

They Make Much of Thanksgiving Day



THE PILGRIMS' FIRST SABBATH IN AMERICA. Photo by copyrighted in Liverpool.

Mayflower Descendants Now Number Over 6,000

By JOHN DICKINSON SHERMAN

THANKSGIVING, according to American tradition, is intimately connected with the Pilgrims and New England, while at Christmas any thought of the beginning of the American celebration of the day takes us back to Virginia and to the jolly Dutch burghers of New Amsterdam.

And this is historically correct. For the "mass" in Christmas shows that it was an annual church festival in celebration of the anniversary of the birth of Christ. The Pilgrims, as everyone should know, had separated from the Established Church of England in part because of their dislike for its ritual. Therefore, while accepting the great event of Christmas day, they disparaged its observance.

Thanksgiving day, however, established itself naturally, as the outgrowth of the conditions of the colony. The turkey, which the friendly Indian hunters offered to them, came naturally to be the big thing of the Thanksgiving feast. And so did the pumpkin pie, for this was the agricultural of the Indian: corn in hills, with a climbing bean; pumpkins between the rows.

So, if anyone should celebrate Thanksgiving day with enthusiasm it is the descendants of the Pilgrims who came over in the Mayflower. Nobody knows just how many of them there are today, but more than five thousand are enrolled in the membership of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants and the society is growing. It's no easy matter to get on the rolls, either. There is a historian general who traces all lines of descent. Altogether there are probably between 6,000 and 7,000 descendants scattered all over the country.

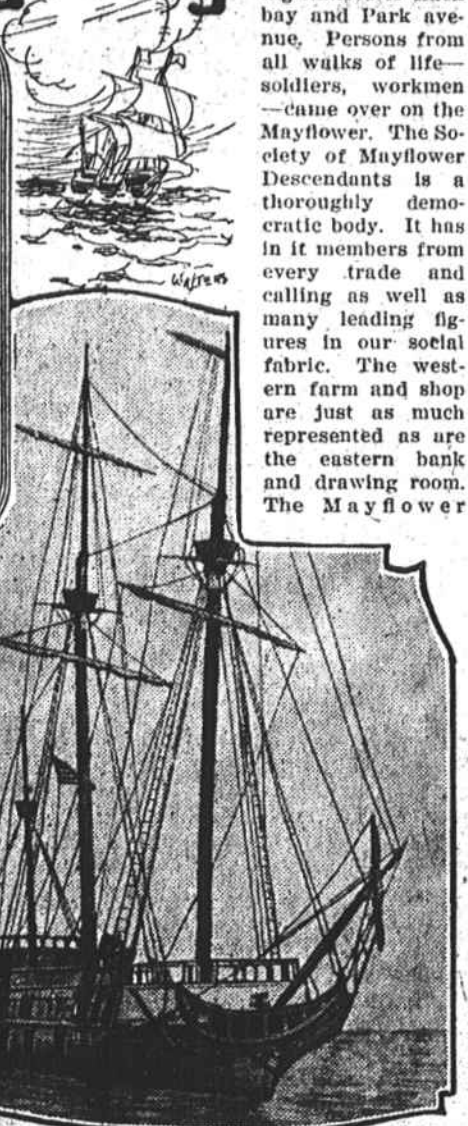
There were 102 passengers on the Mayflower when she sailed from Plymouth, England, on September 16, 1620. One man died on board ship and one male child, Oceanus Hopkins, was born in mid-Atlantic. It might seem that with an original band of 102 there might be scores of lines of descent, but such is not the case. The Mayflower setons in this country today are in reality descended from only 23 possible lines. The intermarriage of the Pilgrim families is responsible for this reduction. Four lines are practically extinct.

Louis Effingham de Forest, historian of the New York Society of Mayflower Descendants, says that many lines have been extremely prolific, while others through the centuries have almost disappeared from the earth. The Bradford, Brewster, Howland and Alden lines, perhaps have been the most prolific, while the number of Standishes and Allertons is comparatively small. The descendants of the original Governor Winslow are now living in Canada. When the Revolutionary war broke out they decided for the cause of the king and moved across the border. The Winslows of Mayflower descent now found in this country are of the line of the original Governor Winslow's brother.

