

HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES AND DOCUMENTS

ROBERT GARLAND, A TYPICAL PITTSBURGH LEADER — EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY MODEL

CARLTON G. KETCHUM

MANY believe that no city in the United States has been the home of so many colorful and unforgettable personalities as has Pittsburgh. Boston or Chicago might challenge, but we'd be confident of winning the debate. Our city's tradition of rugged individualism is based on the residence and activity here of men and women who stood out from their fellows because they were different in style, and often because they were stronger and more filled with "actomism" than others of their time.

The older Pittsburghers of today recall such vivid personalities as those of E. T. Weir, "Ed" Crawford, "Hart" Hillman, several members of the Mellon family, and several presidents of the United States Steel Corporation; Dr. John Brashear, James I. Buchanan, "Andy" Robertson, "Tom" Girdler, "Charley" Graham, "Jock" Sutherland, Captain Bill Rodgers, Dr. Hugh Thomson Kerr, and many, many another whose coloration was so unusual and so intense that it made him easier to remember than others of his time, whatever their intrinsic merits. I have carefully avoided the inclusion in this sampling of any "spectaculars" who still walk the streets of the Golden Triangle!

And there was Robert Garland. Dying in 1948 at the age of eighty-six, "Old Bob" surely is recalled by the older members of this Society, of which he was president in 1917-1918 and an active member for many years. He looked like Teddy Roosevelt — yes. He also looked like the typical top-grade Ulsterman, which he was, a type mingling some of the physical and mental characteristics of John Bull with those of the hard-bitten Scots who, surviving a difficult and conflict-filled life in the northern counties of Ireland, moved on in great numbers to become pioneers in the United States.

It was no accident that this particular North-of-Irelandman, after he came alone to this country at the age of thirteen, became a leader

Mr. Ketchum, chairman of the board of Ketchum, Inc., the well-known fund-raisers, is a vice-president of the Society.

Miss Virginia Garland, niece of the subject of this sketch, is the helpful source of much of the material. Her help is appreciated.—Editor

A DREAM COMES TRUE



(This cartoon, published in 1922, shows how Robert Garland with the aid of four other City Councilmen, made up the requisite majority to establish Daylight Saving Time as a Pittsburgh institution after the National Daylight War Statute was repealed.)

Cartoon courtesy of Virginia L. Garland

of the Orangemen, of the Episcopalians, of the Republicans, and of the community. "Old Bob" was always in character, and his was the sort of character that turned up every so often in this section as a leader.

Robert Garland was square faced, square shouldered, with wide-set eyes and a strong jaw. In walking, he put down his foot at each step as though it were an act of volition. He looked directly at you, never out of the corner of his eye. He radiated vitality. He came from Dungannon, County Tyrone, and he looked it.

