

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

Published by Ernest William Cody
Secretary-Treasurer
413 Ridout St. North, London, Ontario

Bulletin No. 77
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This bulletin is a condensed report of the 23rd. Annual Convention of the Cody Family Association, held at Lake Wales, Babson Park and Frostproof, Florida, Saturday and Sunday, March 31-April 1 - our first reunion in Florida and truly a most successful event. Of the 23 conventions of our family no one gathering can be singled as the best, but this Florida reunion will assuredly go down in history as one of the most enjoyable and most memorable.

Saturday, March 31st.

During the morning many of our families drove to the Bok Tower and the Cypress Gardens. We thank the local families for their courtesies in making these drives possible to those without cars.

2.15 p.m. - registration of members at the Lake Shore Hotel, Lake Wales, in charge of Aldus M. Cody, Robert S. Cody, Frederick C. Cody, and David Cody Higginbottom; total registration 81, coming from various points in Florida, Ohio, Kansas, Illinois, Ontario, Nebraska, Massachusetts, New York, Michigan, Minnesota, North Carolina and Alberta. These 81 persons are descendants of the following fifth generation branches - Rhodolphus, Isaac 1811, John 1821, Anson, Philip, Samuel, Lyman, Amanda, Nathan, Stephen, Milla, Franklin, Hiram, Mervin, Nancy, George and Delilah.

The meeting was called to order by the Vice President, Chester Cody Crouch, followed by the opening prayer by Dr. Sam Higginbottom. A fine address of welcome to Florida was extended by the Regional Vice President, Mrs. Sarah Mines. The Vice President presented the regrets of our President, Dr. Ernest Edwin Cody of Ann Arbor, Mich. that he could not be present, and then introduced the Secretary-Treasurer, Ernest William Cody of London, Ontario, who conducted business program:

1. Minutes of 1950 reunion at Red Deer, Alberta declared adopted on motion of William Cody Goodman and Richard A. Cody.
2. Secretary's report - he outlined the current work handled through the past year and solicited more prompt attention to inquiries concerning the new family Directory, and our Genealogy, both now in the course of preparation.
3. Treasurer's report - showed a balance on hand at end of 1950 of about \$20.00; he pleaded for a better return in annual dues.
4. Miss Lydia S. Cody, Chairman of the Historical Board presented her report, which showed that in the matter of our genealogy fair progress is being made, but we are still being handicapped by the slow response in providing biographical data.
5. General discussion then ensued in an effort to find ways and means of improving our financial position, to make possible the publication of both the Directory and the Genealogy this year, and to generally strengthen our organization. As concisely as possible we give you the action taken in the following motions:

Moved by Hiram S. Cody, seconded by Robert S. Cody and carried that the basic dues of one dollar per person per year remain in effect, but that a new membership be created known as a family membership of two dollars, to include husband and wife and minor children, and that a sponsor membership also be created, five dollars, for those desiring to contribute more than the minimum membership. These new memberships are instituted in the hope that some additional revenue may be voluntarily raised from members of our family who might wish to help by more than the one dollar basic dues. It was the unanimous opinion of the meeting that our financial affairs should be put on a basis whereby we would not be dependent on our officers having to utilize their individual businesses to support our family organization. It was pointed out that in no one year have we received more than five hundred dollars in annual dues, a sum about half enough to carry on the association's business. We invited support of the new memberships.

To expedite the publishing of both the Genealogy and new Directory this year, it was moved by Hiram S. Cody, seconded by Mrs. Ethel Cody Higginbottom and carried that the Secretary-Treasurer set a dead-line date for the acceptance of material for both books, that representatives of the branches not accounted for be specially notified of the dead-line date and asked their intentions of supplying the information, that failing a response in this manner that the delinquents be personally contacted by the Regional Vice Presidents, and if then no response, only what information is now on hand will be published. It was felt that every family had been given ample opportunity to supply their material and that the publication of

our books should not be further delayed. To finance this special and final drive for material a collection was taken on the spot, netting the fine total of \$53.90.

