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Some of the names in the document have different spellings in different year books. Generally, we tried to preserve the spelling found in each original document.

Michael R Seiden  
Webmaster, Merion Civic Association  
[www.merioncivic.org](http://www.merioncivic.org)

*The*  
FIFTH YEAR BOOK  
*of*  
THE MERION  
CIVIC ASSOCIATION

TO BE NATION RIGHT  
AND STATE RIGHT  
WE MUST FIRST  
BE COMMUNITY RIGHT

MERION – PENNSYLVANIA  
NINETEEN HUNDRED  
AND EIGHTEEN

## MERION'S HONOR LIST

STUART MURRAY ALEXANDER  
THOMAS WOOD ANDREWS  
JOSEPH J. ARMSTRONG  
GORDON BAKER  
WARREN BARTON BLAKE  
BERNARD BLOCH  
WILLIAM CURTIS BOK  
NORWOOD BUTLAND BOLES  
ROY TAYLOR BOOKMYER  
WILLIAM ROWLAND BOYD  
HENRY CLAY BROWN, JUNIOR  
JOHN DANIEL CARLILE, JUNIOR  
WILLIAM BEATTY CARLILE  
FRANCIS YARNALL CASEY  
HERBERT STEPHEN CASEY  
PAUL AUGUSTUS CASEY  
THEODORE MURDOCK CASEY  
PATRICK CASSIDY  
FREDERICK G. COBURN  
STANLEY M. COX  
ALAN CRAWFORD  
GUY EDWARD CROYLE  
FREDERICK T. CUNNINGHAM  
Dr. GEORGE D. B. DARBY  
JAMES DOUGLAS DARBY  
NORTON DOWNS, JUNIOR  
FRANCIS ROBINSON EHLE  
HARRY FIFIELD EVANS  
MURRAY GIBSON, JUNIOR

LIEUTENANT  
CAPTAIN 1ST PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY  
ENSIGN, UNITED STATES NAVY  
LIEUTENANT  
INSPECTOR AMERICAN RED CROSS  
UNITED STATES NAVY  
ENSIGN, UNITED STATES NAVY  
6TH REG. 76TH COMPANY MARINE CORPS  
NAVAL RESERVE  
MARINE AVIATION CORPS  
T.M. 397 CONVOIS AUTOMOBILE FORCE  
NAVAL RESERVE  
CORP. 1ST PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY  
ORDNANCE CORPS  
MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS  
ARMY BASE HOSPITAL No. 18  
SERGT. ARMY BASE HOSPITAL No 38  
REMOUNT DIVISION  
LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER U.S. NAVY  
ENSIGN, UNITED STATES NAVY  
CAPTAIN 154TH FIELD ARTILLERY  
CORPORAL 11TH RAILROAD ENGINEERS  
2ND LIEUTENANT 16TH CAVALRY  
1ST LIEUT. NAVAL BASE HOSPITAL No. 5  
RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS  
1ST LIEUTENANT AVIATION SECTION  
NAVAL RESERVE  
MAJOR 251ST INFANTRY  
UNITED STATES AMBULANCE CORPS

## THE MERION CIVIC ASSOCIATION

LINCOLN GODFREY  
SAMUEL EARLE HAINES  
DR. WILLIAM C. HOLLOPETER  
FRANKLIN STORRS HOVEY  
ALBA B. JOHNSON, JUNIOR  
JAMES NEWELL JOHNSON  
LOUIS LOVE KEELER  
JOSEPH KELLY  
EDWIN RANK LEVIN  
MICHAEL J. McDEVITT  
WILLIAM FRANCIS McILHENNY  
JOHN MARSTON  
RUSSELL CONWELL NEFF  
LIEPER PATTERSON  
WALTER T PYLE, JUNIOR  
WILLIAM ERVIN QUINBY  
DR. JOHN H. READING, JUNIOR  
GEORGE SIGLER ROBERTS  
FRANK J. SEMPLE, JUNIOR  
JOHN CARROLL SHEAHAN  
ARCHIE GILCHRIST SPARKS  
WALTER RUSSELL SPARKS  
PHILIP E. THOMAS  
CLARKE THOMSON  
CASPAR WISTAR BARTON TOWNSEND  
PALMER TOWNSEND  
RODMAN F. VANSANT  
W. LAURENCE VANSANT  
MAURICE WALDRON

1ST LIEUTENANT 313TH INFANTRY  
FRANFORD ARSENAL  
CAPTAIN MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS  
RESERVE MILITIA  
LIEUTENANT 19TH ENGINEERS  
NAVAL RESERVE  
AVIATION SIGNAL CORPS  
PRIVATE  
CORPORAL MEDIAL DEPARTMENT  
PRIVATE  
304TH AMMUNITION CORPS  
MAJOR, 1ST PROVISIONAL MARINES  
1ST PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY  
1ST SERGT. 1ST PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY  
RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS  
LIEUTENANT, GENERAL STAFF  
1ST LIEUTENANT MEDIAL CORPS  
SERGEANT 19TH RAILWAY ENGINEERS  
MOTOR TRUCK REPAIR UNIT  
2ND LIEUT. QUARTERMASTER'S CORPS  
AVIATION  
UNITED STATES NAVY  
ORDNANCE CORPS  
1ST LIEUT. SIGNAL RESERVE CORPS  
NAVAL RESERVE  
1ST PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY  
LIEUTENANT FIELD ARTILLERY  
1ST LIEUTENANT COAST ARTILLERY  
2ND LIEUTENANT 7TH BATTALION

## THE HONOR ROLL IN THE STATION.

Showing the names of the 58 residents of Merion who are in the service of their country.

