

# Nuggets of History

Volume 24

Winter, 1987

Number 1

SERVICE ABOVE SELF  
by Hazel Mortimer Hyde

A great lady departed from Rockford in the last part of 1986. Mrs. Hannah Spencer Armstrong, who had arrived in 1937 with her doctor husband, Dr. Robert Bruce Armstrong, soon became a moving force in Rockford musical circles. Her warm, vibrant personality soon brought her a wide circle of friends. She lost no time in finding cultural activities and using her tremendous energy and intellectual curiosity to explore community resources and opportunities. She personified those virtues as a wife, mother, and club woman that have led to the establishment of a WOMAN'S HISTORY WEEK. Her sense of the correct approach, the poised way, the modest response set her apart in one way yet endeared her to those with whom she worked in her many activities and social situations.

It was at Mendelssohn Club that I first became aware of Hannah Armstrong. Choral singing was an important part of my life and I joined the choir of my church in 1936, soon thereafter I was a member of Mendelssohn chorus, and a Teachers Chorus organized by Miss Astrid Gustafson. I saw Hannah at various concerns of Mendelssohn Club, including those given by Women in Mendelssohn Chorus combined with Rockford Men Singers, both directed by William Notley Hughes. Hannah had been a member since 1937 and was the president of Mendelssohn Club 1954-1958.

Another of Hannah's activities paralleled my own and we met at various groups of American Association of University Women. She became vice-president and was the chairman of various interest groups of AAUW. One of these was Wednesday Afternoon Literature. Hannah's taste in reading resulted in some very timely and interest-packed book reviews. She enjoyed entertaining in her home and made everyone feel at ease. While instrumental music, especially strings, was her special field, she sometimes read biographies of opera singers. I recall many of her books, which she permitted her friends to borrow. For a time I was a member of Monday Book Club, of which she was a charter member.

During the nineteen years she was president of the Rockford Community Concert, her friends enjoyed seeing her come out on the stage of the Coronado Theater to welcome the assembled music lovers. Her service to Rockford's cultural life was to be noted in many areas. One day she told a group of friends she had taken up the study of the harp. Then some time later she became a member of the Rockford Harp Club.

Working with Hannah Armstrong in any capacity was a most rewarding experience. Among her contributions to Rockford Woman's Club was the work she performed as program chairman for departments. For a relatively short time I did the publicity for the Literature and Arts Department. She was most prompt in informing me of



Hannah Armstrong (Mrs. Robert Bruce Armstrong)  
A moving force in Rockford Musical Circles

names and telephone data when she had the program for the season developed. She was involved in garden department of Rockford Woman's Club and one of her most charming and well researched programs was entitled "Fountains". In April of 1986 she spoke on "Honey Bees: Fact or Fiction". Always she chose subjects a bit off the beaten path or developed them in an unusual way.

Mental pictures as well as snapshots I have taken come to mind. There at New American Theater matinee performances you would see Hannah and her faithful friends Genevieve (Jan) Taxon and Ida Nieman. They sat in the front row in the old theater and near the front in the present theater.

Some other organizations in which Mrs. Robert Bruce Armstrong was involved were American String Teachers' Association and she was a board member of the Rockford Symphony Orchestra. She was highly respected in the musical groups of Rockford. Her ability as a strings instructor was well known. Her personal skill as a violinist was very considerable and her love of classical music helped to set high standards for making musical offerings available to the community. Letters to the editor of the Rockford Register-Star were signed with her name as she spoke out for cultural opportunities in the community. She defined culture in terms all could understand.

In conversation with her friends, Hannah could be critical of errors in the use of the English language. Her incisive criticisms of objectionable words in plays or literature were frequent. She recognized excellence and wanted to encourage those of the media or the theater to uphold high standards.

The St. Anthony Medical Center Auxiliary was important to Mrs. Armstrong as the wife of Dr. Robert Bruce Armstrong. She accepted the chairmanship of the 20th Pink Ball, a benefit for St. Anthony Hospital in 1974. She was filled with a kind of awe and pride when that year the proceeds netted \$15,000 for the hospital. She was a modest woman but when her efforts brought about great results she was filled with an almost ecstatic joy.

