

The original permission to conduct a lottery to raise twenty thousand dollars was granted by the New Hampshire Legislature in June 1813 when the proprietors of the Canal found that they lacked the necessary funds to complete the project. The grant was given by New Hampshire on condition that the sale of tickets be allowed in Massachusetts.

Following receipt of the Massachusetts Legislature's approval in 1814, the sale of tickets began. In 1820 when the New Hampshire grant ended, the Canal proprietors found that the Lottery had resulted in a net loss to the Canal Company of over five thousand dollars; and thus they deemed it necessary to ask for an extension of time. The failure of the Lottery to that date was attributed to competition of other lotteries and the bankruptcy of two men who owed the project twelve thousand dollars. The extension of time was granted, and the Lottery continued its operations.

Although the Society possesses numerous letters, accounts, agreements and contracts on the Union Locks and Canal Lottery, the story is not yet complete. It is to be hoped that the process of accumulation will continue until at some future date the many phases of this episode will be molded into an integrated story.

In Memoriam

WITH the death of Mr. Everett Morss of Boston last month, the Society has suffered the loss of a member who has contributed a great deal to the success of the organization. Mr. Morss was prominently connected with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, having at one time served as acting president of the school. At the time of his death he was a member of the corporation and the treasurer of the Institute. He was always an enthusiastic supporter of this school, from which he was graduated in 1885. Fellow-members of the corporation accord much of the credit for the present day condition of the institution to the efforts of Mr. Morss.

During the war he served as head of the brass section of the War Industries Board. In 1921 he was president of the Boston Chamber of Commerce.

In addition to his connections with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Mr. Morss was president of the Simplex Wire and Cable Company, director of the First National Bank of Boston,

director of the Columbian National Life Insurance Company and the Liberty Mutual Life Insurance Company, and president of the Franklin Foundation.

Mr. Morss was one of the "Founder Members" of the Business Historical Society, having joined it in March 1926. During this period of affiliation with the Society, he was most helpful in expanding the interests of the organization. With the passing of Mr. Morss, the Society has lost a friend who will be sadly missed by his associates.

THE Society wishes to express its delayed but none the less heartfelt regret at the death last August of Hon. Peter M. Speer, a prominent lawyer and business man of New York City.

Mr. Speer was born in Oil City, Pennsylvania, on December 29, 1862. After being graduated from Washington and Jefferson College in 1890, he began the practice of law in Oil City. From 1911 to 1913 he represented his Pennsylvania district in the House of Representatives, and in 1920 he was made vice president and general counsel of the Standard Oil Company of New York.

Following retirement from active business in the early part of 1933, he spent several months travelling in the Orient, with the intention of securing material for a history on the development of the Standard Oil interests in China. In his search for source material, Mr. Speer was assisted by a group of the Society's correspondents in China. Because of his untimely death, this history was never published.

Mr. Speer was an enthusiastic supporter of the Society, and the loss of his helpful suggestions and advice will be keenly felt.

Secretary's Column

ACQUISITIONS

Since the publication of the last Bulletin the Society has received and gratefully acknowledges the following acquisitions:

From Gerald A. Alberts, Yonkers, New York: miscellaneous publications, including, R. W. G. Vail, Librarian, American Antiquarian Society, *The Ulster Country Gazette Found at Last*, 1931.

From Ahlberg Bearing Company, Chicago: twenty photographs of mechanical operations displayed by this company at the Century of Progress Exposition.