The Historical Tour at the Westmoreland-Fayette Branch Museum

Spring House and Marker at Site of St. Clair's Cabin
THE
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA
HISTORICAL MAGAZINE

VOLUME 17  SEPTEMBER, 1934  NUMBER 3

THE HISTORICAL TOUR OF 1934

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General John Forbes marched once more, Colonel Henry Bouquet repeated his victory over the Indians at Bushy Run, and Arthur St. Clair again was a dominating figure in the Ligonier Valley on July 13 and 14, 1934, when the third annual historical tour sponsored by the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania and the University of Pittsburgh summer session made its way along the route of the old Forbes Road to Bedford. Many who witnessed this re-creation of the historic past were already veterans of two such experiences—the pilgrimage to Erie in 1932 and the expedition through Whiskey Insurrection country to Morgantown in 1933.

Preparations for the tour had been carefully made. Mr. Franklin F. Holbrook, acting director of the society, and Mr. C. Stanton Belfour, assistant director of the extension division and the summer session of the university, traversed the route early in May; at that time and in the weeks that followed they got in touch with interested persons throughout the region. Before all arrangements for the tour had been completed, cooperation and assistance had been given by representatives of the Westmoreland-Fayette Branch of the society, by the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution, and by other patriotic and civic organizations. The state department of highways; county, borough, and township officials; and a number of other inter-
ested persons also rendered valuable aid and advice. On Mr. Holbrook's second tour of the region early in July the exact itinerary was mapped out and final arrangements were made. "Little Baedekers" or guide sheets, containing the route to be followed and significant bits of information on the places to be visited or noted in passing, were prepared for distribution among the members of the expedition. Special exhibits of objects relating to the region to be visited were arranged in the museum at the Historical Building, and the reference department of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh prepared an exhibition table with books and maps of the region. The tour was heralded by mailed circulars, posters, accounts in the city and country press, and radio talks by Mr. Holbrook and Mr. Belfour.

Forebodings of bad luck generally associated with Friday the thirteenth were dispelled when skies that had threatened rain during the morning cleared before the time for departure. Twenty-nine cars began the journey from the Historical Building shortly after 1:30 p.m. under police escort. Proceeding out Fifth Avenue and then out Penn Avenue, they slowed down near the corner of Penn and Linden avenues at the tablet erected by the Pennsylvania society of the Colonial Dames of America to mark the site of a giant oak that stood by the side of the old Forbes Road. Continuing through Wilkinsburg, the motorcade took the William Penn Highway to Murrysville, where note was made of the first of a series of Forbes Road markers erected by the Pennsylvania Historical Commission. At Export, four miles farther on, the line turned and moved southward to Harrison City. Near this little village is Bushy Run Battlefield Park, a tract of 132 acres now owned by the state, where Colonel Henry Bouquet, taking a short cut from Ligonier to Fort Pitt to relieve the garrison there, was attacked by the Indians on August 5, 1763, and was victorious over them after a two-day battle. The tourists were told that here they were three or four miles south of the Forbes Road and about seventeen miles from Ligonier.

After driving over the pleasant woodland roads in the park, the motorcade came to a halt in the park farmyard. Five cars of Westmoreland County tourists joined the Pittsburghers at this point. Refreshing drinks of cool well water proved to be the first attraction. After noting the old
bake oven—of comparatively recent date—and Byerly Spring, which was the only water supply available at Bushy Run, the tourists lingered for a bit in the museum. Of regional significance here were the arrowheads that had been found in the field northwest of the battlefield, a bayonet, picked up in 1893 in the ravine to the southwest, of the type used by the Highlanders in driving off the Indians, and a flintlock pistol of the colonial period.

In a long queue the pilgrims now followed Byerly Trail up the hill to the site of the “flour-bag fort,” so called because of the utilization by Bouquet of flour bags to afford protection for the wounded. Here stands a shaft of beautiful natural Ligonier blue rock, some nine feet high, brought from the quarries of Booth and Flinn in Ligonier in 1930 by the commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Four bronze tablets flank the monument. These tablets are inscribed, respectively, with Bouquet’s letter of August 5, 1763, the contemporary map of the field as surveyed by Thomas Hutchins, a historic summary of the battle, and Bouquet’s letter of August 6 in which he describes the ruse by which he defeated the Indians. On the hilltop to the north an American flag was flying from a flagstaff recently erected by the Bushy Run post of the American Legion.

