

1776 Lit Patriotic Spark In Deffenbaugh Clan

By KAY SMITH
Special Writer

An ancestor of his fought in almost every conflict in which this country has engaged.

Every organization of Sons and Daughters of Wars, Patriots, Founders or Colonists of America has his family listed on its rolls.

He is a quiet, peaceful man, this Beverly Hills resident who, of this illustrious line of defenders of our country, is the last living descendant, and will be the last of the line.

GEORGE SYLVESTER Deffenbaugh doesn't look very warlike, sitting in his study at his home at 1710 Beechwood, where he's lived with Mrs. Deffenbaugh for the last 32 years. Yet, the people from whom he is descended continually put down plow, sickle or tool and went out to defend the land on which and in which they lived, even before that land could properly be designated a country, a democracy, or a nation.

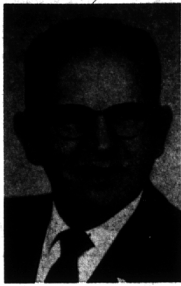
He will show you cabinets of Dresden or Royal Doulton china and mementos of travels all over Europe. He will tell you of his stamp and coin collections with great enthusiasm, but you have to pry from him the information that he is one of only six people in the Detroit area who is listed with the Sons of the War of 1812 in which his ancestor, Eliphat Graves served.

With pride he will tell you that his mother, Nellie Gertrude Carr Deffenbaugh, was a practicing doctor as early as 1906, and his grandfather, Hannah Jane Everhart Carr, was official "doctor" although not an M.D., of a wagon train to Nebraska about 1868.

WITH SURPRISE that you are interested, he mentions his great-grandfather, Jonah Graves, who was commissioned a captain in the Third Company of Colonel Peter Van Ness' regiment in Albany County, N. Y., in 1776, and in his reappointments in 1778 and 1780 served under Albany's Colonel Van Rensselaer.

Two other ancestors fought in the American Revolution also. On his mother's side, besides Captain Jonah Graves there was Major George McCormick, who, while serving in the British Army re-sounded his commission in 1776 and outfitted a company for the American patriots known as the 13th Virginia Regiment.

He was captain of the company from Dec. 4, 1776 until Sept. 4,



GEORGE S. DEFFENBAUGH

1778. Interestingly enough, a Deffenbaugh also fought in the battles of Brandywine and Germantown during the Revolution.

THE CIVIL WAR? The family was represented there, too. Lieutenant John Barr Everhart of the Union Forces fought in the Battle of Lookout Mountain in Tennessee, was captured, and starved to death in Libby Prison. He is buried in the Sailor's Cemetery in Annapolis.

But the family men were accustomed to serve this country long before the great wars of the late 18th century and the 19th.

Benjamin Graves, who lived in Concord, Mass., as early as 1645, fought in the American phase of the Seven Years War, known here as the French and Indian War. His son, also Benjamin Graves, fought in King Phillip's War in this country in 1675.

Other members of the family also served in the Spanish American War, and in 1917 Deffenbaugh's father, Captain Martin H. Deffenbaugh, U. S. Army, with certificates of capacity in both chemical warfare and the cavalry division of the army, besides his medical corps commission, saw action in the battles of Chateau Thierry and the Argonne in World War I.

Deffenbaugh himself held a commission in the United States Army in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, until 1927 when a fractured skull forced him to give up an Army career.

One card folder in his wallet is scarcely sufficient to hold the cards

Schools Schedule Holiday Programs

Birmingham Public Schools have again scheduled special holiday programs to commemorate the Christmas season.

Scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 10: Torry, 7:30 p.m.; Franklin, 8 p.m.; Wednesday, Dec. 11, Midvale, 7:30 p.m.; Quanton and Berkshire Junior High, 8 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 12: Barnum Junior High, Groves Junior High, 8 p.m.; Meadow Lake, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 16: Beverly, Valley, Wood, Piers, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 17: Adams, Pembroke, Bloomfield, Harlan, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 18: Seaholm Senior High, Walnut Lake, Westchester, 8 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 19: Greenfield, Baldwin, Derby Junior High, 8 p.m.

Deffenbaugh, a retired stock broker, has for membership in patriotic societies and societies open only to sons of patriots in our country's wars.

Deffenbaugh, an only child, has no children of his own. The cards to all the societies to which his progeny would be entitled, will go unused.

INCLUDED in the outdoor portion of the program will be demonstrations showing proper techniques in handling spill, pan and multilevel petroleum fires and in proper use of dry powder, foam and water.

Firefighting groups in Bloomfield

Firefighting Program Scheduled for Sunday

FRANKLIN—Safety experts from Michigan's largest petroleum refinery will conduct a special firefighting demonstration on Sunday for members of the Franklin Volunteer Fire Dept. and other area professional and volunteer firefighters.

The three-hour program, to begin at 1:30 p.m. at the Franklin fire station, 32707 Franklin Road, will deal with the nature, control and extinguishing of petroleum fires.

The demonstration will be presented by a four-man team headed by Ardel K. Johnson, safety engineer from Marathon Oil Co.'s Detroit refinery.

A little fertilizer applied to Christmas trees the year before harvest gives plusher foliage and keeps needles on longer, a Michigan State University forester found.

The event is being staged under the direction of Richard D. Good, 32841 Chatham Lane, Franklin, training officer for the host fire department, and Chief William N. Albee, 25934 Hershervale Drive, Franklin.

The notices inform those residents that, because of failure to vote in the past two years, their names are to be dropped from the list of registered voters.

However, if the cards are signed and returned to the township within a 30-day period, the voter will remain registered.

The cards have been mailed by the township in compliance with a new state law which requires that registration lists be reworked every four years and that nonvoters during that period be dropped from the registration lists.

B'field Checks Registration

Bloomfield Township clerk Deloris Little is asking that particular attention be given to notices that have been sent out to 1,000 township residents this week.

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