



Heritage News

Discover Crowsnest Heritage

IN THIS ISSUE

- Heritage Partner News
- The List
- Feature Article – *A Long Road to Happiness: Marietta Mancini* by Jillian Uloth
- Book Review – *The Doctor* by Ralph Connor
- Q&A – History Through Comic Books
- News, 100 Years Ago
- Sign of the Times
- Local Heritage Attractions
- Newsletter Archives

Issue #55, June 2019

Coleman National Historic Site took another hit this spring with the demolition of two more heritage buildings. The so-called Povinch Building, inbetween the former liquor store and the present Artist's Touch studio, was not a thing of beauty but typified the small, hollow-block commercial buildings erected in the early 1920s. By contrast the John S. D'Appolonia residence was an attractive, well-balanced and sizeable house constructed by a master builder who was also mayor of Coleman for a short while.

There are several other buildings which have been lost through time and neglect, and many more are at risk. But some are being saved, such as the ca. 1913 Janostak residence (east of the museum, just across

the creek) which now sports new shingles and windows. This is one of the more attractive heritage houses in the Pass, although not everyone will share my opinion on this.

- Ian McKenzie

Disney (left) and D'Appolonia (right) residences, Coleman, about 1940.

Photo: Crowsnest Museum and Archives
CM-CO-32-19



Heritage News is a publication of the Crowsnest Heritage Initiative. We are a cooperative committee of local heritage organizations and interested individuals who seek to promote the understanding and appreciation of heritage within the Municipality of Crowsnest Pass, Alberta. For more information on who we are and what we do, click here: <http://www.crowsnestheritage.ca/crowsnest-heritage-initiative/>

This issue was edited and produced by Ian McKenzie and proofread by Isabel Russell. Inquiries, comments or submissions can be sent to cnhnewsletter@shaw.ca. Future contributors should send in their articles in MS Word or something similar, with any photos sent as separate jpeg files. Do not insert photos into your document; we will just have to strip them out and reinsert them into our newsletter format.

Heritage Partner News

The **Crowsnest Historical Society** has had a busy Spring, acquiring additional file cabinets for the museum's ample archives, holding their annual general meeting, manning a booth at the Lifestyles Show, holding a book launch for *Guide to the Heritage Cemeteries of Crowsnest Pass*, and hosting an "After Hours" event with the Chamber of Commerce. Register for the annual "Prohibition Pub Crawl" June 28 and dress in 1920s style; part of Canada Day weekend in Coleman. The Harvest of Memories fundraiser gala is on September 28, at MDM.

The **Crowsnest Heritage Initiative** completed planning of this August's Doors Open and Heritage Festival and will have its flyer available on www.cnpheritagefest.ca. Also planned is an event commemorating the 105th anniversary of the Hillcrest Mine Disaster, to be held at the Hillcrest Cemetery on June 23 at the end of Bellecrest Days.

Improvements at the **Frank Slide Interpretive Centre** include a new cash collection system, repairs and re-chipping of the Frank Slide Trail, and an expected new entrance sign on the highway. Seasonal staff have completed their training for school programs, special events, and regular summer programming. The Centre is also partnering with local rock-climbers for a planned "Tour de Frank" bouldering event within the Frank Slide.

The **Municipality of Crowsnest Pass** hopes to wrap up its phased underground infrastructure replacement within Coleman National Historic Site by the end of September. This will disrupt summer visitation, but new sidewalks and paving will be most welcome. Also, a Heritage Management Plan has been completed and accepted by Council.

CNP Memorial Society implemented its first annual Cemetery Day, the first Saturday in June, which encourages locals to visit the graves of relatives and do some gardening and cleanup in our historic cemeteries.



Editorial cartoon against moving out of town,
Blairmore Enterprise April 3 1919.
"Keep away from the flame of the candle
if you don't want your wings singed."

