

HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

State Historical Society of Iowa

Dr. Frederick I. Kuhns joined the staff of the Society on November 1, 1950, as research assistant. For the past two years Dr. Kuhns has taught at Drake University, offering courses in American history and religion. A native of Dayton, Ohio, Dr. Kuhns is a graduate of Ohio State University and of Union Theological Seminary. He received his Ph. D. degree in 1947 from the University of Chicago. He collaborated with Matthew Spinka in a recent book, *A History of Illinois Congregational and Christian Churches*, and with Frederic W. Chamberlain in a centennial history, *The First Congregational Church of Three Oaks*. Articles by Dr. Kuhns have been published in the *Indiana Magazine of History*, *Michigan History*, *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*, *Journal of Religion*, and *Journal of the Presbyterian Historical Society*. In addition, portions of his doctoral dissertation—a study of frontier missions, schools, and colleges in the Old Northwest—have been published.

The American Association for State and Local History has presented the Society with an Award of Merit in recognition of the annual Mississippi Steamboat Cruises. The Award, voted at the annual meeting of the Association at Portland, Oregon, on August 30, 1950, was given to the Society for "having developed a unique annual tour in the form of a boat excursion down the Mississippi River for the Society's members and their friends, with attendant broadcasts, newspaper publicity, and colored photography; for initiating an all-Iowa food menu; and for encouraging a dynamic education program in state and local history." On the recommendation of Superintendent William J. Petersen, Awards of Merit for outstanding editorial attention to local history were also made to the Cedar Rapids *Gazette* and the Des Moines *Register*.

In response to a request by the Society for early music, Cornell College at Mount Vernon has donated a complete file of programs and libretti of the Cornell College May Music Festival Society since its founding in 1899. The file was supplied by Dr. Paul Beckhelm, director of the Cornell College

conservatory of music. Dr. Beckhelm was aided in the collection of this material by Mr. and Mrs. Edwin R. Ristine of Mount Vernon and Mrs. Seth Thomas of Fort Dodge.

Two valuable diaries have been loaned to the Society recently for copying. Lloyd Howell of Iowa City loaned the diary of S. S. Howell, a teacher in the preparatory department of the State University of Iowa in the 1860's. This diary covers the year 1868, during which Professor Howell taught in Iowa City and made a trip to California. Russell E. Ostrus of Des Moines loaned a diary of Lars M. Olsen of Wiota, Cass County. This is a Civil War document, from July 9, 1864, to July 18, 1865, during which Olsen took part in Sherman's famous "March to the Sea." Mrs. Lida L. Greene of Albion presented the society with a copy of the *Albion News* for November 19, 1881, and a copy of *Roster of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry*.

The Society has recently added to its microfilm collection a file of the *Williamsburg Virginia Gazette*, the second oldest newspaper in America, from 1736 to 1780. A two-volume index to the paper has been published by the Institute of Early American History and Culture at Williamsburg, under the direction of Lester J. Cappon and Stella F. Duff. The film was prepared from all known original or photostatic copies of the paper, and thus brings together a valuable source of early American history.

A reunion of members of the Society who took part in the Mississippi Cruises was held in Iowa City on November 3, 1950. Almost one hundred members and their friends attended. Colored slides and movies of the outing were shown. Commodore O. D. Collis, owner of the *Rob Roy III*, pilot Matt J. Hadesbeck, and chief cook Musse Jensen, all of Clinton, were present for the occasion.

Tentative plans for the 1951 Mississippi Steamboat Cruises are now being made. The cruises—again on the *Rob Roy III* of Commodore O. D. Collis—will be on July 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, and will start at Clinton and go north to the state line and back to Clinton.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CALENDAR

November 1	Attended meeting Walt Whitman Club, Des Moines.
November 8	Addressed Mount Vernon P. E. O.
November 28	Addressed Iowa City Kiwanis Club.

December 28-30 Attended meeting of American Historical Association,
Chicago.

