HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

ANNUAL REPORTS

The following annual reports, somewhat condensed, are published at the request of the new President, Dr. C. Stanton Belfour, who believes they may be of interest to all members.

I

DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1964

Submitted at the Annual Meeting
January 20, 1965

Physical Changes

Continuing a policy of restoration, we expended about $2500 re-pointing the masonry, steps, brickwork and terra cotta on the entire front of the building, and replanting the terrace.

It was decided at a fall meeting to proceed with the installation of an elevator. Henry Busse, Inc., will install a small Marshall elevator to serve three floors at a cost of about $35,000.00 from funds already provided, primarily by private gift. Work is to begin February 2. We are hopeful this installation will prove of great convenience.

Membership

The Society’s membership, including all classes, stands at 761. We lost, by death, twenty-one members and added forty new members. We mail approximately one thousand copies of our magazine to members, libraries, and historical societies whose publications are on an exchange basis. The work involved in keeping our records in shape, membership, accounting and mailing, is under Miss Myrl Eakin. It is done efficiently, is up to date and is only a portion of the work she assumes.

Library and Magazine

A special report by our Librarian-Editor, Miss Prudence B. Trimble, is attached.

Lecture Meetings

During 1964 the Society had seven lectures, with an average attendance of 103, as follows:

January 28, “Major Stobo,” R. C. Alberts, attendance 85
March 25, "Skyscrapers as Memorials," James D. Van Trump, 65
April 28, "Lies in History," George Swetnam, 142
October 12, "History Cozened: The Shakespeare Controversy,"
Frank W. Wadsworth, 75
November 16, "Ole Bull," Miss Inez Bull, 95

Each of these presentations was staged in the Auditorium, and each was featured by a collation, with Miss Evans in charge, in the Henry King Siebeneck room.

We acknowledge with appreciation the privilege of using the parking lot of the First Baptist Church on each occasion.

Lectures given by the Director to adult groups in the Society's Auditorium:

January 29, Women of the University of Pittsburgh
January 31, Daughters of the American Revolution, Morningside Group
April 13, Wives of Medical Men attending convention
May 16, Mayflower Society
May 23, Butler Historical Society
June 23, Group from Christ Lutheran Church of Millvale
October 20, Home Life Department, Women's Club of Wilkins Township

Lectures given by the Director to adult groups away from the Society's building were:

February 7, Youth over 30, YMCA
February 20, Kiwanis Club, Roosevelt-Pick Hotel
February 25, Ligonier Historical Society, Organization Meeting
March 11, Senior Citizens, Mary S. Brown Memorial Methodist Church
March 23, New Kensington Scouts and Parents, Dinner Meeting
April 4, Daughters of the American Revolution, New Castle
April 14, Junior Historians Workshop Group, Hilton Hotel
October 5, Ligonier Historical Society, Second Meeting
October 26, Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority, University of Pittsburgh — Own house
November 9, Chatham College Colloquium Club, College Club
January 6, 1965, Wilmerding Rotary Club, Luncheon Meeting
The Director also addressed the following school groups in the Auditorium:

March 5, Kerr School, Fox Chapel
March 11, Taylor Allderdice School
April 10, Churchill School, Special Studies
April 14, Beaver Falls High School
April 28, Moon Township Group
May 5, Wilkinsburg High School
September 18, Disturbed Children Group

The Woman's Historical Society, an affiliated group, held seven meetings in our Auditorium, with an average attendance of 22.

For the sixth time in recent years, the annual tour of the Society consisted of a boat trip. The date was July 25, and 126 members and friends went by bus or private car to Wheeling to board the steamer Chaperon there for an eight-hour voyage up the Ohio and return. Capt. Fred Way lectured on points of interest viewed in passing. Two bounteous meals were served. The Expedition, as usual, was voted "good fun." Plans for the 1965 tour are in the making.

Robert D. Christie
Director

II
Report of the Librarian-Editor

It is pleasant to report that the year 1964 was one of accomplishment for the Library of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania. There has been an increase in attendance, and the varied patrons have indicated a growing interest in history and its correlations. From Maine to California, from Minnesota to Florida have come letters of inquiry. There is not sufficient time available to do all the research solicited; first attention, of course, must be paid to visitors and second to local phone calls.