The List

Eight Former Industrial
Businesses in the Pass

- McLaren Mill sawmill (1900-1932)
- Canadian Metal Company zinc smelter (1905-1906)
- Pelletier Brick Works (1909-1919)
- Winnipeg Fuel and Supply Company lime kilns (1910-1918) (*company still exists*)
- Rocky Mountain Cement Works (1910-1917)
- Blairmore Brewing and Malting Company (1911-1914)
- Keystone Portland Cement Company (1912-1915)
- East Kootenay Power and Light Company (1927-1969)

A Long Journey to Happiness: Marietta Mancini

by Jillian Uloth

Marietta Maria Mancini was born on March 9, 1902 in Glasgow, Scotland and was the first child and only daughter of Pietro and Filomena Mancini. Her father Pietro (Peter) had been orphaned at the young age of ten, back in the tiny town of Pastena, Italy and was left to fend for himself, often finding shelter in local barns at night. At the age of seventeen, it is said that he was befriended by a Scottish professor who decided to hire him as a valet on a voyage back to Scotland, which is how he ended up in Glasgow. Marietta's mother Filomena was born in Glasgow in 1883 to Italian parents with the surname of Gizzi and grew up in a tenement slum in the Cowcaddens neighborhood. After Marietta was born, her parents expanded their little family once more with the birth of Albert (Bob), and by 1907 had made the decision to pick up and move the family to Canada. They travelled on the steamship *S.S. Athenia*, docking in New Brunswick before making their way west to Blairmore. Blairmore



Pietro, Filomena, and young Marietta in Glasgow.

was probably chosen due to a contact of some kind through the town's large Italian community, and Peter was able to gain employment as a miner. The Mancinis moved into a centrally located home on Victoria Street with a brick foundation, basement and large garden on seven lots. The family continued to grow as four more boys were born in quick succession – Ralph, Rocco (Vic), Vincent (Vince), and Tony. During this time, the children who were of age attended school and Vince recalled that their home was not far from the Old Man River where the children would enjoy donning 'gunny sacks' to swim in during spells of warm weather. Despite a seemingly idyllic sounding setting, their father Peter had a cold demeanor and was physically abusive. Son Vince recalled evenings when he and the other Mancini children would hear their father's boots crunching on the cobble stones leading up to the house as he walked home from work at night and they would run and hide to avoid being beaten. When their beloved mother Filomena passed away three days after giving birth to another baby boy in 1917, life for the Mancini children was about to get even more challenging.

Mrs. Holloway was a local nurse who had attended the birth of the children's new baby brother in the Mancini home. After Filomena's death, Mrs. Holloway decided to adopt the motherless baby and named him Walter Holloway. Marietta, still only a child herself, was left to look after her five little brothers on her own, with the youngest being only four years old. The following winter of 1917/18 must have been horrible for the grief-stricken Mancini children as they coped with the loss of their mother and ill-treatment by their father. The enormous weight of responsibility placed on Marietta's young shoulders while still attempting to attend school must have left deep, emotional scars; as an adult, she was never willing to discuss this period of her life.

By the next year, formal complaints had been made that the children were not being properly cared for by Mr. Mancini and he was "charged with neglect, or ill-treatment or non-support of his children."¹ The Mancini youngsters were removed from their home by the Department of

¹ "Council Invites Province to Sue." Blairmore Enterprise, July 26, 1923.

<http://peel.library.ualberta.ca/newspapers/BME/1923/07/26/1/Ar00105.html?query=newspapers%7CMancini%7C%28publication%3ABEV+publication%3ABFV+publication%3ABME+publication%3ABMG+publication%3ABVT%29%7Cscore>

Dependent and Delinquent Children and separated into various housing. The Mancini home was temporarily “held as bond surety for the patrol of Mancini’s pending trial. A short time afterwards, Mancini appeared for hearing and was later let out on his own recognizance.”² At this point, Peter placed an ad in the *Blairmore Enterprise* offering his home for sale and asking for immediate settlement by accepting only cash offers. He had then made the decision to leave Blairmore, after supposedly promising Marietta that he would travel back to Italy to bring home a new mother for his children. In May 1919 while back in Pastena, Peter married Josephine Sarracino, a local young woman.

