

HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

State Historical Society of Iowa

A box of the papers of Peter A. Dey, early Iowa railroad builder, has been presented to the Society by his son, Marvin Dey. The papers consist of printed pamphlets on railroads and banking; correspondence and papers while Dey was a member of the Iowa Board of Railroad Commissioners in the 1880's and 1890's; a group of maps of railroad surveys for the Union Pacific and drawings of the Erie Canal; two profile maps of the Union Pacific railroad; a record book in which were kept estimates of distances on the Mississippi and Missouri Rail Road between Davenport and Fort Des Moines; and a number of miscellaneous documents dealing with railroad surveying and bridge building. These documents are a valuable addition to the manuscript collections of the Society.

H. S. Merrick of Washington, D. C., has presented to the Society a group of letters, dated in 1912 and 1913, covering correspondence of his father, C. H. Merrick, regarding early banks in Burlington and Fort Madison.

At the request of Governor William S. Beardsley, Superintendent William J. Petersen attended the meeting of the Mississippi River Parkway Planning Commission which met in St. Louis on November 13 to 15, 1949. This Commission is working out plans for an 1,800 mile highway along the Mississippi River. The government has appropriated \$150,000 for a survey of the project and another \$100,000 will be added next year. The Commission hopes to have portions of the highway open for traffic by 1953, the sesquicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase, when a celebration will be held in New Orleans commemorating that event. Representatives from ten states attended the meeting in St. Louis.

Dr. Jacob A. Swisher, research associate of the Society, addressed a meeting of the Mennonite Historical Society on November 1, 1949, at Kalona.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CALENDAR

October 8

Addressed Home Economics Ladies, Iowa City.

- November 1 Addressed Lions Club, Mt. Vernon.
 November 2 Attended Iowa Schoolmasters Walt Whitman Club,
 Des Moines.
 November 13-15 Attended Mississippi River Parkway Planning Com-
 mission, St. Louis.
 December 12 Addressed Cedar Rapids Women's Club.
 December 28-30 Attended annual meeting of American Historical
 Association, Boston, Massachusetts.

The following persons were elected to membership in the Society from September 1 through December 14, 1949:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>Ackley</i> | <i>Avoca</i> |
| Independent School | Public Schools |
| <i>Agency</i> | <i>Ayrshire</i> |
| High School | Fred E. Hilton |
| <i>Ainsworth</i> | Silver Lake Consolidated School |
| Gene Stephens | <i>Barnum</i> |
| <i>Albia</i> | Johnson Twp. Consolidated |
| Mrs. Albert E. Hollingshead | Schools |
| <i>Albion</i> | <i>Baxter</i> |
| Mrs. Frank T. Blanchard | Public School |
| Consolidated School District | <i>Beaconsfield</i> |
| <i>Alta</i> | Public Schools |
| Fairview Consolidated School | <i>Bedford</i> |
| <i>Ames</i> | Public Schools |
| Mrs. Lois V. Holler | James S. Taylor |
| Napier Consolidated School | <i>Beech</i> |
| <i>Anamosa</i> | Public Schools |
| C. M. Strawman | <i>Belle Plaine</i> |
| <i>Andrew</i> | R. O. Burrows, Jr. |
| High School | Miss Lucille McKibban |
| <i>Anita</i> | <i>Bellevue</i> |
| Mrs. Roxy Graham | Public Schools |
| <i>Ankeny</i> | <i>Bennett</i> |
| Public School | Consolidated School |
| <i>Auburn</i> | E. K. Clear |
| Public Schools | High School |

- Bloomfield*
High School
- Bonaparte*
Public Schools
- Boone*
High School
- Britt*
Mrs. Charles T. McLaughlin
- Brooklyn*
Public School
- Buffalo Center*
Buffalo Center Schools
Mrs. E. E. Sapp
- Burlington*
Des Moines County Pub. Schools
A. N. Hopperstad
Miss Helen M. Howe
Mrs. James Schramm
Raymond H. Wright
- Callender*
Public School
- Calumet*
Liberty Twp. School
- Carlisle*
Independent School
- Carroll*
Carroll Co. Pub. Schools
- Casey*
Independent School
- Cedar Falls*
Mrs. Laura Van Horn Cable
- Cedar Rapids*
Clarence L. Beeson
Mrs. M. H. Collins
Dan Norman Cross
Melvin J. McCalley
- Public Schools
Miss Dorothy Shurtleff
John M. Stearns
- Centerville*
High School Library
Mrs. E. A. Larsen
F. Paul Staley
- Charles City*
Mrs. H. C. Breckenridge
High School
- Chelsea*
Public School
- Cherokee*
Lincoln Junior High School
- Churdan*
Public Schools
- Clarence*
Earl Elijah
- Clarinda*
Mrs. Hilton W. Graham
Mrs. Erma B. Taylor
- Clarion*
Wright County Pub. Schools
- Clearfield*
Public Schools
Jerry Jackson
- Clemons*
Consolidated School
- Clinton*
A. L. Brown
Matthew J. Hadesbeck
Mrs. Maude Hobbs Johnson
Bruce Townsend
Mrs. J. Morse Watkins
- Coin*
Consolidated School

