One Fatt Calfe

Being an Account of the New Rochelle Half-Dollar and of the Celebration marking the 250th Anniversary of the Founding & Settlement of the City of New Rochelle No Y's

By
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NEW ROCHELLE

COMMEMORATIVE COIN COMMITTEE

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PREFACE

This account has been written in the hope that it may serve as a signpost to future Celebration Committees in planning an event such as was celebrated in 1938.

When the Committee appointed as a 250th Anniversary Committee met to formulate necessary plans and programme we were at a loss to know just how to proceed, as there were no available accounts of the previous event of twenty-five years ago to guide us.

To be sure, Mr. Henry M. Lester Jr. had a scrapbook with newspaper clippings which described some events of the 225th Anniversary Celebration, but there was a vagueness which was baffling to us who wanted something clear-cut to follow. There were terse transcripts of some of their meetings, but these were not much aid to gropers in the dark.

These did show, however, that there had been some dissension in that Committee and that it had been necessary to do a great deal of solicitation for funds for their budget. Mr. Jere Milleman had been Treasurer of that Committee and his recollection of that affair was that the greater bulk of the fund had really been contributed by the late Mr. Henry M. Lester and that it had developed into a sum of \$7,500, with Mr. Lester shouldering most of the burden it had eventually grown to be. Mr. Lester had been most industrious in the cause and had entertained the French visitors of that day in his own home.

It is my hope that this account of our method of raising the necessary funds (which was a budget of \$16,900), the planning of the programme of events by the Committee, and the carrying out of that programme in a manner that in brilliancy of performance far exceeded our fondest hopes, will be of aid to some future Committee who will wonder what did that 250th Anniver-

sary Committee do to celebrate New Rochelle's Birth-day.

Reading over the list of names of the members of the 225th Anniversary Committee, it saddened one to find how many had since passed away. Perhaps our list, too, may bring forth the same remark, "How few remain to-day," when another anniversary rolls around.

As the spirits of the Huguenots
In the Pageant of New Rochelle
Returned to Earth a few short hours
To visit scenes loved well
Perhaps we'll be permitted
To view these scenes again
And feel our honest labors
And efforts not in vain.

AMY C. SKIPTON

New Rochelle, N. Y. February 28, 1939

THE LEGEND

Early one morning in the year 1688 as the sun shot its first brilliant rays over the waters of Long Island Sound a Siwanoy Indian, from his vantage point on the rocky shore, viewed with wonder and awe a strange and unusual craft, riding at anchor on the tranquil waters of Echo Bay, and from that strange craft there landed a group of people such as he had never seen before.

THE FACT

THE NEW ROCHELLE HALF DOLLAR

Beautiful coin, so silvery white

Little did Huguenots dream in their flight

That a city they'd found like our own New Rochelle

Where folks of all creeds in amity dwell.

On your reverse you bear the Lily-of-France

While on obverse once more the "fatt calfe" doth prance

And Lord Pell in a costume befitting the day

Receives him as "quit rent"—so our annals do say.

North, South, East and West, little coin, you have sped

With New Rochelle's story of heroes long dead

Who feared not the hardships but stubbornly fought

For the Faith that they loved and the Freedom they

sought.

God grant, little coin, that the story thus told

May live on forever and character mold

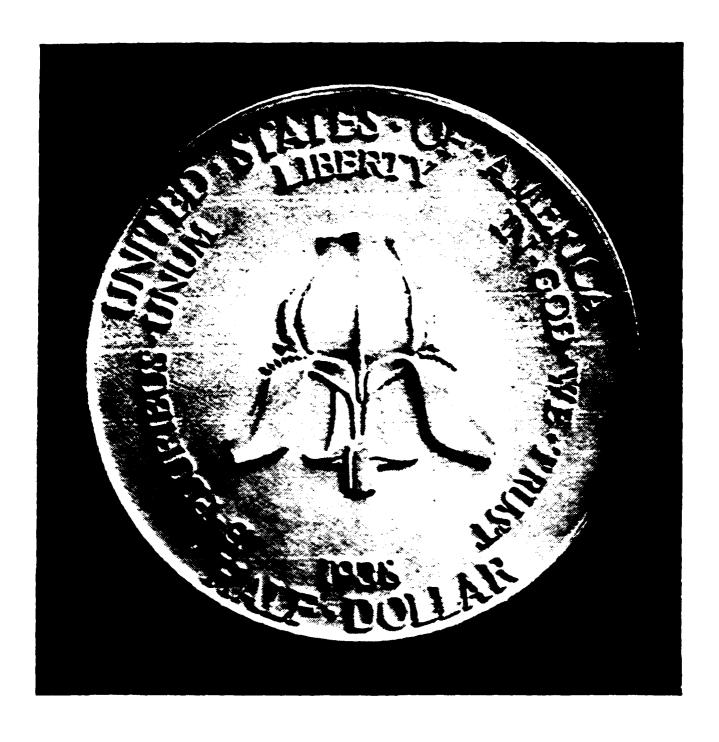
In a form where there's Beauty, Faith, Hope, Truth
and Love

And over us hover sweet Peace like the dove.



THE NEW ROCHELLE HALF DOLLAR

OBVERSE



THE NEW ROCHELLE HALF DOLLAR REVERSE

One Fatt Calfe

PART I

THE NEW ROCHELLE HALF DOLLAR

Did you, my dear New Rochellean, know that when coins, particularly half dollars, are being talked about you can—provided you were wise and civic-minded enough to have done your duty in this respect—reach into your pocket with a nonchalant air and produce a coin, saying, "Did you ever see one of OUR half dollars?" And like a rabbit from the magician's hat there is a United States New Rochelle Half Dollar shining brightly in your hand. But don't let anyone persuade you to exchange it for one of the half dollars he may have in his pocket, for yours cost you (or whoever bought it for you) two dollars and if you preserve it carefully, keeping it free from scratches, there is no telling what price you or your descendants may be offered for it some day.

To few cities indeed comes the honor of a specially designed coin and to New Rochelle it came only through the persistent and untiring efforts over a period of sixteen months of one of her citizens, himself an ardent coin collector, Pitt M. Skipton.

A Commemorative Coin is not, as so many people think, a medal, but is a regular government coin, always of face value and can be used as any other coin of the same denomination. But it is of a special design and minted by the government under a special Act of Congress at the request of a Commission or Committee authorized to sell it at a premium to obtain funds to carry through the purpose for which that Commission or Committee was created. These coins are therefore of considerably greater value than the ordinary coin of that denomination and seldom, if ever, come into general circulation, being bought by collectors or held by others than collectors as of value for sentimental and other reasons.

At meetings of the Westchester County Coin Club of which Julius Guttag, an authority on South American coins, is the founder, the Commemorative issues had been a lively topic and since New Rochelle would celebrate in 1938 her 250th Anniversary, it seemed to the members a Commemorative for the event would be a source of pride both to the Club and to the City. This particularly appealed to Mr. Skipton as a source of funds for a gala celebration from the profits to be derived from its sale. As a rule such funds are either taken from the City treasury or obtained by solicitation from private subscribers. As John and Mary Citizen at this time of general depression were scarcely able to pay their taxes and provide for their own family expenses it did not seem fair to ask them for the wherewithal to provide for such a festivity as this should properly be.

The idea of the coin being enthusiastically received by the Club at the November 1935 meeting they appointed Mr. Skipton a Committee of One to make the necessary contacts and try to obtain such a coin. It was agreed that



PITT M. SKIPTON

Chairman

New Rochelle Commemorative Coin Committee

if successful, a Committee to handle the sale and to protect the interests of the small collector first and foremost should be appointed. There had been in the past several issues of Commemoratives which had been managed in a manner most unsatisfactory to Coin Club members and to the small collector especially.

The Committee of One set forth gaily on his task. So easy it seemed in contemplation but how difficult of consummation!

Gathering and submitting proper historical data on which such a request could be based to our Congressman Millard (since become Westchester County's most popular Surrogate) and Senator Royal S. Copeland (who died, universally mourned, in 1938), Mr. Skipton was assured by both that they would do all in their power to achieve the passage of a bill for a New Rochelle Commemorative coin, though Senator Copeland wrote humorously, "The President is pretty hard-boiled on this subject."

News having gone out that New Rochelle was seeking a Commemorative, collectors from all over the country at once poured orders and remittances into Mr. Skipton's lap, begging that coins be reserved for them. All collectors not being people of means as is generally thought, some of these letters were pathetic in their appeal. Some said that coin collecting was the one luxury they allowed themselves; others pleaded that the price be moderate and not prohibitive as some other issues had been; one from a blind collector described the pleasure he got from his small collection as he was able to trace the design with his finger, and how much he hoped to be able to afford one of ours. It was a gigantic task to reply to all these letters, returning all the cheques, money orders, cash or

stamps to the senders, explaining that they could not be accepted now, no Committee having been appointed, no price set and no coin yet authorized. Nevertheless, every letter was answered and the sender assured when and if the coin was issued he would be promptly notified.

Due to over-zealous persons writing frequently, voluminously and mistakenly to the Congressman and Senator before mentioned, serving to confuse and bewilder these gentlemen, passage of our bill was considerably delayed. Therefore, after much revision through letters, telegrams and personal interviews, it was not until May 5, 1936, that the bill was signed by President Roosevelt (thus becoming a law) authorizing 25,000 New Rochelle Half Dollars of a special design, of one date only (1938) and from one Mint only.

(Public—No. 556—74th Congress) (H. R. 10489)

AN ACT

To authorize the coinage of 50-cent pieces in commemoration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the founding and settlement of the city of New Rochelle, New York.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in commemoration of the two-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of the founding and settlement of the city of New Rochelle, New York, there shall be coined at a mint of the United States to be designated by the Director of the Mint not to exceed twenty-five thousand silver 50-cent pieces of standard size, weight, and composition and of a special appropriate single design to

be fixed by the Director of the Mint, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, but the United States shall not be subject to the expense of making the necessary dies and other preparations for this coinage.

SEC. 2. The coins herein authorized shall bear the date 1938, irrespective of the year in which they are minted or issued, shall be legal tender in any payment to the amount of their face value, and shall be issued only upon the request of a committee of not less than three persons duly authorized by the mayor of the city of New Rochelle, New York, upon payment by it of the par value of such coins, but not less than twenty-five thousand such coins shall be issued to it at any one time and no such coins shall be issued after the expiration of one year after the date of enactment of this Act. Such coins may be disposed of at par or at a premium by such committee, and the net proceeds shall be used by it in defraying the expenses incidental and appropriate to the commemoration of such event.

SEC. 3. All laws now in force relating to the subsidiary silver coins of the United States and the coining or striking of the same, regulating and guarding the process of coinage, providing for the purchase of material, and for the transportation, distribution, and redemption of coins, for the prevention of debasement or counterfeiting, for the security of the coins, or for any other purposes, whether such laws are penal or otherwise, shall, so far as applicable, apply to the coinage herein authorized.

Approved, May 5, 1936.

Now clear sailing seemed assured. Mayor Harry Scott at once appointed a Committee of three to take charge of the matter — Pitt M. Skipton, Ernest H. Watson and

Jere Milleman. On May 14, 1936, they met and organized as the New Rochelle Commemorative Coin Committee, with Mr. Skipton Chairman, Mr. Watson Treasurer and Mr. Milleman Secretary. Mayor Scott was elected Honorary Chairman, the price of the coin set at \$2.00 plus postage and registry fee, and Amy C. Skipton was appointed Executive Secretary.

From the day that passage of the bill seemed likely, the design for the coin had been a matter of serious consideration, Mr. Skipton hoping to have a local designer and particularly appropriate historical design. He therefore invited suggestions from local historical and artistic groups, but this seemed to bring out suggestions of what not to have. A loud chorus of dont's included, "Don't have a landing party; don't have another Plymouth Rock; don't have ships; don't have eagles; don't have Indians." There was never a "do have," and the don'ts being rather discouraging he decided, having failed to get help here, to describe his own idea to a local resident of artistic ability, who submitted a sketch. This was presented to the Coin Committee at their first meeting. It was heartily endorsed by them, who considered its theme as having a real relation to the founding of the city as given in old records. The Committee authorized Mr. Skipton to have a properly executed drawing made and to employ a local sculptor to model this design.

When the models were completed obverse and reverse were submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts of the United States government; after suggested minor alterations, resubmitted; again sent them after changes made in conformity with suggestions of theirs, the last changes being made in accordance with instructions which gave the Committee the impression that they were all that was



THE HONORABLE HARRY SCOTT

Mayor of the City of New Rochelle, New York

Honorary Chairman,

New Rochelle Commemorative Coin Committee

Honorary Chairman,

250th Anniversary Committee

necessary to make the design acceptable to the Government. Then imagine our dismay when we received a notice that it was not, and that an entirely new design must be submitted. This we also did but met with a curt refusal to accept it and a suggestion that we employ someone who had already designed a coin. Thereafter the fount of frequent suggestions seemed to dry up and silence met our cries for help. Back came our beautiful (we and some others thought) models of the proposed New Rochelle Half Dollar. After viewing some of the atrocities being passed and noting designs which ignored the rules we so meticulously observed we realized we had been for some unknown reason selected for "the sacrifice."

Since time does not stand still even for such an important event as the birth of a new half dollar and as the law called for its issuance not later than May 1937 (we were now nearing the end of 1936,) consternation filled the bosoms of the Coin Committee. The failure of the design to be accepted was particularly embarrassing in view of the fact that with the appointment of the Coin Committee this news had reached the collectors through coin journals and hobby magazines and again we were deluged with orders and remittances. Every mail brought a new flood and our mail box was constantly jammed tight with letters. Having installed a system of accounting we were making deposits daily and already had on hand sufficient funds to pay for the coins—when and if we got them!

In our files we had orders from as far back as May, 1936, and the senders of these orders were beginning to inquire when they would get their coins. And didn't we wish we knew the answer? So many of these letters were coming in that I began what I dubbed the When file. The

majority of these writers were courteous, merely inquiring as to our progress, but a few unkind souls spoke of "rackets" and what they would do to us if they didn't get that coin right away. However, viewing the correspondence with over 15,000 collectors I am convinced that a finer group of people than the same "nuts" as I have heard them called cannot be found anywhere.

Now day and night we were obsessed by the horrible fear that we might not get a design passed in time to get under the line of the law's time limit and it became almost the sole topic of conversation in our home. Therefore, when awakened from a sound sleep on the night of November 18th with the words design and coin assailing my ears I was not in the best of humors, as you may fancy. However, when an excited Pitt M. Skipton, returning from the meeting of the Coin Club (which you might say had begun all our troubles) asked, "Would you mind getting up and looking at this coin?" handing me the Albany half dollar, I forgot my annoyance in gazing on that beautiful coin with its beaver and maple leaf. I agreed with him that the designer of that coin was the man for us—the joke of that being that "he" was a lady.

The next day a special delivery letter to the sculptor asked for an interview and a telegram from G. K. Lathrop made an appointment. On the coldest day of that winter the sculptor arrived—and proved to be a petite brown haired young lady, full of enthusiasm and pleased with our admiration of her Albany design. We found later that she had done some remarkable work in monuments and statuary, including a World War monument at Albany, N. Y. Perhaps you have seen her "Sammy Houston"—the donkey of the Al Smith family which

was very much in evidence when Governor Smith was in the Executive Mansion in Albany.

Wishing her to get local atmosphere we had many meetings, taking her about our city to show her all possible views which might inspire an idea for a design. She was surprised to find the city had a work of her former teacher, Solon H. Borglum, brother of the famed Gutzon Borglum—the statue of Jacob Leisler, erected in 1913 by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

There seemed a dearth of material that could be utilized. From the start it was stipulated that any design must be entirely free from any feature that might cause resentment on the part of any religious body. After much thought one day the idea struck both the designer and Chairman and they exclaimed simultaneously, "Why not use the presentation of the fatt calfe?" Miss Lathrop thought the idea could be carried out, injecting a touch of humor without sacrificing any of the dignity and beauty essential to the coin.

She prepared and submitted such a design for the obverse and the "fatt calfe" was introduced to the Coin Committee. We had not prepared the other members for the sudden shift in the design and never shall I forget the expression on Mr. Watson's face as he beheld the cavorting calf. This design was so far removed from the theme of the original design that the amazed look, (ending in a reluctant smile,) was well justified but needless to say we all became very proud of our "fatt calfe." The model for the design was a young bull calf of thoroughbred Guernsey stock loaned the sculptor by the Kenwood Farm of Albany, N. Y. and Miss Lathrop said was a bit unruly at first, afterward becoming so reconciled to her presence and even affectionately disposed toward her that

we were able to get an excellent picture which was published both in Albany and New Rochelle papers of the model kissing the artist on the nose. (This is according to Hoyle, anyway, isn't it?) The model of Lord Pell was obtained by much study of Pell portraits—paintings which she was able to view through the graciousness of the descendants of the Lord John Pell family. She is such a stickler for authenticity that the curve of the feather in his hat, the design of the many buttons on the front and cuffs of his coat, his oddly shaped shoe buckles, his hose, the long ringlets which betokened the gentleman of fashion of that day—every detail must be perfect to satisfy her.

The Commemorative Coin Committee approving this design, it was agreed that the same be presented to the Commission of Fine Arts. To our surprise they intimated that they might now accept the reverse we had presented before. Naturally our new designer felt she would like to have the whole represented by her own design and had prepared a reverse with its theme the fleur-delis which I had mentioned some time before to her as a possible subject, since it appeared both on the coat-of-arms of old La Rochelle and of the modern city of New Rochelle. She now showed us her idea of a conventionalized, modernized representation and was authorized to make necessary contacts and see if she could obtain the approval of a design for an obverse and reverse for a New Rochelle half dollar.

Being an acquaintance of the Roosevelts from the day of his incumbency in Albany as Governor of New York State, and with her mother (also an artist of note) having been a guest at the White House, Washington held no fears for her and gaily she set off with her precious models. We at home anxiously awaited the result and were overjoyed to receive her telegram that the obverse had been accepted unequivocally and both designs for the reverse were looked upon with favor. Her message was telephoned to our home and sounded like a Chinese puzzle or the message of a Secret Service system, since it read thus, "Observe approved. Fleurdel is much preferred." On her return she said either reverse would be approved, she believed, but after consideration the Coin Committee agreed to approve her fleur-de-lis design and so signified. We now prayed fervently that there would be no delay in approval by the Government.