THE  
FIFTH YEAR BOOK  
OF  
THE MERION  
CIVIC ASSOCIATION

MERION  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
PENNSYLVANIA

NINETEEN HUNDRED  
AND EIGHTEEN

THE ASSOCIATION'S MOTTO

TO BE NATION RIGHT AND  
STATE RIGHT WE MUST FIRST  
BE COMMUNITY RIGHT

## **OFFICERS**

1917-1918

PRESIDENT

EDWARD W. BOK

VICE-PRESIDENTS

E. A. VAN VALKENBURG

W. L. SUPPLEE

S. W. EVANS

TREASURER

WILLIAM H. FOLWELL

SECRETARY

H.F. ELLINGER

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

EDWARD W. BOK, Chairman

BERNARD BLOCH

JOHN F. BRAUN

V. CARWITHEN

W. J. CONLEN

E. C. DEARDEN

W. De KRAFFT

HENRY DELAPLAINE

S. W. EVANS

P. E. FOERDERER

W. H. FOLWELL

W. P. GEST

S. E. HAINES

F. C. PEQUIGNOT

ERNEST SEARING

W. L. SUPPLEE

H. C. THOMPSON, Jr.

DR. G. A. VAN LENNEP

E. A. VAN VALKENBURG

W. H. WANAMAKER, Jr.

A. C. WOODMAN

A model in civic matters

Theodore Roosevelt

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#### ITS RECORD

“The Merion Civic Association has done more for Merion in one year than a borough does in ten years, or twenty.”

—*The Philadelphia North American*

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#### THE MOMENT

#### ONE PASSES INTO MERION

says Lyman Abbott, D. D., in the *The Outlook*, “the change due to the work of The Merion Civic Association is noticeable. Merion has become a model suburb. . . . Merion may standardize ideal suburban life, certainly for Philadelphia, possibly for the United States.”



**ROSTER OF MEMBERS**  
OF  
**THE MERION CIVIC ASSOCIATION**

**Men-181 Members**

(Supporting memberships are divided into five classes—  
\$100. \$50. \$25. \$15 and \$10 a year. Each amount entitles a  
member to full privileges in the Association. The amount is left to  
the generosity of the member for the support of the Association,  
which depends entirely for its general expenses on its income  
from supporting membership contributions.)

**ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS**

|                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Mr. Louis A. Belmont  | Mr. R. J. Hughes         |
| Mr. Edward W. Bok     | Mr. Eldridge R. Johnson  |
| Mr. John F. Braun     | Mr. M. J. McMenamin      |
| Mr. William J. Conlen | Mr. W. L. Supplee        |
| Mr. E. C. Dearden     | Mr. E. A. Van Valkenburg |
| Mr. Thomas Fisher     | Mr. Ira Vaughan          |
| Mr. William P. Gest   | Mr. W. H. Wanamaker, Jr. |
| Mr. J. Renwick Hogg   | Mr. A. C. Woodman        |

**FIFTY DOLLARS**

|                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Mr. Daniel Baugh       | Mr. George R. McAbee    |
| Dr. George D. B. Darby | Mr. R. L. O'Donnell     |
| Mr. William DeKraft    | Mr. George F. Pettinos  |
| Mr. Edward J. DuMee    | Mr. Thomas Roberts, Jr. |
| Mr. P. F. DuPont       | Mr. W. Judson Sprankle  |
| Mr. P. E. Foerderer    | Mr. Leopold Stokowski   |
| Mr. William H. Folwell | Mr. H. C. Thompson, Jr. |
| Mr. W. L. Geddes       |                         |

**TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS**

|                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Mr. B. F. Blake     | Dr. William H. Bricker |
| Mr. Daniel W. Bliem | Mr. Henry C. Brown     |
| Mr. Bernard Bloch   | Mr. John W. Buckman    |
| Mr. Gideon Boericke | Mr. John P. Connelly   |
| Mr. J. J. Boericke  | Mr. N. Perry Edmunds   |
| Mr. William Boyd    | Mr. J. A. Emmons       |

**TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS**

|                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mr. Shepley W. Evans   | Mr. H. G. Stockwell      |
| Mr. Thomas J. Hare     | Mr. Philip E. Thomas     |
| Mr. John Jacobs        | Mr. Clarke Thomson       |
| Mr. James Kater        | Mr. Nicholas Thouron     |
| Mr. A. M. Lewis        | Dr. Gustave A. VanLennep |
| Mr. H. H. Lineaweaver  | Mr. T. Johnson Ward      |
| Mr. Frank C. Pequignot | Dr. W. Newbold Watson    |
| Mr. Edward F. Sautter  | Mr. William J. Wilson    |
| Mr. John H. Seal       | Mr. James H. Windrim     |
| Mr. John C. Sheahan    | Mr. William W. Wood      |

**TWENTY DOLLARS**

Mr. T. Wood Andrews

**FIFTEEN DOLLARS**

|                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Dr. W. C. Hollowpeter | Mr. George K. Erben  |
|                       | Mr. Charles R. Wentz |

