

Constitution *and* By-Laws



The
GEORGIA-SALZBURGE
SOCIETY

1734=====1925

ORGANIZED
SEPTEMBER 2. 1925

The Georgia-Salzburger Society

PREAMBLE

Whereas, there seemed to be an increasing interest and desire among many of the descendants of the Salzburger settlers of Georgia for a permanent organization to perpetuate the memory and preserve the history of these early settlers, a call was issued to a number of interested persons to meet at Jerusalem Church (Ebenezer), Effingham County, Georgia, September 2, 1925, to discuss ways and means of founding such an organization. Those attending this meeting were:

William R. Fetzer, Andrew D. Gnann, D. D. S.; Alvin O. Gnann, Byron E. Gnann, C. Bowers Gnann, Richard L. Gnann, D. D. S.; Walter A. Gnann, William G. Gnann, Mrs. William G. Gnann, Perry A. Kessler, Herbert A. Reisser, John W. Reiser, Gideon W. Seckinger, Harvey L. Seckinger, Lawrence E. Seckinger, Bartow W. Waldhour, Blois C. Zeigler. The call for the meeting was read by R. L. Gnann. W. A. Gnann was elected Chairman, and R. L. Gnann, Secretary-Treasurer. A committee composed of R. L. Gnann, Geo. W. Fetzer, L. F. Grovenstein, H. A. Reisser, and J. H. Shearouse was selected to present a tentative Constitution and By-Laws at the next meeting.

The second meeting was held at the Court House, Springfield, Georgia, on November 11, 1925. The greater part of the day was given over to addresses, and only part of the Constitution was adopted. The meeting adjourned and reconvened on December 9, 1925. At this meeting the adoption of the Constitution and By-Laws was completed, with the exception of Articles 10, 11 and 12. A committee composed of Milton Arden, H. J. Biddenbach, Louise Gnann, L. V. Graham and Mrs. J. D. Zeigler was appointed to supply these Articles and to present them at the meeting of the Society on March 12, 1926. Officers were elected to serve until the March meeting.

The first annual meeting of the Georgia-Salzburger Society was held at Jerusalem Church (Ebenezer), Effingham County, Georgia, on March 12, 1926. Addresses were made prior to the business session. Articles 10, 11 and 12 were adopted, completing the Constitution and By-Laws. Permanent officers were elected.

OFFICERS PRO TEM.

WALTER A. GNANN, Chairman
(Sept. 2, 1925—Dec. 9, 1925)

RICHARD L. GNANN, D. D. S.,
Secretary-Treasurer
(Sept. 2, 1925—Dec. 9, 1925)

WALTER A. GNANN, President
(Dec. 9, 1925—Mar. 12, 1926)

HARVEY L. SECKINGER, Vice-President
(Dec. 9, 1925—Mar. 12, 1926)

RICHARD L. GNANN, D. D. S., Secretary
(Dec. 9, 1925—Mar. 12, 1926)

WILLIAM G. GNANN, Treasurer
(Dec. 9, 1925—Mar. 12, 1926)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PRO TEM.

(Dec. 9, 1925—Mar. 12, 1926)

JOHN W. REISER, Chairman

MRS. MAUDE ARDEN

HENRY J. BIDDENBACH

MRS. B. W. CUBBEDGE

L. FRANK GROVENSTEIN

GIDEON W. SECKINGER

LAWRENCE E. SECKINGER

JACOB R. WALDHOUR

BLOIS C. ZEIGLER

WILLIAM G. GNANN, (Ex-Officio)

RICHARD L. GNANN (Ex-Officio)

OFFICERS

RICHARD L. GNANN, D. D. S., President
(March 12, 1926—.....)

HARVEY L. SECKINGER, Vice-President
(March 12, 1926—.....)

*JULIAN H. SHEAROUSE, Secretary
(May 26, 1926—.....)