The following persons were elected to membership in the Society from
September 1 through December 20, 1950:

Adel

Frank L. Gibson

Ainsworth

J. Ernest Wagner

Albia

Mrs. H. R. Gilliland

Eugene B. Stanley

Algona

E. M. Huber

Amana

F. William Miller

Ames

Dr. Mary S. Lyle

Mrs. F. R. White

Anamosa

Irvin J. Hovet

Atlantic

Mrs. C. V. Welscher

Beaman

W. Eldon Walter

Bedford

Arthur Dinwiddie

Karl B. Paschal

Bloomfield

W. R. Fimmen

Boone

Mrs. James E. Irwin

Burlington

Raymond W. Baxter

Henry L. Hirsch

Mrs. Hazel S. McAnally

Miss Anna Marsh

Miss Julia E. Metier

Mrs. Harding Polk

Carroll

Mrs. Joe H. Gronstal

Cedar Falls

Miss Stella Brimmer

Iowa State Teachers College

William C. Lang

Cedar Rapids

Mrs. Louis Blaha

C. U. Broadston

Edward F. Dose

Franklin High School

Russell I. Hess

Rev. Christina R. McDonald

Sterling F. McNelly

Joseph Mekota

Mrs. S. G. Platt

James F. Plumb

Harold Waltermeyer

Wilson High School

Fred J. Witousek

Clarion

R. S. Austin

Clinton

Dr. George M. Ellison

Paul F. Kamler

Centerville

Mrs. J. B. Guernsey

Miss Cadd Hawkins

Mrs. Elton Hendershot

C. W. Howell

- F. N. Jennings
 Mrs. F. B. Leffert
 Edward Powers
 V. C. Price
Columbus Junction
 Miss Helen E. Orr
 Harold E. Ross
Council Bluffs
 Harry Mauck, Jr.
Creston
 Mrs. W. B. Brown
 Miss Florence Prehm
Curlew
 Clinton Lawver
Dallas Center
 J. K. Kent
Davenport
 Chris Cundiff
 Mrs. S. J. Delarue
 Miss Grace Frank
 Joe Lindburg
 Mrs. Pearl S. Maybach
 Miss Virginia Nash
 John Armington Parks
 Davis S. Sass
 Mrs. Chester U. Schaefer
Delta
 Miss Ida E. Fisher
 Mrs. F. X. Kendall
Des Moines
 Francis W. Benedict
 M. R. Disborough
 R. M. Bliss
 Claude W. Borrett
 Kenneth R. Brown
 Mrs. Percie E. Hoak
 Harry Hudelson
 Mrs. Harold L. Kester
 Dring D. Needham
 Mrs. Frank S. Root
 Walter St. John
 Mrs. George Schaaf
 Mrs. R. E. Spencer
 Miss N. Ferne Thorne
 Herbert B. Ungles
 E. H. Wetherell
 Mrs. Jacob Van Zwol
Doubs
 Harold Linge
Dubuque
 Mrs. V. W. Carris
 Mrs. Dalton N. Urbach
Eddyville
 Mrs. Ida Barnett
 Mrs. K. H. Rustan
Elkader
 Raymond L. Jipson
Exira
 A. F. Littlefield
Fairfield
 Mrs. Carl H. Bates
 Miss Harriett Conklin
 Miss Helen Winn
Fayette
 LaVerne K. Bowersox
Fonda
 Dr. J. B. Thielen
Fort Dodge
 Dr. Emerson B. Dawson
Fremont
 Mrs. Grace V. Fellers
Gladbrook
 J. S. Bauch
 Gladbrook Ind. Schools

- Hilton Gloe
 D. B. Kliebensteise
 Paul Klinefelter
 Dr. L. G. Schaeferle
 K. P. Wieland
- Glenwood*
 Glenwood Ind. School Dist.
- Grinnell*
 Fred Chadwick
- Grundy Center*
 Mrs. Charles W. Reynolds
- Guthrie Center*
 Miss Elenor Rosenberger
- Guttenberg*
 Walter W. Jacobs
- Independence*
 Miss Ruth Hamilton
 Miss Gertrude Rigby
 Don Risk
- Indianola*
 Mrs. C. H. Mitchell
- Iowa City*
 Mrs. Harry J. Albrecht
 Charles L. Balcer
 Dr. Alson E. Braley
 James W. Conine
 Ray Culp
 George J. Degenfelder
 Hugh A. Dunlap
 Mrs. J. G. Gartner
 LeRoy F. Gereau
 Miss Nell E. Harris
 Douglas L. Hill
 Miss Julienne Jensen
 Frederick I. Kuhns
 Dr. Carroll B. Larson
- Mrs. L. G. Lawyer
 Dr. P. J. Leinfelder
 Graham E. Marshall
 Mrs. Margaret L. Nusser
 Stow Persons
 C. C. Ries
 Sister Mary Alice, B.V.M.
 Marc M. Stewart
 John VanBibber
 Lewis F. Wheelock
 Robert B. Wylie
- Iowa Falls*
 Rev. W. R. Yard
- Keokuk*
 Miss Bess Blood
 Mrs. Walter B. Brinker
 Miss Mary B. Chappell
 Mrs. Lillian B. Huiskamp
- Keota*
 Mrs. Josephine Singmaster
- Lamoni*
 John E. Kubec
- Le Claire*
 Charles C. Morgan
- Lenox*
 Mrs. Frank Maharry
- Lincoln*
 Sylvan Ames
- Lone Tree*
 Mrs. Martha B. Ashton
 Miss Elsie Smid
- Malcom*
 Mrs. Ray W. Cummings
- Malvern*
 Mrs. Charles Summers
 Mrs. J. F. Wearin

