

REPORT

*of the*

*Association*

*of*

*Descendants of Ralph Smith*

*of*

*Hingham and Eastham, Mass.*

INCORPORATED

1964

SMITH ASSOC., BOARD MEETING

May 19, 1964

Meeting opened 3:15 p.m. by the president, Mrs. Ella T. Ferris.

Opening prayer given by Mrs. Angela Bemis.

Miss Roberta Smith was introduced as a new member of the board.

The Plymouth trip was discussed. No action.

Fall Meeting.

Geneva Tetlow discussed the Pancake House which was deemed not suitable.

Ella Ferris discussed the Hawthorne Motor Inn, which was deemed suitable. The cost to be \$3.00.

Voting in favor of a change. Unanimous.

Motion made to have the same set of officers as the current year, with the exception of the board of directors who shall advance one year according to recent custom.

A motion was made and voted to have Mr. Del Wickens name placed at the bottom of the list.

It was voted that Miss Roberta Smith become chairman of the board.

It was voted to ammend the By-laws, so that past presidents may become members of the board of directors.

It was suggested that a new set of By-laws be printed, with the new ammendments included.

Entertainment will be checked on by Miss Ruth Smith, who will also compose the notice for the next annual meeting.

**Board Members present:**

Mr. and Mrs. Luther Smith  
Miss Ruth Smith  
Mr. George Smith  
Mrs. Angela Bemis  
Miss Roberta Smith  
Mr. Del. Wickens  
Mr. Thomas E. Smith  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tetlow  
Mrs. Florence Smith  
Miss Barbara Wickens

**List of officers to be presented at the fall meeting:**

President	Mrs. Ella T. Ferris
1st Vice President	Mr. George Smith
2nd Vice President	Mr. Russell Smith
3rd Vice President	Mrs. Geneva Tetlow
Chaplain	Mrs. Angela Bemis
Secretary-Treasurer	Mr. Clair A. Ferris 9 Burley Street Danvers, Mass. 01923

Board of Directors	Miss Roberta Smith, Chr. Mrs. Eva MacMillan Mrs. Margery Livingston Mrs. Louise Smith Mr. Delbert Wickens
--------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Auditors	Mr. Milford Smith Miss Barbara Wickens Miss Mertie Cunningham. Clair A. Ferris Secretary
----------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash on hand		\$135.97
Income from all sources		<u>274.53</u>
Total		\$410.50

## Expenses

S. J. Seaker Flowers	\$ 4.50	
Community Hall Inc.	20.00	
Quality Press (Books)	110.00	
Membership Cards	12.00	
Postage	17.50	
Plain Envelopes (500)	2.75	
Bank Service Charges	<u>1.26</u>	
Total	\$168.01	<u>\$168.01</u>
Balance		\$242.49

Bank Balance	\$218.91	
Cash on hand	<u>23.58</u>	
	\$242.49	
		\$242.49

## Judith A. Smith Fund

Cash on hand	\$ 34.10	
From Gen. Fund as voted	\$59.09	
	<u>-24.50</u>	
	\$34.59	
	<u>\$ 34.59</u>	
	\$ 68.69	

Total cash on hand		\$ 68.69
--------------------	--	----------

Clair A. Ferris  
Treasurer

Report of Beatrice Hunt Memorial Fund of the Association of the Descendants of Ralph Smith, Inc.

May 25, 1965

Balance, September 20, 1964		\$132.36
Received Interest	\$ 2.81	
Received Interest	<u>2.61</u>	
	\$ 5.42	<u>\$ 5.42</u>
		\$137.78
Less paid to Brown Florists	\$ 11.21	
Barter Florists	<u>12.00</u>	
	\$ 23.21	<u>\$ 23.21</u>
Balance on hand		\$114.57
On deposit at Lynn Five Cents Savings Bank, Lynn, Mass.		

Respectfully submitted

Ruth G. Smith  
Chairman

Report of Ralph Smith Memorial Fund

September 20, 1964

Balance February 3, 1963		\$174.25
Paid Brown Florist	\$ 20.78	
Paid Thelma's Florist	10.00	
Paid Barter Bros.	<u>11.11</u>	
	\$ 41.89	<u>\$41.89</u>
Balance on hand		\$132.36
On deposit at Lynn Five Cents Savings Bank, Lynn, Mass.		

Respectfully submitted

Ruth G. Smith  
Chairman

## ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the association was held Sept. 20, 1964, in the Flagship Room of the Hawthorne Motor Inn, Salem, Mass. There were approximately 90 members present.

A very fine dinner of either turkey or ham was enjoyed by all. The dinner was hosted by Mr. Ralph McGray and was greatly appreciated by all present. The ladies present all received roses.

