

NEWS AND COMMENT

BY HARRY E. WHIPKEY

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

A November meeting of the Adams County Historical Society heard Dr. Barry Kent, state archaeologist on the staff of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, discuss "The Indians of South Central Pennsylvania."

Programs for the Allegheny-Kiski Valley Historical Society's winter season will include talks by William Rimmel, columnist of the *Pittsburgh Post Gazette*, and Phillip Doyle, foremost Indian archaeologist of the Allegheny-Kiski Valley.

The American Catholic Historical Society of Philadelphia is organizing and cataloguing the papers of Martin I. J. Griffin. Griffin, noted historian of Philadelphia Catholicism, died in 1911.

George M. Meiser, IX, explained "Rare Shots of Old Reading and Vicinity" at the annual meeting of the Historical Society of Berks County, October 28. Meeting on November 14, members heard Lester P. Breining, Jr., discuss "Pots and Potters of Berks County."

The Women's Committee of the Bucks County Historical Society sponsored an Autumn Excursion to the Clinton Historical Museum and Hunterdon County Art Center, Clinton, New Jersey, October 27. The society's 91st annual meeting, November 5, featured an illustrated lecture by William Kleinsasser on "The Magic and Mystery of Henry Mercer." Kleinsasser, on leave from the University of Oregon, is currently visiting Andrew Mellon Professor of Architecture at Carnegie-Mellon University.

The Cameron County Historical Society's "Little Museum" was opened to the public on September 19. Located in Sterling Run and open on Sunday and Wednesday afternoons, it is Cameron County's only museum.

The Chadds Ford Historical Society had a successful celebration of the anniversary of the Battle of Brandywine at the new Brandywine River Museum, Chadds Ford, September 11.

"Chester County Day—1971," an illustrated talk concerning Chester County landmarks, was presented by Mrs. Lawrence S. Smith, associate professor of English at West Chester State College, at the September meeting of the Chester County Historical Society. "New Directions to the Past" was the subject treated by Wendell D. Garrett, managing editor of *Antiques Magazine*, on October 19. On November 9, Edward F. LaFond, Jr., of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, spoke on the topic "Furnishing Pennsylvania's Historic Houses." The 2nd annual Christmas Arrangement Show was staged from December 13 through December 17.

The publication of an *Index of Families and Persons—The History of Chester County, Pennsylvania* has been announced by the Chester County Historical Society. Written by J. Smith Futhey and Gilbert Cope and published in 1881, *The History of Chester County, Pennsylvania* has long been a valuable tool for genealogists, researchers and historians interested in the early history of Chester County. The *Index*, compiled by Lucy I. Smedley and Arabella Cleveland and priced at \$12.50, may be ordered from the Chester County Historical Society, 225 North High Street, West Chester, Pennsylvania 19380.

The Chestnut Hill Historical Society recently sponsored a benefit program entitled "The History of the Movies," proceeds of which will help to furnish the society's new headquarters. The program, conducted by S. Derek Naabe, an actor and early movie buff, featured Charlie Chaplin and Mary Pickford movies, Mack Sennett comedies, and an early attempt at film making by Thomas Edison.

During Clarion's Autumn Leaf Festival, held in the first week of October, over 200 persons attended the first annual testimonial dinner to a distinguished citizen or former citizen of Clarion County. The occasion was the annual dinner of the Clarion County Historical Society. Honored was Dominick Labino, noted glass artist, teacher and researcher whose achievements range from representation through his contemporary art glass in the permanent collections of the Smithsonian Institution and other museums throughout this country and abroad to patents on glass fibers used in insulation in the Apollo spacecraft system. Labino brought with him from his studio near Toledo, Ohio, a display of his famed art glass. At a regular meeting in October, members of the society heard Eugene A. Seelye, of the Department of Art, Clarion State College, explain "Influences on Clarion County Architecture."

The Colonial Philadelphia Historical Society held a Christmas Tea at Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia, December 5. Chester Brooks, director, Northeast Region, National Park Service, was the guest of honor.

The publication of Nathaniel C. Hale's *The American Colonial Wars, A Concise History, 1607-1775* has been announced by the Society of Colonial Wars in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

At the October 18 meeting of the Community Historians of Lancaster County, Paul Horning, of Alleghenyville, Berks County, presented an illustrated talk on "Thirteen Tramps." The Historians recently published Dr. Charles D. Spotts' *They Called It Strasburg*.

On November 11, the Conshohocken Historical Society commemorated the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Conshohocken Bridge, the span across the Schuylkill River linking Conshohocken and West Conshohocken. Slides made from photographs of the opening day ceremonies were presented by Dr. Joseph Leary. The program also included the viewing of the silent picture, "The Sign on the Door," the featured film on the opening day of the Riant Theater, Conshohocken, November 11, 1921.

