

The Lackawanna Historical Society BULLETIN

Volume 12, No. 2

April 1979

APRIL PROGRAM MEETING

Wednesday, April 18, 1979

8 P.M. Catlin House

Mr. Gerald Johnson, Wyalusing realtor, will show and narrate a series of color slides showing the scenery and historic sites in the Endless Mountains Scenic areas of Wyoming, Susquehanna, Bradford, Tioga and Sullivan counties in Pennsylvania. These will include spring and fall color scenes including French Asylum, Tunkhannock and Towanda, Montrose and Mansfield, Eaglesmere and Wellsboro as well as the beautiful Susquehanna River valley. This program will be a delightful breath of Spring; we hope you will come to enjoy it. As usual discussion and refreshments will follow Mr. Johnson's presentation. He is the Treasurer of the Endless Mountains Association.

ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

Wednesday, May 9, 6:30 P.M.

Catlin House

Our annual dinner meeting will feature a catered roast beef dinner and the installation of new officers for the coming year. Mr. David Strickland, a member of the New York City staff of Southeby-Parke-Bernet Galleries will give an outstanding slide presentation entitled "Furnishings of the Victorian Period". The meeting will be a part of National Heritage Week.

CATLIN HOUSE NEWS

We have recently received on loan twenty one oil portraits of members of the Scranton Family, our cities founding family, given by former Governor and Mrs. William W. Scranton. Several of them including portraits of the late William W. Scranton I, the late Worthington and Margery Warren Scranton, and Gov. and Mrs. Scranton have already been hung in our house. Donations of antique clothing, books

and photographs have also been received from the estate of the late Mrs. Judy Wallace Belin, Waverly and a pioneer grain cradle given by Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Seamans, Factoryville. We are always happy to receive donations of antique furnishings, clothing, photographs, books and papers which pertain to the history of this region.

During the month of February, 201 visitors came to the Catlin House including five groups and in March we had 223 visitors and six groups.

Mrs. Clinton (Juanita) Gruener has been serving as our cheerful hostess and secretary since February 1.

DIRECTORY OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS IN

SCRANTON'S CENTRAL CITY

(continued from the January Bulletin)

42. SCRANTON'S CENTRAL FIRE DEPARTMENT BLD., 518 Mulberry St., a three story stone structure built in 1905; Fred L. Brown, architect.

NORTH WASHINGTON AVENUE

43. MEDICAL ARTS BUILDING, 325 N. Washington Avenue. Ten story light brick office Building for doctors and dentists. Built in 1929.
44. U. S. POST OFFICE AND FEDERAL COURT BLD. SW corner of North Washington and Linden St. Three story stone building erected in 1930. Designed in classical style with art-decco details by James A. Whitstone, Washington, D.C. architect. Opened October, 1931. Site of an U.S. Post Office built 1891-94.

45. MEARS BUILDING - SE corner Spruce St. and N. Washington Ave. Ten story stone and brick office building built 1895-96 by John A. Mears as Scranton's first ten story structure. Designed in Richardsonian style by Isaac L. Williams, local architect. Remodeled in 1978 for Penn-Security Bank.

46. BROOKS BUILDING - SW corner Spruce St. and N. Washington Ave. Eight story red sandstone and brick office building erected in 1891 as the Commonwealth Bld. and designed by L. C. Holden. The Peoples National Bank was located here from 1906 to 1917; since then it has been known as the Brooks Bld. The J. H. Brooks brokerage firm was located here for many years.

47. CONNELL BUILDING 129 N. Washington Ave. an eight story office building with a carved stone front, designed by Lansing C. Holden, New York architect. It was built in 1894-96 by Congressman William Connell, prominent coal operator, here. Connolly and Wallace Dry Goods Store was located on the first floor from 1894 to 1939.

48. SCRANTON NATIONAL BANK BLD. 108 N. Washington Ave. Twelve story stone and white tile office building with Gothic details, designed by Edward H. Davis. It was built 1914-15 by the Union National Bank; reorganized as the Scranton National Bank in 1932.

LACKAWANNA AVENUE

49. BOSAK BANK BLD., 434 Lackawanna Avenue. Three story brick and carved stone edifice, designed in classical style by Edward H. Davis. Built in 1915 as a State Bank by Michael Bosak, it closed in 1931. Various stores here since.
50. F. W. WOOLWORTH STORE, 427 Lackawanna Avenue. The now famous international chain of variety stores was begun in Lancaster, Pa. in 1879 and in Scranton in 1880 by Frank W. and Charles S. Woolworth. They began a 5¢ and 10¢ store at 125 Penn Ave. and have been located here since 1924.

