

## NEWS AND COMMENT

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### HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

The annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Federation of Historical Societies will be held on June 17, 1959, at the Nittany Lion Inn on the campus of Pennsylvania State University. Luncheon and dinner sessions are planned. The meeting will coincide with the first day of the third annual Institute on Pennsylvania Life and Culture.

The regional meeting of the historical societies of northeastern Pennsylvania was held at Bloomsburg on April 18. E. M. Barton, secretary of the Columbia County Historical Society, presided at the sessions.

The Lancaster County Historical Society was host to a regional meeting of the historical societies in that area on February 28. The principal speaker was Dr. S. K. Stevens, secretary of the Pennsylvania Federation of Historical Societies. The historical societies of Berks, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York counties were represented.

Recent meetings of the Adams County Historical Society have included the following programs: December 2, Roy F. Foulk, "Ballots and Election Returns in Adams County"; January 13, Arthur Weaner, "Notes on the War Period—Evergreen Cemetery"; and February 3, Leroy and William Moose, "Heck Rock Shelter and Related Archaeology."

The American Catholic Historical Society held its first lecture for 1959 on January 29. Professor Manoel Cardozo of Catholic University gave an illustrated talk on "The Presence of Portugal in the United States." The Society has recently published an eight-page illustrated pamphlet tracing the history of the Catholic

church in Philadelphia and providing a guide to historic sites in the city. Copies are available at the Society headquarters at 715 Spruce Street, Philadelphia.

The Berks County Historical Society has suffered twice from vandalism in recent months, with intruders breaking in, destroying exhibit cases, and slashing paintings. The Society has revised its 1952 historical map of Berks County and will place it on sale in the near future. Fewer sites are listed, but the map is believed to be more usable and attractive than the first edition. At the Society meeting on January 4, Mr. John Sweeney, curator of the DuPont Museum at Winterthur, spoke on "Colonial Furniture in Berks County." The annual meeting on January 13 was devoted to the election of officers and the presentation of reports on the activities of the Society in 1958. On February 14, the Society held its annual combined dinner with the local chapters of the S.A.R. and D.A.R. at the Wyomissing Club. The speaker was the Honorable Katharine St. George.

The annual meeting of the Blair County Historical Society in Altoona on January 30 was attended by 180 members and guests. The guest speaker was David Taylor, who talked on "Pennsylvania—Neglected State."

The annual Lambing Lecture of the Catholic Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania was given on November 12 in the Stephen Foster Memorial in Pittsburgh. The lecturer was the Reverend Francis A. Glenn, who spoke on "A Bicentennial of Progress for Pittsburgh and the Church."

The February 17 meeting of the Chester County Historical Society received an entertaining illustrated lecture by Harold Arndt on "Flora Cestrica—and Otherwise." The Society is proposing that the county commissioners attempt to maintain and restore for official use the central portion of the old prison building, which was designed in 1840 by Thomas U. Walter.

A program of films was shown at the December meeting of the Clinton County Historical Society.

The Columbia County Historical Society held an open house on December 13 with exhibits centering about the theme of "Reminiscences of an Old-Fashioned Christmas."

Professor David Bray of Allegheny College spoke to the Crawford County Historical Society meeting on January 15 on the "Autobiography of Cornelius Van Horne." The speaker on February 12 was Ned H. Dearborn, who discussed "The Oil Centennial."

The Historical Society of Dauphin County held a Christmas party at its meeting on December 15. Historic Christmas decorations were used, and a program of music was presented by Donald L. Clapper and the Polyclinic Hospital Nurses Chorus. The annual business meeting was held on January 19, at which Merlo M. Hartzell was elected president to succeed Albert M. Hamer, Jr., and it was announced that Mrs. Greta Mullen, the curator, had resigned because of ill health. Mrs. John Tillman was chosen as Mrs. Mullen's successor. The speaker was Congressman Walter M. Mumma, who spoke on "My Memorial of Steelton." At the February 16 meeting, John Witthoft, curator of the State Museum, discussed old firearms. During the past four months, more than 500 sixth-grade pupils from Harrisburg have been given special tours of the John Harris Mansion, the Society's headquarters.