Returning home to Blairmore with his new wife that September, the couple stayed for about two months, renting a room at a local hotel. By this time, Marietta was old enough to be assigned as a domestic for a nearby family and was sent away to work for her room and board. While she had not been treated kindly during this time, she refused to agree to her father’s proposed arrangement to live as a family with his new bride. After receiving payment from the sale of the house, Peter and Josephine quietly left town in the middle of the night and illegally fled over the border to Portal, North Dakota, leaving nothing to his children.

Having been taken into care, Marietta’s younger brothers had not fared much better than she had. The *Child Protection Act* had been officially sanctioned in Alberta by 1909 and was essentially meant to be a social safety net for the legal protection of neglected and abandoned children. As wards of the province, children were often boarded in orphanages or sent to so-called ‘baby farms’ to be nurtured in a family setting.

Vince later remembered he was sent to an orphanage with his brother Vic and they were treated terribly. He recalled the “Nuns ate steak while the children had only porridge to eat.” During summers, the orphanage shipped them out to work as farm hands, often sleeping in barns and treated cruelly by one particular farm wife. These foster homes were paid “\$3.00 per week, per child if necessary; in some the children’s services were provided in lieu of payment. Some foster parents abused the system, using the children as cheap labor.”³

When a bill was received by the town of Blairmore from the Department of Dependent and Delinquent Children in 1920 for the maintenance of the Mancini children, the town denied responsibility and refused to settle up. By 1922, the state became more aggressive in its approach and the office of the Department of Attorney General was “demanding immediate settlement of the sum of \$3932.85, claimed as due under the Mother’s Allowance Act and the Children’s Protection Act in connection chiefly with the children of one Pete Mancini.”⁴ Legal action was then threatened. In today’s dollars, this amount would be approximately \$57,000. Blairmore’s town council believed the claim to be unfair due to the fact that it had not been consulted when the province of Alberta took over the handling of the Mancini children and deemed them wards of the province. This transfer of control also meant that the Mancini family home and other assets were no longer held as a property bond by the town, value which could have provided for the children.

By November, Chief Justice Horace Harvey decided that the town of Blairmore would no longer be considered accountable for the sum. After the Supreme Court of Alberta’s ruling, a newspaper article was printed in the local paper, cheerfully proclaiming “Town Wins Big Case.”⁵ Blairmore was essentially off the hook and while the town may have ‘won big,’ the Mancini children lost everything, including their parents, each other and everything safe and

² Ibid.

³ Knitel, Faye, “Child Protection: Trends and Issues in Alberta” (masters thesis, University of Lethbridge, 2003), 7-8, https://opus.uleth.ca/bitstream/handle/10133/1151/Knitel_Faye.pdf;sequence=1

⁴ “Council Protests Unreasonable Relief Demands.” *Blairmore Enterprise*, October 26, 1922.

<http://peel.library.ualberta.ca/newspapers/BME/1922/10/26/1/Ar00106.html?query=newspapers%7CMancini%7C%28publication%3ABEV+publication%3ABFV+publication%3ABME+publication%3ABMG+publication%3ABVT%29%7Cscore>

⁵ “Town Wins Big Case.” *Blairmore Enterprise*, November 8, 1923.

<http://peel.library.ualberta.ca/newspapers/BME/1923/11/08/1/Ar00112.html?query=newspapers%7CMancini%7C%28publication%3ABEV+publication%3ABFV+publication%3ABME+publication%3ABMG+publication%3ABVT%29%7Cscore>

familiar during their short lives. Victims of their father's lack of love and selfish motives, the Mancini children managed to forge ahead into adulthood, reconnecting as siblings and creating their own paths to leading successful lives.

In the later part of the 1920s, Marietta eventually made her way to the luxury mountain resort of Lake Louise, working as an 'elevator girl' and using the chosen name of Donna. The spirit and decadence of the era must have been exhilarating as she encountered wealthy international travelers and even rubbed elbows with United Artists film crews as they shot the 1928 movie "Eternal Love" (starring John Barrymore) on site. During her time there, she met a young Brewster's tour bus driver named Russell Lawrence who hailed from Granum, and they fell in love. Donna and Russell married and happily raised three daughters in Milk River, creating a loving environment with lots of laughter and song. While her childhood back in Blairmore was anything but stable, Donna managed to successfully provide her own version of a sturdy family identity for her children and she nurtured the type of family she had likely always longed for.



