JUDGE McALLISTER HONORED BY FRANCE

Our President, Judge Thomas F. McAllister of the United States court of appeals has been named Chevalier of the Legion of Honor by decree of the president of France, according to the announcement of Herve Alphand, French ambassador to the United States. The award was made in recognition of many years of service in French-American friendship.

In World war I Judge McAllister enlisted in the French Foreign Legion and afterward served in artillery and aviation in the French army, being promoted to aspirant lieutenant. He was decorated with the croix de guerre at the second battle of Marne and also received the fourragere of the medaille militaire.

Judge McAllister is a vice-president of the American Friends of Lafayette, a member of the Union Interalliee of Paris, the Institut Francais of Washington, D. C, the Alliance Francaise of Cincinnati, and was one of the organizers of the French Society of Michiganders.

EVENTS TO COME

In addition to the Annual Meeting, the members will meet in Paris on July 2nd for a dinner to be held at the Hotel de Noailles, where Lafayette was married; they will gather at Lafayette's grave on the Fourth of July and at his birthplace and his home, La Grange. In October, the members will meet at Yorktown and Jamestown, Virginia. On September 6th, Lafayette's 200th birthday anniversary, the Society will hold some special celebration to be planned at the Annual Meeting. We also propose to celebrate this date with a special commemorative illustrated edition of our little Gazette. Effort is being made to persuade the Post Office Department to issue a 200th Anniversary Lafayette postage stamp.

The Commemorative Bi-Centennial Lafayette Tour of The American Friends of Lafayette

The French Government Tourist office in New York has placed the tour of the American Friends of Lafayette in the hands of the University Travel Company of Cambridge, Massachusetts. The tour planned covers twelve full days, starting in Paris on Tuesday, July 2 with a get-together dinner at the Hotel St. James et d'Albany, formerly the Hotel de Noailles, the home of Lafayette's wife, where he was married and lived. The following day is to be a morning and an afternoon motor coach sightseeing tour of Paris, of great interest to those who have never been there. On July Fourth, the members will attend the official ceremonies to be held at the Cemetery of Picpus, at Lafayette's grave, and before the Statues of the War of Independence, to be attended by the American Ambassador and other American and French dignitaries. Versailles will be visited the next day. On Sunday, they depart by special motor coach for a trip to the Auvergne, to visit Lafayette's birthplace, Chavaniac, with luncheon that day at Fontainbleau and the night at Avallon. The following day, Vichy and continue into the Auvergne to le Mont-Doré. In the morning, visit the Chateau Chavaniac-Lafayette, the Lafayette Preventorium, and the Museum containing mementoes of Lafayette. That night spend in le Mont-Doré. The next day proceed via Chateauroux, the largest United States military base in France. Lunch at Loches and sleep at Tours. The following day, visit Chenonceaux, one of the loveliest of the Loire Valley castles, Blois and the Chateau de Blois, Chartres and its cathedral, and return to Paris. On July 13th, a visit to Lafayette's home, La Grange-Bleneau. Bastille Day in Paris winds up the tour.

NEW MEMBERS

PIERRE BELLIVEAU
1116 Walnut St., Newton Hlds., Mass. (President of La Societe Historique Franco-Americaine)

WILLIAM FREDERICK BERTOLET
Reading, Pa.

RICHARD H. HOWLAND
712 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D. C. (President of the Lafayette Preventorium, Chavaniac, France)

Mr. A. S. JEWETT
245 E. 49th St., N. Y.

Mrs. LOIS MARSTON
34 Court St., Plymouth, Mass.

Mr. ROGER SHERMAN MCCOLLESTER
River House, Henry Hudson Parkway, Riverdale, N. Y.

Mr. ROGER SHERMAN MCCOLLESTER
River House, Henry Hudson Parkway, Riverdale, N. Y.

Mr. ROBERT L. PAGE
245 E. 49th St., N. Y.

VICE ADMIRAL LELAND PEARSON
Lovett, U.S.N. Ret.
18 Glen Drive, Belle Haven, Alexandria, Va.

Mr. GRAHAM T. SMALLWOOD, JR.
3143 19th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Mrs. LAWRENCE M. C. SMITH
3460 School House Lane, Germantown, Pa.

Mr. LAWRENCE M. C. SMITH
3460 School House Lane Germantown, Pa.