The 19 more or less prolific family lines are those of John Alden, Isaac Allerton, William Bradford, William Brewster, James Chilton, Francis Cooke, Edward Doty, Edward Fuller, Dr. Samuel Fuller, Stephen Hopkins, John Howland, Gregory Priest, Thomas Rogers, Henry Samson, George Soule, Miles Standish, Richard Warren, Wil-



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liam White and Edward Winslow. The lines of John Billington, Peter Brown, Francis Eaton and Richard More are the ones practically extinct.

New York state has about 850 members. The total enrollment to date is about 5,200 members. Here is the New York table to descendants. The proportions probably hold all over the country. The table:

John Alden, 160; Isaac Allerton, 40; Francis Billington, second generation, 0; John Billington, 0; William Bradford, 163; Lové Brewster, second generation, 27; William Brewster, 164; Peter Brown, 3; James Chilton, 15; Francis Cooke, 74; John Cooke, second generation, 28; Edward Doty, 16; Francis Eaton, 0; Samuel Eaton, second generation, 0; Edward Fuller, 34; Samuel Fuller, second generation, 33; Dr. Samuel Fuller, 2; Gyles Hopkins, second generation, 17; Stephen Hopkins, 62; John Howland, 140; Richard More, 0; William Mullins, 160; Gregory Priest, 11; Joseph Rogers, second generation, 14; Thomas Rogers, 43; Miles Standish, 29; John Tilley, 140; Richard Warren, 148; Peregrine White, second generation, 9; Resolved White, second generation, 6; William White, 15; Edward Winslow, 10. Many members, it is pointed out, have numerous lines of descent.

Capt. Richard Henry Greene, a Civil war veteran, formed a Mayflower society in New York state in 1884. Connecticut, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania quickly followed the example. These four states met in 1897 at Plymouth, Mass., and organized the General Society of Mayflower Descendants.

A state society was chartered in Illinois in June, 1897. The societies of the District of Columbia and Ohio came into being in March, 1898. New Jersey followed in August, 1900; Wisconsin, Rhode Island and Michigan in February, 1901. Later state societies were chartered in Minnesota, Maine and Colorado. There followed a period of steady growth until 1908, when California formed its society. The state of Washington's branch was chartered in 1912, and later charters were granted to societies in Kansas, Indiana and Nebraska. The Minnesota society is now inactive.

"Roughly speaking, the Society of Mayflower Descendants has, I should say, about 5,200 members," declared Frederick Dwight, secretary of the New York State society. "Massachusetts, as might be expected, heads the list with a membership of more than 1,600, while New York state has about 850. I doubt if the national membership is more than a small percentage of the persons who have Pilgrim blood in them in this country. Our congresses at Plymouth are becoming better attended each time they are held. At the last congress there were present 17 officers of the general society and 144 qualified delegates from all over the country. Some of them came from as far west as Nebraska and California.

stock is virile—the descendants of the original Pilgrims have very largely pushed their way to the front in local, state and national affairs.

"We do not intend merely to sit around and glorify the past," continued Mr. Dwight. "The General Society of Mayflower Descendants is now actively engaged in a definite program of patriotism. We are striving to educate the foreigner who does not know the history of the country to which he has come as an immigrant. We want to make him realize the tremendous background there is in early Colonial history. The Society of Mayflower Descendants isn't an organization formed for mutual approbation. It is an active working force for Americanism."

The membership of the society is on the increase. Since the last congress was held at Plymouth in 1921 the names of 910 new members have been added to its rolls. In the last year alone 173 new members have been enrolled. In the West and the Middle West the membership is increasing to such an extent as to make probable, in the future, a meeting in Chicago. In 18 states there are regularly chartered state societies which, taken as a whole, form the General Society of Mayflower Descendants with what is defined as "sentimental headquarters" at Plymouth and actual national headquarters at Boston.

The increase in the membership is declared to be due to a healthy growth and a newly awakened interest in the founders of our country. Many other patriotic organizations have not much more than held their own since the war, losing members steadily through an increasing death rate, while the Society of Mayflower Descendants has gone steadily ahead. Its requirements for membership are high. When at the Plymouth congress it was voted to have the line of descent of all prospective members traced by the historian general of the national society before permitting these applicants to be certified by the state societies, it was simply making a part of the constitution something which was already a custom. Not only must the prospective member have state sanction, but he must also have national sanction, before he can join the Mayflower descendants.

