

The Phoghorn

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As you will recall, there was no monthly meeting at the usual place. Instead, the Probus group went out on a tour of a local industry just a few miles down the road from Saint John. The place was *CONNORS BROTHERS* sardine factory located in *Blacks Harbour*, *NB*. The tour took place on October 18th and was arranged by our president, Ed O'Keefe. On a head count we had about 22 persons. Some members could not attend because of the amount of walking required.

The tour was most interesting and what a lot of members were saying, is the plant was much larger that previous realized with many product lines in operation. It is a major employer in that region. The tour lasted about 1.5 hours. PROBUS would certainly like to thank the management of *Connors Brothers* for their hospitality. The plant was very clean. After the tour, several groups went to the local Restaurant in Penfield or St George for lunch.

Our next meeting in on **November 15th** at the usual location with a guest speaker from the **Seafarers Mission Chaplin**.

Below are a few of the pictures taken at the **Connors Brothers** tour; <u>Note:</u> *no pictures were permitted inside the plant.*



In the entrance of *Connors Brothers*, a model of an earlier Seiner vessel, *Brunswick Maid*



A group photo of the tour members poses in front of the plant entrance.



Two modern day **Seiner Vessels** are seen in the foreground with smaller vessels in the background.

They are the **BRUNSWICK PROVIDER** and **CANADA 100.** Both registered in Halifax NS.



Fred Shillington, holds up the two samples of sardines given to all who went on the tour. In the foreground is Wes Cosman, Fred Shillington and William Covert. In the back ground, on the left, is Robert Taylor, John Doyle and president Ed O'Keefe.



Fenton Keirstead looking at the menu trying to decide on, what's good today.



It looks like **John Doyle** is explaining to David, "just how they get 6 sardines in one can"

President Ed O'Keefe would like to mention that the new "Probus introductions cards" are now available. The intent is to pass them to future members with your contact information filled in. They will be available at the 60/40 draw table.

November 11th is **Remembrance Day**, so it is fitting to provide some insight as to where the use of the **POPPY** came from. Here is the explanation as derived from the **R.C Legion's** web site.

History of the Poppy

Each November, *Poppies* bloom on the lapels and collars of millions of Canadians. The significance of the Poppy can be traced back to the *Napoleonic Wars in the 19th century*, over 110 years before being adopted in Canada. Records from that time indicate how thick Poppies grew over the graves of soldiers in the area of *Flanders, France*. Fields that had been barren before battle exploded with the blood-red flowers after the fighting ended. During the tremendous bombardments of the war, the chalk soils became rich in lime from rubble, allowing the "*popaver rhoeas*" to thrive. When the war ended, the lime was quickly absorbed and the Poppy began to disappear again.

The person who first introduced the Poppy to Canada and the Commonwealth was *Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae* of *Guelph, Ontario*, a *Canadian Medical Officer during the First World War. John McCrae* penned the Poem "*In Flanders Fields*" on a scrap of paper in May,1915 on the day following the death of a fellow soldier. Little did he know then that those 13 lines would become enshrined in the hearts and minds of all who would wear them. *McCrae's* poem was published in *Punch Magazine* in December of that same year, and the poem later served as inspiration three years later for *Moina Michael*, an American teacher. *Moina Michael* made a pledge to always wear a *Poppy as a sign of Remembrance*.

During a visit to the United States in 1920, a French woman named *Madame Guerin* learned of the custom. *Madame Guerin* decided to make and sell poppies to raise money for children in war-torn areas of France. *The Great War Veteran's Association in Canada* (our predecessor) officially adopted the poppy as its *Flower of Remembrance on July 5, 1921*.

Today, the Poppy is worn each year during the Remembrance period to honor Canada's Fallen. The Legion also encourages the wearing of a Poppy for the funeral of a Veteran and for any commemorative event honoring Fallen Veterans. <u>It is not inappropriate to wear a Poppy during other times to commemorate Fallen Veterans and it is an individual choice to do so, if it's worn appropriately.</u>

Thanks to the millions of Canadians who wear the Legion's lapel **Poppy** each November, the little red flower has never died, and the memories of those who fell in battle remain strong.





In Flanders Fields In Flanders fields the poppies blow Between the crosses, row on row, That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly Scarce heard amid the guns below. We are the Dead. Short days ago We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Loved and were loved, and now we lie In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.
Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae
~ May 3, 1915

(As published in Punch Magazine, December 8, 1915)

I also decided to attach a little humor in this month's issue since the *World Series of Baseball* is/has finished up. One of the most famous catchers and managers was *YOGI BERRA*. He passed away on September 22, 2015. One of his famous items he is known for is his one liners come backs. Here is a reprint of a just few.

S ome of the more widely quoted philosophy of Yogi Berra, the New York Yankees Hall of Fame catcher who died Tuesday at age 90:

On his approach to at-bats: "You can't think and hit at the same time."

On selecting a restaurant: "Nobody goes there anymore. It's too crowded."

On economics: "A nickel ain't worth a dime anymore."

On the 1973 Mets: "We were overwhelming underdogs."

On how events sometimes seem to repeat themselves "It's deja vu all over again!"

On baseball attendance: "If people don't come to the ballpark, how are you gonna stop them?"

On a slipping batting average: "Slump? I ain't in no slump. ... I just ain't hitting."

On travel directions: "When you come to a fork in the road take it."

On pregame rest: "I usually take a two-hour nap from 1 to 4."

On battling the shadows in left field at Yankee Stadium: "It gets late early out there."

On fan mail: "Never answer an anonymous letter."

On being told he looked cool: "You don't look so hot yourself."

On being asked what time it was: "You mean now?"

On being given a day in his honor: "Thank you for making this day necessary."

On a spring training drill: "Pair off in threes."

On his approach to playing baseball: "Baseball is 90 percent mental. The other half is physical."

On death: "Always go to other people's funerals. Otherwise they won't go to yours."

On learning: "You can observe a lot by watching."

On his team's diminishing pennant chances: "It ain't over 'till it's over."

On the fractured syntax attributed to him: "I really didn't say everything I said."