

THE REPORT

Once again the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland is ready to add another Report to its long list of publications which have made their appearance since the founding of the Society in 1886. It has been one of the main goals of this historical association to preserve and publish historical material related to the immigration and activities of Americans of German descent in the Free State of Maryland and neighboring states. Since the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland is the only one of its kind in the United States, the articles appearing in the Reports have outgrown their originally local character and assumed in recent years somewhat of a national scope.

Several Reports in the past have been made possible through liberal grants on the part of members of the Society. The financial support of this Report is generously provided by the Karl F. and Gerdaline Y. Steinmann Foundation, Inc. to whom this edition is appropriately dedicated.

The work of the Society suffered a great loss when in fall of 1957 Professor Dieter Cunz moved away from Maryland after he had accepted the position as Chairman of the German Department at the Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio.

On the occasion of the Seventy-second Annual Meeting and Dinner on March 7, 1958, the members of the Society sent Dr. Cunz an expression of their affection and gratitude for the guidance, counsel and service provided by him during almost two decades: "Since the autumn of 1939, when Dieter Cunz came to the University of Maryland, he has been most actively interested in the Society and its objectives. His services as secretary and librarian from 1944 to 1956 were of immeasurable value. Shortly after his arrival he revived the publication of our *Reports* and edited the volumes 25 through 29 (1942-1956), and thereby helped a great deal to re-establish the prestige of the Society as a scholarly organization. During seven years of thorough research he prepared the publication of his comprehensive and definitive work *The Maryland Germans* (Princeton University Press, 1948), which very justly has been described as the culmination of the endeavors of our Society. For many years Dr. Cunz was the inspiration and the prime mover of the activities and the growth of the Society.

In recognition of his never-ending efforts and his wholehearted devotion to the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland, Dieter Cunz has been elected to lifetime honorary membership in the Society."

The annual banquet and general meeting which take place regularly in the month of February and at which the officers report to the members on the various activities of the Society had since its last publication in 1956 the following outstanding guest speakers:

- 1957: Karl J. Arndt (Clark University), "German-American Quests for Utopia."
- 1958: Charles H. Huffman (President, Germanna Foundation of Virginia), "Immigrants of Distinction and Destiny."
- 1959: Harold S. Jantz (The Johns Hopkins University), "Baltimore and the German State of Mind."

The inability of the Enoch Pratt Library to continue housing our library forced the Society to sell its holdings. Its books and periodicals were acquired by the University of Maryland, Ohio State University, and the Virginia State Library. Two steel cabinets containing a limited number of books, manuscripts, newspaper clippings, as well as the official papers of the Society were moved to the basement of the Main Library of the University of Maryland in College Park.

The annual membership due of \$5.00, which had remained unchanged since 1886, was by unanimous vote raised to \$7.00 at the annual meeting in 1957.

The membership of the Society shows a slight increase over 1956, which is evidence of its healthy and vigorous state.

A. J. P.

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