Came the dawn, as the movies say, with the august approval of the Commission of Fine Arts and the Treasury Department, and a bill and request from the Treasury Department for a payment in advance of \$300. for the master hubs and dies for the New Rochelle Half Dollar showed that our coin was a reality. A certified cheque for this amount went forth on March 2, 1937, and after its despatch the members of the Commemorative Coin Committee drew long breaths—the resulting exhalations being no doubt responsible for the gale and miniature blizzard which overtook the city that same day.

All this time the "When" file had been growing fatter and fatter. We had purchased a large stock of coin containers, in the form of a little booklet with the story of New Rochelle and her coin with places for one, two, five or ten coins, of an ivory shade and most attractively designed. From my card index I was addressing envelopes to be prepared for the day when the coin arrived. Nevertheless, those "Whens" were preying on my peace of mind constantly.

With the request now for and the sending out of a certified cheque of \$12,500 to the Mint for our 25,000 half dollars it seemed well to prepare our registration sheets. Each coin shipment, due to the Post Office regulations, was entered on three sheets, each envelope bearing a number corresponding to its number on the registry sheet, regardless of its card index number. This served as a wonderful check-up later, though at the time involved a great deal of clerical work. The proper amount of postage stamps was affixed also.

Mr. Watson, always so courteous and helpful, offered us the use of his Bank's second floor for the shipping and fitted it up so that when, on April 16, 1937, our eagerly awaited coins arrived by express and amid great excitement were deposited in the vault engaged for that purpose we were all ready to take care of those pestiferous "When" lads and lassies.

Mr. Skipton had been disappointed to find on inquiry that the Mint would ship the coins loose in canvas bags, like hardware, and had asked to have them sent in rolls or any way that would serve to protect them from rubbing and scratching, if possible, assuring them that the Committee would be glad to pay for any expense this would incur. The reply was that it was impossible, so we found on emptying the coins on our long, cloth-covered table that many were slightly scratched. However, I instructed my staff of five women and one man in the proper way of handling coins and we proceeded to count them carefully and thus check each bag as opened. The one-coin orders were first filled, one person putting the coin in container and passing it to the next who filled the envelope and passed to the next, who sealed it and passed it over to the shipping clerks, who, two in number, check-



ERNEST H. WATSON

Treasurer

New Rochelle Commemorative Coin Committee

ed with each other as to the address on the envelope and registry sheet and put it in a container for the mail. When we had a sufficient number of boxes ready we called the Police Department who sent over an armed escort and our one male helper went off with the piled up boxes "in the pie wagon," as he called it, to the Post Office. The assignment of a special guard and the consequent parade created quite some interest and we soon had many visitors anxious to see our coin.

So that we might not be interfered with and delayed at our work which we attacked vigorously and continued at top speed, Mr. Watson had a window downstairs where the coin might be purchased in small quantities. Needless to say, we were now offered much advice as to the "proper" procedure but having made our preparations far in advance and having skillful and willing workers, we found everything progressed like clockwork.

Miss Lathrop came down at once from Albany when informed of her latest baby's arrival and expressed herself well pleased with the result of her labour. Mr. Dayton, of the Standard Star, calling on us and finding we expected the Mayor in to see the coin at once arranged to have a picture with the Committee, the Mayor and Miss Lathrop gazing down on the table with its heaped-up coins. My workers all fell in love with the sculptor and since everyone in New Rochelle has always been in love with Mayor Scott, one of them suggested how gorgeous it would be, since our Mayor is a bachelor and Miss Lathrop a spinster, if a romance would develop. While I would like to introduce a note of romance here and presage the usual happy ending, truth compels me to admit that I know nothing to base such a hope on beyond the fact that I heard them both express the wish that they might end

their days on a farm. Whether it would be the same farm or not, though, I have no way of knowing.

The Westchester County Coin Club, claiming this as their baby also, were quite enthused over the coins' arrival and more so when the Coin Committee announced their intention of inviting to the Annual Dinner as their guests Congressman Millard, Senator Copeland, Miss Lathrop and Mayor Scott. This dinner was a most delightfully informal and homelike affair with very interesting and instructive talks on coins of various lands and kinds, the most important probably being that of Howland Wood (who has since passed on), an authority on and author of works on coins. Mayor Scott pleased everyone with his own inimitable kind of speech and created quite some excitement by his mysterious production of several coins which he claimed he believed of quite some value and wished some of the experts at the dinner to inform him about. They however, proved to be another one of his jokes and the verdict of the experts was that he was the cwner of a lot of junk, its value being nil, but since he was an honored guest they might consider giving him half-a-cent for the lot, unless he might prefer to keep and use them as sinkers on his next fishing trip. Miss Lathrop was called on and being shy tried to avoid a speech, but on the insistence of the crowd finally told something of her pleasure in making the New Rochelle coin and of the work she was then engaged on with a rather "rambunctious ram" as a model. She spoke of her love for animals and said like the Mavor, she too had begun and hoped to end her days on a farm—not just yet, though with her present model she sometimes feared her wish would be realized all too soon. This brought down the house.

Our work at the Bank proceeded swiftly and smoothly,



JERE MILLEMAN

Secretary

New Rochelle Commemorative Coin Committee

Mr. Skipton and I practically living at the Bank, and when our file of orders was completed there once more I established my working headquarters at home and took care of the orders which had been coming in steadily during the sojourn at the Bank. We were pleased with the complimentary letters now being received from the persons who had received their coins telling us how much they had liked our half dollar. Some praised the originality of the design, some were tickled with the calf (one writer saying "I certainly got a kick out of that kicking calf"), others liked the container with its story, many expressed admiration of our manner of shipping. Of the 4,859 orders sent by mail and express only one order was unsatisfactory, this recipient claiming one coin being missing in his order of five and that his envelope was cut on its arrival—either intentionally or by friction. However, this was a matter for Uncle Sam and we presume was adjusted, as after promptly reporting it to the officials we have heard nothing further from our customer. Two collectors asked if they might exchange for better specimens, theirs being somewhat marred by the Mint's method of transportation. We were glad to exchange these and were glad to find that we had sent out so few marred ones considering the high pressure under which we had worked those days.

As he felt that New Rochelle and her citizens should be the most interested in the New Rochelle coin and its sale, Mr. Skipton got in touch with the many organizations of New Rochelle who dub themselves "Service Clubs" and with the Business Men's Association of New Rochelle, which boasts a memberssip of 400 or more, and also appealed to the Teacher's Organization, as well as the organizations of Police and Firemen of New Roch-

elle. In some cases he made a personal appearance and in others trusted to the good offices of their Chairman, Secretary or most active member. It was rather hard to interest them as the Celebration itself still seemed in the far distance and the effort was very disappointing in results.

The Iris Club of America were evidently pleased with our reverse design as they sent us quite an order for their members. The protesting calf undoubtedly made quite an impression since in the last couple of days our local papers have shown the designs for the Post Office murals and we find the presentation of the calf to Lord Pell features one of these. However, their Lord Pell is a rather paunchy looking fellow to my mind, while Lord John was really a slender young man, the glass of fashion, at the time of the delivery of the calf.

That the handling of the coin was acceptable to the small collector is evident in the letters of appreciation Mr. Skipton has received and the fact that the Coin Club adopted a resolution of approval and gratitude to him at their August 1938 meeting. This to a large extent atones for the criticism and interference met with in the early stages and somewhat repays the Chairman and his Committee for the anxieties endured and effort expended during the coin's "incubation."

After the greater part of the shipments were out of the way I had time to look back over the correspondence—over ten thousand communications were received—and find some that were interesting from various points of view. Mr. Skipton had composed a little history of the city's founding for a leaflet to be sent in reply to inquiries about the coin and its price. He called the celebration to be held New Rochelle's birthday party and invited the recipient to attend. We had many responses to this from

persons who had previously lived in or near New Rochelle; from others who had heard so much of and so long intended to visit our city and now intended to make it a part of a vacation trip; from a young man who had once played against the New Rochelle football eleven; from another who had been on a destroyer in our harbor during the World War; from recruits who had been at Fort Slocum during the same war; from people who were of Huguenot ancestry; from a man named S. E. Rochelle who felt that his name probably was derived from some of the original settlers; from a Chinese gentleman, couched in such perfect English and so courteous in tone that we blushed for some of our When friends and wished they might read it; and naivest of all, was the response from a young girl who "certainly would attend our birthday party and what would be the proper kind of dress to wear?" Bless her heart, we hope she was able to come and that she attended one of the Block Parties, in best bib and tucker.

The many coin magazines and hobby papers were most complimentary in their comments on the design and management of the Coin and since they have such a large circulation and had not been so flattering in their comments on some other issues, we of the Committee who know how arduous was his work and how unstintingly he gave of his time, hope that this may be some compensation to the Chairman of the New Rochelle Commemorative Coin Committee.

The Standard Oil Company of New Jersey having for representative in this locality one of our New Rochelle boys—Gordon Wright—promised us to publish an article and the Programme of our Celebration in their spring booklet. Their Esso News and Towns and Detours have

long been known to motorists and are handed out at over 15,000 gas stations in a territory from Maine to Louisiana with distribution through an even greater number of their stations in the middle west. Mr. Skipton had also been in contact with Mr. William A. Smith the local representative of Swift and Company who said they would be pleased to give our Celebration publicity in their trade paper which reaches customers throughout a large area including New England.

People who do not understand about and therefore express disapproval of Commemorative Coins would do well to realize that with the issue of these coins comes a great deal of work and wages that would not otherwise come into being. There is work for a sculptor in making the new design; for printers in getting out advertising matter to sell the coin; for makers of containers for shipping the coin; for employees in issuing postal, bank and express money orders; for clerical help in the offices of Committees handling these Commemoratives and in the carrying out of the projects for which the coin was intended to furnish funds—whether this be a celebration such as ours or the building of a memorial. There is work for Government employees making new dies for the coin; selling all the extra postage which the coin makes necessary.

The Government itself makes a profit on each of these fifty cent pieces of approximately twenty cents since only about thirty cents worth of silver goes into the coin.

The smaller the issue of a Commemorative of course the less widespread the distribution becomes, even among collectors, and thus the demand and value are increased. We desired an issue of 20,000 pieces but unfortunately, becoming effective just prior to the authorization of our issue, the government established a rule of minting no less than 25,000 pieces of a Commemorative issue, so we were compelled to accept and pay for 25,000 half dollars.

To protect the collector, when we found our profits supplied an ample sum for our Celebration purposes with New Rochelle's demands for the coins filled, we returned to the Mint for melting a quantity of the coins; as soon as the Celebration was over the unsold balance was at once returned for melting, thus upholding the price and keeping faith with the collector. Outstanding and over a large area are approximately 15,000 of our coins with no large amounts in the hands of any dealers. Since the Celebration we have been told of offers at quite an advance being made to purchasers but as the coin means more to them than the extra money, these offers were declined.

Up to the time our bill was introduced there had been no Commemorative Coin issued to any city except Hudson, N. Y. Subsequently several issues were approved for other cities. Many expressions of admiration for the beauty and the originality of the New Rochelle half dollar have been received and our designer, Miss Lathrop, has recently executed a medal for the Society of Medallists which is also a thing of beauty, carrying out her pet ideas with models of wild life.

We boosted the sale of stamps in our City to such an extent that they ran out of the nine-cent stamps which we used for sending out the one- and five-coin orders and were compelled to borrow from nearby post offices to keep us supplied. Jim Farley owes us a debt of gratitude for we used his new commemorative stamps whenever

possible, knowing that many of our customers were stamp as well as coin collectors.

When a celebration such as ours takes place with a sum such as ours, nearly \$17,000, being expended, naturally a great many people are benefitted thereby, and while perhaps it was so widely spread that each received but a small part, nevertheless if was deeply appreciated. Some of the recipients told us it was the first cash they had received for their services in nearly five years. Can you think of that unmoved in times like this?

Our receipted bills show large sums went for decorating the streets, for bands and orchestras, for refreshments and entertainment of visitors, for transportation of exhibits to the Hobby Show; for bark for the Long House of the Boy Scouts; for prizes for the various events: why, one could fill a page telling of the ways in which benefit is derived from the issue of a Commemorative Coin.

We believe it instills love for and pride in the home city and a desire to save for a certain purpose as witness the lad, Robert Deierlein, who saved his gifts and earnings to buy one, expressing it as his belief that "every boy born in New Rochelle should buy one of these coins" when he parted with his quarter, dimes, nickels and pennies.

Quite a number of letters were received from folks who suddenly became ancestor-conscious and believing they had Huguenot forefathers wrote us, desiring information. These we put in the hands of our well-informed historical representative on the Anniversary Committee, Mr. William S. Hadaway, and no doubt as a result he has added some names to his roster of Huguenot Association members.

A collector of Santa Monica, California, wrote when we informed him he had overpaid us by \$.61 to "forget" the over-payment and use it towards our fund—that he was glad to help a good cause along. He said he liked to present commemoratives to his descendants when they celebrated birthdays, believing it to inculcate thrift in encouraging collecting. While he bought ten of our coins he said he "only had six descendants at present with good prospects of more." This was a good bit of news to us in more ways than one. A young lady in New Jersey said with her order that she was purchasing and laying away commemorative coins as she felt that to be a good form of savings. An inclined-to-be-extravagant niece of mine has been so charmed with the beautiful designs of the commemoratives that she has also started collecting and thereby saving, something she would not have thought of if she had not been intrigued by the design of the Oregon Trail half dollar. Apparently no impetus was necessary to start Mr. Skipton collecting since, according to the family annals, he acquired and promptly swallowed at the early age of two years a new and shining Indian Head Penny.

Though boasting a fair knowledge of geography many surprises were in store and I must "watch my step"—in this case my fingers—when addressing orders to some of the familiar names of our own towns and cities since there are many duplications in other States. Not only is there a Jamestown, Rochester and Buffalo in Minnesota, an Albany in Georgia, California and Oregon, but Portland seems quite popular. Of course, there is a Springfield in all but a few States of the Union, too. However, of the 17,000 and more letters sent out there were but two that were returned as improperly or insufficiently addressed.

Throughout my file of orders the word "lake" appears very frequently in names of towns and cities. There is Lake City, Lake View, Lakeville, Mountain Lake Park, Lake Forest, Grays Lake, Random Lake, Devil's Lake, Storm Lake, Howard Lake, Indian Lake, Brant Lake, Spring Lake and White Lake; and as for Forts: Ashby, Atkinson, Bennings, Gibson, Humphreys, Lauderdale, Smith, Slocum, Sam Houston, Thomas, Ticonderoga, Thomas, Wadsworth, Wayne and Worth—all these assure us that our country is well protected by the military as well as irrigated by our lakes.

Fascinating names to me were Sundown, Mount Airy, Birdsboro, Moss Point, Thief River Falls, Holliday's Cove, Bridesburg, Sewanee, Lone Tree, Indian Head, Maple Shade, Cottonwood, Big Stone Gap, Needles, Blackfoot, Nanty-Glo, Penn's Grove, Friendship, Liberty, Independence, Freedom, Humansville and Newcomersville.

The most rabid feminist could not but be satisfied with the representation of her sex in names such as: Mabel, Florence, Elizabeth, Louisa, Alma, Augusta, Alexandria, Beatrice, Charlotte, Camilla, Clarinda, Marian, Regina, Santa Barbara, Susanville, Roseburg, Marysville, Janesville, Ida Grove, Pocahontas, Juniata, St. Anne and St. Helena. One of several orders from Atlanta, Georgia, was an address of the Peach Tree Lane (now Street) of Scarlett O'Hara and we had several orders from the city of Florian Slappey—his "Bu'mingham."

In September of last year our local paper showed on its front page a photo of an Eskimo lad perusing with great interest an account of our Parade, while we have been told of the great enjoyment of former New Rochelleans in China and Australia who admitted they bragged a little over the enterprise of their old home city in getting the currency and staging such an event as she did.

We were somewhat startled to receive an order from Harry Scott postmarked Centralia, Washington, but relieved to find it did not mean our Harry had "gone west" but simply that names of folks as well as towns were being duplicated. Not to be outdone by a Republican Mayor, our former Democratic Mayor also had a double in an order from one Otto, Gatun, Canal Zone. These occasioned quite some merriment in the Coin Committee and needless to say we immediately used them for publicity. No one and nothing was safe from the lust for publicity which we promoters of the New Rochelle Half Dollar had acquired. And we got our publicity from one end of the country to the other, mostly by being constantly on the alert for material.

Hawaii sent us orders from Hilo, Kona and Honolulu, while we had from Puerto Rico the towns of Ria Piedras and San Juan, with the Philippines remitting by postal money order from Manila, Hato Rey and Cotabato, all rather interesting names, though not to be compared with Soengi Gerong, Palembang, Sumatra, Netherland East Indies! And one later mentioned—an order from New Zealand—this was addressed to Parliament House, Wellington, N. Z. and went via one of the giant "Clipper" airships of the American Line, and since the order was accompanied by a N. Z. postal money order for 9 shillings, 1 pence, had to be translated into U. S. money.

The Mayor was now informed that the funds were on hand for a week of celebration and he conferred with the Council members on the appointment of a Celebration Committee.



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PART II

THE CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

On January 11, 1938, Mayor Harry Scott recommended as members of a New Rochelle Celebration Committee the following: Pitt M. Skipton, Ernest H. Watson, Jere Milleman, George M. Davis, Ollie V. Crennan, Henry M. Lester, Robert J. Cooper, William S. Hadaway, J. Kenneth Huntington, Walter G. C. Otto, Leo Ferrara and Melville Kahn, this resolution of designation being adopted by the Council of New Rochelle that same date. The Mayor then suggested that Mr. Skipton call a meeting to organize this Committee, known as the 250th Anniversary Committee of New Rochelle, N. Y.

On Monday, January 17, 1938, a meeting called by Mr. Skipton was held in the Board Room of the First National Bank with all members except Messrs. Watson, Lester and Hadaway present. Mr. Skipton briefly outlined the purpose of the meeting, explaining that the New Rochelle Commemorative Coin Committee appointed by the

Mayor had been in existence since the passage of the bill authorizing the issue of a New Rochelle half dollar had been obtained by Mr. Skipton as a Committee of One appointed by the Westchester County Coin Club; that a well known sculptor had been employed to design such a coin; that special hubs and dies had been made and 25,000 pieces received from the Mint, all these expenses having been paid from funds received from orders for the coin, the coin itself having required the payment of \$12,500; that the Coin Committee had been actively engaged in its sale and distribution and that now on deposit in the First National Bank of this City there was a sum slightly in excess of \$10,000. This sum with a further estimated sum of \$5,000 was available for purposes of a proper celebration. He added that more than 4,500 individual orders from every State in the Union, from the Philippines, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Canada and New Zealand, ranging from one coin to an order of one hundred and fifty from the Coin Club of a well known bank had been received and distributed by the Coin Committee.

