

# Town Crier

HISTORICAL SOCIETY of GREATER LANSING

Vol. V, No. 8

P. O. Box 515, Lansing, Michigan

May 1964

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER LANSING

--will be held May 20. Chairman of the nominating committee, Ford Ceasar and his committee: Bob Clark and Mrs. Ruby Jennings herewith present the slate of officers for your consideration:

PRESIDENT Rajee Tobia  
1st VICE PRESIDENT Mrs. Ruby Jennings  
2nd VICE PRESIDENT Mrs. Blanche Coggan  
3rd VICE PRESIDENT Charles Leneweaver  
SECRETARY-TREASURER: Mary McNeely.

## BOARD MEMBERS FOR 1964-65 & 1965-66

Lorraine Brandon  
Solan Weeks  
Dr. Marvin Cain  
Doyle Fitzpatrick  
Mrs. Harley Franks to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Jennings who will become 1st Vice President.

## CARRY-OVER BOARD MEMBERS 1963-64 & 1964-65

David P. Beatty,  
Ken Clark,  
Mrs. Ruby Jennings,  
Gordon L. Thomas

## THE R. D. BURROUGHS GOING TO VERMONT-- Land of Mr. Burroughs' Ancestors.

It is with deep regret that we announce this note: Mr. Burroughs is retiring from his work as Supervisor of Conservation Education with the Information & Education Section of the Michigan Department of Conservation this fall.

Mr. Burroughs is a past president and member of long standing with our Society. We wish them a wonderful and rewarding life in Vermont.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER LANSING & CELEBRATION OF MICHIGAN WEEK - Dinner will be held at the REO CLUB-HOUSE, 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 20, 1964.

The annual report for 1964, by President Helen Wallin, will be the story of a United States Farmer--Walter Drake--appointed April 1844 to teach the art of agriculture to the Indians at Old Mission on Grand Traverse Bay.

The reports on the Superintendency of Indian Affairs in Michigan (1841-1851) on which Mrs. Wallin's report is based, were taken from the records pertaining to the Michigan Indian Agency on record at the National Archives in Washington, D. C.

IN KEEPING WITH THE THEME OF MICHIGAN WEEK --MICHIGAN--GREAT IN RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES--Michigan's greatest resources has always been her people and her greatest opportunities have always been education, Mrs. Wallin's report tells of early Michigan resources and education.

## MICHIGAN'S EARLIEST RESOURCES

When the Americans first came into Michigan Territory in 1805, the resources were unknown except for the fur-bearing animals. Emigration into the territory started in earnest in 1825 and though the Indians and traders tried to keep secret, the interior of the Peninsula, the white men eventually grew courageous and discovered the rich lands of the interior. They eventually braved the waters of the Great Lakes bringing on the fishing industry of the early years.

After the decline of the fur trade, fish became Michigan's prime resource. Other products of those early days were maple sugar, made by the Indians. On the local level the Indians traded maple sugar, cranberries and huckleberries with the settlers for the products of the White man. Many a pioneer housewife welcomed these items to spark her meagre and dull menu.

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### MICHIGAN'S NEED FOR SALT

--brought a young geologist, Douglass Houghton to the Territory in the early 1800's. This product was desperately needed, particularly for the preservation of fish which was being exported to the Eastern markets.

During his surveys he also located other minerals. As the fisheries grew and settlers moved onto the shores of Lake Huron, they discovered the pineries of that region which became one of the State's greatest resources.

### A CRISIS STEALS UPON THE INDIAN

As White settlers began encroaching upon the Indian lands, the Indian was faced with a desperate future--the chase was coming to a close as animals for food and furs were becoming scarce. Encroachment of the Whites upon the hunting grounds and buying them from the Indian limited his means of a livelihood.

War between the British and Americans had made the Indian uncertain of his loyalties and he was being wooed by both sides for favor.