Members of the Corry Area Historical Society recently visited the Museum of Antique Musical Instruments in Franklin. Frank Grice is the society's president for 1972.

Honored at Cumberland County Historical Society's 14th annual Recognition Dinner, October 7, was Richard Hartler Steinmetz, Sr., one of Cumberland County's most popular historians. Steinmetz read a paper on "Dr. Silas Swallow, Cumberland Iconoclast." On November 18, Paul J. Westhaeffer, of Arlington, Virginia, offered an address on "The Ahl Brothers and the Harrisburg and Potomac Railroad." The society recently published Dr. Milton E. Flower's *John Armstrong, First Citizen of Carlisle*. Available from the society, the 16-page paper is priced at \$1.00.

A talk on "Trolley Lines of Dauphin County" was presented by Sloan Auchincloss at the September meeting of the Historical Society of Dauphin County. In October, Captain William Grooms, commander of Troop H, Pennsylvania State Police, lectured on "The History of the Pennsylvania State Police."

The Delaware County Historical Society's annual pre-Christmas Tea was held at the home of Mrs. Lynmar Brock, Hunters' Hill, Newtown Square, December 4. Historic Delaware County, Inc., was invited to take part in the program, which included a visit to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walton Nason, Jr., Sweetwater Road, Glen Mills.

"The Battle of the Bulge" was the subject treated by Colonel Carl R. Black at the November 9 meeting of the Erie County Historical Society.

"The Life and Times of H. J. Heinz, 1844-1919" was the subject of a talk by Robert C. Alberts at a recent meeting of the Fort Pitt Museum Associates. Alberts, the author of *The Most Extraordinary Adventures of Major Robert Stobo* (1965) and *The Golden Voyage: The Life and Times of William Bingham, 1752-1804* (1969), will publish an article based on the Heinz diaries in the February issue of *American Heritage*.

The 17th annual dinner of French Azilum, Inc., was held on October 9 at the Community Hall in North Orwell. Featured on the program were Colonel William P. Talon, Jr., a descendant of Antoine Omer Talon, one of the two leaders of the colony of French refugees of 1793-1803, and Miss Elizabeth Homet, the descendant of another emigré, Charles Homet. Colonel Talon is chief of staff at the John F. Kennedy Center of Military Assistance, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Miss Homet, of Wyalusing, is the society's secretary. The Du Petit Thauars Log House Museum and the 1836 Laporte House were open to visitors from May to October.

The Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania met on November 16 to hear Mrs. F. Spencer Roach, editor of the *Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine*, speak on the topic "Do-It-Yourself Genealogy." On January 25, Frank W. Bobb, librarian and curator, Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Pennsylvania, will discuss "Genealogical Gleanings from Masonic Records." Herbert U. Davis, probate genealogist, is scheduled to lecture on February 22 on "Genealogies for Probate Purposes." The annual meeting, March 28, will feature a discourse by Dr. Don Yoder, of the Departments of Religious Thought and Folklore and Folklife, University of Pennsylvania, on "The European Backgrounds of the Pennsylvania Germans." All meetings will be held in the hall of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia, at 2:30 P. M.

The annual meeting of the Germantown Historical Society, October 21, was highlighted by a lecture on "Stained Glass in History" by E. Crosby Willet. On November 18, Mrs. S. Henry Edmunds, director of the Historic Charleston Foundation, spoke on "Preservation in Historic Charleston." Scheduled to speak on January 20 on "Archaeology on Benjamin Franklin's House" is Miss Barbara Liggett.

"Archaeology: The Remembrance of Things Past" was the subject of an illustrated talk given by Dr. John L. Cotter at the September meeting of the Goschenhoppen Historians. Dr. Cotter is chief of Archaeological Research for the Northeast Region of the National Park Service. In October, the Historians

heard Ellen Gehret and Clarence Kulp present "An Illustrated History of Goschenhoppen Costume." A November meeting featured an illustrated lecture by Mr. and Mrs. Donald Roan on "The Pennsylvania Dutch Influence in the South."

"The Story of Glass" was explained by John Carl Foster, Jr., at the annual meeting of the Hanover Area Historical Society, October 7.

"Once Upon A Mattress" was the title of a Frederick Rapp Lecture sponsored by the Harmonie Associates of Old Economy on November 14. The speaker, Mrs. John Strawbridge, of Williamsport, displayed interesting samples of quilts and coverlets. Old Economy's annual Christmas parties and tours for kindergarten children were conducted from November 29 through December 17. "A Nineteenth Century Christmas," featuring handmade decorations, crafts related to Christmas, special Christmas foods, and music, was staged on December 19.

A slide lecture on "The Romance of Fire Fighting" by Mrs. George Anne P. Daly, curator and archivist for the Insurance Company of North America, was enjoyed by members of the Haverford Township Historical Society, November 11.

