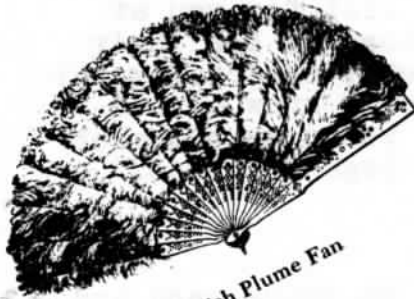




Weymouth Historical Society

P. O. BOX 56, SOUTH WEYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS 02190



Ostrich Plume Fan



HOLBROOK HOUSE

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 11 No. 2

September 1975

GREETINGS TO ALL: We hope that you all had a fine summer and are set for a season of interesting happenings in the society.

OUR FIRST MEETING: We have visited many other exciting exhibits at our September meetings in the past and now we are anticipating a "first" for our own museum. In 1867 Edmund Soper Hunt, who was one man - not two - as a recent "Yankee" article might lead you to believe, opened a fan factory. He was born on Front Street in Weymouth and was a very energetic and far-seeing man in his time. A quote from his book "Reminiscences" says this about his factory: "In the autumn of 1867 I took up an entirely new business, the manufacture of ladies' fans. In this business everything had to be learned, as nearly all the fans were then imported from France, a few coming from Vienna. To do this I had to put in a boiler and engine, and saws and moulders." It was later taken over by Frank Allen and became the Allen Fan Factory of Braintree. Mary Leonard of Braintree became interested in Hunt and the Allen Factory and has assembled a special exhibit of fans, many from the original factory and all extremely rare and beautiful. Come and learn more at our first meeting at Tufts Library, September 28, from 2 to 5 P.M. The exhibit area has more carpeting and new exhibit cases through the efforts of the Weymouth Historical Commission and the Town of Weymouth to make our history more meaningful in the Bicentennial period.

COMING UP: All other meetings will be held at the South High School as usual. Look closely at the program card enclosed and keep it near your calendar. You don't want to miss a great experience because you forgot.

In October our speaker will be Daniel F. Dunn whose interest in horticulture has led to a rewarding study of its history in Norfolk county. We hear that his slides are very beautiful.

Our program in November will also gladden our eyes and add to our knowledge as Albert W. Bussewitz takes us through the seasons with Thoreau.

We'll tell you about 1976 in the next issue.

(over)

TO ALL MEMBERS: We are happy to welcome Mrs. Bertha Fitzgerald to our group. We plan to have an up-dated membership list for you at the October meeting. Remind your friends that we hope to see their names on it. Also -- get to know your fellow members, especially our new vice-president, Harold Olson. Many of you already know Harold as a civic contributor to Weymouth during his many years as a member of the school administration and through volunteer organizations.

THE FLEA MARKET: Don Lewis and Harry Belcher want to thank each and every one of you who gave your time and help to make the Flea Market in June very successful. It rained every place but on Route 3A in front of the Bargain Center. It sprinkled there too but nobody cared because 800 customers paid admission -- those who crawled under the wire we would rather forget -- and our profit was over \$500.00. Everyone hopes to make this an annual affair.

UNEMPLOYMENT: We hear a lot about that these days but we want you to know that in the historical society there is no shortage of jobs. The present program committee members have worked for two years -- in some cases, three -- and would like to help in other ways because new ideas get circulation with changes. Harry is looking for more members on his Flea Market committee for next year. How about someone to make our guests and new members feel especially welcome? Of course we like to feel that we all do that but we hope that you will volunteer your services in some way.

NOTES FROM OTHERS: The Plympton Historical Society has opened a consignment shop for fine handcrafts, "The Sign of the Pineapple", at 189 Main St., Plympton. Hours: Mon., Fri., Sat., 10-3; Fri. eve. 7-9 P.M.

LOOKING FORWARD: The system of reservation by coupon through the newsletter for the dinner this year was so successful that it will be the method used next year. More about this later.

FROM THE WEYMOUTH BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE: There will be a Hayburners Ball with costume optional on October 25th at the National Guard Armory at 8 P.M. Watch the newspapers for more details.

IN MEMORIAM: Walter Stenhouse.

Christine Stanton 7-8360
Betty Kevitt 5-4804