



# HISTORIAN'S DIGEST

Volume XXXIX Number 2

Summer 1999

## FRIDAY EVENING CONVOCATION

### BANQUET—JUNE 25, HAMLINE UNIVERSITY

**H**oliness and Splendid Ignorance: **John Wesley and Education**” has been selected by Dr. Richard P. Heitzenrater for his address at the Convocation Banquet. In 1993, he became William Kellogg Quick Prof. of Church History and Wesley Studies at the Divinity School, Duke University. For 16 years he was Albert C. Outler Prof. Of Wesley Studies at Perkins School of Theology at SMU. Perhaps best known for “breaking the code” of Wesley’s diaries, Heitzenrater has written extensively and serves as the general editor of the 35-volume Bicentennial Edition of The Works of John Wesley.

At the banquet, the Distinguished Service Award of the General Commission will be presented. Retiring General Commission members will be honored and the Historical Society will present its awards.

*The Vision*, a play about Wesley and the founding of Kingswood School, will be presented in the Anne Simley Theatre at

Hamline University following dinner. The play was written by R. Rex Stephenson and Mike Trochim, professors at Ferrum College in Virginia. Copies of the drama will be distributed courtesy of the General Board of Higher Ed and Ministry.

To complete the evening, the United Methodist Historical Society of Minnesota will host a reception for Dr. Heitzenrater and the other persons honored.

*See inside for more details and convocation registration form.*

**Holiness and Splendid Ignorance: John Wesley and Education**

### RENEWAL REMINDER

**P**lease look at the address label on this newsletter. Above your name you will find the expiration date of your membership. If you see the date January 1999, or any earlier date, the time to renew your membership is now.

Our treasurer, would appreciate an early response. Send your checks to Lyle Johnston, 733 S. 3rd Street, Williams, AZ 86046-2461.

It is a great help when you renew on time. It saves time and money for volunteer officers.

### EASY TO RENEW

**N**ote on the Convocation registration form that you can begin or renew your Historical Society membership along with your Convocation registration.

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## **THAT REMINDS ME...**

*Robert Drew Simpson*

It may be a first in the history of our nation that there was a time when only lemonade was served in the White House. Such was the case when Rutherford B. Hayes was President. But it wasn't particularly his doing. It was Lucy Ware Webb Hayes (1831-1889), his wife, who made the rules. She was not only a Methodist, but also a dedicated member of the temperance movement. I'm sure it was her dogged vigilance that earned her the nickname, "Lemonade Lucy". If there were any attempts to spike the lemonade, history shows no record.

Lucy Webb Ware Rutherford became a Methodist while attending the Cincinnati Wesley Female College, later part of Ohio Wesleyan University. She became the first college education "first Lady" in our history. At age 30 she married Rutherford B. Hayes. They had 8 children. Four sons and one daughter grew to adulthood.

Hayes at the outbreak of the Civil War left this law practice, and became a major general in the Union Army. When he was wounded, Lucy gathered her children and took up a hospital post where she could nurse her husband as well as others among the wounded. This was the strongly determined woman who was to declare as first Lady, "No alcohol in the White House."

The Hayes family under Lucy's hand was committed to serious religious practice. It is alleged that beyond their regular worship at the Foundry Methodist Episcopal Church devotion in the White House included kneeling in prayer at each day's beginning and hymn singing each evening.

But Lucy Hayes reached out beyond her family. When the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church established the Woman's Home Missionary Society, Lucy Hayes was elected its first President. For many years she provided strong, effective leadership. Recently I found the report of the first meeting of the Society from October 29-30, 1884. Mrs. Hayes was in the chair and as the report states: "She delivered the opening address in a distinct and impressive manner, her rich voice filling the large audience-room."

But what Lucy Hayes said in her remarks set the tone, direction, and mission of this historic Society for the years to come as well as for the church.

*"Our field of usefulness is of great extent. Our home population embraces elements, more or less extensive, of every important race, nationality and language. They are of all conditions, material, intellectual and moral.*

*Coming originally from every part of the world, they are here seated in the midst of this central continent. . . By the agencies of our advancing civilization, in the near future this people will surely wield a commanding influence in the affairs, in the education, and in the religion of all mankind.*

*The inspiring and attractive field which invites our efforts is the home. First in importance are the homes of the uninformed, destitute and unfortunate of our own race. To these we must add the lately emancipated people and their posterity, of the Indians, of the Mormons, of the Spanish Americans, and of the Chinese*

**"No alcohol in the White House."  
—Lucy Webb Ware Hayes**

### **HOW DO I JOIN?**

#### **MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

Individual:	\$ 30 per year; \$ 55 for two years
Student:	\$ 20 per year
Family:	\$ 36 per year; \$ 67 for two years
Institution:	\$ 43 per year; \$ 80 for two years
Benefactor:	\$ 100 per year (\$70 gift credit for tax purposes)
Life:	\$ 500

\*Outside U.S.A., add \$2 per year for postage. Some UM conference historical societies offer reduced joint memberships.