**TEN DOLLARS**

|                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mr. George Allen         | Mr. R. C. Cornish        |
| Mr. W. Y. C. Anderson    | Mr. Stanley M. Cox       |
| Mr. T. Dun Belfield      | Mr. Frank P. Croft       |
| Dr. Thomas Bell          | Mr. Guy Croyle           |
| Mr. Charles F. Bender    | Mr. George J. DeArmond   |
| Mr. Charles J. Bender    | Mr. Godfrey N. Degerberg |
| Mr. Charles H. Beyer     | Mr. Henry Delaplaine     |
| Mr. William J. Bok       | Mr. A. H. Ehle           |
| Mr. Edwin A. Bookmyer    | Mr. Nelson F. Evans      |
| Mr. Howard B. Bremer     | Mr. Christian Febiger    |
| Mr. F. W. Brill          | Mr. F. W. Fleck          |
| Mr. W. Atlee Burpee, Jr. | Mr. William Grant        |
| Mr. T. Nevin Carson      | Mr. William C. Gray      |
| Mr. Frederick P. Carter  | Mr. Frank T. Gucker      |
| Mr. VanCourt Carwithen   | Mr. S. Earle Haines      |
| Mr. Edward A. Casey      | Mr. J. W. Hallowell, Jr. |
| Mr. Philip A. Castner    | Mr. Austin P. Hawes      |
| Mr. Frederick G. Coburn  | Rev. J. M. Hayman        |
| Mr. C. P. Cook           | Mr. S. Wilson Heaton     |
|                          | Mr. Frank Snyder         |

TEN· DOLLARS

|                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mr. Herman H. Helms      | Mr. George M. Randle      |
| Mr. C. W. Huber          | Dr. J. H. Reading, Jr.    |
| Mr. W. S. Humphreys      | Mr. T. J. Richards        |
| Mr. Thomas A. James      | Mr. W. F. Richardson      |
| Mr. James C. Johnson     | Mr. W. H. Roberts         |
| Mr. Alva B. Johnson, Jr. | Mr. F. W. Rockwell        |
| Mr. Walter T. Karcher    | Mr. L. M. Sacrey          |
| Mr. W. H. Keeler         | Mr. Kiwa Schwartz         |
| Mr. F. Leighton Kramer   | Mr. E. A. Searing         |
| Mr. H. J. Kromer         | Mr. F. J. Semple          |
| Mr. Warren P. Laird      | Mr. Oswald Smith          |
| Mr. Karl E. Lindgren     | Mr. Frederick Stanger     |
| Mr. Kenneth S. Luders    | Mr. W. H. Steigerwalt     |
| Mr. Percy E. Matthes     | Mr. M. M. Strickler       |
| Mr. Louis I. Matthews    | Mr. Kenneth E. Stuart     |
| Mr. W. B. Montgomery     | Mr. F. Russell Stuckert   |
| Mr. C. L. Moyer          | Mr. George R. Sullivan    |
| Mr. Martin J. Mulkin     | Mr. J. Bonsall Taylor     |
| Mr. George S. Munson     | Mr. Sydney Thayer         |
| Mr. J. H. McClatchy      | Mr. Walter Thayer         |
| Mr. George W. McClelland | Mr. J. Barton Townsend    |
| Mr. Sameul McCreery      | Mr. J. B. Townsend, Jr.   |
| Mr. C. P. McCurdy        | Mr. Louis B. Tucker       |
| Mr. J. C. McKeon         | Mr. A. S. Vane            |
| Mr. George Nass, Jr.     | Mr. William R. Vansant    |
| Mr. Silas S. Neff        | Mr. Julius Vetterlein     |
| Mr. Daniel A. Newhall    | Mr. Samuel C. Wagner, Jr. |
| Mr. H. A. Nolte          | Mr. R. C. Wall            |
| Mr. Frank B. Off         | Mr. Edward A. Walz        |
| Mr. George P. Orr        | Mr. Frank B. Ward         |
| Mr. Charles C. Pace      | Mr. Frank M. Watkin       |
| Mr. H. D. Pancoast       | Mr. Howard Watkin         |
| Mr. Harold Pender        | Mr. George D. Watt        |
| Mr. R. M. Popham         | Mr. G. Roberts White      |
| Mr. C. B. Prettyman      | Mr. Burke Wilford         |
| Dr. Walter L. Pyle       | Mr. Jonathan Wilford      |
| Mr. James Quinn          | Mr. Joseph L. Wilson      |
| Mr. Byron W. Woodbury    |                           |

## WOMEN-141 Members

(Supporting Memberships: \$5.00 a year--where a male member of a household belongs to the Association; but the opportunity is offered to any woman member to subscribe to the \$100, \$50, \$25, \$20, \$15 or \$10 memberships the same as to a male member, and to the generosity of every woman the Association makes its appeal.)

### ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS

Mrs. Edward W. Bok                      Miss Anne Thomson

### FIFTY DOLLARS

Mrs. Edward J. DuMee                  Mrs. W. L. Supplee  
Mrs. Leopold Stokowski                Mrs. Ira Vaughan

### TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS

Mrs. Daniel Baugh                      Mrs. E. C. Dearden  
Mrs. George C. Blabon                 Mrs. J. A. Emmons  
Mrs. Daniel W. Bliem                  Mrs. P. E. Forderer  
Mrs. Gideon Boericke                 Mrs. Eldridge R. Johnson  
Mrs. William Boyd                      Mrs. Isidor Levin  
Mrs. John C. Sheahan

### FIFTEEN DOLLARS

Mrs. Philip E. Thomas                 Mrs. Frank P. Croft

### TEN DOLLARS

Mrs. E. Wood Andrews                Mrs. Henry Delaplaine  
Mrs. Henry Bain                        Mrs. William H. Dohan  
Mrs. A. C. Barnes                        Mrs. N. Perry Edmunds  
Mrs. Louis A. Belmont                 Mrs. George K. Erben  
Mrs. J. J. Boericke                      Mrs. Thomas Fisher  
Mrs. Howard B. Bremer                Mrs. W. H. Folwell  
Mrs. F. W. Brill                         Mrs. F. H. Galey  
Mrs. Henry C. Brown                  Mrs. William P. Gest  
Mrs. A. Nash Burke                     Miss Jennie F. Gillespie  
Mrs. VanCourt Carwithen              Mrs. S. Earle Haines  
Mrs. C. P. Cook                         Mrs. J. Renwick Hogg  
Mrs. Samuel Croft                        Mrs. J. J. Hovey  
Mrs. G. D. B. Darby                     Mrs. Margery E. N. Ludlow