In an informal gathering on the northerly side of the monument the president of the society, the Honorable Robert M. Ewing, introduced Mr. C. Martin Bomberger of Jeannette, chairman of the Bushy Run Battlefield Commission, who spoke about the battle and the park. He related that Bouquet had trapped the Indians between two lines and had thus succeeded in routing them; and he told several amusing legends centering around Andrew Byerly, one of the few settlers in the region. Describing the efforts that had been made to identify the present topography with the 1763 description of the land, Mr. Bomberger pointed out that the early survey was so inaccurate that complete identification was impossible. Some names in the park are derived from events of the battle, such as Stratagem Walk, to the south of the monument, where the soldiers gathered for the surprise attack. Mr. Bomberger pointed out that the battle was an outstanding one, both in political and military annals, in spite of its neglect by historians generally, and he cited histories of participating military bodies as evidence. In conclusion he laid emphasis
on the threefold plan of the park—historical, educational, and recreational—and he invited the society to "come out and plant a tree." Four other members of the state commission who were present were introduced—Dr. Albert Cook Myers, the Reverend Lawrence E. Bair, Mr. John P. Archibald, and Mr. Harry F. Bovard.

Leaving Bushy Run, the motorcade moved on for about five miles and turned eastward once more on the Forbes Road. After following it for about a mile and a half the cars came to the site of the "three redoubts" on the property of Dr. C. C. Baldwin just beyond the intersection of the Forbes Road with the Five Points Road. Across the valley to the north lies the mining town of Forbes Road and off to the right is Hannastown postoffice. Here Mr. Lewis C. Walkinshaw, state historian of the Sons of the American Revolution, acted as guide. Mr. Walkinshaw prefaced his remarks with a claim of personal interest in the society through the fact that its president, Judge Ewing, was born at Kickenapawling's Town, just two miles from his own birthplace. With an enthusiasm characteristic of those who have studied history in close association with surviving relics and landmarks, Mr. Walkinshaw expressed his pleasure at the recognition being given to the spot by the visit of the historical tourists. He then told the story of Grant's defeat, explaining that Grant had gone ahead of Forbes in the expedition of 1758 and had been disastrously overcome by the enemy just before reaching the forks of the Ohio. Lieutenant Colonel John Dagworthy was sent to cover the retreat and he built the breastworks overlooking Latrobe, later known as Dagworthy's Breastworks, and the three redoubts, about ten miles farther west. The fact that there were three redoubts would seem to indicate that they were triangular in form. Mr. Walkinshaw cited a 1783 deed to land by which the three redoubts had been located at this point.

Because of the lateness of the hour the motorcade was obliged to hurry past the site of old Hannastown, a short distance down the road, where Mr. Walkinshaw was to have related the significant facts in the history of this first county seat of Westmoreland County (1773–86). He obligingly stood by the roadside, however, and pointed out the flag flying on the site of the old courthouse, and to those who stopped he gave a brief résumé of its history and called attention to the fact that the day was the
anniversary of the burning of the town by the Indians on July 13, 1782. Proceeding into Greensburg, the pilgrims were obliged to be satisfied with a fleeting glimpse of the tomb of Arthur St. Clair and then hurried on to the law library in the courthouse, which had been kept open especially for them. Here the Honorable James Gregg, president of the Westmoreland-Fayette Branch, acted as host. A number of volumes of old court records, some of them dating back to the days of old Hanoastown, were on display. Mr. Arthur Ewing, clerk of courts, had, as Mr. Gregg put it, "gotten into the spirit of the thing" and prepared a short paper on the records of the court of quarter sessions from 1773 to 1784, which he read. Pointing out the value of the records for obtaining "a picture of the sturdy folk" who lived in the region, Mr. Ewing cited cases to illustrate the severity of law enforcement, the part played by the court in the redress of grievances, and the distress to which the inhabitants had been reduced by the war. There are no records for the years 1776–78, when the prothonotary is supposed to have been in the army and to have taken the book with him. Miss Lillian Frye, deputy clerk in the office of the register of wills, read one of the earliest wills recorded in the county, an interesting feature of which was the disposition made of several slaves. Mr. Gregg then called attention to a judgment signed in 1806 by Arthur St. Clair that eventually led to his complete financial undoing and made necessary his retirement to the little cabin on Chestnut Ridge. After viewing the records the tourists dispersed for a short rest before dinner.

