THE SNYDER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BY W. M. SCHNURE

Editor's Note

In our series of articles on the work being done by local historical societies to encourage a live interest in the history of Pennsylvania and to provide source materials for research in this field, we are glad to have an opportunity of paying tribute to the Snyder County Historical Society which, in the battle to overcome a difficult financial situation, has found a generous ally in a neighboring university.

MEMBERS of other historical societies will understand the problems confronting the Snyder County Historical Society when we say that we have no endowment and no source of income beyond membership dues. Certain legal difficulties have, so far, prevented our receiving any financial assistance from the County Commissioners. The Society has, in consequence, no permanent home. Its meetings are held either in the residences of members or in churches and other public places.

Yet the Society takes pride in what it has accomplished. A few years ago it published *The Story of Snyder County* (Selinsgrove, 1948), a 948-page history written by Dr. George F. Dunkelberger to commemorate the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Society’s founding. Thanks to the hospitality of a neighboring institution, it is able to maintain a library that is of service not only to its own members but also to the general public.

The sponsor in this regard is Susquehanna University at Selinsgrove, in the basement of whose library a room has been set aside for the several thousand books and pamphlets which comprise the Society’s library. In return for this accommodation, the Society permits its hosts to include as many of our library items as they desire in the general index of the University Library.

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Among the source materials we have collected and now make available, are many State publications pertaining to the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, and World War I. There are also numerous regimental histories. Besides the local family histories and records of church and fraternal organizations, there is a chronological account of the region surrounding Fort Augusta, the Isle of Que, and Selinsgrove. Other materials include data on pioneer families, early settlers in Snyder County, early marriages, tombstone inscriptions, and the graves of Revolutionary soldiers in local cemeteries.

The Society issues annually a Bulletin of its Proceedings. This is freely exchanged with the publications of sister societies all over the Commonwealth. The resultant collection of exchange publications is of value to those engaged in research on Pennsylvania topics.

All in all, our collections have grown to a point where they are badly cramped for lack of room, a condition which pervades the University Library itself. It is hoped that the proposed building program of Susquehanna University, undertaken in anticipation of the centennial (1958) of its founding, will bring the solution of some of our own problems.
LIVING ARROWS

You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth.


With this issue of Pennsylvania History, we introduce a series of articles on old Pennsylvania families whose descendants are today making history.

THE EISENHOWERS