The January issue of the Delaware County Historical Society *Bulletin* contains a very thoughtful editorial comment on "Our Vanishing Landmarks." Referring to the rapid urbanization of the countryside and the building of new roads and bridges, it warns that those who are interested in preserving historic landmarks must be prepared to make their protests in advance before plans are completed, because a protest after that time is usually futile. The Society has continued to add new photographs to its collection of old buildings before destruction or removal. Among these is a photograph of the Hendrickson house, which is being moved to Wilmington for use as a museum and office for Old Swedes Church there. This has been made up as a post card and can be purchased from the Society.

The Fort Crawford Association at New Kensington has been given an eighty-acre tract by the McCrady Estate for a historical

park and museum. Anthony Giordano, president of the Association has indicated that a stockade will be built on the site sometime in the future.

The Greene County Historical Society has acquired on permanent loan from the Pennsylvania Railroad "Old Number Four," the last locomotive of the narrow-gauge railway between Waynesburg and Washington. The locomotive is displayed at the Waynesburg Fairgrounds.

The Historical and Genealogical Society of Indiana County had as its November speaker George P. Greenbaum of Kittanning who spoke on his archaeological explorations in the Kittanning area. At the Christmas Party in December, films were shown of the 1930 Fourth of July celebration in Indiana. Miss Claire Trussell of the Bell Telephone Company gave an illustrated talk on "Famous Women of Pennsylvania" in February, at which time the Society conferred life membership on its six founding members and presented life membership certificates to its fourteen life members. The Society is preparing a museum room in the basement of Memorial Hall and constructed shelves for its 150 volumes of bound newspapers. It is conducting a drive to boost membership to 500 by the end of the year.

The Harrisburg Keystonians on December 18 heard a talk on "Glassmaking in Pennsylvania" given by Douglas G. O'Brien of the Corning Glass Center. The Ladies Night meeting on January 15 was addressed by Christian C. Sanderson, who spoke on "Tales of Valley Forge." The speaker on February 19 was Professor John Pflaum of Dickinson College, who addressed the members on "Abraham Lincoln: The Right Man in the Right Place at the Right Time."

The Lackawanna Historical Society in Scranton at its meeting on December 14 featured "An Old-Fashioned Christmas," with displays of old toys, Christmas tree ornaments, and other articles of that sort. On February 15 a program on the musical history of Lackawanna County was held. The museum featured musical displays and there were talks by Theodore Bauschmann and Gounod Evans on instrumental and vocal music, respectively.

Samuel C. Slaymaker, II, was elected president of the Lancaster County Historical Society at its meeting on January 6. He succeeds George L. Heiges, who has served as president for the past ten years. The program at the meeting was given by M. Luther Heisey, who discussed naval vessels with Lancaster County associations. At the February 3 meeting, Mr. Slaymaker talked on 'A Lancaster County Businessman During the War of 1812.'

The Society is conducting a very active program among the county schools this year. Members of the Society are preparing leaflets on the history of the county, and these are being distributed without charge to the schools. It has also arranged for a special exhibit on "The Lancaster County Story" to be prepared by pupils in the elementary schools, which will be on display at the Society museum on May 3.

Ira Kreider, librarian of the Society, has announced that the Jasper Yeates Law Library has been donated to the Society by the Lancaster Bar Association. The library of this one-time justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court numbers more than a thousand volumes and is notable both for its books on law and for its complete file of the *Pennsylvania Gazette*.

Members of the Lehigh County Historical Society on January 15 heard an illustrated lecture on "Down the Lehigh's Rocky Rapids" by Dr. Richmond E. Myers, professor of geology at Moravian College.

A full program of speakers has addressed meetings of the Lycoming County Historical Society this winter. They include the following: October 2, Dr. L. E. Wurster, "Covered Bridges in Pennsylvania"; November 6, Reverend Lester G. Shannon, "Digging for Ancestors"; December 4, Clark Kahler, "Archaeology of Lycoming County"; January 8, R. Dudley Tonkin, "My Partner, The River"; February 5, Everett W. Rubendall, "Williamsport Since 1950"; and March 5, Paul Gilmore, "Street Car Lines of Williamsport."