To provide the Chairman of the Historical Board with more help in genealogical matters, it was moved by Robert S. Cody, seconded by Ernest E. Mines, and carried that she select a certain number of interested members and recommend them to the President for his appointment to the Historical Board. The Secretary pointed out that when our financial position improves certain allotments of funds should be made to the Historical Board to further its work.

The value of regional reunions was emphasized for the cultivation and maintenance of interest; we are glad to hear that a Florida regional reunion is being considered, and also that some thought is being given to an Ontario regional reunion this summer.

We regret that no report was received at the meeting from the Chairman of our Memorial Board, Mrs. Mary Jester Allen, Director of the Buffalo Bill Museum at Cody, Wyoming; we hope that her report can be published in a later bulletin.

During the morning the Nominating Committee met (all past presidents) and made the recommendation that the following Board of Directors be elected to take office February 26, 1952, and remain in office one year. Moved by Fred C. Cody, seconded by Mrs. Sarah Mines and carried that this Board be so elected:

<u>Office</u>		<u>Residence</u>
Honorary President	Dr. Ernest Edwin Cody	Ann Arbor, Michigan
President	Chester Cody Crouch	Columbus, Ohio
Vice President	Dr. William Frederick Cody	Los Angeles, California
Secretary-Treasurer	Ernest William Cody	London, Ontario
Assistant Secretary	Mrs. Ella Jean Cody	London, Ontario
Chaplain	Rev. Charles Ernest Brandow	Sovereign, Sask.
Chairman Advisory Board	Harry Arthur Cody	Ripon, Wisconsin
Chairman Memorial Board	Mrs. Mary Jester Allen	Cody, Wyoming
Chairman Historical Board	Miss Lydia S. Cody	Cleveland, Ohio
<u>REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS</u>		
North Eastern U.S.A.	Mrs. Villette Jary	Elba, New York
South Eastern U.S.A.	William Cody Goodman	West Palm Beach, Florida
Central U.S.A.	Mrs. Emily Cody Rauch	Flint, Michigan
State of Ohio	Mrs. Rose Cody Ruble	Waterford, Ohio
	and Mrs. Louise Hall	Marietta, Ohio
Mid Western U.S.A.	Mrs. Willard Kinnamon	Utica, Nebraska
North Western U.S.A.	Ernest Elder Cody	Tangent, Oregon
South Western U.S.A.	Miss Gladys Cody Caulfield	Los Angeles, California
Eastern Canada	William James Cody	Ottawa, Ontario
Western Canada	Herbert John Cody	Sylvan Lake, Alberta
Province of Ontario	Mrs. Alma Cody-Williams	Woodstock, Ontario

Our President, Dr. Ernest E. Cody, extended an invitation that the convention of 1952 be held in the State of Michigan. After general discussion it was moved by Richard A. Cody, seconded by Hiram S. Cody and carried that the 1952 reunion be held in Michigan at a date and place to be decided by the Board of Directors in conjunction with a Local Committee.

Greetings were received and read from the following absent members - our chaplain, the Rev. Russell Eylander of Ritzville, Washington, Dr. and Mrs. Frank McClenahan, Toulon, Illinois, Mrs. Mary Jester Allen, Cody, Wyoming, Miss Cora Cody, Oneida, N.Y. Mrs. Tryphena Michie, Elora, Ont., J.J. Outland, Media, Pa., Mrs. Charles Reece, Conrad, Iowa, and Herbert E. Cody, Lafayette, Oregon.

Saturday 7.00 p.m.