WILLIAM G. GNANN, Treasurer (Deceased)
(March 12, 1926—April 19, 1926)

†MRS. WILLIAM G. GNANN, Treasurer
(May 26, 1926—.....)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(Elected Mar. 12, 1926)

C. BOWERS GNANN

(Term expires Mar. 12, 1929)

BLOIS C. ZEIGLER

(Term expires Mar. 12, 1929)

GEORGE Q. RAHN

(Term expires Mar. 12, 1929)

JOHN W. REISER, Chairman

(Term expires Mar. 12, 1928)

JOSHUA A. HELMLY

(Term expires Mar. 12, 1928)

MRS. MAUDE ARDEN

(Term expires Mar. 12, 1928)

GIDEON W. SECKINGER

(Term expires Mar. 12, 1927)

MISS SUSIE GNANN

(Term expires Mar. 12, 1927)

MRS. B. W. CUBBEDGE

(Term expires Mar. 12, 1927)

MRS. WILLIAM G. GNANN (Ex-Officio)

JULIAN H. SHEAROUSE (Ex-Officio)

*Elected Secretary to fill the vacancy caused by H. J. Biddenbach, who was elected but declined to serve.

†Elected Treasurer to fill the vacancy caused by the death of William G. Gnann.

CHARTER MEMBERS

GEORGIA SALZBURGER SOCIETY

Ackerman, Mrs. Lessie V.
 Arden, Mrs. Maud Griner
 Arden, Milton
 Biddenbach, Henry J.
 Berry, Claud F.
 Cramer, Jas. Robert
 Cramer, Walter E.
 Gonoway, Berley L.
 Davis, Jas. McDonald
 Debele, Margaret Williams
 *DeGamis, Mrs. Georgia
 Deming, Mrs. K. K.
 Dugger, Hattie V.
 Exley, Joseph E.
 Exley, Leon Grady
 Fox, Mrs. Katie
 Fetzger, William R.
 Fetzger, George William

Garrett, Anne Sharpe
 Gnann, George Bordene
 Gnann, Richard L., D. D. S.
 Gnann, Pearl Rahn
 Gnann, Dorothy S.
 Gnann, Cecil C.
 Gnann, Edith
 Gnann, Thomas S.
 Gnann, Naomi A.
 Gnann, Elsie R.
 Gnann, W. G., Jr.
 Gnann, Louise
 Gnann, Walter N.
 *Gnann, Wm. George
 Gnann, Andrew David, D. D. S.
 Gnann, Bryon E.
 Gnann, Mrs. Laura Hinely
 Gnann, C. B.
 Gnann, Lena Exley
 Gnann, A. O.
 Gnann, Julia A.
 Gnann, Hortense
 Gnann, William R.
 Gnann, W. A.
 Gnann, Effie Vernon
 Gnann, Lillian Gertrude
 Gnann, Frederick Bartow
 Gnann, Charlie Bowers
 Gnann, Anna Caruthers
 Gnann, Alice Reiser
 Gnann, Susie Wingard
 Gnann, Mary Caruthers
 Graham Lee Vandeland
 Groover, Mildred
 Grovenstein, L. F.
 Guyton, Clarence T.
 Harley, Mrs. Lucille
 Helmly, William Ezra
 Helmly, Lois Leland
 Helmly, Eddie Cleveland
 Helmly, W. M.
 Helmly, Joshua A.
 Helmly, Mrs. Ida
 Henry, Carrie C.
 Henry, Mrs. Robert L.
 Henry, Louisa Livingston
 Henry, Susie
 Hinely, James V.
 Hinely, Jacob C.
 Kessler, Joshua Ward
 Kessler, Mrs. J. W.
 Kessler, William A.
 Kessler, Joshua B.
 Kessler, Majorie
 Kessler, Lucile Bernice
 Kessler, Fred Otto, Sr.

