funnies Colloquium October 5

(Queenston, Ont.) – In conjunction with the special exhibit 100 Years of Comics, the annual Mackenzie Heritage Printery Colloquium will highlight the colorful development of the comic strip.

Entitled A Serious Look at the Funnies, the Saturday, October 5 event will bring together specialists in the creation, production, and publication of comics at Queenston Heights Restaurant, nearby the site of Canada’s largest printing museum. Presenters include cartoonist Sandra Bell-Lundy, comic historian Tim Rosenthal, and managing editor of The Standard Kevin Cavanaugh. Following the Colloquium, attendees will tour the restored home of rebel editor and publisher William Lyon Mackenzie, which now houses Canada’s largest collection of operating heritage printing equipment.

Registration for the event is $30, and includes lunch.

For additional information, please contact:
John Burtniak
(905) 688-5550, ext. 3264.

Bill Poole
(905) 945-4788

To register by mail, please make cheque payable to:
Mackenzie Heritage Printery Colloquium
P.O. Box 1824
Queenston, Ont. L0S 1L0

Home of the “Louis Roy” English Common Press
Charitable Tax Register No. 096139-50
Curators Report
(May 6 - September 30)

Board of Directors Meeting
October 9, 1996

The Mackenzie Heritage Printery was operated by the Niagara Parks Commission for the 1996 season. Admissions were charged for the first time in its history. With the inclusion of the cash register accurate records of attendance could also be kept. Few people were discouraged by the attendance fee; ($1.50 for Adults, and $1.00 for children over the age of six). The fee for school tours varied from 'admission by donation' to $1.75 per student. This was due to separate arrangements made by the Niagara Parks Commission and the Printery Committee earlier in the year.

Attendance to date 2521

Tours 31

Schools: 20
General Interest: 11

Admissions $3150.75

Gift Shop Sales $1455.32

Sales from the gift shop are to be divided equally between the Printery Committee and the Niagara Parks Commission.

Summer Students
Megan Carruthers, Senior Interpreter (May 5 - Sept 3)
Stephen Willson, Interpreter and Printer (May, wkends, June 22- Aug 24)

Both summer students were a pleasure to work with, reliable and enthusiastic. Megan accomplished a tremendous amount of work on the library. Under the guidance of John Burtniak all books have been numbered and catalogued. A master list was created and Megan has volunteered her time to continue to print out individual cards so a card catalogue can be created. Stephen was of great help in thorough demonstrations of the equipment during tours.
Visitor Profile

Our guest book helps us to record where our visitors come from and what brought them to the Printery. Interest from local residents in Niagara Falls and St. Catharines is very good. Attendance by people visiting Niagara-on-the-Lake and the Shaw Festival has been noticed to be very steady. Printers and people in the industry continue to be very strong. Included are a few remarks made in our "comments" column:

"fabulous demonstrations. Thanks." Jack Niven, London, Ontario

"Very informative, a great tour - hands on and lots of information too." The Greenwoods, Columbus, Ohio

"a wonderful place to learn" Wayne & Mary Wilson, Minesing

The most frank comments of course come from the children on school tours:

"Mackenzie's nose is chipped and this place is awesome!" Philip Romanin, Greendale School, Niagara Falls, Ontario

"Can I come back with my parents?" Erin Gettler, Greendale Public School, Niagara Falls, Ont.

"kids - heaven!" Kieran McKay, Hamilton, Ontario

Publicity

Newspapers: Coverage in local and regional newspapers has been excellent and consistent throughout the summer, including: St. Catharines Standard, Niagara Review, Niagara Advance, Welland Tribune, the Toronto Star and the Globe & Mail. There were also articles in trade magazines such as The Printer and PrintAction. This coverage is due to ongoing efforts by OEB International.

Television:

Rogers Cable 10 Saturday, May 18. Opening Ceremonies filmed and staff interviewed. Aired.

T.V.O. Thursday, July 11. Footage of museum and working presses was filmed for "cybeRVision", a technology based educational programme. Airing date as yet unknown, but believed to be in January.

Global Television Tuesday, July 23. Bill Poole was interviewed for 'Bill Brahma's Ontario'. Interview also highlighted the 100 Years of Comics exhibit. Aired on the 6:00 p.m. news.
Exhibits 1996

**100 Years of Comics**: The exhibit was put together by volunteers and mounted in April and early May. Contributors include: Grimsby Public Art Gallery, Grimsby - *Walter Ball's Rural Route*, American Color and Sullivan Graphics, Stevensville - *How Comics are Created*, and comics from the private collections of: Bob Bindig, Tim Rosenthal, and Bob McIlveen.

