

SIXTY-THIRD ANNUAL CONGRESS  
OF THE DESCENDANTS OF THE  
SIGNERS OF THE DECLARATION  
OF INDEPENDENCE, INC.

May 16th and 17th, 1970.

I. Meeting of the Board of Governors

The meeting was called to order by the President-General at 10.30 A.M.

The following members were present: John Morton Fultz, Jr., M. Addison Thomas, Percy Hamilton Goodsell, Jr., Clinton B. Axford, Barbara Ann Megill, Sarah I. Lynch, Franklin B. Satterthwaite, Natalie L. Densmore, Mildred W. Lee, Emily G. Hopkinson, Schuyler N. Pyne and Truxtun R. Brodhead.

The minutes of the Sixty-second Annual Congress were dispensed with.

Registrar-General: Mrs. Gay announced the proposal of 12 new Seniors, 1 Reinstatement and 6 new Juniors. They were all elected by the Board. There were 5 reclassifications from Junior to Senior. There were 5 Deaths reported. The Registrar-Generals report appears on Attachment I

Mr. Goodsell recommended that it has been customary in the past for the Secretary-General to write a letter of condolence to the nearest relative in case of death of a member. In the event another Officer is better acquainted with the family an exception should be made in such cases.

The President-General commented on the Questionnaire and he believes the Society eventually should benefit from the knowledge gained from it.

Announcement was made by the President-General that the Fall Meeting will held in Frederick Maryland on October 24 and 25th, 1970. Col. Frederick C. Pyne President of the Maryland Society will be in charge of all details.

Mr. Satterthwaite will urge Mrs. H. Richard Schumacher to try for an early summer addition of the Bulletin.

July 4th, 1970: The Sons of the Revolution have invited our Society to participate in their exercises in the park south of Independence Hall. Miss. Mildred W. Lee will represent the D.S.D.I. officially. All are welcome.

Bicentennial Committee: Mr. Goodsell advised that approximately four artists are interested in competing for the Plaque to be placed in the East Vestibule of the Capitol. A letter from the Advisory Committee of the National Sculptor Association recommend or suggest three sculptors.

Scholarship Committee: One applicant applied for the Scholarship and the mother of another inquired, but too late. A letter from Dr. Downs suggested that Miss. Goldrick who has graduated from the University of Missouri and is now taking Graduate work, would be his recommendation for our Scholarship in 1970. The President-General, with the Boards tacit approval, will settle this case with Dr. Downs.

Vacancies on the Board of Governors: The following were suggested to fill the vacancies on the Board: Miss. Mildred Washington Lee, Pennsylvania Mr. Armistead Churchill Young, Jr, Virginia and Mrs. Lionel Theodore DeForest, South Carolina. Mr. Henry Fulton Davis, III was proposed as the at Large member of the Board of Governors.

University Hospital Antique Show, April 1971: Mr. Fultz has a letter from this very successful annual affair. They ask if we would undertake to furnish a small room 10' by 20' with antiques previously in the possession of Signers. The Board agreed that Mr. Fultz should explore the possibilities of acquiring sufficient furniture, pictures etc. from donors to make such a show worth while. Mrs. Gay made a motion to this effect. While on this subject, it was discussed briefly that possibly newspaper publicity could be organized to facilitate more information about the Signers and the possible whereabouts of any of their possessions today.

Microfilming Society Records: Mr. Goodsell stated that he was advised that the Church of the Latter Day Saints may be able to microfilm our records within the year. This work would be done at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

Treasurer-General: Miss. Densmore reported a balance in the checking account of \$123.90 and total assets of \$17,941.79. Seventeen Delinquents are also posted.

The Treasurer-General's reports appear in Attachment II

Dues: After some discussion a motion was made by Mr. Axford that the Annual Dues for Senior Members be raised from \$5.00 to \$8.00, beginning July 1st, 1970.

The President-General suggested that we might better accrue the expense of printing the Year Book. Since it is printed approximately every five years at expense estimated at \$3,000.00, this amount should be accumulated over a five year period.

The meeting was adjourned at 12.15 P.M.

## II General Meeting of the Society

The meeting was called to order at 2.15 P.M. by the President-General in the East Wing Annex of Independence Hall.

The Prayer was given by Honorary Chaplain-General Reverend Dr. Ernest A. Harding, Rector of Christ Church.

The First Vice President-General led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Secretary-General read the minutes of the Sixty-second Annual Congress. The minutes were accepted as read.

The President-General Franklin B. Satterthwaite on commenting on the condition and needs of the Society, spoke highly of our wonderful country. We have extended Civil Rights, but patriotism must also be extended to include more of our younger generation. Our children are not always so graceful but we must communicate with them to a greater extent.

Dues: The President-General reported that the Board of Governors had voted to raise Senior members dues from \$5.00 to \$8.00 per year, beginning July 1st, 1970. This raise was made necessary because of the mounting cost of administration.

Honorary Past Presidents-General Goodsell and Pyne were introduced to the meeting.