Mr. HUGH S. WATSON, JR.
2114 Chestnut Avenue, Newport News, Virginia

(For further details, write Mr. Jerome J. Pastene, University Travel Co., 18 Brattle St., Cambridge.)
THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting this year will be held at a later date than usual. Dr. Ralph Cooper Hutchison, President of Lafayette College, has extended a very cordial and urgent invitation to the society to meet at the College at Commencement Time — Friday and Saturday, June 7 and 8. To quote from Dr. Hutchison's letter: "I think that when you realize the program that is coming up at our Commencement in celebration of the Bicentennial of Lafayette you will wish very much to change your meeting to that time. It is probable that the President of France will be there. It is probable that René de Chambrun will be here to describe the amazing development at Chateau La Grange with regard to the letters there now being made available for the first time. It is possible that other descendants of Lafayette will be here. No less than six or eight distinguished leaders of France will be here for the occasion, and this means a series of events which will be spectacular from the point of view of the American Friends of Lafayette."

The National Lafayette Bi-Centennial Committee

The following persons form a committee organized for the commemoration of the Lafayette bi-centennial: Pierre Bedard, President of the "France-America" society; Frederick Baldwin Adams, Jr., Director of the Peirpont Morgan Library; William Burden, member of the administration of the Society France-America; Ralph Carpenter, Trustee of the National Trust for Historic Preservation; Kenneth Clinton, President of the New York State Society of the Cincinnati; Arthur Houghton, President of American Friends of Versailles; Stuart Wells Jackson, founder of the American Friends of Lafayette; Edward Ortion, President of the American Society du Souvenir de Lafayette; John Pell, President of the Association of Fort Ticonderoga; Paul Pennoyer, Secretary of the Society France-America; Mme. Lowell Welcker, President of the Ladies Committee of Lafayette Bicentennial.

THE JAMESTOWN FESTIVAL

In August of last year, this society was invited to appoint a representative to membership on the Virginia 350th Anniversary Commission. Without hesitation, we named Stuart Wells Jackson, with Mrs. Brooke Spotswood as alternate.

The Jamestown Festival will continue through November 30th; it will reach its climax in October with the visit of Queen Elizabeth II and her husband.

Twenty-five million dollars have gone into the preparations for this remarkable historical fete. At the approach to Jamestown on Glasshouse Point the State has built Jamestown Festival Park, displaying the Fort of 1607, enclosing a score of half-timbered thatched-roof buildings. (The original site of the fort was Jamestown Island, but with the erosion of the James River, no trace of the fort remains today.) There is a guard-house, a storehouse, a church, a house for the president of the council — all as they were. Soldiers dressed in 17th century uniforms will be found on guard and also on parade daily on the mall of the fort.

Nearby stands the reconstructed glass factory. Three wooden ships are moored offshore, hand-wrought in the manner of 350 years ago — the "Susan Constant," "Godspeed," and "Discovery" replicas of the three ships which brought the English colonists to the New World.

The British government has sent various treasures to be exhibited, including a silver gilt cup presented by Queen Elizabeth I to Sir Francis Drake, a banner from "The Golden Hind," Drake's ship, old nautical instruments and rare first editions of Milton's "Paradise Lost." The State of Virginia is exhibiting a marvelous collection of relics and documents. All in all, the Jamestown Festival is an event not to be missed.

Report of Meeting of The Executive Council

A meeting of the Executive Council was held in New York at the Harvard Club on November 15, 1956. Present: Mrs. Connick, Mrs. MacIntire, Mr. Boston, Judge McAllister, Captain McAlpin, Commander Nolan and Mr. Suckley.

It was voted to add two names to the council: Miss Marion Gough, niece or our beloved John Gough, elected to take his place; and Mr. Girard van B. Hale of Santa Barbara, California.

It was decided to send a donation of $25.00 to Mr. John Moffatt, resident of the Lafayette Preventorium at Chavaniac, Lafayette's birthplace. Dr. Hutchison was invited to speak to us at the Annual Meeting and has accepted.

Mrs. MacIntire proposed that in 1957 the Society make a Bicentennial Pilgrimage to Lafayette landmarks in France. This idea met with approval and announcements of the proposed tour were duly sent out to the membership.

