

of food production and distribution; and when he was here this Department very earnestly urged that he contribute his portrait to the state's gallery of notable sons of Iowa. His response was negative, but not very emphatic, and it is hoped that he will some day respond as desired. The General Assembly joined in the request, by resolution, and as a result the Department now has a very fine autographed photograph of the only president born west of the Mississippi river. It is framed and in the library by the side of a fine array of Iowa authors and writers.

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Preparations are under way for a celebration of the centennial of the beginnings of Fort Des Moines, at the Raccoon forks of the Des Moines river. The site was selected by Capt. James Allen prior to May 10, 1843, on which date he wrote from Fort Sanford, to Colonel Kearney at Jefferson Barracks that he had done as he had been ordered; then on May 20, Captain Allen came up the Des Moines river by steamboat and started the actual construction of the fort. This was the second Fort Des Moines; the third is now training headquarters for the WAAC, and south of the city about three miles from the frontier post of the same name.

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Prof. Lester J. Cappon, of the University of Virginia, who recently made a survey of the work being done by Iowa in the care and preservation of archives on behalf of the National Archives, Washington, D. C., and the American Association of Archivists, was emphatic in his praise of what Iowa is doing, and especially commended the state for having commenced early and in systematic manner to secure the records of war activities.

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The oil portrait of the late Judge Horace E. Deemer, presented to the Department by the family, was painted some years ago by Prof. Chas. A. Cumming of Des Moines. The portrait of Gen. Mathew A. Tinley, pre-

sented by him, was painted by Allan E. Philbrick, who served with General Tinley in the American forces overseas in World War I.

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Members of the staff of the State Department of History and Archives, who are in the armed service, are widely scattered. Maynard F. Reece, museum assistant and staff artist, on leave for the duration, is serving with the signal corps division at Camp Kohler, Sacramento, California; Kenneth E. Colton, who was also given leave of absence for the duration from the manuscript division, is at Salina, Kansas, in Camp Phillips, a member of the signal corps; Milo Frazier, who was in the archives research department, is near Fort Smith, Arkansas, in Camp Chaffee, as a member of the reconnaissance division.

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### CURRENT IOWA ANNALS

The Tama County Historical Society met April 8, 1943, at Toledo. The president, Mrs. W. G. MacMartin reported 508 charter members the first year and approximately 800 historical articles given or loaned to the society, now on display in nine cases in the county court house, built and purchased by the society during the past year. The annual picnic of the society was held Sunday April 18, in Toledo. In addition to the president, officers were elected as follows: Vice President, R. C. Wood, Traer; Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Thelma Carmichael, Tama.

The Des Moines Pioneer Club held its Forty-ninth annual meeting on January 23, 1943. In continuation of the epochal series the address was on "Des Moines 1880-1890," delivered by former state senator Addison M. Parker. President B. Frank Kauffman presided. The new officers elected were: President, Vernon R. Seeberger; Vice President, John P. Wallace; Secretary-Treasurer, Forest Huttenlocher.

An old settlers program will be presented at the meeting of the Pocahontas County Historical Society to be held on July 6th. The officers elected at the annual meeting held on January 5th, 1943 were: President, Mrs. Matie L. Baily; Vice President, Mrs. Ora Malcom; Secretary-treasurer, A. L. Schultz.

The Iowa Society at Washington, D. C. at its annual meeting elected for 1943 the following officers: President, Ben F. Jensen, Exira, congressman Seventh district; Vice President, Mrs. E. P. Chase, Atlantic.

The Sac County Historical Society has discontinued all meetings for the duration of the war activities.

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