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Change in Names of Day Line Boats Deplored by Historians

In an absorbing illustrated lecture on the Hudson River school of painters, Mrs. Gordon E. Wightman, before Historical Society of Newburgh Bay and the Highlands, in Glebe House on Thursday evening, showed how these painters, thrilled by the rugged beauty of the river, pioneered in American landscape work. Before this school established itself and became recognized, American painting largely followed the formalism of Europe and concerned itself with still life, with landscape only incidental.

The meeting was very largely attended. Members adopted a resolution in protest against proposed changing of the historic names of Day Line steamers to modern names. Action was taken following a plea by the president, Calvin D. Myers, that "dignity and history be maintained on these boats, in accord with tradition."

Mrs. Wightman revealed that the painting of "Clinton Square," Newburgh, by Clarence K. Chatterton, former resident, who for many years has been art instructor in Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, has recently completed a tour of the world. The painting is impressive, and includes reproduction of a five-story business building.

IT WAS RECALLED that Adrian Vandervork so long ago as 1654 directed attention to the beauty and charm of the Hudson Highlands. Thomas Cole is generally credited with originating landscape work in the early 1800s.

Other painters mentioned were John Vanderlyn, born in Kingston in 1776, who was the first to paint Niagara Falls and also painted the Gardens of Versailles, from the library of which the local historical society has lately received two engravings; Thomas Cole, who left New York to walk up the Hudson and study its scenery and located in Catskill; and Asher Brown Durand, a Huguenot descendant, one of whose paintings, a Woodland scene, is owned by the local society, a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Lee Woodward Zeigler.

Durand eventually located in the Vale of Avoca, southern boundary of Newburgh, with kindred artistic spirits; but along came the Erie Railroad, and he had to give up his sylvan retreat. One of his friends was Jervis McEntee, whose nephew is living in Cornwall.

Mrs. Wightman disclosed that two of Durand's best known works, "The Morning of Life" and "The Evening of Life," were painted for Frederick J. Betts of Newburgh. In 1911 they were presented to the National Academy of Design by Mrs. Betts.

Included among pictures presented on the screen by Mrs. Wightman, with Miss Irene E. Wegle assisting, was "Vale of Avoca" by Thomas Pope, Newburgh artist, the painting now being in the home of Dr. Earl C. Waterbury in First St.

ENCHANTING WERE SOME of the paintings of the Hudson Highlands, including Alex Robertson's Chambers Creek (better known as the Quassaick); the Hasbrouck House by Raphael Hoyle, in the history of the library of Glebe House; view of West Point from the east shore; view of the Highlands from Nicoll Hill (at Mrs. Wightman's New Windsor home); the Clermont passing Storm King by Ward Stanton, nephew of Mrs. Emma Stanton and son of Samuel Stanton, shipbuilder; and the Washington Oak, Dennings Point, under whose branches General Washington awaited mail from Fishkill or boat to take him back to Newburgh. The West Point painting is owned by Mrs. John A. McKay of New Windsor, a member of the board.

The next program meeting, to be given by students, was announced for Monday evening, April 25, at 8 o'clock in North Junior High auditorium. This will take the form of a celebration of the centennial of Glebe House.

The president said that this is

also the 65th anniversary of the incorporation of Historical Society of Newburgh Bay and the Highlands, which succeeded Newburgh Historical Society, organized in 1845 — 104 years ago. The latter society was active until about 1850 and inspired Samuel W. Eager to complete his "Outline History of Orange County." Incidentally the Glebe centennial is on the 240th anniversary of Newburgh's settlement by the Palatines.

Among those in attendance at the meeting was Charles E. Merritt of Utica, connected with the oldest engineering office in the State. There were guests from Poughkeepsie, Middletown, Goshen, Cornwall, Montgomery and other places.

EARLY COMPLETION OF improvements in Glebe House were promised by the president, with impending removal of newspaper files from the second floor to the basement. A series of volunteer "cleaning up and fixing up" parties is to be held. New displays are to be arranged, and hope was held out for regular "at home" evenings in the society's headquarters.

Membership was announced as 641, with several applicants to be elected at the next board meeting, and with 700 the goal by end of the fiscal year in September.

Announcement was made that Three Arts Society will present Miss Harriet Brundage, soprano, who with her parents is a member of the Historical Society, in a recital in North Junior auditorium on Wednesday evening, May 11, at 8:30. Miss Brundage began her education in Newburgh and continued in Iowa Wesleyan. For the past five years she has been studying voice with Miss Amy Ellerman in New York.

Newburgh Teachers' Association extended an invitation to members to attend a meeting on National Citizenship Day, May 16, at 8 p. m. in Broadway School auditorium. The speaker will be former Rep. Hamilton Fish, whose subject will be "The Two Rs of American Citizenship — Rights and Responsibilities."

On the receiving line at the meeting were Mr. and Mrs. Oscar M. Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. T. Albert Farrington.

Following the meeting a reception was tendered Mrs. Wightman, who has returned to "Linden" after spending the winter in New York, and refreshments were served, with Mrs. Stanley T. Manlove as chairman.

Members of the committee included Miss Janet M. Barr, Mrs. Andrew Brown, Miss R. Bell Chapman, Miss Margaret Cook, Miss Bessie Cotton, Miss Margaret Fowler, Mrs. Lewis Webb, Miss Elizabeth Wright, Miss Abbie L. Colden, Miss Grace MacDonald, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bloom, Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Bryce Barr, Mr. and Mrs. Forrest R. Snyder, and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dunn.