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NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

MILDRED WIRT BENSON is a reporter for the *Toledo Times*, an aviation columnist for the *Blade*, and a specialist in the writing of teenage mystery stories. A native of Ladora, Iowa, she received both bachelor's and master's degrees from The University of Iowa.

THOMAS OLLIVE MABBOTT (1898-1968) began his teaching career at Northwestern University, continued it at Hunter College for thirty-odd years, and was visiting professor at the Universities of Chicago, California, Duke and St. John's. He collected Greek and Roman coins and fifteenth-century block prints, he edited works by William Cullen Bryant, Washington Irving, and Walt Whitman, he was co-editor of a volume in the great Columbia edition of Milton, but he is probably best known as the outstanding Poe scholar of his time.

ROBERT A. McCOWN is Manuscripts Librarian at The University of Iowa Libraries. His article on Chautauqua is, in part, the outgrowth of a talk he gave to the Iowa County Federated Women's Club. He is currently doing research toward an article on an Iowa country newspaper editor as well as preparing a study of conservative groups in Iowa since 1945.

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Speaker at the tenth annual spring dinner of the Friends on Friday evening, April 12, 1974, will be Herbert Ross Brown. Dr. Brown, a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, is emeritus professor of Rhetoric and Oratory at Bowdoin College and managing editor of *The New England Quarterly*.

Life membership in the *Friends* is awarded to patrons whose gifts of rare books or financial contributions are \$1,000, and to sustaining members whose annual contributions of \$100 may become equivalent to this. Other annual memberships are solicited as follows: contributing memberships \$25.00, regular memberships \$10.00, student memberships \$5.00. Institutions are accepted as regular members.

The scene on the back cover adorned the printed program for the summer Chautauqua season at Grundy Center, Iowa, in June of 1922.

