

# Local History & Genealogical Society

COOPERATING WITH THE DALLAS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Volume 1

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Number 4

**OUR CREED:** "To forget ones ancestors is to be a brook without a source, a tree without a root."—Chinese.

## THE PRESERVATION OF ARCHIVES AND MANUSCRIPTS, AS VIEWED BY THE U. S. ARCHIVES BUREAU

The March, 1955, bulletin of the NATIONAL ARCHIVES STAFF INFORMATION PAPERS stresses the importance of preserving archives in the following manner:

"The chief monument of the history of a nation is its archives . . . it is unquestionably as much a function of the government to provide for the preservation and use of its archives as it is to make laws and levy taxes. This is recognized in all civilized countries, and to neglect properly to perform this function is not only unbefitting the dignity of a great state, but it endangers an inheritance which future generations have a right to demand shall pass to them unimpaired . . ."

"The value of these archives may truly be said to be inestimable. In the transaction of current business those of recent date are in constant use while those of earlier origin are frequently referred to. They constitute the chief protection of the state against unfounded or ill-founded claims. In international discussions or disputes they are the principal source from which arguments may be drawn to support the contentions of the government. On them are based the titles to millions of acres of land and to thousands of patent rights. The actual money loss, to say nothing of the inconvenience, that would result to the government and to citizens as well, by the destruction of any considerable part of the federal archives, can hardly be calculated."

It is obvious that the above-stated principles apply in the same manner to state archives, county archives, and manuscripts, and their preservation, which is one of the purposes of the Local History & Genealogical Society, is of the utmost importance to citizens of this community and every other community in Texas. Such a program is encouraged by Dr. Seymour V. Connor, Texas State Archivist in Austin and by the Texas Heritage Foundation (whose new president is Karl Hobitzelle of Dallas), as well as numerous other historical-minded groups in Texas, so that work on local levels may supplement that on state and national levels. In addition to Dallas individuals co-operating with the Local History & Genealogical Society's program, Judge and Mrs.

## BOOKS OF INTEREST

The following books have been added to the Texas, Local History and Genealogical Department of the Dallas Public Library, as reported by Mrs. Margaret Pratt:

Early, R. H.—Campbell Chronicles & Family Sketches Embracing the History of Campbell County, Virginia, 1782-1926; published 1927. This is one of a collection of early record books donated this year by the Dallas chapter of Daughters of Founders and Patriots in America. It is a history covering the growth of the various communities in Campbell County, the religions, schools, politics, and cites leading citizens of different areas. Soldiers from colonial wars through World War I are also discussed. The last chapter is an alphabetically-arranged history of pioneer families and their descendants.

Slaughter, Rev. Philip—History of Bristol Parish published 1879. This is another of the Founders & Patriots collection mentioned above. Bristol Parish was established in 1642 in what was then part of Henric County, on the Appomattock River in Virginia. A careful account of the parish history is given, with excerpts from sermons occasionally to illustrate viewpoints of the clergymen. The second part of the book discusses families of the parish—including the Randolphs, Walkers, Eppes and Gilliams—and gives data extracted from the Parish Register.

Allen, Penelope Johnson — Tennessee Soldiers in the Revolution; published 1935. A roster has been taken from Revolutionary Army accounts of North Carolina for soldiers living in Washington and Sullivan counties of Tennessee. Wills of Washington County as well as marriages of Blount and Davidson counties are included.

Tennessee State Library and Archives  
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Broadfoot of Bonham, Mrs. W. B. Chambers of Sangre, Mrs. Leon S. Boatwright of Mabank, Mr. Eugene Bray of Paris, and Mrs. Balfour H. Clark of Corsicana have contributed their efforts toward this work and encouraged others in their communities to join them. It is a project that would be equally important to other communities and one which members of the Society would be happy to help organize elsewhere, or give other assistance.

