



No. 29

September 1956.

Once again it is time to send greetings to the 558 members of the Roger Williams Family Association. I am sorry that so many members live too far away to be able to attend our meetings at the John Brown House, the home of the R. I. Historical Society, at 52 Power Street, Providence, R. I. There are two books in the library there, one, "Queries of Highest Consideration", by Roger Williams, which comprises his first clear-cut enunciation of the separation of Church and State. It is an exceedingly rare book. The only other known copies of this first edition are in the British Museum and the John Carter Brown Library. Of interest to Rhode Islanders is the fact that it was a product of the press of Gregory Dexter, founder of the famous Dexter Family which showered so many philanthropies on our community. The other book, by Roger Williams, printed in London in February 1652, entitled "The Hireling Ministry None of Christ's" was part of a campaign to persuade Cromwell and Parliament to abolish the payment of tithes for support of the clergy and thus establish freedom of religion as an economic fact. These books were presented to the R. I. Historical Society as a part of the observance of the American Jewish Tercentenary in 1954.

In the House Chambers of the R. I. State House, in Providence, at the top of the center panels of tapestry, is a shield depicting the landing of Roger Williams as he is greeted by the Indians. Another similar shield shows "Hope" kneeling, with the word "Hope" and an anchor at her side. Both shields have wreaths of roses around them. Until a recent cleaning, they were not visible from the floor.

During the past year three Church windows depicting Roger Williams have been dedicated as memorials. The first is in the First Baptist Church in Washington, D. C., and was given by Senator Theodore Francis Green of R. I. The second is in Phillips Memorial Baptist Church in Cranston, R. I. and was given by the Roe, Anthony, Wilbur, Eva and Harold Williams families. The third, the gift of Dr. William Howe Tolman is in the Pawtucket Congregational Church, Pawtucket, R. I. Our Association keeps a record of all known memorials. If you know of any other Roger Williams windows, statues or plaques that have been given during the past ten years, will you kindly let us know about them?

HELEN S. BEDSON,

*President*

## **MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS IN ROGER WILLIAMS PARK**

On April 5th Miss Emily H. Paine gave us a most interesting talk on the various statues, fountains and gates that have been given to beautify the Park since 1872 when it came into the possession of the City of Providence through the bequests of Betsy Williams, the great-great-granddaughter of Roger Williams. Following this, Miss Paine gave us some of her early recollections of the Park, including the "bloomer" cars that ran out there, Arbor Day exercises and Baby Roger, the first elephant.

## **NATIONAL PARKS OF ALBERTA, CANADA AND MONTANA, U. S. A.**

By means of colored slides, Miss Alice Williams Roe shared with us her vacation in the National Parks of Canada and the West. The colorful pictures and running commentary were much enjoyed by all who attended the May 3rd Meeting.

## **SUNDAY, MAY 20TH**

Sunday, May 20th, forty-seven members and guests attended church services at the historic First Baptist Church on North Main Street, Providence, R. I. Following this, the Program Chairman, Miss Gladys Segar, took us on a stroll through the colonial gardens at Shakespeare's Head. A basket lunch was eaten at Lincoln Woods and then a visit was made to the quaint Elder Ballou Meeting House in Cumberland, R. I. This old house of worship was built in 1740. It has the straight-backed uncomfortable pews of the period, the men and women being separated, and the slaves and Indians relegated to the gallery. A visit to the iron mine nearby concluded the day's program.

## **NEWS TO THE BLAST OF THE POST RIDER'S HORN**

On June 7th Mrs. Robert M. Brayton gave us a delightful talk during which she read ads and excerpts from old R. I. newspapers. As a result of her research, she brought to life the shopping district of Providence around Cheapside, North and South Main Streets, and the nostrums, tooth powders, bustles and busks which were the stock in trade.

## **ALL DAY PILGRIMAGE TO PORTSMOUTH, RHODE ISLAND**

On July 7th, forty-two of our members had lunch at the Bazaar at the Baptist Home of R. I. in Newport. Following a short business meeting, a visit was made to the Chapel of St. George's School; Whitehall, which was the home of Bishop Berkeley; and to the beautiful topiary gardens of Miss Alice Brayton at Portsmouth. These gardens, with shrubbery cut and shaped in forms of animals and other figures, are outstanding in this Country. Miss Brayton kindly showed us through her home, parts of which date back 300 years.