- Colo*
Public Schools
- Coon Rapids*
Kennard Mogensen
- Correctionville*
High School
- Corning*
Public School
- Council Bluffs*
Dr. Leon Corning Hills
- Cresco*
Public Schools
- Creston*
Marshall F. Camp
- Cylinder*
Mrs. Blanche Stafford
- Dana*
Consolidated School
- Davenport*
Miss Louise Dalzell
Mrs. William Ley
E. J. Newel
Howard Redding
G. H. Ruehmann
R. J. Schick
Glenn L. Seydel
- Decorah*
Mrs. Inga B. Norstog
Winneshiek County Pub. Schools
- Delmar*
Consolidated School
- Denison*
Public School
- Des Moines*
Miss Zola M. Barge
C. A. Baumgart
Warren E. Beach
- Howard N. Beard
Leo R. Brown
Gregory Brunk
R. A. Chisholm
Frank A. Clark
Mrs. Patricia Luin Colby
Jonathan M. Fletcher
Frank G. Moorhead
Polk County Pub. Schools
Mrs. Shirley L. Sullivan
Wm. A. Temple
Rudolph W. Weitz
Allen Whitfield
George Yates
- De Soto*
Consolidated School
- Dike*
Consolidated School
- Dubuque*
Dubuque County Pub. Schools
Carl F. Flick
J. M. McDonald, Jr.
W. B. Poinsett
Thos. M. Stampfer
Allen E. Stoltz
- Dumont*
Consolidated School
Mrs. Gladys G. Kelso
- Dundee*
Consolidated School
- Dunkerton*
Public Schools
- Dunlap*
Public School
- Dysart*
Dysart Schools

- Eldora*
Fred K. Schmidt
- Elk Horn*
High School
- Estherville*
Boyd J. Berghefer
Carl C. Gronstal
Miss Ava G. Simpson
- Fairfield*
Mrs. Frank J. De Haan
Bernard Merriam
Ralph M. Sayre
Miss Estella Williamson
- Fontanelle*
Frost P. Patterson
- Fort Dodge*
Mrs. Gladys W. Griffith
- Garner*
Hancock Co. Schools
- George*
Public School
- Gillett Grove*
Consolidated School
- Gilmore City*
Public School
- Gladbrook*
I. H. Wentzien
- Gowrie*
High School
- Grafton*
High School
- Grand Mound*
Public Schools
- Greeley*
High School
- Greenfield*
Adair County Pub. Schools
- Greenville*
Greenville-Rossie Cons. School
- Grinnell*
W. J. Stewart
- Grundy Center*
Junior High School
- Hamburg*
Mrs. Flora Riedy
- Hampton*
Franklin County Pub. Schools
- Harlan*
Shelby County Pub. Schools
- Harris*
Bernard S. Stronks
- Havelock*
Consolidated School
- Homestead*
Wm. Zuber
- Hornick*
Holly Springs Cons. School
- Holstein*
High School
- Humboldt*
Miss Myrtle Hewitt
Public School
- Ida Grove*
Ida County Public Schools
- Iowa City*
B. F. Allen
Mrs. Robert Gibson
Johnson County Public Schools
James W. Jones
Dr. C. M. Kos
Mason Ladd
Avery E. Lambert
Henry Linder
Mrs. Allen Maiden

