

DEPARTMENTAL NOTES

WAR CHANGES

WAR HAS BEGUN TO MAKE INROADS UPON THE PERSONNEL of the Department staff. More may follow. Maynard F. Reece, the museum artist, has for some months been a member of the U. S. Army Signal Corps. Fortunately he is receiving his specialized training in communications work in Des Moines, which enables him to continue his services for the present in the Department. Kenneth E. Colton, Assistant Editor of THE ANNALS OF IOWA, has been called for service in the Army of the United States the last of October. Mr. Colton leaves after five years in the Department, during the latter portion of which time he has also been in charge of the private Manuscript Division, and the historical photograph files. Recently he has supervised the work of the War Records Division.

WAR RECORDS RECEIVED DURING THE PAST QUARTER FOR THE Iowa War Records Division include radio scripts, broadsides, posters from the armed services and from private industries, advertisements and display literature, notices of ration restrictions enforced in businesses by government restrictions. Organizational reports and summaries of activities have likewise been obtained for the same files. A beginning has been made in the collection of "doughboy letters," notably a report of the Battle of the Coral Sea.

On September 20, Kenneth E. Colton, under whose charge the War Records division has been, was among others who spoke briefly to the institute meeting of the Iowa State Library Association in Des Moines. His subject was the opportunities for librarians to assist in preserving their community war records.

With the assistance of clerical help provided by the WPA War Information Service, bulletins have been prepared by the Department stating the purposes and functions of a War Records Commission and the role of the

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