Left: Elevator Girls at Chateau Lake Louise, late 1920s. Photo by Marietta (Donna) Mancini.

Right: Marietta (Donna) Mancini with fiancée Russell Lawrence, Lake Louise, 1928.



Thanks to the abundance of digitized genealogical information found online through websites such as ancestry.ca, peelsprairieprovinces.ca, and scotlandspeople.gov.uk, I was able to piece together the story of the Mancini children. As a great granddaughter of Donna Lawrence, I also heavily relied on my family's oral histories and photos. A very special acknowledgement going to Dr. Josephine Canestrelli of Columbus, Michigan, who is the granddaughter of Peter's second wife and provided significant details regarding the early years of the Mancini children's lives.

Jillian Uloth
Prince George, BC

Editor's Note: Marietta's mother Filomena Mancini is buried in an unknown, unmarked grave in Blairmore.

Do you have a Crowsnest Pass story to tell? Drop us a line at cnhnewsletter@shaw.ca

Book Review

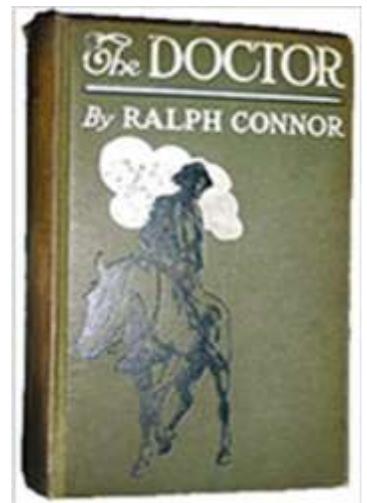
The Doctor, by Ralph Connor

Review by Ian McKenzie

Famous Canadian novelist Ralph Connor published *The Doctor* in 1906. The plot revolves around the Boyle brothers from Ontario - a doctor and a missionary - who part ways over competing interests in a woman, and avoid each other for years until being unexpectedly reunited in the BC wilderness. Along the way there is action and romance, though of a clean naïve sort by modern standards. The ending is not an unequivocally happy one; there is redemption, but it comes late and at a high cost.

Three chapters are set in squalid railway construction camps in Crowsnest Pass. Although fiction, these chapters were clearly influenced by actual conditions and events during the construction of the Crow's Nest Line in 1897-98, which sparked a federal government inquiry into working conditions. Later editions of this book were renamed *The Doctor of Crow's Nest*, which capitalized on the growing name-recognition of the Pass.

Ralph Connor was the pen-name of Reverend Charles Gordon (1860-1937) who worked as a Presbyterian missionary in rail, coal and timber camps near Banff and Canmore between 1890 and 1893. The Connor invention allayed concerns that his adventure novels might seem undignified for a 'man of the cloth'. Connor's novels promoted the concept of a 'masculine Christianity' as an essential component of the perfect man. The author himself did not hold with too-strict religious orthodoxy, and his writings reflect his belief that personal and theological imperfections might actually be suited to wilderness missionary work. In 1906, the same year *The Doctor* was published, Connor imitated his character Barney Boyle by donating funds for 'club rooms' at St. Paul's Church in Coleman.



The Doctor is a product of its times. Its characters' strong roots in family and religion might seem caricature, but reflect the commonly-held ideals of only a century ago. Its too-good-to-be-true characters are still found in adventure and romance novels today. Readers might find the unfamiliar writing style entertaining, or onerous, and the emphasis on religion a distraction, but there is plenty of action and sections of good humour that make this immersion into another era worthwhile. If nothing else, it will help the amateur historian place the actions and motives of our ancestors into context.

