



March 1960.

No. 36

Greetings to each member of the family:

As the Easter season approaches and Spring draws near, when all Nature bursts into bud and bloom, assuring us that God is very near, may peace and contentment fill your hearts and remain with you throughout the year.

My term of office as your president will soon be over. To me it has been three happy years.

To my officers, chairmen and members of their committees and to the members who have so faithfully attended our meetings, I extend my deep appreciation for your loyalty and support. To you all a big, big thank you.

EVANGELINE A. McINTYRE,
President

IN SEARCH OF ROGER WILLIAMS' SALEM

Not far from Providence, a journey of a couple of hours by automobile over good roads, lie some of the most interesting towns in the United States. On a Sunday or free day one or all of the historic towns of Concord, Lexington, or Salem would make a point of destination for people—and especially for their children—who have a sense of the American past.

Anyone who has a feeling for Rhode Island history should visit Salem. There is the source head of our history. In 1633 a young man who had been preaching at Plymouth became the head of the first church in Salem. There he ran afoul of the magistrates because, as the guide book says, "of his unrelenting practice of teaching that the civil magistrates should have no authority over the conscience of the people; that they had no power to punish for heresy; that everyone should be free to choose such form of religious worship as he pleased, and not be compelled to support any other." That is a generous and fair statement of the beliefs of Roger Williams. There in Salem he fearlessly preached these beliefs and in punishment was banished, a sick man, going into the wilderness and finally settling in Providence which he named after the kindness of the Divinity in taking him through the winter's hardships. In Salem and later in Providence he established the principal of Soul Liberty which has ever distinguished Rhode Island and made the name of Roger Williams immortal in the noble category of freedom.

I found out that the Salem home of Roger Williams has been swallowed by modern commercial buildings. But there is a placque commemorating Roger Williams, which says: "Here stood from 1634 until 1673 the first meeting house erected in Salem. No structure was built earlier for Congregational worship by a church formed in America. It was occupied for secular as well as religious uses. In it preached in succession: I. Roger Williams; II. Hugh Peters; III. Edward Norris; IV. John Higginson. It was enlarged in 1639 and was last used for worship in 1670. The First Church in Salem, gathered July and August, 1629, has had no place of worship but this spot."

One throws back the imagination from Essex Street and sees the wilderness town of Salem, named from the Jewish word meaning "peace" and calls up the picture of the young Cambridge graduate who was not only an original thinker but had saturated himself with new and unorthodox ideas then circulating in England. From his ponderings he had evolved a great idea that the civil magistrates could not control the conscience of individuals, and, for that period, the very revolutionary suggestion that the new settlers should pay the Indians for the land upon which they had set up their fields and homes. One can see the stern and strait-laced magistrates putting their heads together and nodding in agreement that the young minister was a firebrand in the community. But Roger Williams was loyal and uncompromising in his beliefs and out of his greatness was settled our community.

Condensed from "In Perspective" in the Providence Journal by George W. Potter

RESUME OF THE MEETINGS

October 8th—Miss Alice Williams Roe and Mr. Percy Roe were with us, dressed in their Hawaiian costumes, to take us, by pictures, with them on their trip to Hawaii. It was just a wonderful trip, long to be remembered. The vivid coloring of the flowers, the flowering trees, the water and the sky, was so beautiful. We wish to thank Miss Alice and Mr. Roe for the pleasure they gave us.

November 5th—Miss Lyons from the Providence Police Department was with us to speak on "Duties of a Police Woman." Miss Lyons, a most charming young woman, whose talk proved most interesting and enlightening. A real surprise to each of us. Thanks to Miss Lyons.

December 10th—Our Christmas Party was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford W. Brown. The house was just a Christmas Wonderland. We were entertained by Miss Emily Paine, playing the cello, Miss Bessie Paine at the piano. Mrs. Merle B. Young gave a reading and the Swiss Bells were played by Miss Esther Gemmarco. Then we enjoyed singing Christmas Carols, Miss Paine playing for us. Refreshments were served by Mrs. Ernest Mowry and her committee. The hostess had for us a beautifully decorated cake in the shape of a Star. We are most grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Brown for their hospitality.

January 7th—At this meeting Mrs. Harold P. Williams showed slides of her trip through to the Empire State and Canada. Mrs. Williams delights us each year with her slides of a trip she has taken. Her beautiful pictures together with her most interesting talk provides a truly inspiring hour of entertainment. Many thanks, Mrs. Williams.

February 4th—Miss Emily H. Paine spoke on Betsey Williams. It was a most interesting talk especially so as Miss Paine was born and grew up in the "Betsey Williams" neighborhood. She had various articles that had belonged to "Betsey" which were very well preserved. It proved a very enjoyable afternoon. We wish to thank Miss Paine.

March 3rd—The topic, "My Experiences in Alaska". Mrs. Harold R. Shippee was the speaker. Due to the blizzard which grew steadily worse during the meeting, Mrs. Shippee's talk had to be interrupted and the meeting brought to a close. We hope in the near future Mrs. Shippee can come back and resume her talk. The part we did hear was most interesting and we extend many thanks to Mrs. Shippee.

In Memoriam

Mrs. Olney P. Anthony	June 13, 1957
Olney P. Anthony, Sr.	July 27, 1958
Miss Charlotte I. Harris	October 28, 1959
Mrs. J. Morton Ferrier	December 24, 1959
Mary Dee Davidson	April 9, 1959
Clarence W. Bosworth	January 19, 1960
C. Livingston Peck	February 4, 1960
Mrs. Fred A. Shippee	February 4, 1960
Mrs. John H. McElroy	February 23, 1960

There is a solace, sweet and sure,
When deepening shadows fall,
And hearts that grieve find rest in Him,
For His love embraces all.

NEW MEMBERS SINCE SEPTEMBER 1959

BROWN, Mrs. Marshal R. (Laura B. Arnold) 699 North Broadway, East Providence, R. I. (Descended from Mercy Williams Waterman)

SAWYER, Roger Williams, 610 Empire Boulevard, Rochester 9, New York. (Descended from Daniel Williams)

SUNSHINE CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Charles W. Anthony

23 Oakland Avenue

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Cranston 10, R. I.