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A DEAR FRIEND LEAVES US

LDCLWHS Field Historian
Richard B. Williams of Sturgis, S.D.,
died in the Sturgis hospital follow-
ing a long illness. Funeral services
were held July 11 in the First Pres-
ybyterian Church in Sturgis and
interment was in the Bear Butte
Cemetery there.

Williams, 72, was born Dec. 4,
1906, in Farmer City, Ill., and
moved to eastern Meade County, S.D.,
at an early age with his parents.
He was educated in rural schools,
graduated from Rapid City High
School in 1925, and received his
B.A. degree at Black Hills State
College where he majored in English
and history. He received an M.A.
in school administration at the
University of Wyoming.

Williams was associated with
the Sturgis school district from
1932 until his retirement in 1973,
serving as teacher, junior and
senior high school principal, and
assistant superintendent of schools.
He also taught an extension course,
"Recent History of the Northern
Plains," for BHSC.

An author, historian, and popu-
lar public speaker, Williams served
as interpretive specialist at Bear
Butte State Park during the summer
months following his retirement.
He was active in many historical
organizations and was the reci-
pient of many national, state, and
local awards for his work in the
promotion and preservation of his-
tory. He was stricken with
leukemia about five years ago.

Williams is survived by his
wife, Ruth, whom he married in
1932; two sons, Nelson E. Williams,
Denver, Colo., Marshall Williams,
Sturgis; and a daughter, Mrs.
David (Judy) Iverson, also of Stur-
gis; a sister, Mrs. Lucille Wilson,
Redfield, S.D., and six
grandchildren.

All those associated with the
LDCLWHS extend sincere condolences
to the Williams family. Dick will
long be remembered for his eternal
optimism, his infectious enthusi-
asim, his deep commitment to public
service, and his dedicated work in
the field of history.

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WE'RE ORGANIZED!

State Rep. Marshall Truax of
Hot Springs (see BH Historian,
Vol. 3, No. 3 for biography) has
been elected chairman of the
Friends of the Leland D. Case
Library for Western Historical
Studies (LDCLWHS). He was
selected for this important lead-
ership role at a May 23 meeting
of Friends at the library's
faculty lounge where refreshments
were served by the college.

Truax, who represents Fall
River and Shannon counties in the
State Legislature, urged the
Friends present to "pick up on
the enthusiasm of Dr. Case," LDCLWHS
benefactor, in carrying out the
objectives of the library. He
told about the continuing high
interest here and abroad in the
epic saga of the American West and
reported that some English West-
erners would be in the Black Hills
this summer to pursue research in
this field.
(LDCLWHS Field Historian Cushman S. Clark, who is also vice-president of the S.D. State Historical Society, squired one of them--Mr. P. Harrison of Southampton--around the Hills in late June. His specific field of interest was the short-lived Medora to Deadwood stage route founded by that ill-starred French entrepreneur, the Marquis de Mores.)

Also elected as officers of the Friends during the May meeting were Mrs. Marion (Mattie) Hersrud of Sturgis, a former member of the S.D. Board of Regents, vice-chairman; and Mrs. Judy Larson of Spearfish, an eager and talented worker, secretary. Dr. Paul Haivala, treasurer for the LDCLWHS committee, will administer the funds generated by the Friends.

Dr. Haivala discussed details of the LDCLWHS Scholarship Fund endowed by Dr. Case (see separate item in this issue) and made an appeal for "more willing hands" to assist in operating the library. His appeal was echoed by Edwin Erickson, library director, who pointed out "we have seven years of material yet to be catalogued."

"Our staffing has not been extensive," Erickson reminded, "since our special collections librarian (Dora Jones) also has teaching responsibilities. This hasn't left much time for correspondence."

(This need has since been greatly ameliorated -- See separate item in this issue.)

Dr. Haivala also told the group that material for the library doesn't have to be collected by just persons who have been designated as field historians. He said all Friends can help in this regard by contacting persons known to have material of historical importance and significance, and by alerting the library to them.

Capping the meeting was the announcement that 21 additional Friends had been registered at the Annual Black Hills History Conference in April. Credit for this impressive gain goes to Truax and Mrs. Hersrud who distributed LDCLWHS literature and signed up new Friends at the conference's registration desk. "This is only a beginning," Truax commented confidently. "We're going after many more."

The Friends organization is designed to complement the LDCLWHS faculty committee and the library staff in raising support for the program. Members are to meet again at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, September 19, at the library to plan future activities. Dr. Leland D. Case will be in Spearfish for the meeting.

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HISTORY SCHOLARSHIPS

Highlighting the Sixth Annual Black Hills History Conference in April was the announcement by Paul Haivala, chairman of the LDCLWHS faculty committee at BHSC, of the creation of Black Hills History Scholarships at the college.