Following the dinner Mrs. Clair Ferris, President, called the meeting to order with the pledging of allegiance to the flag and the singing of "America". The invocation was given by the chaplain, Mrs. Angela Bemis, following which a welcome was extended to all those present, by the president, Mrs. Ferris.

The reading of the secretary's annual report was waived and so voted.

The treasurer's report was read and accepted.

Mr. Milford Smith was officially thanked for all his past services by the president, Mrs. Ferris.

The memorial wreath was presented by the secretary, after the placing of the roses in memory of those having passed away during the year, the wreath was presented for placement for Mrs. Grace Stanton who passed away April 17, 1964.

The sick report was given by Mrs. Frank Tetlow.

A proposal was presented and a motion made to ammend the By-laws so that past presidents would be allowed to become members of the board of directors.

A proposal was presented and a motion made to have the past presidents compose a new set of By-laws, to be printed and distributed by the association. So voted.

The oldest lady present

Mrs. Liza Lipsett, age 86

The oldest gentleman present

Mr. Thomas E. Smith, age 90

The member coming the farthest

Mr. Ralph McGray, Santa Maria, Calif.

The youngest person present

Lessle Ann Blowtz, age 23 months.

A proposal was presented and a motion made to make a trip to Plymouth, Mass., and after much discussion it was agreed to have the board meeting at this time. The date to be May 24, 1965 and in case of rain it would be held the first Sunday of June. It was so voted.

Collection made for the general fund, \$53.97.

A discussion was held on where to have our next meeting. It was suggested to make a trip to the Cape.

Those in favor of Hingham: Yes—none,  
No—Unanimous

Those in favor of the Hingham trip to be held the following year. Yes—Unanimous, No—none.

Following the board meeting a social hour and refreshments were served by our hostess, Ella Ferris.

## HISTORY

### Stephen Hopkins

Many in our association are descendants of Stephen Hopkins and the following may tell you something about your Mayflower ancestor.

Stephen Hopkins was a Londoner and the fourteenth signer of the Mayflower Compact. Of the forty-one signers only twelve were given the title of "Mr." and Stephen Hopkins was one.

In 1609 he became a member of the Virginia family just formed and sailed with his family for Virginia. The ship was wrecked off the coast of Bermuda and he thereby helped to discover that island. They returned to their native land and he was destined to become one of the most prominent of the Plymouth Pilgrims.

He was married twice. He brought with him on the Mayflower his two children by his first marriage, his second wife, Elizabeth, and their child Damaris and Oceanus was born during the voyage. In Plymouth five more children were born, one son and four daughters.

He took a very active part in the affairs of the colony. He was one of six named by the town of Plymouth to serve on a joint committee or council of war. He was tax assessor and juryman. He owned the first wharf in Plymouth and was part owner of the first ship built there. He owned the first horse on record (1644). He was one of the 58 'purchasers' in 1640. He engaged in trade as well as farming. He was presented at court for selling a looking glass (the first record of a looking glass in the colony).



Stephen Hopkins died in Plymouth in 1644. His will was witnessed by Capt. Myles Standish and Gov. Wm. Bradford.

Ruth G. Smith  
Historian

### THE MAYFLOWER COMPACT

This is the 345th anniversary of the signing of the Mayflower Compact. Those who signed this document looked on it only as a necessary step for their own safety and the safety of their families. The Pilgrims would be gratified and astonished to know that their settlement was to make its contribution to the greatest popular government in the world; that their compact was one of the first manifestations of this new world democracy, and that their own descendants would, in three centuries spread from coast to coast and number in the tens of thousands.

Without the compact, all the Pilgrims would very likely have perished, and their story with them.

It was on November 21, 1620—345 years ago that 41 men from this band of Pilgrims signed the great Mayflower Compact. The first document to establish civil and religious liberty in the new world, if not the entire world. A document which is generally considered to be "the first written American Constitution". It was the first time in the history of the world that a group of persons got together (women didn't vote in those days), and the men signed this Compact by which they agreed to form a body politic. They set forth in a very general way how they were going to govern themselves. They were to pass such constitutions, acts, and ordinances

as they thought, under all the circumstances, would best help. As descendants of those on the Mayflower, we all should have a just pride, a sort of ownership in this document, because our ancestors were among those men who signed the first political document, the most important, in the history of our entire country.

Many students of history regard and acclaim the Mayflower Compact as deserving in rank with the great documents that constituted stepping stones to free and representative government beginning with the Magna Carta and ending with our Declaration of Independence and the Federal Constitution.