Many generous gifts of books and other printed material have been received during the past year. Of 377 books contributed, 287 have been cataloged, and the remaining 90, duplicates of books already held or books not concerned with Western Pennsylvania, have been recorded.
Gifts of brochures and pamphlets, when size permits, are put in an organized information file with its own card catalog, so that they quickly may be located. This file has proved very useful to researchers.

Work on the Society's archives has progressed to the point where most of the material deposited therein is readily accessible. Probably eighty per cent of the entire collection now is classified, cataloged and stored in an orderly manner. All major groups of personal papers, organization records, maps, pictorial material and bound volumes have been rearranged and most single manuscripts and miscellaneous materials also have been processed. Two major tasks remain to be completed — expanding the present card catalog and arranging it in final form, and providing information of the Society's major holdings for the Union Catalog of Manuscripts in the Library of Congress. Information thus prepared for the Library of Congress also can be used to prepare an inventory of the manuscript and miscellaneous collections of the Society to replace the one last issued in 1933.

The Magazine

The Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine has been a vital factor in the preservation of Western Pennsylvania records since 1918. Volume 47 was completed in 1964. It consisted of four issues, each containing about one hundred pages. More than one thousand copies are mailed each quarter, going to practically every state in the Union as well as to some foreign countries.

Sale of the magazine has increased to a marked degree since the publication of its cumulative Index, a compilation which has been said to be a useful directive not only to our Society's magazine but to many other historical periodicals and even to history itself.

Prudence B. Trimble
Librarian-Editor

III
Report of the Treasurer

The financial statements which follow include the income and disbursements from the General Fund, Special Solicitation account, and an Operating Statement for the year 1964.

The Special Solicitation Fund has been created as a result of the
annual year-end appeal for contributions from the membership, as well as grants from Foundations for specific purposes. From this Fund we are enabled to meet our annual deficit, as well as to provide funds for depreciation, depletion, and improvements. We presently are installing an elevator which will cost more than $30,000, the funds for which are in hand.

The activity of our Society as a social and cultural organization is made possible through the generosity of our friends and members.

### Receipts and Disbursements 1964

**General Fund**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January 1, 1964 Balance</th>
<th>$ 5,292.04</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Receipts:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dues $8,680.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Magazine Sales 1,499.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allegheny County Grant 2,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endowment Income 16,472.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solicitation Account Transfers 3,392.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer Tour 1,957.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other 1,817.95</td>
<td>+ 35,818.20</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$41,110.24</td>
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| Disbursements:          |        |
| Salaries $23,254.72     |        |
| Utilities 1,989.80      |        |
| Building Expense 1,685.80 |      |
| Office Supplies 1,051.67 |        |
| Meetings 1,210.40      |        |
| Magazine 4,730.85      |        |
| Summer Tour 2,190.10   |        |
| Other 1,930.39         | - 38,043.73 |

<table>
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<tr>
<th>December 31, 1964 Balance</th>
<th>$ 3,066.51</th>
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**Computation of Operating Loss, Exclusive of Contributions**

January 1, 1964 Balance General Fund .................................. $5,292.04  
December 31, 1964 Balance General Fund ......................—3,066.51  

$ 2,225.53

Plus: Solicitation account transfers ................................. 3,392.00

Loss .............................................................................$ 5,617.53

**SPECIAL SOLICITATION ACCOUNT**

January 1, 1964 Balance .................................................$58,726.71

Receipts:
- Contributions ................................................. $20,482.00
- Interest ......................................................... 1,191.61
- Sale Indexes .................................................... 2,000.00
- Other .......................................................... 210.00

$82,610.32

Disbursements:
- Indexes .......................................................... $1,078.00
- Building Stone Work .......................................... 1,033.50
- Elevator .......................................................... 2,732.89
- General Fund Transfers ....................................... 3,392.00
- Other .......................................................... 1,766.81

$10,003.20

December 31, 1964 Balance .............................................$72,607.12

This total is allocated as follows:

- Elevator, Balance of Contract .................................. $31,507.34
- Book on Glass ................................................... 14,082.11
- Arsenal Plaque .................................................. 750.00
- Reserve for Contingencies ...................................... 26,267.67

$72,607.12

**John W. R. Creighton**  
*Treasurer*