



The Pinery

PUBLISHED NOW & THEN BY THE PORTAGE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Vol. 7 March 13, 1962 No. 1

A GENERAL MEETING

Of the County Historical Society will be held in Almond at the high school on Monday, March 19th.

Coffee and doughnuts at 7:00 P. M. and the following program at 7:30:

Antique exhibit by Junior Historians,

Excerpts from a Civil War diary of Jerome Adams, by Mrs. Janice Newby.

History of the Almond Telephone Company, by A. H. Bowden.

History of the Portage County Bank, by Howard Newby.

Facts on Almond Village, by Mrs. J. B. Walker.

Sounds interesting, doesn't it? Let's be there March 19th.

AN INVITATION

Dr. L. C. Pomainville, President of the South Wood County Historical Society has extended an invitation to the members of the Portage County Historical Society to attend their meeting on March 20th at the Howe School in Wisconsin Rapids at 7:30 P. M.

The subject will be "The History of the Winnebago Indians" and the speaker will be Maurice Rice, Jr. of Stevens Point.

Mr. Rice is a senior at the University of Minnesota majoring in History. The topic is one in which he has been especially interested and on which he has done considerable study. Following his graduation this June from Minnesota, Mr. Rice plans on graduate study in the field of History,

THE DUBAY MARKER

Is one of four in the state planned for the 1963 state maps, according to word received by the State Historical Society from G. E. Aten, Engineer of Maintenance in the State Highway Commission and passed on to our Society by Mr. Ray Sivesind, Director of Sites and Markers of the State Historical Society.

The Marker will commemorate the DuBay Trading Post and will be 1 mile south of Lake DuBay on U. S. Highway 51 in Portage County.

PLAQUE FOR THE PUBLIC SQUARE

The County Historical Society has approved the wording for a plaque at the Market Square and has sent it to the Stevens Point Chamber of Commerce for approval.

It will commemorate the purchase of this land by Matthias Mitchell from Andrew Bullarkey in 1844, the platting of four streets and the Public Square by Matthias Mitchell in 1947, and other historical data concerning the Square up to and including its fame as a Farmer's Market with an Old World Flavor

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The organization of the Advisory Committee of the Wisconsin Council for Local History was largely the order of business at a meeting of the Council held at the State Historical Building in Madison on January 13, 1962.

Mr. Clifford Swanson of our County Society as one of the curators of the State Society was present as a member of the Council.

There are seven regional divisions of the state listed by the State Historical Society which are: Northwestern, Northeastern, Winnebago land, North Central, South Central, Southwestern and Southeastern.

One representative from each of these regions is to serve on the Advisory Committee for a term of two years. Since the terms are to be staggered so that new representatives may take a place on the Committee each year, the representatives from the North Central, South Central and Winnebago land regions are serving a short term of one year.

Besides the seven regional representatives, the members of the Board of Curators who are or have been members of their respective Societies and the Director and Supervisor of the Office of Local History of the State Society will serve on the Advisory Committee.

Officers of the Committee are to be a Chairman and a Vice Chairman elected annually for one year but eligible for re-election if the two year term as regional representative has not expired. The position of Executive Secretary and Treasurer was combined and assigned ex officio to the Supervisor of the Office of Local History of the State Society.

The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Council as a whole and at all meetings of the Advisory Committee and set up the Agenda for the meetings.

The Vice Chairman is to perform the duties of the Chairman in the absence of that officer.

The Executive Secretary is to keep the minutes of the meetings of both Council and Committee and perform such other duties as are consistent with the position and relate the functions of the Office of Local History to the Council whenever this would be of mutual benefit.

This Committee will meet in a central location in the state on the second Saturday of each April and July. Special meetings may be called by the Chairman. The affairs of the Wisconsin Council for Local History are to be administered by this Advisory Committee.

Dr. Leland Pomainville of Wisconsin Rapids was elected Chairman and Mrs. Jean Brady Vice Chairman. William J. Scherck of the State Historical Staff will serve as Executive Secretary,

OUR PIONEER SCHOOL

Many of you have read in the Stevens Point Journal of the damage to our Pioneer School House caused by the winter's extensive snow fall. The roof of the school house has caved in and three of the walls are bulged outward. Because of the snow piled around the building by the city snow removal crews we cannot at this time estimate the exact extent of damage. However, the Board of Directors of the Society are on record as approving rebuilding the school if it is at all feasible.

While the roof of the school house has withstood 112 years of Wisconsin snows there are some things that may have contributed to the recent collapse.

Two interior partitions were removed from the school house in 1961 to return the interior to its original condition. Had these partitions remained they may have afforded some additional support for the roof although this is a matter of conjecture. Another factor could have been that the snow blower used by the city in storing snow around the school house may also have added snow to the already overburdened roof. For a third item we must consider that its great age may have also contributed to the collapse of the school house.

But if we cannot afford to rebuild the school house it will be an ignoble end for a building that has withstood the vicissitudes of 112 years of Wisconsin weather, and not to be ignored is the additional fact that the building stood on the threshold of rebirth by our restoration program.

Further report will be made when we can examine the building in detail.

1962 DUES

Following the IDES of MARCH comes April 1st and a new fiscal year for the Portage County Historical Society. Dues are now payable. Please use the attached slip in sending your payment to the Society Treasurer. It is with considerable pride that we point to our membership of almost 100 for the past year. With continued support we should increase the enrollment to more than 100 this coming year. Haven't you a friend who would be interested in joining us? All are welcome.