



Town Crier

Historical Society of
Greater Lansing

HEAR
YE!

MICHIGAN STATE LIBRARY
MICHIGAN CLIPPING V. F.

Volume 12, No. 2

HISTORICAL SOCIETY of GREATER LANSING
P. O. Box 515, Lansing, Michigan

February, 1970

We note with sadness the passing of Henry D. Brown, director of the Detroit Historical Museum, on February 2, 1970.

Museums are the conservatories of memories as well as artifacts. The museum and historical society which Henry D. Brown led since the mid 1940s will be continuing forces in the State's historical program. These institutions will, for most of our readers, be filled with keen memories of one whose expertise, sharp wit and humor highlighted many workshops, conferences and private visits. Tributes may be made to the Detroit Historical Society.

LOCAL HISTORY ROOM OF LANSING PUBLIC LIBRARY ENTERS NEW ERA IN 1970.

Giant strides in library services to the community, beginning with the dedication of the Public Library, February 22, 1905, offers the Greater Lansing reading and listening public an opportunity for quality use and enjoyment.

Since the day when Mayor Hugh Lyons accepted the library from Dr. D. Nottingham for the Board of Education and J. E. Nichols, Chairman of the Building Committee the sharing of books and educational materials has been an important part of the community's development. The Carnegie structure has been left to the past and a new one built at 401 South Capitol Avenue.

The Local History Room dedicated on April 20, 1969, was a long awaited reality for area residents, and especially our members. Two days later the collection began its first scheduled service. Interest during the first year has been high, and more users are expected with increased hours of availability.

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DON'T MISS THIS IMPORTANT MEETING

Jerry D. Roe of Lansing will present "Michigan Political Items: Springboard to history."

February 25, 1970

Lansing Public Library - - - - -8:00 P.M.

Mr. Roe is the 33 year old director of the State Republican Committee. He is a native of Montana and graduate of colleges of that State. His education in political science and American history find expression in many local civic, political and service organizations. He is now an officer in the Michigan Chapter of American Political Items Collectors and the Jackson Historical Foundation.

THANKS TO MR. AND MRS. CHARLES PARKER

This issue of the Society's newsletter is mailed through the gift of postage.

REPRODUCTION OF INTEREST TO MANY

Friends and clients of Clare G. McArthur are expressing pleasure at his gift of an attractive reprint of a Panoramic View of the Village of Grand Ledge.

This view is included in the inventory currently being compiled at the Clarke Historical Library of Central Michigan University. A few families in the area enjoy original copies dated 1881, but it is not a common item.

A limited number of copies are available. Contact Mr. McArthur, 1029 Willow Highway, R#4, Grand Ledge, 48837.

LOCAL FAMILY HISTORY IN PRINT

"Notes on the Dryer Families" appears in Pioneer Ingham County Families compiled by the late George L. Hammel of East Lansing, a series in MICHIGAN HERITAGE, Autumn, 1969, Vol. XI, No. 1.

A full face portrait of William H. Dryer is seen on the south wall of the Local History Room of the Public Library. This art work is a gift of Clarence W. Christopher former Lansing resident now living in Petoskey.

LOCAL HISTORY ROOM Continued

Gifts of time, money, furnishings and historical materials needed have come. Outstanding among these is the January, 1970, donation of the Lucille G. and Lucius D. Mills Michigan Collection of books, pamphlets, iconographic items and social ephemera.

This society took pleasure in providing a holiday tree decorated with blown glass baubles especially created by Jerry DeGroat. The electric reproductions of Victorian candles were hand made by Corwin Rife of Kalamazoo.

Miss Virginia Summers, Librarian, at our January meeting outlined areas of need and suggested projects to enrich the collection with primary materials relating to business and industry, families, social and fraternal clubs; indexes to Greater Lansing in print; and the accumulation of items relating to all aspects of the Lansing scene-past and present.

We urge you as member of this Society or as an individual interested in the social and intellectual growth of our country to continue your contributions.

FARM MARKED

Another Clinton County farm has been designated as a Centennial Farm by the Michigan Historical Commission.

The farm in Eagle Township, now owned by William L. Heath, Grand Ledge Teacher, has been retained by his wife's family since 1854, when it was purchased by Akins Tallman.

The adjoining Tallman homestead, also a Centennial Farm, has passed through the maternal line of descent. It is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Galvin.

DATES TO REMEMBER - Meetings of the Historical Society of Greater Lansing

March 18. Mrs. Helen Wallin, past president, will present historical facts and illustrations about "Michigan Lighthouses".

April 22. Eugene G. Wanger, member and delegate to the recent constitutional convention, will present "Making Michigan Constitutions: A Capitol Pastime."

May 20 (tentative) Joint meeting with the Mid-Michigan Genealogical Society. Dinner.

MEMBERSHIP DUES STILL PAYABLE FOR 1969-1970.

- Regular \$ 3.00
- Associate (with State Society). \$11.00

Other categories available. Make check payable to the Society, P.O. Box 515, Lansing, 48903, Today.

THE MAIL BAG

The subject of private ownership of manuscripts is delicate in view of the court decisions during the past decade by which the United States Government was denied a right to confiscate so called archival material in private hands. Numerous questions and comments to Manuscripts, published by the Manuscript Society, has resulted in a most interesting article "On Private Ownership of Manuscripts" in the Winter, 1970, issue. See pages 28-33.

Yes, there is an association devoted horse drawn vehicles. The Carriage Association, 157 N. Saint Austin's Place, Staten Island, N.Y. 10310 publishes The Carriage Journal. They offer books essential to the library of a carriage enthusiast, stationery and even an official necktie.

Volume two of Heritage Homes is now available for \$3.20 per copy from the Saginaw News Reader Service, Saginaw, Michigan, 48605.

Here is word of cheer to those who have expressed concern for the reproduction of certain items manufactured and imported to this country which are called antique.

The Tri-State Trader, Knightstown, Indiana, editorialized: "We feel the solution to this matter lies in having historically and antique minded persons to request their congressmen to pass legislation requiring that the date and manufacture be permanently indented in any glassware, furniture or metalware imported into the U.S. as well as on any such items manufactured in this country..." Congressman Wyman of New Hampshire in 1969 introduced a bill in the House of Representatives, H.R. 12284, to protect antique glassware. This would require that imitation of glassware made before 1940 be permanently marked with the calendar year of manufacture. This may be a beginning.

The exhibit of photographic items at the November meeting featuring Ford Ceasar's program has brought us several questions about this subject. In reply to one we suggest Stereo Views: A History of Stereographs in American and Their Collection by William Clup Darrah, (1964). This offers an informative text plus categories for collectors, a check list of photographers and publishers and a bibliography.

IF YOU WANT TO READ IT IN THE TOWN CRIER Please send copy to Mrs. George Wiskemann, R#4, Box 317B, Lansing, Michigan 48906.