"The best thing we derive from history," said Goethe, "is the enthusiasm it raises in us."

Believing this, the Friends of the LDCLWHS have begun an endowed fund to be used for ten scholarships
honoring pioneers who have contributed to the historical and social as well as economic development of this favored land. The scholarships are to be awarded annually to graduates of high schools enrolling at BHSC who come from Western South Dakota, Carter County in Montana, and Crook and Weston Counties in Wyoming. Certificates will be awarded to the scholarship recipients at the annual Black Hills History Conference.

The initial scholarships will be for $100 each and will be increased as the income from the Endowed Fund grows. "We are indebted to this great man (Dr. Leland D. Case, benefactor) now and in future generations for his generosity and interest in western history," commented Haivala as he announced the scholarship program at the conference. The scholarships will be named for these intrepid pioneers:

Badger Clark (1882-1957), the "Cowboy Poet," South Dakota Poet Laureate, who lived at "Badger Hole" in Custer State Park.

Gutzon Borglum (1897-1941), creator of the world-famous Shrine of Democracy known as the Mount Rushmore Memorial.

Jedediah S. Smith (1799-1831), first explorer of record in the Black Hills (1823), for whom the Westerner Corral at Hot Springs is named.

Joseph W. Pickett (1832-1879), founder of Dakota College (1879-83), under Congregational auspices at Spearfish, forerunner of BHSC.

Annie D. Tallent (1827-1901), first white woman in the Black Hills (1874), public school teacher and historian.

Henry Weston 'Preacher' Smith, (1827-76), first clergyman in the Black Hills, killed enroute from Deadwood to Crook City to preach.

Capt. C. V. Gardner, (1836-1930), who brought the first quartz and flour mills to the Black Hills, merchant, editor, rancher, Civil War veteran.

Seth Bullock (1847-1919), first Black Hills sheriff and U.S. Marshal, Deadwood merchant and Belle Fourche rancher.

John W. Hancher (1856-1942), president of the Methodist-founded Black Hills College (1887-1900), first four-year liberal arts school in the Black Hills, at Hot Springs.

Chauncey Yellow Robe, Tasingi in Sioux (1887-1930), son of a Dakota chief, graduate of Carlisle, disciplinarian at Rapid City Indian School.

The large number of high school students attending this year's history conference, sponsored by area historical organizations, evinced a real interest in these new scholarships at BHSC. Several indicated they will be applicants for the first of these annual scholarships.

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**LIBRARY HOURS EXTENDED**

A long-time objective of the LDCLWHS became a reality in July with sufficient volunteer staffing to extend the hours during which the facility is open to scholars, researchers, and writers.
Mrs. Mattie Hersrud, who is in charge of the volunteers, reports that enough volunteer workers have been secured to keep the library open daily Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until noon and from 1 to 4 p.m. Most of the volunteer workers (bless 'em) come from Deadwood, Lead, and Spearfish.

Mrs. Hersrud reports the search for additional volunteers is continuing. The indefatigable Dora Jones, special collections librarian, along with the Friends, is deeply grateful for the assistance of these devoted volunteers.

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CONVENTION KEYNOTER

Massive changes are taking place on the Northern Plains, Don Rickey, Chief Historian of the Bureau of Land Management, pointed out when he addressed the banquet meeting of the recent Black Hills History Conference sponsored by Black Hills State College.

Rickey, author of Forty Miles a Day on Beans and Hay and $10 Horse, $40 Saddle, among other historical books, alerted his audience to the increasing pressures upon the environment resulting from the energy crisis and changing land use patterns. He urged a public awareness of legislation designed to protect the nation's non-recurring natural and cultural resources.

The author-historian emphasized what government and private organizations can do in the field of historic resource preservation and management. He pointed out "history is never static" because "events overtake historians even as they write."

Rickey has served as historian at the Custer Battlefield National Monument and as Deputy Director of the Army Historical Research Center at Carlisle Barracks, Pa.

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AWARD WINNERS

Winners of the Leland D. Case Awards in Western History Writing were announced at the recent Black Hills History Conference sponsored by the Social Science Division at Black Hills State College.

Richard Rotenberger, Nisland, was first in the student category with a paper titled, "George Sidney Sitte." Second place went to Richard Hannasch, Rapid City, for a paper on Aaron Burr's conspiracy trial.

Grace Hays, Martin, was first in senior citizens competition with "Pete, The Swede," a story about a Bennett County, S.D., pioneer. A. J. Webb, Sacramento, Calif., was second with "South Dakota Cowboy."

Irma Klock, Lead, won first place in the senior category with a "Defense of Deadwood Dick." Mary Garman, Sundance, Wyo., was second with a paper on the Montana Party of 1876.
Monetary awards ranging from $25 to $150 are presented annually by the Leland D. Case Library of Western Historical Studies at BHSC for "historical essays of superior quality dealing with the history of the American West." Special consideration is given to essays devoted to the Black Hills and surrounding regions.

