

# FEATURES entertainment ...and fun history & hobbies

28 COURIER-FREEMAN, POTSDAM, N. Y., Thursday, June 24, 1965

## LBJ, Rocky, Others Honor Nathan Buck On 100th Birthday

by Mrs. Bernice Raymond Winthrop — Some 157 friends and relatives gathered at the United Church of Christ on June 16 to honor Nathan G. Buck on the occasion of his 100th birthday.

A large birthday cake made and decorated by Mrs. Bessie Cline, served as a centerpiece at the covered dish supper's head table. The three layers represented the three steps of life, youth, middle age and old age, with the numerical "100" gracing the extreme top.

The Rev. William Watson,

a former pastor of the Winthrop church, now serving in Mooers, spoke briefly as did the Rev. William Feldt, present pastor. Mrs. Sarah Ruston, wife of a former pastor, and of Marietta, brought greetings to the honored guest.

**Tributes Paid**  
Asa Moulton, representing the Winthrop Grange, mentioned that Mr. Buck is the oldest living Grange member in the State, having joined on Jan. 17, 1891. He served as Master in 1894.

Arthur Cassada brought tribute from Brasher Lodge F and A.M. No. 541 and Laurentian Chapter 686 O.E.S. Mr. Buck is a 50-year member of the Masons and joined Eastern Star in 1921, serving as Patron from 1939 through 1945.

Mr. Buck was a trustee of the church for 40 years, a deacon for 30 years, and was recently named Deacon Emeritus.

He was for 35 years a director of the Winthrop Bank and president of the Winthrop Cemetery Association for 40 years.

**LBJ Remembers**  
Relatives attending the dinner included Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hibbert and family, Winthrop; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Weldon and family, Watertown; Mr. and Mrs. Howard Hoy and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert McCoy, Chateaugay and Brainerdsville; Miss Eleanor Hoy, Massena.

Out of town friends return-

ing to honor the centenarian included the Rev. and Mrs. William Watson, Mooers; Mrs. Sarah Ruston, Marietta; Mrs. Muriel Ruston Stobie, Geneva; Mrs. Lottie Sampson, Mrs. Tom Tucker, Mrs. Ernest Tucker and Mrs. Douglas Kirk, Parisville.

Among the more than 200 cards and telegrams received by Mr. Buck were wired congratulations and best wishes from President Lyndon B. Johnson and New York Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller.

An interview with the honored guest by Jean LaPage was broadcast over WMSA, with Mr. Buck recounting some of the changes he has witnessed during the century.

**Social Security Honors**  
A message from the office of the executive director of the Social Security Administration was read, along with the statement by John Moulton, manager of the Ogdensburg Social Security Office, that Mr. Buck is the only centenarian in St. Lawrence County who is receiving social security benefits.

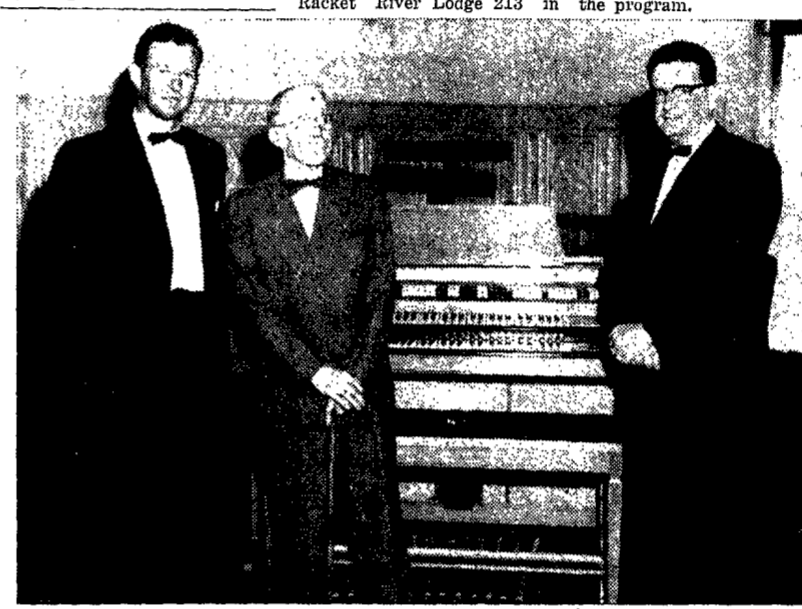
Many of the interesting facts of his life which he related to the Social Security representatives will be published by that agency in volumes entitled "America's Centennarians".