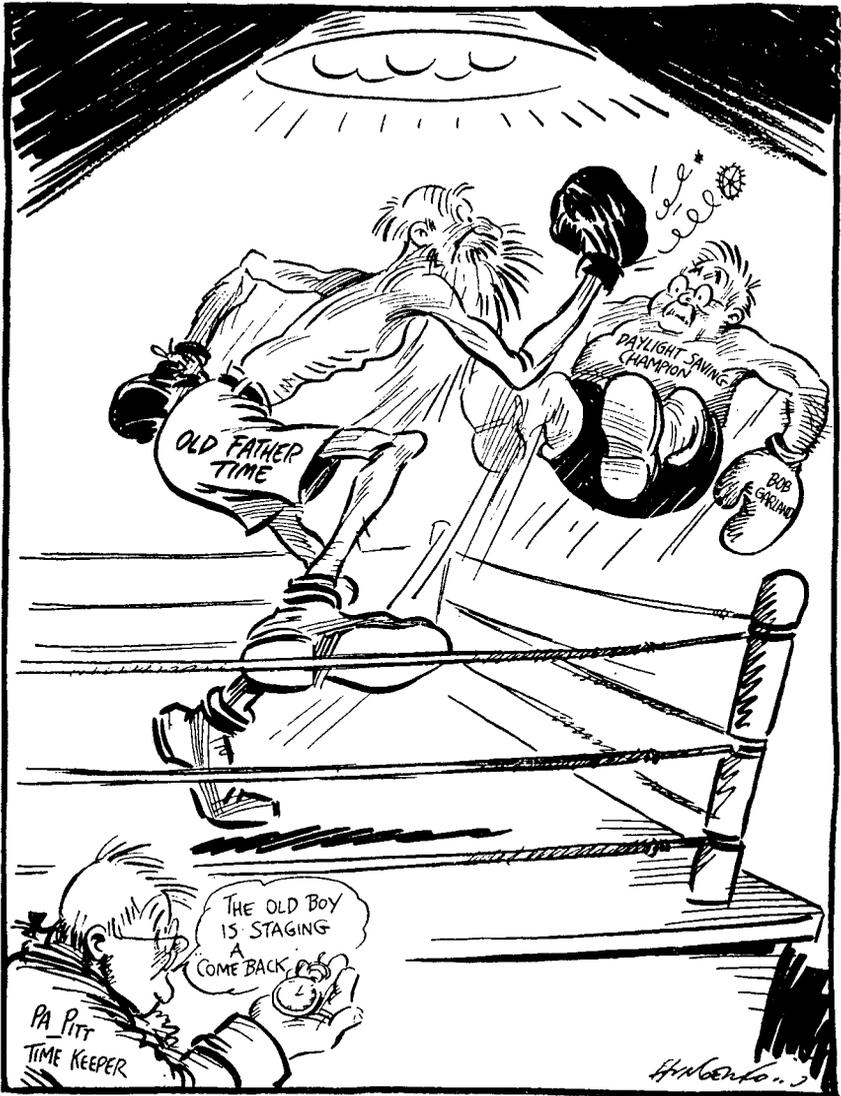
He came to America, and directly to Pittsburgh, when he was thirteen, to live with an aunt who had arrived a couple of years before and to go to work as a water boy in the steel plant, Oliver Iron and Steel, owned by kinsmen who had come a generation or two earlier. A few years later his mother arrived with the three other sons, younger, all of whom worked for a while for the Oliver company. Thomas sought and obtained theological education and rose in the ranks of the Episcopal Church. John and Charles later joined with big brother Robert to form the Garland Chain Company, which later made a business of manufacturing conduit with a patented coating to carry electric wires. Charles Garland and his son both became tennis players of national reputation. (What, not golf?)

Robert married Alice Bailey, daughter of President Henry J. Bailey of the Bailey-Farrell Manufacturing Company, long a well-known, successful business. Their two children were a boy, who died in an epidemic at the age of three, and daughter Alice, who became Mrs. Roy McKnight and is a resident of the East End.

Lucky is the human being who, because of prime initiative in a field of interest, insures a green memory because of being identified so fully with a subject of importance that no one for generations after thinks of that subject without thinking of him (or, of course, her). Robert Garland — Daylight Saving. Daylight Saving — Bob Garland. But this sturdy Ulster-American merits remembrance for several other reasons, and especially by Western Pennsylvanians interested in history, because he made some of it and he did much to preserve that which we had.

Bob Garland was a member of Pittsburgh's city council longer than anyone else, serving in it for twenty-eight years, during the latter part of which he was its only Republican member. This was from 1911 to 1939. Pittsburgh's transition from always-Republican to always-Democrat took place rapidly, during the early Thirties, growing out of the Depression and the Roosevelt landslides. Robert Gar-

Knocking the Daylights Out of Him -- By Hungerford



Reprint from Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, September 27, 1930.

Cartoon courtesy of Virginia L. Garland

land was in no time at all the sole survivor among Pittsburgh office-holders of his party. The Brennan-Lawrence machine, which had for so long lived on the crumbs and represented the Hopeless Minority, swept away all the other Republicans save two or three who changed their coats, which certainly was something Robert Garland never even thought of doing. The unions always opposed Garland in his elections, and he made very, very little effort to win them over. It was obvious, in studying the election returns from the districts where many of their members lived, that numbers of them voted for him despite the opposition of union officers.

Bob and his brothers operated their own business here during approximately the first half of this century. Many considered him one of the real prototypes of the typical Pittsburgh business leader. He served as president of the Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce, very actively.