Reaction to the show has been positive. We found that it was able to capture audiences both young and old.

Special Events/Occasions

**Linotype**: a model #31 Linotype machine was donated by Peninsula Press this past winter. In order to move the Linotype into the Museum renovations were carried out on the back door of the composing room. Construction began on July 2nd, to install double doors. The Linotype was delivered by crane on Friday, July 12. Construction was completed on Thursday, August 8th. During this time the back room was of limited access. We actively explained to visitors our circumstances, and allowed them to ventured back if they wished.

**CCNA**, Thursday, July 18. Thirty members of the Canadian Community Newspapers Association were in for an introductory tour.

**Bartholomew-tide Book Arts Fair**: Saturday, August 24. This was the first year this event was staged at the Printery. The Niagara Parks Commission supplied the budget for the event. Additional guidance provided by the Volunteers. A Big Top tent was rented and 20 artisans/exhibitors from Southern Ontario participated on the day. It was a moderately successful event generating attendance figures 3 times greater than an average Saturday. The 2nd Annual Bartholomew-tide has been scheduled for Saturday, August 23, 1997.

**Peninsula Press Acknowledgment**: Saturday, September 14. The Mackenzie Heritage Printery and the Niagara Parks Commission hosted a formal "thank-you" to the Des Morris Family and Peninsula Press and its employees. Twenty people were in attendance, with representatives from the Printery Committee and the Niagara Parks Commission. It was a very successful event, with the Morris family very pleased to have the Linotype in working order once again.

**CPIA, and Linotype-Hell**: Sunday, September 15. The Canadian Printing Industries Association and Linotype-Hell hosted a wine reception at the Printery. 60 - 75 people were in attendance. A cheque was presented to the Mackenzie Heritage Printery by Linotype-Hell for costs incurred for the moving of the Linotype machine.
The 4th Annual Colloquium: "A Serious Look at the Funnies", Saturday, October 5. Held at Queenston Heights restaurant, this event was organized by the Printery Committee. Admission for the days events was $30.00, including lunch and coffee. 30-35 people attended.

**Off Site events**
- Heritage Fest, Balls Falls, Aug. 11. (volunteers)
- Smithville Fair, Smithville, Aug. 29 - Sept. 1 (press kit)
- Festival at the Forty, Grimsby, Aug. 17-19 (press kit)
- Market on the Green, Smithville, Aug. 29 - Sept. 1 (volunteers)
- International Plowing Match, Selkirk, Sept. 14 - 20 (volunteers)
- Canadian Book Binders and Book Artists Guild, (CBBAG), Toronto, Sept. 30 (curator)

**Printing jobs**
Printing was done this year for other sites within the Niagara Parks. I feel this to be an important part of the Museums operations and with planning and sufficient notice believe this to be a viable expansion project for the 1997 season.

- 150 Menus, "Visions from the Gardens", Botanical Gardens and School of Horticulture, NPC
- 60 Siege Posters, Historic Fort Erie, NPC
- 15 Officers' Day Posters, McFarland House, NPC
- 90 Tickets, Golf Tournament, Printery Committee and NPC
Minutes
Directors’ Meeting
Wednesday, October 9, (1996)

Mackenzie Heritage Printery committee held at Printery Museum commencing at 10 a.m., adjourning 12:15 p.m. Present: Al Teather, Bill Sears, Michael Makin, Gerry MacLean, Dr. Guy Debenham, Archie Provan, Jim Dills, Rob Welch, John Burtniak, Rosanne Fedorkow, John Hunt, Joseph Potje, Laura McFadden, April Petrie, representing Robert McIlveen, Lou Cahill, and Alison Judd curator. Regrets Bob McIlveen, Bob Halls.

Motion of Messrs. Welch & MacLean, Minutes April 18, (1996) Accepted.

Chair Teather outlined proposed changes to formalize future status of Emeritus Directors Messrs. Dyment, Gurney, Poole, Purdy, and Smart without voting authority and to re-arrange the layout of the letterhead listing them independently. Joseph Potje, Kitchener, and Laura McFadden were nominated as voting directors, and Laura Bruce, OEB International, St.Catharines, as associate secretary. These changes were approved by motion of Messrs. Welch & Dills.