When congress voted to take part in the tercentenary of the Pilgrims the following was made a part of the records:

"The landing of the Pilgrims symbolizes one of the world's great adventures. The hardships of the voyage, the perils of the wilderness, the ravages of that first dreadful winter—these are but circumstances that frame the picture. Acting for the nation, our concern today with the solemn story is that it rivets imagination on the noblest pages of human nature—lofty purpose, dauntless courage, steadfast endurance, pious enthusiasm, holy faith."



Daddy's Evening Fairy Tale

By MARY GRAHAM BONNER

THE TENCH DOCTORS

"It was a long time ago that they thought we were such good doctors," said Little Tench.

Little Tench was a very small fish. He had only lately come to the aquarium.

A number of other members of his family had come, too.

"I'll tell you why we were thought to be such good doctors," Little Tench continued.

"You will please me greatly if you do tell me," Billie Browne said.

"It was this way," said Little Tench. "Years ago," he began, "we were used to make poultices. Not very pleasant for us, perhaps, but an honor, nevertheless to be considered so helpful.

"Then a story got around that we would lick the wounds of any injured member of the pike family and heal them in this way.

"It was really more of a story than anything else. The pike family, at any rate, haven't any great love for us—unless you consider their eating us is loving us.

"I don't believe it is really. I notice people come to the aquarium, and they feel very fond of each other, but they don't show it by eating each other.

"We are slimy little fishes. We aren't very bright. We're stupid and sleepy and lazy.

"We love to sleep a lot, and often people can pick us right up while we're having a nap, and we hardly notice it. But we are strong, and we can stand hardship. We don't mind it if

"You Will Please Me Greatly."

"We go for a while without food. We will eat mud, too.

"And you know we're not taking away food from any others when we eat mud, for mud isn't popular as food.

"We eat little insects and mollusks and bits of pond plants, but we will not complain during summer dry seasons when we have to stay in ponds that are nothing much more than dried up mud places.

"Well, Billie Browne, I hope I have told you enough about ourselves, and that you have been interested.

"You see, I cannot tell you too much, because it might take up much of your time; and when you went back and they asked you what the news was you'd say that you had used up all your visiting time by talking to me.

"I don't want to use up all your time. Then, as I said before, I am pretty stupid and I haven't much to say for myself."

"You've done splendidly," said Billie Browne. "I am glad to hear your story, and your story will be enough this time for the Brownies and Fairies, for they have never heard of you before.

"I had never heard of you until today when Mother Nature told me you and other members of your family had lately arrived from Europe and that it might be nice to see you."

"Has it been nice?" asked the little Tench.

"Very nice," smiled Billie Browne. "Well, then," the little Tench said, "you will excuse me if I do not talk any more.

"I have no more ideas in my sleepy, slimy head. I must sleep now.

"They may say fish is brain food, but I don't see how they could improve their brains by eating members of my family, when we're so stupid.

"But, Billie Browne, it is rather nice to be stupid.

"We are known to be stupid, and we don't have to try to appear bright. We don't have to make any effort to keep up a conversation, and we don't have to try to think up clever things to say.

"We can have a very easy time. Perhaps that is why we live a good while. We don't tire ourselves out by thinking too hard.

"Really, Little Browne, it is very restful to be stupid. Good-by."

And the sleepy little Tench joined his sleeping brothers and sisters and mothers and aunts.

HOW TO KEEP WELL

Dr. Frederick R. Green, Editor of "Health."

Are Microbes Real?

THE microscope is just ninety years old. Yet in that short time, no longer than the life of many persons still living, it has changed our ideas of the world we live in.

We naturally think of the world as limited to what we can see. Yet we know that there are many things in the world beyond our vision. The sailor knows that the land too far away for him to see will be made visible to him by the telescope, which brings far objects near.

The human eye is limited, not only as to the distance which it can see but also as to the size of the object it can see. The microscope makes small objects visible just as the telescope makes distant objects visible. When the watchmaker has a delicate job of repairing to do, he uses his microscope, so that he can see the tiny springs and wheels plainly enough to work on them. The wheels are there, even if they are too small for his eyes to see. They are just as real as larger objects, only we can't see them until the microscope has given additional power to our eyes.

The microscope was invented in its present form in 1635 by three men—Lister, an Englishman; Chevalier, a Frenchman, and Amici, an Italian.

