

Report  
of the  
Association  
of  
Descendants of Ralph Smith  
of  
Hingham and Eastham, Mass., Inc.



1950



Smith

## NOVA SCOTIA

Dear land of the mayflower and pine  
Where my ancestors fixt their abode,  
With a trust in that guidance divine,  
Whose pilot-star pointed the road.

Thou gavest those sea-faring sires  
Safe refuge from raider and storm  
Where love made the log-cabin fires  
True beacons to welcome and warm.

With a homestead the uppermost thought  
They shrank not from danger or toil;  
And the tenderest feelings they brought  
Took root in thy stoniest soil.

Oh they marched with a Puritan psalm  
To the roughest encounters of life;  
And they bore in their bosoms a calm  
Tho the elements might be at strife.

Tho winter may scowl on thee rude,  
Yet glad is the gay summer time;  
And they children with vigor endued,  
Never envy the sun-gilded clime.

Where fame or adventure is sought,  
Tho boldly and widely they roam,  
Their sweetest and holiest thought  
Is when they remember their home.

Oh the pure azure heavens o'erhead;  
The velvety sward 'neath the feet,  
And the glistening waters outspread, —  
Has earth any pleasure so sweet?

Then the perfume afloat on the breeze  
When the twilight begins to decline;  
And the hand you delighted to squeeze,—  
Has heaven any joy more divine?—

Copied from "Songs of Summerland"

by Moses H. Nickerson.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Once more, I send my loving greetings to each and every member of our dear Smith Family Association.

As I sat thinking just what sort of special message I could send you this year, my thoughts drifted to some remarks of "The Observer" as expressed in a book sent out recently by the Jordan Marsh Company of Boston, commemorating its 100th birthday.

He recalls many fondly cherished memories, things that will stay deep in his heart, but now, he says, is the time for looking forward. Let us picture him as he sits at the end of a deserted wharf. It could be anywhere, somewhere you and I know so well. As he sits there on a "tar-stained piling, ignoring the proteses of the seagulls," he "watched the ships as they moved slowly in from the sea, their lights blinking across the channel waters." The smell of the clean fresh salt air completely relaxed him.

He was grateful for the past and thrilled about the future. He saw men and women coming to New England with fresh ideas for progress and leaving again to plant seeds of stability and energy in distant fields.

Does not this recall to our minds those sturdy, courageous ancestors of ours, many of whom left Cape Cod to pioneer in Nova Scotia? Many of their descendants, including ourselves, are praying for strength to carry on victoriously in our dear New England and elsewhere all over our beloved land.

The Observer continues: "How fitting it is that New England each day catches the first rays of the rising sun as it travels from the old world to the new. The newborn sun is a symbol of hope and promise and fresh

opportunities, and surely nowhere on earth do these elements mean more to mankind than within the historic borders of New England.

“Ours is a rich heritage. Together, we have fought for its values in times of war and peace. We have toiled for them in times of hardship. We have drawn upon them and cherished them in times of prosperity. We shall adhere to them through all the coming years.”

As he rose to his feet and prepared to go home, to start a new century of progress with his best and most loyal of friends, he looked up at the stars and spoke words that were closest to his heart: “God willing, the coming years will keep us together, a pleasant life for the good of all.”

We are his friends, too, so let us look up with courage and hope, in these trying days and know that the same spark of divine fire found in our ancestors is still alive and glowing in us. We are victorious! God bless you all!

Cordially yours

(MRS.) ANGELA BROWN BEMIS

*President*

Permission to quote from “Tales of the Observer” was granted by the author, Ralph H. Edwards, Jr., Vice-Pres., Jordan Marsh Co., Boston, Mass.

Samuel Smith the eldest son of Ralph Smith died at Eastham, Mass., March 27, 1697. He did not leave a Will.

The following is a summary of the settlement of his estate.

To Mary Smith, Relict of Samuel Smith Sr. late of Eastham, deceased, intestate and to John Smith son of said Saml Smith, administration was granted 20 April 1697.

Mr. John Doan, Joseph Collins and William Walker being desired to prise ye housing and land that was Mr. Samuel Smiths of Eastham, were sworn 19 April 1697. An inventory of ye estate of Mr. Samuel Smith of Eastham, was taken by John Doane and Joseph Collins and among the items we find "two sayines and saine lines, and three pieces of New Cordage, two new Grapnels and two perecope, mackerel leads and Blockes, Whale Boats and Craft belonging to them; ye meadow at Billingsgate and boate meadow £40; ye home Lott and all ye housing on it and Barne £90. ye Land at Monomy (Chatham) £380, a quarter part of a sloop £35-0s-8d; a share of Land at Shawamett £60; Indian Debts £255—14s—1d, English Debts about £70. Mrs. Mary Smith, Relict of Mr. Samuel Smith, deceased, did on ye 14th of May 1697 make oath to the inventory and it was recorded 25 June 1697.