Chair Teather said the Emeritus Directors had all made significant founding developments over the years and it was important that their relationship with the museum be recognized and continued. Appreciation will be extended to them separately.

Rosanne Fedorkow inquired about the length of terms for directors. The chair noted this would be covered in the draft of constitution and bylaws which legal counsel Rob Welch would be considering for eventual reference to all directors.

A series of support committees, some already functioning, outlined in a previous memo to directors will be the subject of a follow up report to directors prepared by Chair Teather. These responsibilities were briefly discussed by directors.

The Niagara Parks Commission report was presented by April Petrie who said the Museum was popular and had been well received. Her “good news” was notice that the “1995/96 Award of Merit as an outstanding volunteer group who have made a significant contribution to the Museum field in Ontario” will be presented to Mackenzie Printery Committee. The awards program will be held at the OMA Conference in Windsor, Friday, October 25, and the secretary (Lou Cahill) was delegated to represent Mackenzie at that time. Three additional OMA awards will also be presented.
On the morning of September 18, delegates attending the Canadian Printing Industries Association annual conference in Niagara-on-the-Lake participated in a CPIA tournament at the NPC. While attendance was not as large as expected, it was successful and also raised funds for the Printery. Mackenzie will also benefit from CPIA conference attendance. Financial information on these three funding projects will be referred to directors when completed.

John Burtniak, Colloquium convenor, said 35 attended the 1996 program “A Serious Look at the Funnies” held at NPC Queenston restaurant October 5. The program which has been publicized in advance to all directors was a decided success providing diversified information on comics and their history to those present. Mr. Burtniak spoke of the need to co-ordinate available mailing lists to promote the Colloquium and the secretary said lists would be reviewed by directors.

Mr. Burtniak also spoke about the August 24 St. Bartholomew-Tide program, augmented later by Alison Judd, curator, organizer. Rosanne Fedorkow referred to earlier community activities known as “Queenston Days” and there was some discussion about combining these events including a General Brock observance. These possibilities will be explored.

Jim Dills reported on the International Plowing match scheduled for Selkirk September 17-21. Mackenzie volunteers staff the Ontario Community Newspapers Association booth and it provides a fund raising opportunity. The event this year was rained out and a sea of mud prevailed reducing the overall attendance, and creating unbelievable problems for everyone including Mackenzie volunteers Bob Halls, Bill Poole, and Jim Dills. Mr. Halls reported booth sales amounted to $80, far below expectations. The Plowing Match in 1997 will be held in September, south of Barrie. Future relations by Mackenzie volunteers will be discussed.

Alison Judd prepared a comprehensive Curator’s report, copy attached FYI. Alison will continue on NPC staff until October 25 preparing closure and handling student and other group tours. An updated report on attendance, admissions, and gift sales figures will follow including October. It should also be noted that for a variety of reasons such as special tours throughout the season, media reps, directors and their guests upwards of 500 complimentary men, women and children were also visitors in addition to paid records. By October 25 attendance may be well over 3,000. Because of tour interpretation and prolonged visitor interest about 30-40 adults is about all that can be effectively handled during July/August. School group tours are of course larger.
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The directors discussed the subject for the 1997 Exhibit and Colloquium, the latter likely being scheduled for Saturday, October 4. Topics suggested included Trivial Pursuit, Board Games, Postage Stamps. Mr Burtniak said these would be considered by his committee. It was agreed that plans should be finalized early in the New Year.

Mr. Burtniak reported progress in developing the Printery Museum Library, second floor. During the summer months Meagan Carruthers, NPC staff, has worked with Mr. Burtniak in re-arranging books and display space. At the St. Bartholomew-Tide August 24 Mr. Burtniak staffed the Printery book table raising more than $300 in book sales. A deadline collection policy for the category of books to be collected should be established, he suggested.

The need for a storage area for surplus printing presses and related machinery was again discussed, and it was agreed to pursue with Mr. McIlveen. Use of topical videos was discussed, and use of basement space for such presentations, is also related to the need for off-site storage.

The directors again discussed the need for a collection policy with regard to printing artifacts and exhibit material. No decision was reached.

On motion of Dr. Debenham the meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.
August 28, 1996

Don K. Black
Linecasting Service Ltd.
120 Midwest Road, Unit 5
Scarborough, ON
M1P 3B2

Dear Don:

It is unfortunate that your schedule does not permit an opportunity for Lou Cahill and I to meet you at your office to discuss the Linotype situation, and to explain the decision reached in April by the directors.