Bob was an ardent Rotarian, one of the earliest members of one of the earliest clubs in that world-wide organization. Here, too, he served a term as president. No one who spent his Wednesday mid-days at the Rotary meetings, for long held at the old Fort Pitt Hotel, could forget the plainspoken Garland — perhaps blunt is the more descriptive word — who never “pulled his punches” but nevertheless was highly popular and regarded as a genuine friend by fellow Rotarians.

One of those friends was “Tommy” Dunn, head of the Consolidated Ice Company for many years and as devoted an Irish Irishman as Bob was an Ulsterite — or one of the Scotch-Irish if you don't mind using the wrong name! This author still recalls after forty years showing up early for a meeting and finding Bob and Tommy in the Fort Pitt's lobby, outside the meeting-room door, engaged in an apparently bitter shouting match over the alleged crimes of the two groups inhabiting the Emerald Isle. Tom Dunn directed attention to the circumstance that Benedict Arnold was an Ulsterman. Garland, hotly denying this allegation, called all present to witness that the southern Irish were lineal descendants of Judas Iscariot. Tom registered his belief that no Ulsterman who ever lived would hesitate to gyp his mother in a business deal. Bob pointed out the invariable presence at the scene of every crime of a “Mickey” Irishman and added that but for the unfortunate presence here of so many Irish we could do without jails.

By this time the innocent bystanders were hunting cover, expecting the bloodshed to commence. And at this point Bob put his arm

Closing up Time



From "Post Gazette" 9/23/33
 Robt Garland

around Tommy's shoulder, and they walked smiling in to lunch together.

Bob had a lot to do with the naming, or renaming, of Pittsburgh's multitude of streets. Did you know this city has more street names than any city in the world save London? Of course it's our three rivers and plenitude of hills that create so many two and three block streets. Not only Old Allegheny, which merged with Pittsburgh early in the century, but other boroughs on our perimeters had duplicative names. Councilman Garland took the lead in correcting that situation, showing a lively interest in history in his suggestions to improve nomenclature.

Having made the acquaintance of a smart young architect named Charles M. Stotz, Mr. Garland noted that the small alley at the head of which the Architectural Club had its modest headquarters — the alley running off Fifth Avenue between Liberty and Penn, opposite the Jenkins Arcade — was without a name. He offered this young president of the Architectural Club to have City Council give it any name Stotz suggested, and it became Charette Way. The club members were much impressed when the Department of Public Works even put up a street sign carrying that tribute to their profession.

Daylight Saving, the origination and promotion of which brought him his widest fame, went into effect in 1918 as a wartime device to help win the war by extending the use of the hours of sunshine. Garland had observed the operation of this plan in Britain, starting early in World War I. The English had devised it as a means of getting an extra hour of sunshine for the cultivation of war gardens, and he advocated it on that ground. As the Father of Daylight Saving, Robert Garland was given the pens with which President Woodrow Wilson and Vice-President Thomas Marshall signed the statute into law, on March 19, 1918, and he highly valued those trophies. A year or so after the war Congress, under heavy pressure from the dairy areas, repealed the law, and Mr. Garland immediately began a constant crusade which put Daylight Saving into effect in Pittsburgh, in Pennsylvania, in numerous other states, and resulted, years after his death, in the present federal law extending it throughout the United States from the last Sunday in April to the last Sunday in October. Its benefits have become so apparent that its permanence is no longer questioned. Never one to overlook a chance to enlist a promising ally, he marshaled the forces of the moving-picture industry, which became convinced that Daylight Saving would promote attendance at the movies.

Editorial.

Twentieth Year of Daylight Saving

LOCKS will be turned forward an hour tonight for daylight saving.

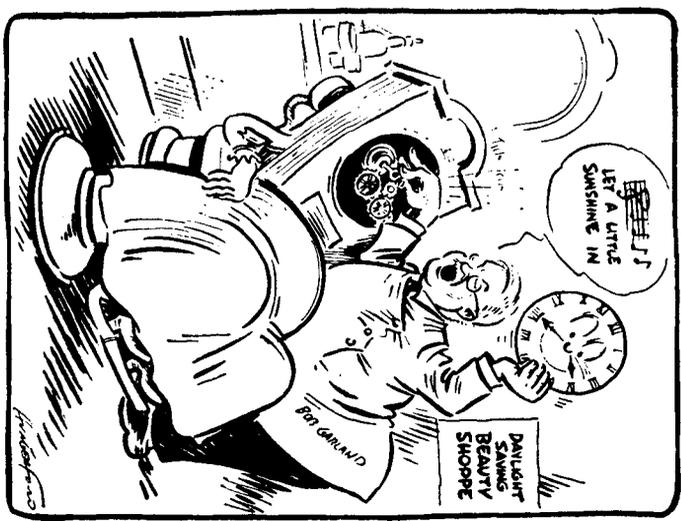
So thoroughly has the custom become established here and in many other parts of the country, particularly in the East, that the inauguration of the season on the last Sunday of April and its close on the last Sunday of September is generally accepted simply as a routine detail.

