

The Landmark Society

News

Bradford, Pa.

January 25, 1983

New Series #2

Hearty, if somewhat belated, wishes for a happy 1983 accompany this first newsletter of the year. First and foremost, a newsletter should provide news, so here goes:

The Shawl Exhibit

The Bradford Landmark Society is exhibiting an interesting collection of antique shawls on Wednesday and Thursday, January 26th and 27th (practically as you read this, so don't waste any time getting there). The exhibit will be in the Carnegie Public Library. Hours are 1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday from 11:00 - 5:00. Many thoughtful hours have been lavished on this program, so try and make it.

Two Coming Attractions -- Watch Out for Them

1. Book Sale -- Yes, Virginia, there will be a book sale sometime this summer, date and location to be determined. So if you have any old books around the house that aren't being used to hold up the coffee table, give us a call at the Bakery Headquarters. If you have a lot of old tomes, we can provide some strong-armed types to make a housecall and pick them up. Or you can drop off dribs and drabs (a little bit at a time) at 45 East Corydon St. any weekday afternoon. We also accept records and magazines and are especially interested in old books worth thousands of dollars apiece. We're not picky.

2. A film called "The Bradford Story" or something of the sort. This old sound film is currently being restored for use at a West Coast film lab (quite near Hollywood, actually), and will be shown at U.P.B. sometime in the spring, perhaps as early as March. The film seems to date back to near the beginning of the sound era (late 1920's) and features many prominent Bradfordians. Some of the featured players in the film will be available for autographs following the showing, we understand. Watch for announcements on the film showing -- it should be exciting.

News from Headquarters

Jane Stack Reports: We have been unhappy to know that people have tried to reach us or visit us and found that "we weren't there." Great effort is being put forth to keep open every day from 1:30-4:30. And most every day we manage. We have not been able to find any CETA, Green Thumb, or R.S.V.P. help so we depend on just a couple of our good volunteers. And we should have two people to work each afternoon. These past weeks we have had two or three tours and you can't be upstairs guiding people through and downstairs to answer the phone and catalog, and sew, and dust, and clean, etc. So if you do have some extra hours to volunteer, phone or stop in.

Headquarters (continued)

Thank you, Bob Blair, for listening to my complaints about the books on the back room floor and passing the word to Dr. Taylor, who watched the ads and found a good buy on metal shelves. Dr. Taylor, Glenn Stover, and two Taylor boys assembled and braced the five sets of shelves in the back room and filled them with the contents of a lot of boxes. Now I can complain only about the magazines and the leftover boxes.

People suddenly noticed that we have bars on the windows. Once again we owe our thanks to the same group, with the additions of Bob Doyle and Bob Gutelius.

I did a "Yesterdays' Fashions" show at the Catholic Women's Club a couple of Tuesdays ago, and the women in attendance were truly impressed with our collection of clothing, accessories, etc. The fact is that many of these items are in need of repair; some will require major restoration work. If you know anything about repairing old clothing or parasols, or know someone who does, we would surely welcome your help. (Incidentally, Betty Robinson, busy as ever with genealogy work, will be giving a talk on the subject at an upcoming Catholic Women's Club meeting.)

Trains, trains, trains -- Tom Stuart of Weston Mills, who wrote the "Kendall and Eldred" train book and Terry Mott of Bradford have been in a few times and we were so pleased to have pictures and material (BB&K, etc.) to help in their research. And Terry became a member. And they met other train buffs while they were at the Bakery -- great!

Country fair patrons -- no bills are being mailed, but Dorothy Shields requests that if you've forgotten to mail or drop off your donation, please do so now.

Recent acquisitions include clothing, records, a 1909 minstrel show brochure, a minutes book of the First Families of Tuna Valley, school books, and pictures of Bradford showing the fire bell and tower on Quintuple. And the nicest part is that each time someone drops in, we learn a little more of our history.

As we begin the New Year, we gratefully acknowledge your continuing support and ask that as you chat, you mention that we are a Bradford Historical museum -- so drop in and make our acquaintance.

At the Farm

Our Crook Farm will open late this spring and we hope there will be volunteers so that it can be open Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 5 o'clock as it was in 1982. Please offer your help.

Plans for this summer include building "William's carpenter shop." We hope to have boys and George Bey of the Senior High School staff help our volunteer carpenters reconstruct this building. When finished, the building should augment the present kitchen facilities.

