



**Jasper-Yellowhead
Museum & Archives**

Fond Memories

By M. Power

With Christmas and New Year's over, I bet you're wondering how you are going to get your food fix? We have all spent the last few weeks indulging and now we're expected to stop

cold turkey. Mmmm cold turkey sandwiches with gravy (see what I mean). Well, never fear, because on January 26th, just when you think you can't hold back any longer, you can head over to the Activity Centre and taste some of Jasper's finest culinary creations. Not only will you be able to satisfy your insatiable craving for chocolate covered goodies, dragon balls, and Taco Polo, but you will also feel a great sense of satisfaction knowing that you came out and supported the Jasper Yellowhead Museum and Archives (and calories don't count when you are eating them for a good cause).

Our theme this year is *Romance in the Rockies*, which is not just about love. Think singing Mounties, Hollywood stars, and rugged adventurers. In celebration of such romantic notions, no matter how unrealistic they were, here are two stories that are romantic in their own way: the first is written by one of the first licensed female guides in Jasper and the second one is from a local resident who lived the glamorous life of a *beanerie queen*, during her early days in Jasper.

Medicine and Maligne Lakes Area As I Saw it

By Agnes M. Truxler

"Towards the end of the season, when the days were growing shorter, we resorted to playing cards in the evening. In the mountains it can get quite chilly after the sun goes down in Late August, and we found the cook tent cozy with the wood fire burning merrily away. Once in awhile a packer or two stopped over and were always keen to join us in a few rounds of hearts. One night, however, when a packer and three college lads, en route to Banff, came in for the night, we got into a different kind of game. We started out with cards, later having lemonade and cake. Believe it or not, lemonade was made with real lemons in the Brewster camps, so we had a bowl full of rinds standing on a table. I do not recall who threw the first rind but a free-for-all was at once underway. It was a battle royal with sloppy rinds until there was none left and someone grabbed a handful of flour out of a sack that was in box. We ended up chasing each other outside in the dark, trying to get back into the tent

every now and then for more ammunition. Each of us sooner or later, got a handful in the face, which finally proved to be so funny that laughing took over and the battle ended. Imagine a snowy white face with two black dots sneaking from the dark bush into the light cast by the lamp shining through the canvas!"

Railroading in Jasper

By Rose Marie (Bacon) Wall

"In the fifties I was employed by the Canadian National Railroad...I was one of many young girls who worked in restaurants owned by the railroad at different stations across Canada. The restaurants were known as *Beaneries* thus we were known as the *beanerie queens*. I happen to have come to Jasper at a time when the men outnumbered the women 5 to 1. You know the line, "We came, we saw, we conquered," well, it applied. Many girls ended up married to railroaders. I chose a government man, just to be different. There were many rules that the beanie queens were expected to follow, to the letter. An example of such was the precise recipe we were expected to follow when making milkshakes. Of course, there were special customers, who especially loved thick milkshakes, and one scoop of ice cream became two. It wasn't long before I was caught red handed and summoned to the office. "Frenchie," said the boss, "How do you make a milkshake?" I knew I was caught, so I decided to tell the truth, "Well," I began, "one glass of milk, one scoop of ice cream, and one dash of flavour, but for Fred, one glass of milk, two scoops of ice cream and one dash of flavour." The boss frowned and looked me straight in the eye and said, "Frenchie, may there only be one Fred!"

I hope you enjoyed this little appetizer and we look forward to seeing everyone at the Taste of the Town on January 26th to celebrate good food, good drinks, and even better, the history of this valley with its glittering mountains and exceptional inhabitants.