A settlement and divition of ye estate of Mr. Saml Smith, late of Eastham, is as followeth:—When ye debts that at present do appeare are payed there Remains of ye personal estate £620, of which the widow is to have one third according to her choice, and for

her Dower during her Natural Life. She shall have ye homestead lands £207—16s—06d housing and ye meadow at Billingsgate and at Boate meadow. All ye rest of ye Estate both personal and Real which amounts to £853, besides what is sett out for ye widows Dower, which is equally divided amongst Samuel Smiths children, that is to say Samuel Smith and Joseph Smith, sons of Samuel Smith who was ye eldest son of ye above sd Mr. Samuel Smith. John Smith and Mary Hambleton, £213—05s—00d to each and at her death her dower to be alike divided to them or their heirs.

1. John Smith, son of ye foresd Smith shall have ye half of two farms at Manomoy, to say Toms Neck and ye wood land and half all yee buildings thereon as it was prised which was £140, with personal property to make up his share.
2. Mary Hambleton shall have ye one half of two farms at Manomoy with her brother John Smith, to say Toms Neck and ye woodland and half ye buildings thereon as it was prised £140, with one whall Boat and Craft at £8-15s-6d with other personal property to make up her share.
3. Samuel Smith and Joseph Smith and their mother Bathshua Smith Freeman, shall have out of ye personal estate set out to them £50, and shall have ye farme at Monomoy that was of on Savage and now in ye occupation of one Cahoon, land and buildings and meadow and one share or lott of land at Shawamett bought of Edward Grey and each one shall have and enjoy of ye personal estate as it is exprest and set doune. At the death of Mrs Mary Smith, widow, ye homestead land, housing and meadow at Billingsgate, that was set out to her for her dower, it shall be equally divided to John

Smith, Mary Hambleton, Samuel Smith and unto  
Joseph Smith or to their heirs unto sd settlement  
and divition

We ye sd subscribers do oblige our Selves quietly  
to stand and by ye same to abide.

Witnessed by (William Walker

(Josiah Cooke

(Edward Knowles

Signed by—

Mary Smith (by a mark.)

John Smith

Daniel Hambleton

Mary Hambleton

Samuel Freeman

Acknowledged by all five 6 July 1697.

Copied from the old Barnstable Probate Records.

THOMAS E. SMITH

*Historian.*



## OUR PRAYER

God give us peace along life's way,  
Within and beyond the U.S.A.

God give us hope for every hour,  
That peace may dawn on that other shore.  
That friendship, and faith, and love may be  
Greater than hate and hostility.

God give us peace, for this we pray,  
Throughout the whole wide world today.

Amen

## SPECIAL MEETING

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held at the home of our Secretary in Marblehead on August 4th. 1950 for the purpose of making plans for our Annual Meeting and to select a slate of Officers for the coming year.

Plans were made and Sunday, September 24th. 1950 was selected for the date for the Annual Meeting. The Oxford Club in Lynn, Mass. was engaged and the Caterer and menu selected. Tickets, including tax to be \$1.68.

It was suggested that the secretary send a second notice to the members as a reminder of the date two weeks before the meeting to encourage members to attend.

The slate of officers was suggested and the Secretary was instructed to contact the members to ascertain if they would serve.

Mr. Leonard Smith our Vice President and Thomas E. Smith our Historian volunteered to assist the Secretary in accepting the reservations for the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

RUTH G. SMITH

*Secretary.*

## REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

The Annual Meeting of the Association of Descendants of Ralph Smith, Inc. met at the Oxford Club, Lynn, Mass. September 24th, 1950 at 1:45 P. M.

Ninety-nine members and friends enjoyed a delicious turkey dinner furnished by the Shaw Catering Co., of Lynn, Mass. Members arrived early so that they could greet their relatives and friends before the meeting. Miss Mertie A. Cunningham assisted the Secretary in distributing the Greeting Tags.

At 3:00 P.M. the meeting was opened with a greeting by our President, Mrs. Angela Bemis.

Master Arthur Alpert presented the flag and after the "Pledge of Allegiance" two verses of America was sung.

Rev. Emerson Smith, pastor of the Broadway Methodist Episcopal Church of Lynn, Mass. lead us in prayer.

A Memorial Service was held for members of the Association who had departed during the past year. Little Thalia Smith placed a flower in the memorial wreath as each name was read after which the members all sang "Abide With Me."