We expect to continue our one-room-school learning experience for area schools' fifth-graders and will need help again this year. Beulah Blair will share teaching with interested retired teachers. Please call 368-5532 to volunteer your services.

Our 1982 vegetable garden was a huge success. Philip Urban received several awards for his produce from the Genesee Country Village at Mumford, New York near Rochester. We hope the Urbans are also going to plant the 1983 garden. At this time, we are looking for interested men or women, boys or girls, to help in planting and caring for our flower and herb gardens. "Many hands make light work."

The Naturalist Club has been active this winter in maintaining the trails. Woodchips have been delivered from a local tree service and will need to be spread this spring. Steve Hodges reported "bear tracks" on one of the trails.

Anyone with needle and thread and willing to help in the project of replacing curtains, call 8-6608 or 8-5532.

It will soon be picnic time, and two groups have already made reservations for the use of the farm. Several workshops are in the planning stage -- more about this in a later newsletter.

Motoring We Go, Circa 1925

The Buffalo-Pittsburgh Highway Association was the name of a group which evidently served as the forerunner of the present-day Route 219 association. Sometime in the 1920s (judging from the automobiles pictured within), the Association published an interesting little booklet titled, "Motoring through Nature's Gallery." It describes the scenic route from Buffalo to Pittsburgh via "an all-paved highway, practically every mile of which is concrete." There are wonderful passages throughout the publication; the one describing our fair city follows:

"An Oil Kingdom Ahead--Bradford the Capital

"From Buffalo to Salamanca the road runs through a delightful farming country. At Bradford Junction, where the highway crosses the Allegheny river over the B-P bridge, the mountain ranges of Western Pennsylvania come into view. Derricks, half hidden by trees, will signal to you that you are entering an oil country -- 100 per cent pure, (that is, the oil) -- and the chugging sounds that come from back in the woods will indicate where gasoline pumps are drawing oil from the earth.

"Volumes of romantic adventure could be written on Bradford and the country which surrounds it. Imagine if you will a city being born with a heterogeneous population of fifty thousand souls, all in a struggling, maddened craze for sudden wealth, and you have a picture of Bradford as it was at the beginning of oil discoveries in this country. In the cauldron of the passing years it has been distilled into a refined, orderly little city of less than half its original population, but with its power for good in finance, manufacture, commerce, education and religious and civic affairs increased a thousand fold.

"Bradford," says Mr. D. W. Dean, editor of the Bradford Era, 'lies at the heart of scenic splendors which, if less massive than the awesome Rockies and more ordered than the wild welter of the tropics, are unsurpassed in the world for vivid coloring, grace of outline and sense-soothing serenity. Picturesque, verdure clad mountains, fecund valleys and swiftly coursing streams dashing gaily through mysterious canyons contribute to a panorama that shifts with delightful swiftness and constant surprises before the view of the tourist who may have a few hours to spend upon the splendid network of hard surfaced roads of moderate grade which now thread the oil fields. Bradford also is a center of the oil industry in Pennsylvania and metropolis of a field which after fifty years of operation, is still producing more than 3,000,000 barrels per year of the highest grade crude oil in the world.

"Bradford sang the cradle song of Petroleum in the early days of drilling and has contributed largely to the development of what is now one of the world's greatest and most essential industries. The local field is at present the most intensively and scientifically worked in the world and is responding with steadily increasing output. No major oil field is without its representation of former Bradford operators, and many of the great world captains of the industry received their primary schooling in this field. First hand, authoritative information in relation to all phases of the business from field to refined market is always available to inquirers and its various interesting processes, including the "shooting" of wells, are open to inspection."

"The people of Bradford have become so keenly alive to the benefits of modern highway transportation that they have achieved for their city and surrounding territory the unique distinction of rendering financial aid to highway development in a neighboring state. They did that by contributing to the state of New York \$90,000 to aid in securing better road and bridge facilities to the Pennsylvania state line at Bradford Junction. Besides, they have improved at their own expense under the leadership of the Bradford Board of Commerce, Interstate Parkway to Allegheny Park.

"These, among other reasons, make it clear why Bradford is the commercial and manufacturing capital of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Oil kingdom. Its next and equally great distinction is that it is located on the B-P Highway, and that it opens the way to one of the finest playgrounds in the east -- Allegheny State Park, located a few miles north and just across the New York and Pennsylvania state line. This park covers about 65,000 acres of the most delightful woodland country it will be your good fortune to strike,"



The Landmark Society

News

Bradford, Pa.