Miss Hannah Spencer had attended Tarkio College Tarkio, Missouri, and received the B.A. degree from Alma College, Alma, Michigan. She became Mrs. Robert Bruce Armstrong in the year 1937 and that degree was very previous to her. Her further education was the M.A. degree from George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tennessee, now a part of Vanderbilt University. She pursued post graduate study at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois and private study in Michigan, Switzerland, New York City and Chicago. After Hannah and Bruce Armstrong came to Rockford, her husband encouraged Hannah in her musical activities.

Awards were made by Rotary Club, the "Service Above Self" award in 1974 and the Blanche Starr Ellis award for "Outstanding Contribution to the Arts" in 1981, at the first Women's Leaders Luncheon. These reflect her contributions to the community and her influence in the Arts in Rockford.

The Armstrong children are a son, Robert III, New York City; two daughters, Helen Armstrong, Washington Depot, Connecticut, and Nancy Potter, Alma, Michigan. Bruce and Hannah also were proud of their five grandchildren. Dr. Armstrong is retired so he and Hannah have visited the children and grandchildren frequently.

A moment of great pride for both parents was when their daughter Helen held center stage with a violin under her chin in a Christmas program at Roosevelt Junior High School. This young prodigy was to go on to become a famous violinist, known in New York City and in Europe. She came back to Rockford to perform for Mendelssohn Club. She gave of her talent to perform for her church, Second Congregational Church.

To omit the mention of Hannah Armstrong's church affiliation would be to leave unrecognized a vital part of her life. Second Congregational Church was dear to her. She was a member of the music committee. She gave her service to those organizations in which she believed. Active to the last---when her life closed November 17, 1986, she left behind a record of "Service Above Self".

## THE JOY OF SERVICE

by Hazel Mortimer Hyde

It is a stimulating experience to have an interview with Vivian Carter Johnson (Mrs. Elmer W.) a Rockford realtor, first executive director of Rock River Council of Girl Scouts of America, and a member of many local government boards and committees. I had talked with her by telephone, asking that she list memberships and boards on which she had served. Her work with Girl Scouts has been so outstanding that her political and government activities have not always received the attention that they deserve from the media.

Vivian Carter, born in Rockford, was an only child, daughter of Raymond and Gladys Carter. She traces her affinity for the outdoors to acting in place of a son to her father. As a child she watched for tracks in the snow showing the activities of birds, rabbits, and squirrels. She appreciated the water, the sky, and trees, giving respect to snakes and spiders she found. Dr. Fulton was a friend of her father and a student of out-of-doors. On Sundays the children's sermon often centered on the natural world.

She took both her B.A. in 1927 and M.A. in 1952 from Rockford College. She remembers the little figure of a mermaid near a small bridge along a ravine on the downtown campus and loved the wooded campus beside Rock River. Later she would extend her educational experiences to serve her many interests taking courses in group work, psychology and behavior at the University of Illinois, Northern Illinois and Western Reserve.

Miss Carter became a teacher, District 122 Harlem Consolidated in 1927 and continued until 1930. Filled with enthusiasm she taught first the seventh grade and later in high school classes. Beside teaching English, mathematics, and history, she coached boy and girl glee clubs, also coached oratory, leading students to the winning of prizes in both fields. A new Kemble upright piano, costing \$660.00 was a thrilling event when it arrived at school. She accepted leadership of a Girl Scout Troop in September of 1928, which was registered in February of 1929.

Three months abroad in 1930 provided cultural advantages while history became more meaningful as she visited museums, historic buildings, and famous cathedrals. It was on her return that Miss Carter was offered the job as first full time Executive Director of Rock River Council of Girl Scouts, a position lasting from 1930- to 1943. Over the years she served as Troop Leader; Girl Scouts Regional Committee Member being Chairman for the area of Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and Michigan in 1950-51; National Board and Executive Committee 1955 to 1963 being Chairman of National Community Relations Committee (and resigned because of her husband's health) First President of the National Association of Girl Scout Executives, Board of Rock River Valley Council in the 1960's, and National Trainer of Camp Directors and

4



Vivian Carter Johnson at an opera preview lecture of Rockford Chapter of Lyric Opera of Chicago

Camp Counselors. Mrs. Johnson made the contacts with Ruth Hanna McCormick Simms that led to the gift of land and the Medill McCormick Girl Scout Camp.

Vivian said, "Obviously, a major interest in my life has been in the Girl Scout program, its standards, its program, its development, its influence on the lives of girls, and its national and international impact on the societies in which it exists."