The following poem was read by the President. It was sent in by Mrs. Edna M. Carpenter who found it in a collection of poems of her daughter Mrs. Elizabeth Burns' called the "Anthology of Poetry." It was read in memory of Mrs. Carpenter's three sisters—Amy, Annie and Mary and her daughter Elizabeth.

“I am ready—

Earth with its dark and dreadful ills  
Recedes and fades away.

Lift up your head, ye heavenly hills,  
Ye gates of death, give away.

My soul is full of whispered song—  
My blindness is my sight;

The shadows that I feared so long  
Are all alive with light.

The while my pulses faintly beats  
My faith doth so abound—

I feel grow firm beneath my feet  
The green immortal ground.

That faith to me a courage gives.  
Low as the grave to go;

I know that my Redeemer lives  
That I shall live, I know.

The palace walls I almost see  
Where dwells my Lord and King.

O grave where is thy Victory  
Oh death where is thy sting.”

— *Alice Cary*

Reverend Emerson Smith spoke about the many Smith's and their value and numbers in the world. He is not a member of our Association but is a friend of several of our members. He commended the Association on its unity and work from its interesting and historical background and his parting remark seems significant to our growth to "Keep on—Keeping on." This is a challenge to all our members to help to keep the Association active and growing.

A motion was made and seconded to omit the reading of the last meeting as it was printed in the Annual Report. The Secretary read the report of the two special meetings of the Board.

The Reports of the Treasurer and The Auditors was read and on motion duly seconded it was voted to print these reports in the Yearly report.

Thomas Edison Smith our Historian spoke briefly and showed us copies of the Coat of Arms for which he would take orders from the members. (See prices on another page).

Letters were read from Mrs. Serepta McGray from Long Beach California, Mr. Ralph McGray, Santa Maria, California and from Mrs. Jennie J. Howes. These all had interesting items for members who might remember them. Mrs. Howes sent a snap-shot of the Ralph Smith Monument in Eastham at the Town Cove Cemetery. The inscription reads:

### RALPH SMITH

Born at Hingham England 1610

Leading figure in founding Hingham 1635

Removed to Eastham about 1654,

Died there 1685.

A pioneer of distinction.

Erected by Association of Descendants of Ralph Smith

June 1946.

She suggested that any member riding in that direction at any time stop and visit this memorial to our historic ancestor.

We were sorry that our Chaplain and Editor of the Smith Journal, Converse Nickerson could not be with us. The Secretary and Co-Editor of the Journal asked the members to help with news and articles of interest. Many letters from the members have been received indicating that they enjoy the additional contact of the Association especially at distant points.

On July 24, 1949, a special committee composed of Converse Nickerson, Milford Smith, Thomas E. Smith and Dennis Swimm was appointed to study the By-Laws and recommend any change at the Annual Meeting in September, 1949. This was done. A proposed amendment has been printed and sent to you on the call to the meeting. It read as follows:

"To amend Article 9—Section 7 by striking out Fifty (\$50) Dollars and inserting Twenty (\$20) Dollars, so as to read—'Life Membership'—Any Descendant may become a Life Member by the payment of Twenty (\$20.) Dollars."

The above motion was duly made and carried unanimously.

The following slate of officers was read and elected for the ensuing year.

President:

Mrs. Angela B. Bemis,  
7 Walnut Ave., Cambridge, Mass.

Vice-Presidents:

Mr. Leonard A. Smith  
310 Lynn Street, Peabody, Mass.

Capt. Harold R. Brown

[REDACTED] East Boston, Mass.

Mr. Dennis Swimm

[REDACTED] Malden, Mass.

Secretary-Treasurer:

(no name)

Auditing Committee:

Mr. Bernard White

[REDACTED] Arlington, Mass.

Mrs. Margery Livingston

[REDACTED] Winchester, Mass.

Mr. George K. Smith

[REDACTED] Dorchester, Mass.

Chaplain:

Mr. Converse Nickerson

[REDACTED], Somerville, Mass.

Board of Directors:

Mr. Milford Smith

[REDACTED], Lynn, Mass.

Mrs. Bessie Smith Achilles

[REDACTED] Roslindale, Mass.

Mrs. Deborah Swimm

[REDACTED], Malden, Mass.

Mrs. Frances E. Maloney

[REDACTED] Action, Mass.

Mrs. Louise Smith

[REDACTED], Worcester, Mass.

Historian:

Mr. Thomas Edison Smith

[REDACTED], Peabody, Mass.

Junior Group Leader:  
Mrs. Janice Warren,  
Epping, New Hampshire

Chairman of Paraphernalia:  
Mr. Milford Smith  
████████████████████, Lynn, Mass.