Yet the fact that this is its twentieth year attests anew to the benefits of the custom, principally the extra hour for evening recreation. So, in proclaiming another season of it, Mayor Scully has only to observe that "the wisdom of the practice having thus been demonstrated, it is apparent that it should be continued."

This also contains a tribute to the leadership of Councilman Robert Garland for the cause, his position in the movement fixed by the fact that he was given the pens with which President Wilson, Vice President Marshall and Speaker Champ Clark signed the national daylight saving measure in 1918.

*To Virginia
from Ed
4/25/37*

Having Its Face Lifted Again—By Hungerford



PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE: SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1937

Cartoon courtesy of Virginia L. Garland

He was a genuinely self-educated man. He had a large library, all of books on serious subjects, and he knew his way through them. Another fact remembered by some who knew him was that during the Depression he repeatedly urged that all save by making their old clothes do. He particularly urged his fellow males not to be concerned whether coat and trousers matched but to get the last possible wear out of either by wearing them with whatever else was available.

Bob was prominent in the affairs of the Protestant Episcopal Church, of which his brother Thomas became a bishop, presiding for years in the Diocese of Philadelphia. Robert also exerted a major influence for many years in the Republican party. This was directly related to the fact that he was almost always its most popular candidate when he ran for reelection to the office which he held so long and was due also to his unfailing loyalty to the party organization and its ticket. In whatever Bob Garland believed, he believed all the way. "You always know where to find him" was said frequently and with truth. He was not a particularly successful businessman because of his many other interests. Few gave as much time as he to the welfare of the city.

Among the interests for which old-timers recall Robert Garland was his enthusiasm for the music of another great Pittsburger, Stephen Collins Foster. He spoke more than once publicly on the merits of Foster's ballads, so many of which have won immortality. Of course, Ulsterman Garland happily noted that the great songwriter's ancestors came here from Londonderry!

On the Fourth of July 1923, Mr. Garland led a party of Pittsburgers, including representatives of the Historical Society, on a pilgrimage to Bardstown, Kentucky, on the occasion of the dedication of a splendid memorial by the state of Kentucky to the author of "My Old Kentucky Home." Would you for one moment suspect that Mr. Garland neglected the opportunity to direct the attention of the listening Kentuckians and the reading public of the nation to the fact that Stephen Collins Foster was a Pittsburger almost all the years of his life and a man of Northern Ireland stock? Or that the latter distinction was shared by Daniel Boone, Simon Kenton, Sam Houston, and Davy Crockett, the great heroes of the Old Frontier, and that the famous Breckenridge family of Kentucky came from the same stock? The text of his address will reassure you! While he was at it, Robert reminded his hearers that the same corner of Ireland from which his own family had come also provided America with Patrick Henry, Commodore Perry, and Ethelbert Nevin. So far as our records show,

Mr. Garland made no claim, on behalf of Pittsburgh or Ulster, to Baron von Steuben, Kosciusko, or the Marquis de Lafayette.

The overpowering Presbyterianism of Pittsburgh did not in any way intimidate this doughty Episcopalian. Mr. Garland's favorite comment, in the presence of a group of Calvinist friends, was that "Presbyterians perjure themselves every time they say the Lord's Prayer. Who ever heard of a Scotchman forgiving a debt?"

Mr. Garland died on April 19, 1948, in the Masonic Home at Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, where he, long an active Mason, had moved not long before. His daughter, Mrs. Alice Garland McKnight, is a Pittsburgh resident, and his niece Virginia, daughter of his brother John, is an East Ender.

