

Next Meeting: November 18, 1966 (Bring a Guest)
8:00 p.m.
Christ Church, Stratford

Program: Old Movies

Mr. Harry Colwell, City Clerk of Derby, will discuss and show silent films and talkies from his extensive collection of early movies. Mr. Colwell has one of the finest personal collections of old films in the area, including 1916 Charlie Chaplin films, old musicals, monster films, and even one "Smeller" which comes complete with a can of flowery perfume to create the illusion of a garden.

The Program Committee has once again outdone itself with a fine series of programs for the 1966-67 season. January promises a talk on old greeting cards and valentines, March will bring our Show and Tell-Buy and Sell program, at the May meeting we will see Chinaware of our ancestors, and the July picnic will feature an interesting talk on old letters.

Offices and committee chairmen for the next year are:

President	Mr. Lewis G. Knapp
1st Vice-President	Mrs. Leo E. Miller, Jr.
2nd Vice-President	Mr. Einar M. Larsen
3rd Vice-President	Mrs. Frank S. Bunnell
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Harold Cruikshank
Corresponding Secretary	Mrs. Rexford H. Nettleton
Treasurer	Mr. William E. Bassett
Assistant Treasurer	Mr. Francis V. Stosse
Historian	Mr. Wm. Howard Wilcoxson
Directors -	
1 year	Mrs. Ernest A. France
2 years	Mrs. Hildreth T. Winton
2 years	Mr. John Dolyak
3 years	Mr. Manning Harvey
House Committee-Chairman	Mrs. John W. Richardson
Co-Chairman	Mr. Robert M. Beardsley
Grounds Committee	Mr. Stanley E. Johnson
Acquisitions Committee	Mrs. Harold C. Lovell, Sr.
Vice-Chairman	Mrs. Robert N. Brockway
History and Research Committee	Mr. Richard Slater
Finance Committee	Mr. Leo E. Miller, Jr.
Hospitality Committee	Mrs. Hildreth T. Winton
Librarian and Geneology	Miss Harriett Allen
Membership and Finance Committee	Mrs. Clark P. Lane, Jr.
Program Committee	Mrs. Leo E. Miller, Jr.
Hostess Committee	Mrs. Edwin A. Cox
Education Committee	Mr. Donald W. Fowler
Publicity Committee	Mrs. Glenn Maresca
Gurator	Mr. Frederick C. Booth
League Delegates	Mr. and Mrs. E. Larsen

The Society has been fortunate to receive some fine and very useful gifts this fall. From Mrs. Harvey Irving we have received a solid mahogany oval dining room table which we are authorized to sell. We will shortly receive a legacy of one hundred dollars from the estate of Miss Helen Judson. Also we will soon receive a large sum from the Earle D. Sprague estate.

We received our biggest thrill, though, when a truck with a couple of Coast Guardsmen aboard drove up and asked us to sign for their cargo. Our guest for the Stratford Light foghorns has borne fruit, though not of the variety we expected. The cargo consisted of the lens, light, mount, and motor mechanism--in other words, the complete works--from the Stratford Shoals (Middleground) Light. The History and Research committee is now deciding how to display this surprise gift.

On the expenditure side, we're now receiving bids from potential contractors for our new roof on Judson house. We must decide whether to use the lower cost, more authentic wooden shingles, or a higher priced, but longer lasting new simulated wood shingle by Johns-Manville.

You probably read in the paper that Sammis' house was broken into last week. Apparently the work of children, the only item missing was Mr. Sammis' World War I doughboy hat. The older members will smile with me to know that the young investigating officer asked, "What color was it?"

We have received an offer from a publisher to run a reprinting of Mr. Wilcoxson's History of Stratford, but the price may be too high. How many of you would be willing to pay \$10 for a new copy? \$12? Let us know.

Generally speaking, the year is off to a good start. Our recent gifts provide new encouragement for our efforts to preserve and display Stratford's history. I'm sure, though, we will have new battles to fight to protect and preserve this history. The proponents of change are always with us, and where change means real progress, we're all for it. But too often change per se confused with progress and the bulldozer moves in before the value of the change has been thought out.

Without being reactionary, members of the Stratford Historical Society, collectively and individually, must continually protect our historic buildings and sites.

Lewis G. Knapp
President