\*Memberships are entered quarterly: January 1, April 1, June 1, or October 1 (allow 4 weeks for processing)

Make checks payable to the Historical Society and send to:

**Lyle Johnston, Treasurer  
733 So. 3rd St.  
Williams, AZ 86046-2461**

Consider a gift membership for a family member, friend, colleague, or local church library! Recipients will receive a special letter acknowledging the gift.

***HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
OF THE UMC***

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***IDEAS FOR DISPLAYS***

**Y**ou can use photos, documents, and other objects that have become important in your church's history to tell a story. Sometimes, a display project will bring a story together that had been spread around in various attics and basements. As the items are assembled, a personal history emerges. These ideas were gleaned from Desert SW Conference Historical Society's newsletter. They borrowed them courtesy of Celebrating Our United Methodist Heritage, a publication of the General Commission, available from them.

- \* Show what church members were reading at a specific period (I.e., your church's founding.)
- \* Create a Hall of Fame or a Memory Walk.
- \* Profile current or previous members in full-time church service
- \* Create a timeline that combines personal events from church records with major events in church and local secular history.
- \* Display "mystery" photos from the archives, asking church members to help identify the people and events.

Use photos, documents, and other objects to tell a story.

***SIMPSON PUBLISHES  
STORIES***

**F**rederick E. Maser and Robert Drew Simpson have collaborated on a recently published book, If Saddlebags Could Talk: Methodist Stories and Anecdotes. "If the future belongs to the storytellers, then Frederick Maser and Robert Simpson are in the driver's seat" writes Leonard Sweet, Dean at Drew Theological Seminary.

*The book is available through Ingram Distr., from Providence House—the publisher—or online at Amazon.com or Barnesandnoble.com. ISBN1-57736-121-0 – Cost \$11.95 softcover.*

## ENCAPSULATING DOCUMENTS

By Mark Shenise [excerpted from GCAH Archival Leaflet Series]

Encapsulation is a process that allows a fragile document to be sealed between two sheets of polyester film for protective viewing and ease of handling. This process does not slow down the rate of deterioration of a document—without proper preparation of the document before it is encapsulated the rate of deterioration is actually faster than if stored under standard archival conditions.

Rare and fragile documents that have an intrinsic historical value are good candidates for this process. Also, single-sheet documents work best. It is rather expensive, however. If the document itself does not have intrinsic value and the information within has only historical value, then a photocopy of the document on acid-free paper may be a better cost-effective measure.

Supplies for encapsulation must be carefully chosen. There is only one type of polyester film that is stable enough to be considered archival—Mylar® Type D (DuPont Corp.) or Melinex® 516 (ICI Americas). It comes in three thicknesses—3, 4 and 5 mil thick. Larger items require heavier film for stability. There is only one type of double-stick tape considered archival and safe for encapsulation—3M Scotch Brand double-stick tape no. 415®.

Since not all materials are candidates for encapsulation, there are other methods of archival storage. There are two-sided “folders” made out of Mylar. These enclosures are permanently sealed on two sides, which allows a document to be accessed from the two open sides. This allows protection during transportation and storage, yet access to a document without destroying the capsule. Three-sided folders are also available, but re-inserting a document might cause inadvertent damage.

Flat boxes of archival quality provide flat storage of documents. There are also file folders with clear fronts, providing viewing of the document from the front, but also protecting it.

There are encapsulation kits available from archival supply houses. There is also a step-by-step plan available on the General Commission web site [[www.gcah.org](http://www.gcah.org)].

Good luck. Happy archiving. If there are specific questions you would like to see addressed in this column, feel free to submit them to the editor.

Rare and fragile documents that have intrinsic historical value...

### THINGS THAT SHOULD NOT BE ENCAPSULATED

- ⇒ Charcoal drawings
- ⇒ Pastel drawings
- ⇒ Thickly applied water colors
- ⇒ Records with small tears on the boarders where information is lacking
- ⇒ Some pencil-based writings

### THINGS THAT COULD BE ENCAPSULATED

- ⇒ Fragile documents with a long tear(s) in them (all the information is still evident)
- ⇒ Photographs
- ⇒ Certificates
- ⇒ Handbills
- ⇒ Broadsides
- ⇒ Small textiles such as bookmarks, swatches, etc. [What about those Bible verse memorization cards?!]
- ⇒ Other paper-based records

## CONVOCAATION INFORMATION

### CONVOCAATION PLENARY ADDRESSES ANNOUNCED

Saturday morning—Dr. Russell Richey will speak on “**Early Methodist Education in America.**” Richey is Prof. Of Church History at the Divinity School, Duke University.