April 15, 1983

New Series #3

The Annual Meeting

The annual meeting and election of officers will take place Monday, April 25, at the Valley Hunt Club. A refreshment hour will begin at 6:00 p.m. with dinner to follow at approximately 7:00. Included on the menu will be a choice of:

Stuffed Cornish game hens: \$8.00

Stuffed pork chops: \$9.50

Jackie Jones is spearheading the effort to contact all Landmark Society members by phone to see whether or not they can attend this year's meeting. You may not be home when a member of this telephone committee calls, so you can make reservations by simply calling or stopping in at the Bakery headquarters. If you wish to attend the meeting but not the dinner, that's o.k., too. Just plan to come to the Valley Hunt Club at about 8:30.

This year's three-person nominating committee, charged with selecting candidates for the board of directors and officers, consists of Jackie Jones, Beulah Blair, and Sue Kish.

This year's entertainment? Naturally, you would expect the usual scintillating, enlightening, downright wonderful program. You will certainly not be disappointed by this year's offering. You will be able to thrill to sights and sounds unseen and unheard in Bradford for the past 50 years! Delight in a cast of hundreds in quaint local settings of yesteryear. Sound like a movie advertisement? It should, for this year's entertainment comes via the Pennsylvania Humanities Council and Western Film and Video in California. Bradford's own story, on 16-millimeter film, recently reprocessed at great cost just for this occasion, will provide the evening's entertainment.

See you there!

Jane Stack and the Bakery Headquarters

Those of you who drop in from time to time at 45 East Corydon and enjoy looking around or chatting with Jane know that things have not been the same in recent weeks, due to Jane's illness and absence from the Bakery. Her usual outstanding contributions and charming presence at the Bakery have been sorely missed. We selfishly wish her well anxiously awaiting her return to duty.

In the meantime, grateful thanks are extended to the volunteers who have been working at the Bakery the last few weeks. Incidentally, a few extra hands would be welcome, so if you have some extra time in the afternoons between 1:30 and 4:30, call or stop in and offer your services. Our motto is, "No volunteer help turned away," or something like that.

The Nebraska Connection

Betty Robinson has recently been doing some research on the subject of Bradfordians in the 19th century, who combined to form the Nebraska Mutual Aid Society, a group which left Bradford in 1883 with the intention of forming a colony in Nebraska, where plenty of rich farm land was available for homesteading. Betty passed along some of her findings recently, in case others might be interested in this little-known part of local history.

From the "Daily Developments" column of the Bradford Era Tuesday morning, April 24, 1883:

"The Nebraska colony will leave for the West at 10 A M today by way of the Erie. F. H. Garfield, traveling passenger agent of the N.Y. P & O will accompany them as far as Chicago. The destination is Stewart, Nebr., and it is expected that the colony will start in 100 strong."

The following morning, the Era reported on the actual embarkation of the group:

"The Nebraska colony, about 120 strong, left on the ten o'clock train yesterday, a large crowd being present to see them off. There were a number of affecting scenes of parting, but the occasion was not without ludicrous incidents. As the train moved off friends jocosely cried, 'we'll expect you all back next fall if the walking is good,' while the hotel runner earnestly advised the immigrants to take along wooden shoes as being more durable than leather for prolonged pedestrian exercises. The party will quit the railroad at Stuart, Nebr. and thence betake them to some spot on the virgin prairie. Their present intention is to locate there permanently, but time alone can tell. A number of the men will build houses before bringing on their families. The result of the Nebraska experiment will be watched with interest."

By this time, you are probably asking yourself why people would have left Bradford back in 1883 when, as any local schoolboy knows that the area was full of oil, that the population of Bradford had recently boomed from a few hundred to over 15,000, and that everyone in the whole valley was rich because of the oil industry. The answer to this puzzler is to be found in an interesting little book titled To and Through Nebraska. By a Pennsylvania Girl, written by Frances I. Sims Fulton and published in Lincoln, Nebraska in 1884.

