



The Cody Family

Descendants of

Philip Le Gody, at Beverly, Mass., 1698

Published by ERNEST WILLIAM CODY, Secretary-Treasurer

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Your Board of Directors have pleasure in handing you herewith the condensed minutes of the Thirteenth Annual Reunion of the Cody Family, held at Hotel Whilton, Hanford, California, on Saturday and Sunday, October 8th and 9th, 1938.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8th

Registration of members commenced at 9.30 a.m. in the Board Room of the Hanford Public Library. This room was tastefully decorated with the draped flags of the United States and Canada over the speakers' platform, yellow flowers and berries, and also an exhibit of photographs of past officers of the Cody Family. Total registration of family—85, coming from California, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Ohio, and New York State. The meeting was called to order and opening address given by the retiring President, Harvey P. Cody, of Hanford, who welcomed the members to the city, and called upon Mrs. Alice Cody Norwood to formally open the meeting with prayer. In the absence of the President-Elect, Luther M. Cody, the meeting was then turned over to the Secretary-Treasurer, Ernest William Cody, of London, Ontario. The Board of Directors, nominated at Scranton, Pa., last year, elected on February 26th, 1938, were then declared installed in office for one year by Dr. Henry G. Cody, of Oneida, N.Y. The "In Memoriam" of members of the family who have passed away since the last reunion was delivered by the Secretary-Treasurer, as follows:

Name	Branch
Janet Marrian Elizabeth Cody - - - - -	Stephen
Susan Lambie - - - - -	Stephen
Mrs. Mary Cody Benson - - - - -	Warren
Mrs. Wilbur L. M. Cody - - - - -	Mervin
Mrs. John Valentine Cody - - - - -	Harrison

A brief review of the minutes of the Scranton, Pa., reunion of 1937 was given, and these minutes were declared approved and filed.

In the absence of the Chairman of the Historical Board, Miss Lydia S. Cody, her report was given by the Secretary-Treasurer, who outlined the research work that was going on, the assembling of the record form of the many branches of the family, the collection of historical data, and urged careful and prompt attention to the inquiries being sent out in this regard. The hope was voiced that within a year the material would be completed, and ways and means would then be considered for the publication of the History and Genealogy of the Cody Family.

The next item of business was the annual report of the Secretary-Treasurer; he outlined the work that had been done during the past year, the handling of correspondence, the publication of the various bulletins, and the circulation throughout the branches of the genealogical forms. He outlined the financial position of the organization, balance sheet for the year ending June 30th showing a balance on hand of \$40.34. The urgency of prompt paying of the annual dues of one dollar was stressed, this being the organization's only source of revenue. He pointed out that the return in annual dues was representative of only about 25% of our heads of families, and pleaded for a better response in the 1939 dues which will be payable in January.

Letters and telegrams regretting inability to attend the reunion were read from absent members including the Honorary President, Francis A. Cody of Vernon, N.Y.; the President, Luther M. Cody of Frostproof, Fla.; the Chairman of the Memorial Board, Mrs. Mary Jester Allen of Cody, Wyoming; Miss Cora P. Cody of Oneida, N.Y.; and Harry B. Cody of Cleveland, Ohio.

Reports of two regional reunions were presented to the meeting:

(1) At Little Hocking, Ohio, on July 17th. 45 members present, mainly of the Ansel, Delila and Amanda Cody branches; this reunion under the direction of Regional Vice-Presidents for Ohio, Mrs. Minnie Cody White of Waterford and Dr. Allison K. Walker of Buchtel.

(2) At Meadville, Pa., on September 3rd. 30 members present, mainly of the Nathan Cody branch; this reunion under the direction of Regional Vice-President Mrs. Carmen Donaldson of Titusville, Fla.

The report of the Chairman of the Memorial Board, Mrs. Mary Jester Allen of Cody, Wyoming, was given by the Secretary-Treasurer. Mrs. Allen reported that the Museum at Cody had a very fair year. This year is launched the seven-year program of activity at Cody which ends with the one hundredth anniversary of Colonel Cody's birth (1946). It is intended that each year something will be done by the National Buffalo Bill Memorial Association and that 1946 will see at Cody a great national historical and cultural centre. It is planned that a reproduction of the early New England Cody family home will be built and filled with relics of the family. It is also hoped that suitable markers will be placed at all outstanding Cody Family sites, and a program of tree planting put into effect to mark sites. Mrs. Allen also reports that many family relics continue to arrive at the Museum, and she urges that more be sent.