Kessler, Marion
 Kessler, C. M.
 Kessler, Harry
 Kieffer, Mrs. Florence Grovenstein
 Kieffer, Edward Josiah
 Kieffer, Ruth Elizabeth
 Ludlam, Mrs. Rosale Robins
 Mallory, Robert P.
 Mallory, H. Rawls, D. D. S.
 MacDonald, Alexander Harrison
 Metzger, Mrs. Oscar E.
 Metzger, Annie Laurie
 Metzger, Ralph Eugene
 Metzger, Geo. A.
 Metzger, S. T.
 Morgan, G. Philip
 Morgan, Samuel Hill, Sr.
 Morgan, Samuel Hill, Jr.
 Morgan, Wm. Jasen
 Neidlinger, Bessie Cornelia
 Nevill, Mrs. D. I.
 Outz, Carrie Gann
 Pettit, Mrs. Gilbert R.
 Pettit, Mary Gilbert
 Pinckney, Willa Gann
 Porter, Mrs. Sarah Mariah
 Pool, Augusta
 Pugh, Mrs. Lois
 Pugh, Lois
 Rahn, Ruby
 Rahn, Eulalia Effie
 Rahn, George Q.
 Rahn, Orville A.
 Reisser, Herbert A.
 Reisser, Mrs. Ella V.
 Reisser, Ellice Lillian
 Reiser, William B.
 Reiser, C. F.
 Reiser, Rev. W. A.
 Reiser, John W.
 Reiser, Ella
 Robins, Mrs. Sue Wilkins
 Sandiford, Joseph E.
 Sauassy, Charles W.
 Seckinger, Rowland B.
 Seckinger, Effie Waldhour
 Seckinger, Mary Waldhour
 Seckinger, Lawrence
 Seckinger, Harvey Lee
 Seckinger, Gideon W.
 Seckinger, Francis D.
 Seckinger, Rev. Edwin Hugh
 Seckinger, Georgia Kieffer
 Shearouse, Paul D.
 Shearouse, Julian H.

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Shearouse, C. T.
 Shearouse, Mrs. Emily I.
 Shearouse, Charles W.
 Snooks, Bartow
 Tarver, Hugh B., Jr.
 Tillman, Willa Wilson
 Thorpe, Effie Mingledorff
 Ulmer, Frank M.
 Waldhour, B. J.
 Waldhour, Sidney L.
 Waldhour, Bartow Wilbur
 Waldhour, Elton V.
 Waldhour, Franklin Bartow
 Waldhour, Sarah Elizabeth
 Waldhour, Edgar Roscoe
 Waldhour, Jacob R.
 Waldhour, Frances A.
 White, Mary Cubbedge
 Wolfe, Ida D. F.
 Zeigler, Nina L.
 Zeigler, Austin A.
 Zeigler, Cora E.
 Zeigler, Blois C.
 Zeigler, John D.
 Zeigler, Edwin D.
 Zeigler, Solomon W.
 Zeigler, Leonora May
 Zitttrouer, Cauley A.
 Zitttrouer, Mrs. C. A.
 Zitttrouer, Howard Wynn
 Zipperer, Thomas Ellis
 * Deceased.

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LIFE MEMBERS

Gann, William G.
 Wolfe, Ida D. F.

HONORARY MEMBERS

Bowers, Reverend A. J., D. D.
 Donnelly, Charles E., Esq.
 Gaines, Reverend F. M.
 Shealy, Reverend Tillman W.
 Wessinger, Reverend J. C.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Gann, Mary Hillbrath
 Gann, Nellie Puder
 Gann, Ava Shields
 Gann, Verdie Bowers
 Gann, Vernie Swindell
 Graham, Nellie Cavy
 Helmly, Corra Ackerman
 Hinely, Lula Staley
 Kessler, C. Marguerite
 Kessler, Annie Adair
 Morgan, Wilhelmina
 Reiser, Cora Shealy
 Waldhour, Lena Yarbrough

CONSTITUTION

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ARTICLE I.

Name.

The name of this organization shall be
THE GEORGIA-SALZBURGER SOCIETY.

ARTICLE II.

Objects.

Section 1. The objects of the Society shall be: To perpetuate the memory and foster the principles and virtues of the early settlers in Georgia of Salzburg origin and of their descendants. To bring to public notice and to aid in the preservation of the landmarks and monuments of these early settlers and to collect and preserve the early printed records, books, papers, pamphlets, newspapers and in particular the documentary heritage, including manuscripts, letters, journals, church and church-yard records, and such other originals as relate to the history and genealogy of the Georgia-Salzburgers; and from time to time to publish them, especially such as will exhibit the part belonging to this people in the growth and development of American character, institutions and progress.

To set together the deeds of these early pioneers in the American wilderness in connected historical form, and give them a permanent place in American literature.

To cause steadily to be prepared and read before the Society papers on the history, biography, genealogy, customs, language, art and folklore of the Georgia-Salzburgers.

To promote social intercourse among its membership.

ARTICLE III.

Membership.