The awards are made from an endowment provided by Case.

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**RETIRED TEACHERS WRITE**

President Gil Hause of BHSC recently was the recipient of a copy of "Memoirs of South Dakota Retired Teachers" which is also now available in the LDCLWHS at the college. A photograph of President Hause receiving the new publication from Georgia Hanson, president of the South Dakota Retired Teachers Association, appeared on the front page of the NRTA (National Retired Teachers Association) News Bulletin for May.

Mrs. Hanson and her husband Merle, also a retired educator, are avid workers on behalf of the LDCLWHS and, in addition, are active members of the Black Hills Corral of The Westerners.

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**WELL REPRESENTED**

The LDCLWHS was well represented at the annual meeting of the South Dakota State Historical Society at Custer last month. It was the first annual meeting of the Society held outside the capital at Pierre since the organization became a state agency in 1901. The State Legislature earlier this year approved holding the meetings outside of Pierre because of the unpredictability of travel conditions and the crowded conditions in the capital during legislative sessions when the Society was required to meet under the old law.

Principal speaker at the annual meeting was Mr. James Walker of the Old Military Records Division, National Archives and Records Service, Washington, D.C., who spoke on that agency's services to historical researchers. Future annual meeting sites will be selected by the Society's president. Dr. Joseph Cash, University of South Dakota dean and author of several historical books on the Sioux Indians and the Black Hills, was re-elected president. Re-elected vice-president was S. Cushman Clark of Deadwood, LDCLWHS field historian.
In addition to Clark, the meeting was attended by Dr. David Miller of the LDCLWHS faculty committee at BHSC and Field Historians Marshall Truax, Bob Lee, and Harold Shunk.

The Society is still striving to clarify its status and strengthen its programs in the face of executive reorganization of state government resulting from a change of administrations. It solicited support from its statewide membership for a division of programs initially inaugurated by the Society but now under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Cultural Preservation.

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THEY DO GET AROUND

David Miller, Professor of History at BHSC, and Dora Jones, special collections librarian for the LDCLWHS, made presentations at the Historical Records Preservation Conference held June 6 at Pierre, S.D.

The one-day conference brought interested scholars, librarians, archivists and other interested parties together to examine and discuss the need to preserve historical and archival records in South Dakota.

The conference consisted of a series of panel presentations laying forth and analyzing the problems in the field and suggesting solutions.

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MILESTONE NOTED

A milestone in the history of the LDCLWHS has occurred with the recent publication of an Index to Bits and Pieces, a Regional Magazine of Black Hills History under the imprimatur of the Friends of library. It is a "first" for the Friends and for the library.

The extensive Index is the work of Charles Tank of Wisconsin, former student of Prof. Watson Parker of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, who assisted him in the publication.
The LDCLWHS was recipient of autographed copies numbered One and Three.

Mr. Tank laboriously cross-referenced Volumes 1-12 of Bits and Pieces, edited by LDCLWHS Field Historian Mabel Brown of Newcastle, Wyo., for the years 1966 through 1978. The publication will be of great assistance to those researching the many regional articles published in this useful historical magazine.

Prof. Parker, also a LDCLWHS field historian, has developed enthusiasm among a large number of history students and buffs for the rich legacy of Western Americana to be found in this region. Mr. Tank's excellent Index bears the imprimatur of the Friends and the college on its cover. We are proud to be sponsors of it!

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ONE OUT, ANOTHER FORMING

A film on the colorful life and career of the late Badger Clark, South Dakota's long-time Poet Laureate, was shown at the annual meeting of the Society of Black Hills Pioneers in the Franklin Hotel at Deadwood at 1 p.m. Sunday, July 29. The LDCLWHS was among the sponsors of this fine production, a "labor of love" for Clark's grand niece and her husband, Shebby and Milt Lee of Rapid City, S.D. The film premier was held at BHSC last year, and has been shown extensively throughout the region since. It does much to renew interest in the beloved "Cowboy Poet" and to introduce him to a new generation of poetry lovers.

The LDCLWHS has become a sponsor, along with several other history-oriented organizations, of another slide-tape documentary similar to the film presentation by the Lees. This one is about the Nineteenth Century Women Outlaws of the West and is the work of Karen Klein and Davia Nelson, two energetic California students, who spent considerable time researching the subject in the Black Hills last winter.

Supplemental funding from the South Dakota Committee on the Humanities is being requested, with the help of David Miller of the LDCLWHS faculty committee, to do extensive research in the Black Hills towns in which these women outlaws lived, to do the necessary photographic and sound production work, and to make copies of the completed slide show available to the sponsoring organizations.

