

# Clinton Independent

## MUSEUM BUILDING TOPIC OF COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

At the December meeting of the County Commissioners, the topic of the use of the Public Health Building was on the agenda. The Historical Society presented the 12 page report prepared by Tom Hellen and the Museum Committee detailing what could be done with the Health Department Building if the County gives the building to the Society for a Museum site. The report was presented by Catherine Humbaugh, president of the Society. Tom Hellen had to be out of the state on business.

The Clinton County Commissioners will take the matter under consideration until the March meeting, at which time a decision will be made.

Each of us is urged to write or call our own county commissioner and make him aware of what our feelings are. If the Commissioners knew that there is certain support for the project, their attitude is certain to be more positive. Unless we get our ideas to the Commission, the lovely old home might well be torn down to make way for a parking lot. Write or call your county commissioner. MAKE YOUR WISHES KNOWN!

## MUSEUM KEEPS CHRISTMAS FOR THE MONTH

A good place to visit, especially if you take your children or grandchildren is the Museum. It is now ready for the Christmas time and the place will be decorated in the style of the late 1800's until the 28th of January. This will give most of us some time in which to see Christmas of long ago.

## TROMP NAME SEARCH

A search for those who knew of an Elizabeth Tromp in the family of William and F. Tromp and Henry Tromp. She was married in St. Johns in the 1870's. If you knew of this family or some of its descendants, please contact Goldie Moore 669-9061.

## PROGRAMS PLANNED FOR THE COMING MONTHS' MEETINGS OF SOCIETY

Prominent Michigan author and Society Vice-president, Ford Caesar will present "Traveling Historic Michigan" with slides and talks. Mr. Caesar will present this topic at the January meeting on January 19 at the St. Johns Municipal Building Auditorium at 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Caesar is a Clinton County native, attending schools in the area and also graduating from the County Normal School. He taught for many years in this area and in the Lansing area. He is the author of several volumes of information about once familiar name places and forgotten towns of central Michigan. He also wrote of the L.A.M.P. railroad. He was commissioned by the Ingham County Historic Commission to write the official Bicentennial history of that county. This interesting volume was published in 1976. He is working on several books which will be published soon.

Mr. Caesar is the Vice-President of the Society and was among the first supporters of the Society. Because of his vast knowledge of the area, he was able to inspire many projects. Come and hear this interesting talk.

## MUSEUM ENTHUSIASTS TO MEET

All those who are interested in having the Mid-Michigan Health Dept. Building as a Museum Site and especially those who sent in positive responses to the postcard survey are requested to attend a meeting about the work of the Museum. Some organization is now necessary so that a united front be presented to the Board of Commissioners. This meeting will help set up this kind of action. The meeting will be January 30 at 8:00 p.m. in the Community Room of Central National Bank. If you are unable to come, call Tom Hellen at 224-8173 or Nina Waldron at 593-2109. Your support is urgently needed.

Commissioner Addresses on back page.

## MEETINGS

January 19-- Ferd Ceasar will speak on "Traveling Historic Michigan" at the January meeting of the Historical Society. Municipal Building in St. Johns at 8:00p.m. Doris Livingston is chairman of refreshments.

January 23--Board Meeting of the CCHS at the home of Nina Waldron in Fowler, 11056 W. Second Street.

January 24--Community Taping Committee meets at Libby Speelma's house at 598 Mayfield Drive, Lansing, at 8:00p.m.

January 28-- Museum working meeting at 10:00 a.m. at the Museum. Come and join the fun!

February 6--Genealogy Committee meets in the Bement Library History Room at 7:30 p.m. This meeting is a workshop everyone is to bring their forms and inquiry problems. There will be people to help with these inquiries.

February 7--Museum Committee meets at Museum at 7:30 p.m.

February 16 --Dr. Ruth Ike will discuss her trip to mainland China and illustrate this with slides.

March 9 --(NOTE EARLY DATE OF THIS ANNUAL MEETING) This meeting will feature material about Philip Parmalee. Shirley Karber will be chairperson for this meeting.

## HELP WANTED

The annual essay contest is now under way. Three judges are needed for this contest. This involves the reading and judging of the essays from Elementary, Junior High and High School ages. It is interesting and very much a stimulating project. Judges are given about four weeks to read the fifty or so essays involved for each category. The judges then meet and choose from the best in each classification, the grand prize winner. Each judge only reads one area.

The topic for this year is "What's in a Name?" and this deals with the name origins of townships, roads, school streets and cities. It should prove to be very interesting reading.

Call Betty Moore at 224-2025 if you are interested.

## ORAL HISTORY NEWS

Are you interested in our oral history heritage and would like to hear the events of our history, life as it happened?

The Oral History Committee will meet at Libby Speelma's house January 24 at 8:00 p.m. Libby lives at 598 Mayfield Drive which is east of U.S. 27 off State Road. Her phone number is 489-7710. Those who are coming from the St. Johns area can meet at Catherine Kumbaugh's house at 7:30 and all of us can go together in a few cars together. This worthwhile project will bring the past to life via the tape recorder.

## WHAT'S IN A SURNAME INDEX?

In anticipation of an eventual Michigan Surname Index modeled after that of Iowa, the Mid-Michigan Genealogical Society is attempting to expand and improve its own surname file. The Genealogy Section of the Clinton County Historical Society has been encouraged to join in this endeavor. Preprinted cards are available from the Society. Submissions should follow the same form so they can be copied for the Index. You may submit any name on which you have genealogical information or for which you wish to seek any information.

Identify each card submitted for the INDEX with your name, address, and current date so that inquiries may be easily referred. You need not be concerned that some cards are incomplete. Doubtful or approximate dates, names etc. can be labeled with a ? question mark. This or other missing data indicates that you are requesting help and someone may be able to give it to you.

A Surname INDEX will be published periodically. The INDEX will be available at the Clinton County Historical Museum, with copies at the Bement Library and the State Library, as well as Mid-Michigan Genealogical Society. One of the greatest values of the file will be its incorporation in a publication by the Genealogy Societies and the Michigan Genealogy Society. Much wide distribution of these indices is possible and they are picked up by the various query publications.

Complete instructions for filling these cards are on the back page. Please contact Goldie Moore at 669-9061 or at 3623 W. Chadwick Rd., Dewitt, MI 48820, for further information.