

Maine History

Volume 10 | Number 1

Article 2

8-1-1970

News of the Society

Maine Historical Society

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/mainehistoryjournal>



Part of the [United States History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Maine Historical Society, . "News of the Society." *Maine History* 10, 1 (1970): 2-10.
<https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/mainehistoryjournal/vol10/iss1/2>

This Reports, News, Announcements is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in Maine History by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact um.library.technical.services@maine.edu.

MAINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume ten, Number one

August, 1970

Published quarterly at 485 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04111

NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

Annual Meeting: The 148th Annual Meeting of the Society held on June third of this year featured Dr. Ronald F. Banks who spoke on the subject, "The Separation of Maine From Massachusetts," emphasizing the influence of the War of 1812. Since the full study *Maine Becomes a State* by Dr. Banks will be available this fall, the annual address will not appear in the *Newsletter* as it did last year. Publication date for *Maine Becomes a State* has been set for October twenty-ninth at which time a reception will be held in the Wadsworth-Longfellow House to mark the occasion.

Miss E. Marie Estes was guest of honor at a luncheon held at the Cumberland Club on Annual Meeting day. Members of the Standing Committee chose this occasion to pay tribute to Miss Estes' long service to the Society. President Robert G. Albion, in noting her remarkable contribution to the Society, presented her with a Life Membership in the Society.

There was another brief ceremony before the membership assembled for Annual Meeting later on in the afternoon at which time Miss Estes was presented an engraved silver bowl by Mrs. William J. Murphy, chairman of the Wadsworth-Longfellow House Committee on behalf of all members of the Society.

Awards for the first annual Prize Essay Contest were announced by Miss Elizabeth Ring, Vice President and Chairman of the Contest Committee. The winner was Dr. Donald A. Sears, Professor of History at California State College, Fullerton. His essay appears in this issue of the *Newsletter*. In addition, Dr. Sears, twenty years a member of this Society, received an award of one hundred dollars.

Two Honorable Mention prizes, consisting of a year's complimentary membership in the Society, were awarded to Mr. Gordon Kershaw of Sanford for his essay, "Settling the District called Frankfort," and to Mrs. Doris R. Marston of Cape Neddick for her study of Maine's first woman novelist, Madam Wood.

"In offering a Prize Essay Contest, it was the intention of the Society to stimulate interest in the serious study of Maine history," said Miss Ring, "and the Committee was pleased and impressed by the high quality of the papers submitted." Encouraged by the fine response, the Executive Committee voted funds for a second annual Prize Essay, an announcement of which appears in this issue of the *Newsletter*.

Two hundred twenty-two members took advantage of the opportunity to vote by proxy in the election of the Standing Committee, the results of which are printed on the inside cover of this *Newsletter*.

President Roger B. Ray made the following Committee appointments for the year 1970-1971:

EXECUTIVE. Roger B. Ray, *Chairman*. Robert G. Albion, Arthur T. Forrestall, Miss Elizabeth Ring, Harry W. Rowe, Herbert T. Silsby, II, Samuel S. Silsby, Jr.

FINANCE. Samuel S. Silsby, Jr., *Chairman*. Arthur T. Forrestall, Martial D. Maling, Donald L. Philbrick, Linwood F. Ross.

LEGISLATIVE. Linwood F. Ross, *Chairman*. James S. Kriger, Donald L. Philbrick, Herbert T. Silsby, II.

WADSWORTH-LONGFELLOW HOUSE. Mrs. William J. Murphy, *Chairman*. Mrs. Malcolm H. Barto, Mrs. Turner Jones, Mrs. Karl R. Philbrick, Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr., Mrs. John B. Sloggett.

MEMBERSHIP. Roger B. Ray, *Acting Chairman*. Mrs. D. Kilton Andrew, Mrs. William E. Clark, Miss Hilda M. Fife, Mrs. Edwin L. Giddings, William B. Jordan, Jr., James S. Leamon, Edward O. Schriver.

PERSONNEL. Herbert T. Silsby, II, *Chairman*. Miss Edith L. Hary, James C. MacCampbell, Martial D. Maling, Samuel S. Silsby, Jr.

PUBLICATIONS. James C. MacCampbell, *Chairman*. Robert G. Albion, Ronald F. Banks, Roger B. Ray, Roger C. Taylor.

PUBLIC RELATIONS. Herbert T. Silsby, II, *Chairman*. Mrs. William E. Clark, Miss Hilda M. Fife, Mrs. Edwin L. Giddings, James S. Leamon, Mrs. William J. Murphy, Miss Elizabeth Ring, Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr., James B. Vickery, III.

PRIZE ESSAY CONTEST. Miss Elizabeth Ring, *Chairman*. Robert G. Albion, H. Draper Hunt, III, James S. Leamon.