The book is quaint, opening with a word to the reader in which Ms. Fulton assures the peruser of her book that "It is truly an unbiased work, so do not chip and shave at what may seem incredible, but, as you read, remember you read ONLY TRUTH." She goes on to claim that her brother, C. T. Fulton, was the originator of the plan, and that her parents also went to Nebraska. She planned to claim a tract of land for her younger brother, who was too young to claim one for himself under the Homestead Act; she would pass it along when her brother was 21 in return for "his abstaining from the use of tobacco and intoxicating drinks in every shape and form."

As to how the society came to be formed and subscribed, Ms. Fulton explains in the following lengthy quote, which also provides a nice description of Bradford in the 1880s:

". . . by 1878 the quiet little village of 500 inhabitants was transformed into a perfect beehive of 18,000 busy people, buying and selling oil and oil lands, drilling wells that flowed with wealth, until the owners scarce knew what to do with their money; and, forgetting it is a long lane that has no turning, and a deep sea that has no bottom, lived as though there was no bottom to their wells, in all the luxury the country could afford. And even to the laboring class money came so easily that drillers and pumpers could scarce be told from a member of the Standard Oil Company.

"Bradford has been a home to many for only a few years. Yet years pass quickly by in that land of excitement; building snug, temporary homes, with every convenience crowded in, and enjoying the society of a free, social, intelligent people. Bradford is a place where all can be suited. The principal churches are well represented; the theaters and

operas well sustained. The truly good go hand in hand; those who live for society and the world can find enough to engross their entire time and attention, while the wicked can find depth enough for the worst of living. We have often thought it no wonder that but few were allowed to carry away wealth from the oil country; for, to obtain the fortune sought, many live a life contrary to their hearts' teachings, and only for worldly gain and pleasure. Bradford is nicely situated in the valley 'where the waters meet,' and surrounded by a chain or net-work of hills, that are called spurs of the Alleghany mountains, which are yet well wooded by a variety of forest trees, that in autumn show innumerable shades and tinges. From among the trees many oil derricks rear their 'crowned heads' seventy-five feet high, which, if not a feature of beauty, is quite an added interest and wealth to the rugged hills. From many of those oil wells a flow of gas is kept constantly burning, which livens the darkest night.

"Thus Bradford has been the center of one of the richest oil fields, and like former oil metropolis has produced wealth almost beyond reckoning. Many have come poor, and gone rich. But the majority have lived and spent their money even more lavishly than it came--so often counting on and spending money that never reached their grasp. But as the tubing and drills began to touch the bottom of this great hidden sea of oil, when flowing wells had to be pumped, and dry holes were reported from territory that had once shown the best production, did they begin to reckon their living, and wonder where all their money had gone. Then new fields were tested, some flashing up with a brilliancy that lured many away, only to soon go out, not leaving bright coals for the deluded ones to hover over; and they again were compelled to seek new fields of labor and living, until now Bradford boasts of but 12,000 inhabitants.

"Thus people are gathered and scattered by life in the oil country. And to show how fortunes in oil are made and lost, we quote the great excitement of Nov., 1882, when oil went up, up, and oil exchanges, not only at Bradford, but from New York to Cincinnati, were crowded with the rich and poor, old and young, strong men and weak women, investing their every dollar in the rapidly advancing oil.

"Many who had labored hard, and saved close, invested their all; dreaming with open eyes of a still advancing price, when they would sell and realize a fortune in a few hours.

"Many rose the morning of the 9th, congratulating themselves upon the wealth the day would bring.

"What a world of pleasure the anticipation brought. But as the day advanced, the 'bears' began to bear down, and all the tossing of the 'bulls of the ring' could not hoist the bears with the standard on top. So from \$1.30 per barrel oil fell to \$1.10. The bright pictures and happy dreams of the morning were all gone, and with them every penny, and often more than their own were swept.

"Men accustomed to oil-exchange life, said it was the hardest day they had ever known there. One remarked, that there were not only pale faces there, but faces that were green with despair. This was only one day. Fortunes are made and lost daily, hourly. When the market is 'dull,' quietness reigns, and oilmen walk with a measured tread. But when it is 'up,' excitement is more than keeping pace with it.

"Tired of this fluctuating life of ups and downs, many determined to at last take Horace Greeley's advice and 'go west and grow up with the country,' and banded themselves together under the title of 'The Nebraska Mutual Aid Colony.'"