Historic Delaware County, Inc., held its annual dinner at the Old Mill Restaurant, Brinton Lake Road, Concordville, October 20. The speaker of the evening, Edward F. LaFond, Jr., Keeper of the Pennsylvania Register, discussed "Delaware County's Contribution to the National Register."

Historic Schaefferstown, Inc., conducted its 2nd annual Traditional German Christmas Party in the 1736 Alexander Schaeffer Farmhouse on December 5. Historic Schaefferstown recently received a \$10,000 Restoration Grant from the Lebanon County Commissioners.

Provided by the municipal school board, two rooms in the old Broad Street School, Jersey Shore, Lycoming County, are now being used by the Jersey Shore Historical Society. The space is being utilized as a headquarters and as a museum.

Meeting of the historic Joseph H. Scranton Home, Monroe Avenue at Ridge Row, Scranton, on September 22, members of the Lackawanna Historical Society heard Mrs. Marion Scranton Isaacs, the great-granddaughter of Joseph H. Scranton, describe the history of the house and its furnishings. Speaking briefly, former Governor William W. Scranton, brother of Mrs. Isaacs, presented additional information on the house and on the Scranton family.

On October 12, members of the Lancaster County Historical Society heard James Humphreville explain the efforts and plans of the Conestoga Valley Association to restore and preserve the historical, ecological and recreational features of the Conestoga River. Humphreville, a consulting geologist, is president of the Association.

An illustrated talk entitled "Americans at Home" was presented by Phyllis T. Ballinger at the October meeting of the Landis Valley Associates of the Pennsylvania Farm Museum. Using old letters, diaries, journals, wills, newspaper advertisements, and other documentary sources, Mrs. Ballinger revealed a number of interesting social customs and decorative features found in American homes during the 18th and 19th centuries. A November meeting heard George L. Heiges discuss the career of Baron Stiegel as the flamboyant ironmaster of Elizabeth Furnace and as the owner of the American Flint Glass Works in Manheim.

Sponsored by the Historic Preservation Trust of Lebanon County, a Christmas Bazaar was staged at the 1738 Isaac Meier Homestead, Myerstown, December 18. Reverend J. Donald Backenstose has been reelected president of the Trust.

The annual dinner meeting of the Lebanon County Historical Society, September 27, was highlighted by an illustrated talk by Ray S. Bowman on "The Life and Times of Robert Coleman."

The Lehigh County Historical Society held an October Open House at the recently restored and furnished Troxell-Syeckel House. Visitors toured the 1756 stone farmhouse and the barn,

c. 1870, which has been converted to a farm museum. The museum's exhibits include farm implements Indian artifacts, and a collection of buggies and sleighs.

Meetings sponsored by the Lititz Historical Foundation in 1971 included a paper on "Distillers in Early Pennsylvania" by Lamar Sipe and a lecture on "Working in Pewter" by Jay Stauffer.

Authentic Indian dances, performed by Senior Boy Scouts of the Order of the Arrow and supervised by Joseph Davenport, highlighted the November 18 meeting of the Lycoming County Historical Society. The Christmas meeting, December 16, featured a special musical program presented by the Boys Choir of St. Boniface Church, Williamsport, and traditional Christmas decorations made by members of the recently formed William Hepburn Chapter of the Junior Historians. Presently being conducted with students from Lycoming College, an independent study program is providing a better appreciation of the paintings and furniture in the society's collections.

Thomas W. Barber and James Woods, members of the McKean County Historical Society, have published a book on one of McKean County's most interesting old railroads, the Bradford, Bordell and Kinzua. The 140-page volume, *Bradford, Bordell and Kinzua*, is priced at \$4.75 and may be ordered from Thomas W. Barber, 50 Bedford Street, Bradford, Pennsylvania 16701.

The current plans of the Monroe County Historical Society include the publication of a brochure to commemorate the society's 50th anniversary and the erection of a marker at the Philip Bossert Homestead in Cherry Valley.

The Montgomery Area Historical Society reports that on November 17 there was a joint meeting of the Lancaster County Historical Society, the Jersey Shore Historical Society, the Muncy Historical Society, the recently formed Ralston Historical Society, and the Montgomery Area Historical Society at the new Lycoming County Historical Society building, West 4th

Street, Williamsport. The purpose of the meeting was to form a Lycoming County Historical Society Executive Board. As planned, each society will maintain its own identity but will cooperate as much as possible with the other groups in all areas of programming. The next meeting of the Executive Board is scheduled in February.

The fall meeting of the Historical Society of Montgomery County featured these speakers: Dr. Joseph T. Riemer, "General Hancock and Dr. Read;" Kirke Bryan, "The Books of Christopher Dock;" and Ronald Heaton, "Major General George W. Smythe—A Tribute."