WYOMING AVENUE

51. OPPENHEIMS - NE corner of Lackawanna and Wyoming Avenues. This large four story stone and metal front department store was built in 1897 as Jonas Long Sons Dry Goods Store and opened in 1898. It was designed in classical style by L. C. Holden. It was sold to the Oppenheim family in 1917 and operated by them since; long known as the Scranton Dry Goods Store. It is the site of the first large hotel in Scranton, the Wyoming House which stood here from 1851 to 1897.
52. LEWIS AND REILLY - 114 Wyoming Ave. Eight story white tile front building built 1924-27 and designed by Davis and Lewis. Store for the Lewis and Reilly "Always Busy" shoe firm founded in 1889.

LACKAWANNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CATLIN HOUSE

232 MONROE AVENUE

SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18510

53. **THIRD NATIONAL BANK** - 130 Wyoming Ave. Organized in 1872, this busy bank was located at 118 Wyoming Ave. from 1918 in a Greek Temple style stone structure designed by Edward Langley, until 1966 when they moved into their present four story stone contemporary building designed by Cunen & Co. Phila.
54. **GLOBE STORE** - 119 Wyoming Ave. Large five story carved stone front department store built in 1908 by Cleland-Simpson Co. a firm which was founded in 1880. Now a division of John Wanamaker Co.
55. **JERMYN HOTEL** SW corner of Spruce St. and Wyoming Avenue. This seven story - 250 room hotel was built in 1894-95 by John Jermyrn, prominent coal operator and has been operated as a well known hotel ever since. It is built of carved stone and brick in Romanesque style, designed by Scranton architect John A. Duckworth. Site of the old Forest House hotel 1855-1894.
56. **DIME BANK BUILDING** - NE corner of Wyoming Ave. and Spruce St. The Dime Bank was organized and built here in 1891 for the small depositor. This red sandstone building was originally designed by F. L. Brown in chateau style with three stories; two floors added in 1908. Now being renovated to become the Miners Savings Bank.
57. **BANK TOWERS** - Twelve story limestone bank and office building on the NW corner of Wyoming Ave. and Spruce St. It was originally built here as the Traders National Bank in 1895-96 with remodeling in 1909-10. In 1930 the Traders Bank merged with the First National Bank. At that time Davis and Lewis remodeled the bank and added a 12 story office addition on Spruce St. Note the unique corner entrance with a carved eagle clock over the door. Became the Northeastern Bank in 1958.
58. **COMERFORD THEATRE**, 220 Wyoming Ave. Built in 1937 with an Art-Decco colored tile front and opened in 1938, this was a popular movie theatre for forty years, until it closed in 1977. Now renovated as the Courtyard Mall Shopping Center.
59. **ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**, 232 Wyoming Ave. Large stone church built 1867 to 1871, designed in English Gothic style by Richard Upjohn, New York City architect. Throop Memorial Parish House adjoining was built 1898-99 of stone in Gothic style, Fred L. Brown architect.
60. **ST. PETER'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL** - NW corner of Wyoming Ave. and Linden St. Large brick church begun in 1865 and consecrated March 10, 1867 at St. Vincent dePaul Church. It was designed by Joel Amsden, first Scranton architect in Italianate style. It was remodeled in 1883-84 when the interior was renovated and the twin towers were added and became the Cathedral Church of the Scranton Diocese at that time. It has been remodeled again several times since.
61. **ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL RECTORY**, 315 Wyoming Ave. Four story brick residence for the Bishop and staff was built in 1905. The Diocese of Scranton Chancery Bld. 300 Wyoming Ave. was built in 1959 and the Bishop Hannon High School 330 Wyoming Ave. was erected in 1958.
62. **FINCH BUILDING**, 424 Wyoming Ave. Imposing four story stone office building with twin turrets built 1898-99 as the Administration Bld. of the International Correspondance School. It was designed in French chateau style by W. Scott Collins. It was used by the I.C.S. until 1918 when the Hudson Coal Co. purchased it and used it for their offices until 1961, since which time it has been vacant and waiting for rehabilitation.
63. **UKRAINIAN COMMUNITY CENTER**, 440 Wyoming Ave. Three story brick center built in 1914 and 1928 by the Young Men's Hebrew Assoc. Sold to the Ukrainian Workingman's Assoc. in 1956 for a citizens community center.
64. **HOTEL SCRANTON**, 500 Wyoming Ave. Four story frame hotel with interesting dormer windows built in 1893 with 100 rooms as the Terrace Hotel.

William P. Lewis
Executive Director

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 56
Scranton, Pa.