



THE CLF NEWSLETTER

Vol. IX

May 1995

No. 2

President's Column

Over 1,000 members in two months! The membership goal set for Clayton Library Friends was to attain the 1,000 mark before the end of 1995. Thanks to the efforts of Liz Hicks and her membership committee, we are already there. And that is over 300 more members than we had at this time last year. I told you in the last newsletter that our hosting of the 1994 NGS conference was the beginning of a great era for CLF. The results of the membership drive certainly make a clear statement about the loyalty of our members and their strong commitments to Clayton Library.

Our February general meeting was a great success. Mary Lewis Ulmer, retired head librarian, talked on how Clayton Library grew from one book case of genealogy books to the major national collection of over 70,000 books today. Ms. Ulmer gave special credit to Bess Reynolds and Katherine Reynolds, who were true "angels" to the collection then, just as many of you have become angels now in our periodical program. Much support also came from the Houston Genealogical Forum and from Harriet Dickson Reynolds, director of the Houston Public Library system at the time. But we all recognize that Ms. Ulmer is the main reason that we have

our outstanding collection today. A very gratifying comment came from Barbara Franz, genealogy librarian at the Montgomery County Library, who gave Ms. Ulmer praise for the guidance in teaching her the ways and means for building a great genealogical collection. Ms. Ulmer, I know that all the members of the Clayton Library Friends join me in expressing thanks for our wonderful library.

Now that we have heard the history of Clayton Library, our next program focuses on the future. Lou Caldwell, Director of Central Services,

which includes the Clayton Library, will speak to us on plans for updating the card catalog, the use of the old Clayton home, the current policies of Clayton Library, and other topics. After her speech, there will be a period of questions and answers from the floor. Many of you have expressed questions and concerns, so this is your chance to address the adminis-

tration directly. Please drop me a note or call me before the meeting if there is a topic that you would like Lou to cover in her talk. The Executive Board is very pleased that she is speaking to us. She is a CLF supporter and has given us much help in the past year.

Keep our "Angel" program in mind. Again, through the efforts of Liz Hicks, this program has been a huge success. Plans are underway to

establish a broader-based, permanent program. Watch for this in future newsletters.

Mark May 20th on your calendar and plan to be at our seminar on the beginner's guide to using Clayton Library. Gay Carter has planned an excellent lineup of speakers and topics that will guide and motivate the beginning researcher. Remember that this is a service for you as a member of Clayton Library Friends.

The success of our programs underscores the fact that our organization is a strong, healthy one. We are very proud of our past accomplishments and look forward to our future. The enthusiasm and dedication of CLF members contribute to Clayton Library's stature among the major genealogical collections in the country. ■

John Dorroh

NEXT MEETING:

May 13th
Montrose Library
4100 Montrose
10:15 a.m.

SPEAKER:

Lou Caldwell
Director of Central Services
Houston Public Library

TOPIC:

"The Present and Future
Clayton Library"

Census Update

The Index (Miracode) to the 1910 Ohio Census is now in the microfilm cabinets and available for use. Clayton Library Friends recently acquired funds to purchase another state index, so the 1910 Michigan Soundex was ordered. The collection, consisting of almost 300 rolls of microfilm, is now available for patron use.

The acquisition of Ohio and Michigan indexes leaves only two states to complete the available 1910 Soundex and Miracode indexes. We

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CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS

P. O. Box 271078

Houston, Texas 77277-1078

Established 1987

Clayton Library Friends is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization under IRS Code 501(c)(3). The sole purpose of CLF is to enrich the resources and facilities of the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research.

ELECTED OFFICERS

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Ruth Chambers Lewis 2nd VP
Stephanie Anne Hebert Secretary
Robert L. Lowry, Jr. Treasurer

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Gladys Rutledge Edwards
Rafael Gijón y Robles

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Mic Barnette
Ann Brittain Reed
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Donald E. Pusch, editor
Elizabeth Yates Johnson, assistant editor

Annual Membership Dues

Individual \$10.00
Two People (same address) .. \$15.00

Special Friends

Contributor \$1 to \$49
Donor \$50 to \$99
Patron \$100 to \$249
Sponsor \$250 to \$499
Benefactor \$500 and above

Clayton Library Friends Financial Report

(January 1 through March 31, 1995)

CHECKING ACCOUNT—First Interstate

Starting Balance \$ 17,427
Unrestricted Funds \$ 9,101
Restricted Funds
Census 481
Rebinding 1,970
Other 1,774
CLF operating funds
Dues 4,101

Deposits, total 15,954

Unrestricted 8,563

Restricted

Census 185
Rebinding 25
Endowment 1,446
Other 318

CLF operating funds

Dues 5,367
Prepaid dues 50

Withdrawals, total 9,355

Unrestricted 6,146

Restricted

Census 666
Rebinding 285
Endowment 1,000
Other 589

CLF operating funds 669

Ending Balance 24,026

Unrestricted 11,518

Restricted

Census -0-
Rebinding 1,710
Endowment 446
Other 1,503

CLF operating funds 8,799

Prepaid dues 50

MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT—Bank One (closed 2/15/95) -0-