In spite of the fact that our local paper had been giving the coin splendid publicity ever since the inception of the New Rochelle half dollar idea some members of the Celebration Committee professed to be ignorant of the coin's issuance, proving the truth of the proverb anent the prophet and his own country.

The Celebration Committee after electing Mayor Scott as its Honorary Chairman decided, after much discussion, to defer the election of other officers since there were three members absent at this first meeting, and adjourned to the following Saturday. Mr. Skipton had notified the press of this meeting and left word with the "keeper of the gate" to admit their representative, but



WALTER G. C. OTTO

Chairman

250th. Anniversary Committee

through some unfortunate chain of events beginning with the tardy arrival of the reporter, he was not invited inside. The next day we were all amazed to read a scathing editorial in the one and only daily of the city (the Standard Star) denouncing the Committee for "star chamber proceedings" and also further announcing that the Committee had elected Walter G. C. Otto, former County Judge and ex-Mayor, as Honorary Chairman of the Celebration Committee. This astounded us but there had evidently been a misunderstanding all around with the paper right only in one particular—that a "wrong start was being made" but by whom I leave you, reader, to judge.

On the appointed Saturday morning the meeting was held with—needless to say—the representative of the press among those present. All members attending except Mr. Crennan and Mr. Davis the election of officers took place. Mr. Watson and Judge Otto being nominated for Chairman, Mr. Watson withdrew in favor of Judge Otto and unanimously elected, Judge Otto took the chair. Mr. Leo Ferrara was elected vice-Chairman, Mr. Huntington Treasurer and Secretary and Mr. Milleman Executive Secretary. On Mr. Watson's suggestion that Mrs. Skipton having been Executive Secretary of the Coin Committee and having all the details at her fingertips it would be very helpful to have her as an Assistant Executive Secretary. Mrs. Skipton was unanimously so elected. I hope subsequent events did not incline the members to think those same fingertips "in the pie" too frequently.

Someone now feeling that the Councilmen might feel ignored and offended by the Mayor's sole "elevation," it was decided as a friendly gesture to make all four Councilmen—Messrs. George I. Roberts, Charles H. Noxon, James J. O'Brien and Herbert P. Milligan—Honorary vice-Chairmen.

The official photographer of the Standard Star now inviting us to come outside and be "shot," we all courageously followed him and found our execution a feature of the next issue of the newspaper.

After the organization of the Coin Committee in a conference with the Mayor he had asked me to make as complete a list as possible of the organizations of the city—civic, fraternal, religious, patriotic, business and social—to guide him in his selection of Committees. This list I now offered the Celebration Committee as a basis for Committee heads, subcommittees and the General Committee which we considered appointing to number two hundred and fifty members. This list had taken considerable time to compile—a hot August, hotter September and part of October, and was as up-to-the-minute as possible where organizations have such varied dates for changing the officers and where so many of them are fortunate enough to be able to leave town for the summer and therefore could not be reached. Many times I had to listen to a long explanation why this person was no longer the head—President, Chairman, or whatever the title might be. Sometimes the former heads would be so disgruntled that they would give no information as to their successor, preferring to tell me of other organizations in which they held honored positions and airing their grievances in regard to personnel and officials of various bodies. It was undoubtedly soothing to their ruffled feelings though consuming a great deal of my valuable time and patience, but I realized most of them would be of great help to us in our General Committee later and was quite willing to help salve their wounded pride. If some of the ladies and gen-tlemen who so insouciantly requested and even belligerently demanded of me that I let them have this list for their personal or club use and were so indignantly offend-



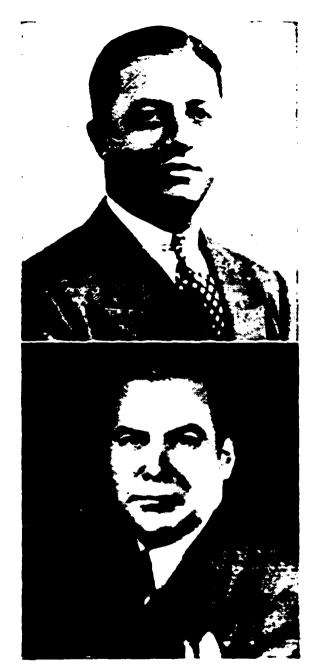


MEMBERS OF THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Leo Ferrara

WALTER G. C. OTTO G. Moulton Davis J. Kenneth Huntington





MEMBERS OF THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Henry M. Lester, jr. Ollie V. Crennan

Melville Kahn Ernest H. Watson









MEMBERS OF THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

ROBERT J. COOPER
JERE MILLEMAN

PITT M. SKIPTON William S. Hadaway

ed—and offensive—on denial read this perhaps it will not seem so "outrageous" that it was refused. Reconvening after being photographed, we discussed

Reconvening after being photographed, we discussed the form such a celebration as ours should take. Mr. Hadaway was asked and told about the White Plains and Bedford celebrations of a short time ago. Mr. Davis, President of the Board of Education of the city, reported that all schools were prepared to take an active part and Mr. Watson announced the expressed wish of the Postmaster to have the dedication of his new building made a part of the week's celebration. This was considered quite fitting and as Mr. McLoughlin had also told Mr. Watson he had made inquiry of his superiors at Washington and been assured of their consent to a delay of the laying of the cornerstone to fit in with our week, was made an event in our calendar.

At our next meeting on January 28th, all members were present but Mr. Davis, and we had hoped to have many ideas laid before us since on adjournment of the pre-vious meeting it was understood all members would strive to gather suggestions and present them, but Mr. Nichols and Mr. Nye of the school system having asked and received permission to attend and lay before us their proposition of a School Pageant, much time was taken up in discussion of this matter. They requested the Committee to finance such an affair to the extent of \$1,000, and wished us to fix a date for our celebration week that would fit in with their convenience. This aroused much argument since we had from the beginning set the week beginning on June 19th—a Sunday—and ending on June 25th, thus including the date of June 24th, the feast of St. John the Baptist, specified in historical accounts. They objected on the grounds of examinations and graduation and wished a date in the beginning of June. The Committee felt that the matter of weather was important to the success of such an outdoor celebration as ours was to be; that out of town vacationing folks would not be likely to come on such an early date and after much pro and con the dates of June 10 and 11 were set as Pageant dates. As to the amount asked, that was deemed a matter to be discussed after the appointment of a Budget Committee and with them.

The Chairman of the Coin Committee repeated that the Treasurer was ready to turn over funds and Mr. Huntington was directed to open an account with the First National Bank, cheques to be signed by any two of the following: Judge Otto, Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Huntington, Mr. Milleman and Mrs. Skipton. As we now needed an office, the Mayor offered us the use of a vacant store of City-owned property at 204 North Avenue which we gratefully accepted, furnishing it with discarded furniture from some of the City Departments, and by our next meeting we were located and doing business there.

With the publicity attendant on the formation of the Celebration Committee many letters were received with suggestions, chiefly as to how to spend our funds. One advised the appropriation of \$15,000 for additions to our Library, both to the building and to its operation; others called for monuments. of which our city has already a surplus. Many and varied were the means suggested to get rid of our so carefully garnered funds from the two-doilar -a-coin sales. Most of these advisers were folks who did not and would not buy a coin, even at a bargain price of \$1.99.

Having for months pored over the accounts of noteworthy celebrations held in the North, South, East and West, Mr. Skipton hoped to outdo any of these. To that end he suggested the erection of a small model of a Huguenot home of temporary construction on a City-owned plot, having some pretty young girl—preferably a descendant of a Huguenot family—acting as hostess for the week, with a register for visitors to inscribe their temporary address so their old friends and acquaintances in New Rochelle might thus be informed of their temporary stopping place and renew old friendships—in fact, such a register would have served many purposes and it was later regretted that this plan was not carried out. Our office became the only place of contact and a clearing house for these out-of-town guests and coming at our very busiest time we could not give them the consideration they merited.

He also suggested having a Visiting Firemen's and Policemen's competition with suitable prizes to be awarded. An Old Home Week with block parties, music and merrymaking galore was the idea. This did not seem to appeal to the other Committee members as much as it might have.

Our next meeting saw the discussion of a skeleton form of Committees and activities for the week, which Mr. Milleman and I had painstakingly prepared. In order to take care of the various forms of fitting entertainment throughout the week we suggested the following Committees: General, Budget, Publicity, Religious, Reception, Invitations, Dinner, Military, Marine, Lighting, Stands and Decorations, Historical, Pageants, Educational, Safety, Old Home Week, Huguenot Association and Post Office Dedication. This was presented as tentative, with the activities of the various Committees to be decided upon by them with suggestions from our Committee which we considered the Executive Committee.

Mr. Emerson Burke, director of Dramatics for our Board of Education appeared at this meeting, craving permission to read his script for the proposed Pageant. Much of his matter was objected to by Mr. Hadaway as historically incorrect and after discussion our Chairman asked that Mr. Hadaway, whom we considered the historical authority on our Committee, and Mr. Burke confer and revise Mr. Burke's work in an endeavor to eliminate the inaccuracies complained of and to produce a drama more authentic from the historical viewpoint. The Pageant Committee now "raised their ante" to \$1,500. As this would be but one feature of an entire week's celebration, this was naturally rather a shock, especially as at the outset we had been informed our Board of Education intended to present a Pageant even though they obtained no funds from our Committee. This matter of financing was again deferred until the Budget Committee should be appointed and become operative.

The Postmaster was appointed Chairman of a Post Office Dedication Committee with a request he select his personnel and make us acquainted with his decision at our next meeting.

A reception Committee appearing on our skeleton outline, the Chairman appointed such a Committee, headed by former Mayor George G. Raymond and including all living ex-Mayors of our City. As I write, Mayor Raymond, as we still called him though his term of office expired many years ago, has been dead but a couple of weeks. It is pleasant to recall how much happiness he obtained from this appointment and how willing he was to do anything in his power to make the Celebration a success. His unaffected joy in the announcement of his daughter's engagement on the Sunday of our Celebra-

tion's close and the picture taken of her with her father and vice-Mayor Morch of La Rochelle, France, under the tree which had been planted on the occasion of her birth in 1913 when New Rochelle was celebrating its 225th Anniversary, all will long remain a pleasant memory of this 250th Anniversary.

To the Invitation Committee we appointed Robert L. Forbes with Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt and Mrs. Barbara Reynolds, a newspaper woman and native New Rochellean. Mrs. Catt declined to serve—the first of our women appointees to disappoint us.

The Commandant at our Army Post at Fort Slocum having expressed a desire to cooperate in our celebration, Mr. Milleman had visited him at the Fort and found that we might call upon his adjutant, Major Stuart Cutler, for aid in our parades—of which at that time we hoped to have two—one in the early part of the celebration and the other at the end of our week.

In spite of much time being consumed at our meetings little progress apparently was being made and it was urged by Mr. Skipton with the hearty endorsement of Mr. Hadaway that at our next session the first order of business be the appointment of a General Committee, from this appointing the heads of sub-Committees and their personnel as far as possible. I reported that having contacted by letter all organization heads, including churches and schools, many responses showing cooperation had been received and already a long list of names was ready to submit for approval and appointment to the General Committee. At our next meeting this list was submitted and action taken on the appointments aforesaid. As we subsequently were compelled to make alterations the list is not now presented but at the end of my account will be found Committees as they actually functioned.

The Postmaster requested that we postpone the date for his part of the festivities to Saturday, June 18th, instead of as intended at first the 13th. This was agreed upon and that date made a definite one on our programme, and we now asked that he endeavor to obtain for us a special cancellation to make known our Celebration and date on all first-class mail passing through his post office. A suggestion of Mr. Julius Guttag that we issue scrip for the Celebration was received and Mr. Skipton appointed a Committee of One to look into its feasibility and desirability. Also at this meeting Mr. Kahn who is a local merchant and a great believer in the value of advertising expressed fear that we had not become publicized sufficiently. Mr. Milleman reported that he was taking up the matter of advertising in trains, busses and subways as had been done twenty-five years before.

At this meeting I suggested that since a neighbor of mine, Mrs. Adam Schaub of Mountjoy Place, had recently celebrated her one hundredth birthday and was as far as we knew our oldest resident, it might well be deemed suitable to accord her some recognition on the City's birthday, such as presenting her flowers and a gift during some of our events, and that Mr. Warren D. Seacord, a well known citizen of ripe years, was the sole surviving member of the Grand Army of the Republic in New Rochelle, and also was entitled to some fitting acknowledgment at this time. It was received cordially by the Committee and so agreed. I regret to say neither survived to take part in our Celebration, but the families of both expressed their appreciation and told us the old folks had enjoyed reading in the papers of our intention to so honor them.

Mr. Skipton now presented Chairman Otto with a

cheque for \$5,000 which was handed to the Treasurer. With the appearance of this sum our Committee seemed suddenly galvanized into action. Perhaps before they had thought it had all been a beautiful dream from which they would be rudely awakened and told to go out and get subscriptions from the public. Mr. Skipton also reported the scrip scheme inadvisable since our funds were raised by the sale of our coin, the issuance of scrip would only befuddle the public. He also requested the Committee to set aside a sum for a medal to be presented to the members of the Westchester County Coin Club as the originators of the idea of the commemorative coin. This was looked on with favor by most of the Anniversary Committee members and a silver medal being tentatively agreed upon, he was appointed a Committee of One to arrange details and report to the Budget Committee the sum necessary for such a medal.

Our next and sixth meeting found our Chairman absent as he and Mrs. Otto (or perhaps that should be reversed) had suddenly decided upon a trip to Florida so Mr. Ferrara presided in his stead. Mr. Milleman was troubled as the Chairman appointed to the Marine Committee was unable to serve owing to ill health, the substitute recommended was also not available and he was still endeavoring to fill the vacancy. This we had thought one of our settled matters but it had proved not so. Mr. Milleman suggested that our Mayor make a request to the proper authorities to send a destroyer to lie in our harbor during the Celebration. He was ordered to ask Mayor Scott to do so. Our request for a cancellation was reported denied by the U. S. government officials. We had purchased a large quantity of beautiful red and gold seals, bearing our fatt calfe and Lord Pell with the dates of our Celebration and they were being affixed to all letters sent out by the Coin

Committee, the Celebration Committee, by all our Banks and by many business houses, as well as by many persons who had seen and admired them, coming into our office and asking for them, some offering to pay for them. The High School students pasted them on the covers of their books; they appeared on windshields of cars; they were used on programmes and on scores for bridge parties, thus securing us great publicity.

At our third meeting when a general discussion had taken place as to the advisability of something permanent in form as part of the Celebration Mr. Hadaway had revealed that there had long been a desire on the part of the Huguenot and Historical Association of New Rochelle to remove the tablet on the monument at Hudson Park in order that corrections might be made. Research had proven several names thereon were wrongfully inscribed as Huguenots while several names that should rightfully be thereon were omitted. This correction and replacement was deemed most proper as being of permanent value and Mr. Hadaway was appointed a Committee of One to consult with the City Council and if found practicable to be done to obtain an estimate of the cost of such a tablet and replacement charges.

When Mr. Hadaway made his request of the Council a little agitation followed, there being one or two names which had proved to be those of families of the Roman Catholic religion among those to be removed. However, when it was made evident that it was the desire of these same familys' descendants that these names be removed and when Mr. Hadaway gave for publication the list of additions and deletions, this removed all resentment. The Council agreeing to the removal and replacement of the tablet, Mr. Hadaway was instructed by our Committee to

name his Committee personnel and submit a budget. This he now did and we had another Committee functioning.

Mr. Cooper having been made Chairman of the Programme Committee presented a letter from Robert L. Forbes who wished to be empowered by our Committee to get up a programme with paid advertisements from local merchants. He submitted a "dummy" with full page illustrations of Supreme Court Judge Lee Parsons Davis, former County Judge Otto and his law partner J. Raymond McGovern, the Davis Memorial and the store of Mr. Kahn with descriptive reading matter. As we had wished something in the way of a very hand-some booklet—free from advertising and commercial taint—to be paid for with our funds, we as a Committee did not approve of Mr. Forbes' idea. We hoped to excel any historical booklet published and distributed by the Celebration Committee of any other place and were sure we could exceed theirs (some of which were indeed excellent) in beauty and historical interest.

Some members of our Committee felt we should carry out this idea of Forbes' and a lively little family feud threatened to develop. Much discussion took place but the matter was suddenly decided for us. Forbes wrote cancelling his original proposition and announced he was going to go ahead with his book. It seemed to be one of those "So what?" matters and as Judge Otto recommended we agreed to let him go ahead—in fact, said we could not stop him or anyone else who wished to get out such a book—advising us not to publish one in competition, the matter of a Programme booklet was dropped. Mr. Forbes did publish such a book which during the Celebration he offered on the streets for one dollar a copy. He also sent over a large number of com-

plimentary copies which we distributed from our office to any and all comers. It is rather amusing in retrospect to note that his "dummy" in the article about Mr. McGovern speaks of his wife and one charming daughter. Before the book went to press, did not the McGoverns "up" and have another charming daughter so, the book speaking of two, there must have been some quick work (on the part of Mr. Forbes, I mean).

The Chairman of the Programme Committee being out of a job, as it were, we proceeded to hand him another "hot potato."

At one of our meetings we were informed that the ladies were "raising Cain"—no surprise to me as we usually do on the slightest provocation. It seemed they usually do on the slightest provocation. It seemed they felt that our Mayor (always noted for his deferential attitude toward the "femmes") had suddenly decided to ignore, insult and otherwise "treat 'em rough" for had he not left them off his Committee, gaily naming a round dozen of gentlemen with nary a gal among them? Poor deluded Mayor, thinking his troubles were over with naming of his Committee. Why, they were just beginning for everyone! Several members reported the awful things the ladies were saying and printing—the latter very likely being the thorn that stung. Our members should all have been inured to criticism and accusations long ere this for we had been accused of ignoring tions long ere this for we had been accused of ignoring the schools—although everyone knew they had all been asked to participate and to offer suggestions; we were accused of ignoring the churches, although we were beginning our week's Celebration with religious services; we were attacked by the Veterans' group who in the press accounts of their meeting were reported as deciding to decline to march in our parades since we "had ignored them by omitting to include any veteran in our Committee"—this in spite of the fact that Mr. Skipton was a Spanish War veteran, Mr. Crennan and Mr. Huntington both were veterans of the World War, as was Mr. Davis who had been gassed and his health seriously impaired for a time by his service in that same World War. So now we were accused of ignoring the ladies, though every one of their clubs and organizations had received a letter inviting their cooperation and participation and we were daily receiving favorable replies.