An address entitled "An Anthropologist in England" is to be presented to the Muncy Historical Society by Dr. Maurice A. Mook, a member of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and the current president of the Pennsylvania Folklore Society. Dr. Mook's "Amish Studies" were published in the September issue of the *Lycoming College Magazine*.

The role of the Germans in the daily life of Philadelphia in and around the year 1776 is the topic being researched by Alice H. Finckh of the National Carl Schurz Association, Philadelphia. This is preliminary to the preparation of an exhibit for the Bicentennial.

"Brandywine Battlefield Revisited" was the subject treated by Dr. Charles A. Waltman at the fall meeting of the Northampton County Historical and Genealogical Society, November 17. Dr. Waltman, an Easton surgeon, is a former president of the society.

Dr. John L. Shover, professor of history at the University of Pennsylvania, explained "The Transformation of Philadelphia, 1928-1936: Some New Approaches to Old Politics" at the November 19 meeting of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Dr. Shover is the author of *Cornbelt Rebellion: The Farmers' Holiday Association* and, with Michael P. Rogin, *Political Change in California, 1892-1966*.

Attending the annual meeting of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, held this year in Waynesburg, Dr. Catherine McCann received the J. Alden Mason Award for "outstanding contributions" to the society. A resident of Harrisburg, Dr. McCann recently retired from the professional staff of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

The officers of the Pennsylvania Canal Society are: Harry L. Rinker, president; Dr. Ernest H. Coleman, vice-president; Earl B. Giles, secretary; John P. Miller, treasurer; Clayton P. "Bill" Yoder, curator; and William H. Shank, editor of *Canal Currents*. A field trip along the lower Lehigh Canal, including a visit to the society's Canal Museum at Easton, is scheduled for May 5-7.

The Pennsylvania Federation of Junior Historians, in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, conducted an October 23rd celebration of the 327th anniversary of the birth of William Penn. Serving as the official hosts for the observance, held at the William Penn Memorial Museum, Harrisburg, were Junior Historians from the Lemoyne Chapter, Lemoyne Junior High School. As participants in the first in a series of interstate educational sessions, Junior Historians from New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania converged on Valley Forge State Park, January 15. The "Winter at Valley Forge" conference was hosted by the Upper Merion Junior High School Chapter, the Wissahickon Senior High School Chapter, and the Old Stone House Chapter of the Pennsylvania Federation of Junior Historians.

The first meeting of the 1971-1972 season of the Pennsylvania Historical Junto, September 17, featured an address entitled "Autobiography as Written by Pennsylvanians, From Benjamin Franklin to Francis Biddle and Roy F. Nichols." The speaker, the Junto's founder and first president, was Dr. Homer T. Rosenberger. On October 15, an illustrated talk on "Pennsylvania and the National Portrait Gallery" was offered by Monroe H. Fabian, assistant curator, National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution. Dr. Harold T. Pinkett, deputy director of the Records Appraisal Division of the National Archives and editor of *The*

American Archivist, addressed the November 19 meeting on the subject "Political and Social Ideas of Gifford Pinchot." Dr. Pinkett recently published *Gifford Pinchot, Private and Public Forester*.

The Pioneer Steam and Gas Engine Society of Northwestern Pennsylvania has scheduled its annual exhibit at the Crawford County Fair Grounds for July 21-23.

On August 10, at the annual Polish Day at Kennywood Park, members of the Polish Historical Commission of the Central Council of Polish Organizations of Pittsburgh commemorated the 50th anniversary of Madame Maria Sklodowska Curie's visit to Pittsburgh. On October 12, the Commission cooperated with the Human Relations Commission of the Pittsburgh Catholic Diocese in sponsoring a talk entitled "Who Am I" by Reverend Leonard F. Chrobot, of St. Mary's College, Orchard Lake, Michigan. The Commission has requested (1) recognition of the Kosciusko House in Philadelphia as a National Monument and (2) the erection of an appropriate historical marker to commemorate General Casimir Pulaski's role in the Battle of Brandywine.

The 9th annual June Fair, held in the interest of the Pottsgrove Furnishings Fund, netted the Pottstown Historical Society \$2,530.38. Generous support to the Fund was also given by those attending the society's annual Card Party at Pottsgrove, October 4.

"Historic Preservation, What It Means and How to Go About It" was the title of a lecture presented by Professor Vincent P. Foley of Moravian College at a fall meeting of the Quakertown Historical Society.

Recent meetings of the Historical Society of Schuylkill County have featured a demonstration by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph McCormick on how to make coal jewelry and coal artifacts from raw coal and a talk by Clarence Hess, executive director of the Schuylkill County Tourist Promotion Agency, on "The Tourist Trade in Schuylkill County."

