The first meeting of the society for the year 1933–34 was held in Stevenson Hall of the Historical Building on October 24. At this meeting, the by-laws were amended to increase the number of vice presidents from two to four and to increase the number of trustees from ten to fifteen. In order that all the vice presidents may be of equal rank, it was provided that: “In the absence or incapacity of the president, his duties shall be performed by one of the vice presidents to be designated by the president or, failing such designation, by the executive committee.” After the adoption of the amendments, the Honorable Robert Garland and Judge Ambrose B. Reid were elected vice presidents, and the following were elected to membership in the council: Mrs. William R. Thompson, Mr. George E. Alter, Judge James H. Gray, and Mr. John E. McKirdy, of Pittsburgh; the Honorable John S. Fisher of Indiana; Dr. Henry W. Temple of Washington; and Mr. James Gregg of Greensburg. A memorial of the late Benjamin Thaw was then read by Mr. Charles W. Dahlinger, Dr. John W. Oliver of the University of Pittsburgh read a paper on the career of Matthew Stanley Quay, and Governor John S. Fisher spoke informally on his reminiscences of the senator.

The Department of History of the Carnegie Institute of Technology at Pittsburgh was elected a sustaining institutional member of the society and twenty-one people were elected to active membership at the meeting on October 24. The new active members are: Demass E. Barnes, James P. Cassidy, Mrs. Philip W. Dempsey, Miss Mary I. Dethlefs, Dr. Frank B. Edmundson, John W. Harpster, Miss Etta J. Marcus, and Mrs. Annie E. Mayer, of Pittsburgh; Miss Mary D. McLane, Mrs. William S. Vance, and Mrs. Ernest Waltz, of Washington; Mrs. Joseph H. Barclay of Carnegie, A. John Dodds of Beaver Falls, Miss Jeannette Dickson of Canonsburg, Johnston L. Glass of Salina, Mrs. John M. Guthrie of Grove City, E. L. Mattern of Erie, James McDonald Miller of Waynesburg, W. W. Rinehart of Beaver, Mrs. Joseph C. Sibley of Franklin, and Miss Olive Randall of Morgantown, West Virginia.

The society lost three members by death during the quarter ending September 30: Dr. William H. Mercur, July 16; Charles H. Kline, July 22; and Benjamin Thaw, August 19. All were residents of Pittsburgh.

At the opening of the schools the custodian of the museum sent letters to all superintendents of schools in Allegheny County inviting them to arrange for visits of student-teacher groups to the museum. The response indicates that
many such visits will be made during the school year. Groups from other counties will also be welcome, of course. The custodian desires to be notified about a week in advance of such visits in order that proper arrangements may be made and conflicts avoided.

Material borrowed from the society's museum collection was used for three exhibits outside the building during the summer. One of these was displayed in a window of Gimbel's department store to advertise the play of the Cap and Gown Club of the University of Pittsburgh, another was installed as a window display at the Farmers Deposit National Bank, and the third was arranged in four rooms at Kaufmann's department store.

About 125 items from the extensive collection of museum objects presented to the society some years ago by the late Charles L. Armor of Laughlintown have been transferred to the custody of the Westmoreland-Fayette Branch. As most of these objects came from Westmoreland County and illustrate aspects of life in that section, it is appropriate that they should be displayed in the branch's museum at West Overton.

Mr. Franklin F. Holbrook, curator on the staff of the survey, has been appointed assistant director of the society.

The Reverend Alexander Daroczy, pastor of the Free Magyar Reformed Church of McKeesport and a graduate student in the University of Pittsburgh, has been appointed a fellow on the staff of the survey. He is making a study of Hungarian immigration.

In connection with his research work in the Whiskey Insurrection, Dr. Baldwin made a trip in July that took him to Charlottesville, Virginia; Washington, D.C.; Annapolis and Baltimore, Maryland; Harrisburg and Philadelphia; Hartford, Connecticut; and Worcester, Massachusetts. Original documents or newspaper files containing material of importance on the subject were found in depositories in nearly all of these places.

The director is giving a lecture course on the history of western Pennsylvania to a class of undergraduate and graduate students in the University of Pittsburgh. So far as is known, this is the first time such a course has been given in any educational institution.

