Events of the past year have emphasized the importance of an Historical Society to the general well-being of a community. Since, under the able leadership of Hargrove Bellamy, its first president, and the invaluable labors of the directors and, indeed, the entire charter membership, the Lower Cape Fear Historical Society began its cultural ministry to this area, an embarrassing wealth of projects have become available. Before the organization was perfected, needs were pressing on the new Society; and now, less than two years after the initial meeting, an imposing record of achievement is taking shape.

For instance, at the February meeting, the New Hanover Historical Commission, through its chairman, Mr. Louis T. Moore, directed the attention of the Society to proposals for converting the property surrounding the Woodrow Wilson Hut into a parking lot, and suggested that joint action to preserve this beautiful and historic plot be undertaken. A special committee, Mrs. Lorain Anderson, chairman, was appointed. A meeting with the City Council was duly arranged, and the Council minutes of March 13 reveal that after discussion, a motion, made by Mr. Wade and seconded by Mr. Capps, was unanimously adopted directing the City Manager to eliminate any plan for parking cars in the area, and designating the plot as “Innes Park.”

The North Carolina Department of Archives and History has been asked to mark the sight with an appropriate plaque. Thus, as a result of the work of Mrs. Anderson’s committee and the splendid efforts of Mr. Moore, a significant step forward has been taken in the beautification of the city and the commemoration of its great past.

The current encouraging situation in regard to plans for the preservation of the Fort Fisher site, and eventual restoration of the fort is a further indication of the worth of organized community effort in behalf of historic causes. For many years such a project has been discussed, and the Society immediately upon its organization expressed its concern through the appointment of a committee, which under the zealous and capable leadership of Mrs. A. T. St. Amand, did a thorough job of examining the situation and canvassing possibilities. Thus, when a public meeting was held under sponsorship of the Southeastern North Carolina Beach Association to consider ways and means of arresting erosion in the fort area and providing a suitable memorial at this most historic of eastern Carolina localities, the Society was in a position to take its proper share in the planning and prosecution of the project.

These two examples, and many more that could be cited, demonstrate the potential value of an Historical Society. At the coming meeting, these projects of your Society will be fully reported. The number of tasks of historical nature that still confront us, and the heartening interest and support of state agencies and local groups, should inspire us to greater interest and more zealous devotion to our Society and our community.

B. FRANK HALL
President
New Members

335 Murchison, Mrs. John R.  
201 N. 16th St., RO 2-9860

336 Carpenter, Miss Catherine C.  
1519 Princess St., RO 2-4523

337 Walker, Mrs. R. H.  
200 Victoria Drive, RO 2-3165

338 Britton, Milton E.  
2114 Klein Road

339 Hall, Lewis P.  
514 Chestnut St.

Dues

Please pay 1957-1958 dues immediately. Mail check or money order to Mr. Ludlow P. Strong, Treasurer; R.F.D. 2, Box 112. Arrangements will be made to receive dues at the October 23rd meeting.

Bylaws

Proposed changes in Bylaws drafted by Mr. Winston Broadfoot, were approved by the Board of Directors July 14. Please study them carefully, as they will be presented for action October 23rd. If you have any amendment to suggest, please give a written copy of your amendment to the Secretary.

(Text of Bylaws follows.)

BYLAWS OF THE LOWER CAPE FEAR HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

ARTICLE I Objects

The objects of the Society shall be those set forth in the Certificate of Incorporation. The Society shall be non-profit, non-sectarian, and non-political.

ARTICLE II Membership and Dues

Section 1: Membership in the Society shall be open to all persons of reputable character who are interested in the objectives of the Society and who are willing to aid and assist in promoting and encouraging the same.

Section 2: The membership shall consist of Active and Honorary members. Active members shall include Regular (Dues $2.00 per annum), Contributing (Dues $5.00 per annum), Sustaining (Dues $10.00 per annum), and Life (single payment of $100).

Section 3: Dues are payable at the annual meeting. Members failing to pay their dues by the end of the calendar year shall be dropped from the rolls.

Section 4: Any person who has rendered outstanding service in the field of history of the Lower Cape Fear area may be elected an Honorary Member upon recommendation of the board of directors, followed by approval of two-thirds of the members present at any regular meeting. A detailed and specific record of the historical services of the person be-

In Memoriam

SAMUEL CALVIN KELLMAN
ing considered for honorary membership must be presented in writing to the board before it may act and successively to the membership before it may act.