An excellent dinner was served at the Lake Shore Hotel; dinner party was called to order by Chairman Aldus M. Cody, and invocation by Dr. Sam Higginbottom. Music was in charge of Hiram S. Cody and William Cody Goodman. The Secretary then introduced the Local Committee of Arrangements, Miss Lydia S. Cody, Chairman, Miss Grace B. Cody, Mr. and Mrs. Harry B. Cody, Mrs. Luther M. Cody, Mrs. Gertrude Cody Wheaton, Mrs. Arthur P. Cody and Mrs. Elizabeth Cody Moore. Our veteran Toastmaster of many Cody Family dinners, Harry B. Cody, then took charge and called on Hiram S. Cody to perform a special service, the presentation to our Secretary-Treasurer, Ernest William Cody and his wife, Ella Jean Cody, our Assistant Secretary, of a check for \$1246.00 as an appreciation gift to them from over four hundred members of our family for services rendered during the past twenty five years. Hiram S. Cody explained how the canvass of the family for this gift had been handled by President Dr. Ernest E. Cody, Vice President Chester Cody Crouch and Secretary-Receiver Mervin H. Cody without the knowledge of the recipients. The Secretary replied to this magnificent gesture of good will and the dinner party

joined in the singing of "For He's A Jolly Good Fellow". Aldus M. Cody then read most interesting sketches from the memoirs of his father, the late Luther Morrill Cody, the pioneer organizer of our Cody Family. Brief remarks were then made by Richard A. Cody, Dr. Sam Higginbottom, Mrs. Ethel Cody Higginbottom, Sherwin Cody, Miss Alena Cody-Williams, Chester Cody Crouch and Fred C. Cody.

Sunday April 1st.

11.00 a.m. Some 50 members of our family assembled for the regular church service at Babson Park Community Church; this is the church founded many years ago by the late Mr. and Mrs. Lindus Cody and we were privileged to honor their memory by our visit there and our participation in the service in the company of their children and grandchildren. Nor shall we soon forget the fine message of the minister, the Rev. J.R. Ewers, D.D.

1.00 p.m. Buffet luncheon was served at Cody Villa, the homes of eight Cody families. This luncheon was served by the Local Committee, Miss Grace B. Cody, Chairman of Committee, and if possible, was the outstanding event of the entire convention. A happy family circle, mingling in good fellowship, the invocation by Dr. Higginbottom, the familiar words of "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow", a delightful luncheon, friendly visiting of kith and kin. Mrs. Elizabeth Cody Moore most interestingly sketched to us the story of the Cody pioneers of Cody Villa back to 1895; she read to us certain verses of "The Legend of Crooked Lake" written by Luther M. Cody in 1897, and perhaps no words could better express the beauty of Cody Villa and Crooked Lake than the closing lines of the Legend "In that wondrous scene of beauty in the far off woods of Florida".

Competition was then held for the souvenir prizes, donated by the Board of Directors, Fred C. Cody in charge of the awards; no person to receive more than one prize and Board of Directors and their wives debarred:

Oldest gentleman present	Frank Lindus Cody Babson Park, Florida	83 years
Oldest lady present	Mrs. Sarah Mines Miami, Florida	76 years
Longest married couple	Mr. & Mrs. Harry Quigley Morris, Illinois	48 years
Latest married couple	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph M. Miller Largo, Florida	1½ years
Oldest person bearing the surname "Cody"	Sherwin Cody Dobbs Ferry, New York	83 years
Person attending from the greatest distance	Mrs. Edith Ferrier McPherson Edmonton, Alberta	3700 miles
Person attending the greatest number of annual reunions	Miss Grace B. Cody Babson Park, Florida	10
Youngest boy present	Mark Moore Babson Park, Florida	3 years
Youngest girl present	Susan Milner Cody Aurora, Ontario	3½ years
Youngest child bearing the surname "Cody"	Michael Elizabeth Cody Aurora, Ontario	4½ years
Person with birthday nearest April 1st.	Mrs. Harriett Ross Walker Crystal Springs, Florida	April 1st.
Largest family present (father, mother and children)	Mr. & Mrs. Edgar A. Moore Babson Park, Florida	5 in family

A namesake of our first ancestor in America was then introduced - Philip Le Cody Larson, age 14, of Gainesville, Florida.

