

According to the records of our Society, about 50 "loyal New Englanders" met in Journal Hall (upstairs at 710 Mass. St.) on the evening of Dec. 20, 1896 to discuss the advisability of forming a New England Society. *The town was then 42 years old - founded by young people - the old settlers were then about 70 years old*

After making Paul R. Brooks temporary chairman, and Mrs. Paul Learnard, Secretary, a program followed, which set this pattern for subsequent meetings.

There was a Roll Call of states, followed by short talks.

Upon motion of W. E. Hazen, then as later, connected with Watkins National Bank, a committee of three was appointed to formulate a constitution for a permanent organization.

Probably some preliminary work had been done, as the committee of three, W. E. Hazen, Chancellor F. H. Snow and Mrs. A. A. Russ, soon submitted a <sup>report</sup> which was accepted. This established the name as Sons and Daughters of New England, and the officers to be elected, to-wit:

President, Vice President and Secretary, who also should act as Treasurer. (In 1898 the offices of Sec. and Treas. were separated.)

*Membership was open*  
The qualification for membership was: to be any native of New England, or by marriage with, or descent from New England ancestry.

With true New England thrift, annual dues were set at 25¢ - but in 1898 they were set at 50¢. At this meeting upon motion of Col. Moore, a committee on Necrology was appointed and the following were named: Col. Moore, Prof. Carruth and Gurdon Grovenor.

Officers elect in 1898 were:

Gurdon Grovenor - President  
W. E. Hazen - Vice President  
Mrs. Paul Learnard - Secretary  
Mrs. Harry Raymond - Treasurer