Section 1. The membership of the Society shall consist of three classes, viz: Regular, Associate and Honorary.

Sec. 2. Regular members shall be direct descendants of early settlers in Effingham County, Georgia, of Salzburger origin.

Sec. 3. Associate member shall be the wife or husband of a regular member. They shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of members, except that they shall have no vote and shall be ineligible to hold office.

Sec. 4. Honorary membership may be conferred upon distinguished persons who are in

sympathy with the objects of the Society and who have won eminence by their learning or achievements in matters pertaining to the object of the Society.

Sec. 5. Applications for membership of all classes shall be made in writing on blank forms, to be supplied by the Secretary, which shall be signed by the applicant and by two members of the Society, and shall contain the date and place of birth, the occupation of the applicant and the line of ancestry from which the applicant has descended, his religious affiliations, together with such other data as the blank form may indicate, or which the Executive Committee may from time to time require. All applications for membership that may be presented to the Executive Committee at any of its meetings shall lie over and be acted upon at its next meeting; and if the application be found in order and accompanied by the dues, as provided in Article IV, Section 1, hereof, the applicant shall be balloted for, and a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members present shall be necessary to elect.

Sec. 6. Life members shall consist of such Regular or Associate members as may be elected to this class by the Executive Committee and as have conformed to the requirements of Article IV, Sec. 2, hereof.

Sec. 7. Honorary members shall be nominated by the Executive Committee and elected by the Society.

Sec. 8. Those of the Roman Catholic faith are ineligible for membership.

ARTICLE IV.

Dues.

Section 1. The dues of members shall be one dollar (\$1.00) per annum. The dues for the first year shall accompany the applications for membership. The fiscal years of the Society shall end December 31st, and all dues shall be payable in advance.

Sec. 2. Any member who shall have paid dues in full may upon the payment of twenty dollars (\$20) at one time be eligible to life membership.

The money received for life membership shall be invested and constitute a permanent fund, the income arising thereon may be used by the Executive Committee for any purpose that it may deem to be the best interests of the Society.

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Associate, honorary and life members shall be exempt from dues.

Sec. 3. Persons in arrears for two years shall cease to be members. Delinquent members may, at the judgment of the Executive Committee, be reinstated on the payment of the arrears and the annual dues for the current year.

Sec. 4. The Society shall have power, by a two-thirds vote of its members present, to expel from membership any member of the Society for conduct likely to endanger the welfare of the Society, an opportunity being first given such member to be heard before the Society in defense.

Sec. 5. Any person who shall cease to be a member of the Society shall forfeit all right or interest in the property.

ARTICLE V.

Officers.

Section 1. The officers of the Society shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Executive Committee composed of nine members.

Sec. 2. The President, Vice-President and Treasurer shall be elected at each annual meeting, to serve for one year, or until their respective successors are duly elected. The President shall be eligible for re-election for a period of five successive years. The Secretary shall be elected for a term of three years.

Sec. 3. The elective members of the Executive Committee shall serve each for three years, but the time of election of each member shall be so arranged that the terms of three members expire every year, and that three successors be chosen to take their places.

Sec. 4. The President shall appoint three auditors, whose duty it shall be, immediately preceding the annual meeting, to audit the accounts of the Treasurer for the current year and report at the annual meeting.

Sec. 5. All elections shall be by ballot, under the direction of one judge and two tellers, to be appointed by the President or presiding officer. A majority vote of all members present shall be necessary to elect, provided, however, that when there is but one candidate for each office, the Secretary may be authorized to cast the ballot for the Society.

Sec. 6. Six of the nine members of the Executive Committee shall be members in good

standing of Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Congregation (Ebenezer), the other three to be elected from the Society at large.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

ARTICLE VI.

President.

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Society; to appoint auditors, and to perform all other duties pertaining to his office. In the event of his death, removal, resignation, or during his absence, the duties of President shall devolve upon the Vice-President.

ARTICLE VII.

Treasurer.

Section 1. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of the funds and securities, and shall collect all dues, and other moneys belonging to the Society, and shall disburse the same under the direction of the Executive Committee. His accounts shall at all times be open and subject to the examination of the President and of the Executive Committee, and shall also be open and subject to the examination of the auditing committee, to be appointed by the President as provided in Article V, Section 4 hereof; he shall submit a report and statement of his accounts at each annual meeting of the Society, and at each meeting of the Executive Committee; he shall be a member ex-officio of the Executive Committee.