ENDOWMENT FUND—Univ. State Bank 12,953

Certificate of deposit #1 5,240

Certificate of deposit #2 7,300

Savings account 413

Robert L. Lowry, Jr., Treasurer

Using the Georgia Tax Digest Indices

by Mic Barnette

The United States Constitution, Article 1, Section 2, mandated that an enumeration of the people of each state be taken in 1790 and every subsequent ten years. With the exception of the 1890 census, most states have continual censuses from 1790 through 1990. Georgia does not have a surviving 1790 census. In fact, Georgia is also missing her 1800 and 1810 censuses, and the 1820 census is incomplete.

To compensate for lost records, researchers often use any material they can in order to fill gaps and locate ancestors. For the missing Georgia census records, one important gap-filler is the collection of tax digests held in the Georgia State Archives.

Thanks to the R. J. Taylor Foundation, there is a convenient means for accessing the Georgia tax digests. The Foundation was set up by Mr. R. J. Taylor to promote scholarship and to publish records of Georgia citizens who lived prior to 1850. In an effort to fill the gap of the missing 1790, 1800, 1810, and 1820 censuses, the Foundation funded publication of a five-volume series of books indexing some of the extant Georgia tax digests. Clayton Library has two complete copies of this series, titled *An Index to Georgia Tax Digests*. These are located in the Georgia section on the first floor. The call number is 975.8 I38.

Volumes in the series of tax digests cover the following years:

- I. 1789-1799 (a substitute for the 1790 census)
- II. 1800-1802 (a substitute for the 1800 census)
- III. 1804-1806
- IV. 1809-1811 (a substitute for the 1810 census)
- V. 1814-1817

Prior to 1820 there were 50 Georgia counties. Of these, 28 have extant tax digests for one or more years in the period 1790-1820. The R. J. Taylor Foundation studied the extant tax digests and chose those that would correspond to the dates of the missing censuses. In volumes 2-5 they attempted to index tax digests for the years 1800, 1805, 1810, and 1815. If, for example, a tax digest was more nearly complete in 1804 or 1806, that digest might have been used in place of a less complete 1805 list. It is necessary for researchers to study the charts in each volume of the series to see which counties were published and for which years. It is also suggested that researchers watch for

digests that are not indexed.

Each volume of the series contains an introduction to the entire series and a chart listing the counties and tax digest years published in each volume. Each volume also contains listings, by county, of the tax lists that are extant but unpublished.

For each volume there is a "Key to Location Symbols" section that provides a guide to county and district abbreviations. For example, "CK" is used for Clarke County and "EL" for Elbert County. Under each county heading is the abbreviation for the Georgia Militia District (GMD). In most cases, prior to 1820, the GMDs went by the name of the local militia captain. Thus, "al" might represent Captain Alexander's District, or "ba" Captain Barnett's District.

There is a section of "Notes on the Tax Digests" in each volume. These notes give excellent insight into the condition and completeness of each digest enumerated in the book. The notes also indicate instances where original page numbers were used or where page numbers had to be provided by the transcriber. Other notes reflect the legibility of the handwriting or quality of the microfilm used to compile the index. They also list the Georgia State Archives microfilm number used for the transcription.

The crux and purpose of the series is the actual index of taxpayer names. Each taxpayer in the state is listed alphabetically, surname first and given name second. Following the name is the county of residence, GMD, tax digest year, and page number appearing on the tax digest. Asterisks following page numbers indicated there was no original page number and the transcriber supplied one.

For further study, the researcher should go to the actual microfilm copy of the tax digest for the concerned county and locate the entry indexed in the Taylor Foundation series. Clayton Library has many tax digests on microfilm. If the desired county or tax year is unavailable at Clayton, microfilm may be borrowed from Salt Lake City through any Family History Center.

The actual tax digests list the GMD as Captain Neal's (or Roger's or Crawford's, etc.) District. All tax payers are listed in the district in which they resided. In some cases, tax digests are arranged alphabetically. Fortunately, most are not. We say this because, in alphabetized listings, there is no convenient way to identify neighbors—something that

(Continued on page 7.)



Proposed Amendments to CLF Bylaws

On March 20th, the CLF Executive Board approved submission, to the membership, of the following amendments to the Clayton Library Friends bylaws. The proposed amendments will be voted upon by the CLF membership at the May 13th meeting.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 3.2

Paragraphs 1 and 2:

Current wording: Dues for one person shall be \$10.00 annually. Dues for two persons within the same household shall be \$15.00. Implementation of the \$15.00 dues rate for two persons in the same household shall become effective January 1, 1990.

Proposed: Dues shall be set annually by the Executive Board.