Ms. Fulton then continues with the organization of the Society (a bit slow at first, since the first call for the group attracted only about ten prospective members). She goes on to describe at some length the trip west; this part of the book is really rather unremarkable except when she reprints the incredibly bad poem she had written earlier about the "martyred" President Garfield (assassinated in 1881 by a madman named Guiteau, who was hanged the following year although he was undeniably insane). She finishes the section on the Bradford group (which is actually chapter 1 of her book) with a description of their arrival in Nebraska, the physical aspect of the place, the people, and some of the routine of daily life, not to mention another sample of her awful poetry.

So what happened to the settlers, and to Ms. Fulton? Betty Robinson provides some information: "The Nebraska Mutual Aid Colony really didn't settle in one district as had been

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originally planned. A number of them did end up locating on land just south of the South Dakota border in what was Brown County, Nebraska in 1883, with the nearest post office called Brewer at the time. It is now Burton, Nebraska in the county of Keya Paha. A number of the colonists bought land in the Platte valley, further south, in Dawson and other counties.

Ms. Fulton traveled through most of Nebraska via the various rail routes. One area was Furnas County -- though not mentioned in her book, the Case brothers of Little Valley and the Bradford Case Co. had been there 10 years before running a stage line as well as homesteading. Ms. Fulton apparently married a minister about May 15, 1884 in Lincoln Nebraska."

Any other information hereabouts on the Nebraska colonists?

Crook Farm Plans Visits

The Crook Farm looks to be a busy place again this summer, what with the Country Fair and visits from people in the Elderhostel program at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, as well as plans for new construction projects on the grounds. Two groups have recently made plans to picnic at the Farm, including a local Methodist women's organization and the Home Bureau group from near Buffalo, who will also visit the Bakery Headquarters during their May 9 visit. Hope it warms up by then!

SEE YOU AT THE ANNUAL DINNER MEETING.

BRADFORD LANDMARK SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Bradford, Pa.

December 7, 1983

New Series #4

Retrospective on Education in McKean County

A copy of the Pennsylvania Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for 1878 has surfaced recently at the Bakery headquarters of the Society, and provides not a little interest for a couple of reasons. In the first place, the original owner of the book must not have considered it to be of enduring interest, for many pages in the early parts are missing and the remaining ones are used as a scrapbook for clippings, mainly of a humorous nature, or a supposedly humorous nature at any rate. Many of the offerings are in the form of so-called "light verse," a form of writing that has all but disappeared in modern times (information that should bring a collective sigh of relief to anyone familiar with the form).

Knowing that there will be skeptical readers who assume I exaggerate and this material really is hilarious, I have selected one example, reprinted from the Oil City Derrick: "A man who was ruined by an extravagant wife, when asked where his fortune had gone to, said, 'Toilet it up.'" (No, I don't get it either.)

At any rate, the purpose of this exposition does not concern 19th-Century clippings, but rather the content of the Report. One of the pages remaining in the book (pp. 113-14) contains the report on McKean County by one W. H. Curtis, evidently county Superintendent of Schools in 1878. It is clear from his report that Mr. Curtis was not happy with the state of affairs he found in the county; he spreads his criticism around to include teachers, parents of pupils, and even suggests some administrative failures. The following is the main body of his report:

"In the work of supervision, no attempt has been made at any sensational effects, but I have steadily and systematically labored for every improvement possible in the methods of teaching. I have endeavored to have every pupil, however young, receive instruction in the primary principles of arithmetic, by oral teaching, if not otherwise, and to have some regular exercises, at least, twice a week for all, in the general points of geography and United States history, chiefly the latter. (Ed. Note: Surely a comma salesman, if such a person existed, could have made a fortune from Curtis; there are nine, count 'em, nine commas in the preceding sentence.) I consider it important that every child, to become fitted for citizenship, should obtain a reasonable knowledge of the formation of our government, and the labors and sacrifices it has cost to establish and maintain it.

"I labor always to impress on the minds of teachers their great responsibility, and to urge them to do their duty fully and conscientiously, and that their duty consists, not merely in presenting knowledge to pupils, but in awakening their perceptive and retentive abilities, and in leading them to acquire for themselves. This is one of the highest functions of a teacher.

"In these efforts I have succeeded to a reasonable extent, sometimes being hindered by local causes, but oftener by the self conceit and laziness of some teachers, chiefly of the young and inexperienced class, some of whom know more, in their own opinion, than even the State Superintendent, and more of whom want only to complete the term and draw

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Education (continued)

their pay. No opportunity will be lost to rid the profession of such drones, who are a curse to a community.