For the faithful performance of his duties he shall give bond in such sum as the Executive Committee may deem proper.

ARTICLE VIII.

Secretary.

Section 1. The Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Society, and of the Executive Committee, of which he shall be ex-officio a member, and shall keep accurate records of the minutes of their meetings; he shall notify all members of their election to membership in the Society, and all officers of their election as such; he shall notify all members of the Executive Committee of the time and place of its meetings; he shall be the custodian of the seal and the insignia of the Society; he shall keep a register of the membership, together with their addresses; he shall carefully preserve the applications for membership that have been placed in his

hands; he shall keep a record of all deceased members and associates, and furnish for publication in the annual volumes published by the Society, such obituary or biographical notices as the Executive Committee may direct; he shall act as librarian, curator, and have in his keeping all books, manuscripts, records and other articles belonging to the Society that have been entrusted to his care; he shall submit a written report, at each annual meeting, showing the status of membership, and such other matters as may come under his jurisdiction; he shall also perform such other duties as the Executive Committee may from time to time direct.

ARTICLE IX.

Executive Committee.

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall act for the welfare of the Society, and conduct its business during the interim between the meetings of the Society. At the annual meeting of the Society it shall present a list of nominations for officers, which list, however, shall not preclude the presentation of other nominations.

The Executive Committee shall have power to fill any vacancies that may happen among the officers of the Society or the Executive Committee, to serve until the next regular meeting of the Society.

Sec. 2. The Executive Committee shall from time to time appoint committees and sub-committees, on matters not herein determined as it may deem necessary, provided, however, that such rules and regulations, and the appointment of such committees, are not in conflict with this constitution or with the by-laws of the Society.

ARTICLE X.

Seal.

The seal of the Society shall be in the form of a circle one and seven-eighths of an inch in diameter, having a garter three-sixteenths of an inch in width, bearing in plain Roman Capitals, beginning at the lower left side and going up and around, "THE GEORGIA-SALZBURGER SOCIETY," then beginning at the lower left and going down and around, "EFFINGHAM CO." At the lower border of the inner circle shall appear the word "SEAL." Within the inner circle shall be the outline of the state of Georgia, with a Swan outlined in the center of the state; the

outline of the County of Effingham also to be shown in the proper geographical location; and in the proper location in the County showing the stone Ebenezer; the date 1734 to be at the center left between the inner circle and the outline of the state, and the year 1925 at the center right, between the inner circle and the outline of the state.

ARTICLE XI.

Insignia.

The Insignia of the Society shall be in the form of a circle five-eighths of an inch in diameter. The front shall be of gold, which may be attached to a base of white metal, having a button or pin attachment. The state of Georgia to be raised in the center of the button, with Swan inlaid in the center of the state, and the County of Effingham to be shown by outline, with the stone Ebenezer inlaid at the proper geographical location; the year 1734 at the center left of the outline of the state and the year 1925 at the center right of the outline of the state.

ARTICLE XII.

Flag.

The flag of the Society shall consist of a field of red three feet and six inches long and two feet and six inches wide in the middle of which shall be displayed the state of Georgia, the northern border of the state to extend to within one and one-half inches of the top of the flag; the southern border of the state to extend to within one-half inch of the bottom of the flag; the northern half of the state to be blue, and the southern half of the state to be yellow; a Swan to be shown in the middle of the state; the date 1734 to be placed between the Swan and the western border of the state; the date 1925 to be placed between the Swan and the eastern border of the state; the County of Effingham to be shown in the colors of the county; the stone Ebenezer to be shown at the proper geographical location.

ARTICLE XIII.

Amendments.

Amendments, additions or alterations to this constitution must be presented at an annual meeting of the Society. No amendments, additions or alterations can be voted upon by the Society at the same meeting at which they are offered.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I.

Order of Business.

Section 1. The order of business at the annual meetings of the Georgia-Salzburger Society shall be as follows:

1. Calling the meeting to order.
2. Invocation.
3. Reading the minutes of the last regular and intervening special meetings.
4. Addresses.
5. Report of the Secretary.
6. Report of the Treasurer.
7. Report of the committees.
8. Nominations and election of officers.
9. Miscellaneous business.
10. Reading of papers, addresses, etc.
11. Appointment of Auditors.
12. Adjournment.