Paragraph 3

Current wording: Dues for renewal of membership shall be due on January 1. Dues not received by February 1 shall be considered delinquent, and the member's name will not be in the yearbook. Dues not received by March 1, will result in forfeiture of membership.

Proposed: Dues for renewal of membership shall be due on January 1. Dues not received by March 1 shall be considered delinquent, and the member's name will not be in the yearbook.

SECTION 3.3

Current wording: Dues for new members joining after July 1 shall be one-half the annual dues.

Proposed: Omitted from Bylaws.

ARTICLE V - EXECUTIVE BOARD

SECTION 5.5

Current wording: Any member of the Executive Board who has failed to attend two consecutive board meetings without just cause shall no longer be a member of the board unless the board votes to allow him to remain. In the event that any member of the board shall cease to be a member of the Friends, he shall no longer be a member of the board.

Proposed: Any member of the Executive Board who has failed to attend two consecutive board meetings without just cause shall no longer be a member of the board unless the board votes to allow this member to remain. No dues-delinquent member shall be a member of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

SECTION 6.3

Paragraph 1

Current wording: The Nominating Committee shall have five members: one member shall be elected by the Executive Board at its regular meeting, and the remaining four shall be elected by the membership at the regular August meeting. Nominations for this committee shall be made from the floor. If only four are nominated, voting shall be by voice vote; if more are nominated, voting shall be by ballot. A plurality vote will elect.

Proposed wording: The Nominating Committee shall have five members: one member shall be elected by the Executive Board at its meeting, and the remaining four shall be elected by the membership at the regular MAY meeting. Nominations for this committee shall be made from the floor. If only four are nominated, voting shall be by voice vote; if more are nominated, voting shall be by ballot. A plurality vote will elect.

Sponsors needed for

Alabama county tract book microfilms

During a recent research trip to Alabama, CLF president John Dorroh discovered that microfilm of the county tract books for all Alabama counties is available for purchase at \$16 per roll. Alabama tract books show the original owner, the location of the land (section, township, range and/or the part thereof), and the adjoining landowners. There is one roll of film per county except for Baldwin, Cleburne, Conecuh, Escambia, Mobile, Talladega, and Tuscaloosa, for which there are two rolls each. If you would like to sponsor the purchase of one or more rolls of this film, please contact: Liz Hicks: (713) 944-1118. ■

MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Maxine
Alcorn

Maxine Alcorn, manager of the Clayton Library, was selected Manager of the Year recently by the Houston Public Library. Miss Alcorn has served as manager of the Clayton Library since 1980. Congratulation, Maxine! ■

American State Papers

by Gay E. Carter

THE publications of Congress, particularly those from the formative years of the United States, are a rich resource for genealogists. As the frontier moved westward, local government developed slowly and settlers in the newest parts of the country had to rely on the federal government for protection, the building of roads, and other relief. Among the wealth of information found in Congressional documents are military records (e.g., army and navy registers), land records, private claims, maps, lists of patentees, lists of government employees, and lists of pensioners.

The House of Representatives passed a resolution in 1813 requiring the systematic publication of the papers produced by the business of the House. The Senate followed shortly with similar resolutions. This was the beginning of what became known as the *U.S. Serial Set*, so-called because, as each volume is collected and printed, it is assigned a sequential number. The serial numbering system that gives the Serial Set its name began with the 15th Congress (1817) and continues today.

It wasn't until 1831 that Congress began work on a similar collection of documents covering the earliest years of the federal government. The publications of the first several Congresses were grouped into subject classes and are known collectively as *American State Papers*. There is some overlap with the time period covered by the Serial Set, as most volumes of *American State Papers* contain documents at least through the year 1823, and some volumes extend into the 1830s.

The four main types of Congressional publications are Senate Reports, House Reports, Senate Documents, and House Documents. Within each Congress and session, each of these is assigned a sequential number. Thus, **H.rp 7 (27-1)** is translated as the **7th House Report of the 27th Congress, 1st session**. Reports and documents in *American State Papers* volumes are numbered sequentially within each class.

American State Papers is arranged in ten subject classes:

Class I: Foreign Relations, 6 volumes, 1789-1828, 1st-20th Congress: State of the Union addresses, copies of treaties, correspondence, and some matters relating to commerce, navigation, finance, and claims.

Class II: Indian Affairs, 2 volumes, 1789-1827, 1st-19th Congress: treaty texts and their accompanying

documents, reports on Indian Wars, and documents concerning Indian trade.

Class III: Finance, 5 volumes, 1789-1828, 1st-20th Congress: public debt and public credit, revenue and taxation, and revenue collection.

Class IV: Commerce and Navigation, 2 volumes, 1789-1823, 1st-17th Congress: imports and exports, light-houses, improvement of harbors and waterways, shipping tonnage, and coastal trade.

Class V: Military Affairs, 7 volumes, 1789-1838, 1st-25th Congress: Army and militia organization, fortifications, War of 1812, and other military operations.

