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## HISTORICAL SOCIETY of GREATER LANSING

Vol. V, No. 6.

P. O. Box 515, Lansing, Michigan

March 1964

### GREETINGS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HISTORY OF LANSING CLASS:

--President Helen Wallin wishes to welcome the members of the History of Lansing Class to the Greater Lansing Historical Society. They will be meeting with us for the next three meetings and we hope they will find them both profitable and pleasureable. We invite them to join our society if they are interested.

Ford Ceasar is in charge of this class.

### FUTURE MEETINGS

APRIL 8,

--This meeting will be held in Room 133, Stevens T. Mason Building, Lansing at 8:00 p.m. The speaker who was scheduled for this meeting-- Clarence Payne of the Lansing City Library,-- has asked that his program be postponed until next fall when he can have the facilities of the new library. We are having to resort to our old standby when each member brings one of their treasures and tells about it. This could be an exchange evening--by looking at the list of the special interests of our members which was listed in the October 1963 TOWN CRIER you may have something to trade for something you want.

### MAY 20--CELEBRATING MICHIGAN WEEK

--The May meeting was originally scheduled for May 13. At the Board meeting it was decided to combine the May 13th meeting with our celebration of Michigan week, and is changed to May 20.

Arrangements are being made for a dinner at the REO CLUBHOUSE similar to the dinner we held there last year. The election of officers will have to be held at that time and Ford Ceasar is working with his nominating committee on a slate of officers to present to the members.

President Helen Wallin is preparing a paper on the Indian Agency in Michigan. This will be excerpts from letters and reports covering the problems that confronted the Territorial authorities when they arrived and the organization and work carried on by missionaries, farmers, blacksmiths, armourers, interpreters, traders and surveyors. It will be a timely subject for our Michigan Week celebration. TOWN CRIER will carry details.

### DR. ROSE BRUNSON SPEAKER FOR MARCH MEETING

The March 11th meeting of the Historical Society of Greater Lansing will be held at the Kalamazoo Street School, 519 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing. The meeting will begin at 8:00 p.m.

Dr. Rose T. Brunson will speak to us on the MIGRANT NEGRO POPULATION IN LANSING DURING AND SINCE WORLD WAR II.

Dr. Brunson is a medical social work consultant (state-wide) with the Adult Division of the Michigan Department of Health, having joined that Department May 1963. Previous to that she had been a case worker for the Lansing Family Service Agency and a graduate student supervisor for students from Michigan State University, School of Social Work.

Mrs. Brunson came of New York and South Carolina families who for generations have devoted themselves to helping people as teachers, ministers, police and social workers.

From the time she left New York elementary schools until she came to Lansing, she lived in boarding schools and on college campuses.

At the age of 18, Rose Toomer met and married her husband, Robert Brunson, who had similar boarding school experiences. After they were married they continued their formal education. Upon receiving his Ph.D. Brunson began teaching at Cornell University, later at South Carolina State, Allen College, S.C. Wiley College, Texas, and Oklahoma State.

Mrs. Brunson had an educational scholarship in 1947 at Michigan State. She did her master's thesis on "A Study of Migrant Negro Populations in Lansing During and Since World War II," her doctoral thesis, "Socialization Experiences and Socio-Economic Characteristics of Urban Negroes as Related to Use of Selected Southern Foods and Medical Remedies."

Through her various community and professional activities, the highly esteemed social worker became interested in migration research. This resulted in her master's thesis and her doctoral thesis.

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Rose Brunson, continued.

She was founder-president of the Lansing Association of Women's Clubs, a member of the Mothers Club organizing committee for the Community Day Care Nursery School and a board member of Lincoln Community Center, a member of the Urbandale board of directors, a member of the Inter-Greek Letter Council, a member of the Main and St. Joseph Street Neighborhood Club and Collins Memorial Church in addition to Delta Tau Omega Sorority, and many professional groups.

Ill health forced her husband to change from university teaching to real estate and income tax counseling business in Lansing.

Sunrise often finds her working in her backyard garden and she finds time for sewing and designing too. She has traveled into 48 of the 50 states, Mexico and Canada. The summer of 1962, she combined travel and study when she attended the International Congress of Social Work, Belo Hortinge, Brazil and the International Social Work Conference in Rio DeJaneiro, Brazil.

All of her sisters and brothers are college graduates. A brother, the late Coleblease Toomer, taught special education in Lansing for four years and a sister, Mrs. Evelyn Louis, now teaches special education in Birshire Elementary School, Haslett.

#### NEW BOOKS OF INTEREST TO OUR MEMBERS

THE AUTOMOTIVE CAREER OF RANSOM E. OLDS, Glenn Niemeyer. \$6.50 from Bureau of Business & Economic Research, Graduate School of Business Administration, Michigan State University, East Lansing.

HARPER OF DETROIT--the origin & growth of a great metropolitan hospital, Frank B. Woodford & Dr. Philip P. Mason. \$7.95, Wayne State University Press, Detroit.

THE OLD AU SABLE, Hazen Miller. \$4.95, Eerdmans Publishing Co., Grand Rapids.

STORIES OF THE GREAT LAKES--colorful yarns of Great Lakes sailors and events, Earl Parsons. \$4.50, Tally-Ho Studio, 639 Par Avenue SW, Canton, Ohio.

#### MICHIGAN WEEK

Governor Romney's announcement of the theme for Michigan Week, May 17-23: 'Michigan, Great in Resources and Opportunities,' can be enlarged upon. MICHIGAN'S GREATEST RESOURCES ARE HER PEOPLE--MICHIGAN'S GREATEST OPPORTUNITY IS EDUCATION.

#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Ford Ceasar who is chairman of the nominating committee this year has announced the membership of that committee: Mrs. Ruby Jennings and Robert Clark. They will have their slate of officers to present in the May TOWN CRIER for your consideration.

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