The Doctor is good, but is not thought to be Connor's best work; it was successful enough at the time, but did not match the million-sellers of his other novels. It may be available through inter-library loan, or you can read it online through www.ralphconnor.ca (follow links under the History tab), but I bought mine at a used book store. I am currently on the hunt for Connor's earlier novel, *The Prospector – a Tale of Crow's Nest Pass*, which the *Chicago Tribune* described as "so intense that one grinds his teeth, less the sinews should snap, ere the strain is released". Now, that's got to be worth reading.

History through Comic Books: Q&A with Joey Ambrosi

Interpretation-Education Officer, Frank Slide Interpretive Centre

Where did the idea for a series of heritage comic books come from?

When all of the exhibits and displays in the Centre were renewed in 2007-08, there was an emphasis on child-friendly exhibits during planning sessions. The Centre's Facility Manager, Monica Field, noticed the "March West" comic, the story of the North West Mounted Police's westward march of 1874. Monica ordered a copy, and in the credits found out that the artist, Claude St. Aubin, lived in Raymond, Alberta. He worked for many years for DC Comics and is very interested in western Canadian history. Monica, with input from myself, did the original draft of "I Survived the Frank Slide: The Jessie Leitch Story." Claude did all of the illustrations, Anna Cooley was hired to colourize the comic, Jim Dickinson was the creative consultant on the comic, and I was let loose on all of the captions and speech balloons. Starting with comic #4, I took over the duties of colourizing the comic, as it was easier to do in-house.

What comic book titles are currently available, and what are you working on now?

"I Survived the Frank Slide" was the Centre's first comic. The intent, in that comic, and in all subsequent ones, was to tell the story from young Jessie Leitch's point of view, so that the story would connect with young readers. In the second comic, "Big Charlie and the Frank Slide," the central character is a mine horse that was trapped in the mine on the night of the slide and was not found for a month. The third comic, "Canada's Worst Mine Disaster: The Julia Elick Story", tells about the Hillcrest mine explosion of 1914 in which 189 miners were killed. The story is told from the perspective of Julia Elick, whose father died in the disaster. As you may have noticed, the compelling Crowsnest Pass stories always seem to have death and disaster. While that is not necessarily a recipe for success in children's reading material, the stories are real and they are presented from a child's view, which seems to temper some of the possible issues. Comic #4, "The Shooting of Constable Lawson", is set during the era of Rum Runners in the Crowsnest Pass. This story is told by two children: Pearl Lawson, daughter of Constable Stephen Lawson, who is killed in the climax of the story; and by Carmine Picariello, son of Emilio Picariello, the Rum Running kingpin who allegedly shot and killed Lawson. Our most recent comic, "The Shoot-Out at the Bellevue Café," is presented through the eyes of Orestes Serra, who was a youngster on Bellevue's main street the day of the shoot-out between bandits and police on the streets of Bellevue.

We are currently working on "Black Beauty: A Crowsnest Pass *Tyrannosaurus rex*." It is the story of the *T. rex* skeleton found in the Crowsnest River in 1980 by three local teenagers. This comic is visually stunning, and with the popularity of dinosaurs among youngsters, we are expecting this to be a big hit. We have had Dr. Francois Therrien, Curator of Dinosaur Paleoecology at the Tyrrell, as our consultant expert on this project.

How popular are these comic books?

Due to their price point (\$3.00/comic; all five for \$12.50) and their market (children), the comics are our biggest individual sellers among heritage reading material. We do have large-format versions of each comic located among our displays, so visitors can read the five comics without purchasing them. However, it seems that many people read the comic and then want to buy one (or more) to take home for kids, grandkids, etc.