Class VI: Naval Affairs, 4 volumes, 1794-1836, 1st-24th Congress: matters concerning officers and seamen, shipbuilding, explorations, and naval operations.

Class VII: Post Office Department, 1 volume, 1790-1833, 1st (2d sess)-22d congress; department organization, post roads, postal contracts, mail delivery, and postage rates.

Class VIII: Public Lands, 8 volumes, 1789-1837, 1st-24th Congress: bounty lands and grants, preemption titles, land sales, and corporate land claims.

Class IX: Claims, 1 volume, 1790-1823, 1st-(2d sess)-17th Congress: petitions for extra pay, compensation for services, and losses due to military or government action.

Class X: Miscellaneous, 2 volumes, 1789-1823, 1st-17th Congress: contested congressional elections, admission of new states, state boundaries, slavery issues, and other subjects not covered in classes I-IX.

Each volume has a subject index.

It is generally accepted that the most genealogically useful volumes of *American State Papers* are those dealing with public lands (Class VIII) and claims (Class IX). Access to the documents in these volumes was greatly enhanced with the publication in 1972 of Phillip McMullin's *Grassroots of America*, which provides indexing for every name found in the documents. In 1994, Southern Historical Press reprinted the *American State Papers* Public Lands and Claims volumes along with *Grassroots of America* as the set's comprehensive index.

But don't use only the Public Lands and Claims. Be sure to explore the other classes for such gems as "... petitioner in the case sets forth that she is the widow

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Case files of applications from former Confederates for presidential pardons, "Amnesty Papers"

by Kelvin Meyers, Genealogical Division, Dallas Public Library
Reprinted from the DGS Newsletter with the permission of the author

Overview. During the Civil War, the Federal government recognized a need for laws to deal with the rebellious acts of the Southern population. *Treason* seemed too strong a word and *death* was a punishment too severe for many of the acts in support of the Confederacy. Congress passed acts of 31 July 1861 and 17 July 1862 that fixed penalties for the crimes of "conspiracy" and "rebellion." The latter act also provided for future pardon and amnesty by presidential proclamation. The pardon and amnesty would be extended "any persons who may have participated in the existing rebellion . . . with such exceptions and at such time and on such conditions as [the President] may deem expedient for the public welfare."

President Lincoln issued the first amnesty proclamation on 8 December 1863, which had six classes of persons excluded from pardon. A supplementary proclamation dated 26 March 1862 added a seventh exception. These exceptions mainly provided for persons who served in United States legislative positions and United States military positions who left to serve the Confederacy. It also provided that the excluded classes could make application to the President for special pardon.

In 1865, President Johnson issued a proclamation that incorporated Lincoln's exceptions and added seven others. Johnson indicated that he did not wish to deny pardon to many in the excepted classes, but he "intended they should sue for pardon, and so realize the enormity of their crime." Subsequent proclamations narrowed the exceptions until finally extending amnesty to all "unconditionally and without reservation."

Content. By the fall of 1867, President Johnson had granted approximately 13,500 individual pardons. The principal body of records created and reproduced in this microfilm (73 reels) consists of approximately 14,000 files containing pardon applications and related papers submitted to President Johnson from 1865 through 1867. These applications are mainly unsworn statements by petitioners, but there is a large number of statements sworn before a magistrate. Included in each application is an oath of

allegiance signed by the petitioner and, in many cases, recommendations from prominent citizens for clemency or letters from relatives or friends containing pleas for compassion. The individual files often contain considerable information on a pardon applicant's background, his activities during the war years, and his attitude in defeat. Approximately half of the applications are from individuals excepted under the proclamation of 29 May 1865 because of their ownership of property valued at more than \$20,000. This will include women who have *femme sole* status.

Location. These records are found in Clayton Library in cabinet 43, drawer 7.

The pardon application files are divided into three groups: (1) applications submitted by persons from the South; (2) pardon applications submitted by persons from the North and West; and (3) applications submitted by persons who designated no state, territory, or district. Each of the first two groups is arranged alphabetically by state, territory, or district and then alphabetically by first letter of surname. The third group is arranged alphabetically by surname of petitioner.

The introduction of the microfilm (on reel #1) gives the classes of persons who were excluded from the benefits of amnesty under each act. An alphabetical index of petitioners is also contained on reel #1. Indicated beside each name in the index is the state from which the petitioner submitted the application. Below each name are notations indicating whether the individual's papers are to be found in the special files located at the end of the alphabetically arranged records under each state. In some instances, an individual filed at different times from different states. Each state will be shown under the index entry for that individual. In some instances, pardon seekers are mentioned only in the miscellaneous file of the state from which they sought pardon. In such instances, their names are not included in the alphabetical name index.

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Georgia Tax Digest Index (continued from page 3)

is often of great importance to genealogists.