An October meeting of the Warren County Historical Society featured an illustrated lecture by Dr. William Cashman on "The History of Medicine in Pennsylvania." On November 5-7, the annual Open House at the society's headquarters focused attention on the Archives Room and on a display of paintings by the late Elton Davis, noted Warren artist. The society recently launched an Ethnic Studies Program. Giving initial attention to the Italian and Jewish inhabitants of the county, the study will describe areas settled, occupations, and contributions to the community. Warren's Postmaster, Frank Fago, will supervise the study of the Italian community. Robert Freedman, reference librarian for the Warren Public Library, has been assigned to the study of the Jewish community.

At the initial meeting of the 1971-1972 lecture season of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, October 6, Lowell Innes addressed an overflow audience of about 250 on "Early Western Pennsylvania Glass," making use of many illustrations from his projected book on that subject. On November 3, members heard Sister Kathleen Healy, R. S. M., Ph. D., chairman of the English Department at Carlow College (formerly Mt. Mercy Academy), report on "The Sisters of Mercy in Western Pennsylvania Since 1848." Dr. Van Beck Hall, associate professor of history, University of Pittsburgh, delivered a discourse on "New Approaches to Local History," December 1.

Reporting on "The Old Mills of Westmoreland County," George W. Kintigh was the featured speaker at the October meeting of the Westmoreland County Historical Society. On November 2, Dr. Paul A. Chew, director of the Westmoreland County Museum of Art, spoke on "The Collectors and Collecting of Antiques in the Greater Pittsburgh Area."

Members of the Westmoreland-Fayette Historical Society recently enjoyed a visit to Old Economy Village, Ambridge.

The Wyoming Historical and Geological Society proudly announces the completion of its publication, *The Susquehanna Company Papers, 1750-1808*. To celebrate this event, a dinner was held in the Gold Room, King's College, Wilkes-Barre, on

November 12. Among those present were Dr. Oliver W. Holmes, executive director, National Historical Publications Commission; Dr. Julian P. Boyd, editor, Volumes I-IV, *The Susquehannah Company Papers*, Princeton University Library; Dr. Robert J. Taylor, editor, Volumes V-XI, *The Susquehannah Company Papers*, Tufts University; Dr. S. K. Stevens, executive director, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission; Dr. Donald H. Kent, director, Bureau of Archives and History, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission; and Dr. Richmond D. Williams, director, Eleutherian Mills Historical Library.

An illustrated presentation entitled "The C & O Canal, Past and Present" was conducted by Ranger James D. Hankins, district ranger for the western portion of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, at a November meeting of the Historical Society of York County. The C & O Canal is administered by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. Taking part in the program was William H. Shank, author of the society's well-received booklet *The Amazing Pennsylvania Canals*. Members of the society were recently favored with the opportunity to purchase copies of a limited edition—published by the society in cooperation with Philip Freneau Press—of Ernst Kipping's *The Hessian View of America, 1776-1783*.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Restoration work on the home and studio of Thomas Eakins (1844-1916), famed Pennsylvania painter, should be completed by late 1972. The studio, located on the structure's fourth floor, is to be furnished as it was when Eakins produced such noted works as "Gross Clinic," "Dr. Agnew Performing an Operation," and the numerous scenes of sporting events on the Schuylkill and Wissahickon. The Eakins Home is located at 1729 Mount Vernon Street, Philadelphia.

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission is presently developing plans for the restoration of the historic Thomas Hughes House in Greene County. This 1814 structure,

acquired by the Commonwealth in 1967, was the home of the founder of Jefferson Borough. In the pre-Civil War period, it was a frequently used resting place on the Underground Railroad.

Continuing its efforts to raise funds in support of the restoration of the Mouns Jones House, Douglassville, the Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County realized \$1,660 from its 8th annual October Country Fair. Funds were also raised at the 7th annual Holiday Tea, held this year at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James R. Elliott, Far Hills, Douglassville, December 11. The 1716 Mouns Jones House is the oldest surviving house in Berks County.

Compass Inn, the old stagecoach stop located on Route 30 in Laughlintown, three miles east of Ligonier, has been restored by the Ligonier Valley Historical Society and will be opened to the public on May 27. It will be open every day, except Monday, from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M., through November 1.

A determined effort on the part of Franklin County Heritage, Inc., to guarantee the preservation of the historic Franklin County Jail has ended in success. Heritage now has control of the 1818 structure, located on East King Street, Chambersburg, and is implementing plans for its restoration.

The King of Prussia Historical Society is spearheading a drive to save and restore the old King of Prussia Inn, one of the few remaining pre-revolutionary buildings in the King of Prussia area. Meetings of the society with community leaders and representatives of business, industrial, and civic organizations have indicated that the restoration of the Inn will be the main project of King of Prussia for the 1976 Bicentennial. The estimate for the cost of repair without furnishings is \$250,000. Any aid, financial or otherwise, that anyone would care to offer would be most welcome. For information regarding this project, please contact Daniel Boone Flint, President, King of Prussia Historical Society, Flintlock Farm, Sassamansville, Pennsylvania 19472.

