

STRATFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

March 10, 1958

Dear Members:

First we want to invite you to attend our next regular meeting on March 28, 8:00 P.M. at the First Methodist Church Hall. Miss McCabe, our Program Chairman, has arranged for a very interesting program which includes Guest Speaker, Mrs. Arthur S. Griswold of Stratford, who will present her unique collection of antique snuff bottles which numbers over 400. She will illustrate her talk with colored slides of a representative group of snuff bottles which should give us a comprehensive idea of their variety. Some of them were brought to her directly from China. She has acquired the others by the usual hobbyist methods.

During the business session we will vote on an important amendment to our Constitution. As provided in our By-Laws, this proposed Amendment was read at our last meeting. For those who did not attend we quote the Amendment herewith: "Recommended Motion - The Memorials and Relics Committee shall henceforth be known as the Acquisitions Committee, to consist of a Chairman and two additional members. The function of said committee shall be (1) to make recommendations to the Executive Committee as to the acceptance or rejection of prospective donations and to make acknowledgment to the donors; (2) to make suggestions to the Executive Committee as to purchases to be made from the Acquisitions Fund; (3) to make suggestions to the Executive Committee from time to time as to the disposition, by sale or otherwise, of items in the inventory; (4) to decide on suitable places of exhibiting specimens carefully catalogued; (5) to take charge of the purchase and exchange of specimens and the installation of all museum exhibits, permanent or special. Introduced by Mr. Scott at Executive Meeting January 17, 1958."

For those who have not had a chance to view the progress being made on our new museum building we might say that the outside is now completed. The inside is being finished, that is the ceilings, heating, plumbing, painting etc. and the building should be fully completed within a couple of weeks. Then our efficient Display Committee, headed by Miss Lucy McCabe, will start moving the many antiques and other items from Judson House to the museum and arrange them for proper display. During that period, which will take approximately a month, Judson House will be closed to visitors. Extensive renovations will also be made to Judson House kitchen at this time. Then in May we hope to have the Dedication and Open House of the combined Judson House and Museum.



Since our last letter many additional gifts and bequests to our Society have been received, including approximately \$200.00 from the Judson Family Society, over \$500.00 left from the Estate of Hattie Crawford and a \$50.00 gift from Mrs. ~~Margie~~ Judd, plus several smaller gifts. These are all very much appreciated and will be put to good use as our expenses to properly equip and maintain the combined buildings will be considerably higher in the future. We hope others will follow suit in making gifts and bequests.

We have also started what we call an "Acquisition Fund" so that our Acquisition Committee may have funds with which to purchase desirable antique items which would not otherwise be given to us.

We have been advised by the Connecticut Historical Society that they will have a Seminar on the Restoration of Old Houses to be held at their Headquarters - 1 Elizabeth Street, in the Hoadley Auditorium, on the following dates:

Monday, March 24 - 8:00 P.M. - Heating & Insulating Old Houses.

Monday, April 7 - 8:00 P.M. - Problems in Lighting Old Houses and proper paints for the inside and outside.

Monday, April 21 - 8:00 P.M. - Walls, Woodwork and Floors.

Tickets for the series cost \$3.00 or single tickets may be purchased for \$1.50. Make your reservations direct with the Connecticut Historical Society. Some of our members should be interested in attending one or more of these.



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Olaff S. Solomonson,  
President

Mrs. Rexford Nettleton,  
Corresponding Secretary