We continued to discuss her work and she said, "Other interests have been allied with the welfare of people and the protection of the environment. Camping, conservation, and the concerns allied with urban growth, and erosion-- (from social change as much as from natural causes) of the agricultural system belong to these interests. Government, health, housing, and law enforcement are also concerns that belong to these interests."

Her common sense and enormous energy were brought to: The Advisory Committee on Public Housing as chairman; Mayor's Commission on Human Relations when appointed by Mayor Schleicher; Long ago vice president of League of Women Voters; Winnebago County Mental Health Society and Clinic as president in the 1960's (It was the predecessor of the Janet Wattles Clinic); Winnebago County Forest Preserve Commission Executive Committee; Winnebago County Board of Health as Finance Chairman and Public Safety Governing Board as recently as 1985. She served the Republican Party on local, state, and National levels. She is best remembered for service on the County Board.

Current memberships and activities reveal the interests that a volunteer or club woman feels worth the expenditure of time and energy. Much of the philanthropic work in this country and this community is done by dedicated women. Among the activities that Vivian Carter Johnson joined and for which she worked were: Care-A-Van as board member, treasurer, and finance chairman; Highview Retire-

5

ment Home, on the Board and as Corresponding Secretary; and River Bluff Nursing Home Auxiliary. She was an ordained Elder of First Presbyterian Church. Having attended Rockford College she gave of her time in Charter Club, National Alumni Association as past president, and as a member of the Board of Trustees.

On the social side Vivian joined Rockford Women's Club and Daughters of the Nile. Her enjoyment of cultural activities took her to membership in Community Concert Association, Rockford Symphony, and Rockford Chapter of the Lyric Opera of Chicago.

Vivian Carter was married in 1935. She was connected with Johnson Realty Company from 1963. After Elmer W. Johnson, her husband, died in 1970, she managed the business becoming a real estate broker. It was natural that she become a member of the Rockford Board of Realtors. She enjoyed Quota Club of Rockford, an organization of professional women.

Other groups to which she gave of her time were American Legion Auxiliary and American Institute of Archeology. She was an honorary member of Delta Kappa Gamma, a key teachers society. Always there was a drive to extend her horizons. Her education was never-ending. She was a long time subscriber and member of National Geographic Society, which stimulated her thinking in the fields of her continuing interest.

Have you seen the Rockford College Talcott Cross, an elegant jeweled cross of antique gold, suspended on a gold chain? It is set with amethysts and diamonds. Originally this lovely cross was a gift of Mrs. Wait Talcott to Dr. Mary Ashby Cheek. Dr. Cheek, a former president of Rockford College, presented it to the college to be used for a very special purpose. To bestow the Talcott Cross in the highest honor that Rockford College can give to an alumnus. Vivian Johnson received the honor in May 1983. The recipient may wear this precious jeweled cross for one year. Then it is given to another person of distinction to wear. The college gives a replica to each person so honored at the end of their year of recognition.

Honors were numerous and each well deserved. This dynamic woman sought those areas of service that gave her freedom of choice, a chance to use her intellectual curiosity and analytical mind. One of the most recent was the Winnebago County Women's Republican Club, a special luncheon in her honor in 1986. A plaque from the National Association of Girl Scout Executives in 1985 was especially treasured. Rockford Rotary Club awarded "Service Above Self" award. She received the YWCA Leader Luncheon Marcella Harris Award for Community Service in 1984. Some other honors noted by certificates or plaques were: Rockford Park District for Community Service; Winnebago County Board for Service; Winnebago County Sheriff's Department for Service to Law Enforcement; Public Safety Governing Board for Leadership; Winnebago County Soil and Water Conservation District; Winnebago County Board of Health for Service; National Board of GSUSA Certificate

of Honor; and Delta Kappa Gamma Honorary Membership for Service to Education. While no special award was listed for her tactful handling of the securing of the land for Medill McCormick Girl Scout Camp, it is an honor to have served in this project.

Speaking of her personal interests, Vivian said: "Reading of fiction, history, biography and poetry fills much of my time. I amuse myself at the piano, enjoy antiques, and find travel exhilarating. This includes time in Europe, England, Russia, Greece, and every state of the union except Hawaii and Alaska, the two I now want to visit. The one thing I now understand with clarity and a degree of regret is I shall never live long enough to do all that I would like to do."