Mr. Buck was born in Brasher Falls, but lived with his family in Kansas for six years during his childhood before returning to New York State. He recalls some hair-

raising experiences with hostile Indians during his boyhood.

Despite his years, Mr. Buck is in good health and enjoys walking about the village of Winthrop each day. When he was 90 years old, he cut pulpwood and timber from a woodlot that he had planted as seedlings.

Mrs. Buck died in 1942 and he lives with their only child, Mrs. Opal Hibbert. He has seven grandchildren and 33 great-grandchildren.



**ELECTRIC ORGAN DEDICATED** — Racket River Lodge F and A.M. dedicated the new electric organ in honor of Prof. Raymond Powers, at ceremonies held in the local Masonic Temple last Thursday night. Shown above are William Sherman, master of the

## Masonic Lodge Dedicates Organ In Honor Of Prof. A. R. Powers

High tribute was paid Prof. A. Raymond Powers for his work in Masonry, his work in the community and in the area during the organ dedication ceremony last Thursday night.

The new electric organ in Racket River Lodge 213 was dedicated in honor of Professor Powers.

Theodore Renzema, past master, served as master of ceremony. The Rev. William Caldwell gave the invocation and benediction.

Brief speeches were given by William Sherman, master of Racket River Lodge 213, and Elmer L. Phelps, newly appointed district deputy grand master of the Second St. Lawrence District.

Walter B. Nickerson gave the dedication speech. He pointed out that Professor Powers was born in Chester, Mass., Apr. 2, 1885, that he graduated from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and came to Potsdam in 1911 to become a member of the faculty of Clarkson College. The faculty then consisted of just nine men. Professor Powers retired in 1955 after 44 years of service.

He became a member of Racket River Lodge 213 in

November, 1928, was elected master in 1932, served as assistant grand lecturer in 1932-3 and as district deputy in 1933-34. He was then on the committee of charters for the grand lodge until 1939, on the board of general activities from 1941 to 1950.

In response, Professor Powers said that for everything he had ever done as a Mason he had been repaid a thousand fold.

He told about the automobile accident downstate when he was in the hospital four months, and the master of the lodge there called on him every morning to see if he could do anything. The Professor said that for all the kindnesses that had been showered on him, he was ashamed of how little he himself had done.

Prof. James Autenrith, professor of organ, State University College presented a recital on the new organ, selecting numbers that would emphasize the various features.

Women had also been invited to the dedication ceremony in the lodge. Refreshments were served following the program.

## Group To Visit Dauphin Cottage

By Mary H. Biondi, County Historian

Whether he was the Lost Dauphin of France or half-bred Indian, there is no more colorful chapter in North Country history than the legend that the heir to the throne of France was hidden away in Northern New York.

Until 1851 no one questioned that the Rev. Eleazar Williams was anything but what he appeared to be, the son of one Thomas Williams, an Oneida Indian, and the granddaughter of Eleazar Williams, daughter of a Deerfield, Mass., clergyman, who was stolen by the Indians at the time of the infamous Deerfield Massacre.

In 1851 during a chance meeting on the new train from here to New York the Rev. John H. Hanson, an Episcopal rector, was told by Williams that his mind was blank until he was 14 years old but that he had certain vague memories of seeing troops drilling in a garden and resting on a carpet with his head against the silken dress of a lady.

