

# ANNALS OF IOWA

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## EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

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### GETTING AHEAD WITH THE ARCHIVES

The long time program inaugurated by the Trustees of the State Department of History and Archives, upon reorganization in March 1939, has been making satisfactory progress in handling the state archives. A necessary step in that program was to procure a building for the exclusive use of the archives of the state, where better care could be given to the priceless state papers and records in an air conditioned archives building, free from conditions occasioned by occupancy of such building for offices or other use. The department succeeded in securing the Kasson Memorial building on Thirteenth street; also an appropriation to buy same and fit it up as a temporary archives building.

During the last year the work of clearing out an accumulation of state departmental records and papers in old vaults, tunnels and closets, and placing the material in this archives building ready for sorting out, cataloguing and placing on shelves, has been carried forward with energy under the direct supervision of Ralph Young, as assistant curator and director of archives. This task has required both patience and perseverance, and in its doing over twenty-five tons of useless material was disposed of, and a much larger quantity selected and placed in receptacles where it will be found on call.

With the close of the fiscal period, June 30, Mr. Young became deputy state industrial commissioner, with former Senator E. P. Corwin, appointed to that office. Mr. Young had held this position under Commissioner A. B. Funk for more than twenty years. In his work of hastening delayed archival placement, as well as in the business management of the Department of History and

Archives, Mr. Young has rendered great service to the state. By reason of his previous experience in administration of the Iowa workmen's compensation law, he will continue his excellent service.

Emory H. English, with long and honorable experience in positions of responsibility in state government, takes over the work of assistant curator and director of archives. He will continue in general charge of the manuscript division and assist in the editing of the ANNALS OF IOWA. He is abundantly equipped for valuable service and the work both on the archives and manuscript collection will go forward in harmony with the well settled traditions of this department.

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#### PORTRAIT OF GOV. GEO. W. CLARKE

A fine oil portrait of the late Gov. George W. Clarke has been placed in the state's gallery of notables, now numbering about two hundred. This was brought to the department by Nile C. Kinnick and his wife, Frances, who is daughter of Mrs. Geo. W. Clarke, now living with the Kinnicks in Omaha. The portrait was painted in 1919 by Geo. Upp, a noted portrait painter, and Governor Clarke had kept it in his residence at Adel, which he had built for his home sixty years ago. Mrs. Arletta Greene Clarke was born and married in the old Benjamin Greene home, still standing, and she is now 86 years old. Formal presentation of the portrait to the State will probably be arranged for the next meeting of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association. Governor Clarke was not only governor, 1913-17, but representative in the General Assembly from Dallas county, Twenty-Eighth to Thirty-first, speaker of the House twice and as lieutenant governor was president of the senate in 1909. The extensive capital park, on which is located the state capitol and the state historical building, and various fine monuments, is of itself the best possible reminder of the statesman-like foresight and undaunted courage of Governor Clarke, for it is the largest and one of the finest in the United States.

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