

REPORT

Association Descendants
of
RALPH SMITH
of
Hingham and Eastham
Massachusetts
Inc.



1940

ASSOCIATION DESCENDANTS OF RALPH SMITH

Dear Friends:-

Can you catch the breath of our thoughts today
As they circle from shore to shore—
They need neither wings nor wheels on their way
For warmest greetings the freight they store.

Our fine old world is being misused,
Yet growing through suffering and pain—
May the memories of those you honor today
Revive your spirits again.

Great names and deeds can never die,
Each day their glory they renew,
Deepening and moulding the thoughts of men,
Refreshing their lives like the dew.

Cheerio! Cheerio! Friends afar,
Be steadfast, courageous and true—
In the place prepared, in the mansions on high,
May all meet, when the day's work is through.

Isabel Stewart Dickson
Jessie Iona Hoult.

New Westminster, B. C.

June 16, 1940

On Sunday, June 16th, the third get-together since its founding, was held by the Association Descendants of Ralph Smith, at the Hotel Westminster, Copley Square, Boston. The clan gathered in the reception rooms of the Hotel and at one-thirty p. m. the call came to adjourn to the dining room. This was the Crystal Room of the Hotel and we found it to be especially fitting to our requirements. There was a long table at the head of the room for the officers of the Society, and smaller round tables were scattered over the room seating from six to nine, that families and groups who so wished, might be seated together. Seventy-nine were seated for the dinner, which appeared to be enjoyed by all.

The business meeting was called to order by the President at three o'clock. The Secretary's report was read and approved. A membership was reported of 209. The Secretary had sent out the reports of last year's meeting to all members and to eleven Public Libraries and Historical Societies in various parts of the United States as well as to several prominent historians and public officials. Five deaths were reported since the last meeting, to the families of which letters of sympathy had been sent by the Secretary in the name of the Society. The illness of two members, Mr. Benjamin H. Doane of New York and Barrington, and Mr. Ethelbert B. Smith of Wollaston, Mass., were reported and it was hoped that members would remember these absent ones

with cards and letters during the summer holidays. One birth has been announced to the Society, that of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Smith of North Berwick, Maine. Many letters of inquiry are received from time to time by those not belonging to our Society and who live in distant places, regarding Smith Genealogical data. In such instances where the applicant came from the Ralph Smith line, information has been furnished and also an invitation to join our ranks.

The Treasurer reported a balance of \$79.97 in the treasury. The books were examined and found correct by the Auditing Committee, namely, Andrew T. MacCoy, Louise Smith (pro Tem) and Raymond Carter.

The Historian, Mr. Thomas Edison Smith, stated that he had no report to submit this year but that he was working upon a paper which he hoped to have finished for our next meeting and which he thought would prove of much interest.

The following Resolution from the Board of Directors was read by the Secretary to those assembled:-

Whereas; a question has arisen as to the eligibility of Associate Members to vote at meetings of the Association of Descendants of Ralph Smith and whereas Article IX, Section 6, of the By-laws makes no mention whatever of the rights or status of such members, now be it made known and resolved, that

we, the Board of Directors of the said Association, at a regularly called meeting on the 19th day of May, 1940, hereby set forth and declare to accord such Associate members equal voting privileges with Charter or regular members, together with the election to any regular or special committee; but they may not be nominated or appointed to any major office of the Association, (viz: President, Vice-presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Junior President, Chaplain, etc.)

It was voted that the Treasurer send \$10.00 to the American Red Cross in the name of the Society for War Relief.

The ballots were distributed and the following were elected to office for the ensuing year:-

President, Capt. Arthur N. McGray

Fourth Vice-president: Leonard A. Smith

Secretary Treasurer: Georgia Mary Clark

Historian: Thomas Edison Smith

Assistant Historian: Harvey Newell Smith

Chaplain: Beatrice M. Hunt

President of Junior Group: Ena Smith Nickerson

Auditing Committee: Raymond I. Carter

Ella T. Noonan

Arthur Gilchrist

Board of Directors: Andrew T. MacCoy

Caroline A. Carter

Gertrude E. Smith

Clara Gilchrist

Communications were read from various members unable to attend this meeting.

An article entitled "A Perilous Passage" written several years ago by the brother of Mrs. Mina Hayden, Frank A. Smith, was read by the Secretary. In it was set forth a passage from Clarks Harbor, N. S., to Boston, in a sailing vessel, which was buffeted about over twelve days. The same type vessel today makes this journey in less than thirty hours.

The president of the association gave us an address which will be found in the following pages.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned and a social hour was enjoyed.

Another year has begun for the Smith family. Let us stand by each other in these troublous times and strive to honor the ancestors whom we revere by being good and loyal citizens, doing our part to stem and overcome the tide of ungodliness and communism which is threatening the peace and liberty of our beloved land, including our sister land, Canada; that we may be spared from the awful disaster which has swept other nations off their feet, across the Atlantic. Let us say with all our hearts, "God bless America!"

Georgia Mary Clark
Secretary-Treasurer

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

From June 24th, 1939, to June 14th, 1940.