TEN DOLLARS

|                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mrs. Anna Maron        | Mrs. E. A. Searing        |
| Mrs. C. L. Moyer       | Mrs. E. M. Seltzer        |
| Mrs. M.J. Mulkin       | Mrs. William Simpson      |
| Mrs. Margaret Murphy   | Mrs. W. H. Steigerwalt    |
| Mrs. George R. McAbee  | Mrs. John Thayer          |
| Mrs. M. J. McMenamin   | Mrs. Sydney Thayer        |
| Mrs. G. H. McNeely     | Mrs. H. C. Thompson, Jr.  |
| Mrs. Daniel A. Newhall | Mrs. G. A. VanLennep      |
| Mrs. F. J. Poth        | Mrs. W. H. Wanamaker, Jr. |
| Mrs. Charles E. Pugh   | Mrs. George D. Watt       |
| Mrs. R. V. Sage        | Mrs. Charles R. Wentz     |
| Mrs. E. F. Sautter     | Mrs. J. H. Windrim        |
| Mrs. Anna B. Scott     |                           |

FIVE DOLLARS

|                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mrs. W. Y. C. Anderson    | Mrs J. M. Hayman          |
| Mrs. William S. Baker     | Mrs. C. W. Huber          |
| Mrs. Thomas Bell          | Mrs. W. S. Humphreys      |
| Mrs. Annie J. Bell        | Mrs. James C. Johnson     |
| Mrs. Charles J. Bender    | Mrs. Alba B. Johnson, Jr. |
| Mrs. B. F. Blake          | Mrs. James Kater          |
| Mrs. Bernard Bloch        | Mrs. F. Leighton Kramer   |
| Mrs. E. A. Bookmyer       | Mrs. Warren P. Laird      |
| Mrs. A. O. Brown          | Mrs. Karl E. Lindgren     |
| Mrs. W. Atlee Burpee, Jr. | Mrs. H. H. Lineweaver     |
| Mrs. John P. Connelly     | Mrs. Kenneth S. Luders    |
| Mrs. R. C. Cornish        | Miss Laura Maron          |
| Mrs. G. J. DeArmond       | Mrs. Percy E. Matthes     |
| Mrs. G. N. Degerberg      | Mrs. Louis I. Matthews    |
| Mrs. Martha L. DeKrafft   | Mrs. Wm. B. Montgomery    |
| Miss Marjorie DeKrafft    | Mrs. George W. McClelland |
| Mrs. A. H. Ehle           | Mrs Samuel McCreery       |
| Mrs. S. W. Evans          | Mrs George Nass, Jr.      |
| Mrs. F. W. Fleck          | Mrs. S. S. Neff           |
| Mrs. William Grant        | Mrs. Frank B. Off         |
| Mrs. William C. Gray      | Mrs. Harold Pender        |
| Miss Ella S. Greeley      | Mrs. Frank C. Pequignot   |
| Mrs. J. W. Hallowell, Jr. | Mrs. R. M. Popham         |

FIVE DOLLARS

|                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Mrs. C. B. Prettyman    | Mrs George R. Sullivan |
| Mrs. J. H. Reading, Jr. | Mrs. Nicholas Thouron  |
| Miss Agnes Repplier, 2d | Mrs. Louis B. Tucker   |
| Mrs. T. J. Richards     | Mrs. A. S. Vane        |
| Mrs. F. W. Rockwell     | Mrs. W. R. Vansant     |
| Mrs. John H. Seal       | Mrs. Julius Vetterlein |
| Mrs. F. J. Semple       | Mrs. R. C. Wall        |
| Mrs. Oswald Smith       | Mrs. Edward A. Walz    |
| Mrs. Frank Snyder       | Mrs. Frank B. Ward     |
| Mrs. Frederick Stanger  | Mrs. T. Johnson Ward   |
| Mrs. M. M. Strickler    | Mrs. W. N. Watson      |
| Mrs. Kenneth E. Stuart  | Miss Jessie M. Wilson  |
|                         | Mrs. J. L. Wilson      |

## **WHAT DO I GET FOR BEING A MEMBER**

The most complete and vigilant police protective service of any neighboring suburb;

A special surveillance, upon request, of your house when you leave it for a day or a night, or for any length of time, or when any member of the family is left alone;

A special police whistle, which used, night or day, summons immediate assistance;

The most adequate fire-hydrant system of any neighboring suburb, and a regular inspection of the efficiency of the hydrants;

The benefit of a special arrangement to call any or all of five fire-engine companies, city and suburban;

A regular monthly analysis of the purity of your drinking water, and an immediate personal warning of danger;

An annual authoritative inspection of the source of your milk supply;

A special low rate of fire and burglary insurance;

The best help or effort, always at call, in any neighborhood problem that may arise where the Association or its secretary can serve you.

Your part of the benefit of the new station, the new post-office, the new roadbeds, the cleaning and oiling of the roads, the lights and road-signs, the Red Cross House, all inspired or carried out by the Association;

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IT IS TRUE

That you can get the benefit of most of these community advantages and yet not be a member of the Association. But without the Association you would not have present conditions, and to maintain them can only be done by the membership dues coming to the Association. Should you, therefore, not do your part to maintain what you enjoy, and is protective to your property and family?





