



Toronto Family History Centre Bulletin 2013-29

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<http://torontofhc.blogspot.ca/>



Editor:
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In This Bulletin

Announcements – No Bulletin next week

What's New – Ancestry (Irish Immigrants – *Missing Friends*; Lübeck, Germany); FindMyPast.com (Canadian Heritage Resources); FamilySearch (US Korean War records, California Great Registers); DeceasedOnline (cemetery maps of the Wakefield Borough Council cemeteries, 28,000 military burials); TheGenealogist (Royal Navy & Merchant seamen; more parish records)

The Forum – No questions or suggestions

Were You Aware ... - Free Access to the 1911 Census England & Wales Census; Rationing in WWII Britain

Announcements

There will be no Bulletin on August 8th.

What's New

Ancestry has added a great resource for those with Irish ancestors who emigrated in the 19th and early 20th century. Between 1831 and 1920, the Boston Pilot published more than 45,000 advertisements by recent immigrants looking for family who had come over earlier, by relatives back in Ireland, or by families seeking information on people who had moved elsewhere in the U.S. These advertisements were extracted and published in several books which have been digitised by Ancestry. The advertisements often include details like the immigrant's town of origin in Ireland, immigration details, and names of extended family and they may mention relationships, military service, occupations, and addresses of parties requesting information. These ads were not just for the Boston area as shown below:

“30 January 1869 Missing Friends – Information Wanted

OF ALICE and RICHARD NEIL, formerly residents of Charlottown[sic], Prince Edward Island. When last heard from, five years ago, they were living in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Any information concerning them, living or dead, will be thankfully received by Hannah Neil, Amesbury, Mass.”

Several databases for Lübeck, Germany have been added.

FindMyPast.com has added some Canadian records as part of their “Canadian Heritage Resources” section. The collection includes books from all the provinces and two territories. The books have directories; military records; family histories and pedigrees; local and social histories; government publications; newspapers, magazines and almanacs; electoral rolls; and land and estate records. A nine-page list of the Canadian books now online is available [here](#). FindMyPast.com is not available at family history centres and these Canadian records are not available on FMP.co.uk.

FamilySearch has added US military records for the Korean War and records of American Japanese relocated during WWII. The California database called Great Registers 1866-1910 and which contains voting registers from most counties in California now has well over three million records.

DeceasedOnline has added cemetery maps for seven cemeteries of the Wakefield Borough Council: Alverthorpe, Horbury, Normanton Upper, Normanton Lower, Outwood, Stanley and Wakefield. There are three maps for each burial record to help you find the location of the burial. They have uploaded 28,000 military burial records from The National Archives. These non-war grave records date back to the early 19th Century and feature: Greenwich Royal Hospital, Sandhurst, Aldershot, Haslar RN, Royal Victoria, Sheerness Dockyard and other cemeteries and burial grounds. See the complete list [here](#).

TheGenealogist.co.uk has added a new collection for those with sea-going ancestors. It has records of over 439,000 Royal Navy and Merchant Seamen and they can be searched by name, rank, age and ship. The full crew list can be displayed for any of the ships. Covering the years 1851-1911, these include lists and agreements for those involved in merchant shipping and ship crews for those at home ports, sea and abroad. Details may include age, place of birth, rank and ticket number, previous and current ships with ports of registration, dates, place and reason for joining and leaving.

Within the past couple of weeks, TheGenealogist has also added more than 323,000 parish records for Lancashire, Suffolk and Worcestershire. It also has a large collection of directories. TheGenealogist can be searched without charge at family history centres.

The Forum:

Questions: No new questions this week. Please submit any genealogical puzzles to the Bulletin.

Were You Aware...

Free Access to the 1911 Census England & Wales Census

Ancestry.co.uk is offering free access to the 1911 England & Wales census [here](#) until October 14th, 2013. To view the records you will need to register with Ancestry.co.uk with your name and email address. [Don't forget that all England & Wales censuses can be accessed without charge at any Family History Centre.]

Rationing in the UK – 1940-1954

Joan Challis sent me an interesting article about rationing in Britain during and after WWII, and perhaps you will find rationing interesting too. While this has little to do with genealogy (birth, marriage and death data), it does relate to family history. Will our children or grandchildren understand how many things were rationed during WWII? Some of you may remember rationing – my husband can recall when sweets (candy) were no longer rationed in 1953.

Rationing started in Britain on January 8, 1940, when bacon, butter and eggs were rationed, although petrol had been rationed the previous year when the war started. Germany had started rationing food, coal, textiles and soap before the war and some of the justification from the British government was that “they were doing it”. But the real reason was that Britain imported 70% of its food - nearly 50% of its meat, 80% of its fruit and 70% of its cereals and fats before the war. With supply lines in danger and many men abroad rationing, became a necessity. Why it continued for fourteen years is hard to fathom, for us living in 2013.