WOMAN'S HISTORY WEEK gives the public an opportunity to evaluate the enormous contributions of Rockford's women. Mrs. Johnson did not neglect her son, Carter C. Johnson, for home values were important to her. She is proud of her two grandchildren Timothy and Kristen, now grown. We salute Vivian Carter Johnson for her efficient, courteous, time-consuming interest in the community of Rockford. She has a keen memory for names and the personal interest for the concerns of many people.

#### SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

Hazel Mortimer Hyde

Rockford Community has a great resource of talented and active women. Some of these persons come to special attention during WOMEN'S HISTORY WEEK. Constance Vivian (Carmichael) Lane (Mrs. Andrew J.) was honored at the Y.W.C.A. leadership luncheon in 1985, receiving a leadership award in the field of education. This woman has been most modest about ten or more outstanding citations for service. Her biography appeared in Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities, 1942 and 1943; Who's Who of American Women, 1978 to the present; Who's Who in the Midwest, 1980 to present; Community Leaders in America 1973-1976. Pilgrim Baptist Church in 1977 gave its Jubilee Award for Service to Education and Allen Chapel, A.M.E. Church in 1979 gave an Achievement Award. Those who Excel for Administration Award was bestowed by Illinois State Board of Education in 1982 and she was named Administrator of the Year in 1978 by Rockford Association of Educational Secretaries. All of these honors followed graduation Magna cum laude in 1943 from West Virginia State College.

It was my privilege to meet the former Mrs. James Renick as an interested parent when James Renick attended Washington Junior High School. Friendship grew over the years and I came to admire her greatly. Some details of her personal life became known to me. She was a Rockford native, daughter of James and Nozella Carmichael,



Constance V. Lane (Mrs. Andrew J. Lane) The Lanes enjoyed an academic type trip Around the World with classes on shipboard this past year.

both deceased. Her first husband, father of Betty Renick Jefferson, Probation Officer, Cook County, and Dr. James Carmichael Renick, Assistant Dean, University of South Carolina, having died, Mrs. Renick married Andrew J. Lane in 1964. Mr. Lane was my co-worker and friend. Connie Carmichael Lane had attended O.F. Barber School, Roosevelt Junior High School, and Rockford Central High School. She had been a high school student when I came to Rockford as a teacher in 1936. In 1962 Connie Lane received her M.A. degree from Northwestern University. This made another link in our friendship as I, too, had my M.A. from Northwestern. She did post graduate work at Rockford College and Northern Illinois University.

At some point we solidified our friendship through attendance at American Association of University Women, Rockford Chapter. Connie was a former board member while I was content to join interest groups such as creative writing, international relations and Wednesday Afternoon Literature, only serving as Education Chairman in the administration of Mrs. Hugh Pluddeman.

Constance Lane belonged to about fourteen educational associations where she served as president, chairman, delegate, or secretary. Some of these: Rockford, Education Association, Illinois Education Association, National Education Association, Illinois Congress of Parents and Teachers (Life Member), Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development, Illinois Women Administrators, Delta Kappa Gamma Society, Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, and in the field of her subject matter speciality, National Council of Mathematics and Illinois Teachers of Mathematics; Illinois Curriculum Council; and Winnebago-Boone Retired Teachers. In reading the list of offices held, a sense of amazement comes. One woman was concurrently serving as a regional director of a state group and locally a parliamentarian of another organization!

This year Connie and I picked up the threads of communication. At Rockford Woman's Club she became chairman of the Education Department, the first year after retirement. Her great service to the community can be illustrated by listing a few of her memberships. In Taus, Inc., she was a member, charter president, past secretary, past treasurer. She serves in major capacities in a wide variety of groups: Family Consultation Service, Visiting Nurses' Association, Wesley Willows, Community Co-ordinated Care Services, Y.W.C.A. Women Aware Panel and Leader Luncheon Committee, United Services, Inc., Booker T. Washington Community Center and Sinnissippi Lung Association.

Her work experience embraces: stenographer 1943-44 in Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland; stenographer at Fort Valley College in Georgia; stenographer U.S. Patent Office, Department of Commerce 1949-50; Rockford Jewish Center, secretary and office manager 1950-52; and also Camp Kehilah-Counselor 1957 and Director summers 1958-60. We tend to remember only her public school teaching in Rockford in 1954-62 at Summerdale School, then consultant 1962-63, Elementary Mathematics; 1963-1979, Principal, Henrietta and McIntosh Schools. She became Area IV Coordinator 1971-79; and Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Instruction 1979-1985. She served as part time lecturer, Education Department, 1963 - 1979 Rockford College and Part Time consultant for Scott Foresman Publishing Company 1985.