Apparently New Rochelle was suffering from a mania of Exhibits. From early in our formation there had been a group desiring to be an Exhibits Committee of the Library; there had been a Committee of Two who wished to stage an exhibit of relics and matters pertaining to the American Indian and now we had another group wishing to stage an exhibit in the Woman's Club of New Rochelle. We felt if we could combine them, adding the Hobby Show, we could rent our Armory's large room for all this and this we could do for a modest amount. But none of these groups (except the Hobby Show) would consent to combine with any other.

There having appeared in the Standard Star an account of this complaining group who wished to form still another Exhibits Committee, we now invited those whose names appeared in this particularly bitter item to give us their gracious cooperation, naming them members of an Exhibit Committee, asking them to meet and organize, to draw up a tentative budget and submit the same to us. To this Committee we appointed Mr. Cooper who is so quietly wise and wisely quiet. At once they wished Mr. Cooper to act as Chairman for their group, but this he could not do—being at this time par-

ticularly busy in his position as Director of Purchase and Supply for our City and having just been deprived of the services of a valued employee of his department.

To make a long story as short as possible, they met, but their organization was not successful, and after some time they informed us of their decision "not to play," easing their consciences by denouncing us and all our works, berating our amiable Chairman on whose broad shoulders was now falling much censure which, fortunately, he was able to shrug off with a smile. So, after getting us in the black books of the other would-be Exhibit Committees and eventually preventing us from using the Woman's Club—which we were anxious to rent as a matter of financial assistance to this worthwhile organization (and renting their building is one of their very good business ideas of maintenance)—they failed us lamentably. There was nothing left to do with this group but announce their Committee discharged. To be perfectly fair to the ladies, let me add here there were several men in this group, but they let the ladies take the doubtful honor of being held responsible for the vociferous barrage.

Mr. Hadaway soon after the breakup of this Exhibit Committee undertook to arrange that the Committee of Two before alluded to, be allowed the use of a room at the Huguenot and Historical building, and promised that his Committee would pay any expenses they incurred over the \$100 budget we allowed them as a Children's Museum Committee, up to \$100. This settled the fate of that group and was most satisfactory to all. The Library group after much stress and storm of various kinds now agreed to accept an allotment of \$200 for the fitting up of a Huguenot home room in the Library with

an exhibit of loans from old Huguenot family descendants.

Mr. Crennan having been made Chairman of the Fireworks Committee presented the names of his Committee at an early meeting, also his plans and estimated budget. Though not to be expected from its name, nevertheless the Fireworks Committee was the quietest in its workings and most modest in its request for appropriations.

The City of New Rochelle having no official flag, it was deemed a fitting time to propose one. Mr. Lester was designated a Committee of One to take up this matter. The Standard Star gave this matter quite some publicity and asked that designs be submitted to our Committee. Several beautiful ones were handed in and referred to our City's Art Commission but were rejected as impractical by that body. After much effort on the part of Mr. Lester and discussion on the part of our Committee, the design of a well known flag maker was accepted for the occasion of the Anniversary but not as a City flag. This flag was carried in the parade and used in our decorations and consisted of three broad bars—red, white and blue—with the City Seal in blue on the middle bar of white, and three gold fleur-de-lis, two above the seal and one below.

Came another cold, snowy day on which we met and envied our Chairman whom we pictured as revelling in sunny skies and the still sunnier smiles of bathing beauties on that Florida beach. So we thought but on his return he informed us that he had had a cold in his head all the time, did no bathing and saw no bathing beauties—in fact, if you did not know the gentleman you might have believed he had been regretting all the time

that he was not right here with us, attending our meetings. But—you see—we know the gentleman.

At this meeting we added to our General Committee list. A suggestion that George M. Cohan who, some thirty years ago, made New Rochelle famous by his "45 Minutes from Broadway" and lately has convulsed the country with his "I'd Rather Be Right," be made a member of this Committee and later receive one of our special invitations to attend our Celebration was well received and so ordered.

The various Chairmen of Committees were now becoming active, handing in names of their personnel and suggesting forms of activities. They were requested to meet as soon as possible and draw up tentative budgets for submission to the Budget Committee of which Mr. Watson had been made Chairman. The Parade Committee was discussed but as Judge Otto before leaving for the South had said he would appoint a Chairman and his staff no action was taken although all were anxious to see this Committee function.

The next meeting found our Chairman returned from those alleged sun baths and he proceeded to name Mr. Ferrara to the difficult post of Chairman of the Parade Committee. On his notification a look came over Mr. Ferrara's face which was to deepen as time went on—dismay and puzzlement. However, he gamely accepted and made a grand job of his assignment.

Chairman Otto now appointed the Recreation Committee members, with Mr. Peter Mayers Chairman. This seemed a particularly apt appointment, as Mr. Mayers is the City's Supervisor of Recreation. Mrs. Blanche S. Emerson, Director of Public Welfare under which Mr. Mayers' Department functions wrote us

offering all the aid in her power so we felt that this Committee should outdo all others in brilliancy of performance.

Mr. Watson now called a meeting of his Budget Committee to survey the budgets handed to him. As most of the Committees had very hazy ideas as to just what they would do and how much was needed to carry out these nebulous ideas it required considerable mind-reading on Mr. Watson's part but he made the best of a difficult job, presenting us a budget in due time and form. At once a loud cry rent the heavens of "More!" It seemed they had all miscalculated and Mr. Watson was asked to revamp this budget.

The Dinner Committee did not function as smoothly as we had hoped, Mr. Miller, President of the Wykagyl Country Club at which we proposed to hold it, informing us that our date of Saturday, June 18th would be a particularly busy one for the Club and its members. We had many debates and discussions on the date with Chairman Miller, but later we were compelled to change entirely as to date and place.

The Hobby Show had been discussed off and on through the meetings and some of the members never having attended one and having some idea of its being a childish pastime, were not at all favorably inclined toward its inclusion. However, we who knew its great attractiveness wanted it to be assured and of great scope. As it had been one of the Westchester County Coin Club's early hopes and Mr. Guttag had urged that we stage one we at last included in our Committee list a Hobby Show Committee, appointing Mr. Guttag to act as Chairman. He promptly refused on the plea of its taking up too much of his time, so Mr. Skipton was

drafted. After unsuccessfully endeavoring to interest local women, he obtained the services of a woman who had staged a wonderful Hobby Show in her own town—Mrs. Howard McCandless of Bronxville. She readily agreed to manage this affair and made a wonderful success of it, aided by some of her friends and several of the women here who are always willing to help when I appeal to them.

Early in the year the Business Men's Association had gotten themselves some grand publicity by announcing at one of their meetings that they were pledging themselves to buy one thousand of our New Rochelle half dollars. After this good news appeared we eagerly awaited the purchase. It did not materialize and after a time they were called upon to "come across" but they then claimed were called upon to "come across" but they then claimed to be at loggerheads within their own organization; at this time particularly busy as they were warring on the transportation company in regard to the Main Street trolley; and although both Mr. Skipton and Mr. Milleman tried by personal calls to get them to live up to their published intentions, the thousand coin sale proved only a dream. Their President Mr. Kahn, being on our Committee, attempts were made to induce him to see that his organization kept their promise, but this also failed and after several members severely censured the Business Men's Association and the Coin Committee chided Mr. Kahn for his stand, the matter of this sale was dropped. Through strenuous efforts a sale of perhaps 35 coins to members of this organization was made—merely a difference of 965 coins! We later heard from this same organization in full volume when they felt they were being slighted by the extent of the decorations and the line of march not including some of the stores of these same indifferent business men.

Mr. Colwell reported to Mr. Milleman that his Committee promised full cooperation, this being the Religious Committee and his the duty of contacting the clergy of all creeds of the City, requesting them to have services on Sunday, June 12th, of a nature befitting their own form of ritual but bringing before their people the important religious event of the Citty's founding and 250th Anniversary Celebration.

A Living Chess Game was proposed to our Committee by a member of the local Chess Club and seeming from his description to offer great possibilities as a pageant in itself was welcomed eagerly by us. However, when we attempted to carry it out through a Committee, setting aside a budget for this purpose, we ran into the usual difficulties. Their Chairman said the members of the Chess Club would not cooperate, refusing for many reasons to participate, and the burden thus left on one or two of the more willing members was too heavy to be borne. After futilely trying to get the sponsors of the idea to go through with it, I finally got the promised cooperation of a young lady who agreed to try it with the assumption of the leadership by me. Though intending and hoping to have this novelty a part of our programme I found myself, due to the now limited time and the press of our other matters, reluctantly compelled to abandon the idea. As performed elsewhere those who have seen it say with its handsome costumes, martial music and oldtime air, it is quaintly beautiful, and since we now know what competent actors we have in our schools it seems herein is a suggestion for some of our dramatic performers.

As the Chairman of the General Committee, Judge Otto on his return felt that a meeting should be held of that body. A meeting was held in the Huguenot School

Auditorium with about eighty members present. The Programme and tentative Budget were read and suggestions as to both were requested of the audience. A barrage of criticism in regard to both followed. There were no real constructive ideas obtained at this meeting by our Chairman except one—that but one parade and that held on a Saturday would be all that could be successfully carried out at this time. While the 225th Anniversary Celebration held two, it was brought to his attention that times were very different, men being now unable to take a day off for such an occasion without losing their pay and standing a big chance of losing their positions. Therefore it seemed that our parade planned for Tuesday, June 14th, Flag Day, must be abandoned. This meeting gave at least an opportunity of expressing ideas and ended on a sweet note as the President of one of the Service clubs complimented both the Chairman of the Coin Committee and the Chairman of the 250th Anniversary Committee on the good work done so far.

The Parade Committee was now meeting frequently and our office became the scene of many a bloodless battle. At first the Post Office Committee was a separate unit though meeting with them. Later when it was decided to have but one parade they were amalgamated, but a separate allotment was made to the Post Office Committee. At these meetings everything under the sun was discussed from who would ride the white horse (if we could get a white horse) at the head of the parade, to a painless method of disposing of the small fry who always run along beside a parade in our City producing, to speak mildly, a rag-tag and bob-tail effect.

The military men were all for a strictly military parade with just the army and naval units; the Postmaster

pleaded for his clerks and carriers; Mr. Ferrara must have his floats and fraternal organizations and I maternally insisted, since this was a birthday party of New Rochelle, her people and organizations must be considered first and foremost and any and all that wished to parade must be permitted. What if it should look a little higgledy-piggledy. They were "the peepul" for that one week anyway. Chairman Ferrara joined in that sentiment and we fought side by side on that point till we won. And did we have floats, organizations of all kinds and our tiny tads marching like military men with the school, club or scout division to which they belonged and never a straggler to be seen on that momentous day? I'll say we did, but how it was done is another of Life's mysteries.

A news item appearing at this time stating that the local D.A.R. intended to present the City with a plaque honoring New Rochelle heroes of the Revolution I brought to the attention of the Committee and was asked to contact them and request them to make this event a part of our programme.

Now came a meeting with another tentative budget presented. At once the Chairman of Lighting and Decorations wanted a further sum for his Committee, the Pageant Committee was of the opinion they did not have sufficient funds, the Parade Committee had very large ideas indeed and wanted to approach the City for a fund of \$5,000 in addition to the \$3,500 we allotted them and so it went. The Chairman of the Budget Committee was asked to revise and see what could be done for these complaining Committees. The Budget was the spectre at our feast for many a day and night.

Instead of fireworks on two nights we decided to have

but one exhibition and after much changing about of the date it was set and adhered to as Wednesday, June 15th. Mr. Crennan, the Chairman, was we might say our favorite child; he never grumbled at the changes, never fussed about his appropriation, but when the time came he obtained the use of a spot that could not have been improved upon and put on a marvelous exhibition of fireworks such as this City had never before seen.

The Invitation Committee handed a tentative list of names to us for consideration. This list was revised, with a few subtractions and a great many additions. We had many famous names on that list—the President of the United States, the members of his Cabinet, our Congressmen, United States Senators, the Governors of adjacent States, State and County Officials, Mayors or Executive heads of neighboring towns and villages, the Postmaster of New York City, many important military men, Mrs. Benjamin Harrison—widow of the former President-the wives or widows of former mayors of New Rochelle, the Presidents of Huguenot Societies in various States, the descendants of prominent Huguenots, representatives of the press in all nearby cities, towns and villages, descendants of the Pell family who live in states ranging from New York to California, our local officials and, last but not least, George M. Cohan. All of these folks received our beautiful engraved invitations, sent out about a month in advance of our first event. Handsome engrossed invitations in expensive leather bindings were prepared. One was sent by mail to the Mayor of La Rochelle, France, and Judge Otto was sent by the Committee to Washington, D. C. where he was met by Congressman Ralph A. Gamble and together they presented one to Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States, and one to Count Rene Doynel de St. Quentin,

Ambassador to the United States from France, early in May.

A New Rochelle half dollar to accompany these invitations was purchased, one by Mr. Davis for the President, one by Mr. Crennan for the Ambassador and one by Mr. Watson for the Mayor of La Rochelle. The coins were delivered with the invitations to the President and the Ambassador but in the rush of getting off the invitation to the Mayor of La Rochelle, Judge Otto forgot to enclose the coin which was later given by Mr. Watson to vice-Mayor Morch for presentation on his return to the Mayor of La Rochelle. A little later in the month a similar invitation was prepared and delivered to Herbert H. Lehman, Governor of New York State, Mr. Melville Kahn buying a coin which was duly sent to the Governor and received gracious acknowledgment. Judge Otto and Mr. Milleman were sent to Albany by the Committee to deliver the Governor's invitation and a few days later presented one of these handsome invitations to the Consul-General, Count Charles de Fontnouvelle, at the French Consulate in New York City. Regrets or acceptances were eagerly awaited, beginning to pour into our office, the City Hall, to Mayor Scott's office and to Judge Otto's office early in June with, needless to say, regrets in the majority. Nevertheless we had an array of names of those promising to attend that was vastly gratifying. Whenever we felt the number justified it we gave a list to our newspaper for public consumption.

Mr. Huntington informed us his and the other Service Clubs of the City were desirous of playing a part in our Celebration and wished to hold a dinner of the combined clubs. He was designated to take charge of such an event and the clubs made arrangements for the affair at

the New Rochelle Yacht Club on Tuesday night, June 14th.

A revised budget was now presented and met a favorable reception, additions having been made to the budgets of various Committees. It was agreed that \$200 of the Parade Committee's \$3,700 should be earmarked to be used to obtain obsolete fire apparatus for use in the parade. This left the sum of \$3,500 in the \$3,700 budget of the Parade Committee with the Chairman empowered to make arrangements with the Chairman of the Post Office Committee for the use of such a part of the Parade Committee's funds as was deemed necessary for a fitting P. O. dedication and luncheon to follow.

The Coin Committee having been from an early date in communication with various branches of the Pell family's descendants offered a suggestion made by them. Mr. S. H. P. Pell said a member of their family would be glad to act the part of John Pell, Lord of Pelham Manor, if we cared to stage a re-enactment of the paying of the "fatt calfe" as a pageant or in any other appropriate way. The many lawyers on our Committee immediately became fearful of thus re-opening the custom and making it legal, thus leading to some complications. It seems, strangely enough, that lawyers shun instead of welcoming lawsuits. So what might have been a colorful and unique part of our Celebration had to be omitted.

After our invitation had been extended to our French friends it was a question how many would come over and how they should be entertained. A member of the Committee suggested that undoubtedly some of our outstanding citizens would like them to be guests in their homes but as no steps along that line were taken nor any invitations received by our Committee to be extended to the

visitors, we made arrangements for the Committee to be responsible for their housing and entertainment. After these arrangements had been made, we did receive two letters expressing a desire to extend hospitality but it was then too late.

Feeling that our guests might prefer being at a hotel where they could make plans unhampered by a feeling of the natural obligation of a guest to his host we arranged for our visitors after this fashion. We later found we would have but one guest, the vice-Mayor of La Rochelle and early arrangements specified his arrival on the Normandie on Wednesday, June 15th. As it was then expected he would leave on Saturday night we planned a dinner on that night as a form of farewell, trusting to have also as guests the French Ambassador and the Consul-General. We now found vice-Mayor Erik Morch would be the sole representative coming from France and that he would arrive on Monday, June 13th to remain with us all that week.

Our Executive Committee, General Committee and Guest badges arriving at this time were distributed and we were pleased by the admiring comments they elicited.

On Friday, May 27th, we held what we expected to be our last Executive Committee meeting before the Celebration. All Committees were now functioning nicely; the revised—and revised—budget having been presented by Mr. Watson and meeting with approval (except from the Decorations Committee and the Parade Committee, who were practically insatiable) it was adopted, reaching a total of \$15,867.50. The Coin Committee who were also members of the Budget Committee suggested that when these complaining Committees made such big demands it might be good business on their part to try to

stimulate the sale of coins and forget some of the criticism they were retailing in regard to our Committee. As usual the severest critics were those who never did anything to help—perhaps hoping by their criticism to form a smoke screen.

We were now informed that the destroyer Tatnall with a complement of four officers and fifty men would be anchored in our harbor during the Celebration.

At this Committee meeting Mr. Charles Broder appeared for Chairman Wentz of the Marine Committee,

At this Committee meeting Mr. Charles Broder appeared for Chairman Wentz of the Marine Committee, requesting that we approve their water sports taking place on Sunday, June 19th, instead of Saturday afternoon as originally planned. The Post Office Dedication was to take place at 11 a. m. on Saturday, followed by the luncheon of the Post Office Committee and this in turn would be followed by the parade which, scheduled at first for 2 p. m. had been later set for 3 p. m. This would make it impossible for any water sports to take place until evening and at this time the tide would not be right. So a change would be necessary and after much discussion it was felt that Sunday afternoon would be best for these events in order to accommodate the participants and the many types of people who would wish to attend.

It being so ordered and published as our intent the attack on our Committee before-mentioned followed. We were termed irreligious and disrespectful to the cloth. The other side of the argument being presented to the complainers, they admitted that good healthful sport such as was proposed could not be so classed and we went ahead with our preparations. This debate was perhaps a good thing as it undoubtedly had quite something to do with a new event later included in our Celebration called "The Pilgrimage."

Mr. Kahn's immense lighted 250th Anniversary signs, one near the Armory at the eastern entrance to our City, one at the Library near our western entrance and the third in the parklet on North Avenue at the entrance to Rochelle Park, were now blooming forth at night in all their glory, arousing much interest and favorable comment.