There was much evidence that Eleazar might have not been born with Indian blood. Known in the tribe as "Lazare" he had none of their features, but strongly resembled members of the House of Hapsburg. He foresook his education which had been paid for by "mysterious" funds at Deerfield, and in 1812 operated among the St. Regis Indians keeping them loyal to the United States. He was wounded in the Battle of Plattsburgh. When he died in 1858 he was buried in the little Episcopal cemetery in Hogsburg.

As late as 1946 descendants of the French royalty visited the site there. The Duke and Duchess DeMiar were making a study of legends concerning the lost son of King Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette.

They visited the steep-gabled Queen Anne style frame building which was once the home of the missionary Eleazar Williams and the site of his church near Hogsburg. They spent hours talking with villagers and at the Murphy Hotel about the story.

The Lost Dauphin Cottage, Murphy Hotel and the gravesite of the Rev. Mr. Williams

## Museum Lists Special Exhibits

A special collection of antique railroad equipment is still on display at the Potsdam Museum, corner of Elm and Park Streets.

The collection is owned by Thomas E. Dunstone, 14 Clinton St., Potsdam, and includes lanterns, a morse code sounder, timetables, signal devices, and other railroadians used in this area in the past.

Potsdam area residents are cordially invited to view this special exhibit. Museum hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Thursdays, 7 to 9 p.m. Mondays, and 10 to 12 noon and 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesdays.

Currently the museum is preparing a special exhibit on the history of banking in Potsdam for display in the new office of the Marine Midland Bank, which opens next week. Still needed are pictures of the Frontier, First National, Citizens National and People's Bank, all former Potsdam banks. Persons wishing to loan their old photos for this display are asked to call Mrs. George Little, CO7-4325, Mrs. Jack Covell, CO7-0930 or the museum CO7-9835 today, if possible.



THE DAUPHIN COTTAGE

will all be visited on the first tour of the season of the St. Lawrence County Historical Association on Saturday, June 26.

No reservations are necessary. All members and friends may attend by being at the parking lot of the Massena High School on that date at 9:30 a.m. Pack a lunch of sandwiches and some dish to

pass family style. Lunch will be held at the St. Regis Mohawk School at Hogsburg with coffee being served.

Various churches as well as the latest Community Center at Hogsburg dedicated to Kateri Tekakwitha, known as the Lily of the Mohawks, will be visited. At one point the group will cross the border into Canada.

## Thurber Carnival Will Open Summer Artist Series At SUCP

The Syracuse University Summer Drama Touring Company will present "A Thurber Carnival," Wednesday, June 30, at 8:15 p.m. in the College Theater, to highlight opening events in the 1965 Summer Artist Series of The State University College at Potsdam. Tickets may be purchased at the theater box office on the evening of the performance.

Two events Monday (June 28), both of which are free to the public, will inaugurate the summer series. An exhibit prepared by library personnel on the Middle East, and featuring books and materials from the library's collection, will be open for viewing on the second floor of Raymond Hall. The exhibit will be on display Monday through Fri-

day between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. through July 16.

Monday evening at 8:15 p.m., Prof. T. R. Rajeschariah of Karnataka University, of Dharwar, India, will discuss some aspects of Indian culture and literature in room 211, Stowell Hall. This is the first of five lectures on cultures of Asia scheduled in the series during July and August.

"A Thurber Carnival," the long run Broadway hit revue which offered a kaleidoscope of the humor of the late James Thurber, had a run of 224 performances in New

York City following its opening in February, 1960. Thurber, a reporter, cartoonist and playwright, in addition to being one of the foremost American humorists, died in 1961 at the age of 66.

The 1965 Summer Artist Series will extend through August 3, and will feature 20 programs, including concerts, recitals, lectures, exhibits, drama and comedy. All events will be held on the campus of The State University College at Potsdam, and many are open to the public without charge.

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