## **SATURDAY, AUGUST 4TH**

Due to a change of program, the August meeting was held at 2:00 P.M. at the Sweet Farm on Phenix Avenue, Cranston, R. I. Following the meeting, Mrs. Harold P. Williams very kindly showed colored slides of old houses in R. I. and Mass. The latter included views of the Wayside Inn in Sudbury, before and after the fire. Our Hostess, Mrs. Ernest Dyer, served a bean, salad, hamburger and frankfort supper.

## **ANNUAL MEETING AT ROGER WILLIAMS PARK**

The Annual Meeting of our Association was held at the Roger Williams Park Museum on September 6th. The officers for the coming year were elected. After the meeting the Rev. Samuel Livingstone gave us a talk about Americanism and what America stands for. He spoke of the hopes and ideals of the founding fathers; of William Penn of Pennsylvania; of the influence of the Pilgrims of Massachusetts and of Roger Williams, leader of religious freedom, who admitted Jews, Quakers and others to this Colony. The Influence of these leaders has spread to limitless bounds and proud indeed we should be of descent from such pioneers.

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## In Memoriam

Mrs. Joseph D. Booth	Mar. 5, 1956
Mr. Henry Raymond Tilley	Mar. 1956
Mr. Howard W. Steere	May 2, 1956
Mrs. Robert W. Anderson	June 18, 1956
Mrs. Frank A. Staples	Aug. 11, 1956
Mrs. Walter A. Hill	Aug. 12, 1956
Mrs. Raymond A. Steere	Aug. 13, 1956
Miss Ethel B. Mowry	Aug. 18, 1956

Bertha Cranston Booth (Mrs. Joseph D.), as the oldest member of our Association who was a direct descendant of Roger Williams, had the title of Honorary President conferred upon her in 1955. She lived in Paris, Kentucky, and so was unable to attend our meetings. She was born Aug. 15, 1866, the daughter of John Henry and Julia Folmer Cranston. On her father's side she traced her line to Freeborn Williams Hart, the second child of Roger Williams.

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### NEW MEMBERS SINCE MARCH 1956

- ALBEE, CHARLES B., Caledonia, Minnesota.  
ALBEE, JOANNE, Caledonia, Minnesota.  
ALBEE, KATHLEEN, Caledonia, Minnesota.  
ALBEE, RALPH H., Buhl, Idaho.  
ALBEE, STANLEY, Buhl, Idaho.  
ALBEE, SAYLES, Ephrata, Washington.  
ALBEE, DONALD R., Ephrata, Washington.  
ALBEE, EDGAR H., Ventura, California.  
ALBEE, LEONARD A., Albee Twin Falls, Idaho.  
BARSTOW, MRS. TRUMAN A., (Priscilla Howard), 125 Chestnut Street, North Reading, Mass.  
BARSTOW, MISS MARJORIE, 125 Chestnut Street, North Reading, Mass.  
BARSTOW, CURTIS HOWARD, 125 Chestnut Street, North Reading, Mass.  
BARSTOW, LANCE POWERS, 125 Chestnut Street, North Reading, Mass.  
BURNHAM MISS GERTRUDE A., 335 Auburn Street, Cranston 10, R. I.  
CROCKER, GORDON H., JR., 61 Waterman Avenue, Cranston 10, R. I.  
DAVIS, DR. AND MRS. GEORGE W., (Elizabeth Hayes), 11 Harbor Terrace, Cranston, R. I.  
DAVIS, GEORGE W., JR., 11 Harbor Terrace, Cranston, R. I.  
DAVIS, MARJORIE H., 11 Harbor Terrace, Cranston, R. I.  
DAVIS, ALBERT E. E., 11 Harbor Terrace, Cranston, R. I.  
CORSUCH, MISS CONSTANCE M., Fairburn, South Dakota.  
HAELSEN, MRS WILLIAM J., (Eliza L. Greene), 58 Homewood Avenue, North Providence, R. I.  
HAYES, MR. AND MRS. ALBERT E., 27 King Philip Drive, North Kingston, R. I.  
HAYES, DAVID D., 27 King Philip Drive, North Kingston, R. I.  
HAYES, MARTHA, 27 King Philip Drive, North Kingston, R. I.  
HOWARD, WARREN HODGKINS, 15 Monroe Road, Marblehead, Mass.  
HOWARD, PETER WARREN, 15 Monroe Road, Marblehead, Mass.  
HOWARD, CYNTHIA LOUISE, 15 Monroe Road, Marblehead, Mass.  
HOWARD, STEPHEN EDWARD, 15 Monroe Road, Marblehead, Mass.  
HOWARD, ALDEN HODGKINS, 24 Amherst Road, Marblehead, Mass.  
HOWARD, CHARLES WILLIAM, JR., 32 Summer Street, Malden, Mass.  
JORDAN, JAMES F., 2528 North Brighton Street, Burbank, California.

