



Town Crier

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

April, 1966

APRIL MEETING

The April meeting of the Historical Society of Greater Lansing will be held April 13, 8:00 p. m. at the Post Oak School.

Mr. Dorr Hathaway, secretary of the Board of Water and Light, will be our guest speaker. He began his career with the Board as an accountant in 1922 and is amply qualified as the Board's official historian. Mr. Hathaway has done the research for a brochure to be published soon telling the history of Lansing's municipally owned electric, water and steam utilities. He will bring some of his pictures, charts and clippings for display.

Refreshments will be served.

MAY MEETING

Ring your calendar now for the May meeting, May 4, which you will note is a week earlier than usual. The meeting is scheduled to be held at Otto Junior High School. Earl Nelson and singers will illustrate the American negro's contribution by song and story to America's Heritage. Both group singing and solos will be featured. Come and enjoy a real treat.

ACTIVITIES REPORT

On March 1 the Negro History Association for Research of Negro History in Michigan met and researched work on the negro in early Michigan industry. They found that a negro inventor, Elijah McCoy (1872-1915) of Ypsilanti and Detroit, whose parents had been slaves, had taken out 52 patents at the U. S. Patent Office during his lifetime. His latest patent was the graphite lubrication cup, first used on locomotives, and later on nearly all fast moving machines. His wife, Mary E. McCoy, who was an active club woman in the Detroit area, was born in an underground station in Indiana.

The group also adopted the name, purpose and constitution for incorporating the society. Mr. Benjamin Gibson was appointed legal advisor and instructed to proceed with corporation papers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ARBOR WEEK

Governor Romney has proclaimed April 24-30 as Arbor Week. In so doing he has broken a tradition of many years. Because of the increased interest in conservation at present and the need for an expanded program in this field, it was felt more than a day should be devoted to its interests.

MICHIGAN WEEK

The thirteenth annual Michigan Week celebration will take place during the week of May 15-21. Started in 1954 by a group of civic leaders who saw in it a means of bringing progress to our state through the efforts of people all over Michigan, it has now become a state tradition. It is the only event of its kind in the nation.

WEDGWOOD INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

The annual Wedgwood International Seminar is scheduled to meet in Dearborn, Michigan, May 4-5-6-7, 1966. This seminar is composed of over 600 Wedgwood collectors throughout the world, who for the past ten years have met at various museums in the United States, Canada, and England. Plans for the 1966 seminar are now nearing completion. Gerald Gibson, Curator of Decorative Arts at Henry Ford Museum, and Dean Rockwell, a Wedgwood collector are co-chairman of the seminar. Headquarters will be at the Dearborn Inn which is within walking distance of the Museum. Reservations should be made early, directly with the hotel.

MICHIGAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

will hold its annual meeting in the Union Ball Room at M. S. U. on April 17. The meeting begins at 9:00 a. m. and will continue throughout the day. It is to be hosted by the Kalamazoo and the Upper Grand Valley Chapters of the Society.



Members of the Historical Society of Michigan receive the magazine, Michigan History, which is published quarterly in March, June, September, and December. This fine magazine of over one hundred pages is devoted exclusively to articles by qualified writers on Michigan subjects, reviews of books pertinent to our state and its past, and news of historical activities.

Trophy Elk at MSU Museum



The largest elk taken in this state in modern times dwarfs museum artist John Hope of Michigan State University, who prepared it for display. The trophy animal, donated to the university by Gary W. Loebrich of Sanford, Mich., who shot it during Michigan's historic elk hunt last December, was recently added to the lineup of wildlife exhibits at the MSU Museum. Estimated to have had a live weight of almost 1,000 pounds, the big bull has the largest set of antlers examined by Conservation Department game biologists during the 1964 season. Its 16-point rack has a spread of 38 inches and beams measuring more than 50 inches on both sides. --Mich. Dept. of Conservation

SMITHSONIAN TO PUBLISH HISTORY JOURNAL

The Smithsonian Institution will begin publication in 1966 of an illustrated scholarly quarterly of general history. The function of the journal to be called The Smithsonian Journal of History, will be to publish scholarly historical articles which will benefit from extensive illustrations. The usual scholarly footnotes will also be printed.

According to Walter F. Cannon, editor of the new publication, the visual quality of the journal will be high. Color illustrations may be used where necessary.

The editors invite contributions from scholars in the United States and abroad. The journal will not concentrate on any one specialized area, geographical region, or time period, nor will it be limited to American history. Articles which merely report the results of specialized studies for other specialists will not be used, but articles based on specialized studies in which the more general historical importance of the subject is shown will be welcome. The editors seek narrative articles and synoptic articles dealing with the re-evaluation and re-interpretation of broad areas or problems. They are interested in the history of the arts and manufactures and the history of science and technology, as well as in political, social, cultural, and military history.

The editorial board is made up of professional historians on the staff of the Smithsonian's Museum of History and Technology. Its members are Walter Cannon, Silvio Bedini, Jacob Kainen, Philip Lundeberg, and Peter Welsh. Requests for further information should be addressed to Walter Cannon, Editor, The Smithsonian Journal of History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560.

ANNOUNCEMENT

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN

Sept. 23-24, 1966, Jack Tar Hotel

Lansing will be host this fall to the MICHIGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY. The local arrangements committee urges all members to keep these dates reserved. The Committee on Local Arrangements met for the first time on March 2, 1966. Present were: William Alderfer, Blanche Coggan, Virginia Summers, and Ford Ceasar, Chairman. Mary Lou Eddy could not be present.

Mr. Alderfer informed the committee that the main blocks of programming for the conference would be handled by the Historical Society of Michigan. Some of the activities for which the Local Arrangements Committee could be responsible would be:

coffee and rolls on the mornings of the conference during registration; the centerpiece for the banquet and luncheon tables, punch, preceding the Burton Dinner on Friday evening; arranging tours; inviting history-minded groups to participate in the arrangements; and, using groups such as Boy and Girls Scouts and others like them as helpers.

It is anticipated that 250 - 300 people may attend the conference.

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of Michigan