A dark room for photographic work and a storeroom for museum material have been constructed in the basement of the Historical Building.

In an effort to stimulate and organize the teaching of local history, a group of over fifty teachers met under the auspices of the Westmoreland-Fayette
Branch of the society at West Overton on September 16. A proposal for a program of study on the early settlement of western Pennsylvania, the Whiskey Insurrection, and the coal and iron industry in this region was presented by the president of the branch, Mr. James Gregg, and county committees were appointed to promote its adoption. The Reverend Lawrence Bair of Greensburg discussed the importance of local history and Dr. Alfred P. James read a paper on "The Significance of Western Pennsylvania in American History." After the meeting the group examined the museum of the branch and visited its Historical House.

**ADDITIONS TO COLLECTIONS**

**FRANKLIN F. HOLBROOK**

Additional letters and papers of John Thaw and of his son, William Thaw, were deposited with the society by Mr. Benjamin Thaw shortly before his death. The John Thaw papers include memorandum books containing invoices of sales of merchandise and lists of goods shipped in 1799, 1800, and 1801 and records of property and accounts from 1800 to 1866; receipts, bills, orders, and real-estate papers of the same period; yearly statements of accounts from 1799 to 1853; letter books and papers relative to Thaw's shipping enterprises from 1802 to 1805; and letters of 1808-36 concerning his connection with the Branch Bank at Pittsburgh. The papers of William Thaw consist mostly of letters of 1853 and 1854 concerning the Clarke and Thaw transportation business; a letter book of the Union Transfer and Insurance Co. for 1864-71; letters concerning the Third Presbyterian Church; and correspondence concerning the affairs of the Western University of Pennsylvania, now the University of Pittsburgh. Other material presented consists of a large group of single issues of newspapers, pamphlets, and printed miscellany, containing material relating to the Thaw family and to civic affairs; a family Bible containing a written record of births, marriages, and deaths; a number of old keys to the Thaw residence on Smithfield Street; and a collection of Continental currency.

A most interesting patent on parchment issued and signed by William Penn on September 12, 1701, providing for the establishment and regulation of a market for the inhabitants of the lower parts of Chester County, Pennsylvania, has been presented to the society by Mrs. Lawrence Slade of New York in memory of her father, Mr. Benjamin Thaw. The patent, which was discovered in an antique shop near Mont-Saint-Michel, France, is endorsed as re-
corded in the rolls office at Philadelphia; and a photostatic copy of the record, which is now in the custody of the state land office at Harrisburg, has been acquired through the courtesy of Mrs. William R. Thompson.

Miss Carrie W. Okey of Scarsdale, New York, has presented two contracts for leasing land in Perry Township, Armstrong County, in 1860. The property was leased to her father, General A. J. Warner of Marietta, Ohio, "with the exclusive right to all oil, salt or other mineral." She has also presented a memorandum of several other oil and salt leases to land in Perry Township and in Madison and Toby townships in Clarion County.

Transcripts of the records of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Brownsville for 1849–58 have been added by Mr. Jesse Coldren to the collection of church records previously presented by him to the society.

Reproductions of two documents in the Spanish archives relating to the Whiskey Insurrection have recently been acquired. They are dated December 29, 1794, and January 8, 1795, and appear to be versions by Spanish officials in Louisiana of accounts received from David Bradford, a leader of the uprising, who fled to the Spanish colony.

A seminar paper entitled "A Study of the Higher Education of Some Men Prominent in the Southwestern Counties of Pennsylvania, 1790–1810," by Miss Mary Louise Walsh, a graduate student in the University of Pittsburgh, has been presented by the author.

Two bound volumes of the Manor Valley News (Manor Station), 1891–93, and a copy of the fiftieth anniversary edition of the Republican Standard and Westmoreland Journal (Irwin), published March 20, 1931, have been presented by Mr. W. A. Helman, editor of the Standard.