Dr. S. K. Stevens, executive director of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, spoke on "Abraham Lincoln and Pennsylvania" to the members of the Military Order of the

Loyal Legion of the United States at a reception in Philadelphia on February 11, commemorating the 150th birthday of Lincoln.

The annual dinner meeting of the Monroe County Historical Society was held on January 21. The speaker was Professor Alfred D. Sumberg of East Stroudsburg State Teachers College, whose topic was "Normal School Memories: The First Forty Years." The Society this year has had a very successful series of monthly museum displays featuring such topics as educational history, Indians, needlework, toys, and medical history.

The annual meeting of the Historical Society of Montgomery County was held on February 21, 1959. After the business meeting and election of officers, an illustrated talk on Hopewell Village was presented by Earl J. Heydinger of the National Park Service.

The Muncy Historical Society and Museum of History has published a number of tributes to Dr. T. Kenneth Wood, founder and former president of the Society, in the January issue of *Now and Then*. Programs for the past few months have included the following: January 16, annual address of Eugene P. Bertin, president of the Society, and a special exhibit of majolica pottery; February 20, a talk on "Colonial Coins" by Dr. W. R. Petrie; March 20, a talk by Judge Charles S. Williams on "Early Methodism in the West Branch Valley"; and April 17, an address by Richmond D. Williams, director of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, on "Colonel Thomas Hartley's Expedition of 1778."

The Northampton County Historical and Genealogical Society held its annual meeting on January 26, 1959. After hearing reports on activities during the year, there was an election of officers and members of the executive committee. The speakers for the evening were Mr. and Mrs. Russell C. Baver, who gave an illustrated talk on "Easton's First Thru-Way and Last Flood." A special exhibit of old German and English almanacs was prepared for the occasion by Mrs. Roland S. Moyer, the librarian. At the February 25 meeting Dr. Anthony F. C. Wallace spoke on "Indian-White Relationships in Land."

Recent speakers at meetings of the Old York Road Historical Society have included Mrs. Ann Hawkes Hutton on "American History in Education"; Andrew S. Berky of the Schwenkfelder Library on "The Three D's—Devotion, Discipline, and Determination"; and Mrs. Henry Drinker on "Hannah Penn."

The Pennsylvania Historical Junto in Washington, D. C., on January 16 heard Mrs. James Ramsey speak on "The Allegheny River—As It Is, As It Was, and As It Could Be." On February 20 Mrs. Frances Strong Helman of Indiana spoke on "The Armstrong Trail"; and on March 20 Milton Rubincam discussed "William Rittenhouse, Pioneer American Papermaker and Mennonite Minister."

Nathaniel Burt, composer and novelist, on February 4 addressed members and guests of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania on the subject, "Philadelphia, Hidden City." The talk was based on research for a book on Philadelphia now in preparation.

The Pennsylvania Society held its annual meeting in New York on November 19 with former Arizona Governor Howard Pyle as the principal speaker. The Society's Gold Medal for Distinguished Achievement was presented to Mr. J. Howard Pew.

The City History Society of Philadelphia met at Christ Church Neighborhood House on February 17 and heard an address on "Christ Church and Its Burial Ground" by the Reverend Ernest A. Harding, rector of the church.

Mrs. Mary E. Welfind, secretary of the Potter County Historical Society, was the speaker at the January 30 meeting of the Society, giving a detailed account of "Lot No. 18," on which the Society building is located.

The Presbyterian Historical Society has recently completed the cataloging of its John Calvin Collection, numbering more than 250 items, of which 39 are early editions of Calvin's works published before 1600.

Professor Arthur Dudden of Bryn Mawr College was the speaker at the January 22 meeting of the Radnor Historical Society. His topic was "The Study of Costume and the Social Historian." The talk was illustrated by members of the Society who modeled old costumes.

The January 15 meeting of the Shippensburg Historical Society heard a paper by William Burkhart on the Civil War.

Ellis E. Ferster of Richfield, Pennsylvania, was elected president of the Snyder County Historical Society at a meeting on January 28.

