

The Landmark Society

News

Bradford, PA 16701

April 1997

N. S. #45

LETTERS ARE A PLEASURE

Teachers rarely get thanked for succeeding in teaching their students so that years later the students become successful. A letter from Julian Ertz, BHS class of 1937, recalls " -happy memories and recollections of great teachers, such as Kathryn Stiable Ulshafer, the Ellenberger brothers, Harold Crossman, George Bell, Armat Duhart, Lillie Royce, Arline Wagstaff, Beth Wharton and, of course, my football coaches, Bob Pflug and Joe Smith, and track coach Fred Paige.

"Kathryn Ulshafer was a fantastic English teacher. I credit her with making me appreciate and achieve so much. She was a tough taskmaster and was, without a doubt, as fine a teacher as I have ever had. In fact, I have told my wife (who is not from Bradford) about her many times over the years, and how she insisted and demanded that we strive for perfection in grammar and in our attempts at composition and oral expression. To show how these impressions lasted, just last month my wife read to me portions from an article from a fine little magazine, 'Guideposts'. The article was entitled 'That Dreaded Term Paper'. The writer recalled a high-school teacher she described as 'the terror of Forsyth County High.' She said that, if exacting attention to the most infinitesimal detail had a hall of fame, her teacher, Mrs. Coots, would be the first person inducted. Her teacher told the students that 'one of these days you students will find that what you're learning here will be useful.' Although few of them believed her, that didn't discourage Mrs. Coots from her relentless drilling in the basics of English composition.

"The writer then went on to Georgia State University and was assigned a lengthy term paper, for an accounting class, by another strict and demanding teacher who warned that content is important, but so is proper form and annotation. He was a tough grader and when the papers were returned, the professor had written a terse note just below the grade, 'See me after class.' As she approached his desk he told her that her term paper 'is among the finest I have ever seen produced by a junior accounting student. This tells me that somewhere along the line you had a remarkable English teacher. If he or she is still alive you should go to that teacher and express your gratitude. Good night.'

"So the writer of the article went to see her high-school teacher. She was not the same. She was ill and pale. The writer handed her the term paper and told her teacher that the accounting professor 'knew someone like you was responsible for my A+ paper and I just wanted to thank you and tell you I really appreciate all you did for me.'

"Mrs. Coots began to cry and said, 'You're the first person ever to thank me.'

"When my wife finished reading portions of that article I told her that this reminds me of my high-school teacher Kathryn Ulshafer. My wife said, 'That's why I read this to you. It sounded just like your English teacher you had told me about over the years.'"

In WWII Julian served in the 44th Bomb Group of the Second Air Division of the Eighth Air Force. When his plane crashed the four members of his crew and two others were killed. He survived with a fractured spine. Julian Ertz now practises law in Newport Beach, California.

Thank you, Julian, for remembering Bradford and writing to us with a message of appreciation to all teachers.

MUSIC WITH PASSION

To the editor of the Landmark Society News:

When I heard about the Landmark Society in Bradford I wondered if anybody remembers the opening of the Emery Hotel in February 1929? It had all the latest electrical equipment including an "Orchestrope" located on the seventh floor. This was a machine that could play both sides of 28 records in a continuous performance for four hours. If I remember rightly, loudspeakers were something new at that time but they had them in the two restaurants on the first floor as well as in hallways. I recall hearing Paul Whiteman's orchestra, Art Hickman's orchestra, Henry Busse, Isham Jones and others. Dance numbers were either "foxtrots" or waltzes. "Baby Face" and "In The Purple Twilight" were foxtrots, "Come On Along" and "Ramona" were waltzes. I also seem to remember "Roses of Picardy" and "A Bright Yellow Primrose" but those may have been earlier.

But the real reason that propelled me to write this letter was a TV program I watched recently on a public service station on Glenn Miller. It was a wonderful program with the new Glenn Miller orchestra back again in the Aragon ballroom in Chicago. They did show a shot of Paul Tanner who was a trombonist with the original Glenn Miller. The dancers were very much a part of the picture. I saw only black tie and evening gowns, graceful and smooth movements. They played all the famous numbers of the thirties and early forties as well as some numbers going back to the 1920's such as "Who's Sorry Now?" 1923, "It Had To Be You" 1924, "You Do Something To Me" 1929, and of course, "Stardust" 1929. The camera caught a handsome couple kissing on the dance floor as the orchestra played "Sabotage"..."If you don't kiss me like you used to kiss me...that's sabotage!...If you don't hug me like you used to hug me...that's sabotage!...etc." It brought back memories and Bradford. Why Bradford? Because I remember going to a party with Hal Kemp's orchestra who played all the numbers that Glenn Miller and Guy Lombardo played. Was it at Grace Emery's home? I don't remember.

Back in New York City I recall meeting Hanford Z. Hight and Hector P. Boncher of the Dresser Company in the tunnel leading from grand central station to the Commodore Hotel. Were they arm in arm? Maybe they were on their way to their offices in the Chanin Building. We were on our way to the 1939 World's Fair, Betty and I. The marvelous World's Fair with Celeste Holm and her special swimming pool. Many wondrous sights I have forgotten. The king and queen of England were in town given as the reason for closing the west side highway in their honor; they were on their way for a visit with FDR. What I remember best is the tea dance we went to in the Roosevelt Grill...in the Roosevelt Hotel, of course. Guy Lombardo's Royal Canadians were playing.

The lyrics were all love stories, played again fifty years later by the new Glenn Miller...how nostalgic can you get? "My Blue Heaven", "My Baby Just Cares For Me", "Stairway To The Stars", "Nevertheless I'm In Love With You", "Moonlight Becomes You",

"Just One Of Those Things", "The Touch Of Your Hand", "Serenade In Blue", "It's Been A Long Long Time...just kiss me once, then kiss me twice...etc.," The Sweetheart Of Sigma Chi", "Wanting You", "Fools Rush In Where Angels Fear To Tread", "So Do I", "You And The Night And The Music, and of course, Glenn's theme song, "Moonlight Serenade". I could go on with many more.

One more thing. Who remembers the piano player in the Five and Ten Cent Store? On Main Street not far from the Emery Hotel was Woolworth's Five and Ten...you could find this in many other towns. Just inside the entrance were racks of sheet music. A girl at an upright piano would be playing the latest numbers. You could pick out a piece of music and ask her to play it for you before you bought it. I'm not sure about this, but it seems to me that in another part of the store they had phonographs in booths like telephone booths where you could try out records, again before buying. (The Woolworth Five and Ten in Bradford opened June 30, 1922.)

(Signed) Just a sentimental old guy who would like to stay anonymous

Thank you Mr. Anonymous, we are sentimental too and not at all bashful about it. We also thank you for reminding us about Grace Emery. We thought it would be fitting to print a picture of Grace and her hotel. (See page 4)

A FAITHFUL CONTRIBUTOR

Lina Melvin Conklin now living in Walnut Creek, California, is one of the last in the line of Bradford pioneers and is a great source of information on Bradford history. She has also supplied us with excerpts from the local historical newsletter from Walnut Creek called the Mt. Diablo Digger of the Mt. Diablo Genealogical Society. Here is an example of a genealogical tip from the "Digger": (See also page 5)

- *There are approximately 3 or 4 generations per century...average age for men to marry was 24; rarely before 20...average age for women was 20; rarely before 16.
- *Births usually occurred at 2 year intervals. Frequently 1st child was born a year after the marriage. As women aged intervals between grew slightly. Child bearing ended around age 45.
- *Families & neighbors generally migrated together from old house. Women seldom traveled alone.
- *A man usually married a woman from his neighborhood. If a stranger shows up check man's former home. Men often returned to former residence to find a wife.
- *If you can't find an old parent, chances are he "went west" with a son. If you have a male ancestor born circa 1840 strongly consider Civil War service.

Thanks again, Lina.

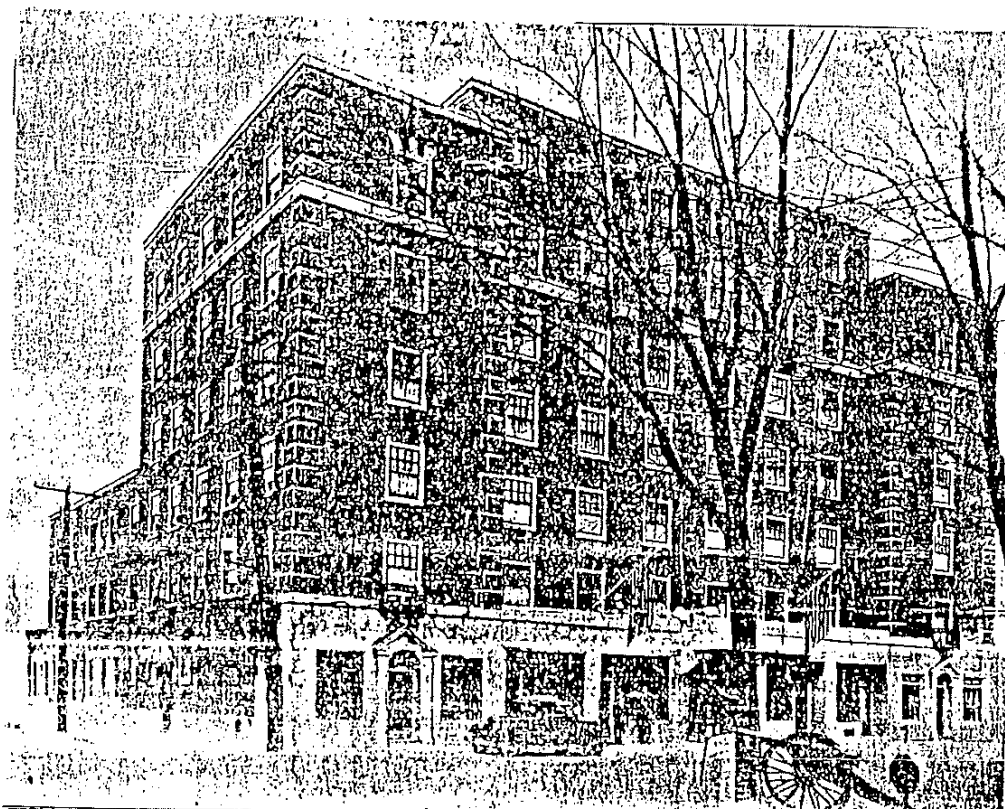
ANOTHER FAITHFUL SOCIETY MEMBER

Betty Robinson is now living in Bellevue, WA with her husband Paul, formerly a professor at UPB. She recently had some major surgery and is convalescing nicely. Older Society members will remember her as the Society Secretary at one time and a dependable volunteer helping with the daily work at the Bakery ever since 1970 until 1990 when they moved to Bellevue. She was one of the famous Bakery team of Jane Stack, Marion Vernon and Betty Robinson. Betty was the genealogy expert and the Society received a number of life memberships as a form of thank you for research she did for members. We are sure she would be glad to hear from friends of the Society. Her address is: Mrs. Paul N. Robinson
5216 - 122nd Place S. E.
Bellevue, WA 98006-2836

Do you have something good for the Newsletter? Write to us.