- Mrs. Leslie G. Moeller
 John A. Oostendorp
 Dr. P. W. Richardson
 F. J. Snider
 James K. Wasley
 Joseph G. Wayner
Iowa Falls
 F. J. McGivney
Jefferson
 High School
Joice
 L. B. Bredeson
Kamrar
 Independent School
Kanawha
 Dr. L. W. Eller
Kent
 Joe C. Schobert
Keokuk
 Stanley L. Hart
 Junior High School
 Forrest E. Schwarz
 Harold G. Schwarz
 Senior High School
 Robert H. Walker
Keota
 Mrs. C. Forest Miller
Knoxville
 Public Schools
 Dr. Roger C. Scott
Lake View
 Public School
Lamoille
 Consolidated School
Le Grand
 Miss Myrtle Christenson
Lenox
 Mrs. Esther Wallace Dixon
Leon
 Decatur County Public Schools
 Leon Public Schools
Lincoln
 H. T. Wentzien
Linden
 High School
Linn Grove
 H. Dayle Frame
 Highview Consolidated School
Lobrville
 Consolidated School
Lone Tree
 Public Schools
Lovilia
 High School
Luana
 Consolidated School
Lytton
 High School
Maloy
 Consolidated School
Malvern
 Mrs. Henry T. Beattie
 Dr. J. R. Beckwith
 Forrest R. Chantry
 Public Schools
Manchester
 Dr. R. E. Clark
Marengo
 Wilbur O. Carthey
Marion
 Rural Independent School
 Elmer M. Seevel

Marshalltown

Miss Helen Hurlbutt
Senior High School

Mason City

S. L. Armstrong
High School
Monroe Junior High School
Roosevelt Junior High School
Miss Harriet Schmid

Mediapolis

Consolidated School
Harry C. Selzer

Miles

Consolidated School

Minburn

Washington Twp. Cons. School

Monroe

High School

Monticello

Public Schools

Morning Sun

Consolidated Schools

Mount Vernon

Ralph Bachman
Bruno Beckman
Mrs. J. K. Burr
Russell D. Cole
Hugh J. Croft
Joseph T. Meade
Mrs. Lewis E. Mitchell
Public Schools
E. C. Prall
D. U. Van Metre
S. Vernon Williams
Fred A. Young

Muscatine

Dr. John L. Klein

Nevada

Story County Pub. Schools

Newburg

Public Schools

New Hartford

Consolidated School

Newhall

Consolidated School

Newton

Edward Wilimek

North English

High School

Northwood

Independent Schools

Norway

Consolidated Schools

Oakdale

Jack B. Johnston

Oelwein

P. J. Neubauer

Ollie

Consolidated School

Onslow

Public Schools

Orange City

Sioux County Pub. Schools

Orient

High School
Zion Consolidated School

Osage

High School
Washington School

Oskaloosa

A. E. Augustine
Mahaska County Pub. Schools

Ossian

High School

Ottumwa

Willard E. Dullard
 Franklin Junior High School
 High School
 Mrs. Edna C. Lawrence
 Stuart Junior High School
 Washington Junior High School

Oxford

Public School

Parkersburg

Independent School District

Quimby

High School

Riverton

Consolidated School

Rock Falls

Consolidated School

Rock Rapids

Public Schools

Runnells

High School

Ruthven

Consolidated School

Saint Ansgar

Dr. J. C. Westenberger

Sanborn

Independent School District

Saratoga

Miss Nellie A. Miles

Schaller

Independent School

Scranton

Consolidated School

Shenandoah

Miss Jennie Arvidson
 Miss Ruth L. Dickinson
 Public Schools

Sigourney

High School

Spencer

Mrs. Mae De Koster
 Mrs. Grace A. Rindsig

Springville

Henry Hood

Stanley

Consolidated School

Stanwood

Consolidated School

Storm Lake

Buena Vista Co. Public Schools
 Hayes School

Strawberry Point

Independent School District

Stuart

Public School

Tama

Junior High School
 Senior High School

Tipton

Mrs. D. L. Diehl
 C. S. Miller

Troy Mills

Troy Mills School

Varina

Consolidated School

Vinton

Consolidated Schools
 Dr. L. W. Koontz

Viola

F. B. Collins

Wapello

Mrs. R. D. McCullough

Washta

Grand Meadow Cons. School

Washington

Don Maxwell

Waterloo

Mrs. Robert W. Gibson

Mrs. W. E. Robinson

Waucoma

Elmer W. Kretzschmar

Waukeee

Mrs. David S. Kruidenier

Waukon

Allamakee County Pub. Schools

Waverly

George Lane

Wayland

High School

Webster City

Hamilton County Pub. Schools

Weldon

High School

West Branch

Consolidated School

West Chester

High School

West Des Moines

Mrs. Mable Hampton

West Liberty

Miss Frances L. Bodie

Dr. Lester A. Royal

West Union

Fayette County Pub. Schools

West Union Public Schools

Whiting

Consolidated School

Whittemore

Public Schools

Winfield

Mrs. J. A. Smiley

Winterset

Independent School District

Woolstock

Public School

Arizona

Louis B. Schmidt, Jr., Tucson

*California*Miss Gretchen McCulloch,
Los Angeles

Mrs. J. W. McKee, San Marino

Clarence F. McIntosh, Stanford

Colorado

Mrs. Harriet P. Edwards, Denver

Connecticut

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New Haven*District of Columbia*

