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The Society

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THE SOCIETY

The Maine Heritage Fund has now passed the halfway mark. To date, approximately \$240,000 has been received in pledges and contributions toward the campaign's \$450,000 goal. Additional contributions are still being actively solicited from individuals, businesses and foundations.

The proceeds of the recent book sale have been used to strengthen the Society's microfilm holdings of Maine newspapers and its collection of Quebec genealogical material. In recent weeks, twenty-eight reels of the weekly *Kennebec Journal* (1825-1913), twelve reels of the *Belfast Republican Journal* (1829-1868), five reels of the *Maine Times* (1968-1973) have been purchased. In addition, twenty-four reels of the *Bangor Whig & Courier* (1837-1855) were recently acquired with funds provided by the late Mrs. Effie I. Drake of Portland. The availability of these important newspapers at the Society should prove useful to the thousands of genealogists and students of Maine history who visit the Society each year. Library patrons of French-Canadian descent should be particularly pleased by the purchase of an additional seventy-seven volumes of Quebec marriage records and genealogies. When added to the existing Quebec collection, these records should enable the Society to serve effectively the genealogical needs of this state's large Franco-American population.

NEW MEMBERS

FROM MAINE Augusta: Mrs. M. Isabelle Forest, Ms. Doris W. McAllister, Ms. Linda M. White *Bethel:* Mr. George R. Allen *Biddeford:* Mr. Michael Bourassa, Mr. Ralph L. Hight, Mr. Philip S. Rundgren *Brunswick:* Ms. Mary D. Mason *Cape Elizabeth:* Mr. Edward W. Hill, Ms. Anne C. Hooke *Cumberland* Ms. Victoria H. Grass *Cumberland Center:* Ms. Linda Wentworth *Damariscotta* Mrs. Edward L. Hanley *Falmouth:* Miss Margaret Sayre, Mr. & Mrs. William F. Swann *Falmouth Foreside:* Ms. Betsey V. Carr *Gorham:* Ms. Janice E. Labrecque, Mr. Earl C. Pike *Hollis Center:* Ms. Helena H. Drew *Kittery:* Mr. Richard Candee *Mapleton:* Mr. David B. Raymond *Monmouth:* Mr. Ronald J. Burnham *Newcastle:* Ms. Helen Eaton Timson *North Haven:* Ms. Lucie F. Bauer *Ogunquit:* Mr. Frank T. Adams *Peaks Island:* Mr. Patrick T. McInerney *Pittsfield:* Mr. Robert W. Buzzell, Mr. Robert K. Foote *Portland:* Ms. Linda Bailey, Ms. Susan J. Boody, Mr. Philip A. Cook, Ms. Ruth B. Farrington, Mr. Peter E. Gribbin, Ms. Sara Oberg, Mr. Robert Szatkowski, Mr. Samuel A. Tucker, Jr., Mr. Lee D. Urban, Mr. Gary W. Wilson *Rangeley:* Ms. Janet Carpenter *Readfield:* Ms. Elizabeth H. Thompson *Saco:* Mr. Philip N. Grime, Ms. Jeanne Innes, Ms. Ruth L. Thompson *Sanford:* Mrs. Victor Loranger *Scarboro:* Ms. Susan Wilkins *South Bristol:* Ms. Margaret F. House *South Portland:* Mr. Kevin L. Bagley, Rev. Lewis H. Beckford *South Windham:* Ms. Marjorie B. Hansen, Mrs. Persis H. Harding *Springvale:* Ms. Jane M. Rollins *Thomaston:* Ms. Elisabeth W. Newcombe *Turner:* Mrs. Lawrence E. Caldwell *Waterville:* Mr. Philip A. Gonyar *Wells:* Ms. Dorothy Keyes *Westbrook:* Ms. Bernice K. Bassett, Mr. E. D. Muzzy *Whitefield:* Mr. David R. Stewart-Smith *Yarmouth:* Mr. & Mrs. Leonard C. Robinson, Mrs. Frances H. Rogers.

Other States CALIFORNIA Arcadia: Ms. Jeanette M. Hanson *Garden Grove:* Mr. Lester J. Elliot *Lafayette:* Ms. Shirley M. Eoff *San Luis Obispo* Mrs. Ruth Burke *San Pedro:* Ms. Lorraine Allen Hughes *Sun Valley:* Mr. Manville C. Pike *DELAWARE Newark:* Mr. Dennis R. Montagna *FLORIDA Boca Raton:* Ms. Jo-Ann B. Welch *Callahan:* Mr. James R. Libby *Nokomis:* Mr. Eugene C. Winch *GEORGIA Columbus:* Miss Barbara J. Drew *Hoboken:* Mr.

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HAWAII Makawao: Mr. Neil H. Swanson, Jr. *ILLINOIS Hinsdale*:
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Minneapolis: Ms. Marian Fraser *NEW YORK Albany*: Mr. Fred O.
Bowman *Gansevoort*: Mrs. Barbara L. Haskell *New York*: Mr.
John Button *Saratoga Springs*: Mr. Alvin F. Gamage *OREGON*
Eugene: Mrs. Dorothy Young *PENNSYLVANIA State College*: Mr.
& Mrs. Loren D. Tukey *Stroudsburg*: Mrs. Vertie B. Knapp
RHODE ISLAND North Smithfield: Ms. Denice E. Mitchell
SOUTH DAKOTA Glencross: Ms. Joan Wilson Seiker *VIRGINIA*
Richmond: Mr. Ralph A. Lewis.
CANADA British Columbia Victoria: Mrs. Lois Steeves.

EDITORIAL NOTE

The essay featured in this issue of the *Quarterly* provides a vivid description of a little-known act of mob violence in Maine. Written by George S. Rowell (1846-1933), who was a young newspaper reporter living in Presque Isle at the time of the outrage, the paper was read before the Society on March 25, 1909, but was never published. The importance of the episode, the details on which cannot be readily found elsewhere, combined with the growing interest of historians in the study of mob violence, makes this account particularly worthy of inclusion in the *Quarterly*. Despite the macabre nature of the central theme, Mr. Rowell also provides some charming glimpses of Maine life in a bygone era.

This *Quarterly* also contains a new section called *Shaking the Family Tree* which will be used to provide our readers with information of genealogical interest. In this issue, we begin with the publication of the burial records of Portland's Eastern Cemetery, compiled by Professor William B. Jordan, Jr. of Westbrook College, who has also provided an interesting introduction to the history of this ancient burial ground. Since Professor Jordan's compilation includes more than four thousand burials, the records will be published in installments as space permits.