Maquoketa

W. H. Harrison
Dr. Clay K. Risser

Marengo

L. F. Hardenbrook

Marion

Winfield A. White

Mason City

Charles E. Cornwell
Dr. Lloyd Gustafson
W. H. Tate

Mechanicsville

Everett Ferguson

Mediapolis

Mrs. Frank C. Cling

Milford

Mrs. Myron M. Moeller

Montezuma

Mrs. Charles F. Dickson
Mrs. Paul Peterson

Monticello

Karl M. Keyes

Mt. Ayr

John A. Beard

Mt. Pleasant

Mrs. Jack Wilson

Mt. Vernon

Paul Beckhelm
Miss Bernadine Burge
Dr. F. A. Du Val
Mrs. Neil Alden Miner
J. B. Ringer
Mrs. Dana D. Wilcox
Otis E. Young

Muscatine

Marion Burzell
Miss Winifred Giesler

Miss Dorothy G. Hahn

Orville W. Ketchum

M. K. Mills, Sr.

New Sharon

Mrs. C. H. Sheridan

Northwood

Dr. H. F. Johnson

Oskaloosa

Mrs. A. C. Spurgin

Ottumwa

Herschel C. Loveless

Morrell Library

Ben Ravitz

Dr. S. F. Singer

Arnold B. Skromme

Miss Anne G. Wilson

Oxford

Adolph Sievers

T. G. Specht

Peterson

Mrs. Jimmie L. Brown

Pocahontas

Mrs. Fred M. Hudson

Randall

Randall Public Schools

Rock Rapids

Riter & Henneberg

Rock Valley

F. T. McGill

Sac City

Mrs. Hilda Lake

Sheldon

Mrs. Paul Hascall

Shenandoah

C. C. Bridges

Sibley

Mrs. Harold Koopman

Sigourney

Miss Mabel A. Paull
Mrs. Jessie White

Sioux City

Mrs. Oscar Hanson

Soldier

Loren E. Olson

Storm Lake

Albert Tymeson

Story City

Dr. Robert H. Heise

Tama

R. C. Harrison
Dr. A. J. Havlik

Toledo

L. W. Downer

Unionville

Mrs. Paul P. Hinote

Vinton

Mrs. Perle D. Stevenson
Miss Jean Urice

Wapello

Mrs. S. D. Asher
Mrs. Louis Keck
Dean H. Parsons
Mrs. M. D. Thomas

Washington

Miss Carrie A. Davis

Waterloo

Carl A. Bluedorn
Louis A. Ebel
A. J. Kies
Walter G. Kuenstling
Aaron L. Miller
Edward E. Peek
Miss Alice Reidel
Miss Lillian M. Sohner

Dr. E. W. Thielen

Dr. D. E. Walters

Edward G. Wing

Waubeek

Mrs. Velma G. Mitchell

Waucoma

Paul R. Knox

Webster

S. T. Wheeler

Webster City

Mrs. R. H. Hahne
Mrs. G. J. Quammen

West

Elmer Graesser

West Liberty

Mrs. Mildred Madson

What Cheer

Mrs. Richard J. Axmear
Mrs. R. H. Bedford
Mrs. Tom W. Burriss
Carl Draegert
Miss Pauline Schott