The following categories of taxation are noted in the digests:

Polls: Polls are taxes on each white male over the age of 18 or 21, depending on the law at the time. Polls were payable until the age of 45 or 60, again, depending on the prevailing law. It is common to see men paying a poll tax and not having other taxable property. Free men of color were also taxed.

Slaves: The number of slaves taxable. Not all slaves were taxable. Sometimes slaves, either very young or very old, may not have been taxed. Laws would vary from year to year. Only slaves taxed would be listed on digests. Only the number of slaves, and not their names, were given.

Number of acres of land by quality: 1st, 2nd, 3rd quality, or "Pinelands."

The county in which real property was located: Taxpayers paid their taxes in the county in which they resided. Taxes paid on owned property in counties other than the residence county were paid in the county of residence.

The name of the original grantee of the land: The taxpayer may have been the original owner, he may have purchased the land from the original grantee, or he might be several purchasers removed from the original purchaser. With this information, the researcher can often build a chain of title for the land in question.

The name of the water course on which the land was located: Land deeds often refer to the water course. It is a point of reference in tracing land.

The name of adjacent land owners: Adjacent land owners were an ancestor's neighbors, relatives, and friends. Knowing adjacent land owners is helpful in further research, particularly when a researcher can find no more on that ancestor or if there is more than one person of a particular given name and surname.

By knowing the names of adjacent land owners, the name of the water course, and the original grantee, it is possible to distinguish one man of the same name from another and one piece of property from another.

Depending on the tax year, there may be other taxable items listed, such as two-wheel or four-wheel carriages, cash, watches or clocks, professional occupations, such as doctors or lawyers, and a variety of other types of valuable personal property.

The last item on the digest is the actual tax paid.

Tax records, or digests, as they are termed in Georgia, can be filled with all types of "goodies" for genealogical and historical researchers. Few researchers use tax records. The R. J. Taylor Foundation has done a commendable job in coming to the aid of researchers by publishing the index

to tax digests coinciding with the years of missing censuses. It would behoove the researcher to use the Taylor Foundation's *Index* and then to follow through to locate the actual record referred to in the digest.

Microfilms of the actual tax digests are available from the Georgia State Archives for \$20 per reel. Since Clayton owns only a small part of the overall collection, researchers are encouraged to donate funds for use in making additional purchases. If you need a tax digest reel that Clayton does not have, please consider making a restricted gift to CLF for the purpose of acquiring it. Donations of this nature help all of us who use Clayton Library—and they are tax deductible! ■

Amnesty Papers (continued from page 6)

Examples. Petition filed by G. F. Wells of Laurens District, South Carolina, describes his worth before the war as over \$20,000 but goes on to explain that he is now unable to fix a value to his estate. His amnesty oath is dated 5 July 1865, and the petition contains his original signature. A description of the petitioner is given as 66 years of age, five feet six inches high, grey hair, blue eyes, dark complexion and is a farmer by occupation. Rosanna E. Clayton of Lynchburg, Virginia, filed application for amnesty 26 June 1865 as a *femme sole* with property valued over \$20,000. Her original signature is also on the petition. ■

Census Update (continued from page 1)

need the California index (about \$6,000) and the Pennsylvania index (about \$15,000). Please keep this in mind in your contribution plans for Clayton Library Friends.

Even better news is the acquisition of the 885 rolls of the 1920 New York Soundex. This recent and very important addition to Clayton Library's census collection is in cabinet 24, drawers 1-8. The state was not indexed for 1910, so the acquisition of the 1920 index provides an important resource for researching ancestors in the state of New York. ■

At the February meeting, a member presented the president with a copy of a book on the history of the Annunciation Church of St. Hedwig, Texas, to be donated to Clayton Library.

Would the donor of this book please call John Dorroh at (713) 498-2603 or Liz Hicks at (713) 944-1118.

Works by Emmett Jay Scott and Andrew Webster Jackson now available on microfilm

by Gladys Rutledge Edwards

Individuals with interests in African-American genealogy will be pleased to know that Clayton has microfilm copies of two important books—long out of print—that provide biographical information specifically related to members of this ethnic group in Texas. The books, one by Emmett Jay Scott, the other by Andrew Webster Jackson, were microfilmed from fragile, first edition copies owned by the Houston Public Library. The microfilmed copies are now available for patron use in the microprint reading area at Clayton.

Scott's *The Redbook of Houston: A Compendium of the Social, Professional, Educational, and Industrial Interests of Houston's Colored Population* (Houston, ca. 1915) documents professionally and socially prominent members of Houston's Black community at the turn of the century. Included is information on associated businesses, churches, fraternal organizations, and schools. Of particular interest are the book's many photo-

graphs of prominent Black families and their homes. A section on education describes Houston's Black high schools and lists names of faculty members, their positions, and salaries.

The microfilm of this book can be found in cabinet 37, drawer 5, on the second floor of Clayton Library.