Miss Ruth G. Smith tendered her resignation as Secretary-Treasurer because of lack of time from her business, but since no replacement was found she agreed to carry-on as far as possible until a new one was elected.

SMITH PINS: There being so little interest in the pins at the price we could obtain them for, after taking the poll in the Smith Journal it was decided to drop the idea for the present.

The President thanked the Pin Committee for their work on design and prices etc. All the information to remain in the files until a later date.

It was suggested that Mr. Milford Smith who procured the Memorial Wreath make arrangements to send it to Mrs. Edna Carpenter.

The President thanked the Committee for the arrangements for this meeting.

There was some discussion about the best date for our meeting next year. Mrs. Janice Warren suggested Salem Willows. Possible date the first Sunday after Labor Day and to order from the menu. Many members preferred June. On a motion made and seconded it was voted to have our next Annual Meeting in June, if possible. The committee to be appointed by the President at a later time.

Mrs. Margaret Swimm was the oldest member present. She is in her 91st year.



Little Kenneth Lombardi, 1½ years old, youngest member.

Mrs. Minnie Shaw and friend from Augusta, Maine came the greatest distance.

After some discussion regarding back dues it was voted that, in hardship cases, and upon payment of current dues a member would be considered in good standing.

Mrs. Charles Bertram Forbes played for general singing of old songs and familiar hymns.

The meeting closed with the singing of "God Be With You 'Til We Meet Again."

Respectfully submitted,

RUTH G. SMITH,

*Acting Secretary*

# TREASURER'S REPORT

September 19, 1950

Balance September 18, 1949		\$250.46
Received for dues	\$139.30	
Dinner tickets, 1949	170.25	
Miscellaneous	.65	
Dinner tickets, 1950	13.38	
Toward Journal	5.00	
		328.58
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>\$579.04</b>
Payments:		
Bank charges	2.53	
Flowers:		
Memorial wreath	2.00	
Capt. McGray	15.57	
Mary Smith	10.00	
Elizabeth Burns	8.32	
Margaret Swimm	6.00	
Wilfred Smith	5.50	
		47.39
Printing:		
Journal expense	4.00	
Annual Reports	76.28	
Meeting notices	3.00	
		83.28
Postage & supplies	24.94	
Hotel Edison 1949 meeting	191.84	349.98
Balance September 19, 1950		<b>\$229.06</b>

Respectfully submitted,

RUTH G. SMITH

*Treasurer*

*To the Officers and Members of the  
Association of the Descendants of Ralph Smith, Inc.*

The books of the Secretary-Treasurer have been audited for the year beginning September 18, 1949 through September 19, 1950 and we find the balance to be as follows:

Cash on Deposit:

Manufacturer's Central Bank, Lynn, Mass.    \$229.06

Total balance of funds of Association.

Respectfully submitted,

BERNARD WHITE

GEORGE K. SMITH

## NEW MEMBERS, 1949-1950

1. Mrs. Alta Penny Lundgren  
[REDACTED], Shrewsbury, Mass.
2. Mrs. James Earl Cunningham and wife
3. Mrs. Vesta Cunningham  
Naushon Island, Woods Hole, Mass.
4. Mrs. Muriel A. Brannen  
Barrington West, Nova Scotia
5. Miss Cladys Mildred Smith  
[REDACTED], East Boston, Mass.
6. Mrs. Gladys M. Smith (Mrs. Ross O.)  
[REDACTED] East Boston, Mass.
7. Mr. Foster James Cunningham, and wife
8. Mrs. Grace Thelma Cunningham  
Naushon Island, Woods Hole, Mass.
9. Master John Thos. Achilles, Jr. (*Junior Member*)
10. Mrs. Fannie Smith Beltz
11. Mr. Victor Beltz  
[REDACTED], Phoenix, Arizona
12. Mrs. Minnie Jones Shaw  
[REDACTED] Augusta, Maine
13. Miss Ruth W. Smith  
[REDACTED] Reading, Mass.
14. Mr. Gilbert E. Atkinson, and wife
15. Mrs. Mary Lucinda Atkinson  
North East Point, Shelburne Co., Nova Scotia

## MARRIAGES

September 26, 1949 at the Baptist Church, Peabody,  
Mass.

John Broughton of Lynn and Gladys Hazel  
of Peabody

The groom is a son of Mrs. Charlotte Covell and the  
late John Broughton. The bride is a daughter of  
George and Beatrice (Smith) Hazel.

March 5, 1950 in Lynn, Mass.