Bowls of white and deep purple petunias constituted the very striking decoration for the speakers' table at the dinner meeting at the Penn Albert Hotel that evening. The Reverend J. P. Harmon, pastor of the Zion Lutheran Church in Greensburg, delivered the invocation. Mr. Gregg presided with humor and brevity. He told of having known Cyrus Cort, a cousin of his grandmother, who was "the first to discover that there was a battle of Bushy Run." The Honorable David J. Snyder, president judge of the orphans court of Westmoreland County, welcomed the guests and expressed his pleasure at the work being done by the society in bringing before young people the story of the past. Judge Ewing responded for the guests with what he termed an "extended speech." After
introducing prominent persons in attendance he emphasized the significance of the region visited by the tour, a region "where trails cross and recross"; and he mentioned the fact that his ancestor, William Findley, had played a part in the making of its history.

The two main speakers of the evening were General Richard Coulter of Greensburg and Mr. Charles M. Stotz, chairman of the Western Pennsylvania Architectural Survey. General Coulter delivered his address on "The Significance of the Battle of Bushy Run" informally and without notes. To show the relationship between the battle and the world situation he traced the history of the Ohio Valley from the first activities of the Ohio Company through Washington's journey into the region, Braddock's expedition and defeat, and Forbes's successful march, down to the conclusion of the peace between France and England in 1763. With the end of the war, according to General Coulter, the history of the United States begins. Pontiac's rebellion followed closely on the heels of the English victory. Detroit, Ligonier, and Pitt were the only forts still holding out when Bouquet made his expedition to relieve the Fort Pitt garrison. His victory at Bushy Run was a decisive factor in keeping the lines open. General Coulter was most interested in the military phases of the history he related. In connection with the Braddock campaign he pointed out that it was the longest trek ever made by an army into an absolute wilderness and that the technique used by Braddock was not adapted to the situation. Bouquet in 1763 had an army no larger than the number that fell in Braddock's defeat, but his methods were adapted to the conditions.

Mr. Stotz, speaking on "The Early Architecture of Western Pennsylvania," justified his appearance before an historical audience by asserting that "Architecture is the shorthand of history." He explained that a committee of Pittsburgh architects had obtained a grant from the Buhl Foundation a year and a half ago for the purpose of making a survey of pre-Civil War architecture in western Pennsylvania and told what had been accomplished. Making thirty-five trips and covering seven thousand miles, the architects explored every nook of the twenty-seven western counties of the state. Records were made of over eight hundred "buildings" of every description—houses, barns, public buildings, walls, bridges, gates, and tombstones; and detailed attention was given to about
one hundred of these. A book embodying the results of the survey is expected to be published within a year. Mr. Stotz, assisted by Mr. Robert Schmertz, showed thirty lantern slides illustrative of the work. Included among these were the Great Crossings Bridge at Somerfield and the toll house near Uniontown, some tombstones at Canonsburg and the cemetery gate and an “angel with a bow-tie” at Harmony, Mt. Vernon Furnace near Wooddale and Milligan’s Mill at Milligantown, a log cabin near Duff City and a stone barn near Everett, the courthouse at Waynesburg and Bentley Hall at Allegheny College. Of special interest to the tourists was a view of the interior of the church at Schellsburg to be visited the following day. The finest architectural example revealed by the survey, according to Mr. Stotz, is the Meason House near Uniontown, which he considers perfect to the smallest detail.