For the benefit of members of the family who had not attended previous annual meetings, the Secretary-Treasurer briefly sketched the early history of the Buffalo Bill Memorial Museum at Cody; he explained to the meeting the purpose and plan of the Museum, also that Mrs. Allen, who is Director of the Museum, is a niece of Colonel Cody, and that she would welcome and appreciate hearing from members of the family in connection with relics, etc., for the Museum.

The Secretary-Treasurer introduced to the meeting the recommendation of the Nominating Committee that the following Board of Directors be nominated, for election on February 26th, 1939, and to be installed in office at the Ontario Reunion of 1939 for one year. Nominations carried.

Honorary President	- - -	Francis Addison Cody	- - -	Vernon, N.Y.
President	- - -	Luther Morrill Cody	- - -	Frostproof, Fla.
Vice-President	- - -	Maxwell Bruce Cody	- - -	Regina, Saskatchewan
Secretary-Treasurer	- - -	Ernest William Cody	- - -	London, Ontario
Chaplain	- - -	Rev. Dr. Henry John Cody	- - -	Toronto, Ontario
Chairman Memorial Board	- - -	Mrs. Mary Jester Allen	- - -	Cody, Wyoming
Chairman Historical Board	- - -	Miss Lydia S. Cody	- - -	Babson Park, Fla.

REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

Eastern United States	- - -	Richard Aldus Cody	- - -	Newton Highlands, Mass.
Southern United States	- - -	Mrs. Carmen A. Donaldson	- - -	Titusville, Fla.
Midwestern United States	- - -	Dr. Charles Morton Cody	- - -	Dousman, Wisconsin
Western United States	- - -	Harvey Purdy Cody	- - -	Hanford, California
State of Ohio	- - -	Mrs. Minnie Cody White	- - -	Waterford, Ohio
		and Dr. Allison K. Walker	- - -	Buchtel, Ohio
Eastern Canada	- - -	E. Le Roy Cody	- - -	Toronto, Ontario
Western Canada	- - -	Dr. Morley G. Cody	- - -	Calgary, Alberta

General discussion then took place concerning the 1939 reunion in the Province of Ontario, and it was decided that this reunion would be held in either Newmarket or Aurora, Ontario, details of time and place to be later settled by the local committee headed by Regional Vice-President E. Le Roy Cody of Toronto and the Secretary-Treasurer. Newmarket and Aurora are in the centre of that community in which Joseph Cody (1757) and his brother Phillip (1770), settled after their migration from the United States to Canada in 1799, and in which locality many of their descendants reside. Either of these points is within easy reach of the County of Oxford where many of the descendants of Elijah Cody (1775) are residents.

Before adjournment it was introduced by Maxwell B. Cody of Regina, Saskatchewan, that there be written into the minutes of this meeting the congratulations and good wishes of the Cody Family to its Secretary-Treasurer, Ernest William Cody, and his bride on their recent marriage.

Following the business meeting, members of the family and friends enjoyed a Chinese dinner at the Chinese Pagoda, at which time Mr. J. M. Perkins gave an interesting talk on the early history of California, and the San Joaquin Valley in particular. The afternoon was passed in a tour of Kings County, and in rest.

6.00 P.M. SATURDAY

Over 100 members of the family and invited guests attended the family dinner, served in private dining room of Peden's Cafe. Centering the speakers' table was a replica of a wagon train crossing the desert wastes, and a statue of a miner clothed in his working garb. These souvenirs were brought from Inyo County by Mrs. Agnes Cody Reid and her family. A huge cake surmounted by a small image of Colonel Cody on horseback was also a feature decoration of the speakers' table; this cake was the gift of a Visalia bakery through the good offices of Nathan B. Turner (son-in-law of Harvey P. Cody). The retiring President of our family, Harvey P. Cody, presided as Master of Ceremonies. The invocation preceding the dinner was by the Reverend Jared Vining Cody of San Pedro. The Metcalfe family, from Radio Station KTKC, entertained the guests during the dinner session with vocal and instrumental selections.