The cavalcade of cars then proceeded to the First Presbyterian Church at Frostproof where a memorial service was held in memory of the late Luther M. Cody, pioneer organizer and first Secretary of our Cody Family Association. Presiding was his son, Robert Sherwin Cody, with Mrs. Zellä Cody Holmes at the piano. The Rev. Robert B. Russell, the minister of this church gave the opening prayer, followed by our grand old family hymn "How Firm A Foundation". A sketch of Luther M. Cody was read by his son Aldus M. Cody; this splendid sketch was prepared by our historian, Miss Lydia S. Cody. This was followed by the "In Memoriam"

list of 25 members of our family whose deaths occurred in the past year.

There was then a brief but inspiring address by Dr. Sam Higginbottom (a Cody by a "fortunate marriage", as he said), who pointed to the life of Luther Cody as truly in accord with our heritage from our Huguenot ancestor, the first of our American Codys, and as expressing this heritage he gave the Scripture verse "For he looked for a city with foundations whose builder and maker is God". With this as the key note of his address he urged the great value of our heritage for meeting the perils of our time.

Following the closing hymn of "Blest Be The Tie That Binds", we left this little church, privileged to have gathered in the place where Luther Cody served so long and usefully.

Then a most fitting climax to our two day convention - we gathered in the Frostproof home of Mrs. Luther M. Cody where light refreshments were served and a social hour enjoyed. Here too we met sturdy four year old Raymond Cody, son of Aldus, and grandson of Luther Cody. This social hour was a happy event, but with the regret on everyone's lips that Luther was not with us. This was the paramount thought in our minds as we said goodbye to his wife Josephine and her sons Aldus and Robert, and departed on our various ways.

GENERAL NOTES

1. We cannot adequately thank the Local Committee for their efforts in the success of this Florida reunion. Every local family gave unreservedly of their time, energy and means to provide an outstanding convention. We are indeed grateful to them. The printed souvenir program of the convention was the gift of Aldus and Robert Cody of Cody Publications, Inc. Kissimmee, Fla. as is also the enclosed print of pictures taken at the reunion - most generous gestures.

2. The dead-line for the acceptance of material for the Genealogy and Directory has been set at September 30th. The delinquents will shortly receive their final notice as outlined in the motion carried. Why not surprise us and send in the lacking material NOW?

3. The Cody Family Appreciation Fund - on behalf of my wife, Ella Jean and myself, I wish to thank everyone for their part in making possible to us this magnificent gift. Our hearts are very full with the appreciation we feel that our efforts have justified such a response from the membership. The twenty five years that I have devoted to the work of the Cody Family, twenty of them as your Secretary-Treasurer, have been very happy ones, new friendships established each year, life time contacts have been made, and there has been the intense satisfaction of having helped to create and maintain an organization of kinfolk in which we all can take pride. The work has been hard, a great time-consumer, and had it not been for the invaluable assistance of my wife during the past twelve years I could not have carried on. We appreciate the handsome gift made to us, we also appreciate the good will which prompted the gift and we shall always treasure the lists of names of the old friends and new who contributed.

4. Final reminders - PLEASE submit your genealogical and directory data, do not overlook your annual dues, advise us of all births, marriages and deaths as they take place, advise us of changes in address, and circulate this report to the best advantage in your group.

5. We deeply regret to announce the death on April 27th. at Toronto, Ontario, in his 83rd. year of the Honorable and Reverend Canon Henry John Cody, C.M.G., D.D., LL.D., D.C.L., Rector Emeritus of St. Paul's Church, Toronto and President Emeritus of the University of Toronto. Canon Cody had served as Chaplain of our family for several years and had attended both of our Ontario reunions. He was a half brother of Mrs. May Cody Hindley, Frederick D. Cody, Maxwell B. Cody and Ernest William Cody.

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