1939 RECEIPTS

June	Balance (Dues)	\$110 72
July		
Aug.	For dues	4 25
Sept.	" "	6 00
Oct.	" "	10 50
Nov.	" "	2 50
Dec.	" "	1 00
1940		
Jan.	" "	7 50
Feb.	" "	
Mar.	" "	3 50
Apr.	" "	1 50
May	" "	14 00
June	" " (to the 14th)	7 00
Total		\$168 47

1939 EXPENDITURES

July	Postage and carbon paper	\$ 2 26	
Sept.	Postage and flowers	17 25	
Oct.	Printing, postage, stationery	33 94	
1940			
Jan.	Postage and postals	1 50	
Apr.	Postage, paper, machine ribbon	9 62	
May	Expenses of board, postage and printing	18 68	
June	Flowers	5 25	
Total		\$88 50	88 50
Balance on hand as of June 14th			\$ 79 97

REPORT OF AUDITING COMMITTEE

We, the undersigned, have examined the Accounts of the Treasurer of the Association of Descendants of Ralph Smith, Inc., and find them to be correct and in order.

(Signed) Andrew T. MacCoy
Louise S. Smith (pro tem)
Raymond I. Carter

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Officers, Fellow Members, Friends and Guests of the Association:-

It is my happy privilege to extend a cordial welcome to so many of you who have gathered here from widely separated areas to honor thereby the revered memory of our grand old ancestor, Ralph Smith. Deep in all our hearts, I think, lies the silent thought of the joy and satisfaction he would experience could he but witness this fine gathering of his descendants in promotion of his fond remembrance. I bespeak for you and for all those who follow us the same ardent interest and enthusiastic effort that has characterized the activities of this Association from the day of its inception. May we continue to push forward without thought of praise or reward in our life time. That may safely be left in the hands of the unborn generations who will fill our places.

Since our last meeting the Grim Reaper has taken toll from our ranks. We have mourned with all those immediately afflicted and extended affectionate sympathy in their hour of grief and sadness. We have again honored their memories today in a most befitting manner. Let us find consolation in the words of a great orator who said:- "Yet after all, it may be best, just in the happiest, sunniest hour of all the voyage, when eager winds are kissing

every sail, to dash against an unseen rock and in a moment hear the billows roar above a sinking ship; for whether in mid-sea or 'mong the breakers on the further shore, a wreck at last must mark the end of each and all."

You have heard the report of your Secretary-Treasurer and listened to communications from members who have been unable to meet with us today, together with their sincere expressions of regret in that connection. They are, nevertheless, present here in thought and in spirit and we all salute that presence with all the cordiality at our command.

Your Board of Directors have made certain valuable recommendations which will undoubtedly contribute greatly in maintaining and increasing your personal interest in the work of the Association and heighten your regard and effort for further successes. You have acted upon such business issues as have been presented with laudable understanding and with commendable dispatch. You have accepted with evident satisfaction the list of officers for the ensuing year, as carefully prepared and presented for your action, by a committee of the whole at our last Directors' meeting. Our cordial thanks are extended for your well considered approval of all these matters.

Now that we have started on the Fourth year of life, as an Association, let us all determine to make

it a real *Leap Year* in our history and swell our membership accordingly. Our Junior branch has added to its numbers and holds great hope for a healthy progress. *They* are the officers and members of tomorrow. Give to them every last degree of encouragement to grow into stable leadership. Impress upon them their *value*—and our *need* of their active support.

Smith Family Associations are being organized in many sections of the country. Attending Commencement exercises at my old school, in New Hampton, New Hampshire, only last Sunday—in observance of the 60th anniversary of my graduation—I discovered that the Assistant Headmaster, Professor Maurice Smith, had only last year organized a County Smith Association at Meredith, N. H., where he was born. He told of the enthusiastic support they were receiving, and that other nearby counties were about to form like Smith Associations. Personally I envisioned a time when these organizations would become very numerous—when they might hold joint Conventions—when the unaffiliated Smith Association Conventions would be an annual event, second to none other—when large cities would strongly vie with each other to gain the prestige of entertaining our hosts within their gates. This may now be but a dream, but I believe it will become true. Your individual effort will play its part to the end.

On behalf of the Officers and Board of Directors it becomes my honored duty and privilege to congratulate you all upon the part you have played in making for such volume of success as we have so far achieved, and to thank you for your unselfish co-operation in the past and bespeak its greatly appreciated continuance.

To all those who have helped in arranging the various "Orders of the Day"—the enjoyable feast prepared by this hotel—the fine musical programme which has been so enthusiastically received — the Junior Branch and its active sponsors—we all owe them a debt of grateful appreciation. And so, may you all, and many more with you, come to enjoy another happy family reunion, next year.

With these few remarks and kindly admonitions I now commend you all to each other for that neighborly visiting period which has prompted so many of us to be present here today. I know how dear to the heart of each this annual privilege is, and I am glad that plenty of time and accommodation will be available to you immediately after we adjourn. I thank you.

Arthur N. McGray

IN MEMORIAM

God of the living, in Whose eyes
Unveiled Thy whole creation lies,
All souls are Thine; we must not say
That those are dead who pass away,
From this world of flesh set free;
We know them living unto Thee.

Anonymous 1530.

HELENA MAUDE SMITH, October 12, 1939.

JAMES McGRAY, May 1940.

ETHELBERT B. SMITH, July 17, 1940.