

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORY

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COMMUNICATIONS *regarding membership, subscriptions, and general business of the Association should be addressed to the Secretary, Dr. Philip S. Klein, Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa.*

CONTRIBUTIONS *to the magazine—manuscripts and advertising copy—should be sent to the Editor, Dr. Paul A. W. Wallace, Annville, Pa.*

BOOKS FOR REVIEW, *and reviews contributed, should be sent to the Book Review Editor, Dr. J. Cutler Andrews, Pennsylvania College for Women, Pittsburgh, Pa.*

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

THIS message to the membership of the Association proposes to say a few words of commendation to our officers for their faithful efforts—efforts which are often unappreciated, indeed often unknown. When I became a member back in the 1930's I had little or no idea of the enormous amount of labor which Association officials must perform. Becoming increasingly involved in conciliar and other duties, I was more and more impressed by the mass of invisible but invaluable work that was carried on by the leaders of the Association. I wonder whether there are not many members now, who, as I did, pay their dues but give little thought to the way in which the day-to-day work of the organization proceeds?

The key person is the secretary. I am frequently appalled at the number of tasks he is asked to do. We are all glad that, through the generosity of the Pennsylvania State College, Dr. Klein now has some secretarial assistance. He must maintain several files of the members and keep them up to date; take care of addresses and changes of address; collect checks for dues and send them to the treasurer; write up the minutes; send out bills, as well as reminders to delinquents; and so on *ad infinitum*. As far as duties are concerned, his is almost a full time position.

The treasurer is another official whose work is largely invisible but vital. Treasurer Wright pays for—out of his own pocket—the time it takes his secretary, Mrs. Frazier, to keep the Association's books. Every check—for dues and the like—as sent by the secretary is noted in the records, cashed at the bank, and placed in the proper account. A monthly statement is mailed to the president, secretary, and editor. (Each of us opens his letter with trepidation, hoping that the Association is still in the black.) In addition, checks have to be drawn to pay the bills. All of this, and more, is done by Mr. Wright in such a modest way that I am sure the membership never thinks of what is demanded of him in the way of time and money.

The editor and his co-workers likewise deserve well of the members. We owe to Messrs. Wallace, Kent, Boyer, Andrews, and others a great debt for the sheer amount of meticulous application that is necessary in getting out an edition of *PENNSYLVANIA HISTORY*. Reading manuscripts, securing information for the various news sections, getting people to review books and urging them to return the reviews on time, reading proof, and trying to keep down expenses, are only a few of the aspects of the burden they carry. To their credit, typographical errors have become rarities indeed.

There is no room left for anything about the council and the committees. But if one were to ask all these people why they are so willing to work so hard for seemingly so little reward, the answer would be that it is a labor of love which needs doing; and that when one's heart is in a project, he does not ask for material compensation. The only reward the officers request is for the members to help win more members, thereby increasing the officers' work.

WILLIAM A. RUSS, JR.



"A deep long valley . . . where two mountains stood close and dark with ancient pines and hemlocks."

Quoted from Conrad Richter's forthcoming novel, *The Light in the Forest*,
by special permission of the author and the *Saturday Evening Post*.

To
all raftmen, log drivers, and woodsmen
who hewed so well
the timbers
of
Pennsylvania's greatness