Saturday morning the motorcade traveled southward through the coke region and at Mount Pleasant crossed the trail of General Edward Braddock’s expedition of 1755. Arriving at Historical House in West Overton, headquarters of the Westmoreland-Fayette Branch, the travelers were greeted by Mrs. Lulu Frick Taylor, the custodian. This was once the Overholt homestead, and it was in the stone cottage over the spring house on the grounds that Henry Clay Frick was born on December 19, 1849, the child of John and Elizabeth (Overholt) Frick. Dr. Harry J. Bell, state senator and a past president of the branch, explained that Miss Helen Frick had acquired the property about 1922 and Colonel Harvey had persuaded her to turn it into a regional museum, which she did in 1927, as “a memorial to those pioneers who with pen and plough and sword won the wilderness to civilization.” The largest building on the grounds is the distillery, built originally as a flour mill with a still at one end. An inscription over one of the doors reads “A and H S Overholt Overton Mills Built 1859,” while over another are the names of the millwright, the carpenter, and the bricklayers. Here are exhibited numerous articles bearing on the industrial and social life of the people of the region, such as an apple butter stirrer and a school desk. Also housed here is a replica of a “picture rock” found in Perry Township, Fayette County, an interesting collection of arrowheads and spear points, and several Indian skeletons found at Fuller’s Hill, Perryopolis, and at Fullerton Farm, Rilton. In the main house, built in 1838, the pilgrims
admired the lovely hallway, upon the walls of which hangs a rattlesnake flag. In the Historical Room to the left they gazed at the murals depicting scenes in western Pennsylvania history and at a case of manuscripts, including one bearing an autograph signature of Benjamin Franklin. Across the hall they viewed the Early Republic Room, containing some fine pewter and furniture, and the Mennonite Room with its enormous fireplace and its painted marriage chest dating from 1772. Visits were paid also to the cottage where Frick was born, the bakehouse, and the old stone smokehouse.

The pilgrims went northward again through Mount Pleasant, with Chestnut Ridge, soon to be ascended, rising formidably on the right. At Mutual they turned eastward, and were soon proceeding along the old Lincoln Highway to Youngstown. There they took the dirt road that forks off to the right, said to be the original Forbes Road leading over the mountain. Unity Township supervisors had made special improvements on this road to make it passable for the tour. For two and a half miles the thirty-one cars that now made up the party strained onward and upward; and the occupants gained an increasing respect for those who had traveled the route in earlier days, when wagons were springless and accommodating township supervisors non-existent. Arrived at the site of the cabin where Arthur St. Clair spent his last years in abject poverty, the pilgrims agreed that he had had some compensations—a fine view and an excellent spring. A wooden tablet placed by the St. Clair chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution marks the spot, and on the Lincoln Highway to the north, as many of the tourists noted on their return trip, a marker calls attention to its location. Only vestiges of the foundation of the old cabin remain. The occupant of the present house recently found a number of coins on the grounds, some of which date back to the time of St. Clair, and these were exhibited. Archeologically minded members of the party amused themselves by picking up petrified peach stones, rusty nails, and bits of ancient hardware; and Mr. Thomas Murray, Unity Township supervisor, created excitement when he found an 1842 penny, probably washed out by the rains of the previous night.

The road continued upward for a short distance beyond the cabin and then went downhill for about three miles into Idlewild Park, in the vicinity of which Washington is supposed to have had one of his narrow
escapes from death. Here the cars crossed Loyalhanna Creek, which figures so largely in the history of the fort at Ligonier. The motorcade turned into the Lincoln Highway just west of the entrance to the park, where it was joined by several cars of Ligonier people, who escorted the tourists in and around Ligonier. They noted the site of the fort off to the southeast of the public square and two tablets commemorating the existence of the fort and of the Forbes Road. Two miles northward, on route 711, they passed the "Hermitage," home of St. Clair during the period of his affluence. Only one room of the present house dates back to the time of St. Clair, but the beautiful mantelpiece and woodwork in this room make a visit worth while; some of the tourists took occasion to go out to see it on their return trip Sunday.

Returning to Ligonier, the pilgrims gathered at the Hotel Fort Ligonier for luncheon, where they were joined by a number of the townspeople. The Reverend John A. Rankin, pastor of the United Presbyterian Church of Ligonier, gave the invocation, and Dr. Elmer E. McAdoo, chairman of the local committee on arrangements, presided. Mr. James M. Mull welcomed the visitors and expressed his pride in the historical background of Ligonier. Dr. John W. Oliver, head of the history department of the University of Pittsburgh, responded for the guests and told the story about the Kentuckian in Texas who, after bragging about Mammoth Cave, decided he had better go home and see it. The speaker of the occasion was Dr. Alfred P. James of the University of Pittsburgh, who read a paper on "Fort Ligonier, 1758-1765: New Light from Unpublished Materials." Dr. James drew material for his talk from documents he had examined in the course of a field trip in this country and Canada and a visit to the archives in Paris and London. Explaining that he had handled some nine hundred documents covering the period, he pointed out that only about one-third of these are available in print. Dr. James's paper contained an entertaining account of the Forbes expedition of 1758 and activities about Fort Ligonier, as well as interesting side lights on events at the fort in the succeeding years. Of special interest to the Pittsburgh tourists was his point that the name "Pittsburgh" was originally given to the Ligonier fortification, probably because General Forbes wished to honor William Pitt and was afraid he might never get to the forks of the Ohio to name the fort
there for the English statesman. Mimeographed copies of a 1758 map of the “Camp at Loyal Hennon” and of two documents illustrative of the distress of the inhabitants in 1764 were distributed among the guests.

