

THE CODY FAMILY ASSOCIATION  
(Descendants of Philip and Martha at Beverly, Mass., 1698)

Published by Ernest William Cody  
Secretary-Treasurer  
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London, Ontario

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This bulletin is a condensed report of the 25th. annual convention of the Cody Family Association, held at London, Ontario, July 18th. and 19th, 1953. Due to the pressure of other work we regret the delay in its publication.

Saturday, July 18, 1.30 p.m. - registration of members at St. Georges Episcopal Church, in charge of Mr. and Mrs. Mervin H. Cody, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald R. Milligan, Miss Betty Rose and Mr. Robert Barnes, Jr. The total registration for both days was 252 persons coming from various points in Ontario, District of Columbia, Ohio, New York, Florida, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, Virginia, Massachusetts, Alberta, Michigan, California, British Columbia and Texas. These 252 people are descendants of the following 5th. generation branches - Milla, John, Stephen, Aaron, Lydia, Mervin, Alonzo, Sophia, James, Franklin, Melinda, Anson, Isaac, Philip, Amanda, Warren, Harrison, Abigail, Katherine, Elijah, Nancy, Anna, and Lyman. This 25th. convention was the most largely attended in the history of our family organization, surpassing by nearly 100 the previous record of Marietta, Ohio with 164 present in 1936. This splendid attendance is most gratifying to the Local Committee who worked so hard in the arrangements for the affair.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Chester Cody Crouch, followed by the opening prayer by Mrs. Eusebia Stafford. The President then introduced the members of the Local Committee - Mr. and Mrs. William B. Clipperton, Mr. and Mrs. Mervin H. Cody, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Williams and Mr. and Mrs. Ronald R. Milligan. A welcome to the City of London was extended by Local Chairman William B. Clipperton, followed by an "In Memoriam" service by Mrs. Blanche McClenahan in memory of those members of our family who have passed on since our last convention. A welcome to the Province of Ontario was offered by Mrs. Alma B. Cody-Williams, Regional Vice President for Ontario. The President then introduced the Secretary-Treasurer and the Assistant Secretary, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest William Cody, and general business then proceeded.

On motions the minutes of the Jackson, Michigan convention of last year were adopted, also the reports of the Secretary-Treasurer and Assistant Secretary.

Miss Lydia S. Cody, Chairman of the Historical Board made her report of the progress of our genealogy, and which report is annexed hereto in its entirety; we ask your best support of this undertaking.

The Secretary-Treasurer reviewed the need for a better return in annual dues, and also pointed out that we have on hand a considerable stock of the 1952 Directory, which must be sold to improve our financial condition, price \$3.00 per copy. We invite your orders for these books.

A motion was carried that the present Board of Directors remain in office for another year, and a vote of thanks was extended to them.

General discussion took place regarding the 1954 convention. Leavenworth, Kansas, North Platte, Nebraska and Cody, Wyoming were mentioned, and on motion it was decided the 1954 gathering would be held at Cody, Wyoming at a date to be later announced.

Following adjournment some forty automobiles with a motorcycle escort from the London Police Dept. made a 15 mile drive around the city, returning to St. Georges Church; this trip was highly enjoyed by everyone.

6.30 p.m.

An excellent dinner was served by the ladies of St. Georges Church. The dinner party was called to order by the President and the invocation given by the rector, the Rev. J.N. Dodge. Under the direction of the Master of Ceremonies, Fred C. Cody, the national anthems of the United States and Canada were rendered, also toasts to the President of the United States and Her Majesty the Queen, to the United States cousins and the Canadian cousins. A resolution of appreciation was made to the Local Committee and a floral token presented to Mrs. William B. Clipperton. The benediction was pronounced by the rector, and the gathering turned over to the Local Chairman, William B. Clipperton. The after dinner program consisted of two series of motion pictures presented by Mr. and Mrs. Ronald R. Milligan and Mr. and Mrs. Chester Wilcox, taken on their trips thru the West, at Cody, Wyoming, and Denver, Colorado, and also pictures taken at our Jackson convention of last year. The pictures were varied with dancing, vocal and instrumental numbers, followed by new and old time dancing. Before breaking up at midnight coffee and donuts were served. A most interesting, enjoyable and happy evening of family fellowship.

11.00 a.m., Sunday, July 19th. - some 100 members of our family assembled at St. Georges Church for divine service. In this beautiful setting we fully enjoyed the splendid message of the Rev. M.B. Parker, Registrar of Huron College. Frederick F. Cody of Somanauk, Illinois, read the lesson and our family hymn "How firm a foundation" brought the service to a close.