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WashingtonLt. Col. Henry S. Merrick,
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Detroit Public Library, Detroit

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Missouri

V. W. Greene, Kansas City

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St. Louis

Ohio

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Pennsylvania

Mrs. Fred Nelan, Washington

Virginia

Ronald D. Ross, Arlington

Wyoming

Harold Boice, Rock Springs

Canada

Mrs. W. V. Cone, Montreal

The following persons were elected as life members for the same period:

Cedar Falls — Miss Erma B. Plaehn

Cedar Rapids — Ernest Kosek

Centerville — Mrs. Charles Hickman

Des Moines — Robert D. Jackson

Iowa City — G. R. Davies

Tipton — Marion C. Hamiel

Waterloo — Joe Du Mond

Connecticut — Phil Stong, Washington

Massachusetts — Miss Margaret P. Medary, Boston

South Dakota — John E. Chapman, Sioux Falls

Iowa Historical Activities

A four-year centennial of Cornell College is being observed from September, 1949, to November, 1953, the anniversary date. The observances are under the direction of President Russell D. Cole and Dr. Earle A. Baker. A major feature of the observance will be the raising of the Cornell Centennial Fund.

State Representative Fred Schwengel of Davenport is active in a movement to have the state purchase from Donald Knauer of Pottstown, Pennsylvania, letters pertaining to Annie Turner Wittenmyer of Keokuk, Iowa's famous Civil War nurse. Some of the letters are from Abraham Lincoln and Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton. The state orphans home at Davenport has been renamed the Annie Turner Wittenmyer Home, and Mr. Schwengel would like to see the letters preserved there.

The Union County Historical Society has appointed a committee, with George A. Hall, president of the Society, as chairman, to arrange for a room for the display of the many Union County relics which have been presented to the Society.

The Des Moines County Historical Association has turned over its funds

to the Burlington Public Library for use in promoting the collections of the library. Plans are being made for a historical gallery in the library, which already owns many documents and relics of early Burlington. An almost complete file of Burlington newspapers is a valuable part of this collection.

On November 22, 1949, Iowa obtained her first national monument when President Truman formally established the Effigy Mounds National Monument. The tract of land, of about 1,200 acres, lying in Allamakee and Clayton counties at the mouth of the Yellow River north of Marquette, has been transferred from the state of Iowa to the federal government. The National Park Service will supervise the preservation of these historic mounds; William J. Kennedy, former district ranger in Grand Canyon National Park, will be superintendent of the new monument. The more than 100 effigy mounds, built by prehistoric Indians and used as burial places, are built in the form of bears and birds. The largest, "Great Bear Mound," is famous in archaeological circles as the largest bear effigy in existence. It is 70 feet wide at the shoulders and measures 140 feet from head to tail. Congress has appropriated \$11,119 for use in maintaining the park and for making improvements.

CONTRIBUTORS

Dwight L. Agnew is assistant professor and head of the department of history and social science at Stout Institute, Menomonie, Wisconsin.

George Schulz-Behrend is assistant professor of Germanic languages at the University of Texas, Austin, Texas.

Kenneth F. Millsap is research assistant of the State Historical Society of Iowa.

THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

ESTABLISHED BY LAW IN THE YEAR 1857
INCORPORATED: 1867, 1892, AND 1942
LOCATED AT IOWA CITY IOWA

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MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the State Historical Society may be secured through election by the Board of Curators. The annual dues are \$3.00. Members may be enrolled as Life Members upon the payment of \$100.00. Persons who were members of the Society prior to March 1, 1948, may be enrolled as Life Members upon payment of \$50.00.

Address all Communications to
WILLIAM J. PETERSEN, Superintendent
THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY IOWA CITY IOWA

100 YEARS AGO AND NOW
1850—Federal and State Officers—1950

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Cedar Rapids
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*G. T. KUESTER, *Griswold*

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Muscatine

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Dubuque

WILLIAM L. BLISS, *Mason City*
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NORMAN R. HAYS, *Knoxville*
HALLECK J. MANTZ, *Audubon*
JOHN E. MULRONEY, *Fort Dodge*
*RALPH A. OLIVER, *Sioux City*
**W. A. SMITH, *Dubuque*
CHARLES F. WENNERSTRUM,
Chariton

*Member of the State Historical
Society

**Life Member of the State
Historical Society