COLLECTIONS. Miss Edith L. Hary, *Chairman*. Robert G. Albion, H. Draper Hunt, III, William B. Jordan, Jr., James S. Leamon, James C. MacCampbell, Karl R. Philbrick, Franklin Talbot.

Staff Appointments: On July first, Mr. Thomas L. Gaffney joined the staff as *Curator of Manuscripts*. Mr. Gaffney spent his early years in Kittery, graduating from Robert W. Traip Academy in 1958. After receiving his B.A. in history at the University of Maine, Orono in 1962, he served in the U. S. Army for three years, principally in France, and was commissioned Captain in the U. S. Army Reserves upon discharge.

In August of 1968, Mr. Gaffney was awarded an M. A. from the University of Maine, Orono for which he wrote a thesis, *A Study of Maine Elections, 1930-1936*. He is now working toward a Ph.D degree and has chosen the political career of F. O.J. Smith as a dissertation topic.

On July sixth, Mrs. Esta Astor began work as *Library Assistant* replacing Miss Gail Everett who moved to New York. Mrs. Astor has had considerable library experience in Portland Public Schools, working five years at Portland High School Library and one year at Lincoln Junior High School. She has also had several courses in library science, and is a Maine history enthusiast.

NEW MEMBERS

From MAINE *Alfred:* Mrs. Stanley Hills, Jr. *Bangor:* Andre E. Cushing, Jr. *Bar Mills:* Miss Margaret H. Jose *Belfast:* Mrs. David F. Milligan *Brunswick:* Ernst C. Helmreich, William D. Ireland *Cape Elizabeth:* Richard Grossinger *Cumberland Foreside:* Mrs. Hubert H. Hauck *Dexter:* Mrs. Howard L. Davis *Falmouth Foreside:* Lawrence D. Chapman *Hollis Center:* Lucian H. Scamman *Kittery:* Wayne D. Manson *North Waterboro:* Mrs. Bessie A. Bilder *Orono:* Clark G. Reynolds *Palermo:* Mr. Charles A. Peirce, Mrs. Charles A. Peirce *Portland:* Richard R. DuBois, Howard C. Reiche *South Freeport:* Mrs. Carroll R. Swaney *South Portland:* Willard S. Stinson *Westbrook:* Miss Patricia Ann Flint

Other States *CALIFORNIA* *North Hollywood:* Mrs. Betty Q. Brandt *Northridge:* James P. Allen *MASSACHUSETTS* *Newbury:* Mrs. Dorothy Cunningham *VIRGINIA* *Richmond:* Mrs. John D. Detlefsen



Dolley Payne Madison
1768-1849

HELLO DOLLEY !

While reorganizing the Manuscript collections in the vault last May, Irene Tuttle, Manuscripts Librarian, came across a daguerreotype attributed to be Maine's first female novelist, Madam Wood. This attribution seemed highly unlikely since the other known likeness of Madam Wood in the Society's collections did not resemble the subject of the daguerreotype in the least.

While the portrait stood on the desk of the Registrar awaiting accessioning, the knowledgable eye of Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr. noted the striking resemblance to a portrait of Dolley Madison owned by the Library of Congress and published in a recent issue of *American Heritage*.

Upon writing to the Library of Congress, enclosing a photograph of the portrait owned by the Society, officials at the Library concurred with Mr. Shettleworth that it was indeed a daguerreotype likeness of Dolley Madison, the second such portrait known to exist.

*The Standing Committee
of
Maine Historical Society*

Cordially invite
All Members
to attend a reception
in honor of

Dr. Ronald F. Banks

upon publication of his book

*MAINE BECOMES A STATE
The Movement to Separate Maine
From Massachusetts, 1785-1820*

to be held in the

*Wadsworth-Longfellow House
Portland*

Thursday, the twenty-ninth of October

four to six o'clock

R.S.V.P. by October first

*Mrs. William J. Murphy
33 Deake Street
South Portland 04106*

*Admission by
Membership Card*

NEWS OF OTHER SOCIETIES

The Eighth Annual Conference of New England Historical Societies will meet in Portland this year October thirtieth through November first with headquarters at the Sheraton-Eastland Motor Hotel on High Street. Since the reception for Dr. Banks' *Maine Becomes a State* sponsored by Maine Historical Society in honor of the Sesquicentennial occurs on the twenty-ninth, members coming from a distance may be able to attend both events in one trip.

The New England Conference is being co-sponsored this year by the American Association for State and Local History, Maine League of Historical Societies and Museums, Maine Historical Society, Bath Marine Museum, Brick Store Museum of Kennebunk, and Greater Portland Landmarks, Inc.

It should be noted that the *Annual Meeting of the Maine League of Historical Societies and Museums* will convene at 3:45 P.M. on Saturday, October thirty-first in the Casco Room of the Sheraton-Eastland.