Even colorful, distinctive Pittsburgh has had few citizens who so epitomized its strengths and did so much to enlarge and perpetuate them.

A FORMER HARMONIST DESCRIBES HIS
CIVIL WAR EXPERIENCES,
INCLUDING PARADE BEFORE LINCOLN

KARL J. R. ARNDT

ALTHOUGH the Harmonists were conscientious objectors to military service themselves, they recognized the tragic need for such institutions and conflicts in this yet unredeemed world. Among their members were former soldiers, and some members who fell from grace and left the society did join the American armed forces. They also were quite patriotic and generous in supporting the cause of the North against the rebellious South, for to them the Confederate cause plainly ran contrary to Romans 13, according to which every man was duty bound to obey the government that had power over him, for all government was instituted by God for the purpose of maintaining order in this evil world.

John Seybold was one of those persons who loved the touch of the Old World at Economy and who for a time served the society as baker. He probably was there on trial, serving his six months in the community to determine whether admission to membership would prove mutually agreeable, but he was too much a child of sin and the world to endure in such sanctified halls, so he was given the *consilium abeundi*, which is to say: the advice to leave. Although he could not make it, the pleasant memories of life at Economy continued to haunt him, especially when he was doing guard duty, and these feelings are responsible for the following interesting letter which he wrote to the society in German and in beautiful script, which I herewith offer.

Washington, April 9, 1864.

Precious Congregation!

Thankful memories of the days when I found such humane and friendly acceptance in your midst, and when through my own light-heartedness I personally put the nail to my head, surely, they change to melancholy, and these feelings compel me to write these lines. So forgive me. At the beginning of this war I joined the 14. Pa. Volun-

Dr. Arndt, of Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts, is well known for his research on the origins of the Harmony Society.—Editor

teers, and after the regiment was dismissed, (it was only 3 months) I spent the time at home at McKeesport.

But since later there was again danger that I would be drafted, which I hate, I joined the 14th Pa. Cavalry (then called Stanton C.). After many happily endured dangers and trials, which we fortunately outlived in the uncanny region of West Virginia, (I would remark, namely, that our loss was relatively small,) I was given the present of an enemy bullet and in dismounting from the horse was also given a kick, so they had dragged me unconscious into the hospital, but mercy!, I think if we would not have so many *doctors?*, we would not lose so many good men, in this respect the situation is quite mad. When I was again restored sufficiently to go out, I volunteered for service, because of boredom, and on the same day there was an alarm that the rebels were coming, Harper's Ferry was in confusion, but the scene in the halls where the seriously sick lay, this I am incapable of describing.

As well as could be done, we were brought away to Baltimore on cars, and to Point Lookout, from there after 2 months stay to Washington, and upon my request to be admitted to the regiment, they packed me into this Co. C Battal. 9th Regiment in the Invalid Corps (Veteran Reserve). This regiment belongs to the state of Pennsylvania and we were also in provost service in Philadelphia for three months. Now, however, all are gathering here and already several forts have been occupied and the troops which were there have been sent forward. We have a hard service here, military police, rebell prison, and at the old capital, prison, also service at the Baltimore Depot, where I am at present.

Here things are quite confused, also there are some good traps here into which the spies and deserters run, many are caught here, some dressed as women. I think your patience will be running out, so I will close. Please greet mother Elizabeth (my house-mother), yes friendly greeting to all. In the lonely hours at watch during the night, the soldier thinks of the past. I remark that my wife and child are well, and hope that all of you are also in good spirits. Allow me to ask for a reply as to how things are in your otherwise so peaceful town, so I add my address. John Seybold, Co. C. 9 Reg. Inv. Corps, Washington, D.C. Now I beg to be excused. Now my farewell.

Respectfully

John Seybold (formerly baker among you)

Yesterday, on the Virginia side several R.R. bridges were carried

away as a result of a heavy rain, for that reason the troops who are to move to the front must remain here several days, so the number of those of yesterday with those who arrived today will run to 14,000. Also the cannoneers (those that could be spared) numbering 6 to 700 who were stationed at the various forts, have gone to the front, also all the infantry, all these posts have been taken by the Veteran Reserve (so they baptised us the 1st Bat.). The war supplies which here are partly unloaded and transferred, that cannot be described.