Figure 1: Merion's New Post Office

**WHAT HAS BEEN DONE  
IN FIVE YEARS  
BY THE  
MERION CIVIC ASSOCIATION**

1. Changed an intermittent police force of one policeman at night to three policemen at night and from one to two during the day;
2. Employed a private detective service for the additional protection of the community from burglary;
3. Arranged with two city fire engines to come to Merion fires; rearranged the Cynwyd and Narberth fire engine service so that both companies will respond to an alarm;
4. Reduced fire insurance rates in Merion from 12 ½ to 30 per cent;
5. Had new fire hydrants placed in Merion, so that now no house is farther than 700 feet from a hydrant;
6. Placed maps, showing the location of every house in Merion, in the fire engine houses;
7. Erected eight fire gongs, to be rung in case of absence of telephone communication at a fire;
8. Signed a contract, by which the electric and telephone companies will, in time, both string on one set of poles instead of two as now, eliminating scores of poles;
9. Has started to remove every electric light and telephone pole from the roads of Merion;
10. Has an annual investigation made by an expert into the sanitary condition of the farm dairy and city depot of each milkman who supplies milk in Merion;

11. Has regular monthly analyses made by an expert chemist of the water supplied to Merion homes;

12. For the greater safety of children, it had the automobile speed limit reduced from 24 to 15 miles on three of its principal roads.

13. Has pressure tests made of all of the fire hydrants in Merion;

14. Caused a taxicab service to be installed at the station;

15. Placed the first map ever made of Merion in the railroad station for the information of strangers;

16. Has eliminated public dumps in Merion;

17. Put twenty-two litter cans on the roads;

18. Has had miles of new roadways laid; and is taking up each road in Merion and having new roads laid down or old roads resurfaced;

19. Has started to have all new roadways laid down from curb to curb, thus eliminating all expense of gutters to property owners;

20. Has induced property owners to lay uniform sidewalks;

21. Has induced property owners to set back their fences and hedges so as to eliminate the danger to pedestrians and motorists at corners;

22. Has created community bulletin boards of cast iron and cork face for the posting of notices;

23. Erected ninety-seven road signs, all at its own expense, so that new Merion is the only community on the Main Line that has every road marked;

24. Erected one hundred and twenty-five new electric lamps, which have been pronounced by

experts and architects to be the most beautiful and practical lamps ever designed for any community;

25. Removed all of the old wooden and disfiguring "Blow Your Horn—Danger" signs and substituted fifty-four cast iron and artistic signs;

26. Erected five boundary signs, showing the boundaries of Merion, for the convenience of motorists;

27. Abolished the toll-gates on the Lancaster and Montgomery Pikes. The abolishment of the toll-gates on Lancaster Pike is entirely of its own initiative;

28. Changed the method of lighting of the roads from the old-fashioned method of gas to the modern method of electricity;

29. Has started the uniform tree planting of roads;

30. Has had a path made through the snow on every sidewalk with a plow drawn by a horse after each snowfall;

31. Arranged for the free transportation of pupils to and from the township public schools;

32. Caused burglary insurance rates to be reduced by its protective service, so that Merion now has the same rates as the central part of Philadelphia;

33. Put in the homes of members of the Association police whistles to be used in case of emergency;

34. Secured a division of the old election district, so that Merion now has its own election district with the polling-place near the railroad station;

35. Secured a separate Commissioner for Merion's own representation on The Lower Merion Township Commission;

36. Arranged for the making of bird houses in Merion, and induced residents put them up in their gardens; about two hundred have been put up;

37. Secured a new railroad station and a new and separate post-office building and a more adequate postal equipment;

38. Contributed \$1356 for the equipment of the new post-office building;

39. Had an expert survey made of mosquito breeding places in Merion, and minimized the mosquito evil;

40. Inspired a new landscape gardening effect of the railroad station grounds, giving to Merion the most artistically planted station on the Main Line;

41. Established the first Red Cross house, entirely devoted to Red Cross activities, in the United States;

42. Created the first Honor Roll in this vicinity of the residents of Merion who have entered the service of their country;

43. Financed the starting of 24 war gardens for those of moderate incomes in Merion.

**THE FIFTH ANNUAL  
MEETING**

The Fifth Annual Meeting of The Merion Civic Association was held at Merion, on the evening of Tuesday, May the fourteenth, nineteen hundred and eighteen. At this meeting the following reports of President and Treasurer of the Association were read and approved.



Figure 2: The Merion Red Cross House. The Entire House is Devoted to Red Cross Work.





## THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

To the Directors of  
The Merion Civic Association:

A year ago there was established at Merion, under the auspices of your Association, what was at that time the first house in the United States entirely devoted to Red Cross work.

### THE RED CROSS HOUSE

During this year the work of the Red Cross House has been so marked for its quality and quantity as to attract general attention and win signal commendation. An average of 19 women a day have worked at the house, and the work represented in actual articles, is as follows:

In 11 months, 65347 surgical dressings, an average of 5940 per month;

6159 hospital supplies;

1474 knitted articles (in 6 months).

There were also 200 Christmas packages sent abroad to the American forces.

A number of Red Cross classes have been graduated in Elementary Hygiene, First Aid, Dietetics and Surgical Dressings.

The membership of the Red Cross in Merion was increased during the year to 711.

Electricity for running the sewing machines and a new gauze cutter has recently been installed.

This is a most commendable record. Last February the Merion Red Cross Committee decided to place its finances on a business basis, and solicited the community for a monthly contribution, resulting in the satisfactory pledge of \$460 per month. This amount is used entirely for the purchase of materials

Previous to last February the cost of materials was met by private contributions and through a notable concert held under the auspices of your Association at the Overbrook Golf Club on the evening of October 26. This concert attracted wide attention because of the talent represented, the artists appearing being Clara Clemens, Olga Samaroff, Ossip Gabrilowitsch, Thaddeus Rich, Hans Kindler and Mr. Leopold Stokowski, conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra. It is natural, of course, that every ticket for such a concert was readily sold, and the Red Cross House netted \$783 from the concert. This concert was managed and carried out by Mrs. Stokowski.

