

THE REPORT

The Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland published its last report in 1939 and the present one is the 25th.* The generous bequest by the late Ferdinand A. J. Meyer, announced in the last report, has made it possible for the Society to proceed energetically toward the attainment of the aim of our founders in 1886, namely to publish in book form the definitive account of the Germans in our state. Two years ago a research fellowship was established under the direction of the University of Maryland and a trained historian and able writer, Dr. Dieter Cunz, was appointed. At the present time he has finished about one half of the volume, and we may look forward next year to the appearance of *The History of the Germans in Maryland*.

One fruitful source for the work is constituted by the writings contained in the Society's reports. Dr. Cunz has been active in promoting further research on subjects not investigated up to the present. Of the following list of titles the first five have already appeared, while the rest will be published shortly:

Edmund E. Miller, *The Hundred Years History of the Baltimore Correspondent* (1941),

Dieter Cunz, *A History of the Germania Club of Baltimore City* (1940),

-----, *The Maryland Germans in the Civil War* (1941),
John Lederer—*Significance and Evaluation* (1942),

-----, *Augustin Herrman—Origin and Early Events* (1942),

A. E. Zucker, *History of the German Theatre in Baltimore*,

A. J. Prah, *History of the Turner Movement in Baltimore*,

-----, *The Hagerstown Almanack*,

Charles R. Gellner, *History of the German Catholics in Maryland*.

¶

Financial support for our fellowship and scholarly cooperation has also come from the Oberlaender Trust and the Carl Schurz Memorial Foundation. In its headquarters in Philadelphia, located in the former Old Custom House, the Foundation has established a center for the study of German settlers in this country. This work is of purely historical character, in the same spirit as that of our Society, and its aim is to preserve for posterity the record of patriots of German origin in the building up of the American commonwealth. A number of desirable projects mentioned in our 1939 Report by the chairman of the Executive Committee, the late Karl A. M. Scholtz, such as the preservation of old German-American newspapers by means of microfilm, the collection in the archives of letters and manuscripts of historic value, a card index of books and articles in our field—all these are now being carried out on a national scale by the Carl Schurz Memorial Foundation and they redound of course to the benefit of research workers in Maryland, while our Society is cooperating in this work of collecting historical material and bibliographical data. Of all comparable groups the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland has been the most active in recent years to the end that the story of the German settlers in

*Footnote for Librarians: Initially the reports were issued annually, with the first number in 1887. The last of these "annual reports" appeared in 1901, the 15th. From that date on they appeared at irregular intervals. The 16th report was issued in 1907, but it contains also brief statements regarding the Society's annual business comprising reports 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22; thus instead of being numbered merely 16, this volume ought to be entitled: Reports 16-22. From 1907 to 1929 no report was issued; No. 23 appeared in 1929 and No. 24 in 1939. This explanation appears called for because of the questions occurring quite naturally to cataloguers.—The Society still has on hand quite a number of the earlier reports and is willing to pass them on to libraries, as long as the supply lasts, on the payment of 50 cents for the complete set to defray the cost of packing and shipping. Likewise there remain some copies of Louis P. Hennighausen, *History of the German Society of Maryland* (Baltimore, 1907); which may be purchased at \$2.00.—A complete bibliography of the Society's publications is to be found at the end of the 24th report, issued in 1939.

this state will soon be adequately told.

os

During the past years the work of the Society has proceeded in the usual manner. The customary annual banquets were held in February; the speaker in 1940 was the Reverend A. J. Traver on *The Early Lutheran Church in Western Maryland*, in 1941 Dr. Dieter Cunz on *The History of the Maryland Germans in the Civil War*, and in 1942 Dr. Arthur D. Graeff on *The Germans in the Revolutionary War*. The Executive Committee held biennial meetings in which the work of the Society in general and particularly the present research was discussed and directed.

os

The library of the Society, now housed in the Maryland Department of the Enoch Pratt Library, was newly catalogued by Dr. Cunz and thus made more accessible to the members. The following gifts are hereby gratefully acknowledged:

From the authors—

Albert B. Faust, *The German Element in the United States* (1927),
A. E. Zucker, *Robert Reitzel* (1917),
Augustus J. Prah, *Gerstäcker und die Probleme seiner Zeit* (1938),
Dieter Cunz, *Europäische Verfassungsgeschichte der Neuzeit* (1936),
Christian Heurich, *Aus meinem Leben* (1934).

From

The Carl Schurz Memorial Foundation, *The Speeches and Letters of Carl Schurz*, 6 volumes (1913),
The Swiss American Historical Society, *The Swiss in the United States* (1940, Edited by John Paul von Gruening),
Mr. H. L. Mencken,—Johann Burkhard Mencken, *The Charlatanery of the Learned* (1937, Edited by H. L. Mencken),
Pastor A. J. Traver,—Abdel R. Wentz, *History of the Lutheran Church of Frederick, Maryland* (1938),
Pastor F. O. Evers,—*Hallesche Nachrichten von den Evangelischen Lutherischen Gemeinden*, 2 vols. (1886-1895).

The Society takes this opportunity to acknowledge gratefully the help and cooperation received from Mr. James W. Foster, Maryland Department of the Enoch Pratt Library, Baltimore, and from Dr. Morris L. Radoff, Archivist, Hall of Records, Annapolis.

A.E.Z.

Baltimore, Md., April, 1942.
334 St. Paul Street.

CARL SCHURZ:

The best revenge for the past is that which furnishes us the best assurance for the future.

(In regard to the treatment of the South after the Civil War.)