Sec. 2. The order of business at all other meetings of the Society shall be as follows:

1. Calling the meeting to order.
2. Invocation.
3. Reading the call for special meetings.
4. Addresses.
5. The transaction of business for which special meetings were called.
6. Report of committees.
7. Miscellaneous business.
8. Reading of papers, addresses, etc.
9. Adjournment.

ARTICLE II.

Meetings.

Section 1. The Society shall hold its regular meetings on March 12th of each year at Ebenezer, Effingham County, to be known as the annual or anniversary meeting, which, besides the routine business, shall be characterized by a special program, and may include tours of inspection, the marking of monuments, and such other activities and entertainments as the Executive Committee may determine.

Whenever March 12th falls on Sunday the annual meeting shall be held on Saturday preceding March 12th.

The Executive Committee may, at its option, arrange for a banquet in connection with the annual meeting.

Sec. 2. The Executive Committee shall have authority to call special meetings of the Society, at such times and places as it may deem expedient, and shall have full power to arrange programs for such meetings, not only for the special purpose for which they may have been called, but also for the reading of papers, delivering of addresses, receiving reports, or for such regular or extraordinary business as it may desire to bring before the Society, provided, however, that notice be given by publication in the official organ of Effingham County for two successive weeks, and that each member not a resident of Effingham County be notified at least ten days before the date of meeting.

Sec. 3. The Executive Committee shall hold quarterly meetings each year, at such time and place as may best suit its convenience, provided, however, that the spring meetings should be held at or about the time fixed for holding the annual meeting of the Society; it shall also hold such other meetings as it may from time to time decide upon.

The Chairman of the Executive Committee shall have the power to call a special meeting of the Executive Committee whenever the same may be necessary for the welfare of the Society.

ARTICLE III.

The Executive Committee.

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall organize at its first meeting following the annual meeting of the Society by electing one of its members chairman, and it shall have the power of dividing itself into sub-committees and of defining the duty of each committee. There may be committees on membership, dues and the delivery of publications, editorial, proof and indexing, printing and illustrating, genealogical, biographical, history and tradition, finance and such other committees or such rearrangement of the herein named committees as the Executive Committee may from time to time require.

Sec. 2. The Executive Committee shall have authority to issue certificates of membership to be presented to all honorary members, and to all life members. It may also issue certificates of membership to all other members, for a consideration or otherwise as it may deem wise and proper. It shall also have authority to procure insignia, rosettes, flags,

banners and all other tokens and emblems of the Society and dispose of them as it may deem proper.

Sec. 3. The Executive Committee may place insurance on the books, publications, manuscripts, plates, cuts, etchings, and on any or all other property belonging to the Society.

Sec. 4. The Executive Committee shall be the sole judge in determining the character and subject matter of papers, records, etc., to be presented before, or to be published by the Society; it shall have power to revise manuscripts, and to determine the time, periods and space limits of the same, whether they consist of historical narrative or of records; and in general shall have control of all matters pertaining to the program, papers, records, and publications of the Society; it may also, in its discretion, use its own judgment in printing in the records of the Society, any record, or any speech, or any part thereof, made at any of the banquets of the Society.

Sec. 5. The Executive Committee may arrange with authors for furnishing them with reprints of their papers, or for additional copies of the transactions containing their papers, on such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon; and it shall be permitted to loan to authors, or to others, the plates, cuts, etchings, etc., belonging to the Society, when they believe it to be to the best interests of the Society to do so.

Sec. 6. The Executive Committee shall provide a book of records separate and apart from the minute books, and record therein the names of those attending the meetings of the Society.

Sec. 7. Neglect on the part of any member of the Executive Committee to attend its meetings for three consecutive meetings shall be taken as a resignation from said committee, provided, however, that the committee may excuse any member for such absence, if good and sufficient reasons are given.

ARTICLE IV.

Amendments.

Section 1. These by-laws can be altered, amended, or abrogated, only at a regular meeting of the Executive Committee, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of its members present, provided that such alterations, amendments, or abrogations shall be reported to the Society at its next succeeding annual meeting.