Day and night there is heavy work going on in the arsenal and there is great activity in the Navy Yard. A few weeks ago we had a great parade before the President and the ministers, etc. The President really looks so skinny that one would think he were ill or in poor circumstances. The ministers, however, look to me, e.g. like a group of wine innkeepers [Weinwirthe] from Germany, cheerful and apparently without any cares or what might be — Brother Halleck also put up a front.¹ Now with patience we want to await the things that are to come before long. Conscious of fighting for a just cause and with freedom in mind, I have the hope that a complete victory will soon result for our armies. May the Director of all fates bless our army. Amen.

1 The previous sentence was left unfinished but the suggestion is pejorative. The original comment on Halleck reads: "Bruder Hallek machte auch Front." This is a play on the words "going to the front" but seems to say that his front was at the parade, hence I translate "put up a front." This must refer to Henry Wager Halleck, who was commander in chief of all the forces of the United States from July 1862 until March 1864, but making his headquarters in Washington, did not participate in any battles during that period. The original may, of course, also mean that he went to the front, but the context and tone — a private calling a general "brother" — favors the translation I have given in the text, besides, Halleck did not go to the front at this time.

ADDITIONS TO COLLECTIONS

JANUARY 1, 1975 - MARCH 1, 1975

ARCHIVES

- Blenko, Mrs. Walter J.—Allison Park
Illustrated Catalog . . . of W. H. Hamilton Co., Pgh., Pa., 1899;
 "My Experiences in W. W. I," letters from Ruth Jones Lewis
 (Mrs. Blenko's sister) to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Tyler
 Jones, Dec. 1, 1917, to May 7, 1919
- Davis, John P., Jr., Attorney-at-Law—Pittsburgh
 Newspaper, *Berkshire Star*, for Sept. 19, 1822; pamphlet,
Memoirs of the Lives and Families of the Lords Kilmarnock,
Crometie, and Balmerino . . . London, 1746
- Fowler, Prof. David—Pittsburgh
 Eulogy of Dr. Simon Goldfield
- Galla, Dr. Stephen J.—Pittsburgh
Bulletin of the Allegheny County Medical Society, Jan. 25, 1975;
 Festschrift in honor of Gilmore M. Sanes, M.D.
- Glose, Robert L.—Pittsburgh
 Map, topographic map of the fronts and entrenchments in Oct.
 1918 in the section of France around Verdun and the 79th Divi-
 sion operations between Sept. and Nov. 1918
- Hile, Mrs. E. T.—Pittsburgh
 Clipping—B&O Station
- Jones, David W.—Knoxville, Tenn.
 Program for Blackburn's Annual Children's Carnival held at the
 Nixon Theatre, 1919
- Lewis, Mrs. David L.—Wilmington, Del.
 Nine issues of old Pittsburgh newspapers
- Mayer, Stanley D.—Pittsburgh
Directory of War Activities for the Duration, by the Civic Club
 of Allegheny County, 1942; Pittsburgh College for Women, *Hand*
Book, 1928-29; *Program of Events of the Day*, East Liberty
 community outing, Kennywood Park, July 25, 1939; *Remarques,*
A Home-News Magazine for Sept. 27, 1902, Vol. 4, No. 3, Pub.
 by Wm. Mayer, Pgh.; *Vassar College, Class of 1905, Fifth An-*
nuual Bulletin, Feb. 1912
- Nama, George—New York, N. Y.
The Pioneers Defense, engraving by J. J. Gillespie

Newberry, Lawrence—New Wilmington

New Wilmington Globe for 1880-84, 1894, 1898-1916, 1919-27, 1929-33, 1936-61

Snaman, J. Marshall—Pittsburgh

Real estate plat books of the city of Pittsburgh, V. 1, Wards 1, 6, and 9, 1923 (2 copies); V. 2, Wards 7, 14, 15, 1923 and 1939; V. 3, Wards 8, 10-13, 1924 and 1939; supplement to V. 3, Wards 1-5 and 7, 1903; V. 4, Wards 23, 24, 26 and part of 22 and 25, 1925; V. 5, Wards 21, 27, and part of 22 and 25, 1925; assessor's plat book, V. 10, part of Wards 1-3, 1929

Snowden, Mrs. Charles L., Jr.—Pittsburgh

Ten World War II ration books

Thoma, Mrs. Alma R.—Pittsburgh

Ticket for strawberry and music festival, 1877

Tranter, Miss E. Marjorie—Pittsburgh

Southwest Journal, V. 38, No. 33 and No. 52

Woodside, W. W.—Pittsburgh

Record — phono disc of Margaret Woodrow Wilson (dau. of the pres.) singing the Star-Spangled Banner; 1878 list of subscribers of the Central District and Printing Telegraph Co., Pgh.