## LIST OF NEW MEMBERS AND CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS LIST

- Anthony, Mrs. John W.  
1622 Nolte Drive, WO 3633, Dallas
- Birt, Mrs. C. Leslie  
3401 Bryn Mawr, EM 4751, Dallas
- Brunton, Miss Ada  
8040 Bruton Drive, EV 1080, Dallas
- Chambers, Mrs. W. B.  
Drawer 88, Sanger, Texas
- Cullar, Mrs. James W.  
3359 Shelly Blvd. FE 2669, Dallas
- Dawley, Mrs. J. W., Jr.  
3517 Princeton, JU 7276, Dallas
- Ford, Mrs. Gus L.  
6725 Golf Drive, LA 2600, Dallas
- Garlington, Miss Marie  
2701 Fairmont, RA 3761, Dallas
- Green, John Piath  
1625 Kirby Bldg., PR 4851, Dallas
- Grigsby, Miss Sarah G.  
4137 Hawthorne, JU 1459, Dallas
- Hanley, Mrs. R. D.  
4025 Southwestern, EM 4212, Dallas
- Harvey, Jack R.  
5203 Worth, VI 0911, Dallas
- Holland, Mrs. Weaver E.  
14461 Preston Rd., AD 5-7125, Dallas
- Landon, Mrs. C. H.  
6021 Morningside, VI 5124, Dallas
- Langley, Mrs. W. G.  
5001 Drexel, JU 6442, Dallas
- Laughter, Miss Pearl and  
Laughter, Miss Vernon  
3621 Southwestern, EM 0598, Dallas
- Looney, Mrs. Chas.  
3235 South Ewing, FR 0476, Dallas
- Loucks, Paris W.  
5947 Vanderbilt, TR 8413, Dallas
- Mitchell, Mrs. Geo. C.  
8400 San Fernando, FA 1503, Dallas
- Newman, Mrs. U. J.  
2502 W. Jefferson, WE 9785, Dallas
- Noland, C. L.  
10155 Eastwood Drive, DA-7-2572
- Peterson, Hazel A.  
5522 Longview, VI 6251, Dallas
- Price, Mrs. Verna Tye  
5740 Morningside, TR 1826, Dallas
- Taylor, Emma Jane  
1025 N. Bishop, WO 9292, Dallas
- Thomas, Francis E.  
6006 Tremont, TA 5723, Dallas
- Turner, Mrs. Maurice C.  
3820 Gillon, LA 1854, Dallas
- Ward, Mrs. Lola Blair  
2045 Pleasant Drive, EX 3624, Dallas
- White, Mrs. Carter B.  
1600 Oak Knoll, A 5820, Dallas
- Zehner, Mrs. W. C.  
114 West Pembroke, WI 5285, Dallas

**BOOKS OF INTEREST—Continued**  
(From Page One)

—Writing on Tennessee Counties. Microfilms and Books-in-print available on Inter-library Loan, No. 1; published 1954. This little booklet is not only handy for inter-library loans, but also as a good guide to Tennessee sources. Ask for it at Mrs. Pratt's desk.

Fields, F. T., and Humble Oil and Refining Company—Texas Sketchbook. This beautifully illustrated booklet is a compilation of several historical articles on Texas which were previously published in other Humble magazines. Donated by the author and also kept at Mrs. Pratt's desk for the time being.

Comstock, John A.—A History & Genealogy of the Comstock Family in America. Donated by Mr. E. B. Comstock. This contains excellent family material from early colonial New England up to the present day and the 48 states

Pratt, Walter M.—House of Edward Winslow, Built in the Eighteenth Century at Plymouth Massachusetts; published 1950. Donated by the Dallas Colony, Society of Mayflower Descendants in State of Texas. This is a brief discussion of the Winslow house, purchased by the Mayflower Society in 1941, and the families who lived there. Numerous photographs, with a chapter also on the memorials established and other civic accomplishments of the Society.

Boston Transcript—on microcards; the first part of this early paper was part of a collection of material donated by Charles Noland. It is an excellent source for New England data.