Eighth Annual Conference of New England Historical Societies October 30-November 1, 1970

Friday Evening, October 30, 1970

8:00-10:00 Informal get-together for early arrivals
Sheraton-Eastland Motor Hotel. Casco Room

Saturday, October 31, 1970

9:00-10:00 Registration
10:00 Welcome, Announcements, Presentation of Awards
10:30-12:00 *National Programs and Historic Preservation*
Chairman, Dr. Richard W. Hale, Massachusetts Archivist, President of State Liaison Officers
Panelists, Liaison Officers for New England and New York
12:30-1:30 Buffet Luncheon at the Eastland
1:15-1:45 Orientation for Afternoon Tour
Miss Elizabeth Ring, Maine Historical Society
Mr. Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr., Greater Portland Landmarks, Inc.

1:45-3:15

Museum Protection - Casco Room

Chairman, Mr. Norris G. Abbott, Jr.,
Rhode Island Historical Society

Panelists, Mr. Alexander J. Wall, Director,
Old Sturbridge Village, "Fire Protection"

Mr. Francis C. Evans, American District
Telegraph Company, New York City,
"Security Protection"

Mr. Carl E. Holloway, Vice President,
Affiliated Firemans Mutual Insurance
Company, Providence, Rhode Island,
"Insurance Protection"

*Current Research and Publications in State and
Local History - Ballroom*

Chairman, Mr. Roger Parks, Old Sturbridge
Village

Panelists, Mr. John B. Armstrong, Associate
Professor of History, Boston University,
"A Study of a Milltown, Harrisville,
New Hampshire"

Mr. John D. Fiore, Chairman, Social
Studies, Bridgewater State College,
Bridgewater, Massachusetts, "Plans for
the Bi-centennial"

Mr. James Deetz, Assistant Director,
Plimoth Plantation, Plymouth, Massachusetts,
"A Demographic Approach to Local
History"

3:45-5:30

Tour of Portland, Past and Present

3:45-4:30

*Annual Meeting, Maine League of Historical
Societies and Museums - Casco Room*

7:00-10:00

Dinner - Ballroom

Speakers, Mr. Herbert Ross Brown, Bowdoin
College, "Yankee Humor"

Mr. Robert B. Williamson, formerly Chief
Justice, Supreme Judicial Court of Maine
- *Address*

Sunday, November 1, 1970

9:30

*National Developments for Historical Societies
- Eastland Ballroom*

Chairman, Dr. Charles E. Burden, Bath
Marine Museum

Panelists, Dr. William T. Alderson, Director,
American Association for State
and Local History

Dr. Charles Lee, Director of South Carolina, Department of Archives and History
 Mr. Herbert C. Darbee, Associate Director of the Connecticut Historical Commission

11:00

Closing Session, Senator Edmund S. Muskie,
 "What Congress Has Done and Can Do in Historic Preservation."

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Headquarters hotel for the Conference is the Sheraton-Eastland Motor Hotel at 157 High Street, Portland, Maine 04101. Reservations should be made directly with the hotel, which has established rates of \$12.50 per night for singles and \$17.50 per night double occupancy.

The Saturday Dinner features Maine lobster and clam chowder at \$7.00. Those who do not care for lobster can select turkey as an alternate at \$4.50.

REGISTRATION FORM

Register the following persons for the Conference of New England Historical Societies, October 30-November 1, 1970, at Portland, Maine, at \$5.00 each. Registration limited to 200 people.

Name	Address	Saturday Luncheon @3.00	Saturday Dinner Turkey @4.50 Lobster @7.00
_____	_____	()	() ()
_____	_____	()	() ()

_____ Registrations @5.00 (includes bus tour and two historic house admissions). Registration fees are not refundable. Total payment enclosed. _____

Make check payable to: Mrs. Donald D. Kimball
 Brick Store Museum
 Kennebunk, Maine 04043

PRIZE ESSAY CONTEST

The Maine Historical Society takes pleasure in announcing its second annual Prize Essay Contest in Maine History.

PURPOSE To encourage the study of Maine History and to promote the publication of serious research efforts in the field.

CRITERIA Originality, accuracy, and scholarship which shows an obvious use of source materials.

ELIGIBILITY Open to members or non-members of the Society. Amateurs having a strong interest in Maine history as well as professional historians and students in higher education are invited to enter. Ineligible are members of the Staff and Standing Committee of the Society.

MANUSCRIPTS Approximately 2,500 words in length, typewritten, double-spaced. Please submit manuscripts to: Director, Maine Historical Society, 485 Congress Street, Portland, Maine 04111.

DEADLINE: May 1, 1971.

AWARDS Announcement of the awards will be made at the Annual Meeting of the Society in June, 1971. *First Prize:* \$100 and publication in the Newsletter. *Two Honorable Mention Awards* will consist of one year's complimentary membership in the Society.