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HISTORICAL SOCIETY of GREATER LANSING

P. O. Box 515, Lansing, Michigan

April, 1965

The Historical Society of Greater Lansing held its March meeting at the Michigan State Library with Mrs. Edith Jameson chairman for the evening. Miss Jo Anne Jackson, also of the Library, discussed some of the new acquisitions.

Special guests for the evening were Ford Ceasar's Lansing History Class and the Genealogy Class of the Y. W. C. A.

President Rajee Tobia announced that we had received support for our stand on the restoration of particular areas of the Capitol that are historically or architecturally significant from several state newspapers, historical societies, etc. A letter from Bill Alderfer, Director, Historical Society of Michigan, suggested that our Society push for legislation.

John Symonds, a member of our local Society, discussed the research and experiences that he and Mrs. Symonds had had in their search for ancestors. He said that without the State Library his search would have been impossible. He pointed out his use of census, Civil War, and death records, the Archives in Washington, D. C., and county histories. Sage advice was given us: "If you are going to hire someone to search records for you, tell everything, otherwise your own research will be duplicated . . . If you don't know what to do first, ask someone who does." Mr. Symonds complimented the D. A. R. for its work in compiling the fine records which are available. Health Departments, cemeteries, and an endless number of letters to relatives and old-timers are other sources used in the Symonds' hunt. Throughout his talk, Mr. Symonds frequently mentioned the help he had received from Mrs. Symonds, who, in her own right, is a real genealogist also.

FOR YOUR REFERENCE

Miss Jo Anne Jackson, Michigan Section of the Michigan State Library, has sent us the following list of recent acquisitions:

Vital Records

- 1820 Federal Population Census, Ohio. Index. Ohio Library Foundation. 1964
- 1830 Federal Population Census, Ohio. Index. 2 vols. Ohio Library Foundation.

- Abstracts from Land Records of Dorchester County, Virginia compiled by McAllister. 18 vols. (Each volume is indexed.)
- Abstracts of Wills of Baltimore County, Maryland. 17 vols. compiled by A. W. Burns. (Each volume is indexed.)
- Abstracts of Pensions of North Carolina Soldiers of the Revolution, War of 1812, Indian Wars, compiled by Burns. 10 vols. (Each volume is indexed.)
- California Pioneer Register, 1542-1848. Edited by H. H. Bancroft. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1964

Family Histories

- Book, Herbert J. Family Records. Privately published. 1963
- Nye, George H. and Frank E. Best, compilers. A Genealogy of the Nye Family. 2nd ed. Edited by David Fisher Nye. 1907
- Sias, A. B. The Sias Family in America. Vol. II, Supplement. Florida Press. 1957
- McGill, John. The Beverly Family of Virginia. Columbia, S. C., R. L. Bryan Company. 1956.
- Frisbie, Olin E. The Frisbee-Frisbie-Frisby Family Genealogy. Comstock, New York. 1964

Local Histories

- History of Conecuh County, Alabama by Benjamin F. Riley. Reprint of 1881 edition with Index and Addenda by J. Vernon Brantley. 1964. 246 pp.
- Chautauqua County, New York: A History by Helen G. McMahon. Buffalo; Henry Stewart, Incorporated. 1958. 339 pp.
- History of Warren County, New York. Edited by William H. Brown. Board of Supervisors of Warren County, 1963. 302 pp.
- Genealogical and Historical Notes on Culpeper County, Virginia. Compiled by Raleigh Travers Green. Baltimore; Regional Publishing Company, 1964. 160 pp.
- Falls Church by Fence and Fireside by Melvin Lee Steadman, Jr. Falls Church, Va. 1964. 537 pp.
- History of Prince Edward County, Virginia by Herbert Clarence Bradshaw. Richmond; Dietz Press, 1955. 934 pp.

A NEW LOOK

Those of us who are members of the American Association for State and Local History have noticed the bright, new format of HISTORY NEWS. William T. Alderson, Director, would like to see Michigan move from fourth to first in the number of members while Henry Brown, Director of the Detroit Historical Commission, serves the Association as president for the next two years. Membership contributions (Active member - \$5.00; Sustaining member - \$25.00) will reward you with HISTORY NEWS, a monthly publication, a Directory of Historical Societies and Agencies in the United States and Canada, and occasional bulletins.

NEWS FROM EATON COUNTY

Several members of our Society attended the March 25 meeting of the Eaton County Historical Society held in the Courthouse at Charlotte. Friends of history braved the blowing snow to enjoy an evening devoted to the sharing of objects, photographs and paper materials relating to Eaton County. Items included old photos of the Charlotte area and residents' diaries of local participants in

the Civil War, a charming diary of a bride-to-be written in 1856, old cabinet maker's tools, reports of a railroad which was never completed, mineral specimens, book publications, and muzzle-loading firearms made in Charlotte.

The Society's keen interest in establishing a museum in Charlotte was expressed in plans to visit the Honolulu House in Marshall during April. If you wish to be informed of meetings and activities, contact Mr. George Hansen, 100 Yale Street, Olivet.

OUR BEST WISHES

Mrs. Esther Loughin is best known to members of this Society, as she is to thousands of researchers throughout Michigan, for generous and effective library service. The announcement of Mrs. Loughin's retirement from the State Library and employment in the Michigan State University Library in East Lansing brings forth our sincere wishes for continued success.

The Historical Society of Michigan will hold its fall, 1965, annual meeting in Marshall.

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