Following the feasting, President Cody first introduced Councilman G. K. Spike, who welcomed the visitors on behalf of the City of Hanford: he presented to the President a huge floral key "Which," he said, "we hope will open to you all the good things the city has to offer, and that you will not forget your friends in the 'Centre of Wealth'." President H. Gallagher, of the Chamber of Commerce, gave a welcome on behalf of that organization. The Secretary-Treasurer of the family responded to the welcomes extended and thanked the local Cody Family committee, and the civic organizations and individuals, for all they had done to make the success of the reunion possible.

Maxwell B. Cody, Editor of the Leader-Post of Regina, Saskatchewan, was introduced to deliver the annual address. After giving a sketch of some of the past members of the family, he stressed the value of the family as a unit, as a vital organization in democracy, as a permanent institution for usefulness, and of its opportunity of making a real contribution to the welfare of mankind as a whole. He cited the family as an international one, and its opportunity for international service. He appealed to the members of the family living in both countries to continue to strive for peace and good-will. He read a letter conveying greetings and good wishes to the reunion from the Right Honorable William Lyon Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada.

Following the dinner, the guests were escorted by the High School Band to the High School Auditorium for a program arranged for the occasion by Mrs. Clara Coldwell, Principal of Hanford Evening High School; a capacity audience was in attendance. Greetings and a warm welcome were extended by Principal J. L. Neighbor. Appropriate band selections, songs and choruses were provided in the entertainment. The Cody Family were represented on the program in instrumental duets by Andrew M. Cody and Evon Cody, with Mrs. Bond, accompanist. An interesting sketch of the life of Colonel Cody was presented by Mr. Ray Franchi, member of the High School faculty, in "Buffalo Bill in Retrospect." Vocal solos, also piano and accordion presentations by the Metcalfe family were much enjoyed. Tache Indians staged a genuine war dance in costume, with chiefs, medicine man, and a group of Indians, squaws and children participating. A parody on "Hiawatha and the Cody Family" was given by Mrs. May Cody, and Miss Florence Cody Reid presented a cowboy dance to the tune of "Empty Saddles." The program closed with a tableau illustrating incidents of frontier days, and a brief address by Maxwell B. Cody thanking the people of Hanford for the hospitality extended to the family.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9th

Assembling at 8.00 a.m. at the Hanford Public Library, a caravan of twenty cars took members of the family and guests to Sequoia National Park. The delightful two-hour drive up the winding mountain road was much enjoyed. An official welcome was accorded the guests at the Park by Chief Forest Ranger Spigelmire.

Divine Service was held in the Giant Forest, conducted in the Church of the Sequoias by the Reverend Jared Vining Cody, 83-year-old member of the family. Mrs. Clara Coldwell was organ accompanist for the congregational singing.

This one-hour divine service will long be a cherished memory to those who had the privilege of attending. No church setting could be more impressive—high in the mountains of virgin forest, amid the rocks and the giant redwoods, and that venerable patriarch, Cousin Jared Cody, surrounded by his kith and kin, conducting simple family worship. No one will soon forget that Sunday morning service in the open air.

The bountiful chicken and ham dinner, served under the giant trees, was in charge of Sam Brown of Hanford, assisted by the Boy Scouts.

The party visited the General Sherman tree (largest tree in the world) and enjoyed a lecture on the huge redwoods by Forest Ranger Bean. Returning to Hanford, the party toured General Grant National Park.

During the dinner at the Park, a vote of thanks was tendered all the officers of the family for their efforts during the past year, and a special vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Harvey P. Cody, and the other members of the local Cody Committee, for the delightful arrangements made for the reunion, and appreciation of their personal contribution to the success of the affair.

NOTE.—It has come to the attention of your Board of Directors that the Media Research Bureau of Washington, D.C., are circularizing many members of the family, advancing the sale of a manuscript history of the Cody Family, at a price of \$2.00. This has no connection whatever with our organization and, after reviewing a copy of this publication, members of our family are urged to pay no attention to any literature they receive about it.

LUTHER MORRILL CODY,
President.

ERNEST WILLIAM CODY,
Secretary-Treasurer.

HARVEY PURDY CODY,
Retiring President.