Russell Lincoln Smith, Sr. and  
Mary Gertrude Pasquale

August 5, 1950 in Arlington, Mass.

Luther Smith and Elizabeth Hutchins

## BIRTH

September 6, 1950—Russell Lincoln Smith, Jr.

Parents—Mr. and Mrs. Russell Lincoln Smith, Sr.,  
Lynn, Mass.

## DEATHS

November 21, 1949—Capt. Arthur N. McGray, Age 87. One of the founders of the Association and Past President and Honorary President and Assistant Historian. Interment in Springfield.

March 2, 1950—Elizabeth Josephine Carpenter Burns. Age 42. Died in Lancaster, New Hampshire. Daughter of Mrs. Edna M. (Smith) Carpenter and the late Frank Carpenter.

April 3, 1950—Mary (Smith) Smith, wife of Capt. Charles Smith, Sister of Byron Smith and daughter of Heman Smith. Interment in Everett, Mass.

June 30th, 1950—Wilfred M. Smith in Belmont, Mass. Son of George H. Smith of Clark's Harbor. Father of Capt. (U.S. Army) Davis M. Smith serving on General MacArthur's Staff in Tokyo, Japan.

"They never quite leave us, our friends who have passed  
From the shadow of death to the sunlight above;  
A thousand bright memories are holding them fast,  
To the places they blest with their presence and love."

Our hearts go out in loving sympathy to members who have lost loved ones from their family circle.

"Where the river of life flows soft and sweet  
Through the garden of God so fair,  
He has gathered them all, those broken links,  
We shall find them waiting there."

## THE SMITH JOURNAL

Our "Smith Journal" reaches 187 families in the following States:

Massachusetts	New Jersey	Arizona
New York	Montana	Maine
Rhode Island	Colorado	Vermont
Washington	California	Connecticut
Florida	New Hampshire	Washington, D. C.
Indiana		Pennsylvania
British Columbia		Nova Scotia

and even as far as Japan

We earnestly solicit news items or family items of interest to our readers. We need the help of all our members.

Do you recall some interesting legend or fact regarding the Smith's? If so, pass it along through the "Journal." We're sure others would be glad to read it.

Help us to make this a going—interesting—News Journal that is a real credit to the "Smiths."

YOUR EDITORS

"All had a share in the giving;  
All had a share in the plan;  
What does it matter what duty  
Falls to the lot of man?  
Someone has blended the plaster;  
Someone has carved the stone;  
Neither the man nor the Master  
Ever has builded alone.  
Building a room from the weather,  
Or building a house for a King:  
Only by working together  
Can we ever accomplish a thing."

## COAT OF ARMS

A copy of the Smith Coat of Arms was displayed and offered to the members at the following prices.

Painted in color on plain card \$5.00

Painted in color with mounting 5.50

Anyone interested in procuring one may contact either Mr. Thomas E. Smith or Miss Ruth G. Smith, Marblehead, Mass.

Would you like to have some calling cards or stationery printed with the small coat of arms? (Same as on second page of this Annual Report.) If so, please contact Miss Ruth G. Smith, [REDACTED], Marblehead for prices and quantities.

An interesting lawn name marker can be seen at [REDACTED], Marblehead also. It incorporates the coat of arms in color and the name Smith beside it mounted on a low white post. Drive around if you are in town and see it.

The emblem is carved and the colors true and protected with special varnish to combat all kinds of weather.

### — NOTICE —

Does any member have an extra copy of "The History of Barrington" by Crowell, that you would give or sell to another member? If so please contact the Secretary. A request has been made and as far as can be determined no new copies are available.



Our Annual Reports are sent as a matter of Historical Record to the following:

- The Essex Institute, Salem, Mass.
- Malden Public Library, Malden, Mass.
- American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass.
- Maine Historical Society Library, Portland, Maine
- Portland Public Library, Portland, Maine
- F. E. Parlin Memorial Library, Everett, Mass.
- National Society Daughters of American Revolution,  
Washington, D. C. Library
- American Historical Company, Inc., New York, N. Y.
- The New England Historic Genealogical Society,  
Boston, Mass.
- Boston Public Library, Boston, Mass.
- Minneapolis Public Library, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- The New York Historical Society, New York, N. Y.
- The Long Island Historical Society,  
Brooklyn, New York
- Public Library, Arlington, Mass.
- Public Library, Falmouth, Mass.
- Public Library, Cambridge, Mass.
- Coast Guard Publication, Shelburne, Nova Scotia  
Corporation Department,  
State of Maine, Portland, Maine
- Salem Public Library, Salem, Mass.
- Plymouth Public Library, Plymouth, Mass.
- Public Library, Lynn, Mass.