As June drew near up came the momentous question of "What will we wear?" It was hard to preserve my gravity in the meetings where this was discussed, so seriously did these men consider a matter which they so often expressed themselves as so little concerned about and entirely a women's affair. Socks, ties, hats, trousers and shirts were all taken up in turn and materials discussed. A couple of our members were sure the dignity of the City would suffer did not the Committee appear in top-pers and all that went with it. They made many refer-ences to the garb of the Mayor of New York City and even went back to the elegance of the now practically defunct "Jimmy" of sartorial fame. After a long wrest-ling match it was decided that Mayor Harry Scott's suggestion of a comfortable summer attire of a blue coat, white trousers, blue tie, white shoes and a plain sailor hat was the proper outfit, with Mr. Watson delegated to select a tie of the proper shade of blue for all twelve members. I must add here that these ties were personal expenses of the members with Mr. Watson appointed to select them not as the Budget Chairman but as a man who "knows his onions" as far as neckties are concerned. Mr. Kahn humorously reminded the Committee that he was in the shoe business.

The Police Benefit Association having expressed a desire to have their annual benefit made a part of our week's event a date was accordingly allotted them. How-

ever they later withdrew deciding to stage their performance in the early autumn. The D.A.R. now informed us that their tablet dedication was indefinitely postponed. One of our difficulties in the office was that Mr. Milleman and I were being contacted by various organizations with proposals of which for various reasons they afterward repented. Unfortunately they did not always take the trouble to inform us of their change of heart, this resulting in a little confusion at times.

Meanwhile the sale of the coin continued, the Banks being most cooperative and helpful. Several stores now began to waken and where a merchant made a purchase of coins we gave him a specially designed and attractive card poster that stressed his cooperation. These now began to appear in Main Street store windows. At this particular time the Business Men's Association were engaged in a bitter fight with the Third Avenue Railway System for the discontinuing of the Main Street trolley and this struggle seemed to require all their attention, unless you might say it was partly concerned with a parking proposition which if carried through might have saddled the City with a block of expensive business property (rather a big mouthful to bite off in these hard times). Of course it must be recognized that our present business man is seldom one of long residence in this City and we cannot expect the same intense interest of the merchant of twenty-five years ago. They did come to life and vocif-erously asserted themselves when they thought they were being left out of the decoration zone. That matter was a baby that was deposited in the lap of their president, Mr. Kahn, Chairman of the Decorations Committee and he handled it very well after the first shock of finding himself its "Papa" had passed.

Chairman Ferrara named a sub-committee for the

Float Division and appointed a Committee of Four Minute Men to speak before various organizations and stimulate interest in the parade. Frequently when the time came for these speeches the speakers were not available so Mr. Ferrara made most of the speeches himself before the men's clubs while I found myself called upon to drop everything else and rush off to some women's organization meeting with a speech prepared either at a moment's notice or composed on my way. However everyone was now so enthusiastic that it was not the ordeal it might have been, especially as the Float Committee were offering substantial cash prizes in this competition, arousing much interest.

Mr. Elmer Miller, City Editor of the Standard Star was designated Chairman of Publicity and employed Mr. Robert Robischon, a well known County publicity man, as his helper. We now had so much publicity that our worry began to be whether we would be able to put on a big enough show to justify it.

Our plan for the cottage and hostess was turned down by the Committee and I now think perhaps it was not properly understood. It should properly have been a prominent feature as during the Celebration week our office had visitors who did not know where to stay and who did not find the church houses open as had been agreed nor the hostesses who might have been such a gracious feature. Our Committee suffered from fits and starts of economy and of wild extravagance and this was, we now see, a poor economy. In our office we were finally able to establish contact with old friends for several of our out-of-state visitors, notably a family from California who had been away from New Rochelle so long they did not know whether they would find any old acquaintances left.

At one of these meetings held as we were approaching the Celebration Mr. Williams appeared and informed us that the Council of Social Agencies wished to be included in the Celebration and asked for a budget appropriation. Mr. Skipton as Chairman of the Hobby Show feared that without a combination neither this new Exhibit nor the Hobby Show would be big enough separately so proposed a coalition. They eventually were two separate affairs with the Hobby Show earmarking and turning over to Mr. Williams \$150 for the Council of Social Agencies.

Mr. J. Marshall Perley was now appointed Chairman of an Old Home Week Committee and given a budget of \$100 to formulate and carry out what he felt suitable for such a Committee. He appointed his Committee members with Mr. Rodney Gibson, an old resident of New Rochelle, as Secretary and this Committee at once became active, and my list once more of value. I wrote all the churches and organizations asking that they give us a list of members who had removed from the city and their present addresses as far as known, that they might be invited to attend a luncheon and also be guests of the Committee for the week. This brought forth quite a response, and Mr. Perley started also an Honor Rolla huge scroll— one in his own New Rochelle Trust Company and one in the First National Bank, to which all persons who had been residents of New Rochelle for fifty years or more were invited to affix their signatures. This was begun by Mayor Harry Scott as the first signer and proved very popular judging by the number of names which appeared thereon. They also planned a luncheon of moderate price for old-timers or Half Century Residents as they preferred to call them. We provided a badge with those three words, distributing them to all

who obtained and filled out a card giving data which proved them worthy of this title.

Mr. Robischon and Mr. Kahn felt that a contest for queen of the festivities would be a great publicity stunt and were authorized to proceed with this. However, somehow it did not seem to work and was dropped as far as our Committee was concerned.

These two young men took the matter up again as a Business Men's Association's venture. Sad to say, they became somewhat embroiled as their beautiful Miss proved to be a Miss-us from Mount Vernon and all our New Rochelle Misses were indignant, feeling that only a Miss and she of New Rochelle was entitled to the title and prize. Fortunately this was not one of our troubles, merely impressing on our Committee that the "female of the species" is still living up to her reputation.

The Religious Committee announced that all churches had agreed on special services for Sunday, June 12th. In view of this fact you can imagine our surprise when later one of our younger pastors accused our Committee of ignoring the Church in our arrangements. We therefore added to our programme a Union Service at Hudson Park on Sunday, June 19th thus ending as well as beginning our programme with religion.

At this time our chief trouble was the fault finders who sprung up calling up our office (usually refusing their names) telling us our sins of omission and commission and how much better they or some of their friends would have arranged this Celebration. As is often the case the folks who did the loudest complaining were the folks who did nothing to help provide the sinews of war.

We were daily visited by people with something to sell; by those who evidently found time hanging heavy on their hands and supposed we were in the same case; by authors, poets, artists, socialites, religious fanatics, politically radical reformers, vagrants who begged for carfare to some destinations near or far; by people who refused to hold converse with Mr. Milleman and must talk with me—likewise those who must talk to Mr. Milleman and scorned my suggestion that they save time by telling me their business. In fact, I believe there was practically no type of person we did not at one time or other entertain in that hot little musty office of ours. Harrassed as we were by our own difficulties in the constant changes in programme and in personnel of Committees, with a terrific heat wave which coming early was most enervating, and which followed weather so unusually cold and damp that we had to get an electric heater—the City of course having ceased heating the building after a reasonable date—it was hard to keep on an even keel those hectic days. If we offended anyone who reads this perhaps they will understand why and forgive.

A special meeting was called by the Chairman on May 31st to arrange a dinner. He had received information that vice-Mayor Morch would arrive on Monday morning and that the Ambassador from France and the Consul General would be able to come to New Rochelle on Thursday, June 16th for the ceremony at Hudson Park dedicating the tablet replacing the former one to the Huguenots. Former dinner plans were cancelled and a dinner set for Thursday night at the New York Athletic Club. POUF! More changes and rush for us all, for the schools—to be in the mode perhaps—now decided to have their pageant on Thursday the 9th and Friday the 10th of June and announced they were having their tickets printed and wished us to distribute them. More tickets, more detail with this new dinner date. Though hastly

conceived this dinner went off quite successfully mostly due to the aid of Judge Otto's charming and efficient secretary, Florence Berdick (Mrs. Robert Roth).

When the Old Home Week Committee began to function our pace was decidedly accelerated and when the Hobby Show Committee placed one of their exhibits in our window, this being a model team of grey horses and a surrey with two carefully folded miniature lap robes on the seats and a miniature horsewhip in the drirobes on the seats and a miniature horsewhip in the driver's hand, this resting on a strip of sandy road with grass covered sides, we became known from New York City through the New England States. This display constantly had interested spectators ranging from two or three years old to greybeards of eighty. We had also pictures of floats of the 225th Anniversary Parade, old photographs of New Rochelle scenes, a "Reader" of 1688 and many other interesting pieces. Each day brought offers of old family treasures from those who had earlier ignored our appeals for their interest. The descendants of that famous Huguenot family, the Guions, were among the first to offer the loan of valuable heir-looms such as silver buckles from the knee breeches of an looms such as silver buckles from the knee breeches of an ancestor, the old family Bible and other mementos of Huguenot days, these being loaned by Mrs. Amanda Hill and her nephew and nieces of the Monroe and Post families

With the beginning of June decorations were appearing in the stores and on the streets, with every electric light pole on North Avenue from Main Street to Fifth Avenue and on Main Street from the Library to North Avenue boasting a red, white and blue streamer as well as a gold shield announcing our Celebration dates, and everyone really believed now that there was to be a party! We purchased several large flags of the Anniversary design presenting a large silk one to the City for display in the City Hall. We obtained permission and displayed one of these flags on the tall flag pole at the County Office Building in our County Seat of nearby White Plains. The New Haven Railroad allowed us the use of their bill-boards for our announcements in both the New Rochelle and Mount Vernon stations. In the Grand Central station our publicity man was allowed a "flash" to invite visitors to our Birthday Party.

Grandstand and Reviewing Stand seats were the cause of many a bloodless but bitter fight in our office. The City had arranged for two large stands along the line of march which they figured would accommodate about 750 people. We tried to take care of those who had filled out cards showing them to be residents of fifty years or more in our City, elderly people from Homes for the Aged and others that we knew would be unable to see the parade unless taken care of in this way. How-ever, everyone wanted seats (perhaps these "sit down strikes" we had been having all over the country had had some influence here) and it was amusing to find that some of the hardest fighters in this cause were those who publicly announced that they would never be so foolish as to pay \$2 for a fifty-cent piece. Perhaps this was merely an extension of their economical idea when they tried to get a seat in the grandstand for nothing. This Battle of Seats was a hard and exhausting one for the Secretaries coming on top of the one for School Pag-eant seats which lasted for several days during which people came to us with the most outlandish reasons for being given seats of honor. The Board of Education representatives also suffered severely at this time as a ring-around-a-rosy developed, the seekers of seats informing us they had been sent to us by the Board of Education and to the Board of Education declaring we sent them over from our office to get their tickets. Thus some people acquired quite a collection while others got none. We had asked all the Churches to send us a memorandum of the number of seats they would like reserved for the members of their congregations, but only four Churches—and the Salvation Army—responded and called for their tickets. The Standard Star was given a certain number which they kindly distributed and in no time the tickets were gone. The fact that there were no tickets left did not deter our callers from insisting that there were tickets to be had and we were told more than once in no uncertain terms what "dubs" we were and how poorly we were functioning. To our credit be it said that we did not tell them what we thought of a civic spirit which would let the people of Texas, California, and even the Indians of Oklahoma pay the bill for a New Rochelle Celebration.

One rather funny incident was the reported proffer to the Parade Committee of a butcher to furnish 500 frankfurters. As accepting this would necessitate our furnishing the rolls and preparing food and drinks for an indeterminate number of paraders we decided to decline this offer with thanks. Somehow it got abroad that we were to thus reward the marchers and a member of one of the women's societies expressed forcibly and at length her opinion of "feeding those poor little kids with hot dogs after marching in all the heat," insisting that ice cream was the proper refreshment under such circumstances. She became, if possible, more indignant when I informed her we did not propose to give them any refreshments of any kind, not feeling this a part of our duties. Without being unkind I may say she was probably trying to help some of her friends who were in the

ice cream business and was by no means the first person to feel our funds were there for any and all comers. We had several offers of circuses, carnivals, exhibitions of boxing, wrestling and prizefighting; all sorts of souvenirs were suggested to us for purchase and sale by us (all we were interested in selling was, naturally, our coin); in fact every one with anything to sell, even if it was only a nebulous idea, came in to call on us or 'phone us at our homes and thus eat up our precious time. Anything that looked at all promising we reported to the Executive Committee with occasionally some of the more ludicrous also, that our meetings might not be too solemn or highbrow. In spite of his many annoyances and difficulties during all these trying months, Chairman Otto maintained his happy attitude, cheery smile and gracious manner to one and all—certainly quite an accomplishment.

A few days before the opening day of the Celebration Judge Otto suggested the taking of a moving picture of our week's happenings that we might have a lasting record. He had a figure from a resident of \$200 which he said he could cut to \$175 if we employed this local man. The Chairman of the Coin Committee rather demurred at increasing the budget by this item as he felt there would undoubtedly be a great many additions by reason of unforeseen expenses. However, wishing to have everything in reason that would spell success for the Celebration, he proposed that sufficient coins be purchased by those present at this conference—Messrs. Skipton, Milleman, Otto and Robischon—to establish a budget for this purpose. This was agreed upon and Judge Otto contracted for this film.

Judge Otto contracted for this film.

Meeting after meeting of the Executive Committee
from January 17th through May had taken place and

the Chairman now called a second meeting of the General Committee which now had over 300 members. About 125 were present and a friendly spirit prevailed with many members expressing their approbation of our Programme and our work, also surprise and delight that there was on hand so large a sum to provide for this gala occasion.

In the office we were compelled to make so many changes in our programme by the addition and withdrawal of events that we delayed having a printed programme as long as possible. However, the time came when we were so besieged by applicants for a programme that we drew up a form which the Pell Press got out for us at almost a moment's notice. This programme included everything up to the time it went to press. Several events do not appear on this programme as will be noticed on perusal of the Celebration as contained herein, as notice of them was received too late.

Mr. Milleman had been charmed with a sample of colored balloon manufactured by a concern which had for their representative one of our residents of long standing and having ordered several thousand balloons of almost every color known at this time, the balloons arrived now and were turned over to the schools for delivery to their pupils, with a few reserved to be handed out by ourselves in the office. The air was filled with these brilliant spots of color and with the legend advertising our 250th Anniversary and dates was a novel bit of publicity.

Now with funds, programme and enthusiasm growing day by day everything was set for our Birthday Party.

One Fatt Calfe

PART III

THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

one day of festivity on the occasion of a birthday, but perhaps if our life span is ever (through scientific research and methods) lengthened to reach the second century mark we, too, may feel entitled to a whole week of celebration. In the case of our City we had an even longer period of gaiety.

Though not officially starting our Programme until Sunday, June 12th, on account of examinations and graduation exercises taxing teachers and pupils later in the week of our Celebration, the schools were allowed to hold their Pageant on the nights of June 9th and 10th, Thursday and Friday nights, with a repetition on Monday night, June 13th, if necessary.

Taking place in the open in the Bowl of the Athletic Field of our Senior High School with wonderful lighting effects, to which on the first two nights was added the beauty of a full moon flooding the field with its light, with a stage patterned on the Greek Theatre of old, those witnessing this Pageant were so enthusiastic in its praise that in view of the demands for seats which could not be filled for these two productions it was at once seen that a third performance would be necessary.

Beginning with a scene in the home of a Huguenot family of 1680 or thereabouts it showed the terror caused by the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, news of which is brought to this family by their pastor while gaiety is reigning among the children at a birthday party given the little daughter of the house, Marie Guion, and a hurried conference is held by the older Huguenots present. Deciding on flight to the New World after a visit to the home by a couple of the King's officers who insult and threaten the members of the family, they gather their beloved possessions together as far as possible and stealthily depart to board a ship which leaves that night for America. This flight of the several families, all friends and neighbors, with all its dangers portrayed, with the elders concealing their own and calming the fears of the children, is most thrilling and breathtaking.

In the new land Siwanoy and other Indian tribes of the region are shown at their daily occupations with the sachems discussing the ultimate effect of the coming of so many white men to their shores. The sale of lands to Lord John Pell, whom they greatly respect for his honesty and fairness to them, is shown and after this transaction one wise old chief who looks far into the future and foresees the doom of the Indian tells his vision. This is vividly depicted, making a beautiful but heartbreaking scene—the departure of the Red Man from his lands,

going ever further from the shores inland and to final extinction.

John Pell, now Lord of the Manor of Pelham, is shown with Jacob Leisler, the agent for the Huguenots, completing the sale, receiving his compensation and stressing the payment of "one fatt calfe" on the feast of St. John the Baptist every year and forever (if demanded).

The pilgrimage of the Huguenots to the nearest church of their faith in New York City, a distance of eighteen or more miles over rough roads, carrying their precious shoes in their hands to save them from wear, donning them only after bathing their feet in a small stream near the church and then only that they may enter the church properly shod and in a reverent spirit, this is all graphically shown, with the Huguenots expressing their joy in having the church "so near." The scene culminates in the arrival of a courier who brings them news that at last a church of their own in New Rochelle is attainable and a most dramatic moment follows.

The story runs through the ages with the Revolution and its woes and joys; the Civil War bringing freedom to the slave; the early Huguenots in the form of spirits are shown, viewing with wondering awe and delight these beloved spots though indeed changed—they see new methods of transportation and living; down through the years the story of New Rochelle is unfolded before their almost unbelieving eyes—her many churches and schools are a joy to them—and the story closes on a note of patriotism when Young America is shown pledging its devotion to its country's flag and institutions.

That students from the lower to the Senior High

School grades could grasp the meaning and present the story as they did speaks volumes for their intelligence and the great capabilities of their instructors. The music under the direction of Mr. Bernard B. Nye involving as it did the direction of twelve hundred voices and the several bands was another remarkable piece of artistry. It is estimated that the Pageant was witnessed by over 16,000 people and was well worth the sum allotted them by the Anniversary Committee of \$1,650, for its production.

Inspired by the story of these fervently religious Huguenots and shepherded by the always cooperative young pastor of Trinity P. E. Church, on Saturday morning, June 11th, a group of lads and lassies started out—with their shoes in their hands for the first few blocks—to attend services held especially for them in the old church in New York City, walking just as the Huguenots had done. However, they were modern enough to have a bus and cars follow them in order to pick up any who might become too weary and threaten to fall by the way-side. Of the nineteen—six girls and thirteen boys—only four at any time availed themselves of this transportation, and all arrived at their destination and entered the church which is the French Church du Saint L'Esprit at East 61st Street. At the very start a violent rainstorm drenched them but, undeterred and with undiminished ardor, they continued their journey.

