Library Notes

In addition to patrons from Iowa and neighboring states, the Iowa Historical and Genealogical Library was visited this fall and summer by researchers from coastal areas, Alaska, British Columbia and the Caribbean. Student visitors have included a Drake University class in colonial history, under the direction of William D. Houlette, who came to acquaint themselves with the excellent Americana collection in this field.

Acquisitions for the month of November number 82 books and 13 pamphlets. Among the history volumes are such varied titles as Old Traverse des Sioux, by Thomas Hughes, Herald Publishing Company, 1929; The American Counties, Joseph Nathan Kane, The Scarecrow Press, Inc., 1962, and History of the Famous 34th Infantry Division, by Lt. Col. John H. Hougen, 1949. For avid buffs of firearms there are four over-size publications, all magnificently illustrated, well documented, and eminently readable. Students of the historical development of modern small arms should ask for the following items when they visit the library, namely: The Age of Firearms, Robert Held, Harper & Brothers, Pub., 1957; A Pictorial History of the U. S. Single Shot Martial Pistols, James M. Kalman and C. Meade Patterson, Charles Scribner's Sons, Limited Edition; The Treasury of the Gun, by Harold L. Peterson, The Ridge Press, Inc., 1962, and Colt Firearms, 1836-1960, by James E. Serven, Serven Books, 1960. Genealogists, both professional and amateur, will find interest in new materials on these families: the Johnsons, Myrick Higgins and descendants, John Hardin, Yvonne Odette Kennedy, the Nickersons, the Watson branch of the Nickerson family, the Robertsons, the Smallwoods, Anthony Nelson and descendants.

Added to the manuscript division of the library have been 50 journals, dating from 1846 through 1896, by A. B. Robbins, early Congregational minister at Muscatine, Iowa. These were a gift of Guy W. Ade, Moline, Illinois. The Rev. Mr. Robbins was affiliated with the justly famous "Iowa Band," a missionary group in the state's pioneering era.

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