

appreciation of those values of life which are real and Eternal."

Mrs. Hobart was most generous toward the great work of rehabilitation of war torn France and in appreciation of her interest in the French cause, she was decorated by the French government.

Only a few of Mrs. Hobart's activities are generally known as most of her philanthropies were made anonymously. In an address on the "Life and Work of Mrs. Garret A. Hobart" given to the Passaic County Historical Society, Mrs. Mollie C. Winchester an intimate friend of Mrs. Hobart, said in part: "Mrs. Hobart has vast capacities of a born leader. She is a seer . . . She visioned the greater good for the far future of our citizens, not alone this generation. Hers is and was, a creative personality—creative because she understands the social process and administers for the state which is to be. Her soul is ever reaching out to help, to understand, to do good, to plant sweet blessings where want and sorrow have left scars and call for a noble woman's aid. She is widely known for her magnificent generosity, but this is not her greatest gift to her city. Her name will go down on history's scroll for greater characteristics."

When The Passaic County Historical Society was organized in 1926, Mrs. Jennie T. Hobart and Mr. and Mrs. Garret A. Hobart, Junior were charter members. From the beginning, Mrs. Hobart has been a friend of the Society. At one time, when its museum and headquarters were housed in one small room in the Paterson Free Public Library, the Hobart residence, either whole or in part, was considered very seriously by the president, the late Eugene Stevenson, as a new home for the Society. It was very largely through the interest of Mrs. Hobart in the Society that she urged her son, Garret A. Hobart, Jr., to lend his assistance a few years later toward securing a more adequate home for the organization.

Mr. Hobart was one of the five members of the Preliminary Park Commission appointed by Mr. Justice Black in 1926. He was elected vice president of the permanent commission the following year and as its president in 1931. From 1931 until his death in 1941, Garret A. Hobart, Jr. served in that capacity. To him and to the other commissioners the citizens of Passaic County are indebted for the great recreation areas, the preservation and rehabilitation of the historic Dey Mansion, the Lambert Castle and the spacious quarters for the museum and library of The Passaic County Historical Society.



GARRET A. HOBART, JUNIOR  
1884 - 1941

Shortly after being elected president of the Passaic County Park Commission, Mr. Hobart with the urging of his mother, conceived the idea of offering space in the Lambert Castle to the County Historical Society. After discussing the matter with his fellow commissioners, Mr. Hobart invited the Society to accept rooms on the ground floor and cellar of the Castle. The Park Commission agreed to considerable renovation and construction in order to make the headquarters of the Society adequate for its then present needs as well as reasonably safe. They also provide heat and light and caretaker service.

Before the Museum was formally opened, Mrs. Hobart made a most generous gift to the Society in donating the Mc Kinley-Hobart Room. This shrine of the Spanish American War period, located in the former Drawing Room of the Lambert home, is filled with art treasures from Carrol Hall as well as many objects, pictures, documents and relics of great interest and value both locally and nationally. The photograph shown on the next page depicts the