



O. E. KLINGAMAN, CURATOR

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O. E. KLINGAMAN, CURATOR

By HALLA RHODE

On February 15, 1937, the board of trustees of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa appointed O. E. Klingaman of Davenport as curator, to succeed Mr. Edgar R. Harlan. The appointment became effective April 1.

O. E. Klingaman was born on a farm in LaGrange County, Indiana, and came to Iowa when he was a boy of thirteen. Some years of his life were spent on a large stock farm in the north-western part of Guthrie County. Following this he taught school for several years in Guthrie Center, Creston and Afton. He left the teaching profession to become a representative of a large publishing concern which he served for ten years, residing during that period in Des Moines. He graduated from Highland Park College, and afterwards did graduate work at the State University of Iowa, in Western American History and Political Science.

He organized the Extension Division at the State University of Iowa in 1913, resigning in 1923. During this period at the University, he served also as director of the Division of Maternity and Infant Hygiene, and was a member of the governing board of the Child Welfare Research Station. He was a member of the Committee on Learned Publications of the University, and was the editor of the series of 200 bulletins issued by the Extension Division.

During the war he organized the first educational work for the drafted men. Begun as an experiment at Camp Dodge, which at that time was a receiving camp, he developed the educational work so rapidly that it was taken over by the Y. M. C. A. as a regular educational project in all the training camps in the United States. Early in the war, he was the founder of the

Iowa Patriotic League, an organization embracing some 30,000 high school boys and girls of the state. He was also attached to the American Red Cross and was one of the men who helped to decentralize that organization when the war began. After the decentralization he and A. E. Kepford were the directors of the first war fund drive for the Red Cross in Iowa. The quota was \$1,000,000. The time for organization was ten days, but the result was a greatly over-subscribed fund. Later, he served as Red Cross instructor and as director of the Home Service Institute in this state.

Later in the war, President Wilson desired to secure a Committee on Education to function at Washington during the period of the war and asked the National University Extension Association to furnish such a committee. Mr. Klingaman, who then was president of that association, was made a member of a Committee of Five which handled educational work from Washington until the war ended. This was financed from the million-dollar fund which was given by Congress to President Wilson to be used as he saw fit. Just before the war closed, Franklin K. Lane, then Secretary of the Interior, appointed him as director of Americanization for Iowa.

Following his resignation from the State University of Iowa, he went to New York in charge of the Bureau of Research for the National Retail Dry Goods Association, the trade organization of 3,800 department stores.

Later he became personnel manager and member of the operating committee of the famous William Filene store in Boston.

Returning to Iowa, he was admitted to the bar in 1927. Later he was assistant director in the Davenport Public Museum.

When the depression began he was made director of relief work for Scott County. Shortly after the organization of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, he was called to Washington, where he served as advisor on clothing in the Federal Surplus Relief Corporation during the early days of the depression.

He is a member of Sigma Delta Chi, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Phi Delta Kappa, Acacia and Masonic Fraternities.

He comes to the position of curator of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department with a thorough knowledge of the state

of Iowa and as a man trained in historical research, the law and museum work.

In a recent interview he said:

"I am conscious of the responsibilities resting upon me as curator of this department. I did not assume them lightly and I hope to measure up to the fulness of these responsibilities. I have undergone an extensive and intensive training for this task, both in academic and so-called practical fields. My predecessors, Charles Aldrich and Edgar R. Harlan, wrought according to their desires and interests. I recognize what each accomplished. I hope to do as well in 'fields that are mine.' "

MEDICAL CONVENTION

In pursuance of a published notice, sundry Physicians, from different portions of the State convened at the Capital, on the 6th of December, 1848, for the purpose of organizing a State Medical Society; and having appointed Drs. W. W. Woods, Chairman, and J. W. Flint, Secretary, they concurred in the adoption of the following resolutions:

1st—That Drs. S. S. Ransom, W. H. White and J. M. Vaughen, be a committee to prepare a constitution for the future government of the society—Dr. S. S. Ransom, Chairman.

2nd—That Drs. W. H. White, W. McCormick, and J. W. Flint, be a committee to prepare for the society, rules on Medical Ethics—Dr. W. H. White, Chairman.

3rd—That Drs. George Reeder, I. M. Weatherwax, S. M. Ballard, J. Nasler, and E. D. Ransom, be a committee to prepare for the adoption of the society, a fee bill—Dr. G. Reeder, Chairman.

4th—That Dr. W. W. Woods, be requested to address the society, at the opening of its next convention.

7th—That this meeting adjourn to convene at Burlington, on the first Wednesday in May, 1849.—*The Bloomington Herald*, Bloomington [now Muscatine], Iowa, December 23, 1848. (In the Newspaper Division of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa.)

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