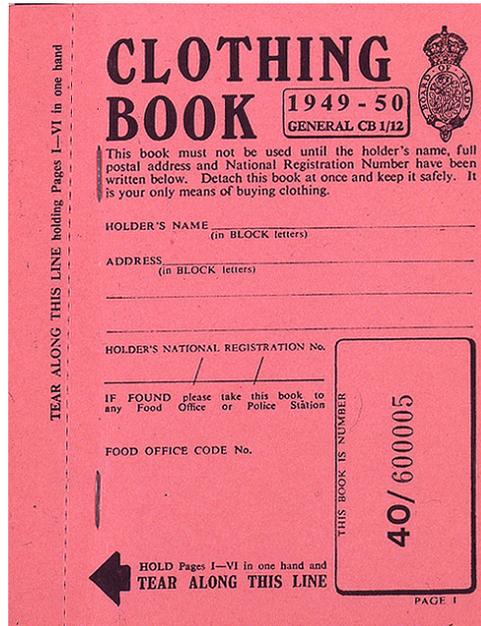
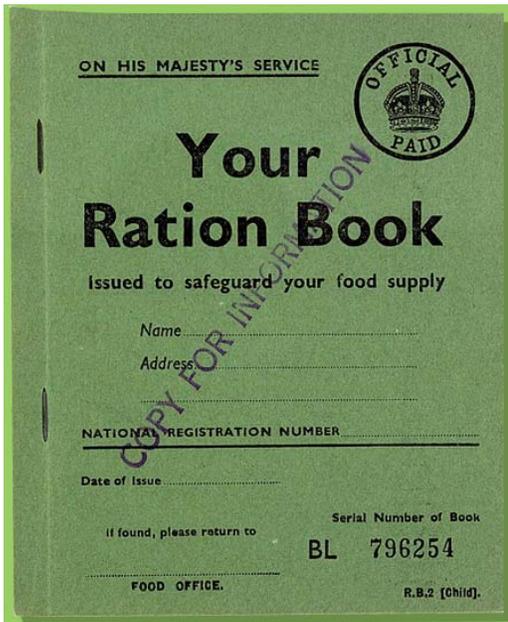
Meat, tea, jam, biscuits, breakfast cereals, cheese, eggs, lard, milk and canned and dried fruit were rationed later starting in March 1940. The weekly amount of rationed food allowed at the end of the war per person was:

Bacon & ham	4 ounces
Sugar	8 ounces
Loose tea	2 ounces
Meat	maximum cost 1s 6d (about 25 cents) but bought about 1 lb 3 oz of meat (whatever the butcher happened to have)
Cheese	2 ounces
Marmalade	2 pounds (!)
Butter	2 ounces
Margarine	4 ounces
Lard	2 ounces
Sweets	12 ounces/month

Fish was not rationed but was often hard to obtain.

Clothing coupons were introduced in June 1941 and one can see a difference in wedding dresses between early 1941 and later in the war as the number of clothing coupons were reduced. Most brides could not afford the coupons for a piece of clothing that would only be worn once. To save material men's suits could not have turn-ups (cuffs) and women's clothes could not include elastic. This meant that knickers (underpants) were fastened with buttons. One of my mother's friends recalled having her knickers' button pop as she walked through a train station – she just stepped out of them and kept on walking! Other non-food items were also rationed – soap, shampoo, petrol and coal.

Rationing also occurred in Canada. Starting in 1942 sugar, tea, coffee, butter and meat were rationed. Rationing continued until after the war but it was never as strict here as in Britain. Australia, too, had rationing that started in 1942 and continued until 1947-1950. Clothing, tea, sugar, butter and meat were rationed at various points during that time period.



Ration books came in two different colours – green for children under 5 and pregnant and nursing mothers and beige for adults and older children; clothing books were pink. Green book holders received three eggs a week and much more milk. School-aged children received extra milk rations at school and all children got cod-liver oil. De-rationing was gradually started in 1948 when flour and bread were no longer rationed. In 1950 rationing for canned and dried fruit, chocolate biscuits (a necessity?!), treacle, syrup, and mincemeat ended. Sweets and sugar rationing ended in 1953 and on July 4, 1954, meat and all other food rationing ended.

I heard many stories about rationing from my parents. My father took the fences from bombed houses to burn to keep warm after the war. My mother was so glad to find unrationed eggs when she landed in Montreal in 1951 that she bought one dozen eggs that day and another dozen two days later. A week's meat ration for the family in 1951 fitted in the palm of one hand. Margarine was hated by my father – he ate only butter in Canada until he started reading health-related articles in his sixties.

No films were received in the week ending August 1st.

A patron wishing to view a film ordered by another should check first with staff. The description of the film given above may not be a full description but a search in the FamilySearch catalog will reveal the full content. The geographical abbreviations are Chapman codes.

Toronto Family History Centre Current Opening Hours:

(Always phone us if you do not have a booking to ensure that we are open.)

Tuesday 9:30 am to 2 pm (Linda)

Wednesday 9:30 am to 3:45 pm (Ann, Joe am, Helen pm); 6:30pm to 9:30pm (Don & Roberta)

Thursday 9:30am to 3:45 pm (Don & Roberta); 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm (Helen)

Closures: If you do not have a booking, call before you come.

For a copy of a searchable listing of all films, fiche, CDs and books held at the Toronto Family History Centre in pdf format, click [here](#).

[FamilySearch - Search](#)

[FamilySearch - IGI](#)

[Hugh Wallis IGI Batch Numbers](#)

[FamilySearch Catalogue](#)

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[FamilySearch Film Ordering](#)

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