Saturday afternoon—Dr. Dana Robert will present “**History’s Lessons for Tomorrow’s Mission: Reflections on American Methodism in Mission.**” Robert is Prof. Of International Mission at Boston University School of Theology.

Saturday evening—Dr. Robert Monk will address the subject of “**Methodism and Its Students**” at the Saturday evening session. Monk is a retired Prof. Of Religion at McMurry College.

Sunday evening—Dr. Michael Nickerson will view **theological education through the years.** Nickerson is President of United Theological Seminary.

### GROUP PRESENTATIONS

**General Conference Legislation and the Archives & History Community**—guided by members of the General Commission on Archives & History, guided by Gen. Sec. Charles Yrigoyen, Jr. [Friday afternoon]

**Interpreting, Maintaining and Financing Historic Places**—Edwin Schell, Executive Secretary of the Baltimore-Washington Conference Historical Society, and Robert Hilten, Historian of the Holston Conference. This presentation is made possible by the GCAH Landmarks Committee.

**Landmarks of Methodist Education**—representatives from several sites declared significant by General Conference action.

**The Future of the Annual Conference Commission on Archives & History**—Jim Morris, Dan Swinson and Jean Traster, a panel of GCAH members [Monday morning]. The Genealogy Section and the Annual Conferences and Historical Societies sections both plan programs for Saturday afternoon.

### PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

**Africa University History and Update**—James Salley, Asst. Vice Chancellor of Development for Africa University, based in Nashville.

**The History of Our Black Colleges**—Dr. Joreatha McCall Capers, Asst. General Secretary for the Black College Fund, at the General Board of Higher Education and Minister.

**Women’s History in United Methodism**—Dr. Jean Miller Schmidt, Professor at Iliff School of Theology, Denver.

**Doing Local Church History**—Gerry Reiff, Director of the SE Jurisdiction Commission on Archives & History Heritage Center, Lake Junaluska, NC.

**How to Creatively Celebrate Historic Events in the Local Church**—Ann Phillips, Historian for the Memphis Annual, Conference and Secretary of the SE Jurisdiction Historical Society.

**Education on the Minnesota Frontier**—Thelma Boeder, Archivist for the MN Annual Conference and Hamline University.

**America’s First Theological Training School**—Patricia Thompson, Chair of the New England Conference Commission.

### SECTION ON COMMISSIONS & SOCIETIES

The section on Commissions and Societies will have its program meeting on Saturday, June 26 from 3:30-4:45. The Rev. Richard Harper, Oakdale MN, and the Rev. Hilda Parks, Long Prairie MN, will be sharing the presentation of the program.

The business session will be on Saturday at 8:15pm. An election of officers will take place. Pat Thompson is acting as chairperson of nominations. Serving this term: Lois Yost-Chair, Millard Mead—Vice-Chair, Jim Morris—Secretary.

Looking forward to St. Paul!...

*June 25-  
28,  
Hamline  
Univer-  
sity  
St. Paul,  
MN*

## AVAILABLE PUBLICATIONS

**E**ducational Institutions of the United Methodist Church and its Predecessor Bodies will be given to all Convocation registrants. Art Swarthout was compiler of the reports. Copies available for purchase after July 1 from GCAH office in Madison, NJ, \$10 + shipping.

A *Methodist Chronicle* a history of the Historical Society will be available for purchase at the Convocation. This volume was written by C. Faith Richardson of Newton, MA—past president and treasurer of the Society and a member of the General Commission.

A *Dream Unfolding*, the first Desert Southwest Conference history is offered at \$18 from Marianna Steele, 3502 E Cheery Lynn Rod., Phoenix, AZ 85018-6222—or at the Convocation.

## THAT REMINDS

### ME...(continued)

*now within our borders—all of whom have claims upon us for Christian civilization not to be surpassed by those of the heathen of foreign lands.*

*We believe that the character of a people depends mainly on its homes. Our special aim, therefore, is to improve home environments, home education, home industries, and home influences."*

Lucy Hayes served the Methodist Episcopal Church and our nation well in a time of immigration and expansion and set a mission for our times as well as her own.

**2000  
Conference**

**Sept.  
24-26  
Catonsville, MD  
[tentative]**

*The Historian's Digest* is published quarterly by The Historical Society of The United Methodist Church, E. Joy Dodson, Editor, Missouri UM Archives, Smiley Memorial Library, Fayette, MO 65248, and serves as the newsletter of The Historical Society of The United Methodist Church. Postmaster: Send address changes to *The Historian's Digest*, c/o Fern Christensen, 1017 Oma St., Natchitoches, LA 71457.

## THE HISTORIAN'S DIGEST

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