

The Town Crier

Vol. 9 -- No. 2

Oct. 1966

DUES NEWS

The dues for our local society for this year (1966-67) are \$3.00. For joint membership with the State Society there is an additional fee of \$4.00. Dues may be mailed to Box 515, Lansing, or paid at the next meeting to Mary McNeely.

COLLECTOR'S CORNER

A Collector's Corner has been suggested for added interest during our regular meetings. The exhibit of books on architecture and historic preservation displayed at the September meeting prompted us to include this feature in forthcoming months. Share your hobby and your collecting needs with us.

Since music and fine arts is the subject of our November meeting, may we see old music, instruments, and like items?

THANK YOU

...to Charles and Mary Parker for their generous donations of refreshments for the September meeting.

LANSING GENEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

...meets the third Wednesday of each month. Dr. Joseph Druse is temporary chairman. For more information call Mrs. Harvey at IV 70945.

WHILE IN DETROIT

...visit the Fort Wayne Military Museum with its dry moat, casemates, tunnels, powder magazines, earthworks, and stone barracks. Also see the exhibits of the War of 1812, Michigan in the Civil War, and a Dress Parade of colonial French, British, and American uniforms.

OCTOBER PROGRAM

Dr. Daniel Jacobson of the Social Science Teaching Institute of Michigan State University will be the speaker at the October 20 meeting.

Dr. Jacobson will illustrate his lecture with a film he is making on historic changes in Lansing -- particularly those on Washington Avenue.

Gallery C of the Lansing Public Library will be the meeting place. The program will begin at 7:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER MEETING

Alice Franks, chairman for our November meeting, reports that plans are well under way for a program of early music in the Lansing area. Mr. Allen Toms will play some old time favorites on his dulcimer. Harrold Spicknall and a local minstrel group will sing early minstrel songs.

Reserve November 16 for a night of fun and music. We will have more details in our next letter.

If you have any music which was written in Lansing, let Alice know.

56TH EXHIBITION FOR MICHIGAN ARTISTS

...will be held at the Detroit Institute of Arts November 18 through December 31, 1966. Eligible artists are those born in Michigan, those who have worked or studied in Michigan for a minimum of two years, and current residents who have lived in Michigan for at least a year.

Your Board of Directors has discussed ways in which this Society might become a more moving, dynamic force in this community and area. Many possibilities have been uncovered. Some are new, but most are old, and however the discussions start, they invariably end up on finances. Some things can and are being done which require little or no money, but major breakthroughs in the future are going to require more money than the Society has customarily raised and spent.

As we look back, it would seem that the following desirable things might have happened had the money been available:

1. Several members have presented papers and monographs of a quality that deserved publication had the finances been available.
2. A real grass roots campaign at the local level, properly financed, might have saved the Olds mansion from the wreckers.

In the future, urban renewal, private developers, and freeways will take a big toll of our historic structures and sites. Unless a better financed organization takes the field, the future of some of the finest old buildings will be short. Some systematic plan for identifying, saving, and/or marking those that are worthy should be conceived and executed. The task appears impossible for an organization without a good financial base.

In short, your Board of Directors believes the Society needs better financing to become a better organization in the future. Since the Society has never conducted money raising projects, your Board of Directors is asking for your guidance and help in this decision. We ask your ideas on whether or not the Society should attempt to raise money and some indication of what kind of projects would have the best chance of success.

Detach and return to: Historical Society of Greater Lansing
Box 515
Lansing, Michigan

Do you favor a money raising project? Yes No

The following have been suggested. Indicate by 1, 2, and 3 the order of your choice.

- _____ Selling candy -- 50¢ bars or \$1.00 cans
- _____ Selling Theatre Guild play tickets
- _____ Have a rummage or garage sale
- _____ Have a card party
- _____ Sell Am-way products (\$1.00 and \$2.00 items)
- _____ Sell pecans
- _____ Other suggestions

Ways and Means Committee
Bernard Ansley, Chairman