The Shackamaxon Society of Philadelphia is presently engaged in a project to restore "the Cliffs," an 18th century country house in East Fairmount Park near 33rd and Oxford Streets, Philadelphia. It was in this 1753 structure that the daughter of Benjamin Franklin and her friends prepared clothing and bandages for the American troops during the Revolution. Approximately \$50,000 will be needed for the restoration. The society intends also to develop the area surrounding the house into a working model farm, "a place for the people of the neighboring community, the city proper and tourists to visit and experience the sylvan setting of formal gardens and colonial crafts." The Shackamaxon Society is also involved in the restoration of Old Fort Mifflin.

After five years of promoting the creation of an Historical Zoning District in the Gulph Mills section of Upper Merion Township, Montgomery County, the Upper Merion Park and Historic Foundation can announce that the proposed ordinance has finally been drafted by the Township and is being circulated to affected property owners by the Gulph Mills Civic Association. The Foundation took the lead in these efforts by surveying residents of Gulph Mills village on three separate occasions and by presenting the petitions to the Township.

During November and December, the Tri-County Conservancy of the Brandywine conducted a series of lectures on "Preserving the Natural Environment of the Brandywine Valley." The lectures were given at the Brandywine River Museum, Chadds Ford.

The George Clymer Home at Morrisville, erected in the 1770's and purchased by Clymer in 1806, and the 1768 George Taylor Home at Catasauqua have been named National Historic Landmarks by the U. S. Department of the Interior. Clymer and Taylor were Pennsylvania Signers of the Declaration of Independence.

These structures were recently entered on the National Register of Historic Sites: the pre-1830 Barns-Brinton House, Pennsbury Township, Chester County; the 1739 Rose Tree

Tavern, Upper Providence Township, Delaware County; the 1749-50 William Peters House, originally located in Aston Township in Delaware County, now located at Mendenhall in Chester County; the 1763 St. George's Methodist Church, 235 North 4th Street, Philadelphia; the 1786 Hill-Physick House, 321 South 4th Street, Philadelphia; the 18th-century Gilpin Homestead, Chadds Ford, Chester County; the 18th-century William Harvey House, Pennsbury Township, Chester County; the 1804 Arch Street Friends' Meetinghouse, Philadelphia; and the 1805 Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia.

OF MEN AND MANY THINGS

Dr. S. K. Stevens has announced that he will retire as Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. The retirement, effective on January 31, will conclude thirty-four years of dedicated service to the State of Pennsylvania. A native of Potter County, a graduate of Pennsylvania State University and a veteran of that school's history faculty, Dr. Stevens began his career with the Commonwealth in 1937, when at the age of thirty-two he became state historian. He was appointed to his present position in 1956. Initiating and implementing many important changes, he has been responsible for greatly expanding the services and responsibilities of the Commission, which at present is charged with the care and administration of more than forty-five historic sites and properties, seven museums, the historic marker program, the State Archives, the State Records Center, an extensive historical publications program, an ethnic culture survey, an oral history program, and the statewide Junior Historian Program. One of the major results of Dr. Stevens' leadership was the construction of the William Penn Memorial Museum and Archives Building, Harrisburg. This impressive museum and archives complex, which also houses the executive and administrative offices of the Commission, was occupied and dedicated in 1965.

Dr. Stevens has a nationwide reputation as a leader in the development of historical societies, in the furtherance of historical scholarship, and in the promotion of historic preservation. He was one of the founders of American Heritage. Since

1967, he has served as chairman of the National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Among his many published works are: *Pennsylvania, Titan of Industry* (3 vols.), *Exploring Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania: The Keystone State* (2 vols.), *Pennsylvania, Heritage of A Commonwealth* (4 vols.), *Portrait of Pennsylvania*, and the award-winning *Pennsylvania: Birthplace of A Nation*. Dr. Stevens will continue his historical research and writing. And, at the Commission's request, he will continue to serve the historical interests of the Commonwealth in a consultant and advisory capacity.

William H. Work, 75, has retired as state archivist and as chief of the Division of Archives and Manuscripts, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Joining the archival staff in 1956, Mr. Work was named state archivist in 1963. In 1964-65, he was responsible for the successful transfer of the valuable records of the Commonwealth from their old depositories in the State Education building to the spacious and modern quarters in the archival tower, William Penn Memorial Museum and Archives Building. Along with greatly increasing the volume of records and manuscripts held by the Archives, Mr. Work has played an important role in the initiation of Pennsylvania's County Records Program and in the development of the Commonwealth's Municipal Records Program. His accomplishments as well as his adherence to sound archival principles were recognized in 1970 when the Society of American Archivists awarded its Distinguished Service Award to the Pennsylvania State Archives.

