



OREGON SOCIETY of THE COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA

CIRCULAR LETTER OF THE HISTORIAN, 1927-1928.

To the Officers of the National Society, and to the State Societies of the Colonial Dames of America, the Oregon Society sends greetings, and wishes to acknowledge with thanks the many courteous communications and beautiful invitations, which encourage and inspire our young society.

Our Annual Meeting is fixed for June 17th, which ends our activities not only for the year but for the ensuing summer, so that owing to the Biennial Council in 1927 the Annual Meeting was called only to be adjourned until the return of the Delegates, which has made the past year seem very short and very active, but we feel we have had a good and useful year.

There have been four meetings of the Society, four Board Meetings and three Membership Committee Meetings.

The Society has contributed towards the following projects during the year:

The Navy and Marine Memorial.

The Americanization Council for checking non-naturalized inhabitants of Portland.

The Sulgrave Manor Restoration Fund.

Our largest contribution has been made through the Patriotic Service Committee towards the support of a teacher for foreign born girls in classes conducted at the Young Women's Christian Association in Portland.

We also at the Biennial Conference pledged the Oregon Society to raise \$500 during five years towards the purchase of National Headquarters in Washington, D. C. Since that pledge was made the National Society has purchased Bellevue, and we will contribute towards that in the manner indicated by the National Society, which may be differently than was first indicated by the pledge of \$500, but the Oregon Society will most gladly do what it should towards contributing to the purchase of this beautiful home. We made an enviable record in the contributions toward Sulgrave Manor, and have established a precedent which we feel we want to maintain.

We sent to the Biennial Conference our President, Mrs. Wells Gilbert, and as Delegate, Mrs. John Pearson, both of whom feel they came home with a much better understanding of the Society's aims and accomplish-

ments, and were also able to pass on to the members at home some of the enthusiasm which they themselves had acquired by their attendance at the Conference.

To Mrs. Charles F. Beebe, one of our best beloved members, the thanks and appreciation of our Society are again offered for the gift of a beautiful silk Colonial Dames flag, which stood in its rest beside our President for the first time at our September, 1927, meeting. This is not the first time that Mrs. Beebe has been our gracious benefactor, for when the Society was formed, and we were without funds, she contributed towards its support a sum sufficient to meet its needs, and in other ways known to various members she has from time to time carried the society across its formative period by services and contributions willingly and generously given.

Our Patriotic Service Committee, under the able and tireless leadership of Mrs. William House, has accomplished several things this past year.

We have, as stated above, contributed towards the support of an Americanization teacher at the Y. W. C. A., and in this connection we gave a tea to the girls belonging to the classes. The girls were most appreciative, and they contributed to the enjoyment of the afternoon by singing some of their native songs.

Mrs. House has attended the monthly meetings of the Portland Americanization Council, and in this way has kept in touch with the work being done by the other societies in the city in Americanization.

Mrs. Pearson, as a member of the Colonial Dames Patriotic Service Committee, has also been made a member of the Y. W. C. A. Americanization Committee, and has met with them to discuss plans for the improvement of the classes in Americanization, and to keep in touch with the work done there towards which our society is contributing.

To Mrs. House's lot fell the presenting of the poster contest presented by the National Committee of Patriotic Service. Mrs. House visited the various art schools, and told them of the plan with the result that many posters were made and sent to the National Committee.

Mrs. Montgomery, our Honorary President, attended a meeting of the National Executive Committee at the Mayflower in Washington, D. C., November 10th, 1927, as our President, Mrs. Gilbert, was unable to attend. At our meeting held in April Mrs. Montgomery gave us a very interesting account of the meeting at which the report of the committee on headquarters, the incorporation of the National Society and the recognition at Sulgrave Manor of the Sesqui Centennial Work were taken up and discussed.

At our February 9th, 1928, meeting we passed a resolution endorsing the plan for creating a holding corporation without capital stock, consisting of the officers of the National Society and such other members as may be necessary to conform to the laws of the District of Columbia—its purpose being the acquisition and preservation of buildings, furniture, and other articles of interest pertaining to the Colonial period of American History and the dissemination of information regarding American history for educational and patriotic purposes.

Our Society is still a small one, and is growing slowly, but as Mrs. Lamar said in her letter to the Michigan Society (copies of which our President, Mrs. Gilbert, had made and distributed to our members), the qualifications for members are such as not to be compatible with rapid growth; "but worthy growth, not rapid growth, is our aim." Our membership remains at thirty-two this year. There are seven candidates at present.

We feel, however, that our Society is getting more and more thoroughly into the spirit of the work outlined by our National Society, and that increasingly we shall be able to do our share of the work.

FRANCES NEWELL PEARSON, *Historian*.

June 18, 1928.

OFFICERS

- MRS. JAMES B. MONTGOMERY, *Honorary President*
825 Hawthorne Ave., Portland, Oregon
- MRS. WELLS S. GILBERT..... *President*
Greenway, Route 8, Portland, Oregon
- MRS. FLORENCE S. WASHBURN..... *First Vice-President*
420 Carter Lane, Portland, Oregon
- MRS. CHARLES F. BEEBE..... *Second Vice-President*
712 King's Court, Portland, Oregon
- MRS. WALTER A. HOLT..... *Recording Secretary*
867 Lovejoy Street, Portland, Oregon
- MRS. WILLIAM C. ALVORD..... *Treasurer*
202 King Street, Portland, Oregon
- MRS. WILLIAM HOUSE..... *Registrar*
452 Vista Ave., Portland, Oregon
- MRS. JOHN PEARSON..... *Historian*
740 Schuyler Street, Portland, Oregon
- MRS. A. E. ROCKEY..... *Corresponding Secretary*
Rockholm, Route 8, Portland, Oregon

BOARD OF MANAGERS

Term expires 1928

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| MRS. JOHN PEARSON | MRS. H. H. PARKER |
| MISS MARY F. FAILING | MRS. A. E. ROCKEY |

Term expires 1929

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| MRS. CHARLES F. BEEBE | MRS. HERBERT S. NICHOLS |
| MRS. WILLIAM HOUSE | MRS. EDMUND L. DEVEREAUX |

Term expires 1930

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| MRS. KENNETH BEEBE | MRS. C. S. JACKSON |
| MRS. WILLIAM C. ALVORD | MRS. WALTER A. HOLT |

Chairman of Membership Committee

MRS. CHARLES F. BEEBE
712 King's Court, Portland, Oregon

Chairman of Patriotic Service Committee

MRS. WILLIAM HOUSE
452 Vista Ave., Portland, Oregon