Section 5: An Honorary Member shall not pay dues and shall not vote nor hold office unless such member is also an Active Member.

ARTICLE III  Nominations and Elections

Section 1: At the meeting immediately preceding the annual meeting the Society shall elect first a chairman then two other members to serve as a nominating committee.

Section 2: The nominating committee shall meet and select at least one candidate for each office.

Section 3: The committee shall also select at least one candidate for each of the two or three directorships open in accordance with Article V, Section 2.

Section 4: These nominations shall be presented at the annual meeting, immediately following which presentation nominations shall be received from the floor.

Section 5: No voting shall be done until the nominations are closed for every position to be voted upon.

Section 6: Where there are two or more candidates for a single office the voting shall be by ballot.

Section 7: Voice vote shall be used for uncontested offices.

Section 8: The candidate having a plurality of votes is elected.

Section 9: All officers and directors elected at the annual meeting shall begin to serve as the last order of business at that meeting.

ARTICLE IV  Officers

Section 1: The officers of the Society shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

Section 2: All officers shall serve for a term of one year.

Section 3: All vacancies to office shall be filled for the unexpired term by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V  Board of Directors

Section 1: The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers, the immediate past president, and five members of the Society.

Section 2: The term of office of the five members elected as directors shall be two years, except for the first election following adoption of these Bylaws, when two directors shall be elected for a term of one year.

Section 3: The Board of Directors shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Society between its meetings. The Board is subject to the will of the Society and none of its acts shall conflict with action taken by the Society.

Section 4: Vacancies occurring on the Board shall be filled by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI  Duties of Officers

Section 1: It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Society and to act as chairman of the Board of Directors. He shall appoint such committees as are required by these Bylaws and any other committees approved by the Board. He shall make an annual written report to the Society and perform such other duties as pertain to his office.

Section 2: The Vice-President shall preside in the absence of the President and otherwise perform the duties that pertain to his office.

Section 3: The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Society and of the Board of Directors, shall have custody of the historical materials of the Society, and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors. He shall make an annual written report to the Society on its historical holdings.

Section 4: The Treasurer shall collect the dues, have charge of all funds of the Society, and keep a record of all receipts and disbursements. He shall be responsible for keeping the roll of membership. Prior to the annual meeting the Treasurer shall submit his report to the Finance Committee for approval, and shall make a report to the membership at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VII  Committees

Section 1: Standing committees shall be the following: Membership, Finance, Publicity, and Program.

Section 2: The Chairmen of all standing committees and all other committees that have functioned at any time during the year shall report to the membership at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VIII  Meetings

Section 1: The Society shall hold its annual meeting on the second Wednesday in May. Should that date appear impractical, the annual meeting shall be held as soon as possible thereafter, the date to be fixed by the Board of Directors.

Section 2: Regular meetings shall also be held in October and February of each year.
Section 8: Special meetings may be held at any time upon call by the Board of Directors.

Section 4: Time and place of all meetings shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 5: The membership shall receive written notice of all meetings of the Society.

Section 6: Robert’s Rules of Order (Revised) shall be the parliamentary authority at all meetings of the Society.

ARTICLE IX  Affiliation

Section 1: The Society shall be enrolled as a member of the State Literary and Historical Society of North Carolina.

Section 2: Whenever feasible a delegate from the Society shall attend state meetings and report items of interest to the Society.

ARTICLE X  Amendments

Section 1: Amendments to these Bylaws may be made at any meeting of the Society by two-thirds vote of the members present, providing written notice of the proposed change has been sent to the membership at least one week prior to the meeting.

Section 2: Any procedural matter set forth in these Bylaws may be suspended for a single meeting by two-thirds vote of the members present.

(This proposed revision in the Bylaws of the Society was compiled by Winston Broadfoot and committee. It was tentatively approved by the Board of Directors July 14, 1957, to be further considered and submitted to the membership for approval at the regular Fall meeting. It is the suggestion of the compilers that periodic study of the Bylaws be made, that they remain a workable set of rules consistent with the wishes of the Society).

WINSTON BROADFOOT