The Tredyffrin Easttown History Club on January 4 held its annual Twelfth Night program. Mrs. Charles J. Erickson presented a talk based on famous paintings depicting the early life of Christ.

Professor Philip S. Klein of Pennsylvania State University spoke before the December 6 meeting of the Valley Forge Historical Society on the topic, "In the Ranks at Valley Forge." At a Christmas party on December 20, gifts were presented to members of the auxiliary who had been especially helpful during the year. In the museum, a major exhibit featuring Washington's marquee is being developed.

The third lecture of the 1958-1959 season at the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania was given by Gilbert Love, columnist of the *Pittsburgh Press*. He spoke on the topic, "What Good is History?" On February 18 the fourth lecture, entitled "Pittsburgh's Pioneer Surgeon—Albert G. Walter," was delivered by Dr. Harry N. Malone. The Society has just published *Drums in the Forest*, an attractive and well-illustrated book devoted to the founding of Pittsburgh and the frontier forts in western Pennsylvania. Professor Alfred P. James contributed to this volume a 56-page historical sketch entitled "Decision at the Forks," and Charles M. Stotz a 143-page study of western forts and military matters under the title "Defense in the Wilderness."



The 101st annual meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Genealogical Society was held at the Westmoreland Club in Wilkes-Barre on February 11. Bruce Payne was re-elected president of the Society. Clifford L. Lord, president of the American Association for State and Local History, delivered an address on "The Importance of Local History." The Society had a total of 17,240 visitors in its museum during 1958. The current exhibit features the Wyoming Valley in the Civil War.

The Historical Society of York County held the formal opening of its new building at 250 East Market Street on February 10-12. There were numerous visitors to see the handsomely decorated building with its attractive exhibits, library and reading room, and auditorium. The Society spent \$300,000 in remodeling the building for use. [See illustration on the cover of this issue.]

## COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Professor Arthur Dudden of Bryn Mawr College presented a paper on "The Organization Man as Student" at the December meeting of the American Studies Association in New York. Professor Herlihy of the College was commentator on the subject of "Just Price" at the Toronto meeting of the Medieval Academy in the fall. He also spoke before the Bryn Mawr Club on "History: Fact or Philosophy."

Professor Louis Gottschalk of the University of Chicago was visiting lecturer at Bucknell University in January, 1959. He gave a public lecture on January 12 on "Generalization in History." On February 23-24 Professor Emeritus John D. Hicks of the University of California at Berkeley was on campus as a special lecturer. His topic was "The 1920's and the 1950's: Some Comparisons and Contrasts."

C. W. Robbe, chairman of the department of social studies at Clarion State Teachers College, has begun issuing a monthly newsletter for the department under the title of "The Pump Primer." Written in an informal manner, it presents information on new course offerings, announcements of scholarships and fellowships for graduate study, new books of interest, and other material.

Professor Frederic S. Klein of Franklin and Marshall College gave a Boyd Lee Spahr lecture at Dickinson College on February 6. His topic was "Robert Coleman: From Immigrant Opportunist to Millionaire Ironmaster." In the Dickinson department of history, Associate Professor C. Flint Kellogg has been granted leave during the spring and summer of 1959 to continue his work on a study of the history of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Professor Kellogg published an article on Oswald Garrison Villard in the February 12 issue of the *Nation*. Frank A. Miller has been appointed instructor in history for the spring semester.

Gettysburg College will again sponsor a Civil War Study Group in the summer of 1959. Professor T. Harry Williams of Louisiana State University will deliver a series of three lectures during the session.

Michael Kirlik has been promoted to associate professor of social studies at Indiana State Teachers College. John Merle Rife, doctoral candidate in European history at Ohio State University, has been added to the staff as an associate professor. The College will offer graduate courses in the social studies next fall.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ehrgood, Jr., of Lebanon have donated to Gossard Memorial Library at Lebanon Valley College twelve bound volumes of the *Lebanon Courier*, covering the period 1840-1889.

The departments of English and social studies at Mansfield State Teachers College have begun the "Mansfield Open Forum," a discussion group to consider contemporary problems and issues.