George Kish, Editor

The Emery Hotel
February 21, 1929
From the Evening Star



Lewis Emery Jr.
Grace Emery's father



Grace Emery

SEVENTEENTH CENTURY TIME LINE

From the Mt. Diablo Genealogical Society courtesy Lina M. Conklin

- 1607—Jamestown, Virginia is founded, the first permanent English town in the present-day U.S.
- 1608—Frenchman Samuel de Champlain founds the village of Quebec, Canada
- 1609—Henry Hudson explores the eastern coast of present-day U.S. for The Netherlands; the Dutch then claim parts of New York, New Jersey, Delaware, and Connecticut and name the area New Netherland
- 1619—Virginia's House of Burgesses, America's first representative lawmaking body, is founded
- 1619—The first shipment of black slaves arrives in Jamestown
- 1620—English Pilgrims found Massachusetts' first permanent town at Plymouth
- 1621—Massachusetts Pilgrims and Indians hold the famous first Thanksgiving feast in colonial America
- 1622—Indians kill 347 settlers in Virginia
- 1623—Colonization of New Hampshire is begun by the English
- 1624—Colonization of present-day New York State is begun by the Dutch at Fort Orange (Albany)
- 1625—The Dutch start building New Amsterdam (now New York City)
- 1630—The town of Boston, Massachusetts is founded by the English Puritans
- 1633—Colonization of Connecticut is begun by the English
- 1634—Colonization of Maryland is begun by the English
- 1635—Boston Latin School, the colonies' first public school, is founded
- 1636—Harvard, the colonies' first college, is founded in Massachusetts
- 1636—Rhode Island colonization begins when Englishman Roger Williams founds Providence
- 1638—The colonies' first library is established at Harvard
- 1638—Delaware colonization begins when Swedish people build Fort Christina at present-day Wilmington
- 1640—Stephen Daye of Cambridge, Massachusetts prints *The Bay Psalm Book*, the first English-language book published in what is now the U.S.
- 1643—Swedish settlers begin colonizing Pennsylvania
- 1647—Massachusetts forms the first public school system in the colonies
- 1650—North Carolina is colonized by Virginia settlers in about this year
- 1650—Population of colonial U.S. is about 50,000
- 1660—New Jersey colonization is begun by the Dutch at present-day Jersey City
- 1670—South Carolina colonization is begun by the English near Charleston
- 1673—Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet explore the upper Mississippi River for France
- 1675-76—New England colonists beat Indians in King Philip's War
- 1682—Philadelphia, Pennsylvania is settled
- 1682—La Salle explores Mississippi River all the way to its mouth in Louisiana and claims the whole Mississippi Valley for France
- 1693—College of William and Mary is founded in Williamsburg, Virginia
- 1700—Colonial population is about 250,000

ANNUAL DINNER MEETING
Thursday April 24, 1997

Togi's Banquet Room
East Bradford

Cocktails: 6:00 PM

Dinner: 7:00 PM

Baked Chicken \$12.00
Baked Haddock 15.00
Strip Steak 17.00

Includes Italian Wedding Soup, Tossed Salad w/Choice of Dressing and Rainbow Sherbert Dessert. Prices include 15% Service Charge and 6% Sales Tax

Please try to make reservations by Friday, April 18, 1997 at the "Bakery", 45 East Corydon St., so that Sally Costik can report a preliminary count. The "Bakery" is open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM, phone 362-3906. Reservations may still be made Monday April 21. PLEASE DO NOT PHONE TOGI'S

There will be a brief intermission following dinner

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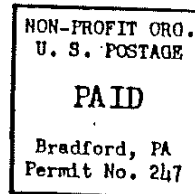
Invocation: Rev. Robert Bromeley

Speaker: Tim Voorhees - Restoration of Crook Farmhouse

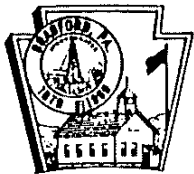
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There will be a brief business meeting before adjournment

BRADFORD LANDMARK SOCIETY
45 East Corydon St.
Bradford, PA 16701



Mr./Mrs. Elmer Delucia
160 Summer Street
Bradford, PA 16701



The Landmark Society

News

Bradford, PA 16701

June 1997

N.S. #46

THE ANNUAL DINNER MEETING OF THE SOCIETY - Thursday evening, April 24, 1997
at Togi's Banquet Room, East Bradford

Fortyfour members attended, presided over by Warren Paynter, president, with benediction given by Rev. Dr. Robert B. Bromeley. Mr Bromeley reminded us that a purpose of the Society is to honor the memory of our fathers and forefathers.

The speaker of the evening was Tim Voorheis, a professional preservationist of historic buildings from Friendship, N. Y. His message was that every building on the Crook Farm has suffered deterioration to some extent including the Farmhouse, the barn, the schoolhouse and all the out-buildings. His talk was thoroughly researched and illustrated with many slides showing examples of deterioration. Much damage has been caused by water soaking into wood foundation elements, structurals, doorways, floors and siding. Sagging floor beams that were shored up with expedient blocking will have to be completely reworked. The Farmhouse roof will have to be restored. Mr. Voorheis estimated that an annual expenditure of about \$10,000 for the next five years will be necessary in order to stop deterioration and prevent further loss that would just get worse.

Principal business was to elect members to the Board filling expirations as of this date. George Kish nominated incumbents Bill Kaschube, Warren Paynter and Rebecca Ryan seconded by Don Watkins. A unanimous ballot followed in the affirmative. Accordingly, the current Board consists of:

George Bay - 1999 - 1st term
Anne Bouquin - 1999 - 2nd term
Isabelle Champlin - 1998 - 1st term
Susan Evans - 1999 - 1st term
William Kaschube - 2000 - 2nd term
Warren Paynter - 2000 - 2nd term
Rebecca Ryan - 2000 - 2nd term
Dorothy Shields - 1998 1st term
Don Watkins - 1998 - 2nd term

Trustees of the Landmark Society Endowment Fund continue as follows:

George Kish - 1999 - 1st term
Helen McKay - 1999 - 1st term
The president of the Board is automatically the third member

Subsequent to the annual meeting, on May 14, 1997, the new Board of Directors had a first meeting and reelected the following officers for the current year:

President - Warren Paynter
Vice President - Isabelle Champlin
Treasurer - Anne Bouquin
Secretary - Susan Evans

BRADFORD LANDMARK SOCIETY ENDOWMENT FUND

Bill Kaschube reported that an anonymous donor will match contributions up to \$10,000.

MEMBERSHIP AND ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE

At present there are 363 members in the Bradford Landmark Society with one-sixth being life members. UPB history students will be encouraged to become involved. The Oral History Committee consists of Bill Kaschube, chairman, Isabelle Champlin and David Poyer. Bill Kaschube reported that obtaining oral histories will be continued. Editor's note: Our archives contain a collection of oral history tape recordings, some of which has been transcribed by a UPB student.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Anne Bouquin, Treasurer

Anne Bouquin distributed the fiscal report for the calendar year 1996, 5 pages. Copies are available at the Bakery.

THE COUNTRY SCHOOL PROGRAM - Rebecca Ryan, Crook Farm Chairman

The Country School Program was in session again thru May and into June for six weeks serving over 1000 fourth and fifth grade students from the surrounding area. Each group of children come for one day on a planned schedule consisting of a half day in the nineteenth century school room with the rest of the day observing life on the farm as it used to be. This year there were 77 volunteers that helped make this happen. 12 "teachers" in the school room, 30 "farmers" demonstrating kitchen work, candle making, weaving, carpenter and blacksmith shops, gardens and barn contents, all dressed in period costumes, including 35 history students from BHS helping in all areas.

The success of programs like this fulfill a gratifying feeling that the purpose of the Landmark Society and the Crook Farm in particular is worthwhile. Very gratifying are letters from over two dozen students received so far telling us how much they enjoyed the experience and thanking us for the opportunity to learn some history first hand. We wish we had room to print some of the darling letters. But we can express our gratitude to the volunteers who gave their time and we thank each and everyone:

<u>Schoolhouse</u>	<u>House and Farm</u>			
Diane Weinger	Barbara Abbot	Doris Knight		Rebecca Ryan
Constance Eymen	Martha Bullock	Jane Larson		John Ryan
Gerry Zetler	Carol Calderwood	Carol Marcott Weinberg		Sam Heyler
Beulah Blair	Ruth Campbell	Constance Eymen		Deborah Smeltzer
Nancy Teague	June Close	Betty Monjar		Elizabeth Stom
Shirley Kervin	Janet Detweiler	Jean Nelson		Mebane Taylor
Mary Keller	Vera Heron	Trudie Ostrander		Doc Watkins
Jeanette Matto	Marmie Hodges	Lynn Ostrander		Patt Roff
Honey Colella	Marlene Kijowski	Claudia Quinn		Patricia Lindstorm
Pauline Higie	Bill Kresge	Ann Ryan		Betty Troutman
Bruce Eymen				
George Bay				
<u>Bradford Senior High School Students</u>				
Troy Babb	Ed Dallenbach	Crystal Barrett	Crystal Barrett	Josh Bridge
Kelly Helton	Wavy Hahn	Melissa Button	Melissa Button	Mike Miller
Kelly Keller	Chris Olin	Beth Delvecchio	Trisha Petrune	Amy Sapala
Lauri Sorensen	Matt Rosell	Jace Meabon	Tawnya Shine	
Ben Wood	Walter Thompson	Dawn Nichols	Jen Smith	

Josh Bridge	Dustin Craig	Wavy Hahn	Jeremy DuBois	Casey Coy
Jeremy DuBois	Jason Flowers	Amy Sapala	Jodie Elliott	Ed Dallenbach
Jenn Garrett	Jeanna Miller	Leslie Tyler	Ed Heyler	Jill Mintz
Ed Heyler	Adam Seeker	Michelle Vickery	Jamie Sawdey	Matt Rosell
Stacy Sorokes	Jon Traina			

"THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES..."

We are grateful for the number of letters that have come in reminiscing about things that happened years ago, they are the heart and soul of our real life history. We will try to print all of them in part or full. Please keep writing. We thank you very much for taking the time, it could be that one little comment that you remember may spark someone else's memory to expand and explain a lost happening.

Geoffrie King Glass

"I certainly enjoy the newsletter and its many articles and pictures of early Bradford. They allow me to retain some of my earliest memories of the Crook farm and my living in Bradford as a young lad. While in Bradford my family lived on the north side of Potter St. in the house that my grandfather Landon had owned. He was a passenger conductor for the Erie R. R. in the first quarter of this century. His run was Bradford to Salamanca and return. As a young boy, during the thirties, I can still hear the coal trains of that era, their engine drivers slipping and the noise from their exhausts reverberating across the hills as they struggled out of town. I remember the Kendall oil refinery and its maze of pipes, tanks and cracking towers, chimneys burning off gas and the smell of crude oil permeating the air. My memories also extend to the Crook farm as well. As the grandson of AnnaBelle Crook King I spent many happy days at the farm as a child and during my teens.

"These are just a few of my memories and I thank the Bradford Landmark Society for keeping them alive."

Sincerely, Geoffrie King Glass
(Brush Prairie, WA 98606)

The Emery Hotel and Lillian Loveless

"I have just received the Landmark Newsletter and the account of the Emery Hotel brought many happy memories to me. On June 19, 1929 my husband and I were married in the Venetian Room at the Emery at 12 noon. Walter Lindsey was the manager and he was thrilled at the prospect of a wedding at the hotel so he went all out with preparations. The Venetian Room was transformed into a chapel. Following the ceremony we received guests on the mezzanine while they changed the Venetian Room back into a dining room. We had a sit-down dinner, with the cake with the compliments of the hotel. The Heron girls had a flower shop in the hotel and they did all the decorations, furnishing all the flowers.