The microscope is used today in hundreds of factories and workshops, and is indispensable in any work which is too fine for the unaided human eye. Yet there are still many people who regard anything seen through a microscope as imaginary rather than real.

The microscope doesn't create anything or imagine anything. It doesn't increase the size of the object looked at, any more than a telescope brings a distant ship any nearer. It merely increases the power of the human eye, so that it can see an object too small to be seen by the unaided vision.

One of the first discoveries made with the microscope was that there were many living things in this world too small for the human eye to see. These tiny living creatures were called "animalcules" or little animals by old Van Leeuwenhoek, the Dutch spectacle maker, who first saw them in 1683. He thought they were animals.

In 1878, Sillitot, a French scientist, called them "microbes" or "little lives." They are little plants, very small but just as real as an oak tree or a cabbage plant. There are many different kinds, and they grow from seed just like wheat and corn.

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Dodging Diabetes

THE discovery of insulin is a great advance in the treatment of diabetes. But insulin does not in any way prevent this disease. It only enables the doctor to control it and to keep the diabetic alive a few years.

No one knows why, in some persons, diabetes occurs. But we do know that it is increasing. Doctor Joslin, one of the best-known authorities on this disease, says there are probably more than half a million persons in this country suffering from this disease.

We do know that it is more common among the well-to-do than among those in moderate circumstances. It is more common among those who lead sedentary lives than among those who do hard physical work, and, most important of all, it is much more common among the fat than the thin.

During middle life, a fat person is 40 times as apt to have diabetes as a person of normal or slightly under normal weight.

So diabetes seems to be a disease of the prosperous. Those who over eat and under-exercise are preferred candidates for this disease.

After you once get it, there is no cure. You can control it by proper living but you can never get entirely well again. You've got to pay the price, the rest of your life, of eating too much, especially too much sugar and starch, and working too little.

After you get it, the first thing the doctor will do will be to cut out sugar and starch and to reduce your weight. Knowing this, isn't it sensible to do these things yourself, before you are sick, rather than to wait and do the same things after it is too late?

The most common defect of middle age is overweight. Fat is not only a burden but a danger. Cut down on candy, pie, pudding and other sweets. Eat less white bread and cereals and more fresh fruit and vegetables. Drink more milk and fewer ice cream sodas. If your work doesn't give you enough exercise, give your muscles something to do that will keep them active. Drink plenty of pure water and breathe plenty of fresh air.

Good health is easy, if you will live simply. It costs less than the disease and is a great deal more comfortable.

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A Tragic Comedy

The proud possessor of a palatial home was much importuned by a movie company to let them use it for a few takes. One day he assented, left for his office as usual, and in due time returned. He found a bath tub on the lawn, half the windows broken, and the front door in splinters. "I didn't know it was to be a comedy," remarked the owner as he surveyed the scene.

Hired Man Knew

"That new hired man of mine isn't much of a worker, but he is a living wonder at arming politics," stated Farmer Fumblegate. "He not only knows all about the subject, but tells it to everybody who will listen. Yesterday he was sitting on the top rail of the fence smoking his pipe and denouncing our statesmen in a way that got to have made 'em ashamed of themselves."

"We pay for extra sessions of congress and then find they ain't worth it," says he. "If they got cash for their gabble all the Buns in Washington would be richer than Henry Ford. A political lobbyist," says he, "is the p'nt that a statesman gets the voters to fix their eyes on while he slips around and tunnels in at the back side. It looks—gorry!—as if a good many of our honorables would be exterminated by the—"

and rail, biting off the stem of his pipe as he done so, but never missing a lick in his argument.

"—foot and mouth disease," says he.—Kansas City Star.

Profit From Experience

Experiences are stepping stones in life's progress, said Emerson, but he implied that one must profit from experiences in order to advance. The great trouble with most people who stand still is that they do not profit as they should.—Grit.

WEAK, RUN DOWN AFTER SICKNESS

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Seeing Darkly
Samuel Gumpers objected, at a banquet in Washington, to the "vision" that a fellow banqueter attributed to the Soviet leaders.

"Vision?" he said. "Well, the vision of those fellows is just about equal to Blank's."

"Blank, you know, visited an oculist to have his eyes tested. The oculist tried him on all his biggest charts, but he couldn't make out a single letter. So, in desperation, the oculist dashed off to the kitchen and came