Yourison, Mrs. E. W.—Pittsburgh

Seven War Fund and Liberty Loan posters; two photos of a dramatic group from the Homestead M. E. Church; photo of house in Unionville, Beaver Co., Pa.

GENEALOGY

Fraelich, Mrs. K. H.—Pittsburgh

Adamson-Duwall and Related Families, by Ree Adamson Fraelich, in memory of Mrs. Fraelich's father and mother, Charles R. and Maude Campbell Adamson

McElvain, Chalmers C.—Ruston, Md.

Chart of the Alden, Edson, Packard, and Campbell families

LIBRARY

Baily, Mrs. J. E.—Pittsburgh

Delaware engagement calendar, 1974, containing pictures of eastern churches

Beal, Mrs. James H.—Pittsburgh

One Hundred and Fifty Years of Collecting by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1824-1974, by Nicholas B. Wainwright

Blenko, Mrs. Walter J.—Allison Park

Tales of the Menominee, containing an article, "Papa and the Ferris Wheel," by the donor; copy of an article by George Swetnam about John T. Jones and George W. G. Ferris from *Pittsburgh Press*, Oct. 15, 1972

Blitz, John Kinner—Pittsburgh

Pennsy Steam and Semaphores, by Fred Westing

Hile, Mrs. E. T.—Pittsburgh

Fishers of Men, History of Brentwood Presbyterian Church

Hoffstot, Henry P., Jr., Attorney-at-Law—Pittsburgh

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, prepared by the Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny Co., May 1971

Kelly, Miss Eleanor P.—Pittsburgh

Social Register, Pittsburgh, 1974

McLaughlin, Miss Kathryn—Pittsburgh

Carnegie Magazine, Vol. 48, No. 8 and 9, Oct./Nov. 1974, Sarah Scaife Gallery issue

Mayer, Stanley D.—Pittsburgh

Club Women's Digest, *From These Hills*, Pgh., by Mary S. Powell, 1938; *Pitt*, Vol. 22, No. 3, Spring 1966; *Pittsburgh Quote*, Vol. 2, No. 1; *Tom Perkins*, by J. William Pope, Pgh., Brockett Printing Co., 1911; *The Drift of Wild Roses*, by Victor M. Rupert, Pgh., Cramer Printing and Publishing, 1930; *Wilksburg Golden Jubilee, 1887-1937*

Pollard, Mrs. W. Howard—Pittsburgh

On Dining Out, by Geoffrey Tomb, 1973 ed.; *Where to Buy It for Less*, by Elaine Sweeney Smith and Joanne Herrmann

Sailer, Paul G., Vice-Pres., Marketing, Jeannette Corp.—Jeannette

The Complete Book of McKee Glass, by Sandra McPhee Stout

Shade, Daniel C.—Pittsburgh

Antiques, for Jan. and Nov. 1953, Sept. 1956, Sept. and Oct. 1959, Nov. 1960, June 1961, Aug., Sept., and Oct. 1965, Oct. 1966, May, Aug. 1969

Snaman, J. Marshall—Pittsburgh

Polk's Pittsburgh City Directory for 1907 and 1928; *Webster's Encyclopedic Dictionary of the English Language*, 1907

Starrett, C. V.—Pittsburgh

The World That Was and *Unofficial Notes*, both by John G. Bowman

MUSEUM

Baxter, John—Waverly, O.

Model of "Old Town Pump"

Jones, David W.—Knoxville, Tenn.

Boy's dancing jacket

McFarland, K. T. H.—Coraopolis

Spur

Sharp, Myron B.—Studio City, Calif.

Slides of the Old Stone Blast Furnaces of Western Pennsylvania

Starrett, C. V.—Pittsburgh

Mush paddle