

# THE WESTCOTT FAMILY QUARTERLY

Issued Quarterly--March, June, September and December--noting activities of the Society of Stukely Westcott Descendants, and mailed to members free; to non-members, 25¢ yearly. Secretary: Miss Ethel Clarke, 603 W. 139th St., N.Y.C.

March, 1938.

"Know Your Kindred Better"

Vol. IV, No. 16.

## THE NEXT NATIONAL CELEBRATION

There has already developed a divergence of ideas as to when and where in 1939, the National Celebration of the Society should be held. Those who so far have expressed their views, agree that the Celebration should be held in or near New York City because of the World Fair to be held there, thus making it convenient for those coming from a distance to "take in" both events. One suggestion is that either Greenwich or White Plains be selected; another is that some place in New Jersey near the approach to the Washington Bridge would be convenient. Still other ideas are that the gathering should be at historic Morristown, N. J., or at Canajoharie or Johnstown in the Mohawk Valley. Because of the heavy traffic occasioned by the Fair, Long Island is not favored, nor is New York City favored by some chiefly because "the big city" would not tend to help the family to get better acquainted. To sound out the views of more of the family, and also to study the accommodations available in the several places suggested and to decide upon a date, National President Joseph R. Westcott has appointed a committee with Harry J. Westcott of 345 Lafayette Avenue, Passaic, N. J., as chairman, and comprising Mrs. Chester W. DeMond, Mrs. Frank E. Waterman, Mrs. Frederick L. Burgen, Miss Ethel Clarke, Miss Rachel C. Wilkins, Dr. Allan F. Westcott, Leslie P. Westcott and Roscoe L. Whitman. This committee is to consult members of the families in their localities and report to the National Secretary by April 1st next. Every member is invited to send in suggestions to the committee members or to Secretary Clarke. An added "thought" is that New York City and vicinity, has its "hot spell" usually in July, and in June, August and September, the weather is usually ideal. There is one more suggestion: Saturday, June 24, 1939, will be the 304th anniversary date of the arrival in America of the Family Founder; hence, this thought as to dates -- assemble Friday, June 23, for dinner, and Saturday, the 24th, follow with commemorative services and business meeting, closing with a dinner in the evening. Sight-seeing trips, if any, on Sunday, depending upon the locality. May the committee hear from you?

## TO STUDY RULES AND REGULATIONS

The members of the committee to study plans for the 1939 Celebration, will also consider a set of Rules and Regulations to guide the administration of the Society, and report with recommendations to the Board of Directors. The Society adopted "Articles of Organization" at the time it was formed.

## WESTCOTT SPIRIT MORE PREVALENT

"We enjoyed the dinner so much! I think that each (N.Y.) dinner is nicer and the Westcott spirit more and more prevalent. Florence A. Westcott certainly did a good job and the dining room was beautifully done. The dinner, too, was certainly the very best we have had." What more need be said of the fifth annual reception and dinner of the Greater New York Chapter in New York on January 15th? In point of good cheer, active participation and promise of future similar gatherings, this reception and dinner far

surpassed the preceeding four dinners of the Chapters. Harry J. Westcott of Passaic, and Miss Florence A. Westcott of 159 West 12th St., New York City, were re-elected Chapter President and Secretary-Treasurer. It was voted to increase the annual dues to \$1.00. A handsome over-night bag was presented to National Secretary Ethel Clarke in appreciation of her notable work for the Society during the past four years. Addresses were made by National President Joseph R. Westcott, Past-National President Allan R. Westcott, Dr. F. Howard Westcott and National Historian Roscoe L. Whitman. Dr. Allan Westcott closed his address by reading the following poem under the caption "To Our Ancestor, Stukely Westcott, 1st".

"B:ld Stukely, there are times we envy you,  
 Living 'way back round 1642.  
 'Tis true, wild Indians then prowled round the town;  
 Now autos keep the population down.  
 The wolves raged ravening around your door,  
 But income tax collectors irk us more.  
 Trusting in God, you reared a mighty brood --  
 Now more than one's considered slightly crude.  
 By candle light on Holy Writ you'd pore,  
 And garner wisdom from the sacred lore,  
 But we hang nightly o'er the radio,  
 Or flock to see the moving picture show.  
 Yes, Stukely, up in Heaven looking down  
 Upon your progeny in Manhattan town,  
 Don't think that we enjoy life any more  
 Than you did once on Narragansett shore.