Adventures and Philosophy of A Pennsylvania Dutchman by Dr. Homer Tope Rosenberger has been published by Pennsylvania Heritage, Inc., Bellefonte, Pennsylvania. Priced at \$15.00, this 665-page "autobiography in a broad setting" is handsomely illustrated, well indexed, and—in the words of Dr. S. K. Stevens, executive director, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission—"an absorbing, totally useful book, and a significant contribution to our literature on Pennsylvania."

Copper for America, the latest work published by Maxwell Whiteman, consulting librarian and archivist for the Union

League of Philadelphia, will be of interest to students of economic history, of American Jewish history, and of genealogy. The volume traces the development of the American copper industry through a study of the activities of the family, the Hendricks family, which dominated the industry for more than a century.

Beginning on September 21, Dr. J. Cutler Andrews, professor of history at Chatham College, delivered a series of six Tuesday evening lectures at the University of Pittsburgh on the general theme "The History of Pittsburgh During the Last Hundred Years." The series was sponsored by the School of General Studies of the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Charles D. Ameringer, Department of History, Pennsylvania State University, is the recipient of an American Philosophical Society grant to pursue further his study in Costa Rica of José Figueres. He will be going to San José in January.

Professor Warren W. Hassler, Department of History, Pennsylvania State University, is the author of *The President As Commander In Chief* (Palo Alto, California, Addison-Wesley, 1971).

Under a grant from the National Historical Publications Commission for 1971-1972, Dr. Walter L. Ferree, associate professor of history, Pennsylvania State University, is directing the collection and editing of the papers of Martin Van Buren.

Drs. G. A. Mellander and Carl Hatch, of the Department of History, York College of Pennsylvania, have collaborated on *Presidential Elections and York County: A History of Presidential Elections in York County Pennsylvania from Lincoln to Nixon, 1866-1968*. The same authors have prepared *The York Dispatch Index: The Depression 1930's*. Both volumes have been published by Strine Publishing Company, York, Pennsylvania.

Dr. James L. Morrison, Jr., York College of Pennsylvania, has edited the "Memoirs of Henry Heth." The work will be published by Greenwood Press.

John Bodnar, associate historian, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, addressed the 40th anniversary banquet of the Harrisburg Manuscript Club on November 12. His topic was "Fiction and Ethnic History."

Held on November 8 and sponsored by the Cayuga County Historical Society, Auburn, New York, the annual Cornplanter Dinner featured the presentation of the Cornplanter Award to Dr. Anthony F. C. Wallace of the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Wallace was honored for his scholarly research in the field of Iroquoian History.

Formerly under the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters, Valley Forge State Park is now being administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. The Park's new superintendent, Horace Willcox, has previously served as chief of exhibits for the Roger Williams Park Museum, Providence, Rhode Island; as regional museum curator, Northeast Region, National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior; and, most recently, as principal history curator, Office of State History, New York Department of Education, Albany, New York.

The current officers of the Society of American Historians are: Barbara Tuchman, president; William E. Leuchtenberg, vice-president; Raymond Walters, vice-president; and Kenneth T. Jackson, secretary-treasurer.

The first nationwide meeting of the American Society for Legal History was held in Boston, October 22-23. These subjects were discussed: "Law in Early American History," "History and Anthropology," "Violence and Crime in English Law," "Roman and Civil Law Systems," "Reconstructing the Constitution," and "Late Nineteenth Century Developments in the Law."

Published by the Oral History Association, Box 20, Butler Library, Columbia University, New York 10027, *Oral History in the United States* describes 230 oral history projects. The directory is arranged by state and indexed in depth.

This History Department of Alliance College has announced the development of (1) a computerized bibliography of Polish American sources and (2) an oral history program dealing with Polish Americans. For additional information, please write Robert D. Ilisevich, chairman, Department of History, Alliance College, Cambridge Springs, Pennsylvania 16403.

The Medford Historical Society, Box 362, Medford, New Jersey 08055, has announced the publication of a facsimile edition of the *Early Recollections and Life of Dr. James Still* (1812-1855). Additions to the text—as reproduced from the original edition printed in 1877 by J. B. Lippincott—include an historical sketch, an index, and a drawing of the residence and office where “The Black Doctor” dispensed his famous herb remedies. The 288-page volume is priced at \$5.00.

Planned around the theme “New Jersey Since 1860: New Findings and Interpretations,” the New Jersey Historical Commission’s 3rd annual New Jersey Symposium was held on December 4. Speakers included: Kenneth T. Jackson, Columbia University, “The Black Experience in Newark: The Growth of the Ghetto, 1700-1971”; Joseph F. Mahoney, Seton Hall University, “The Impact of Industrialization on the New Jersey Legislature, 1870-1900: Some Preliminary Views,” and Richard J. Connors, Seton Hall University, “Politics and Economics in Frank Hague’s Jersey City.”