## THE COMPACT

Signed in the cabin of the Mayflower, Nov. 11,  
Old Style, Nov. 21, New Style, 1620.

"In the Name of God, Amen. We whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of our dread Sovereign Lord, King James, by the grace of God, of Great Britaine, Franc and Ireland king, defender of the faith, etc., haveing undertaken, for the glorie of God, and advancements of the Christian faith, and honor of our king and countrie, a voyage to plant the first colonie in the northerne parts of Virginia, doe by these presents solemnly and mutually in the presence of God, and one of another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil body politick, for our better ordering and preservation and futherence of the ends aforesaid; and by virtue hereof to enacte, constitute and frame such just and equall laws, ordenances, acts, constitutions and offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meete and convenient for the generalgood of the colonie, unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names at Cap-Codd the 11 of November, in the year of the raigoe of our soveraigne lord, King James of England, Franc and Ireland the eighteenth, and of Scotland the fifty-fourth, ANo Dom 1620." (New Style Nov. 21, 1961).

John Carver	Edward Tilly	Degory Priest
William Bradford	John Tilly	Thomas Williams
Edward Winslow	Francis Cooke	Gilbert Winslow
William Brewster	Thomas Rogers	Edmond Margeson
Isaac Allerton	Thomas Tinker	Peter Brown
Myles Standish	John Ridgale	Richard Britteridge
John Alden	Edward Fuller	George Soule
Samuel Fuller	John Turner	Richard Clarke
Christopher Martin	Francis Eaton	Richard Gardiner
William Mullins	James Chilton	John Allerton
William White	John Crackston	Thomas English
Richard Warren	John Billington	Edward Doty
John Howland	Moses Fletcher	Edward Leister
Stephen Hopkins	John Goodman	

The Pilgrims established the public recording of deeds and mortgages, the probating of wills, the recording of births, marriages and deaths by towns. The laws they made were the most liberal of any known in their time. In their England there were 149 capital crimes. Some of these we would now regard as trivial offenses. The Pilgrims established only five; practically the same as is usual throughout our land today. In their England, the jury system applied only to the Nobility. The Pilgrims, for the first time, expanded it to include all men. Instead of the oldest son inheriting all of his father's estate, they provided that it should be equally divided among all the children. Probably this is the first time in history that women have been accorded these rights.

They came here with a dedication and the spirit of dedication. The little Compact, although so humble, was wise in its essentials and these were finally written into the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. All the seeds of liberty and civil freedom were compacted in the Compact itself, and so liberty has unfolded in this nation, as it has never unfolded anywhere else beneath the sun, and certainly the Pilgrim contribution was one of magnificent character and force.

With astronarts whistling through orbit, and jet planes making routine crossings of the Atlantic in a matter of hours, it is difficult to picture the Mayflower taking 66 days for her crossing, yet she sailed directly across the Atlantic at the worst time of year alone, and without a time bouy, and by the standards of the day made excellent time.

Ruth G. Smith  
Historian

## Miscellaneous Historical Notes

Did you know?

There are 10 to 11 Smiths per thousand persons in the United States.

Archelaus Smith was a family man—When he died at Cape Sable Island, Nova Scotia on January 2, 1821 he had 9 children, 97 grand children, and 219 great-grand-children.

The Mayflower women cooked with a frying pan over charcoal. Their supplies were bacon, hardtack, salt beef, smoked herring, cheese, and small beer or ale. They need not have been so hungry if they could have been satisfied with a diet of cod, lobster and clams but they refused, as colonizing Englishmen, to eat anything but the food to which they were accustomed.

There were two dogs on the Mayflower—a great mastiff and a spaniel.

### 1965 Mayflower Pilgrimage

For the second year there will be a Mayflower Pilgrimage to Europe. Leaving New York by plane about May 31st, visiting all the historical places in Holland and Great Britain connected with the Pilgrim History. Many interesting side trips are also planned. If anyone is interested in early American History and Mayflower History this is a wonderful and informative trip.

Ruth G. Smith  
Historian

---

IN MEMORIAM

Capt. Job Cunningham	November 16, 1964
Mr. David Butterfield	April 27, 1964
Mr. Ernest Smith Sr.	
Mrs. Grace Stanton	April 7, 1964
Mr. Earl Rogers	November 26, 1964
Mr. Charles Forbes	March, 1965

---

## *Presidents*

Captain Arthur McGray	1937-1946
Thomas Edison Smith	1947-1948
Angela B. Bemis	1949-1950
Milford Smith	1951-1954
Captain Delbert Wickens	1955-1957
Ruth G. Smith	1958-1960
Luther R. Smith	1961-1963
Ella T. Ferris	1963-1965