

Mr. R. E. Spencer and family, of Des Moines, represented the State of Iowa and the Iowa Department of History and Archives at the forty-eighth anniversary celebration of the Cherokee Strip Run in Oklahoma, held in Ponca City, September 16, 1941. The original race which opened up the "Strip," in which many Iowans participated, was September 16, 1893. Mr. Spencer, then of Creston, Iowa, made the race with a brother, his mother, and a friend, each of whom succeeded in establishing a claim. Part of that original holding the Spencer family still owns. Through an inquiry made in the press, nearly two dozen Iowans now residing in the state made the race in 1893.

Among the notable acquisitions in the museum division during the past quarter was an excellently well preserved sheep-treadmill used to operate a cream separator on the farm of A. U. Fenton, Blackhawk County, presented by the grandson, Wendell Fenton. Another item of more than general interest received was the "Yost Writing Machine," an early typewriter. While the precise date of manufacture is unknown, it is believed to have been used in the 1880's.

The manuscript division has received a copy of the Catherine Barker Journal from a granddaughter, Miss Eleanor Kimmell, Harvey, Iowa. Covering the pioneer years in Iowa, this journal offers a realistic picture of frontier conditions.

NOTABLE DEATHS

CHARLES FREDERICK BUTLER, banker, died in Springville, Iowa, July 27, 1941. He was born December 8, 1857, on a farm near Springville, the son of Joseph S. and Maria R. Butler. Since 1882 Mr. Butler had been associated with the Exchange Bank of Springville, the bank, founded by his father, was said to have been the oldest bank in Iowa under continuous management. Mr. Butler liberally contributed to Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Cornell College, Mt. Vernon, Iowa; St. Luke's hospital, Cedar Rapids; and Piney Woods Institute, Piney Woods, Alabama. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church.

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