We understand your strong feelings of disappointment and apologize for the frustration and inconvenience which has resulted.

Your generous offer to donate a Linotype was known for some time among at least some of our directors but had not been formally reviewed. It can be recorded that we were initially appreciative for your offer.

About this time Des Morris (Jr.) made known the considerable interest of Peninsula Press in St. Catharines to donate their Linotype, then no longer in service. His father had been one of the early, if not founding, directors of Mackenzie Printery and their company’s origin and operation in St. Catharines dates back over 100 years.

Their Linotype has a long history of being involved in production of many local and regional heritage books and St. Catharines/Niagara brochures and the Morris family made this known.
Des (Sr.), still a comparatively young man had died suddenly, from cancer. He had operated the Linotype for many years and was the last operator. The family looked upon the donation as a memorial to the father.

At the April meeting when the Peninsula Press donation was finalized 10 of the directors whose names appear on this letterhead supported the decision. We believe the real problem was the fact this action and the related reasons were not immediately communicated to you.

You, your family and your company have been helpful to the Mackenzie Printery since its beginning and there was never any intention to personally reject your offer or to terminate your support and interest. Therefore, we trust that you will accept this explanation in the cooperative spirit this letter endeavors to convey to you.

I remain,

Sincerely,

Alan W. Teather
Chairman

Copy: Directors
Alison Judd
Rare Linotype demonstrated at historic Printery

A historic type-setting machine, known as a Linotype, has been installed and is being demonstrated at Canada’s largest operating printing museum at Queenston, on the scenic Niagara Parkway, seven miles north of Niagara Falls.

Possibly the only museum in Canada featuring an operating Linotype, the Mackenzie Heritage Printery also exhibits eight operating printing presses, a Ludlow hot type machine, and Canada’s oldest press, which printed Upper Canada’s first newspaper, *The Upper Canada Gazette* at Newark (Niagara-on-the-Lake) in 1793.

The Linotype revolutionized printing worldwide, and marked the beginning of what is recognized as the Information Age. It was invented in 1885 by Ottmar Mergenthaler, who immigrated from Germany to the United States.

With one thousand moving parts selectively setting the type a Mergenthaler machine replaced hand type setting, it permitted newspapers to carry more pages and more advertising, and similarly expanded book and magazine publishing, and commercial printing.

Linotype’s use spread the printed word in many languages, and global illiteracy came under attack. It was recognized as the most significant advance in printing in 400 years, exceeded only by Guttenberg’s invention of the printing press in 1440.

Development of the electronic computer era quickly replaced the Linotype and letterpress printing style about 1970, and an operating Linotype such as the one exhibited at the Queenston museum is becoming very rare.
"The linotype at Mackenzie is visibly the icing on the cake in the now historic field of letterpress graphics, and our volunteers and the Niagara Parks Commission are extremely proud of what has been accomplished at the unique exhibit of printing," said Al Teather, chairman, Mackenzie Printery.

"A large percentage of visitors, particularly students, are witnessing for the first time a Linotype in action, and are absolutely amazed that this highly successful machine was invented more than a century ago. Many also appreciated that the computer had a friendly rival dating back to the 1880's," Teather added.

Earlier this year in February, the United States postal service commemorated Megenthaler's contribution to communication when he was included in a block of four postage stamps called "Pioneers of Communication." The other three were: Frederic E. Ives, developer of the halftone screen in 1885; Eadweard Muybridge, photographer, who took the first consecutive stop action of a running horse in 1877; and William Dickson, a Thomas Edison associate, who produced the first motion pictures in 1891.

The Model 31 Linotype that can now be seen at the Mackenzie Printery was donated by Peninsula Press Ltd., a St. Catharines printing firm dating back 104 years. The machine played an important role in the firm's operation for upwards of 75 years. It was donated in memory of the late Des Morris, Peninsula Press president, who prior to his passing in 1943 was among the founding directors of the Mackenzie Printery.

Financial support underwriting transportation and setup costs for the Linotype were contributed by printing and newspaper organizations including Linotype-Hell Canada Ltd., Mississauga, Ont., Ontario Community Newspapers Association, Oakville, Ont. representing community newspapers; and Print Action Magazine, Scarborough, Ont.