LAPHAM, MRS. GRANT, (Mable Albee), Caledonia, Minnesota.  
 LAPHAM, LYLE L., Caledonia, Minnesota.  
 LYNCH, MRS. SPRAGUE N., (Elisabeth Scott), 5027 15th Avenue, N. E.  
 Seattle 5, Washington.

LYNCH, MISS JACQUELYN, 5027 15th Avenue, N. E., Seattle 5, Washington.  
 RANDALL, MRS. FRED, (Minnie Barrett), 186 Ohio Avenue, Providence, R. I.  
 NICHOLS, MRS. EVERETT C., (Ruby E. Wood), 154 Andrew Comstock Road,  
 Warwick, R. I.

SMITH, DONALD F., 545 South McGlincey, Campbell, California.  
 PHILLIPS, ASA E., JR., 53 State Street, Boston, Mass.  
 SNYDER, MRS. EDWYN A., (Clemance Atkins), 5709 60th Avenue, N. E.,  
 Windermere, Seattle 5, Washington.

WILLIAMS, MISS ALICE, 1560 Hartford Avenue, Johnston, R. I.  
 WOODWARD, RUSSELL A., 181 Washington Avenue, Edgewood 5, R. I.

*Nominating Committee for 1956-1957 Slate of Officers:*

MRS. CHARLES C. ROFFEE, *Chairman*; MRS. FRANK E. CHAMBERLAIN  
 and MRS. GORDON R. HASLAM

**Officers elected:**

- President*.....MRS. HARRY D. BEDSON  
 285 Woodbine Street, Cranston 10, R. I.
- Vice-President*.....MRS. ROBERT M. BRAYTON  
 22 Old Spring Road, Cranston, R. I.
- Recording Secretary*.....MRS. WINTHROP H. SAUNDERS  
 255 Alabama Avenue, Providence 5, R. I.
- Corresponding Secretary*.....MRS. WILFRED G. McINTOSH  
 119 Elmgrove Avenue, Providence 6, R. I.
- Treasurer*.....MRS. ERNEST E. MOWRY  
 P. O. Box 477, Greenville, R. I.
- Registrar*.....MRS. CHARLES W. ANTHONY  
 23 Oakland Avenue, Cranston 10, R. I.
- Historian*.....MISS EMILY H. PAINE  
 887 Elmwood Avenue, Providence 7, R. I.

*Two Directors nominated from the floor:*

MISS CLARA PEARL DYER, 417 Dyer Avenue, Cranston 9, R. I.  
 MRS. GORDON R. HASLAM, 67 Columbia Avenue, Providence 5, R. I.

*Chaplain Appointed by the Executive Board:*

MRS. CHARLES C. ROFFEE, 459 Farmington Avenue, Cranston 9, R. I.

*Appointed by the Chair:*

- Program Committee*.....MRS. GORDON R. HASLAM, *Chairman*;  
 MISS GLADYS SEGAR and MRS. CLARA SPENCER
- Auditors*.....MARSHALL T. MORGAN and MRS. CLIFTON L. POOLE
- Sunshine*.....MRS. HAROLD P. WILLIAMS
- Librarian*.....MRS. PRESTON W. BUFFINTON
- Publicity*.....MRS. WINTHROP H. SAUNDERS
- Conversational Corner*.....MISS SARAH J. WINSOR
- Hostess*.....MRS. ERNEST D. DYER

*Reception Committee—*

MRS. FRANK E. CHAMBERLAIN, *Chairman*; MRS. HARRY BEESLEY;  
 MRS. JAMES H. CARTER; EDWARD W. BRADFORD; WINTHROP H.  
 SAUNDERS and CLIFFORD K. WILBUR

- Honorary President*.....MRS. MARY WILLIAMS WHITTEMORE  
*Honorary Vice-President*.....MRS. MAUDE BOWMAN REID