

THE EXILE HERALD

Special Issue Spring 1942

ANNOUNCING THE SPRING MEETING

The semi-annual meeting of the Exiles will be held at the old Salford meeting house, where our ancestors first built a church and school.

The date: Saturday, May 23 at 3 P.M. Wartime.

The Speaker: A surprise, Keep reading!

The weather: Fair and not too warm (we hope)

The presider: The President, of course!

The eats: Ice cream - the Committee promises that

the ice cream factory will not have a fire this year and burn up our order -

and perhaps melt the ice cream. Come ready to eat, and the Committee

will try to please all.

Notice: This is the only notice you will receive. Must

economize paper in war time!

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HARK TO ANN HARK

The speaker at the semi-annual meeting of the Exiles, May 23,

will be Miss Ann Hark. Miss Hark has written several books about the

Pennsylvania Dutch and has lectured up and down the land to various groups.

Miss Hark has been a working newspaper woman and has collected a vast

amount of information about the Germans who came about the time of our

ancestors and who helped to make this state the great Commonwealth it

now is. She will tell of the Amish and the Dunkers and others who formed

the back bone of this state. She is informing, amusing and thoroughly

wholesome. She is coming especially to address the Schwenfelders. Let's

have a big crowd.

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Deceased Members

The following deaths among members of the Society were reported at the March meeting of the Board of Governors.

C. Everett Danehower, Collingdale

Mrs. Elizabeth L. Merchant, 119 W. Mt. Airy Ave., Philadelphia

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Member:

Did you ever find a little message that went straight to your heart and that seemed to have been written especially for the Descendants of the Schwenkfeldian Exiles; that reflected the history and spirit of our society; that laid down a philosophy and code of living for its members; that gave courage and vision for the years following this immediate time of chaos; that provided fine tools to carve the future and the incentive to make that future better than the past?

All this I find in the exquisitely chosen words of a little prayer to The Unconquerable Spirit written by James Hilton, the distinguished British novelist and author of "The Lost Horizon." Through its lines there is an under-current of faith that real people everywhere have a capacity for friendliness and for service to their fellow men with a promise that repose of spirit will be their reward.

"Help us to rebuild the world for more splendid lives than ours; add wisdom to the ardour of the young, and loving kindness to the musings of the old; make our eyes aware of things too gentle to proclaim themselves; give us emotions far beyond the fret of nerves, free us from fear of our own brothers, and from the triple curse of greed, intolerance and vainglory.

"Lift the dark cloud of war from out future, and grant comfort to all quiet kindly folk who carry peace in their hearts amidst the stress of conflict; strengthen them also to endure what may befall.

"Bring down the tyrant; befriend the victims of injustice and equate the rewards of labor nearer to the needs of men; accustom us to work, not for the snatched profit, but for the common good and for the planned destiny of mankind.

"Give patience to those who wait restlessly for this, and hope to those who have ceased to believe that it will come; and fill our hearts with faith in a Kingdom of Heaven which our children's children may some day find on earth. Amen."

I look forward to seeing you at our meeting on May 23.

Sincerely yours,

Caroline M. Huber

1938 SCHWENKELDIAN SOCIETY COMMUNION TREASURED RECEIPTS

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I've always felt that far too little has been done about evad the richest, most romantic of all folk arts - COOKERY. Descendants of the Schwenkfeldian Exiles are very fortunate indeed to have a complete genealogical history, but it's high time we thought about the food that made the Schwenkfeldians who made America. We're all in accord with wonderful modern research that goes into the A-B-C-D's of vitamins, nutritional values and meticulous measurements. But deep down in our hearts is a great big appreciative consciousness for those "treasures" in the family recipe books - those romantic dishes, some handed down to us only by word of mouth, that graced the tables of our ancestors long before the vitamins came marching forth with their profoundly competitive air. Does the thought of a heavenly spicy froth that Grandmother used to call APPLE FLOAT, made by dint of magical blending and beating, fill you with flavorsome yearnings? And how about Aunt Melinda's YELLOW TOMATO PRESERVES, the very mention of which illumines a whole section of happy childhood? Great-Aunt Jane's recipe for SHOOFLY PIE, her perfect CORN BREAD and her SOFT MOLASSES COOKIES. Food is far more than just a means of preservation of life. It's life itself. It's romance, history, tradition, art, poetry! (Please pass the pie - Editor)

Family specialties, deeply rooted as they are to our most intimate and personal existences, are the genuine Schwenkfeldian dishes, and my suggestion is to make a real effort to collect and preserve them. I'll need the cooperation of every member of the Society in this. We invite you to send or bring your time-honored recipes, your Schwenkfeldian heirloom recipes to the May meeting and ask you to tell as much as you can of their history and how they came to the revered place they now hold.