Those who attended the dinner were:

CONNECTICUT:---NORWALK---\*Mrs. Lois Stone Caswell Platt.  
 MARYLAND:---ANNAPOLIS---\*Dr. and Mrs. Allan Ferguson Westcott.  
 MASSACHUSETTS:---BOSTON---\*Mr. and Mrs. David A. Westcott. NORTHAMPTON---\*Helen Merwin  
 Wiestling, M. D.  
 NEW JERSEY:---ELIZABETH---\*Edmund Whitman Morris, Mrs. Eva Kline Pomeroy.  
 HACKENSACK---Samuel Dorfler, Mr. and \*Mrs. Edward R. Morroquin, Miss Mildred  
 Rich, \*Charles H. Wescott, \*Miss Marion E. Wescott, Walter Vant. Wescott.  
 PASSAIC---\*Mr. and Mrs. Harry J. Westcott. PATTERSON---Charles W. Westcott.  
 RIDGEWOOD---\*Mr. and Mrs. Carlton L. Westcoat. SOUTH ORANGE---Mrs. Margaret  
 Leity. WESTFIELD---\*Mrs. William R. Morrison, \*Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe L. Whitman.  
 NEW YORK:---BINGHAMTON---\*Joseph Rogers Westcott, BROOKLYN---\*Miss Edith S. Arnold,  
 Miss Fredericka Cook, Mrs. Suydam, Mr. and Mrs. Pliny K. Westcott. HOOSICK  
 FALLS---\*Miss Rachel C. Wilkins. NEW YORK CITY---\*Miss Ethel Clarke, \*Miss  
 Florence Earll Clarke, Dr. and \*Mrs. William C. Sharpe, Miss Priscilla Sharpe,  
 Dr. and \*Mrs. Fred. P. Solley, \*Miss Florence A. Westcott, \*Dr. and Mrs. F.  
 Howard Westcott. NORTHPORT---Mr. and \*Mrs. Adelbert Niles Potter, \*James Rad-  
 cliffe Morris. PLEASANTVILLE---\*Mrs. John Klein. WHITE PLAINS---Mr. and \*Mrs.  
 Chester W. DeMond, \*Mr. and Mrs. J. Hobart Westcott. YONKERS---Mr. and \*Mrs.  
 Willard H. Frost, Mr. and \*Mrs. John T. Wilde.  
 PENNSYLVANIA:---DUNMORE---\*Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Westcott. WILKES-BARRE--- \*Mrs.  
 Charles W. Weaver.  
 WASHINGTON, D. C.:---\*Mrs. Esther G. Arnold. (\*Denotes the Member.)

SHALL THE  
 APPENDICES BE  
 PUBLISHED?

A plan by which the Book of Appendices to the Westcott Genealogy can be published has been mailed to more than 600 descen-

dants represent easily two thousand men, women and children who have the Westcott blood in their veins. It is for them to say whether they desire their branches of the family recorded for all time, and they have until March 15th, 1938, to reach their decision. The research ended on December 31st last, and now only dates of births, deaths and marriages can be added during the period the manuscript is being made ready for the printers. Five years have been utilized in extending the history of the family from the records as published in the Westcott Genealogy of 1932. Records of many thousands of additional descendants have been compiled, further information has been gleaned of the early family in England and the first four generations in Rhode Island, and the publication of the new book is offered with the fullest confidence that if it is printed, it will prove a worthy contribution to the history of the family. The proposal as it has already come to you, provides for subscriptions at \$10.00 per book, also further subscriptions in any amount to help assure the printing. In other words, the amounts subscribed must total at least \$1000. One-half of each subscription is payable within 30 days from notice that the required amount has been subscribed and the remaining one-half upon notice that the book is ready for delivery. Send no money at this time with your subscription, which should be addressed to the Secretary of the Society, Miss Ethel Clarke, 603 West 139th St., N. Y. City. Now, will you help?

SOME  
FAMILY  
STATISTICS

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Now that the fourth year has passed since this Society was formed, it will be of interest to learn just how it has progressed. It has lost from all causes on an average of 11 members a year, or a total of 45 members -- 9 by death, 8 by resignation and 28 became unaffiliated because of non-payment of dues. There were 2 resignations in 1934, 2 in 1936 and 5 in 1937. 10 members were dropped at the end of 1935, 12 at the end of 1936, and 7 at the end of 1937. During this period of four years, 216 members have enrolled and 6 associate members; a total of 222. Forty-five members having been lost, the net paid membership on December 31, 1937, was 177, including 4 associate members. Three new members were received in January, making the present working membership 180. As compared with other family societies which have been organized a much longer period, this record is most encouraging.

A STORY OF  
WESTCOTT  
GOLDFISH

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C. B. Fuller of 80 West 12th St., N.Y.C., reading an account of the Westcotts in the Greenwich "Villager", writes President Westcott as follows: "When I was a kid, our old home on Center Street, Orange, N. J. -- a large house on the hill with a back lot of about four acres -- and the Westcott home on Highland Avenue, also with a large lot adjoining ours, had a goldfish pool right near a tall fence on the line. The fence was too tall to climb, but we found a large knot-hole and with a bent pin, would fish for the Westcott goldfish and transfer them to a little stream we had dammed up on our side. The Westcott hired-man finally caught us, and I have a recollection that we were given a good trouncing. By any chance, did you ever know the Orange Westcotts?" (Whose goldfish were they; can anyone tell?)

