

\*\*\*\*\*  
 \*  
 \* THE CLINTON INDEPENDENT \*  
 \*  
 \* CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER \*  
 \*  
 \* SEPT. 1986 \*  
 \*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

CCHS AND GENEALOGISTS NAME OFFICERS

The 1986-87 officers of CCHS are: Charles Coletta re-elected as president; Randy Phelps, vice president; Dorothy Cressman, recording secretary; Janet Snyder, corresponding secretary; Janet Tiedt, treasurer; Arlene Lounds, program chairman; and Tiedt and Snyder were named delegates to the Michigan Genealogical Council.

Also on the board are John Caudy and Arlynn Gantz.

\*\* Genealogical Division \*\*

Genealogical Division officers are: President, Alta Catherine Reed; Vice president, Dorothy Cressman; Secretary, Maralyse Brooks; Corresponding secretary, Janet Snyder; Treasurer, Janet Tiedt; Program Chairman, Arlene Lounds; Green Thumb librarian, Wilma Soule; Volunteer librarian, Lois Fohl; and Project coordinator librarian, Arlynn Gantz.

\*\* Archives \*\*

Our archives are maintained by our Genealogy Division and house the written/pictorial history of Clinton County. We are housed in the DeWitt Township Hall on Brook Road, one block east and a block south of the U. S. 27 and State Road intersection. Hours are 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

\*\* Paine Gillam Scott Museum \*\*

Paine Gillam Scott Museum, on Maple Street across from the courthouse, is operated by another division of CCHS. PGS, a "home museum" is named for owners, who once lived there. It is the oldest brick home in St. Johns. Owned by Clinton County, the structure is made available to CCHS and it is open from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays and from 2 to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays. It is closed in winter. PGS operates under the direction of Catherine and John Rumbaugh.

\*\*\*\*\*

PAINÉ GILLAM SCOTT MUSEUM NEWS AND NOTES

\*\*\*\*\*

ARTIFACTS FROM THE DESCENDANTS OF CLINTON COUNTY'S FIRST  
WHITE SETTLER

(Editor's note: Earlier this year the Parish family of St. John's Episcopal Church donated gifts from the estate of Dr. Guy Henry and Milcah Campau Frace, children of Margaret Milcah Frace Cotchett and Guy Henry "Bun" Frace, to our museum. They are descendants of George Campau, Clinton County's first white settler who built a trading post at Maple Rapids. The following is excerpted from "Fifty Years Out of College," a composite memoir of the class of 1895 of Michigan State College of Agriculture, now Michigan State University. This prelude to the 50th class reunion held in June, 1945 was given by Maurice Grenville Kains and titled, "Guy H. Frace - Just a Country Doctor."

"I have never had my name in Who's Who nor become internationally famous. I am just a country doctor," wrote Guy Henry Frace.

But:

He is a Fellow of the American Medical Association; president of the Clinton County Medical Association; vice-president of the St. Johns Board of Education; health officer of the City of St. Johns; and Chief of Staff of Clinton Memorial Hospital, an institution with an A-1 rating and which cared for 2,641 patients in 1942.

He is also a member of all the Masonic Orders; the Citizen's Defense Council and of Rotary International. He is affiliated with St. John's Episcopal Church.

St. Johns is a city of 4,000 (1945) people. It is in an agricultural section and has very little manufacturing activity. It has a commission form of government and has six schools and nine churches.

Dr. Frace has practiced medicine for 44 years. His steps were: After graduation from MAC he received his M.D. degree at Detroit College of Medicine in 1898. For 2 years he was assistant to a Detroit physician; took his internship at Butterworth Hospital at Grand Rapids. He practiced in that city for 9 years; then in Westphalia for 7 years; removing thence, he settled in St. Johns, where he has lived and practiced. (continued next page)



(Frace story continued)

In 1901 he married Miss Milcah Campau of Grand Rapids. They have 2 children: Daughter, Margaret Milcah (now Mrs. Amory Cotchett of Detroit), born in 1902; and a son at home, Henry Guy, born in 1912.

It is a family with avocations and hobbies, in pursuing which, some have reached the professional stage. The doctor has his workshop, where he carries on a glorified carpentry for relaxation. He plays golf and is a cinema fan, when his patients give him an opportunity. Appropos of the latter, he played the part of the family physician in the picture, "The Case of Lucy X," filmed with professionals in the cast by the Michigan Tuberculosis Association. One is doubtless pleased to see oneself in pictures and we are sure that the doctor enjoyed it as much as his friends, when the film was shown in St. Johns.

Mrs. Frace is a connoisseur and collector of antique china and glass and has many precious pieces. Mrs. Cotchett is a commercial artist and colors films and paints murals. She is at present employed at General Motors in Detroit in the research department. The son is a radio enthusiast and his studio has equipment that staggers the layman.

(The above was made available by Catherine Rumbaugh for a reception held June 19, 1986 at PGS when the Parish family was recognized for making the artifacts available to us.)

#### **\*\* News From PGS \*\***

(From Catherine Rumbaugh, PGS co-director)

Fanatical efforts to ready the newest addition to our museum complex proved most worthwhile for the recent Mint Festival. The old doctors office which was moved from its' site adjacent to PGS, which we call the "Doctor's Annex", took on 3 different faces for the festival. First it served as a gift shop selling the delectable fragrance of mint potpourri; then it displayed photos and articles about mint farming; and, third, it was the setting for a VCR presentation of the late Clyde Anderson's movies of the 1930's and '40's of his mint-related activities.

Walking up the "driveway of flags," hundreds of people visited Doctors Gillam, Scott and Russell's medical office, which Dr. Gillam built in the 1880's, all three doctors having lived in our house museum.

We express thanks to Charles Hulse and his parade entry, a 1902 merry Oldsmobile; John Gross for his demonstration on the museum's 1876 Velocipede jig-saw plus his help on the doctor's annex; Tom and Linda Sutton for their "log to (continued on next page)

(PGS news continued from previous page)

basket" demonstration; Pete Motz of Plum Line Landscape and Design for his instant landscaping; Kurt Becker Appliance Center for the loan of a VCR and TV equipment; Kathy Valentine of The Plant Professionals; and all who served as guides and who put forth other effort for the festival.

**\*\* Grandfather Clock \*\***

Thanks to everyone who sold and/or purchased raffle tickets on our grandfather clock, which is our annual project to raise operating revenue for PGS. The winner of the clock was Dorothy Waldron of Fowler.

\*\*\*\*\*

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

CGHS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Sept. 18 1986. 7:30 P.M.  
at Capital Savings & Loan..

GENEALOGY DIVISION: Sept. 8, Capitol Savings & Loan, St. Johns. with Earl Fohl speaking on "Gettysburg."

\*\*\*\*\*

CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
BOX 174  
ST. JOHNS, MI. 48879

St. Johns, Ms.  
PERMIT  
No.104  
Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. Postage  
PAID

GANTZ, ARLYNN

BOX # 535  
DEWITT, MI 48820