The two researchers inspected the material available at the LDCLWHS, BHSC, the Deadwood Public Library, local newspaper and county record depositories during their initial visit to the Black Hills. They also conducted extensive interviews with long-time area residents and with LDCLWHS field historians, gathering information and graphics on Poker Alice Tubbs and Calamity Jane, among others, as well as obtaining background on the Gold Rush and early mining towns, gambling, boomtown life, liquor and prostitution, women's roles and experiences in general for the period of 1880 to 1930.

"We will compare these women outlaws to other women of their era
considered to be more typical of traditional," explain Ms. Klein and Ms. Nelson. "By describing the lives of these women and addressing how society--family, peers, the community and the media--responded to them, we can gain a valuable perspective on attitudes concerning appropriate behavior and roles of women, how a society enforced its mores, traditions and norms, and what it does to those who deviate."

Ms. Klein and Ms. Nelson reside in Santa Cruz, Calif. They are planning a two-part, hour-long production encompassing the careers of all Women Outlaws of the West.

+++ "BLOOD BROTHERS" +++

LaGrange College, the oldest private institution of higher education in Georgia, and BHSC are now "blood brothers" through related benefactions. The Georgia college conferred the Doctor of Laws degree on Leland D. Case of Tucson, Ariz., who has also endowed the LDCLWHS at BHSC, at its June commencement. The honor, we're informed by Dr. Waights G. Henry, Jr., Chancellor of LaGrange, was presented because of Dr. Case's assistance in enabling the college to make viable contact with personages in this country and abroad relative to General Lafayette. The college was named in honor of this last living member of George Washington's General Staff and for his Chateau de LaGrange that stands 35 miles outside of Paris.

Dr. Case, while City Editor of the Paris Edition of The Herald Tribune, came to know descendants of General Lafayette and put the college in touch with them. Moreover, Dr. Case contributed Lafayette memorabilia and books about the General that are of great value to the institution. Dr. Case and his wife, Dr. Josephine Altman Case, have also provided an extensive and eclectic collection of Indian art and artifacts of the Great Southwest to the college. One year ago LaGrange conferred upon Mrs. Case the honorary degree of Doctor of Literature. Like her husband, Mr. Henry reports, "she has greatly enriched the fine arts collections of this institution."

"We know that you are fully aware of the enriching largesse which they have bestowed on your institution," Mr. Henry writes. Likewise, we are grateful for their lagniappe which they have contributed here."

Congratulations to Dr. Case, who also holds an honorary degree from BHSC, for "keeping pace with the Missus."

Mr. Henry, in an appreciated comment, added that he enjoys receiving and reading the BH Historian.

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FRONTIER NOVELIST

Captain Charles King, much-traveled frontier soldier and prolific novelist, wrote glowingly of the Black Hills in his novel, Captain Blake. It was published in 1891 by J. B. Lippincott Co., New York. King also authored The Colonel's Daughter and Marion's Faith, also based on the frontier military life, among many other popular books. The LDCLWHS welcomes contributions of his works since so many of them are based on his experiences while soldiering on the frontier.

+++ AN ARIZONA FAN

State Treasurer Clark R. Dierks of Arizona, an alumnus of BHSC, is among the growing number of "out-of-staters" attuned to the objectives of the LDCLWHS through the persistent proselytizing of Dr. Leland D. Case of Tucson. He sends greetings to other BHSC alumni rallying to the cause.

+++ IN GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Our thanks to these recent contributors of historical memorabilia to the LDCLWHS: Mrs. Isaac Chase; Mrs. Clara Lobdell; Mrs. Edward Doolittle; Mrs. Helen Greenfield, chairman, First Congregational History Committee; the Rapid City Society for Genealogical Research; and Harold Shunk, all of Rapid City, S.D.; Dr. David Miller; Dr. Leila Meldahl; Mrs. Rhyllis Rae Oedekoven; and Mrs. Jessie Tschetter, all of Spearfish, S.D.; Mrs. Vere Duff, Sturgis, S.D.; Mrs. Fay Canfield, Hill City, S.D.; and Mrs. Phillis A. Whitney, Brookhaven, N.Y.
AN OPEN INVITATION

Those interested in becoming Friends of the CASE Library (everybody is welcome) are encouraged to "saddle up" with those already in the vanguard of enthusiastic supporters. Cash contributions as well as gifts of western historical material are earnestly solicited. Make checks payable to "Black Hills State College, Spearfish, SD 57783.

Membership fees are:

- Annual Sustaining--------$ 7.50
- Annual Contributing------$ 50.00
- Annual Endowing----------$ 100.00+
- Life Fellowship-----------$1,000.00++
- Life Donor----------------$2,500.00++
- Life Benefactor------------$5,000.00++

+Annual Endowing Memberships are cumulative; ten will bring a Life Fellowship.

++Funds become Endowment Principal (only income used).

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