Moravian College held its second symposium on March 14, 1959, centering about the topic, "The Contributions of German Pietism to Colonial Religious Thought." Papers were read by Dr. Gordon Bender, dean of Goshen College Biblical Seminary, on the Mennonites; by Mrs. Selina Schultz, editor of the *Corpus Schwenckfeldianorum*, on the Schwenkfelders; and by Dr. John Weinlick of the Moravian Theological Seminary on the Moravians. The College has published as a reprint from the July, 1958, issue of

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORY, the papers read at the first symposium, which was held on March 8, 1958.

Pennsylvania Military College is sponsoring the publication of Dr. William E. Sawyer's brochure, *Vignettes of Life Along the Delaware River Three Centuries Ago*, to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the landing of the first white men in the area.

Thomas D. Clark of the University of Kentucky is distinguished visiting professor of history at Pennsylvania State University for the spring semester. Professor Joseph G. Rayback, chairman of the department of history, has recently been named editor of *The Historian*, quarterly journal of Phi Alpha Theta. Clark C. Spence, assistant professor, is author of *British Investments and the American Mining Frontier, 1860-1901*, published recently by the Cornell University Press for the American Historical Association.

Seton Hill College has announced the appointment last fall of Bernard F. Scherer as a member of the department of history.

Professor Ben Nispel of Shippensburg State Teachers College is author of *Reform of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor*, published recently by the Public Affairs Press.

The Midwestern Council for the Social Studies held its spring meeting on the campus of Slippery Rock State Teachers College on April 3. The featured speaker was Dr. Archibald McIsaacs, chairman of the department of economics at Syracuse University.

Morton Keller, assistant professor of history at the University of Pennsylvania, is the author of the recently published, *In Defense of Conservatism: James M. Beck and the Politics of Conservatism*. Lynn M. Case, professor and graduate chairman, is joint editor of *A Guide to the Diplomatic Archives of Western Europe*, which has just been published by the University of Pennsylvania Press. Professor Thomas C. Cochran has recently spent several weeks in Buenos Aires doing preliminary research on the SIAM Company. Dr. Curt F. Buhler of the Pierpont Morgan Library has been appointed Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach Fellow in

Bibliography at the University of Pennsylvania for 1958-1959. On April 9, 16, and 23, he delivered a series of lectures on "The Fifteenth-Century Book."

Professor George B. Fowler of the department of history at the University of Pittsburgh has begun a daily half-hour television program to run for thirteen weeks under the title, "Adventures in Art and Civilization." Dr. Charles E. Bidwell has been appointed a research associate to aid Professor James F. Clarke in the preparation of the "Source Book on South Slav History." Professor Charles H. George is co-author with his wife of "Protestantism and Capitalism in Pre-Revolutionary England," published in the December, 1958, issue of *Church History*.

Maurice W. Armstrong, chairman of the department of history at Ursinus College, has received a Distinguished Service Award from the Presbyterian Historical Society for assembling the source book in American Presbyterian history, *The Presbyterian Enterprise*. Conyers Read was special guest lecturer at the College in ceremonies honoring the accession of Queen Elizabeth I to the English throne. The College will be host in October, 1959, to the area Renaissance Conference.

## OF MEN AND MANY THINGS

Dr. Robert Fortenbaugh, president of the Pennsylvania Historical Association from 1945 to 1948 and a member of the history faculty of Gettysburg College since 1923, died of a heart attack at his home in Gettysburg on March 15, 1959, at the age of sixty-six. A graduate of Gettysburg College and of the associated Lutheran Theological Seminary, he served as a Lutheran pastor in Syracuse, New York, from 1916 to 1923. He began his graduate work at Syracuse University, receiving his master's degree there in 1920, and completed his doctoral study at the University of Pennsylvania in 1926. A charter member of the Pennsylvania Historical Association, Dr. Fortenbaugh was one of its most willing and effective supporters and one whose passing will bring a sense of personal loss to its members.

Dr. Thomas Kenneth Wood, founder of the Muncy Historical

society and of its publication *Now and Then*, died at Williamsport on December 28, 1958, at the age of eighty-one. Dr. Wood was one of the ablest of Pennsylvania's local historians as well as a leading physician. He had been in ill health for some time and had only recently retired as editor of *Now and Then*.

