

1977 HISTORICAL TOUR

It was a great day! Three hundred and twenty-eight members and guests of the Historical Society boarded the *Gateway Party Liner* at five o'clock on July 20, in the sunshine. Most of the party expected to find respite from a two-week spell of hot summer weather, and they were not disappointed. Contrary to recent tradition, the sun shone and the breezes blew, and there was no hint of rain.

After a welcome by Commodore C. V. Starrett, the *Liner* proceeded up the Allegheny River, while John Labanish, staff assistant, provided a lively and timely commentary about places of interest on the shores. The ship proceeded to the Highland Park Dam and returned to sail with the current back to the Point, to explore the other two rivers. A guest, suddenly taken ill, was landed at the dock in Roberto Clemente Park to be treated at a nearby hospital. Fortunately, she recovered in short order.

As the Ohio was navigated, the usual excellent buffet dinner was served, which all enjoyed as was evident by the quiet which descended over the vessel. The historical background of the area surrounding the Ohio River was continued by Editor Bill Trimble. The boat turned at Neville Island, and as evening fell, proceeded back again to the Point. Pittsburgh, its skyline outlined by the lighted buildings, was a treat to those who took the air on the top deck.

Exploration of the Monongahela River was very much abbreviated. Darkness shrouded the hills, and reflected lights danced on the water as Librarian Helen Wilson explained the historical significance of the river. Promptly at ten o'clock, the boat returned to the Three Rivers Stadium dock, to allow the explorers to disembark and return to their respective homes. Another memorable Historical Society excursion had been enjoyed.