Continuing eastward along the Lincoln Highway after luncheon, the travelers passed Compass Inn at Laughlintown, a boarded log and stone building dating back to 1799. For many years it housed the historical collections of Charles L. Armor. The tourists had already viewed many of his treasures in the Historical Building in Pittsburgh and at Historical House in West Overton. Beyond Laughlintown the five-mile climb up Laurel Ridge began, during the ascent of which the tourists noted a spot called Washington Spring. Road reconstruction gave variety to travel just beyond the mountain, but the energetic were still able to take note of the Forbes Road marker just west of Jennerstown. Near Stoystown another marker was noted to the left of the bridge over Stony Creek. The motorcade speeded up as it passed over the seven-mile stretch now officially known as Long View and slowed again as it descended the mountain at Grandview, where three states and seven counties may be seen. Just below Grandview the alert were able to note, in the embankment to the left of the road, the stone masonry remains of an old toll house. A little farther on, to the right, is the “old shot factory,” and across the road from it is another Forbes Road marker.

The only stop of the afternoon was made at the old Union Church a half mile west of Schellsburg, where a delegation of Bedford people joined the pilgrimage. The church, a log structure built in 1806 and boarded over, was for years used by Lutheran and Reformed congregations. Mr. James B. Miller, sexton, was present to answer questions about the church and the graveyard. Avid tombstone fans found the old stones in the cemetery a delight, and they were particularly happy when they found two with the inscription that Mr. Stotz had quoted the evening before:

Her languishing head is at Rest Its thinking and Aking is ore Her Cuiet amovable brest Is heved by Afliction no More.

The church was thoroughly enjoyed, also; and many in the group tried out the high-backed narrow seats in the balcony with the initials of several
generations carved thereon. Many, too, took occasion to mount into the wineglass pulpit and to sit in the special box with the little gate that was reserved for the minister's family.

At the site of the Shawnee Cabins Encampment, just at the edge of Schellsburg, another Forbes Road marker was noticed and six miles farther on still another, calling attention to "The Forks," where the builders of the Forbes Road had turned away from the road built by Colonel James Burd three years earlier.

It was about five o'clock when the motorcade reached Bedford, and a trip to Bedford Springs had to be omitted. Assembling in front of the Fort Bedford Inn, the pilgrims started off on the "walking tour" of outstanding historical spots in Bedford. Under the guidance of Miss Stella L. Mann they stopped at the elm tree planted in the square in 1920 as a World War memorial and took notice of the old Presbyterian Church built about 1830 and of the Civil War monument dedicated in 1890. They then crossed the street and were conducted through the courthouse by Mrs. Howard Cessna. Built in 1828 and remodeled several times, the building is now being restored to its original form with federal relief funds. Especially admired by many was the oval entrance hall with a double stairway. On the second floor the pilgrims visited the courtroom, where Jeremiah Black served his judicial apprenticeship, and, in the rear of the courtroom, the small room with a balcony that is to serve as the law library. Continuing on around the square, the tourists read the inscription on the tablet that marks the site of the first courthouse and prison, built in 1773, including the statement: "In the prison yard, around which was a high stone wall, were the pillory and the whipping post, used in those days for the punishment of criminals." Mr. Howard Cessna, a member of the local committee on arrangements, here told the story of Davy Lewis, notorious robber, who had escaped from the jail and in disguise had joined in his own pursuit. At the Espy House, now the Washington Bakery, the tourists gazed in the window at the washstand, bowl, and pitcher that George Washington used when he stayed in the house; and on the tablet to the right of the window they read that he had used the house as his headquarters on October 19 and 20, 1794, when he had come to Bedford on a tour of inspection of the army that was sent out to quell the Whiskey Insurrection. In the
basement of the house, the tourists were told, Arthur St. Clair had his office when he was prothonotary of Bedford County.