A lecture entitled “Why Gettysburg?” was presented at the Cultural Arts Center, Our Lady of Angels College, November 8. The speaker was Reverend Louis Berkley Kines. Programs for January-April include: “United States and the World in an Election Year,” Dr. James Dougherty, January 10; “The Law and You,” John Maffei, February 14; and “Alerting the Consumer,” Mrs. Virginia Knauer, April 17. For information on the College’s programs, contact Margaret Mary Kearney, Our Lady of Angels College, Glen Riddle, Pennsylvania 19037.

On December 2, Muhlenberg College served as host for a subregional meeting of the American Studies Association of the Middle Atlantic States. The subject of the meeting was “The

American Dream: The Contemporary Scene." Dr. John Reed, History Department chairman, was coordinator of the program.

Robert Morris College sponsors the Pittsburgh Folk Festival which takes place annually at the Civic Arena in Pittsburgh. The dates for 1972 are May 19, 20, and 21. Doors are open from 5 P.M. to midnight. Featured are food, displays, folk songs and dances of many nationalities. Contact Charles R. Cubelic, Director, Pittsburgh Folk Festival, c/o Robert Morris College, 610 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219.

October 1 and 2 were the dates of the 14th annual Springs Folk Festival at the tiny village of Springs, Somerset County. Featured were scores of crafts demonstrators, the Penn Alps Crafts Store, exhibits in the two museum buildings, vocal and instrumental folk music, and guided tours into the "flaming autumn countryside" of Somerset County.

Recent acquisitions of the Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College include original drawings by Benjamin West and letters of John Bright, John Greenleaf Whittier, Jane Addams, Elihu Burritt, and George Walton.

The Philadelphia City Archives recently accessioned these records: Bureau of City Property, papers and correspondence concerning the Bureau's activities in connection with the Sesqui-centennial Celebration of 1926; Guardians of the Poor, Settlement of Tax Duplicates 1828-1852; City Councils, Committees on Accounts, Minutes, September-October 1934; Department of Wharves, Docks, and Ferries, "The Port of Philadelphia," 1926; U. S. Centennial Commission, Executive Departments of U. S. Government, Department of War, Publications 1876, 1884.

Mercyhurst College opened its Archives to the public on January 1. Collections relating to the Erie area as well as those of national interest are featured. An extensive microfilming program is in the planning stage. In addition, the Mercyhurst Archives and the Erie County Historical Society recently published the first issue of the *Journal of Erie Studies*. The Archives is open to all persons interested in the history of the Erie area from 9 to 5, Monday through Friday.

Recent acquisitions of the Urban Archives of Temple University in Philadelphia include the records of the Citizen's Council of Delaware County, 1956-1960; Delaware County District, Health and Welfare Council, 1922-1969; Penjerdel, the Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Delaware Metropolitan Project, Inc., 1957-1970; and the Reed Street Neighborhood House, 1874-1965. Other acquisitions include: five diaries of Eliza Butler Kirkbride, 1862-1903; the papers of John Patterson, consultant to the School District of Philadelphia, 1950-1970; and the papers of Rabbi Joseph Krauskopf, reform rabbi of congregation Keneseth Israel, 1887-1923. The scrapbooks, 1934-1968, of Walter C. Beckett, mortician active in religious and civic affairs of Philadelphia's black community, have been microfilmed.

Located in the Archives of the State University of New York, Oswego, papers of Millard Fillmore and papers of John E. Marshall are now available for use by scholars. Address inquiries to Charles M. Snyder, Department of History, State University College, Oswego, New York 13126.

A grant by Lilly Endowment, Inc., is enabling the University of Michigan's Clements Library to pursue its statistical study of the Revolutionary War. As a contribution to the Bicentennial observance, the study aims to answer three questions: the number of men who lost their lives in battle and in camp; the changing size of the Continental Army month by month; and the number of men who bore arms in the Revolution as members of the Continental Army or as members of the state militias. Research fellowships over the next two years will focus on finding battle reports, strength reports, muster rolls, and pension records in the archives of the thirteen original states and in the National Archives and state historical societies. The data will be collected and analyzed at the Clements Library under the direction of Howard Peckham, director of the library, Professor John Shy of the library's committee of management, and Professors Kenneth Lockridge and James Vann of the history department. Two publications are anticipated in 1974: a report on casualties and a report on the size of the army. While the name index of soldiers and sailors probably will not be finished at that time, a large part of the work should be done and a deadline set.

Pulaski's Banner. Attempting to determine if the cavalry banner carried by Pulaski's Legion during the Revolutionary War has been reproduced and/or such reproductions are available for sale. Original is in the Maryland Historical Society collection in Baltimore. The banner is described in Pennsylvania Archives Second Series Vol. 11, F146. P 54 1880. Please contact Frank K. Koronkiewicz, 601 S. Market St., Nanticoke, Penna. 18634 telephone 717-735-2940.