HITTING THE  
WESTCOTT  
TRAILS

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In the good, old Summertime, love of the great outdoors beckons us away from our offices, our benches and our farms and tells us to go unto the open-spaces, mingle with our kin and our friends and for the moment forget life's trials and tribulations. Hitting the trail has always been a part of the family life. It began in America early in the 18th century, inspired by that great trail blazed by our Family Founder in 1635, and has gone on down through the years. We who do want to "know our kindred better", can this coming Summer, hit out upon modern trails and find a welcome in each niche of the woods. For example, the Rhode Island Chapter usually holds its Spring reunion in June (date and place has not been announced). This affords a trail of thrills,

visiting the old farms where our first four ancestors at least, tilled the soil, made their homespun garments and raised their large families that a posterity might ensue. Then there is the family shrine--the tablet at Old Warwick marking the "house lot" of Stukely Westcott, which his loving progeny placed there in 1935. It is like going back home after many years to go to Rhode Island. Then in August on Tuesday, the 9th, the Northern N. Y. Chapter will have its annual reunion at "Westcott Beach", near Sacket Harbor. On the following Saturday, Aug. 13th, the Milford Tp. Chapter will gather on Otsego Lake, N. Y., and next day, Sunday, Aug. 14th, the Vermont Chapter will hold forth on Lake St. Catherine, Vt. While it has not been finally decided, it is hoped that the Westcott descendants of north-eastern Pennsylvania will have a reunion somewhere near Scranton, Pa., on Saturday, Aug. 6th, and the Madison County, N. Y., Westcott Association will have its get-together the day following--on Sunday, Aug. 7th. This offers a "trail" from Aug. 6th to Aug. 14th which should go down in your engagement book right now. For a two week's vacation, it offers the best of roads, unsurpassed scenery amidst fertile valleys, hills and lakes, always with good hotels and other accommodations, and a real opportunity to meet and to know your kin better. Go!

#### OUR NEW MEMBERS

Secretary Clarke reports the following new members enrolled since the December number of the Quarterly was issued, to whom the Society extends a cordial and sincere welcome:

		Presented By--
216 Helen Merwin Wiestling, M. D.	Northampton, Mass.	Volunteered
217 Mrs. Charles W. Weaver	Wilkes-Barre, Pa.	Volunteered
218 Mr. & Mrs. Chas. J. Westcott	Dunmore, Pa.	Volunteered
219 Miss Sylvia Mary Martin	Binghamton, N.Y.	Mrs. Sarah W. Martin
220 Miss Ruth Mildred Hafvey	New York City	Miss F. A. Westcott

#### RECEPTION TO VICE-PRES.

A reception will be tendered Vice-President and Mrs. Leo E. Westcott of Kalamazoo, Mich., by his cousins of the East, at New York City on Saturday evening April 9th. Dr. Westcott will be in New York to attend a meeting of the College of Physicians. The party will have dinner in the vicinity of 57th Street and then repair to the offices of Dr. F. Howard Westcott, 654 Madison Avenue, for the reception. For place and hour of dinner, write or phone Dr. F. Howard Westcott at the above address.

#### NOTES IN PASSING

The 1939 Celebration Promotion Committee will meet in New York on Saturday afternoon, April 9th. \* \* If by chance, your dues for 1938 remain unpaid, the "second notice" accompanying this Quarterly, will remind you. \* \* In naming in the December Quarterly, Harold Whitney Westcott of Poultny, Vt., as a new member, his wife was omitted. Ye Scribe is sorry, Mrs. Westcott. \* \* Milford Tp. Chapter has now endowed the cemetery at Milford Center, N. Y., where many pioneers of the family are buried. \* \* The Westcott Coat of Arms in colors and enlarged to  $7\frac{1}{2}$  by  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches, may be ordered from the Secretary by members of the Society. Price, \$7.00. \* \* H. Spencer Rowe of Oneonta, N. Y., associate member of Chapter No. 1, died Feb. 7, 1938. Sincere sympathy is extended to his widow. \* \* This issue completes the fourth year of the Quarterly. \* \* Although it had a National Celebration in 1937, the Society closed the year with all bills paid and a balance of \$10.33 on hand. \* \* Hereafter, all known living descendants will not be circularized by the Society, the addresses having been reduced in number to approximately 400 -- usually of kin who have in some way evinced interest in the family activities. \* \* Owing to the absence of a quorum, there was no meeting of the Directors on Jan. 15th; however, President Westcott appointed committees to carry on the work in hand. \* \* If you have ideas for the 1939 celebration, send them in.