Among the group was a maiden of seventeen, "very fair to see," who was a direct descendant of the Huguenot family Bonnet and akin to the intermarried families of DeVeaux and Parcot mentioned frequently in the early history of New Rochelle. This was Eleanor Donovan, and when you viewed the blisters developed by

Eleanor in her duplication of this trip made by her ancestors you knew the endurance and courage which upheld those early Huguenots had been inherited in no small degree by her. They were all congratulated by the rector of the French Church on their arrival and were rewarded by a scroll which their own minister, Rev. Wendell Phillips, had designed and had engraved to present to them and of which they should all be very proud in the years to come—signed by Mr. Phillips and the Chairman of the 250th Anniversary Committee—attesting that they had made "The Pilgrimage."

Sunday, June 12th came with sunshine, flowers, birds singing and all our church bells ringing out for the services in commemmoration of the fact that two hundred and fifty years ago religious freedom had found a foothold in New Rochelle. A joint service was held by the congregations of Trinity Episcopal and the First Presbyterian Churches, both claiming to have been established in 1688 and therefore celebrating their birthdays also. In the morning this service was held at the First Pres-byterian now established on Pintard Avenue, having re-moved from Huguenot Street after a disastrous fire. Taking part in the service were many out-of-town personages whose names symbolize the French Huguenot, with the Rev. J. A. F. Maynard, rector of L'Eglise Francaise du Saint-Esprit, as guest speaker. In the afternoon a service in French was conducted by the same minister, with the rector of Trinity translating, in Trinity P. E. Church which still retains the original size on Huguenot Street. The Rev. William H. S. Demarest, chaplain-general of Huguenot Societies of America, was here the guest speaker.

Monday, the day of the arrival of our guest from France, began as a gloomy day, particularly so to the



Courtesy Robert E. Robischon

HON. ERIK MÖRCH Vice-Mayor of La Rochelle, France

Delegate to New Rochelle's 250th. Anniversary Celebration

members of the Executive and Reception Committees who were compelled to arise early in order to be at the North River pier by 8 a. m., after gathering their forces together at the New Rochelle City Hall. Director of Public Safety Tilden and Chief of Police Bermingham led a covey of cars through New York City's downtown traffic with sirens screaming and our Committee mem-bers in a hilarious schoolboy frame of mind. From the pier they were then taken by a Coast Guard cutter to meet the Normandie and greet the vice-Mayor out in the "ocean blue." The members of the Committees and the Assistant Executive Secretary were all presented with passes for their transportation on the cutter but mine was given to me with a gentle hint that no ladies were expected. After having a little fun alarming them by pretending I fully intended to be among those present their minds were eased on the night previous by my assurance that I had no intention of arising so early even to be "Queen of the—Normandie." I treasure my little sip which gave me the privilege of climbing that ladder even though I did not avail myself of the doubtful pleas-378

Vice-Mayor Erik Morch was received by the delegation and disembarked from the titanic Normandie to the little cutter, proving to be rather a giant of a man with a pleasant manner and a good command of English. He was escorted to the suite engaged for him by our Committee at the Waldorf Astoria in New York City and after suitable—and no doubt several—"libations to Fate" had been poured, was initiated into the ways of our great metropolis and then escorted to its suburbs, of which we naturally think New Rochelle the most important.

Tuesday morning our guest was escorted from the Waldorf Astoria to our City Hall to make his official

formal call; then with our Mayor and several guests to the Wykagyl Club for luncheon; later they all drove to Hudson Park where the Destroyer Tattnall, through the good offices of our Congressman Ralph A. Gamble of Larchmont, N. Y. was anchored for the duration of our Celebration, being received and entertained by her Commander.

On Tuesday afternoon—most appropriately since this date is our Flag Day—the new flagpole which the Huguenot and Historical Association Committee had decided to use some of their budget to purchase, was scheduled to be dedicated with suitable ceremony. The American Legion Post No. 8 of our City offered to present a new flag at the same time so a very beautiful and colorful ceremony took place, the flagpole being presented by the Chairman of our 250th Anniversary Committee and received by Mr. Henry Lester, President of the Huguenot and Historical Association. Commander Dietrichson then presented the large American flag. As the flag neared the top of the pole a downpour of rain somewhat marred the ceremony, which taking place in front of the picturesque Tom Paine Cottage with color guard, drummer and bugler from the Post made a martial sight. However, the audience, like true American patriots, remained till the storm was over and the service concluded with the playing of "America" by the bugler.

This same afternoon the ladies of Trinity P. E. Church gave a tea from four to eight in the Parish House, and at the same time showed visitors many Huguenot mementoes of interest.

It had been intended to repeat the Pageant on Monday night to allow the many persons unable to obtain tickets for the first two performances an opportunity to

attend. But early in the evening clouds began to form and before the time set for the opening scene a deluge of rain turned the grounds into a veritable swamp. As agreed upon our fire siren by its prolonged blast notified a disappointed audience the Pageant would not take place.

On Tuesday night the Pageant was repeated and this rather "crowded the mourners" since the dinner of the Service Clubs and our three Block Parties took place that same night. Vice-Mayor Morch sat beside me at the Pageant and seemed to greatly enjoy the whole play. The singing of the little ones of the gay French songs and their dances at little Marie's party seemed to appeal to him.

At the end of the performance our guest was escorted to the Block Parties one of which was held in the Italian district with folk dancing as well as the latest American brand; the second took place in our Negro district where our colored folks gave a splendid exhibition and enjoyed themselves in their usual happy manner; the third in the heart of our City just off Main Street on North Avenue probably had the largest crowd of all—and the other two parties were not to be laughed at. Our Police Department told us the next day they hoped there'd be no more Block Parties for the next twenty-five years.

The original intent of the Block Parties had been to have general dancing to good music in roped-off sections to encourage a feeling of goodfellowship and neighborliness. It was a little disappointing to find them turned into mere expositions of the latest popular and somewhat eccentric dances, dances such as the "big apple" and "shag," and that but a very few people were taking part and also very few were able to see what was taking place.

However, they brought the crowds, with good humor prevalent and perhaps the young folks did not mean to monopolize these affairs. The aftermath was a couple of complaints, one for damages to a hedge, the other stated a garbage can had been wrecked when some neck-craner dragged it forth from an adjoining yard to stand on it. Apparently the can was weak or the standee too strong! These we considered very mild expenses of which our insurance took care.

The Dinner of the united Service Clubs of the City was a big and jolly affair, held at the New Rochelle Yacht Club. Our visitor was unable to get there in time to take any part therein, unfortunately.

On Wednesday, June 15th, the vice-Mayor was taken to the Hobby Show in the auditorium of the Huguenot School. From a disappointing start this had blossomed out into a splendid affair of over four hundred separate entries, and Mr. Morch expressed great interest, saying this was the first time he had ever seen anything of the kind. Here he saw a model of the Normandie, the ship on which he had come over the seas to visit us, and here he inscribed his name on the register, to the great pride of Mrs. McCandless and her aides. They afterward wondered in which he was most interested: the large collection of coins and items from a numismatist displayed in several glass cases; the collection of model trains; model boats; model airplanes; hats collected from almost every country in the world; models of various types of transportation from the primitive ox-cart to the aero-plane, this group showing once more our team of grays and surrey and a miniature stage coach and passengers one of whom clutched a carpet-bag and hatbox. Here also appeared collections of china, opal glass, hammered

silver, hand-woven rugs, dolls, and a group of figurines representing historical celebrities; a collection of thousands of buttons beautifully arranged; a collection of scarfs including one from China that was over a hundred years old; a collection of teapots, always interesting to the ladies, and one of handmade and fancy aprons; a great display of photographs of all kinds, lovely, humorous and freak; another collection of buttons acquired from various types of uniforms; three miniature houses completely furnished and with miniature gardens of various types surrounding them, one even having a watchdog and his kennel; a very valuable violin of ancient "vintage;" a framed newspaper with the account of Lincoln's assassination; a little collection of Irish items consisting of a pair of handmade baby shoes, a fluting iron which our grannies used for the frills on their caps and kerchiefs and a tiny whiskey vial which had travelled back and forth (always filled, of course) across the ocean seven times.

A small room was given over entirely for the display of a wonderful collection of minerals, all gathered in this vicinity. On these played various colored lights, making it seem a piece of Fairyland set down there. On a black velvet cloth rested the open cigarette case of Dr. Lemuel Caro, its covers bearing encrusted on the surface the emblems in color of all the Aero Clubs of the world at the time of its presentation to him. This was a token given him in appreciation of his having, in the early days of the aeroplane, flown with a man in a critical condition to a hospital where the doctors said the trip had been made just in time to save the patient's life. This trip had been made at the risk of Dr. Caro's (the pilot) own life. In loaning this possession so dear to his heart, he mentioned that he was leaving that month to make a long trip by

airplane to Roumania and in response to a remark of mine told me, "It is as safe to travel by plane now as it is to walk." Imagine the shock we felt on reading of his death in an aeroplane accident shortly after he had gone abroad!

The small fry loved the mechanical banks—particularly the one where you put a penny on the hoof of the mule and he at once kicked it down through the window of the Bank building and thereby made you save whether you wanted to or not. Every item was arranged on a table and covered with cellophane which was tacked under the table's edge, thereby preventing handling by unauthorized persons. Everyone loved the Hobby Show; even one little girl who told me so adding, "But I think it's mean; I want one of those dolls and they ain't got none to sell."

Vice-Mayor Morch was next escorted to the Flower Show of the Garden Club of New Rochelle, which was held in the North Avenue Presbyterian Church House where Mrs. C. Eugene Kene and her Committee showed him a beautiful floral display, and many striking arrangements. I think he would have been surprised earlier in the season to have seen the many and beautiful varieties of his Fleur-de-lis (Iris to us) that New Rochelle home gardens can show.

Wednesday was indeed a full day for us all; at noon the Old Home Week Committee gave a delightful luncheon at the First Presbyterian Church House which they called the Golden Jubilee and which was really intended for residents of the City who had lived here for fifty years of more. Some present claiming to be in that class were surely young-looking oldsters but since everyone present was perfectly happy and happiness is supposed

to lend us youth, that may account for it. New Rochelle old-timers as a rule are not good mixers but they were at that luncheon. Mr. Perley was toastmaster and at once got the crowd in a good humor. The tables were very pretty with their little French and American flags and harmonizing flowers and the lunch itself most appetizing.

After luncheon was finished Mr. Perley had Mr. Raymond Otis Hunter—who was Captain Bang of radio fame—lead in old songs, and how everyone sang! Then a big box of red, white and blue blossoms having been a big box of red, white and blue blossoms having been sent by a local florist for presentation to vice-Mayor Morch and M. Morch having been unable to attend, it was presented by his request to the lady present who had lived longest in New Rochelle continuously. As all were wearing the badges presented to them by the Committee in proof that they had lived fifty years or more in New Rochelle it looked as if this might be a difficult task—a repetition of Paris and the apple. However, it soon sim-mered down to two ladies, Mrs. Lillian Banks and Miss Josephine Kirchoff, vying for this honor. It was found that Miss Kirchoff exceeded Mrs. Banks in length of New Rochelle residence by a month or so and to Miss Kirchoff went the bouquet—with honorable mention to the other contestant—being presented by the Chairman of the 250th Anniversary Committee, Judge Otto, with his usual sang froid. This matter being disposed of, Mr. Perley requested that those present who could trace their ancestry back to the early New Rochelle Huguenots rise, give the name of the family they were descended from and something of their early history. This was a most welcome invitation, eagerly accepted, and many were the little stories and bits of information thus brought forth. The affair was concluded in a burst of song and

chatter and many were the friends who were reunited by this little party. Why wouldn't it be a happy thought for churches to unite and give such affairs at intervals?

The U. S. Destroyer Tattnall was a source of great interest as seldom do we get a chance to see a destroyer at close range, and when it was announced that her Commander would allow visitors to board her afternoons from one to four o'clock and a launch was provided by the Naval Militia Unit to furnish free transportation we had another great attraction for the week. Particularly interesting was the fact that one of her officers was a local boy, for Ensign Stephenson is a descendant of the builder and original owner of Stephenson Castle (now the Salesian Institute) on the Boston Post Road near Larchmont.

Wednesday afternoon the Recreation Committee staged their Track and Field Meet on the Senior High School grounds and this event with many prizes in the offing was very popular with the athletically inclined, bringing out a big crowd of rooters and fans. Thus, Wednesday furnished entertainment and amusement for both youngsters and oldsters, one of our desires when we first began our coin sales.

On Tuesday and Wednesday as well as on Thursday, the Council of Social Agencies were having their show at the Huguenot Y M C A on Burling Lane. This exhibit combined the Community Chest, Visiting Nurse and Boys Clubs activities and was open from one to nine o'clock, with members of the Committee to explain and show visitors their exhibit. Thus were the serious-minded citizens provided for and instructed if they so wished.

The Children's Museum at the Thomas Paine Memorial House was open all the week to the public. Here

was an exhibit of the crafts of the Siwanoy and other Indians who inhabited this part of the county in the days of yore. Many relics — arrow heads, utensils and war weapons—were shown, with dioramas of the life of the Indian as supposed to be lived at the time of the coming of the Huguenots to this shore. The Boy Scouts had been allowed the use of the ground beside the building to build a Long House of saplings tied together with withes and covered with bark, fashioned according to the descriptions they had read in old tales dealing with the "red skins." This Long House, which you might consider the Indians' "White House" or Town Hall, since there took place their conference and war plan discussion, was proudly displayed by the Boy Scout hosts, while the Girl Scouts constituted themselves a hospitality committee in the building where the Children's Museum was housed. Judging from the register here as at the Hobby Show visitors came from far and near, one entry being in both books as of a visitor from North Dakota, another from St. Louis, from Pittsburgh, from various towns and cities of Massachusetts and Connecticut and one in the Hobby Show was of a Miss Champury, a visitor from Geneva, Switzerland. As I had heard that the last mentioned was visiting in my immediate neighborhood, our publicity man called upon her at my request and obtained quite an interesting story since she was the descendant of a Huguenot who had fled to Switzerland at about the time our New Rochelle was being founded. Miss Champury loaned her Huguenot cross to the Library Exhibits Committee and it was a source of much speculation and aroused much curiosity with its dove and pearl "tear," apparently none appearing among our Huguenots' prized mementoes.

The Library showed their Huguenot home room

throughout our week and this also had many visitors. Treasured furnishings of almost every old Huguenot family associated with New Rochelle were loaned to the Library Committee and were placed by them in the position deemed most fitting. Cradle, chairs, tables, spinning wheel with flax, quilts, samplers, copper and pewter utensils, portraits, candlesticks, candle snuffer; a powder horn and flintlock rifle that no doubt protected a home such as these things all represented; all these and more were eloquent expressions to the mind and heart of one who could understand. What a rich heritage for those possessors, but alas! often how little appreciated.

Wednesday night we were all breathlessly thrilled by the Fireworks. And such Fireworks!

A huge crowd hastened to our beautiful Hudson Park arriving long before the appointed time of 9:30 p. m. in order to gain seats on the lawns, beaches, rocks and on the bathhouse roof. It was a crowd such as is seldom seen in our City, and the police said they had never seen such a big crowd behave in such an orderly fashion or leave the Park afterward—a lengthy proceeding on account of traffic—in such a good-natured mood.

Those fireworks beggared description for beauty and quantity. How Mr. Crennan ever put on such a show for the amount he expended and how he ever was able to comport himself in such a cool, unassuming manner knowing what he was about to spring on us I cannot imagine. "Not casting any aspersions," I must say that Committees which had demanded far greater funds and wearied us by grandiloquent accounts of what wonders they would work therewith must have suffered quite a jolt when they beheld the results achieved by this Committee. They could not have secured a better spot from which to display them, either.

Rockets, bombs, shells burst forth in glory, followed by cascade, floral, star and rainbow effects, meteors in varying hues, bouquets, single flowers, fields of clover, flying fish and dragons of golden color pursued each other rapidly across the sky; serpents darted up and down and round about; sailboats appeared and vanished; a motorcycle race came and went; Niagara Falls so real you thought you heard the noise of falling waters; then we saw what we oldsters said was the Goose that laid the Golden Egg but the youngsters said more sophisticatedly was Donald Duck. It seemed impossible that there was another Ah-h-h left in the crowd but there was and forth it came when John Pell appeared receiving our fatt calfe; a portrait of Lord Pell; a cloaked figure appeared which is the popular conception of the French Huguenot; our Anniversary flag appeared, and last—but of course best—our own American flag.

The Executive Committee had been invited to view the fireworks from the Tattnall by her Commander and most of us were aboard. The night was superb and if the spirits of the Huguenots were present, how they must have marvelled at it all.

Thursday was on us before we had time to draw a long breath and the Recreation Committee staged a tournament for golfers at the Broadmoor Country Club, beginning in the morning, with luncheon at noon and continuation of the game throughout the afternoon. A number of handsome prizes made the contests exciting and once more our Celebration gave entertainment to a type of person who perhaps would be bored by some of our other events.

This day was an important one indeed for in the afternoon the dedication of the tablet replacing the one

of an earlier celebration which had been found inaccurate, took place. A perfect June day made this scene one to be remembered, with the Park at its loveliest and the waters of Echo Bay dotted with pleasure craft. A stand had been erected for the guests and speakers with Mr. Lester opening the ceremonies. Mr. Hadaway and Mr Seacord had invited prominent members of Huguenot and Historical circles and Mr. Maynard again spoke, pleasing his hearers by his remarks on the outstanding qualities of our ancestors which he pointed out to have been: intelligent courage, confidence in democracy, industry, thrift and courtesy. The tablet was presented by Chairman Otto on behalf of the 250th Anniversary Committee and accepted by Mayor Scott representing the City of New Rochelle.

We were greatly honored at this time by the presence of the Ambassador to this country from France, Count Rene de Saint-Quentin (who was accompanied by M. Jacques Dumaine, First Secretary to the French Embassy) and of the French Consul-General Count Charles de Fontnouvelle of New York City. They, with vice-Mayor Morch, took part in the dedication of this large bronze tablet which was now inserted in its niche in the seven-foot granite monument on the knoll overlooking the bay. With music the service opened and with music concluded, having brought to perfection the desire of some of our City's most valued citizens.

This afternoon event was followed by two dinners, one at the Presbyterian Church House given by the congregations of the First Presbyterian and Trinity again combining and celebrating their birthdays as well as the City's. This was rather an informal affair and our three guests, the Ambassador, Consul-General and vice-

Mayor, made a brief call here, then were sped to the New York Athletic Club at Travers Island where a formal dinner was given in their honor. Here the Ambassador presented the City of New Rochelle with a leather-bound volume of the original correspondence between George Washington and Admiral D'Estaing, Commander of the French fleet in 1776, deeming this of interest since it contains reference to happenings in the vicinity of New Rochelle during the Revolutionary War.