Redbook author, Emmett J. Scott (1873-1958), was born and reared in Houston. He was a graduate of Wiley University, Marshall, Texas, and was co-founder and editor of *The Texas Freeman* newspaper, the city's first Black newspaper. He went on to become executive secretary of the Tuskegee Institute and secretary-treasurer and business manager for Howard University. For a short biographical account of Scott, see Patricia Smith Prather and Bob Lee, editors, "Emmett J. Scott (1873-1958)," *Texas Trailblazer*, August 1992.

Jackson's *A Sure Foundation* (Houston, ca. 1939) is a collection of biographies of prominent African-Americans living in Texas in the early

20th century. Jackson traveled throughout the state and was personally acquainted with many of the individuals mentioned in the text. Included are biographies and photographs of Black musicians, composers, poets, writers, and clergymen, the latter including the Reverends Albert A. Lucas, F. L. Lights, D. H. Rankin, and E. J. Howard, to name a few.

The microfilm of this book can be found in cabinet 37, drawer 6, on the second floor of Clayton Library.

Sure Foundation author, Andrew Webster Jackson (1886-1963), was born in Booth, Fort Bend County, Texas, and was a graduate of Prairie View A&M College. He served as the 45th president of the Colored Teachers State Association of Texas and was active as an educator in Rosenberg, Texas, serving as principal of the Rosenberg High School. For a short biographical account of Jackson, see "A. W. Jackson (1886-1963)," *Texas Trailblazer*, series 2, no. 3 (1994). ■

1995 Clayton Library Friends membership drive a major success!

The 1995 Clayton Library Friends Yearbook went to the printer on March 24th with 1,008 members listed. This is a first for CLF and reflects the strong support we have for sustaining and expanding the Clayton Library collection and promoting the facility as one of the country's finest.

The following CLF volunteers made it possible for us to reach our goal of 1,000 Friends:

Telephone committee. Nancy Early Grubbs, Odile Lawler Roberts, Lin Ashcraft Stevens, Mary Felscher Fleming, Stephanie A. Hebert, Dorothy Howell Carroll, Gladys Rutledge Edwards, Carolyn Boor Cannon, Bonnie Langford Taylor, Jimmy E. Dowell, John L. Ryan, Jeanette Kirtley Brooks, Eddie Jean Scott Simmons, Mariel Morgan Laughter, Howard M. Itz, and Berlyn Carey Bazzoon.

Sign-up Table (Clayton & Houston Forum): Carolie Smith Martin, Malcolm McCorquodale III, Ruth A. Honerkamp, Mary A. Austill, Susan Dickson Whitworth, Tom and Margaret Sexton Mathies, Elizabeth Yates Johnson, Margaret Grigsby Mottley, Dale R. Morgan, Frank L. Worley, Jr., Joan Evans, and Dorothy Howell Carroll.

Silent Fund Raiser for Membership: Ruth Chambers Lewis.

Posters and Forms: Karen Daniel and Don Pusch.

Mail Processing: Margaret Grigsby Mottley and Eleanor Alderman McGee.

And a very special word of thanks to Margaret Grigsby Mottley, Dr. James Younglove, T. Norman Crook, and Robert L. Lowry, Jr., for their very valuable assistance.

All of you, please give yourselves a BIG PAT on the back for a job well done!

Elizabeth Nitschke Hicks, Membership Chairman

American State Papers (continued from page 5)

of Doctor George C. Clitherall, deceased, late a surgeon in the army of the United States . . ." (Military Affairs, No. 572) or ". . . requesting information relative to the amount paid Mr. George Bowen for carrying mail on route No. 218, Edgefield, S.C., to Greenville . . ." (Post Office, No. 117). Placing an ancestor in a particular place at a particular time, finding a clue to a date of death, or discovering evidence of military service are just a few of the rewards of researching in *American State Papers*.

Clayton Library has the original volumes of *American State Papers* published by Gales and Seaton, two editions of *Grassroots of America*, and the Southern Historical Press reprint set. All can be found within the U.S. section of the library, but you will find the various classes of the original volumes filed under different call numbers, depending on the subject of the volumes. For example, *Public Lands* is under call number 333.10973 U58 USA, *Claims* is under 346.73 U58 USA, and *Miscellaneous* is found under 973 U58 USA. Library patrons who have used these books know that because of preservation concerns, the original volumes may not be photocopied. One advantage of the reprint set is that they can be photocopied. Here's a tip from CLF member Ruby Dusek: Since the type size in the reprint edition is very small, use the older set to find and read the documents, and then take the newer volumes to the photocopier to make a record for your files.