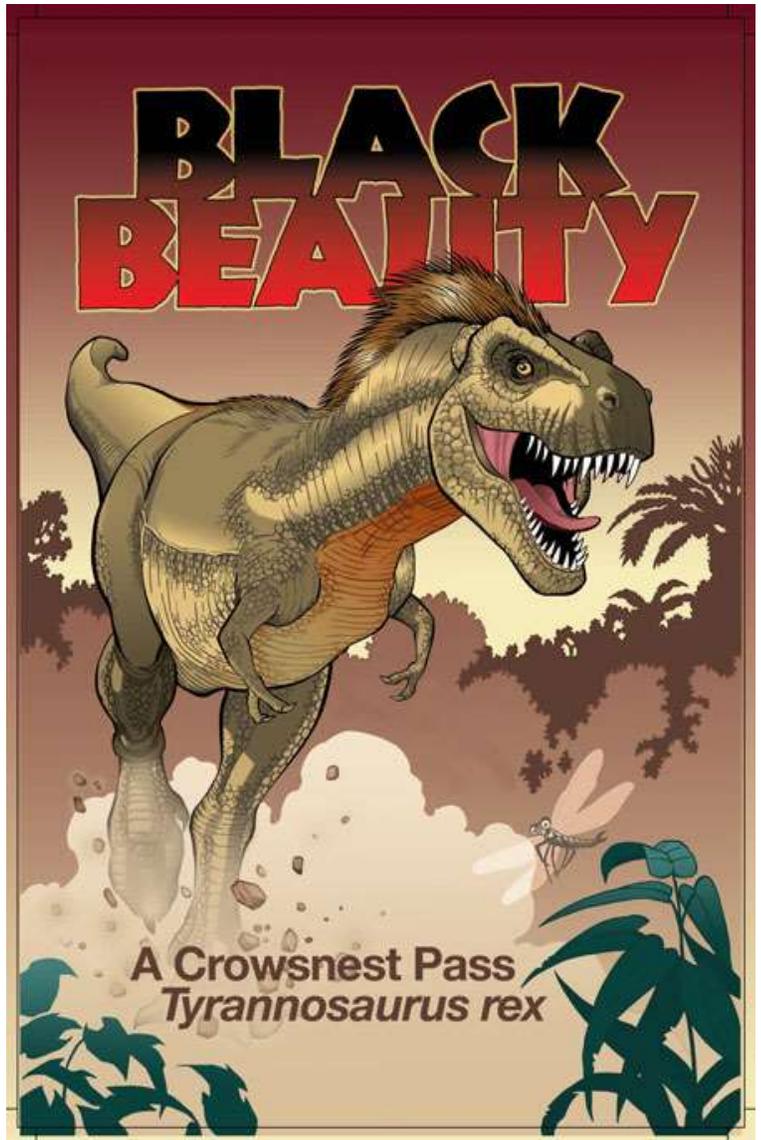
What steps do you go through to develop this product?

The initial step is to determine what story about the Crowsnest Pass we want to tell. Generally, Monica and I discuss the potential for a story and then gather background material.

Other Centre staff, including Myriah Sagrafena, have had input of some of the comics. Then Monica writes it up as a general script. I take Monica's script and do a rough page-by-page, panel-by-panel pencil sketch of all 16 pages of the comic. Although the sketches are rough by any standard, they assist illustrator Claude St. Aubin in his work. We also send Claude all of our background material, which includes images of locations and people to assist in making everything more realistic. After Claude has completed an ink sketch of a page, that is scanned and sent to Monica and myself for approval (and in the case of Black Beauty, Dr. Therrien's approval was required as well). Claude makes a final ink version of the page and then scans that and sends it to me. I use Adobe Illustrator to break down the inked page into all of its individual little components that can be then colorized. It's like having a very large and intricate paint-by-numbers to fill in, but you have to choose all of the colours. Each page is sent for approval to Claude and Monica (and Dr. Therrien for Black Beauty), then captions and speech balloons are added. Again, this is distributed and approved. Once all 16 pages of the comic, plus the front, inside front, inside back and back covers are completed, the comic is sent to a printer. There is always great anticipation waiting for the final comics.

Which step is the most challenging?

I don't believe any one step is the most challenging, because we have the right people doing the right steps. What seems extremely challenging to us is what Claude St. Aubin has done all his working career and makes it seem quite effortless, although we know that is not the case. All of the components take significant time, but a lot is overlapped. I may be working on colorizing pages 1 and 2, while everybody is checking out and assessing pages 3 and 4, and Claude is doing pencil versions of pages 5 and 6. It seems that we have developed a very good chemistry between Claude, Monica and myself and things seem to run smoothly. Generally, from initial idea to final product will take about 6 months for each comic.