The maintenance of the Red Cross House, including the fuel and light, and the salary of the Red Cross nurse heretofore employed, and now the Secretary, is financed by your Association.

A maid's class, having an attendance as high as 22, has been held every Tuesday evening.

Perhaps no single activity has brought about a closer neighborhood feeling than this Red Cross work, which is so successfully conducted by Mrs. Ernest A. Searing, chairman; Mrs. Thomas Dun Belfield, Mrs. Edward Bok, Mrs. Van Cort Carwithen, Mrs. Ross C. Cornish, Mrs. George K. Erben, Mrs. S. Earle Haines, Mrs. William B. Montgomery and Mrs. Oswald Smith.

### **THE HONOR ROLL IN THE STATION**

Your Directors felt that there should be a public record of the residents of Merion who have gone in to the service of their country. Accordingly, an honor roll was made, and now hangs in the station as a silent but eloquent tribute to the patriotism of this community. Fifty-eight names are on it, an enviable record for so small a community as Merion. As an evidence of how complete is the service given in some instances, I may be pardoned if I single out for special

mention the case of Mr. Edward A. Casey, of South Highland Avenue, whose four sons are in the service.

### **THE MERION WAR GARDENS**

Last summer your Directors personally financed a series of war gardens in which potatoes were exclusively raised. This year your Association is contributing \$150 to the plowing and fertilizing of a plot of ground of six acres on Merion Road, which Miss Anne Thomson has generously donated, upon which there are now being plated 24 war gardens of a fourth of an acre each, to be seeded and cultivated by residents of Merion of moderate means, for the raising of vegetables for their own use.

### **THE TIDY-UP MAN**

With the great need for man-power in war and Government work, your Directors did not feel justified in retaining the Association's tidy-up man. His services were, therefore, dispensed with in January, and \$350 was appropriated for the cleaning of the community roads. This amount has been spent in connection with the heavy snows this past winter and the spring cleaning work, and your Directors must, for the balance of this year, rely upon the co-operation of each resident in keeping clean the face of Merion. As was pointed out in a special circular sent out to each member, it is not meeting the situation for a resident to clean his sidewalk and sweep the refuse into the road. The Township Commission has no funds with which to establish a road-cleaning department, your Association has now no means of keeping the roads clean, at it follows that if you leave your sweepings in the road, they will remain there and clog up the gutters, or the wind is going to blow them back on our own or adjacent properties. Your Directors ask in this war-year that each resident will do his or her

part in keeping the roads of Merion free from dust papers and litter.

### **MAGAZINES FOR MEN IN SERVICE**

Your Directors caused to be placed in the railroad station a hamper for the reception of periodicals for the men in the service. This reading matter is collected weekly by the motor messenger service. Hundreds of periodicals have been donated by the community.

## **SERVICE CHRISTMAS BOXES**

Last Christmas your Association sent to each man from Merion in the service of the army and navy, both in the home camps and overseas, a Christmas box containing cigarettes, tobacco, sweets and home and community photographs. The most grateful letters of acknowledgment have been received by your Directors for this mark of remembrance.

## **THE NEW STATION AND POST-OFFICE**

The new railroad station and post-office buildings and the new planting of the station grounds are now completed. I cannot speak too highly of the full and willing co-operation which your Directors have received from the Pennsylvania Railroad in connection with these improvements. The railroad authorities have done far more than they promised, and at the close of the war they will no doubt complete the work by the erection of a new freight-house architecturally consistent with the other buildings.

## **BUYING YOUR STAMPS AT MERION**

In connection with the new post-office building, you will recall that your Directors authorized the expenditure of \$1365 for its interior equipment. In these small post-offices it is customary for the postmaster to defray this expense, but at a salary of \$1400 per year, from which he must pay the wage of an assistant, it is obvious that he cannot meet such an expenditure. If, however, the total receipts from the sale of stamps for one year reaches \$5000, the post-office passes into a higher classification and the expense of equipment is otherwise assumed. Hence if this classification can be had for the Merion post-office, there is a prospect that the equipment expenditure made by your Association will be reimbursed. In 1917 we came within

\$150 of reaching the necessary total of \$5000 for the year. With this small margin to overcome it will be seen that if our residents will purchase all their postage stamps at the Merion post-office, the required total can easily be reached. Every member is urged to help in bringing about this end. The post-office authorities have ruled that before leaving Merion for the summer it is perfectly permissible to purchase your postage stamps here and use them from your summer home. Or if you will send the money to the Secretary of your Association, he will gladly purchase the stamps here and send them to you.

### **A PUBLIC SCHOOL FOR MERION**

Your Directors have been in consultation with the Board of Education of Lower Merion looking toward the establishment of a public school in Merion. Several meetings have been held, and recently a joint committee from your Association and the Board of Education made a thorough inspection of various desirable sites in the community. The chief obstacle in the way of such a school is the absence of a sufficient number of scholars, the Board of Education being reluctant, from the point of efficiency, to start a graded school with less than 100 scholars. Such a number of possible public school children cannot



THE NEW RAILROAD STATION AT MERION

Figure 3: The New Railroad Station at Merion





at present be enrolled, and the consideration of the matter by the Board of Education is designed rather for the future than for the present.