It was voted to ask Mrs. Brooke Spotswood and Mr. Stuart K. Jackson to serve as our representatives at the Jamestown celebration in October. These two faithful members of the council also represented us at Yorktown Day last October. With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

A note from our Treasurer, Mr. Lyon Boston: "It is interesting to see how our membership is located geographically. We have 46 New York State members, 19 from Massachusetts, 16 from New Jersey, 14 from Virginia, 8 from Pennsylvania, 7 from the District of Columbia, 5 from Michigan, 3 each from Indiana, California, Connecticut and Ohio, 1 each from Florida, Illinois, Minnesota, Rhode Island, West Virginia and also 1 each in France, Canada and Italy."
A LAFAYETTE ANECDOTE
(Contributed by William Astor Chanler)

Extract from Allan McLane


"The British commander had just been crawling into bed with the dawn on May 19, when aides brought him word that the Marquis de Lafayette, with 2,200 Continentals, was sitting out in an exposed position at Barren Hill, only eleven miles from Philadelphia, with a force too small for battle, too large for scouting. Howe vowed he would have "the boy," as he called Lafayette, as a prisoner within 48 hours.

Again, as at White marsh, Howe moved out with more than 7,000 troops, virtually his entire army. His force left Philadelphia at 10:30 on the night of May 19, but McLane, with his cavalry raiders and Oneida Indian allies, was on patrol. At Three Mile Run, he felt out the massive movement, sensed its objective, and rode off at a breakneck pace to warn Lafayette.

He reached Lafayette just at daybreak. Already, so swiftly had the British moved, Lafayette seemingly was cut off from his only escape route, Matson's Ford over the Schuykill River. The head of one British column was close to the Ford when Lafayette, making a brave show of attacking, threw forward a menacing contingent. The British halted and formed for battle. While they did, Lafayette peeled off his companies one by one and sent them down the steep slope of the hill behind him to a hidden road along the river. Along this they raced to the ford unperceived by the British, and when the jaws of the trap closed, British troops came face to face with each other in an empty camp. Lafayette had made his escape."

Allan McLane saw Lafayette again when Washington assigned them both to Baron von Steuben's command in Virginia. The Marquis may have had some bearing on Colonel McLane's mission to persuade de Grasse to abandon the West Indies campaign in favor of French naval support in the Chesapeake. McLane rejoined the army in Sept. and had further meetings with Lafayette in line of duty before Yorktown.

AN 1836 DESCRIPTION OF CHAVANIAC
(From William Astor Chanler)

"Je ne terminerai pas cette lettre sans vous dire quelques mots d'une autre propriété dont il a déjà été souvent question: c'est le château de Chavaniac, ou naquit Lafayette. La vue que je vous en présente a été faite d'après un joli dessin qui appartient au général Carbonel.

Chavaniac est un petit village de quarante feux environ, qui peut contenir deux cent cinquante à trois cents âmes de population. Il est situé à trois lieues de la rive droite de l'Allier, dans le département de la Haute-Loire, canton de Paulhoquet, arrondissement de Brioude, qui faisait partie de l'ancienne Auvergne. La propriété de Chavaniac est maintenant peu considérable, ayant été molesta à l'époque des confiscations: le château lui-même avait été vendu comme propriété nationale; il fut ensuite racheté par une tante de M. George Lafayette.

La nature des terres de Chavaniac varie suivant qu'elles sont plus ou moins élevées, placées plus près ou plus loin des roches. Il y a des bois, des prés et un joli ruisseau, comme on l'observe dans la plupart des village de montagnes.

Cette propriété n'est pas, depuis bien long-temps, dans la famille Lafayette: elle y a été apportée par la mere ou la grand'mere du general. Le château a été brûlé, et fut reconstruit, en 1701, comme l'indique une inscription qu'on y voit encore. Lafayette y naquit le 6 septembre 1757. On aimait a y retrouver des objects qui pussent rappeler les premiers temps de sa vie; mais M. George lui-même n'a jamais pu savoir seulement dans quelle chambre du château son père étêté. Il ne reste d'autre souvenir matériel de l'enfance due général qu'un portrait de lui, à l'age de neuf a dix ans.

of French naval support in the Chesapeake. McLane rejoined the army in Sept. and had further meetings with Lafayette in line of duty before Yorktown.

From an Address Delivered by His Excellency Herve Alphand, Ambassador of France to the United States Before the American Club in Paris, on September 6, 1956

Several newspapermen have asked me whether I noted any fundamental differences between the foreign policy of France and that of the United States.

My answer was no. On basic issues it does not seem to me that either of us could ever vary. The reasons for this feeling and this conviction are simple. We belong to the same family of nations. For us, the word democracy has a very precise meaning which is identical for Frenchmen and for Americans. For the last two centuries we have believed that respect for legality is the basis of all freedom.