The uniforms of the Commandant and his staff from Fort Slocum, those of Lieutenant-Commander Roberts and his officers from the U.S. Destroyer Tattnall, and Lieutenant-Colonel Gundlach and some of his officers of the Naval Militia, made this quite a colorful scene. Many of our County officials also were in attendance, among them Surrogate Millard who as Congressman had been largely instrumental in obtaining the New Rochelle Half Dollar for Mr. Skipton thus making these affairs possible. Speeches by our guests of honor were followed by dancing till the wee hours of the morning, or so they told us, but we could not vouch for it as we Secretaries, knowing there were two strenuous days still confronting us, retreated as soon as the three French guests left, the Ambassador returning that night to Washington, the Consul-General to New York and vice-Mayor Morch to the Westchester Country Club at Rye, N. Y., where he had been established the previous day that he might see more of Westchester County, New York City now being pretty hot and noisy, even in the aristocratic environs of the Waldorf-Astoria.

Friday, with the Living Chess game and the Moonlight Sail (which had been proposed by our Republican Club with the guest of honor being tried out as a sailor on Long Island Sound, the suggestion of Mayor Scott) having been called off—the one for the reasons before detailed and the latter by reason of an accident to the large vessel which had been chartered—looked like an easy day for our guest and for all the Committees. Though the Ambassador and Consul-General had fled, vice-Mayor Morch was still at our mercy. He was now taken to the Children's Museum at the Paine Memorial House; to the exhibit of the Council of Social Agencies at the Huguenot YMCA; to see the old Huguenot Home Room and its furnishings at the New Rochelle Public Library—and all this with Old Sol deciding to let our guest see what he could do over on this side of the Atlantic in the way of extending a warm welcome. It was one of those days well described by the expression, "never an idle moment." That night the Huguenot and Historical Association held an informal reception for the public with a moving picture that was brought over by our guest showing us scenes of LaRochelle. The Flower Show furnished the decorations and with music furnished by the New Rochelle High School Orchestra and the combined Huguenot Male Glee Club and University Men's Glee Club and the stirring speech of Dr. Joseph R. Sizoo, Minister of the Collegiate Church of Saint Nicholas, New York City, this was a memorable part of our week.

Saturday June 18th dawned with a clear sky and the sun keeping to his idea of the preceding day. By 11 a.m. (the time set for the Post Office dedication) the streets were swarming with chattering natives and visitors. The dedication itself was rather an anticlimax as we had all been using that same Post Office for the past two or three weeks so its glories were a trifle dimmed. But what a grand opportunity for those who had not yet had

a chance to burst into eloquence! Speeches were indulged in by almost all the members of the Post Office Dedication Committee (and it was by no means a small Committee) some of them suspiciously political in character and we wonder if that one of Mr. James Mead had anything to do with his being elected Congressman a few months later. Chairman Otto did some rather fantastic mason work on that cornerstone but it must have been a better job than it appeared for the Post Office is still standing—in fact, does not seem to lean noticeably as yet.

After music, vocal and instrumental, had concluded the services off we sped to the Wykagyl Country Club, at least about two hundred of the invited "elite" did so. for luncheon. Here we listened to more oratory and hid our chuckles in the sleeves of our summer garb as the toastmaster (who is also the local Democratic City Leader) told of the wondrous works of the Federal Administration in pulling down and rebuilding, adding wings and otherwise boosting the building of Post Offices all over the U. S. Needless to say, he did not mention that this boosts the taxes of the people. Ending the outburst of oratorical fireworks of praises chanted to the Great Father in Washington he said, "Let's have a new Post Office dedication every day; let's have one of these fine luncheons which bring us all together like this every day!" and he never heard the grunt from one of our Committee members who said, "Oh, yeah! Where will you get another New Rochelle half dollar to finance you to the tune of \$800?" It is doubtful if many people realize that the dedication, luncheon and enter-taining of all the visiting postal employees who took part in the parade were paid for out of the funds of the New Rochelle Commemorative Coin Committee. Would you believe that afterward we had to listen to complaints from them that they didn't like the food furnished them by one of our local restaurants, though if the postal authorities had proceeded with their dedication when the building was finished there would have been no such gala event for them!

Our inner man fairly well satisfied we now all hurried downtown to the real feast of the day — THE PARADE. By this time of the day New Rocheile looked like London, Paris or Pekin—this being what I learned in my school days to recite as the most densely populated cities of the world. The main streets had been cleared of all traffic; the sidewalks from the curb right into the store buildings were crowded with people; on the roofs of the buildings on Main Street and North Avenue people were standing or sitting on improvised benches; the overhead railroad bridge of the defunct Boston and Westchester Railroad was packed with spectators; the framework of the New Haven Railroad on North Avenue was jammed with onlookers (this being of steel was pretty hot from the sun and its occupants were constantly shifting but never leaving); our two grandstands on lower Huguenot Street along the line of march were filled long before the hour set for the start of the parade. The weather could not have been more ideally chosen—perhaps a trifle hot, but then who does not love it to be hot when a parade is under way? Never have I seen New Rochelle so pretty and gay nor its people so amiable. The parade was ready on the minute set for its start but a message was received that a contingent of sailors from a French warship which had just come into New York harbor was on the way and—would we wait for them? Would we? They were the dearest things you ever saw with their white trousers,



Courtesy The Knickerbocker News

DESIGNER AND MODEL

GERTRUDE K. LATHROP, Sculptor, and "FATT CALFE"

short blue jackets and white tams with saucy red tassels, their browned complexions and flashing white teeth. Our New Rochelle girls would have been willing to wait a week to see them.

The Line of March and general plan of assembly is reproduced in this account. The Marshal, Colonel Philip Tilden, our Director of Public Safety, had blue prints made and his programme took care of the least detail, thus making it the wonderful success it proved to be. He was ably assisted by Major Stuart Cutler, U. S. A., as well as by other experienced Army and Navy officers and the result showed what can be accomplished when undertaken in the right spirit, with proper cooperation and ample funds.

In the reviewing stand in front of the City Hall seats had been reserved for the wives or widows of former Mayors of our City, for City officials, and for invited guests of the Committee. Everyone got there early, fearful lest there should be some error and no seat be available. Therefore we waited long, tense with excitement one moment and the next relaxed, with repartee exchanged from one end of the stand to the other. No doubt those standing on the sidewalks envied us our apparent ease, but it was not as comfortable as it seemed. The afternoon sun shone pretty robustly on that particularly exposed spot; the seats were narrow and grew harder by the minute. We found ourselves shifting even as our friends on the railroad bridge.

Miss Lathrop came down to see her fatt calfe attain his majority—or maturity—and marvelled at the big, good-natured crowd, reluctantly admitting we were far excelling her home city's celebration, though Albany was considered at the time to have "done herself proud."

The monotony of our long wait was broken when Governor Lehman, who had been invited to review our parade, followed by the officers who were his aides for the day, entered the stand and took his allotted place.

Just when we had begun to think we could not endure waiting a minute longer we heard, "Here they come," and music in the distance. Along the roped-off street came the motorcycle "cops" who always precede a parade, gazing keenly to right and left to be sure the way is absolutely clear. The music came nearer and the crowd said "Ah-h, here's the Grand Marshal," and Colonel Tilden made his appearance. Then along came the official car with vice-Mayor Morch in top-hat and with brilliant decorations glowing on his ample chest, our own Mayor Harry Scott and Chairman Otto. Next came the Executive Committee members, walking staidly along in the costumes concerning which there had been such heated debate. And fine they looked, every one. The City Officials were just behind them and all now entered the stand. The Parade is here!!

The music of the 16th Infantry Band from Governor's Island brings a storm of applause. The regular Army troops follow their band and again a wave of cheers breaks out. Then the Tattnall men in their spick and span uniforms and they are greeted as old friends by the New Rochelle folks. And here are our French sailors with their blue, white and red.

"The Old Guard" passes and you hear speculation as to how they stand their bearskin shakoes, and the 107th Regiment are received with admiring cheers. Battery "F" 156th Field Artillery N. Y. N. G., the Naval Militia Band and a detachment of the Naval Militia follow. These I feel well acquainted with since

we had so much correspondence with them and made so many phone calls to insure their presence. Sometimes both sides grew pretty hot during these conversations for we could not see why they did not realize what a big event we were inviting them to and they on their part no doubt felt we were unduly excited over a small matter. But they now seemed glad they came and many more times glad were we!

We hear a yell, "There's Nat" as a local band comes along. Nat grins and gives us beautiful music to show us how he appreciates this local recognition. The postal employees, headed by our own "Tom" McLoughlin, Post Master of New Rochelle, takes a long time to pass. You can see that Tom is proud of his display and he may well be for he has amassed them from far and near—many men and a few "gals." They come and go, showing the evolution of the postal service from Paul Revere to modern methods.

When someone in the crowd says "Ho, there, Oscar" we all crane our necks to see Fire Chief Grab heading his Fire Department. Now indeed the crowd goes wild; they see the little jumper, the pumpers, the horses and coach dogs of a former day of fire-fighting. When they see the hand-drawn apparatus and red-shirted Volunteers the younger folks gaze in wonder and unbelief. Surely buildings were never saved through those antiquated affairs, they think. But those older men who proudly accompany their engines say they never lost a man or piece of property and as they gave their services in those days as volunteers they also can inform us that all that was lost was their own time and pay.

With this division comes also our Police Department as we are now so "modern" that both are now coordin-

ated under the head of Public Safety. With suitable music and regal tread on they go, with the Department of Public Works close at their heels. A gale of laughter sweeps over the crowd as they note how carefully one of the attendants dusts off the surface of a truck. The old and new outfits receive our careful attention as seldom does our average commuter have an opportunity to see just what this home city of his gives him for his taxes. Like the fire department's latest apparatus delivered just in time for our Celebration the street department too showed their lately acquired motor vehicles.

A moment of silence as the Veterans Division approaches, but the lively airs of the fife and drum corps soon restore the gaiety of the crowd. The American Legion Post leads, with Spanish War Veterans and their auxiliaries following and making a martial appearance. Then come our usually troublesome tads. Today they are strutting along in orderly fashion, scarcely to be outdone by the Veterans. Boy Scouts, bands, Nautical Cadets, bands, Boys Club members, and music and flags everywhere.

The Scotchmen's Band in their gorgeous kilts—what a roar of applause rings out for them. Clan Bruce and their auxiliary are full of pride as they step along to the skirling of those pipers. Something new to most of us is sighted now—Irish pipers in their dark plaids with green predominating. Irish organizations follow them, then the Patriotic Daughters of America with most peculiar music made by "major operations" on all kinds of utensils for this, we have been proudly informed, is a "kitchen band." Among their members is the first woman deputy sheriff of Westchester County—a New Rochelle woman—who in her dark blue uniform with brass buttons and

small blue cap looks very handsome and marches with a military stride, while from the grandstand the first woman County Supervisor looks on. Who can say New Rochelle ignores her ladies?

Music, music in the air. Bands led by girl drum majors and by boys and men twirling their batons — how can anyone say who is best? All our Italian-American organizations are in line for dearly they love a Parade! The girl students from the College of New Rochelle in their caps and gowns make a striking show, the Red Men create a lot of amusement when they suddenly pause in front of the grand stand to circle about a solitary Puritan figure who seems pretty well alarmed by their apparent intention to have his scalp, then relieved as they decide to establish friendly relations and the Indians and settler march along amiably together again.

We have a Portuguese Society in line, the Maennerchor who of course are of German extraction, The Catholic Daughters of America, the Salvation Army Band, the Beauticians' and School of Dressmaking contingents, all proud to take part in our gala performance. A moment of suspense and a shout "Here come the

A moment of suspense and a shout "Here come the floats!" and they came all right. Came and came! So lovely they were we were bewildered by their beauty and heaved a sigh of relief that we were not on the committee to judge and award the prizes.

The Rotary Club had a very original idea, that of a huge decorated wheel being propelled by four men, each over six foot tall and of magnificent proportions dressed in the Huguenot costume. The Lions Club who do so much for the undernourished child at a camp established by them had a float with their insignia and a group of children symbolic of their good work. The Kiwanis had

a float with a throne featuring several beauteous maidens thereon.

The "contented" cows with their calves surrounded with hay, straw and other provender advertising Borden's pure milk and products were a source of joy to the crowd, particularly when one baby cow decided to have a drink of mother's milk just as the float reached the grandstand. Children shrieked with glee and even oldsters were constrained to burst out laughing, while bovine mother and child nonchalantly attended to the details of the lun-cheon. This float was awarded second prize while the first went to a float which came later in the parade-a landau decorated with the foliage of the grapevine and with immense bunches of grapes, drawn by two horses, one of which was ridden postilion fashion by a footman in brilliant livery and with coachman in livery holding the reins. In this carriage rode a young woman garbed in the fashion of court ladies of Louis XV, benevolently and graciously dispensing coins as she rode home from viewing the harvest and winemakers on her vast estates. This was something so novel but so appropriate to the firm it represented that we were all glad to find the judges had awarded the first prize to The French Wine Shop, even though they are rather newcomers to our City.

A June bride with her attendants on a float whose chief decoration was a huge wedding ring was awarded third prize and won by Leonard Talner, a local jeweller.

The Girl Scouts with their campfire scene on a float horse-drawn and with horseback riders preceding brought forth pleased comments and later was adjudged fourth prize winner. The other floats which were not given prizes but honorable mention were those of the New Rochelle Safety Council with an automobile decorated with hearts in red, with slogan "Have a Heart" and placards having to do with safety in driving; also a float of the Civic League which was indeed a work of art and represented a great deal of time and thought on the part of the members of this woman's organization of long standing in the City. Their seal was represented by the symbols—the flowering lilac (supposed to have been brought over by a Huguenot who concealed the seed from which the first plant here was grown—in her tresses); a spinning wheel; the Bible and a reproduction of the early French Church in New Rochelle, often humorously referred to as the Stone Jug from the fact that it was oddly shaped and resembled an immense jug. Women in the costume of Huguenot days rode on this float and pretty indeed was the picture they made.

The Automotive Association and Auto Dealers Association with a red and white petal-covered float featured the High School Queen and her court. This was very effective though perhaps hardly symbolic, but was approved by the judges.

Also receiving honorable mention was a queer looking float which puzzled the crowd, some thinking it represented Kentucky moonshiners, others declaring it represented WPA workers on one of the innumerable projects, but the sponsors identified it as the Honey Hollow Mountain Boys and a general store. A group of gangling youths in jeans and plaid shirts were gathered around an old stove, singing and making music (so-called) on various weird instruments, the rest of the background being supposed to imitate a store of the small

village type. (Frankly, the music of the ladies' kitchen band intrigued the crowd much more than this which the Honey-boys inflicted on us.)

Although the Business Men would not buy our coins they did plagiarize our efforts to the extent of using our motif of Lord John and the fatt calfe on their float. However, it was not as great a success as if they had left it at that but they had a great deal of other impedimenta representing their composite ideas of business and the result was rather bewildering. When there is so much to see and such a brief span for seeing too much detail on a float is bad and fails of the intended effect.

Floats which did not come in for any of the prizes or mention but were nevertheless well worth watching passed in review and evoked suitable response from the enthralled spectators.

Pleasing the children immensely was a group representing Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, entered by the New Rochelle Coal and Lumber Company, Snow White riding on an enormous piece of coal, while the dwarfs like pixies did the things required by their various roles.

The Catholic Cradle Guild had a very pretty float with a new baby in its bassinet, with young mother and children symbolic of the maternal instinct which it fosters.

The New Rochelle Agency had an exceedingly lovely float, purple and white predominating and with two charming girls thereon.

The Telephone Company with its symbolic bell of silver; Jacob Ruppert's Brewing Company with a huge float representing a double-masted schooner (a ship, not goblet) with a figure at the helm in a military costume

of 1776; a miniature gasoline station; these, of course, were all classed as advertising but were interesting nevertheless, as was that of a Milk Wagon Drivers Association showing a cow with milkmaids and farmhands in a setting of green.

Two Scandinavian floats were striking and handsome; the one a Viking vessel with the crew staring inscrutably ahead and a group in purple and blue tunics with glittering shields and swords and metal helmets recalled the old sagas and their heroes. This was an entry of Viking Lodge, Order of Vasa, and the second, the entry of Midnatsolen Lodge, Order of Vikings, was manned by stalwart Vikings in costume and helmets, the prow of their ship being curved and carven most artistically. Both of these Orders were most painstaking in carrying out historic details and I admit I was quite disappointed that neither won a prize.

The Humane Society showed a collection of dogs, but no cat was to be seen. Two immense dogs—Great Danes—were guarding a woman in the rear of the float while in front a typical barefoot boy of the Huckleberry Finn type fished industriously with a home-made outfit, while a small black dog of nondescript ancestry looked happily on.

The Chamber of Commerce carried out the legend of the coming of the Huguenots to New Rochelle, depicting them disembarking from the odd looking vessel anchored in the waters of Echo Bay. This was striking and beautiful, with the Huguenots appropriately attired. A stagecoach and four with occupants in old fashioned costume, with a placard inviting visitors to the Model Home Corporation's latest venture—The Huguenot Cottage—aroused favorable comment, particularly as

some of the occupants were well known and well liked young people of our City.

A huge elephant, with a young woman in an exceedingly up-to-date costume reclining at his feet and a young man at the rear end of the float, represented the Young Republicans of today and this was greatly enjoyed by Democratic Governor Lehman, who laughed heartly as he returned their salutes. This elephant was purchased especially for the Celebration and its sale has ever since been earnestly sought by its sponsors, but so far all in vain, as an elephant requires more space to house than the average person has to spare.

The Red Men who did not march took part in making a realistic scene of an Indian family gathered around a fire outside their tepee. Floats were entered by Loew's Theater and by the Westchester Lighting Company, the first a young girl on a white charger representing The Girl of the Golden West and the Lighting Company showing the old fashioned home with antiquated lighting facilities and the new and modern home with its up-to-the-minute methods of home-making. A high old bicycle of about fifty years ago ridden by a man in appropriate clothing; bicycles of the later period, including the one which inspired the song of "Daisy, Daisy, Give Me Your Answer, Do" and ending, "But you'd look sweet upon the seat of a bicycle built for two" and ridden by a sweet young thing in voluminous bloomers, behind her escort in long trousers and derby hat and all types of autos followed, from the first get-a-horse type to the most modern, all with occupants rigged up to suit the period represented. This ended the Parade, with laughter pealing out as each went by, till the very last morsel of our most delectable meal had been swallowed

and we left the feast feeling as the Gods of Old must have felt.

