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Town Crier

Vol. II, No. 6

HISTORICAL SOCIETY of GREATER LANSING

P. O. Box 515, Lansing, Michigan

April 1960

OFFICERS FOR 1960-61

Mrs. Earl Fohl, Chairman of the Nominating Committee of the Society announced the following persons for the 1960-61 officers of the Society:

GENEVA KEBLER, archivist, Michigan State Historical Commission, has been selected as President. Miss KEBLER needs no introduction to any of us. She has been generous with her talents and work for the Society for many years. She resides in Grand Ledge.

Frank N. Elliott, Michigan State University Museum has been selected as Vice-President. Elliott is Curator of History at the Museum and is Assistant Professor of History. He resides in Haslett.

KATHERINE HUBBARD of the Auditor General's Office is Secretary-Treasurer. Miss Hubbard has also given of her time and interest to the Society in the years past.

TRUSTEES: There are four trustees appointed to the Society, but because the Nominating Committee was unable to contact one of the members selected, it was decided to hold the information on the trustees until all of the group had been contacted and made official. Announcement will be made later on who was selected as trustees.

The nominating committee is to be commended for the fine choice of officers they have selected.

REPORT OF THE LAST BOARD MEETING OF THE YEAR

President Robert Clark called a meeting of the Board, Thursday evening, March 31, 1960 at the Mason Building, Lansing.

The disposition of materials turned over to the Society was discussed and it was decided the Society was to act as Trustee for any such material and to exercise its best judgment in retaining or disposing of it.

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APRIL MEETING TO BE HELD IN PARLOR C & D CIVIC CENTER, 8:00 p.m., THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1960

JOHN BRISBIN, PAST PRESIDENT OF LANSING HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO SPEAK

John Francis Brisbin, past president of the Lansing Historical Society, teacher of government and history courses at Eastern High school, Lansing, is going to speak to us on the history of music in the Lansing area at the April 21st meeting of the Historical Society of Greater Lansing. The meeting will be held at 8:00 p.m. in Parlors C and D, Civic Center, Lansing.

Brisbin is a graduate of Lansing Central High School and received his Bachelor's degree from MSU in 1928, and his Master's degree from the University of Michigan in 1930. In the early 30's he studied at the University of London and is now working on his Doctor's degree.

At the present time he is engaged in writing a genealogy of the ancestry of his Father and Mother. He has composed many musical compositions--not published, but performed by the Lansing Symphony Orchestra, Michigan State University Band, and the University of Michigan Band and Eastern High School Band.

He has served on the Lansing City Planning Board for seven years and was elected its Chairman, January 1958, his term to expire this June.

Brisbin was awarded the honor of being "Outstanding Citizen of Lansing" in 1954, by the Lansing Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution.

He is a member of The Society of Genealogists, London, England; various local, state and national educational associations; Michigan Society, Sons of the American Revolution; Harvard University Band Club, University of Michigan Band Alumni; charter member of Lansing Symphony Orchestra where he has been bass trombonist for many years; and he has been a most active member of the Masonic Order.

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FOR THE MEMBERS!

In line with Board directive, the printing of the papers given at the various meeting of the Society is going ahead. President Clark has collected the material, Helen Wallin is preparing the manuscripts for reproduction. Geneva Kebler is going to prepare the multi-lith plates and Marion McClench has taken the responsibility of multilithing the material. By cooperative effort we are going to have several articles to present to all members of the Society.

In process are: Mrs. George Stucky's paper: "To Lansing with Love"--describing the social life of early Lansing; Major Robert J. Baird's "History of the Michigan State Military Establishment"; Dr. Ethel Williams paper on "Our Michigan Heritage".

We have the manuscript on Frank N. Elliott's paper "Transportation in Lansing Prior to 1905" and Robert Clark's paper "Town of Michigan--the City of Magnificent Distances". As soon as the remaining manuscripts can be collected we hope to present them all to the membership as soon after printing as possible.

THIRD ANNUAL GENEALOGICAL WORKSHOP

The Third Annual Genealogical Workshop sponsored by the Michigan Section of the State Library and the Archives of the Michigan Historical Commission will be held May 14 at the Archives on DeWitt Road in Lansing. People are expected from the Flint, Detroit, Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids and Lansing Area. The workshop will open about 10:30 with coffee at the Archives. After lunch the afternoon will be spent at the Library. Further details will be announced later. John Curry of Lansing is to be the speaker.

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John Brisbin, continued

During the Depression 1931-34, he did a great deal of work with adult education groups and out of this project in political science came the movement for the introduction of the Merit System and Civil Service Reform in Michigan Government.

Brisbin married Olivia Moss Kincaid Perkins in 1931. They have two sons John and James. Mrs. Brisbin is also interested in genealogical research and writing.

Our Society is proud to present Mr. Brisbin with his background rich in experience with such subjects as genealogy, history, music, teaching, writing and travel to mention a few.

Report of Board Meeting, Continued

The \$100.00 presented to the Society by Mrs. Gladys Olds Anderson has been retained and it was decided to use this fund to publish various papers presented at the meetings of the Society and present them to the State Library as a permanent record and to the members of the Society. The first paper to be printed is Mrs. George C. Stucky's paper on the Social Life of Early Lansing--"To Lansing with Love".

This issue of "Town Crier" is the last for the current year. You will be notified by postal card of the May meeting which is the annual meeting of the Society.

After the business meeting discussion arose over new interests for the Society. We hope that next season participation programs may be arranged. It was suggested trips and picnics be planned to nearby areas of historical interest and that it be kept to a nominal fee. Bus trips may be arranged for sites at greater distances. President Clark asks for trip suggestions from all members. He also requests reports from the various committee chairmen to incorporate in his annual report to the Society at our next meeting.



Mrs. Earl Fohl
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