Is there a balance between entertainment and historical accuracy?

One of the primary goals was to provide as much historical accuracy as possible within the bounds of a 16 page comic geared for children. Due to the limited length of the comic books, some events must be shortened or changed to fit in the 16 page format. That said, we still try to keep the story historically accurate. Most of the liberties are taken in conversations between characters. I must make choices on what characters will say that will keep the action of the story moving, but not stray from the facts in the story.

What lengths do you sometimes go to, to ensure accuracy of detail?

"Black Beauty," the current comic being developed is a perfect example of ensuring accuracy of detail. Dr. Therrien is able to provide Claude St. Aubin details on what creatures would have lived in this area those many millions of years ago. Dr. Therrien often asks for small

details (i.e., the length of the *T. rex*'s forelimbs) based on his knowledge of dinosaur anatomy. This often happens after Claude has completed his pencil sketches and he has to revise them. Despite changes that to most people would go unnoticed, this ensures a great deal of accuracy in the details, making the final product even better. In the newest comic, I was asked by Claude to change the colour and transparency of the dust cloud surrounding a *T. rex* taking down another dinosaur. Making Claude's changes directed the viewer's eyes to the action of the two dinosaurs, rather than to my pretty dust cloud. Claude's experience in the world of DC Comics is invaluable to us. He gives life and expression to every face, whether human, or Charlie the Mine Horse, or Black Beauty.

When will the new Black Beauty comic be completed?

If all goes according to schedule, the comic should be printed by the end of June. As part of the Doors Open Heritage Festival in August, there will be an official launch of the new Black Beauty comic book up at the Frank Slide Interpretive Centre.

Is working on this fun, or a chore?

Overall, working on the comics is a lot of fun. It is much different than our normal job requirements at the Centre, so seems like a pleasant break. However, when the eyes are getting tired after six or seven hours of filling colours into little areas, it can be a bit of a chore. All in all, both Monica and I love creating the comics. We feel that the comics are a great legacy for the Crowsnest Pass and they are a great way to get kids interested in history.

Are there future titles under consideration?

We are always looking for Crowsnest Pass area stories that we can develop into a comic. It seems, from our previous editions, that in addition to a great story, we need a little tragedy and death. Maybe the Lost Lemon Mine...

* * * * *



Mishap at Lyon Creek (present Ben Wong's Restaurant building in background).
Photo: Crowsnest Museum and Archives, 02901 Gush-NEG

100 Years Ago – Spring 1919

Throughout 1919 veterans continued to return from overseas, labour and Union unrest rose, and Prohibition antics continued in full swing. Here is what the *Blairmore Enterprise* was presenting in their Spring 1919 issues:

April 3 – a Good Roads Convention of representatives from Medicine Hat to Cranbrook met at the Cosmopolitan Hotel, and created the Crow's Nest Pass National Highway Association to propose and promote Canada's first cross-country route.

Emperor Pic was convicted but not fined for possessing 7% beer and a variety of spirits, as his lawyer argued that the same goods may have been used in a prior conviction.

April 17 – Balloting is to taking place throughout western Canada until May 31, on abandoning local unions in favour of joining the One Big Union (OBU).

“Now that the war is over, cannot we make an effort to make this town look less like a slag dump.”

May 29 – Blairmore Council debates whether its town constable should intervene in cases of drunkenness where the Alberta Provincial Police take no action. It was pointed out that fines resulting from such actions go to the province, not the town.

June 19 – a \$215 invoice from firefighters for extinguishing a fire at a local store was considered ‘exorbitant’ by councillors and was subsequently reduced by \$90.

June 26 – sporting events for the July 1 celebrations included a married women's race, potato race for men, fat men's race, and bandsmen race (must play instruments while running).

A baseball game with the Michel team was postponed due to nearby forest fires which required the evacuation of Natal.

“The fish in the rivers of this district are also out on strike in sympathy with District 18. They refuse to bite until August.”

