

BULLETIN

OF

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CECIL COUNTY

No. 13

Head of Elk, Maryland

October 19, 1959

MAY 1959 MEETING

The turnout of members and guests for the Society's meeting on Monday evening, May 11, 1959, taxed the capacity of Mt. Pleasant Methodist church hall at Colora and demonstrated the continued interest in affairs of the organization. The church's pastor, the Rev. Laurence H. Stookey, welcomed the visitors and the WSCS served a fine turkey dinner. It is a noteworthy fact that three persons present were over 90 years of age. Cecil County history never loses its appeal.

The guest speaker was Mr. Elwood S. Wilkins, past president of the Delaware Archeological Society, who discussed the ethnography of the Susquehannock Indians and illustrated his talk with color slides and maps showing their migrations along the Atlantic seaboard and their places of habitation in Cecil County.

Messrs. George E. Gifford, Sr., H. Kenneth Mackey, and William T. Warburton were appointed as a nominating committee to present a slate of officers and trustees for election at the fall meeting on October 19 to serve for a term of two years from that date.

FLETCHER P. WILLIAMS

By the untimely death of Fletcher P. Williams on August 16, 1959, this Society sustained a grievous loss. His dedication to the best interests of the organization is too well known to require recounting. Being one of its earliest members and staunchest supporters, he was elected President of the Society in 1950 when its fortunes were at a low ebb, and during his four years' tenure of office he awakened sufficient interest to start it on the way to a vigorous existence.

Mr. Williams was proud of his native county and anxious to preserve its traditions and history. One achievement for which he was solely responsible was the publication of the Cecil County directory. He accomplished this almost impossible task despite numerous obstacles and at the risk of considerable financial loss. Another project close to his heart was restoration of the old covered bridge at Gilpin's Falls, and it was through his efforts, practically single-handed, that the State Roads Commission was prevailed upon to restore that historic landmark. It would be fitting if this rebuilt structure should be called the Fletcher P. Williams Memorial Bridge.

An esteemed friend, a useful citizen, a good man has gone from among us.