1.30 p.m. Sunday, July 19th.- plate luncheon was served at Wonderland Summer Gardens. "Be present at our table, Lord" was rendered by Herbert W. Cody of Woodstock, Ont. This was a delightful luncheon in a perfect setting. Competition for the souvenir prizes, donated by the Board of Directors, was handled by Local Chairman William B. Clipperton; no person to receive more than one prize and the Directors and their wives debarred:

Oldest gentleman present	Richard Aldus Cody Newton Highlands, Mass.	81 years
Oldest lady present	Mrs. Edith Cody Bowerman (Aunt Edith to so many) Toronto, Ontario	91 years
Longest married couple	Dr. & Mrs. F.C. McClenahan Toulon, Illinois	49 years
Latest married couple	Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Fines Toronto, Ontario	4 months
Oldest person bearing the surname "CODY"	Clyde J. Cody Earlville, Illinois	72 years
Person attending from the greatest distance	Mrs. Winnifred Glead San Francisco, California	3000 miles
Person attending the greatest number of reunions	G. Leonard Barberree Rochester, Minnesota	5
Youngest boy present	Thomas Clemenhagen Hamilton, Ontario	3½ years
Youngest girl present	Lorna Jean Sessions Houston, Texas	20 months
Youngest child bearing the surname "CODY"	Melanie and Sandra Cody (twins) - Ellenville, New York	3½ years
Person with birthday nearest July 19th.	Miss Hortense Lydia Child Toronto, Ontario	July 23rd.
Largest family present, (father, mother & children)	Mr. and Mrs. Jack Griffin Woodstock, Ontario	5

A varied program followed the prizes, then a couple of hours of friendly visiting before going our respective ways. So ended the 25th. annual convention, the largest ever and one of the most interesting and entertaining.

General Notes - adequate thanks can never be tendered the Local Committee of Arrangements, under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. William B. Clipperton; they had a heavy task, heavier than any previous Local Committee, because of the very large attendance to provide for; they overlooked nothing and did their work and planning nobly; we sincerely appreciate their efforts. The large attendance and the great success of the reunion will have to be their reward.

During the week of Western Fair at London, Sept. 14 to 19th. the feature picture at the Patricia Theatre was "The Pony Express", depicting the pony express days of our kinsman Colonel William Frederick Cody (Buffalo Bill). Our family and our family organization received considerable radio and newspaper publicity at the time, and the Local Committee, with other members of our family from London and district, were guests of the theatre at a showing of the picture.

Chester Cody Crouch  
247 East Tulane Road  
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Los Angeles, California  
VICE PRESIDENT

Ernest William Cody  
187 Forest Hill Ave.  
London, Ontario  
SECRETARY-TREASURER



THE CODY FAMILY ASSOCIATION

A brief of the report of Miss Lydia S. Cody, Chairman of the Historical Board, presented at the London, Ontario convention of our Association, concerning the publication of the Cody Family Genealogy

The report called attention to the fact that it is now some seventy five years since the historical research was begun, and the collecting of genealogical material which is now being edited for publication. Reference was made to the excellent beginning made by the late James L. Chapman, a sixth generation member of this genealogical family, in research and collecting material. It is also noted how greatly this has been forwarded by the labor and untiring devotion of our secretaries, the late Luther M. Cody, and our present long serving secretary, Ernest William Cody and his wife Ella Jean Cody. Scarcely can these receive sufficient praise for their contribution to this work. As result of this great expenditure of time and labor we now have the material, historical, genealogical and biographical, which should be of value to all of us, serving as it does to show that our American ancestry reaches back to those pioneer generations whose members by their thrift, sacrifice and religious devotion served so greatly to establish the principles by the following of which America has come to hold so high a place among the nations of the world.

That this fact may not again be lost to our family traditions, as seemed about to happen at the time of the sixth generation, we of the present time must see to it that this material finds a permanence, by being put in book form where it can be known and read by our members and by those who come after us.

Reference was then made to the fact that under the limitations of a genealogical book all lines cannot be followed, otherwise many volumes would be needed. Of necessity therefore biographical and genealogical notations must be confined to the surname of the first American ancestor of this family. At the point where the name changes there can follow only a naming of their children and possibly their grandchildren. But those whose records cannot thus be included should nevertheless be interested in owning this book since they are as truly members of this family as are those who bear the name. Also they will find here records of their mother's ancestry in the Cody line. Attention was called to the fact that Mr. Chapman who started this interest did not himself bear the Cody name. It is hoped that many of our membership bearing other surnames will have a like interest in this book. Also here was mentioned another limitation, that of the biographical notations which must be brief except in the case of the first six generations where somewhat more space is given.

In closing this report word was given concerning the change of price from ten dollars as previously stated to eight dollars, this change being made to conform to high taxes and the many demands made on personal incomes. It was urged that while the editing of this material is now going on certain members have made this possible by advance payments for books. The actual publication cannot begin until enough subscriptions have been received to justify this. Therefore it is urgent that subscriptions be sent in at an early date. Provision for this is made by using the subscription blank below to be mailed to Miss Lydia S. Cody, Chairman Historical Board, 1808 Radnor Road, Cleveland Heights, 18, Ohio.

Members of the Book Committee:

Miss Lydia S. Cody, Cleveland, Ohio	Mrs. Gail Cody Wilber, Tucson, Arizona
Richard Aldus Cody, Newton Highlands, Mass.	Ernest William Cody, London, Ontario
Hiram Sedgwick Cody, Winston-Salem, N.C.	Dr. Wm. Macpherson Cody, Hamilton, Ont.

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Tear off here and mail to Miss Lydia S. Cody, 1808 Radnor Road, Cleveland Heights, 18, Ohio

I hereby subscribe for \_\_\_ copies of the Cody Family Genealogy at a price of eight dollars per copy.

\_\_\_\_\_ Name

\_\_\_\_\_ Address