If possible, bring the recipes down to modern measurements - teaspoon, tablespoon and cup measurements - rather than pounds and ounces. An amusing story is told about an old negress who gave her mistress a recipe for making corn bread: "Well, you see, honey, I takes jes' 'bout right of meal an' jes' 'bout right of water and den I bakes it jes' 'bout nuff." We must admit we know many good cooks who take a pinch of this and a pinch of that and turn out a cake with the feathery texture of a cherub's wing. But I'm not advocating the "by guess and by gorra" recipes.

It is our hope in carrying out this plan to gather together all the historic, romantic Schwenkfeldian dishes that we may in time be able to publish them in a book of folklore cookery.

Alice M. Hostetter, Secretary

(If more convenient, recipes may be sent to the Secretary: Mrs. A. Ross Hostetter, 10 Stock St., Hanover, Pa.)

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Society of the Descendants
of the Schwenkfeldian Exiles

STRENGTHEN THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NEEDS HELP!

We have assumed the responsibility of spreading

the news of the Exile Society to other eligible descendants who are not members, and of inviting them to the meetings. We have started a long campaign by approaching those of our acquaintance who fall in this category, or those whom others refer to us. The task is so large that we need the help of all interested members in getting us in touch with the others. We really don't know all your family - aunts, uncles, cousins and all who are direct descendants of one of the exiles! We'd like to know them though - and we'd like to have them join in on our meetings. Won't you bring them around and introduce them to the group? Don't you think they'd be interested in sharing the fellowship of the rest of us who come from the same stock and take pride in our ancestry who had the faith and courage and stamina to forsake their homeland and possessions, to risk all the dangers and voyage amidst hardships to settle a new land that they and we might live in a land founded on freedom and the fundamental rights of all mankind?

Loretta Meschter has

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REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION
The existing Constitution of the Society of the Descendants of the Schwenkfeldian Exiles has been unrevised for some ten years. During this period, the practises of the Society have changed largely toward simplification. In order to bring the Constitution therefore into consonance with present simplified practise, a committee for revision was appointed.

The Committee has gone over the wording of the extant Constitution and revised the same, always bearing in mind present practise, and now is ready to present in new form approved by the Board of Governors, a new Constitution for the approval of the membership. The main body and form of the Constitution have, however, been retained just as the principal features like purpose, meetings, membership are retained in present practise.

Minor features such as several officers not now incumbent, an annual banquet not now held, and the like have been dropped. The

various articles of the Constitution have been brought to a form where they are consistent one with the other, in all descriptive or definitive features.

Your Committee believes that the new form as revised is today eminently workable, that every valuable feature has been retained, that every superfluity has been removed, that no major revision will be necessary for a long term of years, and that the new form is worthy of adoption by the membership. So believing and considering its functions concluded, your Committee rests and prays that it be discharged.

E. Yeakle Wolford, Chairman.

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HERE AND THERE WITH THE EXILES

Art as practiced by our ancestors was reviewed by Rev. Lester Kriebel early in April at The Art Alliance in Philadelphia. Many people are recognizing the value of the art work of our ancestors. Have we artists in our group now?

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At the latest meeting of the Board of Governors every member was present but one, and she was sick. One member came from Pittsburgh to attend the meeting. "Grannie" Huber, otherwise, our Madame President, gets the Board members to meetings and makes them work. Or didn't you know that Mrs. Huber was a Grandmother? As Walter Winchell would say, she doesn't look it!

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Don't miss the next meeting, May 23.

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Here's an idea: Put Salford church in your will for a little endowment. A modest sum is needed every year to keep the place in shape and in repair. Wayne Meschter can give you the necessary legal wording.

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This issue comes to you in place of the usual printed Exile Herald due early in the spring of each year. How do you like it?

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Eight new members are in sight. Can you help with names of others who ought to join?

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All the Exiles were good feeders. There are some wonderful recipes in the minds of many of our cooks. Let's put them on paper as Mrs. Hostetter suggests.

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H. H. S.