### **THE TURNPIKE TOLL-GATES**

At your last annual meeting the toll-gates on the Montgomery and Lancaster Pikes still existed. Today they are an unpleasant memory. In both of these improvements your Association played an important part. In the case of Montgomery Pike it joined in the agitation and contributed to the legal expenses thereof. In the case of the Lancaster Pike it was your Association that, single-handed, initiated the matter and carried it through; thereby accomplishing one of the most distinct services it has rendered this community and our neighbors.

### **WAR-MONEY CAMPAIGNS**

Your Association has directly and indirectly taken a large part in the various war-money campaigns that have occurred during the year, since the Merion committees for these purposes are almost entirely composed of your Directors. In the first Liberty Loan over \$33,150 was subscribed by the residents of Merion, \$11,400 of which was obtained by the Boy Scouts. In the second Liberty Loan campaign the regular Merion committee sold \$143,800 worth of bonds, while the Boy Scout troops sold the magnificent total of \$196,200. In the third Liberty Loan campaign just closed, the Merion committee's total was \$186,000, and the Boy Scout troop total was \$301,100. At the last meeting of your Directors the entire quota of the third Liberty Loan for Merion was subscribed within ten minutes, entitling Merion, among the first twelve communities in Pennsylvania, to the flag offered by the Secretary of the Treasury to the communities which first reached their quota. The number of stars on this flag when it is shortly raised on the community flagpole will indicate to

you the excess which Merion has reached beyond its quota. In the Y. M. C. A. campaign the Boy Scout troop collected \$31,252.

### **THE MERION BOY SCOUT TROOP**

A year ago the Boy Scout troop of Merion was organized, and while not directly a part of your Association, the splendid work of this troop deserves prominent mention in this report. The troop consists of 15 registered Scouts and 5 Cadet Scouts. Their organization has been so rapid and their achievements so pronounced that within the incredibly short period of a year this troop is already recognized as one of the most efficient among the troops of Montgomery and Delaware Counties. In the second Liberty Loan campaign they were allowed the last four days in which to garner what had been left by the larger Liberty Loan Committee. A minimum sale of \$15,000 and a maximum of \$25,000 was given them as a standard. In four days these boys sold \$196,200 worth of bonds, an achievement so worthy that the entire four prizes, consisting of a silver cup and three gold medals offered in competition to all the troops in Delaware and Montgomery Counties were awarded to the Merion troop, --a veritable cleanup. Three weeks ago each member of the troop was awarded a bronze medal by the Secretary of the Treasury for their achievement. In the third Liberty Loan campaign just closed they have sold \$301,100 worth of bonds, and undoubtedly they will be awarded more prizes.

With the \$31,252 which this troop collected for the Y. M. C. A. there is now being erected back of the western front in France a large Y. M. C. A. hut, and in the Philadelphia Navy Yard there was opened a few days ago the first Y. M. C. A. gymnasium and boxing arena, with a seating capacity of 2500. In each one of these buildings a sign indicates that

This building is Dedicated  
to Our Boys in Service  
by the Boy Scout Troop Number 1  
of Merion Pennsylvania  
(9 boys from 12 to 14 years of age)

As in the case of every organization, the success of the Merion Boy Scout troop is due largely to its directing head, and it is a pleasure for me to speak of the intelligent and unceasing work devoted to the Boy Scout work in Merion by Mr. Thomas Dun Belfield, its Scoutmaster, who deserves the thanks of the community for the time and effort which he has given to the work and the almost unbelievable results that have been accomplished.

## **SIGNS AND LAMPS DESTROYED**

Owing to reckless automobile driving, 15 of the Association's lamps, bulletin boards and signs have been destroyed during the year. As an act of prevention, the replaced signs and lamps are now placed at points further back from the roads. Various new lamps and signs have been installed where needed.

## **NEW ROADS, SEWERS AND SIDEWALKS**

During the past year the Lower Merion Township Commission has done or caused to be done, in co-operation with the residents, the following work in your community: The laying of a new surface on what is known as Frederer's hill on Merion Road; new sidewalks on both sides of South Highland Avenue; a sewer on South Latch's Lane; the repair of North Latch's Lane and South Highland Avenue, and the installation of six new fire-hydrants and twelve new lights where needed.

## **ONE FIRE AND ONE BURGLARY**

The community has been singularly fortunate this year in the fact that it has had only one fire, and that of a very slight nature. The arrangements with the local and city fire companies continue as heretofore.

Only one burglary has occurred during the year, and even this was supposedly traceable to an inmate of the house. The arrangements for three of the township police during the night hours with two policemen during the day hours continue, and likewise your own protective service of two special policemen during the night.

The maintenance of these two special policemen, with their constantly increasing pay, is an undoubted drain upon the finances of your Association, calling for nearly 50 per cent of the entire budget; but your Directors feel that the results have fully justified the cost of this

protective measure, and that perhaps no single element in such a community as ours is more important than the safety of property and life.

### **YOUR FINANCIAL CONDITION**

This brings me naturally to the financial condition of your Association, which for the first time in the five years of its history is not so bright. This is due entirely to war conditions. Three items consume practically your entire income:

First—The salary of your Secretary, whose services are more necessary than ever because of the engrossing attention of your Directors in the many war activities. This consumes 25 per cent of your budget.

Second—The maintenance of the Red Cross House, its Secretary and the consumption there of a ton of coal a week for eight months, which consumes another 25 per cent of your budget and

Third—Your special police service, which as I have pointed out, is constantly increasing because of the universal increase in wages, this consuming the balance, or 50 per cent, of your budget.

Your Board of Directors decided to remit the annual dues of these members in the service of their country, and this constitutes a natural decrease in income.