Mrs. Maud Peet Laughlin, professor of history, chairman of the department of history, and director of the division of social studies at Lebanon Valley College since 1951, died on December 27, 1958, in Palmyra at the age of sixty-three. She had previously taught at Indiana State Teachers College, Asheville College in North Carolina, and Hershey Junior College.

The third annual Institute on Pennsylvania Life and Culture will be held at Pennsylvania State University June 17-19, 1959. The first day will be devoted to the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Federation of Historical Societies. The last two days will be devoted to workshop sessions intended to help those actively engaged in historical society work, with programs on the management and organization of historical society museums, the collection and care of manuscripts, problems of publicity and membership, organizing and conducting Junior Historian clubs, and the teaching of Pennsylvania history. Further information can be obtained by writing Wallace F. Workmaster, administrative director of the Institute, at University Park, Pa.

James D. Mack, librarian of Lehigh University, has just published a mimeographed booklet, "A Bibliography of the Published Writings of Lawrence Henry Gipson," covering the period from 1904 to 1958. It lists 122 items, including 14 books, 51 articles, and 57 book reviews. The preface has a summary of the status of Professor Gipson's important study of *The British Empire Before the American Revolution*. Volumes I-IX have been published, and Professor Gipson has been revising the first three volumes for a second edition. Work on Volume X is about half completed, and Volume XI, which will complete the project, remains to be written. The bibliography was compiled as a gift to be presented to Dr. Gipson at a party in Bethlehem celebrating his seventy-eighth birthday.

Dr. S. K. Stevens, executive director of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, was elected president of the American Association of Historic Sites Administrators at a meeting of the group in New Orleans October 30-November 1, 1958.

Edwin M. Barton, secretary of the Columbia County Historical Society, has published in mimeographed form a "History of Columbia County, Volume I, Laying the Foundations." This 77-page book is intended primarily for school use, but is of interest to the general reader as well. It is based upon both primary and secondary sources. Copies may be obtained for \$2.25 each by writing to Mr. Barton at P. O. Box 475, Bloomsburg, Pa.

The Carl Schurz Memorial Foundation in Philadelphia reports that a thousand new cards are added annually to its Union Catalog of Americana-Germanica, a bibliographical project begun in 1942. The catalog, now numbering more than 50,000 cards, constitutes a detailed index to books and periodical literature on the activities of Germans in America.

The Free Library of Philadelphia has recently added new material to its extensive collection of Fraktur. Eleven lots were acquired in October at the sale of the collections of Arthur J. Sussel. One piece, formerly belonging to George Horace Latimer and considered the finest Fraktur in the Sussel collection, was a child's blessing in German decorated with a lively lion and unicorn as well as the customary parrots and other motifs. Additional pieces have also been acquired from the Newmarket, Virginia, area.

Radcliffe College and the department of history of Harvard University are sponsoring the Sixth Annual Summer Institute on Historical and Archival Management to be held at Radcliffe College June 29-August 7, 1959. Lawrence W. Towner, editor of the *William and Mary Quarterly*, will direct the Institute. Correspondence relating to enrollment should be addressed to Mr. Towner at the Institute, 10 Garden Street, Cambridge 38, Massachusetts.

The Library of Congress has received a grant of \$200,000 from

the Council on Library Resources to establish a national union catalog of manuscript collections. The immediate goal is to prepare uniform descriptions of some 24,000 collections known to exist in about seventy-five co-operating libraries and archives as well as the 3,000 collections in the Library of Congress. The Library of Congress will print and sell catalog cards describing each collection.

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission has completed the microfilming in ten reels of the Simon Cameron Papers recently discovered in the Historical Society of Dauphin County. [See the July, 1958, issue of *PENNSYLVANIA HISTORY*, 322.] The collection numbers approximately 4,100 pieces extending from 1836 to 1892, with nearly 3,800 pieces for the years 1853-1865. It consists primarily of correspondence and papers on political and business affairs. Most of the correspondents are of Pennsylvania rather than national significance. There are thirteen letters or drafts of letters by Cameron. The microfilm may be borrowed on interlibrary loan from the Commission.