“All the married men in the province should celebrate the fact that divorces can now be granted in Alberta. Put in your applications early.”



Blairmore Enterprise advertisement, May 29 1919

Sign of the Times

The Crowsnest Heritage Initiative has installed four information kiosks, about fifty signs, and over a hundred building plaques, each revealing a small piece of our diverse history.

The sign *Bricks and Mortar* in east Blairmore deals with two local industries which no longer exist here.



Have you read it?

Our Local Heritage Sites

- **CROWNEST MUSEUM and ARCHIVES** - 7701 18th Avenue, within Coleman National Historic Site. 403-563-5434, cnpmuseum@shaw.ca , website www.crownestmuseum.ca. Glimpse the rich social, economic and natural heritage of Crowsnest Pass from 1900 - 1950 in our two floors of themed rooms. Gift shop features local and regional books and other items. Admission includes the newly-restored **ALBERTA PROVINCIAL POLICE BARRACKS** and its exhibits on prohibition, rumrunning and the legendary shooting of constable Lawson and subsequent execution of 'Emperor Pic' and Florence Lossandro. Open daily, 9am to 5pm. Adults \$10, Seniors \$8, Youths \$6, Under 6 free, Families \$24, Crowsnest Historical Society members free. Tours and educational programs are available.
- **BELLEVUE UNDERGROUND MINE** - access off Main Street in Bellevue. 403-564-4700, www.bellevuemine.com. The only authentic historic underground coal mine tour in western Canada, this family-friendly site is your opportunity to experience what underground miners from a century ago experienced as they went to work each day. Open 9am to 5pm in May and June, 10am to 6pm in July and August, then 9am to 5pm until November. Adults \$21, seniors \$15.75, youths 12.60, children under 5 free. Family and group rates available all year round.
- **FRANK SLIDE INTERPRETIVE CENTRE** - off Highway 3. 403-562-7388, www.frankslide.ca. Friendly, knowledgeable staff share the fascinating stories of the Frank Slide through dynamic interpretive programs and presentations. State-of-the-art interactive displays and exhibits throughout the Centre focus on the infamous Frank Slide of 1903, Canada's deadliest rockslide and now a Provincial Historic Site. Open year round, 9am to 6pm (10am to 5pm in winter). Adults \$13, Seniors (65+) \$11, Youth (7-17) \$9, 6 and under free, Families \$35.
- **HILLCREST CEMETERY PROVINCIAL HISTORIC SITE** - Hillcrest. Visit the mass graves of the 189 victims of the Hillcrest Mine Disaster of 1914, and the many other picturesque graves in this historic cemetery. On-site interpretive signs explain it all. The **Millennium Memorial Monument** is Canada's homage to miners killed across the country. The **park** features interpretive signs about life in Hillcrest and the effect of the disaster, and picnic tables. Free.
- **LEITCH COLLIERIES PROVINCIAL HISTORIC SITE** - Highway 3. www.leitchcollieries.ca. Check out the stabilized ruins of this century-old coal processing facility, explained through interpretive signs and on-site staff during summer months. Open during snow-free months, admission by donation.
- **COLEMAN NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE and MINERS PATH** - downtown Coleman. Take a self-guided tour of this authentic coal-mining town with a free pamphlet and map, amongst buildings from 1903 - 1986 spanning the entire coal-mining period, many of which have interpretive building plaques. Glimpse the ruins of the mine buildings and coke ovens, walk or drive through the 'miners cottage' neighbourhood of West Coleman. Don't forget your camera. An interpretive booklet can be purchased at the museum. Later, walk the pleasant **Miners Path**, retracing the steps of miners on their way to the McGillivray Mine. All free.

(Rates and other information are subject to change)

Newsletter Archive

All of our past issues are archived on the Crowsnest Heritage Initiative website and can be accessed by clicking here: <http://www.crownestheritage.ca/newsletters> . Subscription is free; you will be notified by email when a new edition is available. To subscribe or unsubscribe, just send an email to cnhnewsletter@shaw.ca .