

HEART OF AMERICA CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATCH AND CLOCK COLLECTORS

August Report, 1965

Hi, Fellow Collectors:

SPEAK UP OR--- (Editorial)

We editors--Clement, Karen, Christopher, and Mark William--would again like to present an idea that has been utilized by other chapters and which has been mentioned in the past but never acted upon by our Chapter. A local chapter in the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors is more than just a social gathering of collectors of similar items. It is true that this is one of its purposes--to enable us to meet other collectors and share experiences and pleasures. But it has as an equally valuable function that of education--learning about rare and unusual items, their repair, and the makers themselves.

There are many ways the chapter meetings could be made both educational and interesting. By devoting the meeting to some particular maker--Ithica, Seth Thomas, Waterbury, French, Gilbert, Terry, New Haven? Hotchkiss, Welch, etc.--and bringing some examples of these makers from our collections for exhibit, we can both learn of the different makers and the various types of clocks.

We all have lines we prefer to specialize in. Why not a Gilbert Meeting in which the history of the Gilbert Clock Company might be elaborated upon, or the different clocks made by the Gilbert Company put on display. It might surprise lots of us to discover that all Gilbert Clocks do not utilize the same calendar principal for moving the calendar dials forward (this is not to say they do not, but how do we know if we haven't investigated.) Do all Seth Thomas Clocks suspend the pendulum the same, or are there different suspension setups utilized by the Seth Thomas Clock Co?

THE PAST AND THE FUTURE---

Dr. Knauff will entertain our group at this coming August 8th Meeting with slides he procured while attending the 1965 N.A.W.C.C. Convention. It has been three months since the Convention so these should serve to rekindle old memories for those who attended, and let those of us who kept the home fires burning get a "picture idea" of what took place and what was there exhibitwise.

WHERE THERE IS SMOKE? SOME MEMBER OF THE "TRAVELING CHAPTER" HAS BEEN THERE!!!---

The Caspar A. Wagner Family have just returned from a second trip to our great southern State of Texas and its neighbor to the South, and they have acquired many items of interest--even some horological items. The Bruers are preparing for their usual trip to Colorado, the Johnsons have been inspecting southern Missouri, and the Editor and his Family are planning on invading Chicago for a couple days later on. The Jack Browns are planning a trip to Germany later on this fall. We have not heard from any of the other members of late but hope they are surviving the busy summer hunting trips.

It is getting harder to find good items, but then, maybe we must stop and realize that what we have been paying is the past is no criteria for today's clock and watch values. Where before we paid 35 to 50 dollars for a calendar clock, today we must expect to pay at least 75 to 100 dollars and not cringe when the price is named. The reason is that there are more and more real collectors, and these items are getting older and rarer, and more people are interested in them today than was when a lot of us started. Lets be thankful a lot of us started earlier in the game as the new fellow will really have a fortune tied up. Anyway, what the heck--it's only money and a little fun at today's prices costs a lot more than a lot of fun did years ago--remember the nickle movies???

WE NOW BRING YOU A COUPLE GOOD PARAGRAPHS--- (President's Report)

Dear Fellow Members:

Now that we are coming to the end of the vacation season it will be a fine time for all that have been there and returned to get together to discuss what they have seen during the summer and show some of the timepieces that have been acquired. As our collections improve and grow it is harder each year to find any real additions to our

collections.

We received a copy of the Joplin Globe with a very nice article describing some of the clocks in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. "Si" Allen, 1114 Olive Street, Carthage, Missouri. The pictures in this article show many rare timepieces and we are very proud that this couple are members of our Chapter. They are real active collectors and have acquired their fine collection over a period of about six short years.

We think the best place for a chapter meeting is in the members homes whenever possible and we are happy to announce that offers are again coming in. Our next meeting, Sunday August 8th, we'll be at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Dean, 8919 Mission Road, just across the line in Kansas. These folks have a very nice home with many clocks and antiques. We suggest the members congregate at the Dean's after 1:00 o'clock. There will be a short business meeting about 2:00 o'clock. If anyone has any problems bring them along and I am sure someone in the group can help solve the most difficult problem. Also, we will be glad to hear from anyone having some unusual experience whether its collecting or anything else. Nothing like sharing our problems and our experiences. See you Sunday, August 8th at the Deans anytime after 1:00 o'clock.

Caspar A. Wagner,
President H.O.A. #36

FOLLOW THE TRAIL-----

Around these parts we have several old cattle trails, of which one of them is the old Santa Fe Trail. Cattle are not using them anymore, but collectors are. The big drive August 8th will be to Mr. and Mrs. Dean's as our President mentioned. The Deans live in that great State of Kansas. Mission is a suburb of that Second Largest City that the Kansas State Highway Commission forgot to name on their new 1965 map. If you are coming in from the Missouri side, follow any main street south to 75th Street and go West crossing over State Line and continuing about a dozen blocks or so on 75th Street. Shawnee Mission High School is located on the southwest corner at Mission and 75th and this street has a stop light on it. Turn south (or left if coming from Missouri side) and proceed to 8919 Mission Road. If you are coming in from 50 Highway on the Kansas Side, exit at 75th Street and proceed east to Mission Road and then south to 8919.

Just had an interesting call from Mr. Johnson of Independence. He has recently acquired a Waterbury round movement approximately 4 inches in diameter with ratchet and snail. He has most of the movement including the verge but a few parts are missing. This movement has the post for the hands located at the bottom of the movement. Anyone have any parts they do not need? Must close for now. We will have more news at the coming meeting so see all of you there. Incidentally, Karen and I would like to thank everyone for the kind wishes extended at the birth of Mark William, our newest and youngest clock collector. Thank you, everyone.

Sincerely yours,

Clement C. Wagner