"Ours was the first and only wedding ever held at the Emery. Couldn't resist mentioning this."

Sincerely, Lillian Loveless
(Oil City, PA 16301)

Geraldine Kennedy DeMarkey

"I have been sifting through all kinds of things and came across my smallpox vaccination certificate so that I could begin school in Sept. 1921 (first grade) and of course it was signed by Dr. S. A. McCutchen who was also the "school Dr." in those days. The fond memories that I have of that dear doctor who came when we had the



Bradford Landmark Society Annual Dinner - Thursda



April 24, 1997 - Togi's Banquet Room, East Bradford

usual children's diseases, chicken pox, measles, whooping cough, etc. He was followed by the health officer who tacked a quarantine sign on the door. Then in 1927 I went to his office for a physical so I could go to Girl Scout Camp. Yes, that was the camp on Chautauqua Lake near the village of Mayville. In my day it was called Camp Kiloqu and we went there for two weeks.

At one time we lived on Hobson Place not far from the school house (built later). I remember that once or twice the river rose and flooded all around the house we lived in. Maybe that's why we moved. I was baby sitter for the Zetts children who lived next door and for the George children, their cousins, who lived a couple of doors away.

I also remember the Davis brothers who played the organ and directed the choirs at their respective churches. One brother was at the Presbyterian church, the other at the Baptist. At the Baptist church it was said that he dragged out the hymns on the organ, while at the Presbyterian church the congregation couldn't sing as fast as the organist played. I went to the methodist church but in those days the three churches often joined for evening services on Sunday, sometimes enjoying visiting preachers or musicians. The choir director at the Methodist church was George Lull who was also the school music teacher. When I was in Junior High he owned the Fada radio store beside the Mechanic street bridge and often brought a radio to the junior high for special occasions. We heard the inauguration of Herbert Hoover in the auditorium. He also brought a radio on Fridays so that after finishing lunch we could listen to the Walter Damrosch music lesson. Mr. Damrosch was an excellent teacher explaining the instruments and the make-up of an orchestra.

"The Rev. Dean Miller was pastor of the Presbyterian church. One Sunday evening we were privileged to hear the famous black singer Paul Robeson sing there. Rev. Miller gave him permission to sing "Shortnin Bread" and everyone loved it. Mr Robeson had a beautiful voice and it was truly a privilege to hear him. This was during the 1930's, probably 1935 or later.

"Well, bye for now, when I get more memories will write again."

Sincerely, Geraldine Kennedy DeMarkey
(Greenwich, CT 06831)

Editor's note: Geraldine is a descendant of the pioneer Pike family. We have a large file on the Pike family at the Bakery.

The French Connection

D. Harvey Phillips must have been predestined for adventure, the stuff of drama, spikes of history and love stories both vicarius and personal, how else could one man be at the right place at the right time on so many occasions? Blessed with a mother with vision and foresight, Mrs. Bey Phillips provides the answer. She believed in travel as an important part of education and Harvey was her lucky and only son. Put biography on hold, there are too many incidents that won't wait...take the following excerpt, for example, from a letter written in 1980:

"In 1923 my mother and an attractive young lady from Bradford were returning from Europe. They were seated at the Captain's table along with General Henri Gouraud, 'Lior of Champagne', and his handsome and dashing young Aide-de-Camp, Count Philippe de Vibraye. They were enroute to the USA to attend the 5th reunion of the American Rainbow Division in Indianapolis (commanded by Gouraud in WWI). They all became good friends during the voyage and Count de Vibraye became quite enamoured with the young lady...so much so that when separating in New York my mother invited the Frenchmen to visit in Bradford after the reunion was over and the invitation was accepted.

"The day after landing in New York Gouraud and de Vibraye attended a Chapel Service at Valley Forge which my mother and I attended, and it was there I first met him and de Vibraye. The press took many pictures of Gen. Gouraud greeting 'a good friend, Mme. Phillipe', as he called her, as we were leaving the chapel. The pictures later appeared in Philadelphia papers.

"On arrival in Bradford my mother and Miss Virginia Burdick, her attractive companion, and close neighbor of ours, made plans for the entertainment of the two famous French visitors at our home. What to do, and how to do it? A reception? A dinner dance? This called for something pretty special in a small oil town in northwestern Pennsylvania

"With excitement and expectations at the boiling point there came a telegram to Miss Burdick that the sudden death of President Harding necessitated their immediate return to Washington to represent the French government at his funeral service, thus seemingly terminating both a social visitation and a romantic opportunity."

Speculation on what might have been begs for a scenario larger than life (waiting for an author) as indeed this saga has more real life fragments. Flashing back to age 12, our hero and his mother were traveling in Germany when WWI broke out on August 10, 1914 and they experienced internment for six weeks. But four years later (still not eligible for service) he was there at the foot of the grand staircase in the old Waldorf Astoria hotel as General "Black Jack" Pershing descended to the lobby, having just returned from France. The chance to recognize the opportunity to extend his hand to shake hands, the chance that he could be there at the right time, the chance that he would not be rebuffed, and it succeeded. At a time when there was no protocol or security to prevent it.

No romance ensued with the dashing de Vibraye but friendships did not come to an end. There was more. Two years after the 1923 meeting, in 1925, the year that Fitzgerald published "The Great Gatsby" and Harvey graduated from college, they are both back in Paris (separately). In Harvey's party, during the long summer, there is included another attractive young lady (oh to be young again). Harvey's mother learns that General Gouraud is acting as military governor of Paris and is presiding at the Palace Les Invalides near Napoleon's tomb. She must "call" on "mon petit General", as she refers to him privately. In Harvey's own words:

"As a party of three we drove up to the entrance where we were saluted by guards, and, being able to speak French, I explained our mission. Within moments we were ushered into a tremendous reception hall, covered with paintings, mosaics. Finally, a door opened at the far end General Gouraud appeared, limping as he made the lengthy walk toward us, and of course his right arm gone. (He lost his arm at the beginning of WWI.) He was beaming, kissed my mother's hand, and for the next 15-20 minutes I had to do the translating as he spoke no English. Inquiry as to the Count de Vibraye revealed that he was on his honeymoon at his chateau in the Loire valley which settled one question for us. After a delightful visit, and an offer to do anything he could for us while in Paris, we took our departure from this truly great man...the last time I ever saw him."

In 1963 Harvey and Louise visited France for the last time and stopped at Chateau Cheverney in the Loire valley. They learned that the magnificent mansion was still owned by the "Marquis de Vibraye", half of which was open to the public, the other half occupied by family members ever since the 1600's. Harvey exchanged many letters with the former Aide-de-camp to General Gouraud and it is not known if he is still living.

* * * * *

Louise Phillips died on August 31, 1996, another loss to the Society.

Geo Kish

Bird Walk and Breakfast in the Farmhouse

with

Rev. Lynn Ostrander

7:00 AM

June 7 July 5 August 2
Coffee and sweet roll \$2.00

The membership year begins and ends on the date of the annual dinner; this year it was on Thursday April 24, 1997. We would like to thank all the members who have paid their dues. For those who have not, it's not too late and we need to hear from you.

Annual Dues

Individual \$10
Senior Citizen (60+) . \$5
Family \$15

Life Membership . . . \$100

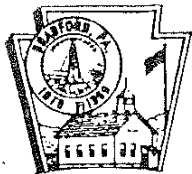
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Bradford, PA 16701

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160 Summer Street
Bradford, PA 16701



The Landmark Society

News

Bradford, Pa 16701

August 1997

N. S. #47

COME TO THE COUNTRY FAIR

SATURDAY AUGUST 23, 1997 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM SUNDAY AUGUST 24, 1997

AT THE CROOK FARM - 1.1 MILES FROM THE BOLIVAR DRIVE TRAFFIC LIGHT

ADMISSION: \$2:00 CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE ACCOMPANIED BY ADULT

90 EXHIBITORS

CRAFTS OF ALL KINDS, DEMONSTRATIONS OF CHAIR CANING, QUILTING, WEAVING AND
BLACKSMITHING - MORE ANTIQUE EXHIBITS AND SALES

VISIT THE PERIOD SCHOOLHOUSE, CROOK FARMHOUSE, BLACKSMITH SHOP, VINTAGE OIL WELLS

FOOD - FOOD

BOTH DAYS: HOT-DOGS, HOT SAUSAGES, HOT MEAT-BALL SUBS, POPCORN,
COTTON CANDY, ICE CREAM, SOFT DRINKS, FUNNEL CAKES, SNOW CONES

SPECIAL - SUNDAY AUGUST 24 ONLY - PANCAKE BREAKFAST - 10 AM to 1:00 PM - \$5.00 ADULTS
\$3.00 CHILDREN

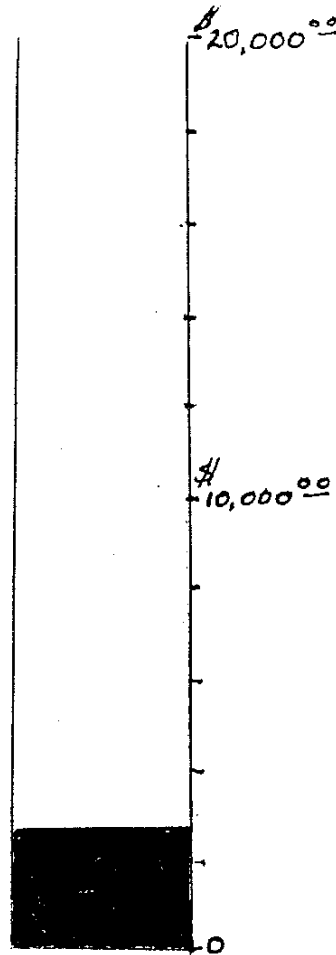
PANCAKES, SAUSAGE, SCRAMBLED EGGS, JUICE, COFFEE

ENTERTAINMENT

SATURDAY AUGUST 23, 1997 "JAY SMAR" NATIONALY KNOWN 12:30 PM to 4:30 PM
FIDDLE PLAYER AND RECORDING
ARTIST
PLUS BARBER SHOP QUARTET

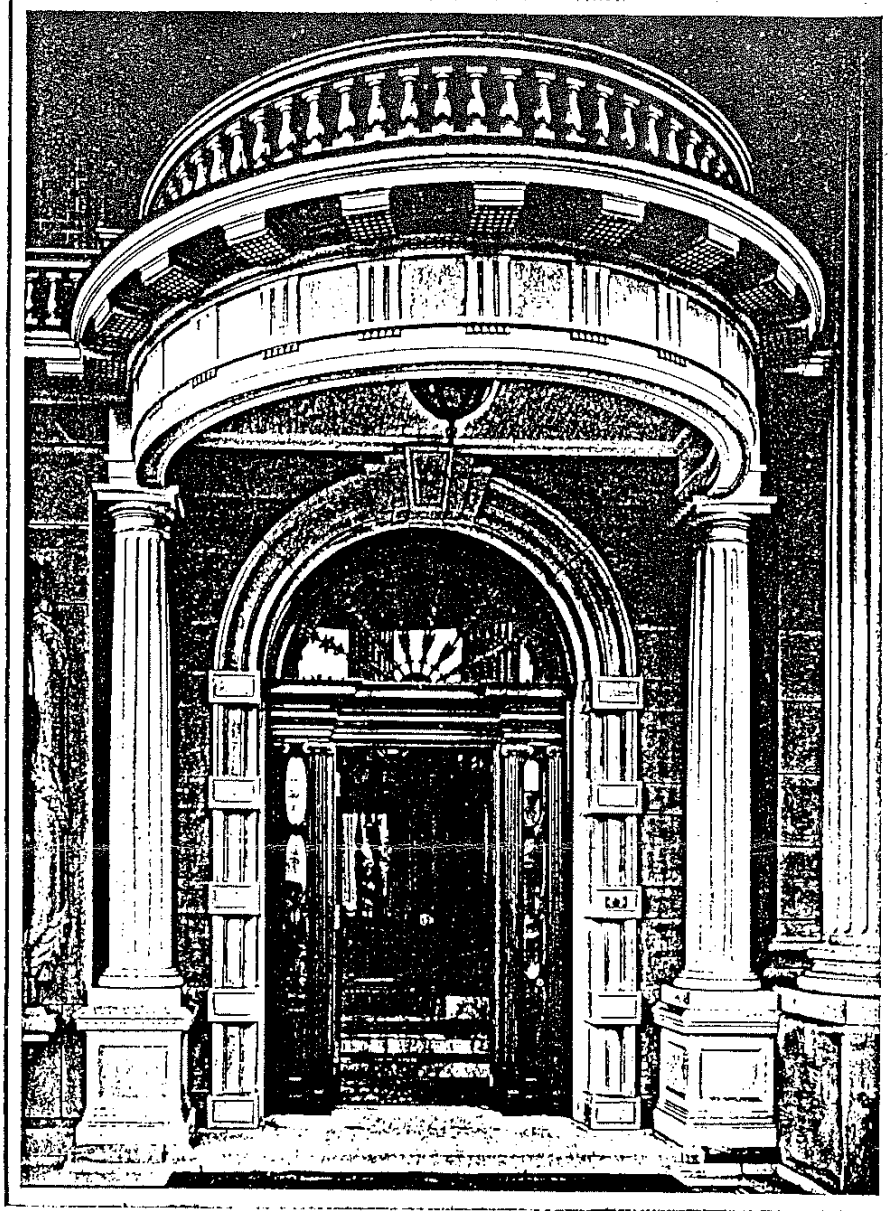
SUNDAY AUGUST 24, 1997 "WILEY MILO STRING BAND" 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM
"CROSS COUNTRY EXPRESS BAND" 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM

ENDOWMENT FUND UPDATE



As you can see from the bargraph, we have begun to receive donations for the Endowment Fund. Funds received thus far combined with the matching money amounts to nearly \$2600. Our thanks to those who have already sent in donations. This is a good start towards our goal of \$10,000. which with the good help of our members and friends we will achieve.

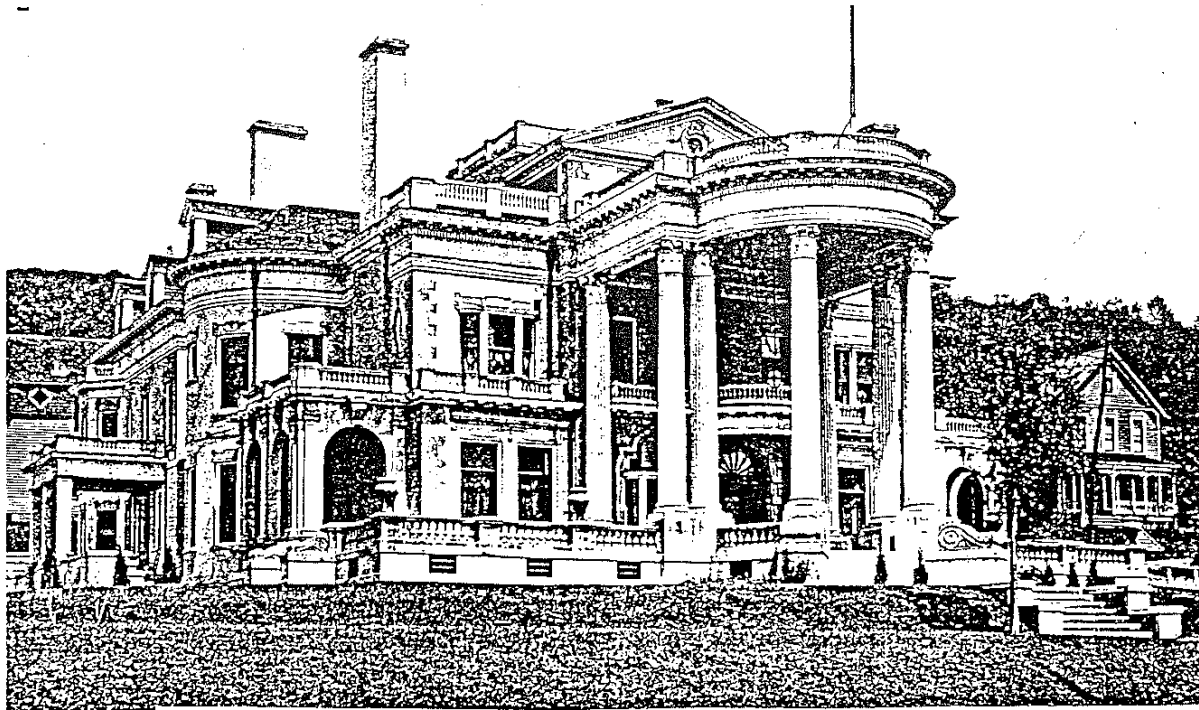
Bill Kaschube



Entrance to the Dresser mansion

The vestibule has a vaulted ceiling of gilt metal wainscoted to a height of ten feet with Sienna marble. Floors are of Italian marble mosaic in yellow and green. Steps are of Canyon Green marble from Washington State.

(From a period description of the way it was.)



S. R. Dresser mansion 147 Jackson Avenue Completed 1903

Louis Kamper, Detroit, Mich., architect

E. N. Unruh, Bradford, contractor

Destroyed by fire in 1986

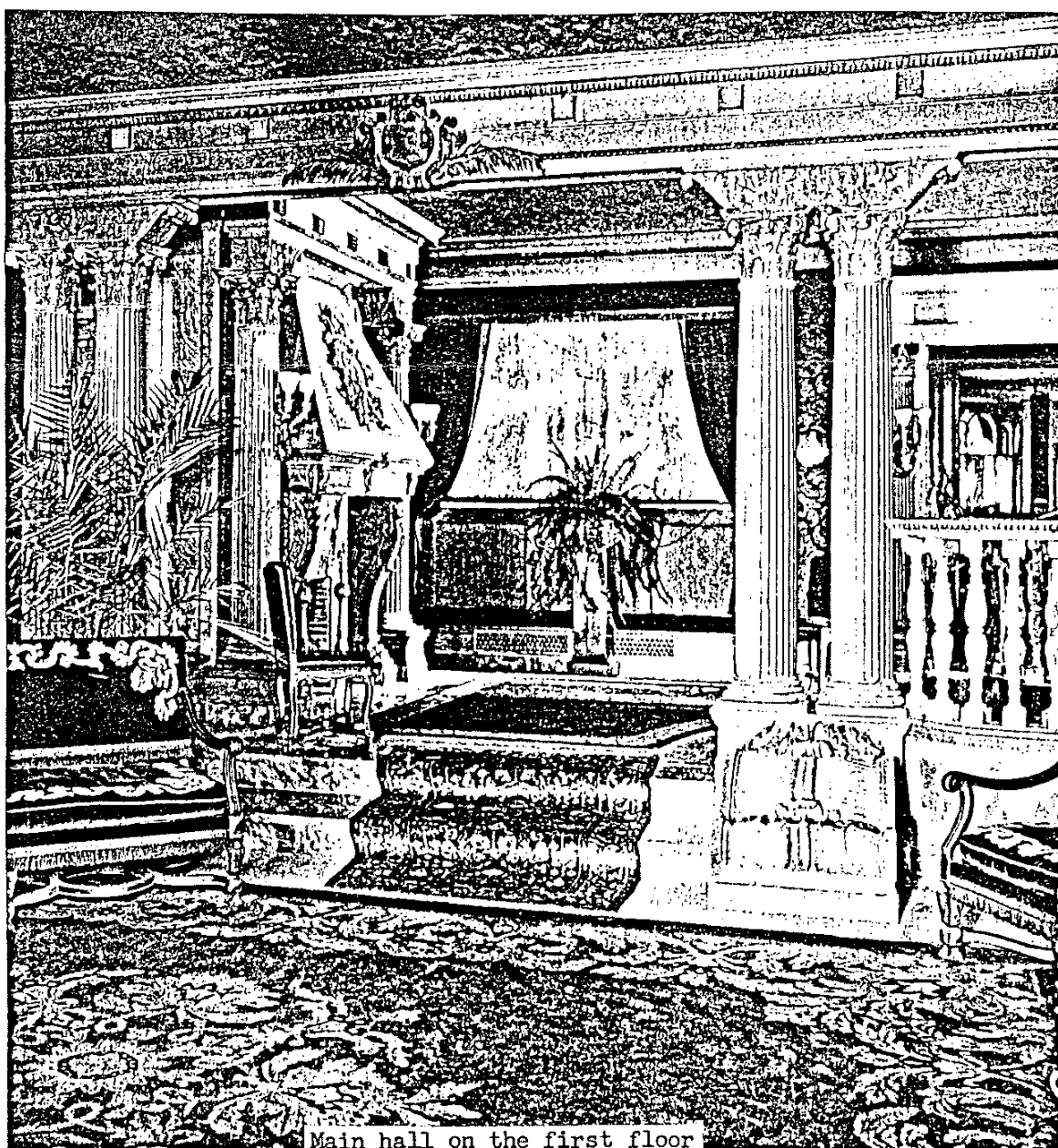
GOLDEN DAYS

Solomon Robert Dresser was a minor millionaire in 1900, any one of a dozen oil producers could have topped him easily, but he built the most magnificent mansion in Bradford's history at 147 Jackson Avenue in 1903. And this before he built his coupling plant on Fisher Avenue (1907) or his office building on Boyleston St. (1904). Charles Gregg, Sam's uncle, as a young man employed as Solomon's secretary told how he got in on the tail end of the golden era of Dresser's business. Dresser couplings for connecting pipe had just emerged as a fabulous best seller and was a money making bonanza such as the aging Dresser (he was only 60) had never imagined in his wildest dreams. There were many people involved in Dresser's many enterprises but it only took two people to harvest the coupling payout. Solomon handled the sales himself, Charles or another runner processed the orders. This consisted of merely making out the shipping tags to the customers, going to the railroad freight station and switching tags, removing the tag addressed to Dresser and replacing it with a reshipping tag to the customer. Cast iron parts, steel bolts and rubber gaskets were stacked at the freight station as received from the manufacturer until sold. When the office building was built on Boyleston Street in 1904 a warehouse for the packer business was also built connecting it to the shop on Patent Alley but no warehouse was needed for the new coupling business.

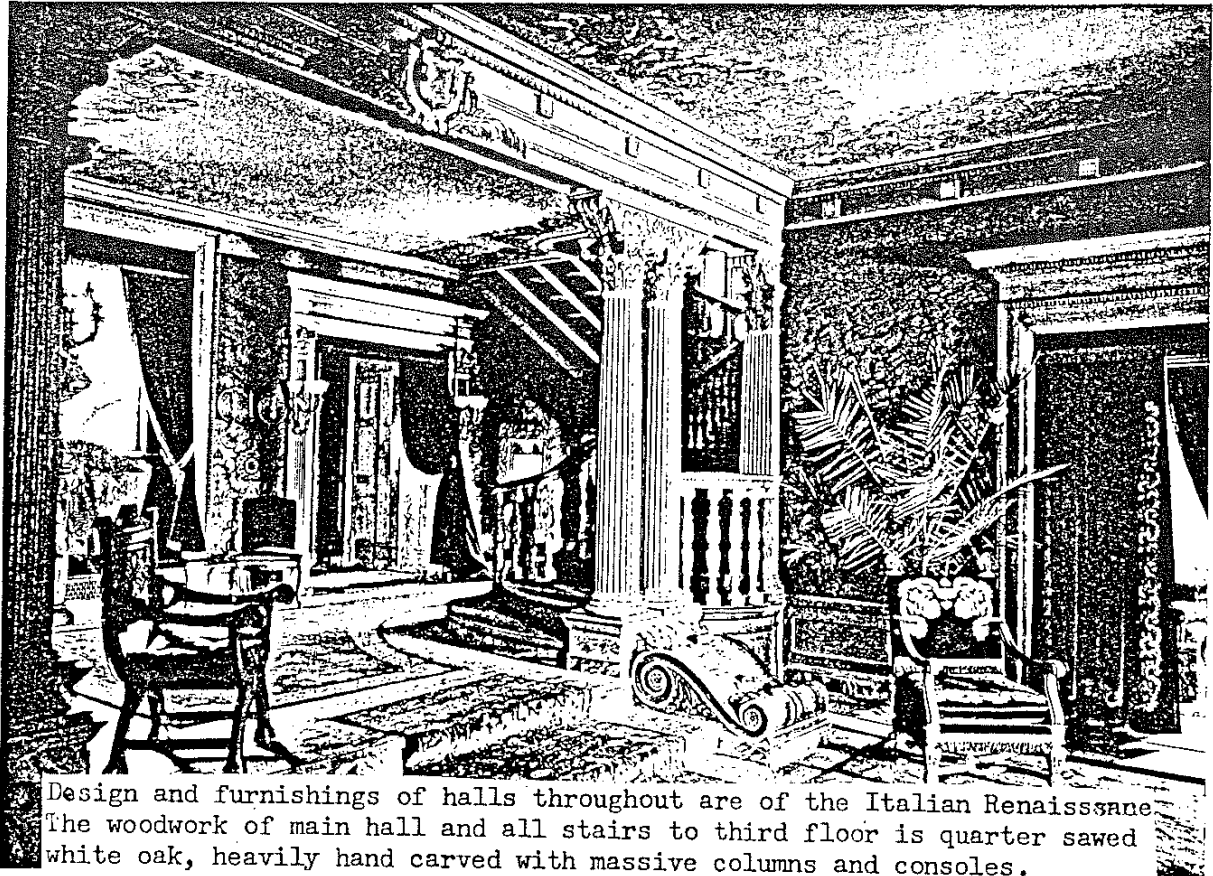
To say that Solomon Dresser was prescient is hardly adequate. He was a man with many talents and could apply his abilities with the luck of the times. Born in a log cabin in Michigan in 1842 at a time when the total population of the US was only 21 million...today he would have had to share the country with 260 million...his parents became well-to-do and his five siblings were also well off. An older brother was a prominent lawyer in Indiana. You could contribute your own physical labor but it still took at least \$1000 to drill a shallow well, so it was good to be able to call on relatives who could help out.

After dropping out of Hillsdale college in 1861 he moved to Lafayette, Indiana where he took a job clerking in a dry goods store. In 1864 he married Vesta Stimson and began a series of moves that put him on an oil field trajectory very similar to the one followed by Lewis Emery, Jr., who also attended Hillsdale college (Emery was three years older than Dresser) and the two would meet years later in Bradford.

In 1865 the Civil War was finally over and a post war business euphoria started which was not lost on Dresser. He thought he recognized an opportunity when he heard about a little oil field that had been destroyed by Confederate soldiers during the war in Burning Springs, Virginia (West Virginia). He visited the area then went back to Hillsdale with the idea of starting a stock company for restoring the oil field. He called his company the Peninsular Oil Company, succeeded in selling 336 shares at \$6.25 to 47 people. Managed to ship 230 barrels in 1866 at about \$3.75 per barrel, the price having dropped from \$10 - \$12 in 1864. The business was not a success. In 1870 he moved to White Oak, Va., later called Volcano, near Parkersburg, another new boom town of 3000. He was on his way of following one rumored strike after another.



Main hall on the first floor



Design and furnishings of halls throughout are of the Italian Renaissance. The woodwork of main hall and all stairs to third floor is quarter sawed white oak, heavily hand carved with massive columns and consoles.

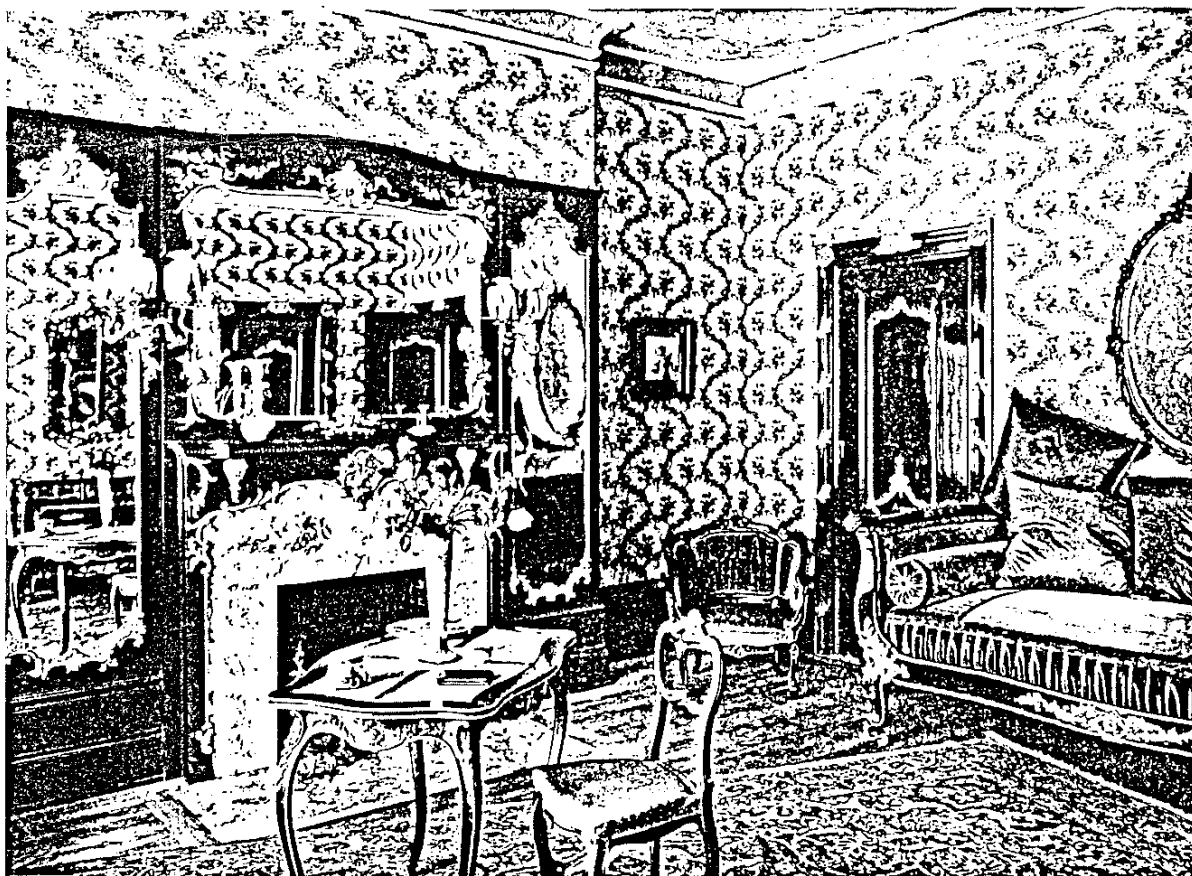
Dresser did not stay long in White Oak. In the next seven years he would hit Butler, Millerstown (Chicora), Karns City, Petrolia, Parker and Foxburg, going steadily northward but never reaching the really big boom areas of Oil Creek and Pithole. It is understandable. Many spots in the wooded wilds of West Virginia, Ohio and Pennsylvania sparkled with a hint of oil and the tavern gossip and newspapers spread endless theories on where to find it. How could you tell? Dresser was well suited to practice the best method of talking to everyone, picking up clues, learning how things were done at successful wells, where and how to get equipment and getting farmers to sign leases. He must have spent most of his time on horseback visiting rumored sites.

Trial and error were inescapable. He stayed longest in Millerstown, finding a house to live in with his increasing family and based his explorations from there. After obtaining a lease promising to pay a percentage of any profit, many things had to be done depending heavily on local savvy, getting rig lumber to the site, hiring someone with drilling machinery, hiring helpers and planning how to get the oil to market, assuming oil was found. If the well wasn't dry it might produce as little as 5 barrels per day. Surprisingly, Dresser did drill one well that produced 100 barrels a day for a short time, another well made 50 barrels per day. But it is unrecorded how many wells were dry and other problems encountered. He prevailed with only a modest living. At any rate his persona must have been well liked and widely known because he was elected to the Millerstown schoolboard during the few years he lived there.

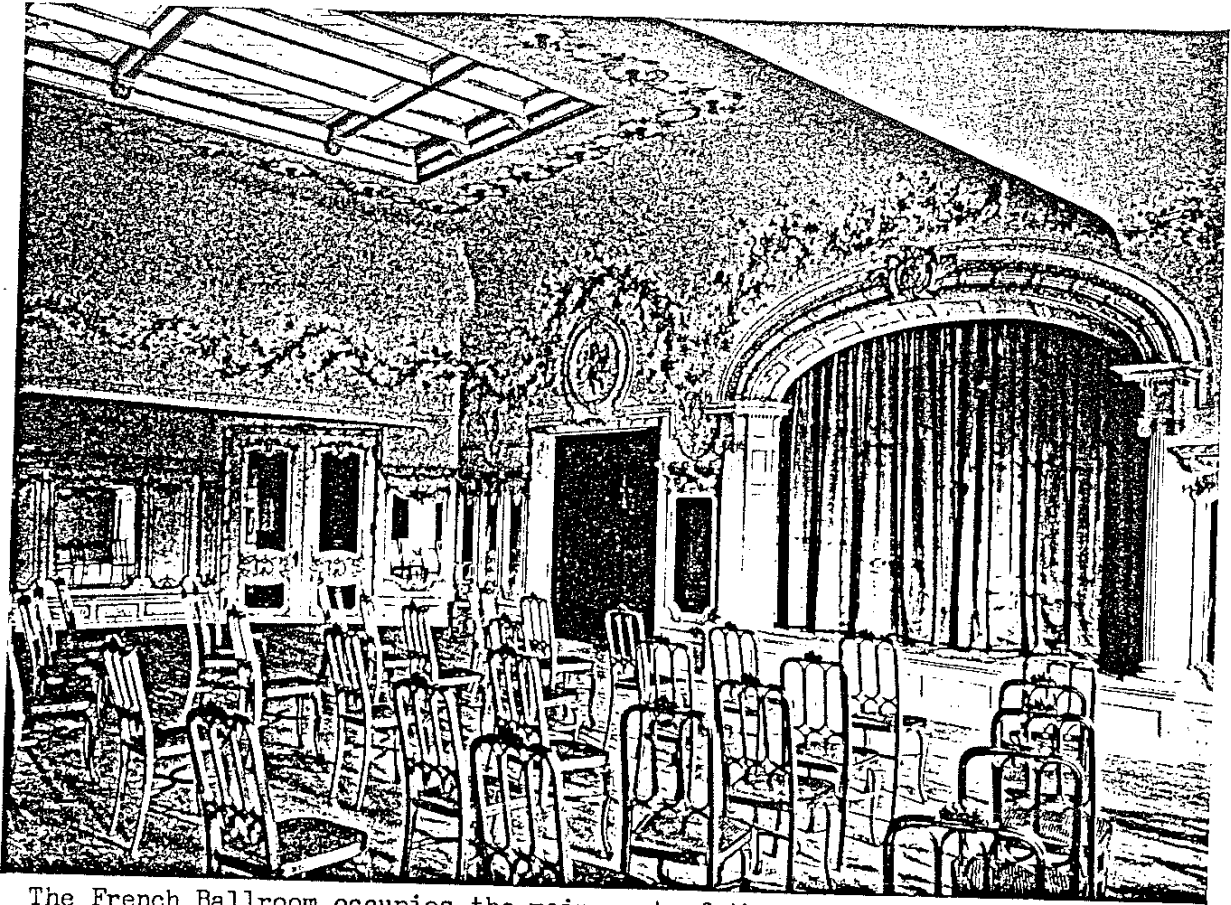
Dresser's first experiment with laying a pipeline for natural gas happened in Millerstown. Like everyone else Vesta was cooking on a wood stove, requiring constant replenishing of the wood fire. Dresser conceived the idea of supplying the stove with natural gas piped in from a nearby well where it was being wasted. He had heard that it was being done in Titusville. No sooner was the little pipeline in operation than the local police arrived, ordered him to remove the pipeline and arrested him for "endangering the public". Being a member of the schoolboard didn't matter.

While in Millerstown Vesta had two more children, adding Ione and Robert to make a total of five. Chauncy died at age 9 months and Nina and Parker who had been born in Hillsdale would succumb later in Bradford. After the birth of Robert in 1875 Vesta, who had been suffering more and more with tuberculosis, made trips to Danville and Clifton Springs, N.Y. seeking relief at sanitariums. Adding the cost of these trips to other medical expenses and the cost of additional help in running a large household suggests that Solomon was achieving fair success in his oil well ventures. But there was nothing to stop the meteor of news of the incredible strike in Bradford, making oil production in the "lower regions" look like small potatoes. It was 1877. The price of oil dropped to less than a dollar a barrel. And there was nothing that could stop Dresser, with his considerable oil well experience, from rushing north.

Arriving in Bradford in 1878 the Dresser family found rooms in a two story house on 61 Congress Street (previous street numbering). He found a partner in one Thomas Conner. He knew how to go after leases. By May the Bradford Era was reporting that Rig No. 2 operated by S. R. Dresser on lot No. 7 of Babcock and Hulings was started and that Rig No. 1 was doing 10 barrels a day. But to start with things were not as prosperous as they had been in Millerstown. Ione remembered that for their first Christmas all she got was a muff. In a fit of rage his erstwhile partner had burned down their producing rig. Dresser went after leases on his own.



One of the handsomest rooms is the Louis XV Boudoir. Woodwork is mahogany with old gold ornamentation and old ivory silk wall coverings. Marble facing and hearth of the fireplace, also the bath adjoining, are of Fleur Violet, a peculiar French marble.



The French Ballroom occupies the main part of the third floor. Ceilings and walls above the mirrors are frescoed in delicate blue. The three windows in the end of the room are draped in turquoise blue velvet as well as the drop curtain of the stage. French gilt chairs complete the furnishing

It must have been like "sticker shock" of the times to discover that wells in Bradford had to be at least twice as deep as in the "lower regions". Surface water was troublesome, flowing into uncased wells, adding to the fluid to be pumped out (if the well didn't flow) and possibly impeding the flow of oil from the sand into the well. Dresser was quick to recognize the problem and to think of a solution. His idea was to expand a thickness of rubber between the tubing and wall of the well with a conical wood plug. Renting space for a shop in Patent Alley he started experimenting right away and by 1880 was ready to apply for a patent. The Dresser "Cap Rubber Packer" was an immediate success.

Now he was prospering again. In 1882 he bought a lot at 54 South Avenue from Harvey Phillips' grandfather (in back of grandfather's house on Congress Street) and built a solid Victorian style house. Alas, they had hardly moved into the new house when on March 4, 1883 Vesta died of tuberculosis. Their love had been great and mutual, college sweethearts at Hillsdale. (Parker also died of tuberculosis two years later; Nina died of spinal meningitis in 1881.) Solomon just kept to his accustomed very busy life style; his packer business on Patent Alley was thriving, on the spur of the moment, that spring, he decided to enter the well shooting business, stimulated no doubt by the presence of two potential rivals adjacent to his office at 81 Main Street. C. E. Tucker at 61 Main and Spence and Dennis at 57 Main. He acquired rights to the "Rackarock" system featuring preloaded shells ready to lower into the well, charging 35¢ a pound for the explosive but for 50¢ would shoot the well. (The shells were loaded with a type dynamite, not nitro-glycerine.) This business hardly lasted to the end of the year. He abandoned it after narrowly escaping a premature explosion.

By 1885, after seven years in Bradford, Dresser's modest success as an oil producer and as a manufacturer of packers provided the means for him to devote more time to peripheral interests. He acquired the sucker rod business operated by J. E. Kirk in a shop adjacent to his packer shop in Patent Alley. Kirk and another new friend, George P. Boothe, could be depended on to take care of his business when he was away for periods of time. Interested in the natural gas business ever since his experience in Millerstown, and aware of the leakage problem with screw joint pipe, it seemed a natural to combine his success in the use of rubber in his packers to use rubber in a coupling to join pipe. After making some experiments he applied for his first coupling patent in 1885. (It was a self packing concept without bolts that turned out to be unreliable but by 1887 he hit on using bolts.) During the same period of time he started acquiring gas leases in Morgan County, Ohio, near Malta, because he knew that as early as 1830 gas had been found as a nuisance in wells drilled for salt.

While negotiating for gas leases in the Malta area he met and courted Caroline Kirsch, an attractive girl from Lowell, Ohio, about 30 miles from Malta. On December 21, 1885 they were married starting a second family resulting in the birth of Carl Kirsch in 1890 and Richard in 1894. But in 1890 Ione married Fred Augustus Miller, twentytwo years old, who would eventually succeed Solomon as head of the Dresser company. As a wedding gift Solomon presented them with a three story house on South Avenue not far from his house. In 1887 Solomon served on City Council and was responsible for building a granite retaining wall to protect South Avenue. He placed a bronze plaque in the wall, still there, taking credit for building the wall and does not pertain to either of his houses.

When Dresser was just arriving in Bradford in 1878 Lewis Emery, Jr was already laying gas mains in Bradford to supply the town. Some time later when Dresser was experimenting with his coupling, a severe winter caused a serious break in Emery's pipeline. Dresser bet Emery \$100 that he could repair the break in twentyfour hours and won the bet. But Emery already owned the gas supply company in Bradford and there was no opportunity for using couplings there.

However it wasn't until 1892 that Dresser consummated the idea of developing a gas company to supply Malta and the twin city of McConnelsville from his gas leases building a pipeline connected with his couplings. It would not only start another business for him but demonstrate the practical use of rubber gasketed couplings in a gas pipeline. The twin cities gladly granted him a franchise and by fall of that year his gas customers were grossing \$400 a month. News of the successful gas pipeline was not lost on the infant gas industry. In 1895 C. P. Sloan, superintendent of the United Natural Gas Company purchased couplings for a 12" pipeline 12 miles long from the Zoar gas field to Buffalo to operate at 250 psi. From then on Dresser couplings were in great demand in use by every gas company in the country.



Ione Dresser married Fred Miller who succeeded Solomon as head of Dresser Co.



Vesta Stimson, first wife of Dresser, at time of her marriage. Mother of Ione and Robert



Caroline Kirsch, Dresser's second wife. Mother of Carl and Richard.



Solomon R. Dresser in 1864
1842 - 1911

The coupling business quickly surpassed all his other ventures. Commercial promotion came naturally to Dresser. He printed catalogues, bought advertizements in all the trade papers and was the first in Bradford to include his phone number in local ads. When the Paris Exhibition was announced for 1900 he shipped three lengths of 8 inch pipe and couplings to France and set up a demonstration at 300 psi pressure. Next year at the Buffalo Pan-American Exposition he set up the same demonstration with pressure at 765 psi maintained for six months. In 1904 he participated in two more expositions with the same routine, one in St. Louis, Missouri, the other in London at the International Gas Exhibition there.

Dresser was a serious and respected joiner, widely popular in Bradford. In 1902 the Republican party asked him to run for Congress to represent the counties of McKean, Clearfield, Centre, and Cameron; he won easily 2 to 1. The first session of the 58th Congress didn't hold its first meeting until November 9, 1903 just as he was settling into his new mansion. Together with his family he took up temporary residence in Washington, taking along his victoria (a light carriage with folding top) including horses and Duke Price, his coachman. Duke Price was always elegantly dressed in uniform and silk top hat. Carl and Richard were enrolled in local schools where 13 year old Carl was sometimes mistaken for President Roosevelt's son Quentin. William Randolph Hearst was a fellow freshman congressman.

After the ceremony of taking the oath of office and attendant parties were over, Dresser commuted to Washington while Caroline maintained a fashionable household with a full retinue of servants in the 27 room mansion with ballroom. Bellevue Terrace, as Dresser called it, was always bustling with relatives and guests. Ione and Fred Miller with their children William Frank, Margaret and Elizabeth were there regularly as well as Robert and Olive with their children Ione Helen and Virginia Louise (Robert married Olive May Brady December 27, 1900). Dinners and dances were festive often including celebrities such as Samueal W. Pennypacker, parties became legendary. The family frequently attended road shows at the Bradford Opera House, sitting in their own reserved front box, Caroline always looked elegant wearing a grand opera cloak.

Prescient to the end, Dresser incorporated his company on November 17, 1905, because the next year as his second term as congressman was coming to an end, he fell with a stroke in a House elevator. It was serious, followed by other strokes in the next four years after returning to Bradford. Rides that he liked to take with Carl and Richard in either his gasoline automobile or his electric, both firsts in Bradford, with his hand on the tiller, were now taken as an invalid with someone else driving. Unable to resume any semblence of his former life, he was attended by round-the-clock nurses until his death on January 20, 1911 at age 69.

Life continued at Bellevue Terrace. Carl married Gloria Jack, Richard married Doris Shannon, eventually the parties were as glamorous as ever. Caroline or one of the family members headed the receiveing line at the foot of the grand staircase to the ballroom, welcoming as many as a hundred guests. Invitations were coveted. The mansion continued to be visibly treasured by family into the twenties and beyond but it remained beautiful and ageless for threequarters of a century for everyone to see, only to vanish in a flash in its final role as a nursing home that burned to the ground in 1986.

Fred Miller took over as head of the S. R. Dresser Manufacturing Company until 1929 when the family decided to sell to H. Neil Mallon and friends...R. E. Reimer, Merrill N. Davis, George H. Pfefferle, Edward R. Torgler, H. P. Boncher and H. Z. Hight. ..but that's another story.

Sources include: "Initiative In Energy"

"The Home of Solomon R. Dresser" copy #100

Geo Kish



Dresser with sons Carl and Richard
in their new automobile, the first
one in Bradford



Dresser's second home in Bradford
54 South Ave. Built in 1882

BRADFORD LANDMARK SOCIETY
45 East Corydon St.
Bradford, PA 16701

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE

PAID

Bradford, PA
Permit No. 247

Elmer Delucia
160 Summer Street
Bradford, PA 16701



Bradford Landmark Society

New Book Planned Around Bradford II is Coming!

The Bradford Landmark Society has just received an invitation from Arcadia Publishers to publish a second volume of **Around Bradford**, our popular book on historic photographs of Bradford. Publication date is tentatively set for next summer, just in time for the Crook Farm Craft Fair. We here at the Bakery are very excited about doing another book, and have been choosing chapter topics that will be as interesting as those in the first book. Ideas range from prominent men and women, World War II, Sports, Clubs and Organizations, Theaters and Entertainment, Main Street 1900, Hotels, Mansions, The Spanish American War (next year marks its 100th anniversary, and Bradford had a sizable amount of soldiers that were a part of that war), and Buildings-Then and Now. We are looking for any photographs that our readers might have, especially those of World War II. We would appreciate borrowing them, and maybe including them in the book. Call us at 362-3906, and thank you.

Endowment Fund Growing

Earlier this summer, the Bradford Landmark Society initiated an endowment fund to insure that our valuable collections and buildings will be maintained into the future. An anonymous friend of the Society has offered to match up to \$10,000 any contributions made to the Fund between now and December 1997. This is exciting news because it affords the Landmark Society an opportunity to accumulate \$20,000 in funds for this worthwhile project. We are asking

that all our members give serious consideration to making a contribution to the Endowment Fund, possibly as a memorial to a loved one. We assure you that all contributions, regardless of size, will be greatly appreciated by us and future generations of Bradfordians.

Web Watch

The Bradford Landmark Society is pleased to announce that we now have an E Mail address on "the Web". We recently joined on with PennComm, and can now receive and send messages via the Internet. Our address is:

WWW.Bradland@Penn.Comm

Now we all can use the technology of the future to learn more about the past. How ironique!

Welcome Our New Members!

During the Crook Farm Craft Festival this August, we were pleased to have several new members join the Bradford Landmark Society. Let's welcome the following:

Margaret McBride of Warren
Marjorie Wells of Bradford
Doug & Sarie DuPont of Bradford
John & Donna Norris of Mt. Jewett
Peter O'Connell of Lewis Run
Diane Wakeski of Bradford
Trisha Morris of Bradford
Taffy & John A. Meyer of Bradford
Peg Karrasch of Bradford
Marian S. Cormack of Snyder, NY
Rhoda McCartin of North Edwards, CA

The Country Fair Aug. 23/24

If you will permit an outrageous hyperbole, the 70 year old, ten million dollar production, "Show Boat", now touring 40 cities, has a cast of 71 the Bradford Landmark Society annual Country Fair has a cast of over 200 volunteers! This year's audience paying at the gate numbered near 4000, there were 64 exhibitors in 12 tents providing support, 25 open sites, and 6 continuous demonstrations. Bands provided music continuously both days, and the food bars never stopped serving. Nineteenth century sights included the farmhouse, barn, blacksmith shop, and schoolhouse.

Like all big productions, there has to be a party where Patrons and cast, (in many cases, the patrons are also in the cast) can have an opportunity to meet and great and enjoy getting together. At our Patron Party, held the Friday evening before, 571 individual and 114 business tickets were sent out, with 235 persons in actual attendance at the reception. We cannot roll the credits, in all fairness, to the more than 200 people that make the Fair a success; the chance to miss some names is too great, but we must mention that the party place was in the lobby of the PNC bank, at their courtesy, with refreshments provided by Mr. & Mrs. Thomas R. Bromeley.

What happened at the party was the delicious meeting of friends and renewal of friendships. Of course, the action at the fair grounds was the main, big event, but with so many things going on at the same time, there is still a need for a more intimate camaraderie and the Patron Party fills that need. From a casual observation, it was obvious that the party was a joyful, happy event, busy, busy with laughing, smiling meetings. An example of one special occasion was the appearance of Margrieta Hewey who came back to Bradford expressly for the purpose of attending the Country Fair. Margrieta was, for many years, chairman of the

Crook Farm Committee. Do you remember the wonderful cucumber sandwiches she made, by the hundreds, for the 1995 seminars at UPB?



Tenderly, the Farm.....

All winter the ancient farm house waits in its place by the creek. Month after month slip by until the season turns toward spring and summer. Early in April we go in through the back door anxious to see how the house has passed the time. There is always lots to do. We must clean cobwebs and dust bunnies, polish the furniture, and iron the linens. The school children will soon be here. There is always that last minute fear "Will there be enough volunteers to man the Farm?" We have our moments of panic but by the middle of June another very successful school program is over. Breakfast with the birds begins on a cold rainy morning in May. We welcome our regular birders and a few newcomers. The birds and animals never fail us. The show is always spectacular.

After the children come the adults. Women's clubs for lunch and a lecture on the American Quilt; Men's clubs for lunch and an update on the new building program; Jane Austen Society for dessert and nature walk and new friends to Bradford come for tea.

The summer flies by as we welcome the community to Crook Farm, church service for the first of August, and scouts working on their badges, families come for a walk along the creek and the garden club is gardening.

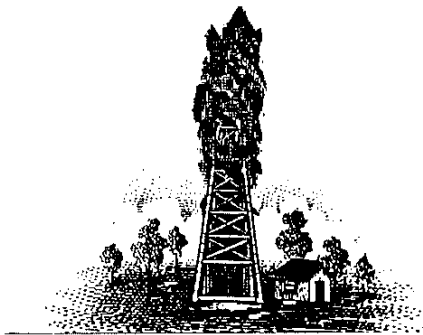
The excitement builds slowly toward the climax of our season. Committees meet, and meet, and meet some more. New volunteers are contacted, veterans are assured of a job.

Deliveries are made, some a week too early. Everyone watches the weather.

The house gets ready, another good cleaning; linens washed and freshly pressed. Let's try something different this year. Tea time Sunday afternoon brings a friend from the south. Again, the parlor hosts the ladies at tea.

Preserving the History of Bradford

Every year, during the year, many people bring treasures that they have stored and accumulated to the Bakery to be preserved and catalogued, available for researchers to examine. maybe its someone looking for traces of a relative, checking the occurrence of an incident, finding connection to names, looking for a story or just refreshing their memory. It may be there, in the archives. It may be one sentence in a letter, a news clipping, a postcard, a date on a reunion pencil, a reference in a scrap book, a story in a book long out of print, it may be a picture no one else recognized.



History may be many different things to different people. It may be a pleasant recollection of something in your life, like a haunting melody ("Laura" for example...only if you remember). It may be vicarious, it may be discovering something that you weren't aware of. To life a line from the benediction at our last annual dinner, one important purpose of the Landmark Society is to honor our fathers, and

what better way than to keep records of what they left us on paper as well as other artifacts. To make it possible to preserve the history of Bradford, fortunately, many caring people bring their memorabilia in for that purpose. It may be just one letter or it may be a truck load - it is all valuable. This year there actually *were* two truck loads; one brought in by David McKain, and one from the estate of Verna Walker (still in the process of being catalogued). It is all recorded in "Accession Books" for anyone to examine. Whether it is one item or many, we are glad to report the names of 1997 donors to day, and a review of their contributions:

From Judy McDowell Black of Lansing, Illinois: Birds-Eye-View, panoramic view, probably 1915, Main Street, Bradford, in winter; Buffalo, Rochester, and Pittsburgh railroad writing memo pad; Glass bottle, Thompson & Wood Druggists; Railroad button (BR & P); Kendall Refinery Pencil; Bradford High School class ring, 1910; Memo pad, Emlenton Tanks, from Emlenton, PA; Newspaper clipping, prominent Bradfordsians, Bradford Evening Star, 1925; Photo, unknown setting and unidentified persons. (steam locomotive); Erie Railroad Company freight bill, dated Dec. 3, 1862; Platter from the Emery Hotel; Recipes from local Gas Company (typed). (*Note: railroad button, pencil and book belonged to donor's father. High School class ring belonged to Mary Irene McDowell Snow*).

From Bob Graham, Bradford, PA:

Four Bradford postcards with written messages: view of Public Square postmarked May 20, 1908; view of Congress Street with streetcar postmarked Jan. 13, 1911; view of Main Street from St. Jame's Hotel with trolley passing the Square, postmarked Apr. 26, 1906; bird's eye view from Quintuple Hill postmarked June 11, 1907. (*Mr. Graham bought them at a flea market near Washington, DC*).

From the Bradford Era news office:

Historical items from Joe Cleary's office; one group of 33 items obtained May 17, 1997; a second group of 22 more items obtained June 10, 1997 from Natalie Montecalvo. This material was used by Joe Cleary in researching information for his *Round the Square* column. Included are newspaper clippings, magazine articles, letters, booklets, postcards, maps, village records, family histories, the Walter Melton Johnson collection of papers on the B B & K miniature model and other railroads; McKean County census 1810-1840 transcribed by Betty Robinson; an account book c. 1875-1886; many photographs and many books; Genealogical and Personal History of Northern Pennsylvania, 1913 in 2 vols. by John W. Jordan; Oil for Victory, 1946; Sketches in Crude Oil, 1898 by John J. McLaurin; Catalogue of Bradford high School, School Board, 1905-1906; Comical Chronicle of Circus of the Saints and Sinners, 1957 by Pancoast and Townshed; Smull's Legislative Handbook, Harrisburg, 1887; The Story of Erie, PA, 1908 by Edward Harold Mott; Hypothesis of the Origin of Petroleum, 1911 by W.M. Plotts; souvenir program, Old Home Week 1909; Film Flashes 1916, Leslie-Judge Co., Penna. State yearbook 1899 (Fred Heckel's) and many other items.

From an anonymous donor, Derrick City:

William Reck's papers and records; correspondence from Grace Reck to Susanna Cocroft; The People's Common Sense Medical Advisor, by R.V. Pierce, MD; Assessment Roll, City of Bradford, 1931; pamphlet, Wit and Wisdom of Benjamin Franklin; booklet: The Book of Knowledge; booklets and papers from the Audubon Society on birds; magazines: The Ladies World, July 1907, Nov. 1906, Dec. 1906, Jan. 1897; 4 copies of Grit, 1899; The Farmer's Wife, (Dec., Jan., Feb., 1934 issues).

From Madeline Miles: Bradford Telekey, 1964-65.

From Carl Lindahl: World War II memorial plaque honoring soldiers of the Swedish Lutheran Church (no longer in existence), and a 48 star flag.

From Helen Pantuso: Bradford Era newspapers including Sept. 27, 1989 issue on opening of Federal Prison in Lafayette Township, and the centennial edition of Oct. 31, 1977.

From Mr./Mrs. Francis Carloni: Man's duck hunting suit from the 1940s.

From Jim McGill: Five postcards: Chief Cornplanter's Monument, the Kinzua Dam under construction, Casey Bridge, Jakes' Rocks lookout, and St. Bernard's Church.

From Bradford High School yearbook Committee: Bradford High School Yearbook "Barker" for 1997, and 1991 video of Bradford High School.

From Madeline Ryan Ward: WWII Army uniform, including shirt, pants, coat, great coat, hat, patches, and insignia showing division, sergeant stripes, "hershey bars" marking time served overseas, and honorable discharge. Also another hat, probably a fire company hat. (Possibly Hilltop). Uniform belonged to Burley Ward of Bingham, Cyclone.

From Larry Richmond: a book, "The Strange Triangle of G.B.S." by Tullah Innes Hanley (Mrs. Edward Hanley), 2nd edition, 1959. An account of a love affair followed by George Bernard Shaw throughout his life.

From Marvin Peterson: Framed photograph of proposed Rte. 219 bisecting Bradford, by D.B. Tanner in 1964.

From an anonymous donor: Four women's hats dating to the 1930s - straw with ribbon, straw with netting, navy black with netting and velvet ribbons, white chiffon woven around brim with silk flowers.

From Verna Walker: A virtual truckload of memorabilia still undergoing cataloguing.

From David McKain: (on July 9, 1997, David delivered an actual truck load of memorabilia so extensive that we will not be able to give it justice in this brief acknowledgment. A complete listing is available at the Bakery in Accessions Book II. Under miscellaneous, over fifty items are listed. Items in five major categories are:

Books: approximately 21: 1953 & 1955 BHS Barker yearbooks; "Winter in the Heart" by David Poyer; "No Year of Decision" 1846 by Bernard DeVoto; "Cookin' with the BAHS Marching Owls"; Greater Bradford Bicentennial booklet 1776-1976; "Wildlife Farm Program 1939", bulletin 16 PA Game Commission; "The Georgia Review, Fall 1983"; "What About 1935-1937?" by Harvey Black; "Alleghanies", seasonal issues, 1985, 1986, 1987 (8 copies); "Historic Buildings of Warren County", 5 vols., new; "Bailey's Beads", UPB lit magazine, 3 issues; "Spellbound" by David McKain (proof of jacket); "Experiment in Five Acts", hand drawn program; "Notes from Richard McDowell on Rural Areas"; "A Pocket of Peace" by Mary Ann Johnston; "The Man in the Sycamore Tree" by Edward Roe (a biography of Thomas Merton); "True Press" by Dr. Robert Wagner; "The Dresser Home", 1903, also postcards and article on Dresser Manufacturing, 1979 with 19 photos.

Photographs: Approximately 787 photos of all sizes spanning at least a century and including personals, groups, and all manner of subject matter. Also several albums and a box of miscellaneous.

10 large maps.

Personal history and memoirs: Names heading the collection or pieces: Dave Hanford, David Trace, Mary Anne Johnston, Patty Bianca, Fred Pfeil, Leo Hayes, Ethel Pringle, and the family papers and photos of the Fred and Gus Bauer family.

Postcards: from the collection of the late Charles Crawford, mounted and labeled on cardboard.

Motion Pictures, Sign Painting, and Old Houses

There are many houses in Bradford that are a hundred years old or older. The one at 410 East Main Street (see page 15, in our book "**Around Bradford**"), adjacent of Togi's Restaurant, is still in the Well's family. Now occupied by Jack Wells, whose father, Clyde D. Wells, also lived there and also owned the property where Togi's is now situated, was the well known location of the Wells Sign business. Less well known, is the curious genesis of the motion picture business in which Well, Sr. played an interesting part. In 1911, in the infancy of motion pictures, the projecting equipment was sometimes owned and operated by a "projectionist" who sold his services to a theater owner to show "pictures" rented by either him or the theater owner. Often the 'theater' was just an unoccupied store.



Clyde Wells was such a projectionist. He was the first to show "movies" as well as slides at the

Grand Theater on Main Street. He also painted signs advertising his shows. This led to other merchants seeking his services to make signs. It wasn't long before Wells found sign painting more profitable than motion pictures and abandoned the cinema. Jack Wells continues his father's tradition painting signs today, and has often made signs for the Society gratis.

Visit the Landmark!

Wondering when we are open? The Herbig Bakery welcomes visitors on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM every week. If you need to come in any time other than that, please give us a call, and we will be glad to make arrangements. Call us at 362-3906.

Genealogical Updates

Looking for family records? Stumped by a ancestor who seemly vanished without a trace? Come on down to the Landmark. We have lots of materials that will help. Most of our visitors over the summer have been researching our records for family history. Richard D. Dorn of Oklahoma City recently spent several days at the Landmark investigating the Dorn family history (did you know that Dr. S.B. Dorn was a "baby doctor" at the turn of the century?); the Cornelius family from Florida stopped in to see if we had any history on their cigar-making grandfather who was from Bradford (we did - he made cigars at 9 W. Washington Street, c. 1900); The McCartins from California, and Dorene Jacobs from Toronto stopped in, too, looking for long lost relatives. We manage to help everyone in some way, & can help you too!

Firemen Battle Stubborn Blaze in Near-Zero Weather at China Shop-Apartment Structure



China Shop Fire Remembered

Lina Melvin Conklin sent us the above picture from the Bradford Era, dateline Feb. 22, 1950. This fire destroyed a landmark building at 22 E. Corydon Street, which had housed the popular "China Shop" of Miss Belle Robertson since 1927. It had been erected at the beginning of Bradford's oil boom in the early 1870s. The Era reported referred to it as a "three-story Victorian mansion", and mansion it must have been in 1875, surrounded by hastily thrown together dwellings with vertical siding in a town that jumped from 500 to 10,000 in two years. It was built by CC Melvin, a famous Bradfordian, and possibly the second or third person to be born in Bradford in 1833. He was the eldest son of John F. and Lucretia Farr Melvin, pioneer arrivals to the area wilds in 1825.

Lina Melvin Conklin, now lives in Walnut Creek, CA, and is the grand-daughter of CC Melvin. Lina regularly sends us recollections from the old days which we carefully keep on file. Thanks again, Lina.....

Bradford Landmark Society

Telephone 814-362-3906

45 E. Corydon Street
Bradford, PA 16701

Dear Friends:

Perhaps our first letter never reached you, or you set it aside intending to read it later. Please take time to read this now and perhaps you can help us.

Over the years, the Bradford Landmark Society has sustained itself mainly through the Antique Show, the Crook Farm Country Fair, various donations, and many, many volunteer hours.

This past year, a knowledgeable restorer inspected the Landmark buildings. His report, given at our annual dinner meeting, was a rude awakening. We learned that nearly all of the buildings were in dire need of repair. A portion of the money to undertake these repairs is now being raised through the donations of some local residents.

An anonymous donor has pledged up to \$10,000 to a matching fund endowment. In other words, if we, as members, can raise \$10,000 this year, the Endowment will be \$20,000.

In order to continue the upkeep and maintenance of our buildings in the future, we need **your** help. Any amount you can give will be gratefully appreciated. All donations are tax deductible.

Please send your contributions marked "Endowment Fund" (or stop in Mon-Wed-Fri from 11AM to 2PM) to:

**The Bradford Landmark Society
45 E. Corydon Street
Bradford, Pennsylvania 16701**

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Board of Directors

*Warren Paynter
Isabelle Champlin
Anne Bouquin
Sue Evans*

*William Kaschube
Dorothy Shields
Donald Watkins
George Bay*

Christmas Shopping Begins at the Landmark!

The ideal Christmas presents are those that are unique. And what better way to do your Christmas shopping than at the Landmark, where we have all sorts of interesting items:

- Delightful videos of Bradford in the 1930s - three different films.....\$22.00 ea.
- An 1895 lithograph of Bradford, done in pen and ink.....\$15.00 ea.
- Cast Iron Yellow Dogs.....\$15.00 ea.
- 1998 Calendars featuring scenes of Bradford from the 1940s.....\$5.00 ea.
- "Around Bradford" photographic history of Bradford.....\$18.00 ea.
- Wooden Buildings series (Herbig Bakery, Crook Farmhouse, Craft Barn, and the Schoolhouse.....\$13.00 ea.
- 100% Cotton Throws, in blue or green.....\$45.00 ea.
- "Spellbound" by David McKain.....\$16.00 ea.
- "Pocket of Peace" by Mary Ann Johnston.....\$3.00 ea.
- "Bicentennial Bradford 1776-1976".....\$2.00 ea.
- All David Poyer books.....\$15.00 ea.

The Bradford Landmark Society
45 E. Corydon Street, Bradford, PA 16701

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Happy Halloween!



COUNTRY FAIR AT CROOK FARM
AUGUST 23 AND 24, 1997

Dear Friend,

The Bradford Landmark Society is seeking your support during this, our annual Country Fair at Crook Farm patron drive. These funds enable us to provide all of the many events and activities at Crook Farm, as well as maintain the Society's headquarters known as the Herbig Bakery, located at 45 E. Corydon St. in Bradford.

Individual sponsorship for this year's Country Fair is a very reasonable \$12 per person. Each patron will receive a complimentary pass to the Country Fair at Crook Farm. And, in appreciation of your support, we would like to extend an invitation to you to join us at the pre-Fair Kick-Off Party on Friday, August 22 - just our way of saying thank you to all of our generous supporters.

We hope that you will lend us your support, to help us preserve Bradford's past for the future.

See you at the fair!

Sincerely,

Gail Grillo
Gail Grillo

Susan Evans
Susan Evans
Patron Drive Chairpersons

Encl.

COUNTRY FAIR AT CROOK FARM
AUGUST 23 AND 24, 1997

We will be mailing your pass to the Country Fair and invitation to the Kick-Off festivities during the first week in August.

Please return the bottom of this form, along with your check, payable to the Bradford Landmark Society to:

Country Fair at Crook Farm
Bradford Landmark Society
45 E. Corydon St.
Bradford, PA 16701

Thank you again for your support!

Name: Mr. & Mrs. Elmer Ann DeLucia
Address: 160 Summer St.
Bradford, PA 16701 Telephone: 3622265

Please note any corrections to the above information, so that we may keep our records current. Thanks!

All patrons will be recognized in our program for the event. How would you like your name to appear in the patron program? Note any changes below.

Name as it is scheduled to appear: Mr. & Mrs. Elmer DeLucia

Name as you would like it to appear, if different:

Are you currently a Landmark Society member? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't Know
Would you like additional information about membership? ☐ Yes ☐ No