The society's file of the Pittsburgh Gazette has been augmented by photo-stats of the issues from April 12 to October 11, 1788, in the file of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

From Mr. B. M. McWilliams of Irwin the society has received a copy of volume 1, number 1, of Irwin's first newspaper, the Irwin Times, published in July, 1868, by Mr. McWilliams when he was eleven years old; a copy of the Irwin Spray, the second newspaper in the region, also published by him, for September 3, 1875; and a clipping from the Republican Standard and Westmoreland Journal (Irwin) of June 25, 1913, containing an interesting historical sketch of Irwin's newspapers.
A copy of the Daily Evening Reporter (Washington, Pa.) for January 7, 1881, containing an article on the Book of Mormon, and several interesting newspaper clippings on the same subject have been received from Miss Mary R. Purman of Pittsburgh.

Recent additions to the library by gift include: Extracts from the Journal of Elizabeth Drinker (Philadelphia, 1889); Martha Bennett Phelps, Frances Slocum, the Lost Sister of Wyoming (Wilkes-Barre, 1915); and The Journal of Martha Pintard Bayard, London, 1794-1797 (New York, 1894), all presented by Mr. Thomas Mellon II; Official and Illustrated War Record . . . in the Wars of the United States (Washington, D.C., 1898), given by the Pittsburgh Y.W.C.A. through Mrs. W. W. McBane; a collection of Bradstreet's and Dun & Co.'s commercial rating books for the period 1907-33, several copies, for the years 1930-33, of Bullinger's Postal and Shippers Guide for the United States, Canada and Newfoundland, and twenty-three Pittsburgh directories, the earliest for 1898, presented by R. G. Dun & Co.; and Appleton's Annual Cyclopaedia covering the period from 1876 to 1883 (New York, 1881-84), given by Mrs. W. H. Newmyer of Bellevue.

The society is indebted to Mr. Charles W. Dahlinger for a copy of a rare pamphlet entitled Synopsis of the Proceedings of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania (Late Old Residents' Association) during the first five Years (Pittsburgh, 1884. 39 p.). Strange to say, no copy of this pamphlet had been preserved in the society's library.

A notable addition to the library is Sally Hastings, Poems, on Different Subjects. To Which Is Added, a Descriptive Account of a Family Tour to the West; in the Year, 1800 (Lancaster, Pa., 1808). The account of the trip from Lancaster County over the Allegheny Mountains to Washington, Pennsylvania, is in the form of a letter and contains descriptive comments on the country traversed and on the towns and villages along the way, such as Carlisle, Shippenburg, Bedford, Greensburg, “a small Village, called M'Kee's Port,” and Canonsburg.

A group photograph of the members of the Pittsburgh Oil Exchange in 1872 has been presented by Mr. Fleming Nevin through Mr. John E. Potter.

Two photographs of the interior of Friendship Hill, the home of Albert Gallatin, and a photographic copy of a patent of Gallatin's to land in Fayette County, dated February 1, 1788, are the gifts of Mrs. A. M. Sowers of Morgantown, West Virginia. From an additional group of photographs of Friend-
ship Hill, loaned by Mrs. Sowers, film reproductions and enlargements have been made by the society.

Dr. Harry C. Westervelt has presented an old standing master clock, manufactured by the Howard Company of Boston, originally used in the Pittsburgh fire-alarm office in Old City Hall. The clock was wound by a hand-crank; when it struck the hour an operator pressed an alarm that released the clapper of the cast-iron fire-alarm bell, now outside the Historical Building.

A bark spud used for forty years by Isaac Slack to procure tanbark in the forests of Elk, McKean, Warren, and Allegheny counties, and a “Bogardus Glass Ball,” patented April 10, 1877, said to have been invented by a Pittsburgher for target shooting, are the gifts of Mr. Merton J. Deyo.

Miss Elizabeth Davison of Wilkinsburg has presented a piece of homespun twill cloth woven by hand by her grandmother, Mrs. Samuel McCosh, a professional weaver of Finleyville, Washington County, about 1830.

The controlling water wheel from the old Washington mill at Perryopolis has been presented to the society by Mr. John E. Potter. Mr. Potter has also given a Harper’s Ferry flintlock dated 1819, two bayonets, and a gun-cap case.

The society is indebted to Mr. William E. Lincoln for the gift of several fine palms and ferns for decorative purposes.