She found time for some publications beginning with an article in 1965 in N.E.A. Journal, December issue. She was co-author of the Black Section, WE THE PEOPLE for the Rockford Bi-Centennial Commission and Reader for the OSPI publication, The Role and Communication of American Negroes in the History of the United States and of Illinois, 1970.

Rockford Woman's Club has a type of membership called Perpetual Membership. Departments of the club that have purchased such a membership may then use it to honor some person. Connie Lane, upon retirement, was honored by Education Department. For one year she may attend Rockford Woman's Club on that membership. The officers or board of the Department choose a person whose credentials qualify them for that honor. Friends of the Lanes were happy that Connie was given that honor for the club year. We were happy, too, that Connie decided to serve the department as its chairman. She prepared a program based on the Lanes' travels entitled "Around the World in 100 Days" for the April meeting of Education Department.

Since 1950, Constance Lane has been a member of the Emmanuel Episcopal Church. There she continues to use her considerable talent as: teacher and Superintendent of Emmanuel Church Schools for 20 years; President of St. Anne's Guild for 2 years; Altar Guild, secretary, treasurer, vice-president, and from 1980-1986 president; commission of Education, Diocese of Chicago; Vestry member, Junior Warder 1986 and former Christian Education Committee.

Retirement did not mean the end of a useful life filled

with a wide variety of interests. Her unselfish and willing service has enriched her hometown. We salute Mrs. Andrew J. Lane!

#### GIRL SCOUTS CELEBRATE SEVENTY-FIFTH BIRTHDAY By Hazel M. Hyde

On the occasion of the seventy-fifth birthday of Girl Scouts of America, it is interesting to trace some of the activities and history of Rock River Valley Council of Girl Scouts. A visit to Girl Scout headquarters, 2101 Auburn Street, an interview with Ruth Little, Executive Director, and the helpful books, pamphlets, and pictures gathered by Susan Lundin gave an abundance of information about Rock River Council. Permission to quote from the variety of materials was graciously given.

This is a report concerning some of the reasons Girl Scouting is so special and fun. No real effort has been made to put events into chronological order. Gleanings from interviews, remembered conversations, and the book *FOUNDED ON THE ROCK* compiled by Beverley Whitehead (Mrs. John) and Myrtle Mitchell as research assistant will tell a part of the wonderful story of leaders and girls since about 1917 in the Rockford area. The Rock River Council provides Girl Scouting to girls and young women in Boone, Winnebago, and Ogle Counties. Mrs. Little gave a graphic overview of the wide range of advances made in finding interesting projects or group activities. Overnight camping is high on the agenda for most girls. Nature study comes from actual personal observations. It is more exciting to see a vixen and her young pups than to read about them. The parade in Chicago with about 500 girls from Rockford participating is one of the several birthday celebration events planned.

The Promise Circle is the cornerstone of Girl Scouts of the USA's national media plan for the public kick-off of Girl Scouting's 75th anniversary. Girl Scouts all over the country will meet and recite the Girl Scout Promise on March 12, 1987. Locally Rock River Valley Council is coordinating a large, fun-filled Promise Circle on the mall in downtown Rockford. There are plans for activities at Machesney Mall. This birthday celebration coincides with Woman's History Week starting March 7th. Since the girls of today are tomorrow's adult women, this is very appropriate.

Juliette Gordon Low started a Girl Scout Troop similar to the English Girl Guides in 1912 in Savannah, Georgia, and the movement has developed from that group of about 18 girls. It has been called the largest and most popular volunteer organization of girls and women in the United States. Rockford's first Girl Scout Troop was Troop 1 with Clara Dickinson as captain composed of twenty-six girls meeting on Thursdays in Winnebago Street Methodist Church in 1917 and registered with

National in 1918. Following a lull about 1925, it got a renewed start to the present with a number of about 7,000 members and approximately 275 troops in the Rock River Valley Council. Instead of tracing step by step as was so ably done in the book *FOUNDED ON THE ROCK*, A History of the Rock River Valley Council of Girl Scouts compiled by Beverley Whitehead, assisted by Myrtle Mitchell who did research, certain interesting events remembered by some people who have worked with Girl Scouts will be mentioned. Comments and memories will be shared. In fact yellow sheets that can be mailed back have been prepared as a part of the 75th birthday so that former Girl Scouts may participate by sharing their memories.