Sunday afternoon under a clear blue sky a crowd numbering about two thousand gathered at Hudson Park to see the Marine Sports which the Committee under Mr. Wentz, who is also vice-Commodore of the New Rochelle Yacht Club, staged most successfully. Many prizes had been provided by us and excitement filled the air, with the parents of the young performers more excited than their offspring. From the admiring comments of the crowds on the efforts of the swimmers apparently some stars of the future were making their debut. When the canoe races took place the water was dotted with ships of many colors, many of the canoes being the result of futuristic artists' designing. These Marine Sports provided entertainment all through the afternoon, with vice-Mayor Morch and Mayor Scott presenting the prizes.

The Commander of the Tattnall who intended to "weigh anchor and away" that night graciously invited the Executive Committee to a tea on board his vessel that afternoon in return, he said, for the many courtesies shown him and his men during their stay in our harbor. The officers from Fort Slocum and their wives were also guests and a very happy party was aboard that beautiful Sunday afternoon. We all left with regret as having the Tattnall here had been one of the pleasantest parts of our Celebration.

On landing again at Hudson Park we saw the preparations being completed for the religious Union services to be held on the lawn of the park in front of the Music Shell. Later in the evening a crowd of about six hundred gathered to take part in a service in which clergy of the Protestant, Roman Catholic and Jewish faiths partici-

pated and all who were present voted this a splendid way to close our week of celebrating New Rochelle's 250th Birthday.

The next day vice-Mayor Morch sailed for home on the Ile de France, expressing himself pleased with New Rochelle and her people and we on our part feel that me representative could have been sent that would have pleased us more and made us feel closer to La Rochelle.

So ended the 250th Anniversary of New Rochelle with lasting memorials and everlasting memories.





AMY C. SKIPTON

Executive Secretary

New Rochelle Commemorative Coin Committee

One Fatt Calfe

THE LAST WORD

This would not be a woman's book if I did not live up to the traditions of our sex, one of the most important being this matter of the last word. Therefore this postscript.

On July 25th, 1938, the 250th Anniversary Committee met at the First National Bank for their final meeting. Reports of receipts and expenditures showed that some Committees had exceeded their budgets by a slight margin while one or two had a few dollars left unspent. Our office had been closed but Mr. Milleman and I were still busy cleaning up a few details.

The "Movies" were shown but were a distinct disappointment to the Committee and it was voted to make improvements before sending any film to France. We had relied on the judgment of the photographer and had not appointed a Committee to supervise—an error on our part and one of the things learned by sad experience. Many events we had expected confidently to see portrayed were missing and much we felt was superfluous.

In retrospect I can see that we should have provided a scenario and followed it up with daily suggestions.

At the writing of this account improvements have been just about concluded and a film readied for shipment to our Mother City of La Rochelle in a few days. The revision was taken over by the New Rochelle Commemorative Coin Committee and has meant a further considerable expenditure. After enlisting the services of a young "movie" operator and fan who located film of desired parts of the Celebration and showing him much that required to be elided, he has pruned and added—including a splendid strip of color film—until now we have a film that is the best that can be produced at this late day. Patience, money and dogged effort have necessarily been called for but the old saw about "experience being a dear school" and the rest of that quotation is apparently still only too true.

This last meeting of the Committee was a happy occasion, perhaps largely because the members felt relieved of a considerable amount of responsibility and because all were filled with the sense of satisfaction that comes from having properly discharged a duty. All reported favorable comments having been made on the affair. The Parade Committee were teased for having been so concerned that they had even taken out rain insurance for the day of all days—the day of the PARADE.

Our Chairman thanked us all and beamed on us most paternally, knowing that he would not have to gaze upon that "baker's dozen" of us sitting around Mr. Watson's long table arguing and demanding the moon from him every week for at least twenty-five years more. He looked ten years younger through the releasing of his burden—or it might merely have been the effect of those

alleged sunbaths beginning to show—and expressed his gratitude to one and all for the cooperation we had given. Everyone had some particular cause of gratitude and all felt that the success of the whole undertaking had been due to many factors and that a general expression of gratitude through the Press would be most satisfactory. This Mr. Miller and Mr. Dayton took care of through the local paper, while Mr. Robischon undertook to express it through his various agents.

With a feeling of better understanding of and liking for each other the 250th Anniversary Committee then became, like the Huguenots, a thing of the past and a matter of history—with their acts and deeds, to some extent, living through this brief annal.

THE END



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Wright, Dr. Frank M.
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Y
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Young, Walter H.
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Young, Mrs. Elma S.

Z Zimmerman, Miss Elsie Zauner, Joseph

250TH ANNIVERSARY — OFFICIAL PROGRAMME —

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PITT M. SKIPTON ERNEST H. WATSON

THURSDAY, JUNE 9TH

School Pageant at Senior High School at 8:30 p. m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 10TH

School Pageant at Senior High School at 8:30 p. m. (If stormy either night, Pageant will be held on Saturday, June 11th.)

SUNDAY, JUNE 12TH

Special Services in all New Rochelle Churches.

MONDAY, JUNE 13TH

Children's Museum with Indian Exhibits at Tom Paine Memorial House, Indian "Long House" on grounds — All Day.

Exhibit at New Rochelle Library of Old Huguenot Home Room and Furnishings—9 a. m. to 9 p. m.

Block Party on North Avenue, Main Street to Clinton Place, 8:30 p. m. to 1 a. m.

Block Party on Remington Place, between Guion Place and Prince Street, 8:30 p. m. to 1 a. m.

Block Party on St. Joseph's Plaza, Washington Avenue and 6th. Street, 8:30 p. m. to 1 a. m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 14TH

Dedication of Flag Pole on grounds of Huguenot and Historical Association.

Children's Museum with Indian Exhibits at Tom Paine Memorial House, Indian "Long House" on grounds — All Day.

Exhibit at New Rochelle Library of Old Huguenot Home Room and Furnishings—9 a. m. to 9 p. m.

Exhibit of Social Agencies at Huguenot YMCA, 1 p. m. to 9 p. m.

Afternoon Tea at Trinity Episcopal Church House. Dinner of Service Clubs at New Rochelle Yacht Club, 7 p. m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15TH

Hobby Show at Huguenot School, 10 a. m. to 10 p. m. Flower Show of New Rochelle Garden Club at North Avenue Church House, in the afternoon.

Children's Museum with Indian Exhibits at Tom Paine Memorial House, Indian "Long House" on grounds — All Day.

Exhibit at New Rochelle Library of Old Huguenot Home Room and Furnishings—9 a. m. to 9 p. m.

Exhibit of Social Agencies at Huguenot YMCA, 1 p. m. to 9 p. m.

Track and Field Meet at Senior High School Grounds at 4 p. m.

Fireworks at Hudson Park, 9:15 p. m.

THURSDAY, JUNE 16TH

Reception to delegates and guests by Mayor Scott at City Hall in the morning.

Programme of Huguenot and Historical Association, dedication of tablet at Hudson Park, Speakers and Music, 4 p. m.

Golf Tournament at Broadmoor Country Club—All Day.

Hobby Show at Huguenot School, 10 a. m. to 10 p. m. Flower Show of New Rochelle Garden Club at North Avenue Church House, in the afternoon.

Children's Museum with Indian Exhibits at Tom Paine Memorial House, Indian "Long House" on grounds — All Day.

Exhibit at New Rochelle Library of Old Huguenot Home Room and Furnishings—9 a. m. to 9 p. m.

Exhibit of Social Agencies at Huguenot YMCA, 1 p. m. to 9 p. m.

Dinner of First Presbyterian and Trinity Episcopal Churches at First Presbyterian Church House, 6:45 p. m.

Dinner at New York Athletic Club, Travers Island, for delegates and guests, 7:45 p. m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 17TH

Hobby Show at Huguenot School, 10 a. m. to 10 p. m. Children's Museum with Indian Exhibits at Tom Paine Memorial House, Indian "Long House" on grounds — All Day.

Exhibit at New Rochelle Library of Old Huguenot Home Room and Furnishings—9 a. m. to 9 p. m.

Meeting of Huguenot and Historical Association at Albert Leonard Junior High School, with Speakers and Music, and Public Reception, 8:30 p. m., with floral decorations by New Rochelle Garden Club.

Game of Living Chess.

Moonlight Sail on Long Island Sound.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18TH

Dedication of new Post Office, 11 a.m.

Luncheon for guests at Wykagyl Country Club, 12:30 p. m.

Children's Museum with Indian Exhibits at Tom Paine Memorial House, Indian "Long House" on grounds — All Day.

Exhibit at New Rochelle Library of Old Huguenot Home Room and Furnishings—9 a. m. to 9 p. m.

Parade of Military, Civic, Fraternal and Postal Units, with Floats, etc., 3 p. m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 19TH

Marine Sports — Canoe Races, Swimming and Diving Contests, etc., at Hudson Park, 2 p. m.

Old Home Week activities with hostesses at various church houses all week.

Register for "Old Timers" and a luncheon one day of the week.

Hostesses at Children's Museum, Indian "Long House,"

and Tom Paine Cottage, Headquarters of the Huguenot and Historical Association.

The Celebration has been wholly financed by the sale of the New Rochelle Half-Dollar which may now be obtained at ALL LOCAL BANKS.

HEADQUARTERS 250TH ANNIVERSARY PARADE

OFFICE OF THE GRAND MARSHAL

Police Headquarters New Rochelle, N.Y. June 10th, 1938

GENERAL ORDERS

- 1. The following orders for the movement and dismissal of the parade in honor of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of New Rochelle on June 18th, 1938, are published for the information and guidance of all concerned.
- 2. The parade will consist of the following divisions, arranged in order from front to rear.
 - a. Marshal's Division
 - b. Federal Division
 - c. City Division
 - d. Veterans Division
 - e. Youths Division
 - f. Ladies Division
 - g. Fraternal Division
 - h. School Division
 - i. Floats Division

- 3. Each Division will be in charge of a Division Marshal who will be responsible that:
- a. The division forms in its proper assembly area as listed on the attached chart.
- b. Units within the division are formed in their proper order, one behind the other.
- c. The leading unit in the division is formed with the head resting at the point indicated in the attached chart.
- d. The leading unit moves out promptly behind the last unit in the preceding division.
- e. All other units move out promptly in turn, without loss of distance.

4. MARSHAL'S DIVISION

- a. Forms on Hamilton Avenue facing west, with the head resting at North Avenue.
 - b. Units in column as follows:
 - (1) Motorcycle Police

 - (2) Grand Marshal and Staff
 (3) Mayor, Councilmen and City Manager
 - (4) 250th Anniversary Executive Committee

5. FEDERAL DIVISION

- a. Forms on Hamilton Avenue and adjacent streets as indicated on attached chart.
- b. Moves out promptly via Hamilton Avenue behind the Marshal's Division; units in the following order of march:

16th U.S. Infantry Band

Detachment 16th U.S. Infantry

Detachment U. S. Navy (from U. S. S. Tattnall)

Battalion 107th Regiment N. Y. N. G.

Detachment Old Guard

Battery "F," 156th Field Artillery, N. Y. N. G.

Naval Militia Band

Detachment New York Naval Militia

Nat Baum's Band

Detachment Postal Employees

Dobbs Ferry Band

Detachment Postal Employees

c. The commander of the Postal Employees will issue the necessary orders dividing his contingent into two parts as shown above.

6. CITY DIVISION

- a. Forms on Beaufort Place, facing north with head of column resting on Hamilton Avenue.
- b. Moves out promptly via Hamilton Avenue, behind the last unit of the Federal Division; units in the following order of march:

White Plains Fire Department Band New Rochelle Police Department New Rochelle Fire Department Department of Public Works

7. VETERANS DIVISION

- a. Forms on Manor Place facing west, head of the column resting on North Avenue.
- b. Moves out promptly via North Avenue, joining the parade behind the last unit of the City Division as it marches down North Avenue. Units will be in the following order of march:

American Legion Fife & Drum Corps Veterans V. F. W. Fife & Drum Corps Veterans Maceo Bacon Band Veterans c. The Marshal in charge of the Veterans Division will issue the necessary orders to the various veteran units, assigning them proper places in column so as to space them with an equal distribution of bands as shown in paragraph b. above.

8. YOUTHS DIVISION

a. Forms in The Serpentine facing south, head resting at the Boulevard.

b. Moves out promptly via Manor Place, behind the last unit of the Veterans Division; units in the following order of march:

> West New Rochelle Band Boy Scouts Cub Scouts American Nautical Cadets Y M C A

9. LADIES DIVISION

a. Forms on Orchard Place, east of the Park, facing north, head resting at Manor Place.

b. Moves out promptly via Manor Place, behind the last unit of the Youths Division; units in the following order of march:

Salvation Army Band
College of New Rochelle
Catholic Daughters of America
Junior Reserve Yeomanettes
Beauticians Social Club
Mrs. Bowes Trade School

10. FRATERNAL DIVISION

a. Forms on the Boulevard, facing southwest, head resting at North Avenue.

b. Moves out promptly via North Avenue, joining

the parade behind the last unit of the Ladies Division as it marches down North Avenue. Units will be in the foilowing order of march:

Clan Bruce Kilty Band Clan Bruce Marjorie Bruce Lodge Clan Eireann Band Irish American Independent Society Irish Benevolent Society Shamrock Club B. P. O. Elks Band B. P. O. Elks Junior Order American Mechanics Court Sons of Italy Calabria Society New Rochelle Musical Club Band Aviglianese Society Calitrana Ofantina New Rochelle Maennerchor Portuguese Continental Union of U.S. A. Other Organizations

11. SCHOOL DIVISION

- a. Forms on Manhattan Avenue facing west, head of column resting at the junction of Boulevard and Beaufort Place.
- b. Moves out promptly via Boulevard, behind the last unit of the Fraternal Division; units in the following order of march:

Albert Leonard Junior High School Band Albert Leonard Junior High School Isaac E. Young Junior High School Band Isaac E. Young Junior High School Senior High School Band Senior High School Boys Club of New Rochelle

12. FLOATS DIVISION

- a. Forms on Boulevard facing southwest, head resting at the Serpentine.
- b. Moves out promptly via Boulevard, Manhattan Avenue and Boulevard, behind the last unit of the School Division.
- c. The Marshal in charge of the Floats Division will issue the necessary orders placing the various floats in column in their assembly area.

13. MISCELLANEOUS

- a. Headquarters of the Grand Marshal will be established at the junction of North Avenue and Hamilton Avenue at 2:00 p. m.
- b. Division Marshals will report to the Engineer Officer at the Grand Marshal's Headquarters at 2:00 p. m. for further instructions.
- c. Commanders of units will arrange to have their units in position not later than 2:30 p. m. and will report their arrival promptly to their Division Marshal.
- d. The line of march will be south on North Avenue to Huguenot Street, west on Huguenot Street to Pintard Avenue, east on Main Street to North Avenue, south on North Avenue and dismiss as per instructions.
- e. The parade will be reviewed by Honorable James A. Farley, Postmaster General of the United States and His Excellency Herbert H. Lehman, Governor of the State of New York, at the City Hall.
- f. The Grand Marshal and his staff will review the parade at Main Street and North Avenue.
 - g. The guide will be right throughout the entire

parade, except when passing in review at the City Hall, when it will be left.

- h. Guidons will be posted to the right and left of the reviewing stand which will indicate when the salute is to commence and end.
- i. Commanding officers only will salute the reviewing officer and the Grand Marshal.
 - j. The parade will start promptly at 3:00 p. m.

14. DISMISSAL

Troops will be dismissed from the junction of North Avenue and Main Street as follows:

- a. 16th U. S. Infantry, U. S. Navy, 107th Regiment, Old Guard and Battery "F," 156th Field Artillery will proceed south on North Avenue to Pelham Road to buses awaiting their arrival.
- b. Naval Militia will proceed east on Main Street to their Armory.
- c. Post Office Division will proceed south on North Avenue to Clinton Place, east on Clinton Place sufficient distance to clear the rear of this division and dismiss.
- d. The Police Department and Fire Department will proceed south on North Avenue to Clinton Place, west on Clinton Place to Church Street, to Fire Head-quarters and dismiss.
- e. Department of Public Works will proceed east on Main Street at North Avenue to City Yard and dismiss.
- f. Veterans Division will proceed south on North Avenue, west on Clinton Place to Church Street, to American Legion Headquarters and dismiss.
- g. Youths Division will proceed south on North Avenue to Union Street, west on Union Street until rear of division clears North Avenue and dismiss.

- h. Ladies Division will proceed south on North Avenue to Union Street, east on Union Street until rear of division has cleared North Avenue and dismiss.
- i. Fraternal Division will proceed south on North Avenue to Union Street, west on Union Street until rear has passed North Avenue and dismiss.
- j. School Division will proceed south on North Avenue to Union Street, east on Union Street until rear of division has passed North Avenue and dismiss.
- k. Floats Division will proceed south on North Avenue to Pelham Road and remain parked in the center of North Avenue head resting on Pelham Road and extending north on North Avenue but not further than Main Street.

By order of GRAND MARSHAL TILDEN

OFFICIAL
STUART CUTLER,
Major, Infantry,
Chief of Staff

STUART CUTLER,
Major, Infantry,
Chief of Staff

RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURES

RECEIPTS

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New Rochelle Commemorative Coin Con	a. \$16,517.50
Sale of Tickets (Dinner, N.Y.A.C.)	375.00
Salvage on Office Furnishings	14.00
	\$16,906.50
Expenditures	
Council of Social Agencies	\$150.00
Children's Museum	157.98
Fireworks	600.00
Coin Club Medals	300.00
Library	200.00
Badges	198.65
Lighting and Decorations	2,203.21
Dinner N. Y. Athletic Club	536.69
Huguenot Association	766.58
Hobby Show	285.12
Insurance	176.00
Marine	196.00
Parade & P. O. Dedication	3,769.82
School Pageants	1,649.90
Recreation	1,036.21
Publicity & Advertising	1,200.86
Invitations	285.02
Reception (and Entertainment)	364. 1 0
Old Home Week	125.83
Administration	2,139.63
Religious	21.70
Programme	33.10
Moving Picture Films	175.00
Dinner—Combined Service Clubs	40.09
Balance (Appropriated but unexpended)	294.71
	\$16,906.50
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Of this hook

two hundred copies have been printed

for the New Rochelle Commemorative Coin Committee

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