"A teacher who will not try to interest the pupils and labor for their improvement is a fraud, obtaining public money under false pretenses.

"Many pupils were found in school without books at all, or only partially supplied. Parents cannot expect them to learn under such conditions, and no teacher has a right to compel the pupil who has books to be deprived of them a portion of the time, to lend to those who have not. Any parent who is not able to buy books, should apply to the school board to get them for him. If he is able, he should get them at once.

"Some parents are too anxious for their children's advancement, and buy them higher books without being sure they are suitable, thus often retarding progress. Many children try to read, for instance, in the fourth reader, who could barely use the third decently.

"Many things for the improvement of our educational interests have been urged in previous reports, and will not therefore be repeated here, though important and necessary now as then.

"The high school at Smethport was closed before the end of the term. The chief difficulty found usually in the conduct of this school is in government.

"The Port Allegheny school was kept open for a long term, with a liberal salary to the principal, and might have been successful, had proper judgment prevailed in conducting it. True progress was sacrificed to the mistaken ambition for languages, sciences, etc., to the neglect of the common English branches. No slight smattering of a few higher studies can compensate for an inability to spell ordinary English words, and to perform the arithmetical operations necessary in business, and such overstrained efforts only bring failure to all concerned.

"The graded school at Bradford was too crowded to succeed very well. A new building, for six departments, is being erected in the central portion of the borough. My urging the necessity of such action, for more than two years past, has possibly aided in this result.

"The Kane graded school has had fair success. The building is the pleasantest and best furnished in the county at this date.

"A new graded school will be established directly in the new borough of Kendall.

"The county institute was held in September, at Smethport, under the able instruction of Honorable S. R. Thompson, State superintendent of Nebraska, whose work and lectures were excellent, and well appreciated. The county superintendent did some work, as always in previous years. The attendance was not at all what it should have been. Those teachers who wish to improve will attend. Those who do not, must expect to be treated accordingly. Too little popular interest is felt in institutes, and whatever success they have, is chiefly due to the superintendent's individual efforts in organization and management.

"I hope to be able to make a more favorable report next year, and am confident it will be justified by marked and general improvement."

The book also contains a statistical section, which breaks down information by school district, of which there were 17 in the county. The following numbers given are for Bradford borough and Bradford township, in that order: number of schools--3 & 11; male teachers--1 & 3; female teachers--3 & 19; average salaries per month for male teachers--\$60 & \$21.33, for females--\$36. and \$26.04; number of scholars--266 & 334; total receipts for the year--\$831.89 & \$3,553.62. There are a lot of other neat numbers; if you are interested, come down to the Bakery and ask to see the book. It does make for interesting reading. Except for the clippings. Which reminds me . . . one final example:

There is a young maid of St. Croix,
Who is "gone" on a clever young boix,
They swing on the gate
Both early and late,
And their lives are o'ergushing with joix.

(Cambridge Tribune)

(Now I do understand that one.)

(But it's still not funny.)

Notes about Our Country Fair, from Pat and Woody Woodruff

Our Country Fair this year, we are very happy to report, was a booming success! Briefly hitting the highlights:

- MORE exhibitors than in previous years.
- MORE than 2,500 were (conservatively) estimated in attendance during the two days of the Fair.
- A beautiful Sunday morning attracted 375 hearty eaters to promptly-served breakfast.
- ENTERTAINMENT was enjoyed by all both days.
- ALL the new features at the Country Fair worked excellently, especially the new cement Dancing Platform.
- THE CHRISTMAS STORE was a huge success.
- THE PATRONS' PARTY, hosted by (and thanks to) Dr. Robert Laing, was well-attended--everybody had an enjoyable time.
- OUR COUNTRY FAIR is a very special event in the Bradford area, and is eagerly anticipated each year.
- THIS is a fine community project, and we are looking forward to more people, wider participation, and more enjoyment for all.

Thanks to ALL who participated and helped in our grand event.

FIRST MEETING '84 COUNTRY FAIR -- Scheduled for January '84 -- we will let you know.

Crook Farm Notes, from Marian Bromeley

Along with the birds came the first of our 500 school children to visit the Farm. The groups from Bradford, the Bradford area, and some from New York State arrive by class and are greeted by our ladies in period costumes. They go to our school, do some weaving and candle-making, scrub and wring clothes--in other words, become old-fashioned homemakers for half a day.