Farther down the street is the Community Centre, a three-story brick structure with narrow full-length porches, each with an ironwork railing, on the first and second floors. Miss Jessie B. Barclay, a trustee of the building, acted as hostess and guide. She explained that John Anderson, famous as the owner and promoter of Bedford Springs, had erected the building in 1814 to house the Allegheny Bank of Pennsylvania; and in the room to the right of the doorway she showed the large vault with its two iron doors and its enormous key. Since 1924 the building has been used for "the public welfare of the people of Bedford," having been turned over for the purpose by the Anderson descendants. Several civic and welfare organizations make their headquarters in the building, and the rooms to the left of the doorway on the first floor house the public library. The brass door knocker with John Anderson's name inscribed, the spreading fanlight above the door, the old Franklin stoves in four of the rooms, and the original mantelpieces in the upstairs rooms, all contribute to the charm of this fine old building.

The pilgrims next paid a visit to the oldest house in Bedford, said to have been built in 1755. Once a tavern, it is now the home of Miss Florence Kiser. Mr. Clarence Davidson had a display of his collection of relics, mostly military, in the window of his Men's Shop; of interest was a cannon ball found on a field nearby and thought to have been fired from Fort Bedford. Miss Stella Mann contributed for this window a red dress coat worn by her ancestor on Washington's birthday in 1844. In the window of Mrs. Ella Gilchrist's dry goods store was a display that interested the women tourists in particular. Included were the wedding dress, slippers, mitts, and bonnet worn by Miss Jessie Barclay's grandmother in 1823; and two quilts, a sampler made in 1819, and a winding sheet, all loaned by Miss Mary Sue Biser. The tourists read the plaque on Fisher's drug store, placed there by the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution to mark the site of Fort Bedford; and across the street, on the building of the Penn Central Light and Power Company, near the Espy House, they read their last Forbes Road marker: "Fort Bedford-Raystown, depot of supplies, assembling place of an
army of nearly eight thousand men, and starting point of General John Forbes expedition for the possession of Fort Duquesne—The road leads westward to the forks.”

Dinner at the Fort Bedford Inn was the final event of the tour. The Reverend R. S. Caldwell, pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Bedford, delivered the invocation, and Mr. Phillip J. Snelson, chairman of the local committee on arrangements, presided. The Honorable Harry C. James, president judge of the court of common pleas of Bedford County, in welcoming the guests, traced the dates of the formation of the early counties and, in conclusion, pointed out to the visitors from west of the mountains, “Bedford County is your grandmother,” and “you have come back home.” Dr. Solon J. Buck, director of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, made the response. Contrary to what appeared to be a general conception, he explained, the society is not a Pittsburgh, but a regional, organization, concerned with the history of the twenty-seven western counties of the state; and the tourists, therefore, had really been traveling through their own territory. He expressed his pleasure at the evidence of an interest in history all along the route of the tour and at the presence at the dinner of the president and secretary of the Blair County Historical Society, Mr. William T. Canan and Mrs. A. P. W. Johnston. He hoped that a historical society would soon be organized in Bedford County.

Mr. Howard Cessna then spoke on “Frontier History” and demonstrated his familiarity with the historical lore of Bedford County. Remark ing that if Bedford had a radio station the appropriate station announcement would be “This is Bedford, where the United States begins,” Mr. Cessna cited outstanding places, events, and actors in Bedford history—the battle of Bloody Run near Everett, the camp of Queen Aliquippa, the heroism of James Smith, who was the “Napoleon of this neighborhood,” the covered bridge at Juniata crossings, and old Fort Piper, which served as a haven for thousands. He decried the fact that so many important places are not marked. Briefly running through the chronology of Bedford County history and pointing out the part played by her soldiers in the Revolution, Mr. Cessna concluded with a stirring expression of faith in the ideals of these heroic forbears.
In her paper on "Colonel James Burd in the Braddock Campaign," Miss Lily Lee Nixon, teacher in the David B. Oliver High School, Pittsburgh, traced the building of the road, in the spring and early summer of 1755, from Shippensburg through Bedford to a point about thirty miles east of Confluence. Originally intended as a supply road for Braddock, it was not completed in time to be of any use for this purpose; it did serve, however, to facilitate Forbes's march in 1758.

About one hundred and seventy miles were traversed in the course of the day and a half pilgrimage, and probably fifty different cars were in line at one point or another. Ninety persons made the journey from the greater Pittsburgh area and over a hundred others participated at one or more stages of the expedition. An increased appreciation of the historical significance of the region visited on the part of these people was not the least of the results of this, the third annual historical tour.