

RESOLVED, That Mr. Harlan's recommendation that the revival of the publication phases of the department work, including the issues of the Annals of Iowa, be undertaken within the present year, be adopted.

The field of the Annals is ample, and the repository of resources upon which to draw for its matter has increased and continues to expand. Neither the writer nor those who follow him need ever fear they will find themselves without the most ample and valuable sources of materials in the collections of the department and productions of others of the type and character the Annals produces, which will register and reveal the aims and attainments of those who laid the foundations or continue in the construction of our commonwealth.

The Annals therefore returns to its place of service. The work it did has been resumed.

THE IOWA BOARD OF CONSERVATION

Theodore Roosevelt attributes the enactment of national legislation to conserve national resources to the energy and foresight of Mr. Gifford Pinchot. Papers in the Historical Department reveal that two notable Iowa men contributed a very great part. They were W. J. McGee and John F. Lacey.

The Iowa legislature in its Thirty-seventh General Assembly, stimulated by the foregoing and similar influences, enacted two measures, aimed at the preservation of Iowa areas worth while for scenic, scientific, historical and recreational use. Numerous Iowa institutions of learned character, and associations aimed to promote recreation or sportsmanship, had for years directed the thought of the public to our rapidly disappearing forests, the decimation of wild animal and plant life, and the destruction of mounds and works of prehistoric men.

Chapter 333, Acts of the Thirty-seventh General Assembly, empowered the curator of the Historical Department to accept gifts as trustee of the people, of lands and property of historic interest.

Chapter 236 of the same session directed the division of the fish and game protection funds into halves, one part to be expended in improving lakes and acquiring public state parks

selected, if recommended by the fish and game warden and approved by the Executive Council.

The Thirty-eighth General Assembly amended the latter act by substituting for "the fish and game warden" "the Board of Conservation" so far as selecting and approving park sites are concerned. It set apart only so much of the fish and game protection fund as would not in the opinion of the Executive Council be required to carry on the work of the fish and game department, but it added annually the sum of \$100,000.

Under this law the curator of the Historical Department is made a member of the Board of Conservation and, in the organization, became its secretary. The Executive Council appointed Dr. L. H. Pammel of Ames, head of the department of botany of Iowa State College, who, on organization, was made president; Hon. Joseph Kelso, Jr., of Bellevue, a member of the Thirty-fifth and Thirty-sixth General Assemblies, and Hon. John F. Ford of Fort Dodge, former mayor of that city, as the other three members.

The board, serving with no compensation other than expenses, has performed a great amount of valuable work. Besides its preliminary investigations and the institution of state policies, they have examined and passed upon some fifty areas, and have recommended for acquisition some eight or nine tracts. A general report dealing with the law, policy and procedure of the state with reference to public state parks, is ready for publication and is delayed only by the impediments to state printing that retard all similar work.

Major Williams' journal, which he kept while going through Iowa in 1849 and which is published in this number of the Annals, frequently alludes to the Sons of Temperance, an organization which was then very popular. The Historical Department is fortunate in having in its possession a certificate of membership in that society issued to C. F. Clarkson in Indiana in 1845. We present an illustration of the certificate on opposite page.

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