American State Papers: Documents, Legislative and Executive of the Congress of the United States . . . 38 vols. Washington: Gales and Seaton, 1832-61. (various call numbers within the U.S. section)

American State Papers: Public Lands and Claims. 9 vols. Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1994. Reprint. (GEN 333.10973 U58 USA)

McMullin, Phillip W., ed. *Grassroots of America: a Computerized Index to the American State Papers: Land Grants and Claims (1789-1837).* . . . Conway, AR: Arkansas Research, 1990. Reprint, orig. pub., Salt Lake City: Gendex Corporation, 1972. (GEN 333.10973 U58 USA)

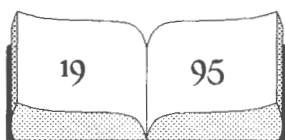
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Glavinick, Jacquelyn. "Genealogy Research in the U.S. Serial Set." *Heritage Quest* No. 33 (March 1991): 14-15.

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**Concerning the 1995 Yearbook**

Although renewal dues are payable by January 1st, we gladly welcome new and renewing

members all year long. Cut-off date for inclusion in (and receipt of) the 1995 CLF yearbook was February 28th. If you joined before that date, you should have already received a copy by mail—if after, you may obtain a copy, while supplies last, by contacting Liz Hicks at (713) 944-1118. ☐

EXTRA

Just before publication, we were advised that Barbara Gubbin, Director Designate of the Houston Public Library, will be in attendance at the May 13th general membership meeting. Ms. Gubbin, along with our guest speaker, Lou Caldwell, Director of Central Services, will be available to answer questions and hear any comments you may have about Clayton Library or the Houston Public Library system. ☛

□ WHAT'S NEW IN THE LIBRARY

By Elizabeth Hicks

The Shane Manuscript Collection (microfilm) and *The Shane manuscript Collection: A Genealogical Guide to the Kentucky and Ohio Papers*. These references have to do with Presbyterians on the frontier (1778-1858). If you've found information on your ancestors in the *Draper Papers*, you should take a look at this collection. The microfilm is located in cabinet 48, drawer 7; the published guide is located in the USA Section, 977 H181.

Cemeteries of the U.S.: A Guide to Contact Information for U.S. Cemeteries and Their Records, Deborah M. Burek, editor (first edition, 1994). This work is an excellent resource for locating cemetery records. It has listings of cemeteries by state, county, cemetery name, former or alternate names, affiliation (religious, military, etc.). Included also are the names and addresses of state government regulatory offices, cemetery districts, and related organizations (historical and genealogical organizations) and information concerning the availability of published material. There is an affiliation index as well as a master index. The book is located on the ready reference shelf.

Texas Voter Registration Rolls 1867-1869 (microfilm). These rolls serve as in-between censuses or "people finders" for the period immediately following the Civil War. They are especially important in that, during this period, African-Americans could vote in Texas for the first time. The clerk would list the names of the eligible voters in the county by precinct and indicate how long the voter had

lived in the precinct, county, and state of nativity. When the voter came in to vote, he would sign the ledger opposite his name, and in many cases the name varies greatly in spelling from what the clerk wrote down. African-American voters were designated as "colored."

One can also find interesting comments written by the clerk, such as "moved to such and such county," "naturalized, etc." The microfilm is located in cabinet 37, drawer 6.

North Carolina County Court Minutes for Moore County, 1784-1795, and Randolph County, 1811-1826 (2 rolls of microfilm). Located in cabinet 32.

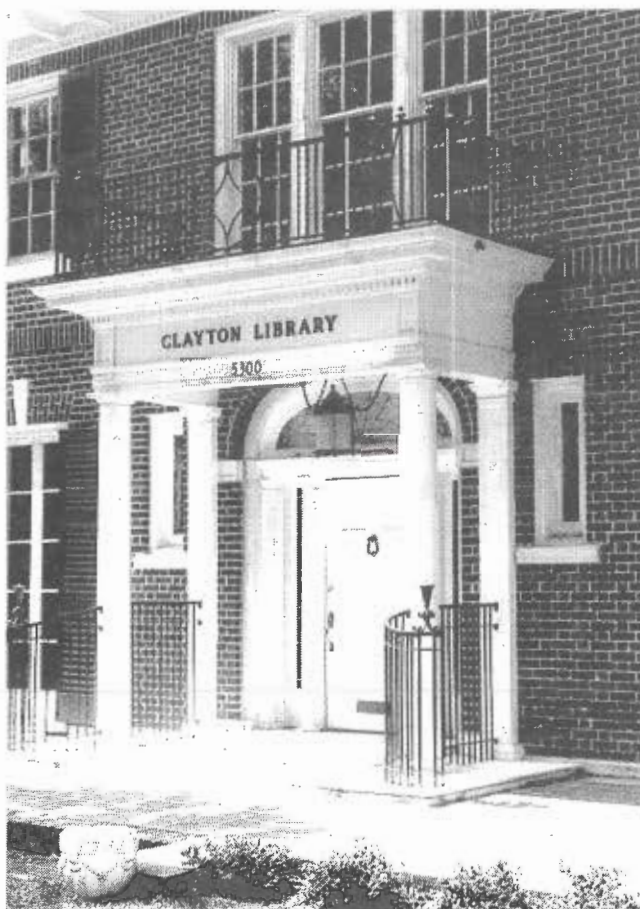
1910 Ohio Soundex (actually miracode).