That is why I am certain that there could be no far-reaching or lasting divergences between our two countries, which have never been at war with each other and, in fact, have never ceased being allies.

Today, this alliance has taken a form adapted to our times: our partnership in the Atlantic Pact, a pact for the defense of our common heritage, and the cornerstone of the foreign Policy of France as well as of the United States. . . .

As for me, I am convinced that the historic and cultural bonds which exist between France and the United States, that the identity of their political philosophy, their love of liberty and of tolerance, their respect for contracts — all this will enable them to surmount, together and as one, all the obstacles that lie in our path. This Franco-American solidarity which merges with Atlantic solidarity, and which is the modern expression of the determination of the free world, will, I am sure, enter into full play. It will guarantee to our two countries the maintenance of peace with freedom.
A CHANCE FOR GLORY
(by Constance Wright)

In 1794 Justus Erich Bollmann, a young German doctor and the also young Francis Kinlock Huger of South Carolina, plotted and nearly succeeded in effecting the daring rescue of Lafayette from the prison of Olmutz. By extraordinary coincidence, Francis Kinlock Huger was a self-same person, who as a little boy, stood near his father when he welcomed to his South Carolina mansion a very young Frenchman, newly landed on American soil. That Frenchman was Lafayette, aged nineteen. The year — 1777.

Miss Constance Wright is a member of the American Friends of Lafayette. In A Chance for Glory she gets down in detail the amazing story of the exciting rescue attempt, the events leading up to it and its aftermath. The book not only makes fascinating reading, but is the first complete account of this episode, therefore valuable, for Miss Wright has been a tireless researcher. She has written a book which all our members will read with interest, pleasure and a sense of pride.

LAFAYETTE AND LA GRANGE

The Dutchess d'Azayen, the mother of Adrienne, Madame de Lafayette was killed by guillotine during the Terror. Her property like that of Lafayette, was confiscated. Eventually, in 1799, it was divided among her three daughters, the share of Madame de Lafayette being the Chateau La Grange-Bléneau, situated near Rozay in the district of Brie, the department of Seine-et-Marne, about forty miles east of Paris. The chateau was then seven hundred years old. It was once a fortified baronial castle, built of stone, dark and ancient. The place was remote, buried in forests.

The chateau was erected on three sides of a square, a court within; a park formed the fourth side. A moat 30 feet wide and 7 or 8 deep, fed by a stream, surrounded it, a drawbridge giving access. The estate as a whole was in the form of a circle, embracing 800 French acres — 1000 acres our count. When it came to Madame de Lafayette, it was in a state of depredation; there was no furniture, no tools, the grounds a tangle of weeds and bushes.

Their years of exile over at last, Lafayette and his family left Vianen near Utrecht in Holland, the last of their several refuges, and at once moved into La Grange, grateful beyond expression to have a home once more. There was everything to be done at La Grange. The interior had to be renovated, gardens made and crops started, fruit trees planted, and with the strictest economy, for gone were their days of fabulous wealth. The happy family contentedly and quietly adjusted itself to a subdued scale of living.

The next six years passed in peace and tranquillity, with satisfaction in improvements and much hard work in the process of restoration. This joy came to an end with the increasing seriousness of Adrienne's health, her illness contracted in the prison of Olmutz, bringing about a steady decline culminating in her death on Christmas Eve, 1807. She was buried in Picpus Cemetery in Paris, the cemetery she herself with her sister, Madame de Montagu, had established for the victims of the guillotine. Sweet-tempered, valiant Adrienne was only forty-eight years old when she died, ending thirty-four years of happy marriage. Lafayette, heartbroken, walled up the door of her bedroom.

He continued to live on quietly at La Grange, superintending his "beautiful and good farm," as he called it. He and Adrienne had been so proud of it. La Grange "fed itself" which was a blessing. The place was prospering, the crops were good. Lafayette continued to live in strict simplicity, gradually paying the debts which were to worry him for still more years to come. His health was good although he was lame from his fall of some years before. He was greatly saddened in spirit, but with him lived his children and grandchildren, a comfort to him in his mourning. He was absolutely adored by the whole household and by everyone employed by him.

This tranquil existence was more than once interrupted by returns to public life, by his travels in America for over a year in 1824-25, by the part in the Revolution of 1830, but always to Lafayette, home was "my beautiful and good farm," La Grange.