A busload of Home Bureau gals, whose leader has often visited both the Bakery and the Farm, had a tour and lunch, then did the Bakery Museum tour. Many other groups visited, including the Garden Club, church groups, two Elderhostel groups, the Kiwanis, the Genealogical Society, the D.A.R., and Beta Sigma Phi sorority.

Projects completed at the Farm include the Carpenter Shop, which turned into the greatest help during the Fair, a concrete platform, also used during the Fair, and the 19th-Century garden, a good producer, which was planted and cared for by the Urban family. A group of Cub Scouts, directed by Mrs. Paul Reichert, spent two days helping clean up this fall.

A project of great interest and one that has taken much time, is the Naturalist Trail and a book describing it and its special points of interest. All thanks to Marmie and Steve Hodges, Carolyn Alleman, who wrote the book, and Ron Bradley, who not only did the sketches for the book but also those for the postcards and stationery, and for Vera Heron's book, "Everything Looks Delightful."

On Wednesdays during the summer (Tuesdays now) our gals continued to do great work on crafts, curtains, and food. You are invited to help -- and everyone is invited to a Sunday Tea on December 11 from 1-5 p.m. to see our newly refurbished floors and the Farm ready for Christmas.

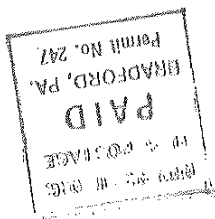
Pat, Woody, Rob, Harry -- what a great success was the Fair. Thank you much. Prize winners: 50-50--Eulaine Rowe; Bird Cage--Mrs. Joe Halleran; Fruit cake--Mrs. Robert Schultz; Bird Feeder--Franklin Shannon.

Around Our Headquarters and Museum Notes, from Jane Stack

Since our last newsletter in the spring, much has taken place, including our annual dinner and the first showing in years of our reprocessed movie from the Thirties, "The Bradford Story." New officers include: President, Dr. Harry Taylor; Vice-president, Dr. Chapin Smith; Secretary, Mrs. Paul Robinson; Treasurer, Mrs. Lawrence Shields; Assistant Treasurer, Mr. Robert Blair. Board members include Mrs. William Vernon, George Tiffany, Woody Woodruff, Mrs. George Daggett, Mrs. Edith Urban, Jaon Turner, Jane Stack, Robert Doyle, Sue Kish, and Gene McGrail.

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Our past President Jean Gutelius and her Bob have left quite a gap in our ranks by moving south -- specifically, to Rte 4 - Box 1348, Manning, S.C. 29102. Not to under- stress their contributions, but Jean -- you know that gorgeous chocolate dessert? And those lunches and breakfast?

Numberless hours are spent at Headquarters planning, decorating, taking reservations, but one of our happy jobs is to take in money, including store, fair, and membership funds. In addition, our Betty Robinson has done such a beautiful job of answering so many letters addressed to Landmarks concerning Genealogy that through her our coffers have been enriched. This includes one generous donation of a \$100 Life Membership and several \$10 contributing memberships. In addition, Betty has generously contributed pay- ments she's received to the treasury.

We had a beautiful bridal show at Headquarters and our ladies did a beautiful job of dressing and turning our Bakery rooms into a stunning display of gowns and accessories. Then came the Country Fair--we again called out our people for the Baked Food Sale and made \$400. We thank all of you for your help.

Another very nice happening occurred when the ladies at the Gingham Gallery sur- prised us by donating all of their doll house inventory when they went out of business. A very sizable amount of goods and, believe me, much appreciated!

Our yellow dogs are still in great demand. Forest Oil has always been our great customer, for which we give thanks, and we have also shipped to West Virginia. Our thanks to Bob Slike and his dad and to Mr. W. Paynter for publicity in "Drilling" magazine. In the course of his three fine articles on oil in Bradford running through three issues of the magazine, Mr. Paynter mentioned that the Bradford Landmark Society had miniatures of the Yellow Dog available. Orders began rolling in from distant places. We've shipped 13 so far to Texas and New Mexico.

We've had a call recently about Little Ireland. Part of that interesting story will appear in the next newsletter, coming soon from your Bradford Landmark Society.

BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON.