

THE QUARTERLY BULLETIN OF THE
Ripley County, Indiana, Historical Society, Inc.

Museum--Corner Main and Water Streets

Versailles, Indiana 47042

VOLUME XIII

JANUARY 1989

NUMBER 1

WINTER MEETING TO BE AT OSGOOD

The Ripley County Historical Society will meet at the home of Mrs. Mildred Cizek, 433 S. Buckeye St., Osgood, January 8, 1989 at 2 o'clock. The program will be presented by Mrs. Harry Nerwold.

ITEMS FROM THE FALL MEETING

The R.C.H.S. met October 9 at 2 o'clock in the Annex at Versailles. President Randy Young opened the meeting. Each of the 24 people attending introduced themselves and told where they resided.

The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and approved. Bea Boyd explained all the expenses for the past three months. She was happy to report that the society had received \$2,000 from the Tyson Fund. Her checking balance was \$174.16.

Dennis Hardin from Indianapolis had visited the museum. He told us there might be a grant which the society would be able to use in the future for microfilming.

The meeting was then turned over to Bea Boyd who had searched the Historical Society records. She found that the society was formed Sept. 2, 1880. Many people over the years had worked hard to keep the society alive. Some of the highlites were:

1921 It was noted that Stephen Harding addressed the society.

1956 The Violet Toph papers were in the process of being catalogued.

1970 The Society was reorganized. O. S. Patterson conducted the meeting. At this time Lois Thompson was working very hard getting the Toph papers catalogued.

1973 The Annex was purchased for the sum of \$6,600.

1981 Micro film was purchased. At present bulletins are printed four times a year and sent to each member. Over the years many people have helped beyond the usual call of duty. Some we might mention are: Lois and Herbert Thompson and Ann Gibbs.

At one time Brown Twp. had a Historical Society. No other information has been found at this time. In the old minutes it is stated that the Friendship Bank turned the Brown Twp. monies over to R.C.H.S.

SOCIETY STARTING NEW MEMBERSHIP YEAR JAN. 1

Membership in the R.C.I.H.S. is by calendar year, Jan. through Dec. We urge each member who is not a Life Member to examine the figures following their name on the address side of this bulletin. If your figure is 88 we will appreciate you continuing your membership by sending your check for \$3.00 to Society Treasurer, Mrs. Don Boyd, P.O. Box 83, Holton, IN 47023. If for any reason your records do not agree with ours, please contact the treasurer.

Membership is open to anyone who is interested in the history of our county and its preservation, regardless of where they may live. Membership also includes receiving this bulletin which is published quarterly. Junior memberships for persons under 18 are \$1.50. Life membership is \$100 per person. The membership and interest of

members in other counties and states is greatly appreciated and contributes greatly to maintaining our organization.

GENEALOGICAL QUERIES

As a service to readers interested in genealogy we publish queries in each issue. Please make them as concise as practical. Typewritten copy is preferred. If handwritten, make sure it is very legible. The charge is 50¢ per query to society members and \$1.00 per query to non-members; payable in advance by check or stamps. Please send queries to: Mrs. Don Boyd, P.O. Box 83, Holton, IN 47023

Query: John WEHMANN b. 16 May 1837 d. 9 Feb. 1875 Napoleon, Ripley Co. IN m. Christina STRANG 29 Dec. 1863. Christina b. 29 Sept. 1837 Minden, Germany, d. 24 Mar. 1917 Napoleon. Who are John's parents? Where was he born? Where did they marry? Christina's father was Christian Strang. Did he come to America with her? When did she come to America? Can anyone help me?
-- Diana Gailbreath, 412 Hatchett Creek Rd., Venice, FL 34292

NOTES FROM INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Winners of the Indiana "Signs of the Times" photography contest have been chosen from one hundred and sixteen contestants. Most winners were from the Indianapolis area; none from our area. Many entries are on display through Jan. 14 at the Society, 315 W. Ohio, Indianapolis.

The legendary sounds of Hoosier songwriter, jazz composer, pianist and singer Hoagy Carmichael have been captured by the Indiana Historical Society in a special four-album set, The Classic Hoagy Carmichael, now available to the public.

A copublication of the Society and the Smithsonian Institution's Collection of Recordings, the album contains 57 selections performed by such great names in popular music and jazz as Louis Armstrong, Ray Charles, Bing Crosby, Tommy Dorsey, Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller, Frank Sinatra and Carmichael himself. The album also includes a lavishly illustrated 64 page booklet detailing Carmichael's life and work.

Researched, compiled and produced by Dr. John Edward Hasse, curator of American Music at the Smithsonian Institution, the album has been nearly eight years in the making. The collection is the most comprehensive record ever devoted to Carmichael and surveys his entire career, including his greatest hits and some little-known songs deserving wider recognition.

With Carmichael's best songs, Hasse said it was difficult to select a single recording. Consequently, there are two versions each of "Georgia On My Mind", "Lazy River", "The Nearness of You", "Rockin' Chair" and "Skylark". In the case of perhaps Carmichael's best-known piece, "Stardust", Hasse has included six different recordings, the first by Louis Armstrong in 1931 and 53 years later, another by leading trumpeter, Wynton Marsalis.

The Classic Hoagy Carmichael is available on record or cassette and costs \$35 for I.H.S. members and \$42 for non-members. To purchase an album, write the Indiana Historical Society, 315 W. Ohio, Indianapolis, IN 46202 or call (317) 232 - 1882.

COXEY'S CANE

In 1931 Lewis Heimsath of Batesville gave to the museum a cane that had been in the possession of his father, John F., who lived in Napoleon, IN and had died in 1913 at the age of 83.

This interesting article, at one time, belonged to Jacob Coxey of Massillon, Ohio. "General" Jacob S. Coxey came into prominence in 1894 when he headed a group of "Common Wealers" or "Industrialists" who had assembled in the western states and started the march from St. Louis and marching to Washington D.C. to bring before Congress the grievances of the laboring class of people, during the second administration of Grover Cleveland.

This so called army encamped at Napoleon one night, pitching large tents on the town square (Commons). (This is where the school house is now located). Some of this group disbanded at Lawrenceburg, IN. Coxey finally reached Washington D.C. April 28 with 350 men and attempted a demonstration near the capitol on May 1 and was arrested. He was released June 10, having meantime been nominated in Ohio for Congress.

I often heard the expression that someone looked "like Coxey's Army". They looked like a group of ragamuffins. So I suppose it wasn't unusual during the "Great Depression" for groups of people to "look like Coxey's Army".

Contributed by Bea Boyd

GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS

3 sheets on Barlett Brown family Sept. '88
by Mr. Jack Bateman, 320 Cedar St., Seattle, Wash. 98121

Scrapbook of August Engle family, D. Hiner and Hinghouse. Original copies written in German; included are obituaries, personal letters and papers, 7 pgs. Translations of all records are included. Johanna Friedrich Wilhelm Hinghaus military record in the German Army dated 15 Apr. 1847 in German, translation included. Letter written by Franz Heinrich Hinghouse Feb. 8, 1850. Original marriage license of William Hinghouse to Della Lamb 8 Feb. 1905. Due to its value it is to be placed with our bibles and photo albums.

by Mrs. Dorothy L. English, 9005 Arrowood Ct., Terre Haute, IN 47802

Hanson / Stevens family in Oregon. 2 sheets Nov. '88
by Scott P. and Dorothy B. Clevonger, 1415 N.W. 14th 503, Corvallis, Oreg. 97330

Saint Maurice Catholic Church Directory (Napoleon)

Robert Hoover Military papers, Civil War Dec. '88
by Mabel Hoover, 42 Chesney Drive, Henderson, Nev. 89014

Collection of pioneer marriages, Hamilton Co. OH Vol. 1 Dec. '88
by Kathryn Manship

Program of Tyson Water and Sewer Dedication Dec. '88
by Leonard Manship

Laswell History 7 pgs. Dec. '88
by J. V. Laswell, 34156 Main Rd., Eugene, OR 97401

Pictures of Osgood graduating classes and basketball pictures.
by Mabel Ensinger

RIPLEY COUNTY, INDIANA, HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Box 525
Versailles, Indiana, 47042

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

Officers elected to serve until after the April 1989 meeting.

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The Ripley County, Indiana
Historical Society, Inc.
Box 525
Versailles, Indiana 47042

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