1920 New York Soundex (microfilm). An important resource, as there is no Soundex to the 1910 New York census.

Amnesty Papers (73 rolls of microfilm). This collection includes papers related to persons who asked for pardons for their participation in the Civil War on the side of the Confederacy. Included are pardons for persons in AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MD, MS, NC, SC, TN, TX, VA, WV, CA, DE, DC, IL, IN, IA, KS, MA, MI, NE, NJ, NM Territory,

NY, OH, PA, and RI. The first roll of film is an every-name index to the papers. The Amnesty Papers microfilm can be found in cabinet 43, drawer 7. (See Kelvin Meyers' article beginning on page 6.)

Index to the Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers (microfilm). Covers DE, DC, KS, KY, MO, and PA. Located in cabinet 42. ■



D. E. Pusch

CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS BEGINNERS SEMINAR

Date: Saturday, May 20, 1995

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p. m.

Place: Boy Scouts of America Headquarters, 1911 Bagby

(Parking available next to building)

"What You Need to Know Before Going to the Library"

Tips for beginning genealogical researchers

Emily Croom, author of *Unpuzzling Your Past*

"A Walk Through Clayton Library"

Slide presentation

Bill Swearingen, Clayton Library Friends

"How to Use Clayton Library Effectively"

Finding books and periodicals, WiseCat, CARL, CD-ROM, & more!

Maxine Alcorn, Manager, Clayton Library

You must be a member of Clayton Library Friends and you must register in order to attend.

For more information contact Gay E. Carter at 480-4255 (after 5 p.m.)

DIRECTIONS TO MEETING PLACE:

From south I-59 (going north):

Take Louisiana/Richmond/Brazos exit; stay on Brazos; turn left on Gray; turn right on Baldwin; stay on Baldwin to Bagby.

From I-10 to I-45 or north I-45 (going south):

Take the Dallas/Pierce exit; stay to the right and then take the Pierce/Bagby exit; Bagby (and the parking lot) is at the end of this ramp.

From south I-45 (going north):

Take Allen Parkway exit and do U-turn, then follow directions from the north (above) or take Downtown exit to Calhoun; turn left on Smith; turn right on Gray; turn right on Baldwin; stay on Baldwin to Bagby.

REGISTRATION FORM:

Name: _____

____ Member

Address: _____

____ New Member (dues enclosed)

Telephone: (Day): _____ (Evening): _____

Mail to : Clayton Library Friends

Beginners Seminar

Attention: Gay E. Carter

P.O. Box 271078

Houston, TX 77277-1078



Angels project report

Since the last newsletter, the following "Angels" have made donations to support acquisition of periodicals:

Monetary Gifts: Miss Nell R. Tucker, Richard and Judith Watson Perkins, and Mrs. Ruth Chambers Lewis.

Mr. Patrick F. Cochran, in memory of the Rev. Carl/Charles Binnicker, an early 16th century immigrant to South Carolina: *South Carolina Historical Magazine*, 1992-1994. Pat also gave a donation for binding.

Nathan and Kaydee Mathews, in memory of Kenneth Mathews: *Georgia Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 1988-1993.

Desmond Walls Allen, in recognition of Maxine Alcorn's outstanding leadership: *Arkansas Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 1962-1993 (fiche); *Professional Genealogists of Arkansas Newsletter*, 1988-1993; *Arkansas Historical & Genealogical Magazine*, 1994; and *Professional Genealogists of Arkansas Newsletter*, 1995 and subsequent.

Mrs. Dorothy Greer Beaudoin: *Central Georgia Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 1995.

Mrs. Elizabeth Nitschke Hicks: *Central North Carolina Journal*, 1994.

Mr. Warren T. Thagard III: *Publication of Crenshaw County (Alabama) Historical Society*, 1992-1994; *Butler County (Alabama) Quarterly* (a publication of the Butler County Historical Society), 1981, 1984-1993; *Cumberland County (North Carolina) Genealogy Society Newsletter*, 1984-1986; *Cumberland (North Carolina) Chronicles*, 1987-1994; *Moore County (North Carolina) Genealogical Society Newsletter*, 1991-1994; *The Genealogical Record* (a publication of The Houston Genealogical Forum) 1992-1994; *Camp (Family) Bulletin*, 1991-1994.

We still need approximately \$30 to purchase back issues of *The Deep South Quarterly* and the special offering by the Austin Genealogical Society as mentioned in the last CLF Newsletter. If you would like to be an "Angel" by contributing funds for the purchase of this item (or other items not now in the Clayton collection), or if you have back issues you would like to donate, please contact Elizabeth Hicks, 746 Edgebrook Dr., Houston, TX 77034-2030; (713) 944-1118.



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