What do Girl Scouts do? Anita Linder (Mrs. C. Mahon) who had been a scout troop leader said, "They attend regular meetings every week. The girls work for badges representing various interests and can follow their own inclinations. The leader passes on the acceptability of their work. They have uniforms and attach the badge on the badge sash. They learn to work with their hands, handiwork, for example making gifts for different occasions. Community Service is high on the agenda and her troop helped at Y.W.C.A. with the special education children in a one-to-one situation." Her eight years of service were 1957-1964 and she has a silver plate in recognition of her time spent. She continued, "We took short trips to places like Rockford's Tinker Cottage or Stephen Mack's home. For a long trip the girls had a spaghetti supper at Westminster Presbyterian Church to earn money. Seventeen girls went to Triple V Ranch at Colorado Springs. They had a marvelous time as they invaded the swimming pool, slept in a dormitory, and took an over-night trip with horses. There were other leaders who went with her. At Denver there had been a flood which had washed out the tracks and they were put on a bus. The types of activities have been expanded recently, including such things as cross country skiing. Present day leaders can tell more about the newer programs. There were memorable trips to national conferences, to Washington, D. C. and even to Mexico for the girls of the Rock River Valley Council.

May Lynn (Mrs. Frank) ninety-four years of age, still enjoys walking and does exercises with regularity. I asked her to tell me about some of her camp experiences. One matched an experience of my own along Kishwaukee River. She recalled, "One morning as I approached Arrowhead I met a huge buck, head high, antlers aloft. I don't know who was most startled, but I stood still. He was beautiful. Suddenly with a graceful bound he disappeared into the woods." She went on to describe a red fox with a magnificent brush, also a family of cranes. She had been chairman of the building committee and was present in June of 1940 when the camp was dedicated with appropriate ceremony. She was a Council President 1946-1949. That first year of Camp Medill McCormick is as clear in her memory as yesterday's breakfast. She commented further that she had recog-

nized the need to make the council more democratic. Committees were studying all the material from National and visiting other councils for ideas.

(Continued in next issue)

#### EAGLE'S NEST WAS AN ARTIST'S DREAM

by Hazel M. Hyde

(Continued from last issue)

"When a person stands near the statue and looks down from the height of the cliff to Rock River below," remembers Anita Linder, "you can see what appears to be miles both up and down the river." She had classes on the Northern Illinois Campus there two different years. One year she commuted from Rockford for an English course. But the other year she took Outdoor Education credit. Geology was studied and they talked about the terrain. Specimen were collected for study. She had hiked there several times with the Black Hawk Hiking Club of Rockford. Then she had observed the spring flowers such as hepaticas with their lobed leaves and delicate flowers, trillium, and also wild fern. On fall hikes there were masses of brown-eyed Susan.

To get to the campus, a person must drive through Lowden Park. Two teachers from Rockford Public Schools who rode with her were Ruth Burdick and Bernice Johnson, who then taught at Conklin School. One of the instructors was from Texas and had brought his children. They were fascinated by the fireflies. Studying on the campus brought a person close to nature. You could sit for hours and watch the river flowing past. Besides adults, children had classes in Outdoor Education and stayed a week in dormitories, usually having some practice teachers working with them. Some came from DeKalb, Illinois, but other children came to enjoy the experience.

Like me, she remembered seeing the draped figures in flowing robes on a huge piece of statuary. Besides the natural beauty she was most impressed by the dining room perched high above the river, with glass on three sides, from which they could look down at the river or out at the beautiful trees. It was an unforgettable experience.

Many people come to the Lowden Park or to Maxon's Manor or stop along the highway to view the dramatic statue or to simply to enjoy the beauty of Rock River.

\*\*\*\*\*  
NUGGETS OF HISTORY, published quarterly by the Rockford Historical Society, Rockford, Illinois

President.....William J. Garson  
Vice President and Associate Editor.....Hazel M. Hyde  
Recording Secretary.....Vera Nordquist  
Past President and Corresponding Secretary.....Eldora Ozanne  
Treasurer.....Russell Carlson  
Membership Chairman.....Russell Miller  
Editor.....Robert H. Borden  
Typist.....Sandra Burlend  
Circulation Manager.....Robert J. Lindvall