Jones, U. J.—History of Early Settlement of the Juniata Valley; published 1940. (Floyd G. Hoemstine is co-author). This is an account of the early pioneers and their hardships in settling the valley. Typical of the times are the prices quoted from Governor Morris in 1754 of \$150 and \$130 apiece for Indian prisoners alive and \$130 for the "scalp of every male Indian of above twelve years" and \$50 for the scalp of every Indian woman.

Pruitt—Migration of South Carolinians on Natchez Trace; published 1949. This small book is on old one, but one to remember. It lists the South Carolina families taking up land in Tenn

**SOCIETY TO SPONSOR CLINIC ON PRESERVATION OF FAMILY RECORDS**

The Society, at its May meeting, voted to sponsor a clinic early next fall for those persons who are interested in learning how to preserve family records.

The clinic will be primarily for beginners and for persons who would like to improve their own methods. It will be designed primarily for members of the Society, but non-members will be welcome.

The President of the Society appointed the following persons to be on the committee to organize such a clinic: Charles Noland, Chairman; Margaret Scruggs Carruth, Margaret Pratt, John Plath Green, Lolo Blair Ward, Tom L. Tipton, Jr., and Mrs. Gus L. Ford.

The clinic will be held in the evening in the air-conditioned offices of the new Dallas Public Library.

Persons who are interested should contact Mr. Noland at VI-3969, Mr. Green at PR-4851, or Mrs. Pratt at the Reference Room, Dallas Public Library.

esse, Alabama, and Mississippi after the Revolution, as they moved along the Natchez Trace (or Chickasaw Road) in spite of Indian raids and highwaymen.

Proposed History of William and Mary College—a small booklet donated by Mrs. George Carlisle. A list of all known students and teachers at this institution is included, spanning a surprisingly large number of colonial and revolutionary-day families. Ask at Mrs. Pratt's desk for it.

The North Carolinian, new quarterly magazine. Various county records, pension data, and 1800 Census of North Carolina are being carried in installments.

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**Local History & Genealogical Society**  
Dallas, Texas

President: John Plath Green

Secretary: Mrs. Dee Brown Walker

Treasurer: Mrs. C. C. Hayley

Editors: Charles Noland and Hazel A.

Peterson

Editorial Assistants: E. B. Comstock,

Chas. L. Syron, Mrs. Margaret

Scruggs Carruth, Tom L. Tipton, Jr.

**SOCIETY FORMED IN BONHAM, TEXAS**

Judge and Mrs. A. S. Broadfoot have reported to our Society that a group of interested persons have organized a similar society in Bonham, Texas, modeled after our Local History and Genealogical Society with the same or similar purposes. Our Society has offered to work with the Bonham group in preparing its Charter and By-Laws. The organization has been named "Fannin County Historical Society." Mrs. Broadfoot is a member of our society.

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**LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

Miss Hazel A. Peterson was requested by Mrs. Margaret Pratt to give a report for our monthly publication regarding a set of books currently on the shelves of the Library n the History of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

Miss Peterson's report is as follows:

**LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**, edited by H. M. J. Klein, and published 1924 by Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc. 4 vols. (R974.8, Pa. shelves).

Attention is called to this set for its invaluable data on Lancaster County. The first two volumes are broken into several sections with data carried from colonial times to present day. Townships, boroughs, and other types of communities are taken individually with a discussion of their founding and early settlers, and subsequent development. One section is devoted to a detailed history of the county and military and civic services performed by citizenry. Other sections are included on industries, religions (from early congregations on), schools, and various club groups. Following a brief section on natural history in the area, is an appendix listing military personnel from revolutionary days through World War I, indicating company, rank, and family in later wars.

Volumes III and IV have their own index in Volume IV. These two are interesting in that they include biographies of well-known citizens as well as their ancestral history, fifth references noted for data.

—Hazel A. Peterson.

The next meeting will be held at 12:00 at the YMCA on June 30th. We cordially invite you to bring anyone who is interested in our work.