It was impossible for the Red men and White men to live together because of the great difference in their cultures. Eventually it was thought the only solution was to remove the Red men from the White civilization which had wrought such havoc among them, and many of them were removed West from the Detroit Area. Others received aid from the missionaries in the more remote areas and with portions of their annuities and with aid from the government tried to establish missions and schools to attain the civilization of the White men. Governor Cass reported to the War Department in 1816 that there were 8,000 Indian souls in Michigan. The population in the 1960 census gives Michigan's population as 9,701.

### MICHIGAN'S EARLIEST SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES

Education in Michigan had its courageous beginning in Michigan Territory when the Catholic missionaries brought the church and school in the early 1600's....It wasn't until in the early 1800's that the Protestant churches asked to be allowed to minister to the Indians.

Along with the Catholic was the Presbyterian, Methodist, Congregational, Quaker, Baptist and Episcopal and Moravian.

Along with the Indian children in the schools were scattered White and Red-and-White children. This program was established under Governor Cass and funds were set aside from the annuities to pay for these services. The funds were distributed equally among the various denominations.

With the increase of White settlements the log schoolhouse was the first consideration after the Church and many of Michigan's earliest schools were held in the home of a settler.

In the early mission schools, reading, writing, and ciphering were taught along with farming, carpentering, blacksmith work for boys and household arts for the girls.

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EARLY AVIATION PICTURES AND HISTORY OF THE LANSING AREA AND THE Driggs Company wanted by Leslie E. Steen, 217 Greenfield Parkway, East Lansing.

### HISTORY OF MICHIGAN ON CANVAS

ROBERT THOM, Birmingham artist, whose paintings of significant events in the history of medicine and pharmacy have achieved international fame to the artist, has been commissioned by the Michigan Bell Telephone Company to do a series dealing with the HISTORY OF MICHIGAN. The exhibit which will be displayed in the State Capitol during Michigan week will be one of the things you will want to see.

### DEDICATION OF THE MICHIGAN HISTORY MOBILE

--is scheduled for May 22. This is a dream of Solan Weeks and we think it is a wonderful idea. If you can't get People to History--take History to the People. GOOD LUCK SOLAN.

### HONORS TO MEMBERS OF OUR SOCIETY

Three members of the Historical Society of Greater Lansing were especially honored in being chosen to serve on the Ingham County Michigan Week celebration.

President Helen Wallin was asked to serve as chairman of HERITAGE DAY, May 22. Mrs. Esther Loughin, Michigan Section of the State Library; Geneva Kebler, Archivist, Michigan Historical Commission and Ford Ceasar, Principal of High Street School and Mrs. Beth Rademacher formed the members of the Committee.

Every member of this committee offered a plan and we sincerely hope we are able to contribute to MICHIGAN WEEK.

EARLY AMERICAN INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION  
ANNOUNCES SPRING MEET

Members of Early American Industries Association will meet June 12, 13, and 14, at Shaker Community, Inc., at Hancock, Massachusetts, and Shaker Museum, Old Chatham, N.Y.

Hancock Shaker Village was opened in 1961, as a public museum. Its object is to show all aspects of Shaker life, particularly during the period prior to the Civil War. The Shaker Museum in Old Chatham was established in 1950, to preserve and interpret to posterity the arts, skills, and culture and philosophy of the Shakers, a communal, celibate religious society.

The program will include craft demonstrations, tours and a special demonstration of paper making, which was not a Shaker craft, but which was one of the early industries of Berkshire County.

Detailed information is available from Lawrence S. Cooke, President, 436 Webster Street, Needham, Mass. 02194.

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CIVIL WAR FLAG DEDICATION ON CAPITOL STEPS

One of the high-lights of Michigan Week will be the re-dedication of the Civil War Flags of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Regiment of the Michigan Infantry which have been in process of restoration by Solan Weeks, Director of the Michigan Historical Commission will be ready May 22. The ceremony will take place in the afternoon.

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PLEASE PUT IN YOUR RESERVATIONS FOR DINNER TICKETS FOR MAY 20 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Robert Yelvington, Chairman, INGHAM COUNTY MICHIGAN WEEK COMMITTEE, who is with CAPITAL ADVERTISING here in Lansing, very graciously took a block of 50 tickets for our dinner.