Hence you will see that your Association, like all other organizations of its nature, faces a year in which there will undoubtedly occur a deficit, unless its members come to its rescue. A number of members have not as yet paid their annual memberships due January 1st, and this makes the financial management very difficult. If any members feel that during the period of the war they can increase the amount of their membership, it would be a distinct help to your Directors. Or if any members can send a separate amount to help meet the balance of the overhead charges, such assistance would be heartily appreciated by your Directors. The work is worth of your fullest support, particularly, as you have heard from this report, how closely it is allied to the activities arising out of the war. I urgently comment these suggestions to the consideration of every member.

### **YOUR MEMBERSHIP**

The membership of your Association continues in a gratifying condition. Only resignations caused by the removal from the community have occurred. The total membership is now 322, divided into 181 men and 141 women. Any accession to the membership would be particularly desirable just now to help our Directors in their financial problem, for it must be remembered that what is received from membership constitutes the sole income of your Association. Hence any new member that you can bring into the Association at this time will be a distinct service.

### **WATER AND MILK ANALYSIS**

In order to reduce expenses, your Directors will discontinue, for the present, you Association's monthly water and annual mile analysis. They have, however, arranged with

the Board of Health of Lower Merion Township to use its analyses, which will be regularly scrutinized by your Commissioner and Directors, and any irregularity in either instance immediately reported to the members of your Association.

### **WORK ON THE ROADS**

Owing to the high prices of material and labor, the Lower Merion Township Commission has decided that its work on the roads will be confined to making repairs and ensuring maintenance rather than the laying of new road-surfaces entailing abnormal expense.

For the same reasons, you Directors have decided to defer all expenditure of your moneys on such matters as the removal of highway poles, a possible bridge across the railroad tracks, and like matters, until after the close of the war.

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In other words, your Directors feel that they are reflecting your wishes in confining the efforts and moneys of your Association during these abnormal times to those activities that relate directly or indirectly to the war or resulting conditions. But, curiously enough, these activities, while fewer in number, call for a larger expenditure of money, as in the case of the maintenance of the Red Cross house, than the activities of normal times. Hence it is that, even with this definite policy as the only wise one under present conditions, it is more important than ever that every member of your Association should not only support it as heretofore, but actually to a more liberal extent. The work of such an Association as yours cannot be allowed to lapse. Your Association has become too vital a part of the community; its name has become synonymous with it. So my plea to you, as a member, is more urgent

than there ever has been need in any of these five years; to stand by and see your Association through these troublous times. We *must* carry on.

EDWARD W. BOK,  
President.

Merion,  
April 30, 1918



## THE TREASURER'S REPORT

*To the members of  
The Merion Civic Association*

On the 16th of April, 1917, there was in the treasury of your Association a total of \$11,352.35, from which the balance of \$1,476.10 of the Women's Committee, was transferred to the School Fund.

Since that date, there has been expended, \$15,440.49, for the following purposes:

The Secretary's salary is \$125.00 per month.

At the Red Cross House, the House Secretary receives \$15.00 a week; the Red Cross nurses formerly employed received \$25.00 a week, which, together with heat, light, telephone service and incidentals has consumed \$1,171.19. The officers and committee of the Merion Red Cross House deserve the warmest praise for their excellent management of the house, and the unusually high type of work produced merits the fullest support of every resident of the community.

Two special officers in the employ of your Association patrol the roads of Merion at night, one on each side of the railroad. Each officer receives \$85.00 per month and a summer and winter uniform. This additional protection has cost your Association \$1974.42.

Our clean-up man, whose duty it was to pick up litter from the roads, has been dispensed with for the duration of the war. His services cost \$18.00 per week. This, coupled with snow removal from sidewalks and crossings and incidental clean-up expenses, has taken \$1,134.97.

This spring, the annual cleaning of Merion's gutters was done by boys, under the supervision

of the Secretary. An expense of \$123.36 was incurred.

One hundred forty-seven dollars and twenty-six cents has been expended for monthly tests of Merion's drinking water.

Last spring it cost your Association \$114.20 for an inspection of the various dairies supplying Merion with milk.

The Honor Roll in the station, with additional celluloid letters for the new names constantly appearing, has cost \$163.00.

Two hundred fifteen dollars and fifty-nine cents was expended for Christmas boxes which were sent to all Merion men in the service of either the United States Army or Navy.

The purchase of the community flag and pole, together with hauling, painting, etc., cost \$137.50

The Rifle Range, which has now been discontinued, cost our Association \$476.16.

One thousand dollars was contributed to the Lower Merion Township toward the improvement of Idris Road and Beacom Lane.

Pole removals, new road lamps, new road signs and posts have cost \$1,656.27.

Up to this time \$1,332.18 has been expended for equipment in the new Merion post office

There has been expended for tree planting \$418.50.

One thousand nine hundred and five dollars and six cents was used in connection with the war gardens. This amount was subscribed by contributions from the Directors and from the sale of potatoes.

The item of incidental expenses, including heat, light, telephone, insurance, postage, stationery, printing, office expenses, Secretary's expenses, etc., has amounted to \$1,070.83 for the year.

The receipts during the current year have amounted to \$11,288.77.

Members' dues amounted to \$6,165.15.

In connection with the War Gardens, \$1,853.49 has resulted from the sale of potatoes and from contributions from the Directors.

Contributions for the Red Cross House amounted to \$1,400.00.

Three hundred dollars was contributed for the Rifle Range.

The Permanent Improvement Fund has received \$1,256.02 in contributions.

Various other receipts covering the Merion Home Defense, Protective Fund, interest on deposit, etc., have amounted to \$314.11.

There remains in the Treasury the sum of \$5,724.53, from which must come the expenses of the Association for the balance of the calendar year.

Respectfully submitted

W. H. FOLWELL,  
Treasurer

Merion,  
April 30, 1918.