As you know Your Society has been operating on a shoestring all year and there have been days it has shrunk to a mere thread. The sale of the 50 tickets--where it won't give us a bank balance it will surely help us from using the red ink. Send in your \$2.00 to P.O. Box 515, Lansing, Michigan.

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS, WORKSHOPS & PROGRAMS

KRESGE ART GALLERY

--in East Lansing, on Campus, will feature a special exhibit, TURN OF THE CENTURY May 10-June 4.

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MICHIGAN COLORED WOMEN'S CLUBS ASSOCIATION

The State Archives in Lansing will be host to the 1964 annual meeting of the Michigan Colored Women's Clubs Association on Saturday, May 2. Guest speaker will be Dr. Rose Brunson. Open to the Public.

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AMERICAN PRIMITIVE PAINTING

--in Detroit--the spirit of the 18th and 19th century America is captured in "101 MASTERPIECES OF AMERICAN PRIMITIVE PAINTING," from the collection of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch. On exhibit at the Detroit Institute of Arts, April 14--May 10.

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MICHIGAN FAMILY HISTORY WORKSHOP

A special workshop is planned for researchers in Michigan family history on Saturday, June 6. The meeting, co-sponsored by the Michigan State Library and the Michigan Historical Commission Archives, will feature a talk at the Archives by Dr. Russell Bidlack and a workshop period in the Michigan Section of the State Library.

Members of the major genealogical societies of Michigan have been invited. The entire program is opened to the public. Watch for further details.

HERITAGE DAY MICHIGAN WEEK COMMITTEE

--is working on a chronological list of historical events in the City of Lansing, County of Ingham, State of Michigan and perhaps the United States. In no other way can a capsule type bit of heritage be put together. It might be fun to see where in this list you or your ancestors fit in. You might be surprised to see how long ago your Michigan Heritage extends.

YOUR PRESIDENT & EDITOR OF TOWN CRIER  
WISHES TO:

THANK all of you who made the 1963-64 season  
one of accomplishment for our Society.

THANK everyone for donations of flowers,  
cookies, coffee, postage, cartage and the  
efforts to make each and everyone of our  
meetings enjoyable.

THANK all committee chairmen and officers  
for carrying on the job--without them the  
job would have been impossible. Also  
people who helped even when they weren't  
on a committee.

THANK the friends of the Society who gave  
generously of their facilities and time for  
our meetings. We paid rent for just one  
meeting and we do hope someday we may have  
a permanent home.

AND even though our attendance included  
many outside our own Society, we hope that  
being with us was as rewarding to them as  
it was to us.

. . . . . President Helen Wallin, 1963-64

TEACHERS--those attending the dinner or  
meeting of the May 20th Historical Society  
of Greater Lansing--we will try and have  
arrangements set up whereby you may report  
your presence to Mr. Ceasar so that roll-  
call won't have to be taken at the dinner.

EXHIBITS FOR OUR ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

Photographs of the period in Michigan which  
the annual report covers will be on display  
for your pleasure. These include Governor Cass  
going to the Indian treaty grounds (copied  
from pictures drawn by artists at the treaty),  
the U. S. Agency House at Mackinac Island; the  
church at Old Mission established in 1836, a  
picture of the farmer who went to teach the  
Indians agriculture and photo-copies of re-  
ports of the farmer to the Superintendent of  
Indian Affairs.

An exhibit of Michigan books of recent publi-  
cation will be on display. These will be for  
adults and some for children. The selection  
at the present time is especially good and  
great in quantity.

Reproductions of paintings of the period, Ind-  
ian artifacts as well as rare books, prints  
and firearms and the like will also be there  
for our members and guests.

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MICHIGAN IN BOOKS

--the official publication of the Michigan  
State Library, will be featuring the Thunder  
Bay area for its next issue. In commemora-  
tion of Michigan Week it will carry a supple-  
ment dedicated especially to Michigan children.  
This will be available separate from the main  
publication.

The State Library is also contemplating pub-  
lishing a program of Michigan Week Activities.

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