Williamsburg

L. J. Tanner

Arizona

Mrs. Donald McClain, Tucson

California

Mrs. Emily Brierly Jenkins,
Alhambra
A. A. Brierly, Independence
Mrs. Avery Edward Abbott,
Los Angeles
Dr. W. E. Cody, Los Angeles
S. D. Maiden, Jr., Richmond
Miss Charlotte Skene,
San Francisco

- Mrs. Robert Gross, Van Nuys
Mrs. Dorr Shreves, Van Nuys
- Canal Zone*
John Terence Glancy, Cristobal
- Illinois*
Edgar F. Brumer, Chicago
Miss Lila Woods Robinson,
Chicago
Ford Snyder, Elmhurst
Roy A. Tower, La Grange
Edward G. Beeson, Peoria
Mrs. Mabelle M. Morrow, Peoria
Cyrus Edmund Palmer, Urbana
- Indiana*
George Walter Blair, Mishawaka
- Michigan*
E. W. Allen, Birmingham
Roy M. Bickford, Flint
W. D. Hoyt, Flint
Mrs. E. M. Fisher Buckley,
Pontiac
- Minnesota*
Dr. Owen William Parker,
Duluth
- Missouri*
Mrs. Richard G. Baumhoff,
Brentwood
- Miss Edith M. Musgrove,
St. Joseph
- Montana*
Robert N. Jones, Billings
- Nebraska*
Matthew Nelson Chesire,
Grand Island
Virgil F. Ketchum, Omaha
R. R. Moser, Sr., Omaha
Lee H. Padget, Jr., Stella
- New York*
Dr. Willard V. Ergenbright,
Albany
Mrs. H. H. Dukes, Ithaca
- Virginia*
Morton Macartney, Arlington
University of Virginia,
Charlottesville
- Washington*
Mrs. S. W. Kerr, Seattle
Miss Lena Hayes, Spokane
- LIFE MEMBER
- South Dakota*
Hubert W. Turner, Huron

Iowa Historical Activities

The Wright County Historical Society held a meeting at Clarion, October 7, 1950. A membership committee was appointed, consisting of Aaron Bowman and Mrs. C. McBride of Clarion, and Josephine Uhr of Eagle Grove. The primary object of the Society is to gather material on the origin of the 4-H clubs in Wright County. The Farm Bureau is providing exhibit cases which will be placed in the courthouse lobby at Clarion. R. C. Richardson of Clarion is gathering the data on the 4-H clubs and will welcome any material others can furnish him. At the October meeting Miss

Jessie Hartsock read a paper on the early days of Goldfield, or Liberty, as it was originally named. Her paper was published in the October 19, 1950, issue of the *Eagle Grove Eagle*.

The centennial of Coe College at Cedar Rapids will be observed during the academic year, 1951-1952. The plans for the centennial are discussed in the December 3, 1950, issue of the *Cedar Rapids Gazette*.

The State Department of History and Archives at Des Moines recently purchased a microfilm unit which is being used to film the newspapers in the Archives. These films will preserve these valuable papers and also serve to conserve space.

The Dubuque County Historical Society has taken steps to preserve the pioneer log cabin in Eagle Point Park and the Julien Dubuque monument from further damage. Horace S. Poole, president, has also announced that plans are under way for the preservation of the famous Dubuque Shot Tower. The Society has been active in accumulating documents of Dubuque history, and the local D. A. R. chapter is providing temporary storage space. Another project of the Society is a planned tour of old Dubuque homes. Guy Dubuc of Montreal, Canada, recently presented the Society with some relics from the original home of Julien Dubuque in Canada.

The Guthrie County Historical Society is preparing for the celebration of the centennial of the county in July, 1951. Photographs, historical papers, antiques, and other material are being collected for the display to be sponsored by the Society.

The Secretary of the South Dakota State Historical Society, Will G. Robinson, reports that a huge rock in Peoria Bottom, a few miles from Pierre, has been discovered with the inscription: "August 10, 1863—H. W. Gaffett—Company E." Henry W. Gaffett was a private in Company E, Sixth Iowa Cavalry. He enlisted in Montgomery County, Iowa, in 1862, at the age of twenty-six, and served until October 17, 1865, when he was mustered out. This boulder would be under the water of the Oahe Dam when it is completed, but Secretary Robinson is planning to have it removed and placed on the grounds of the South Dakota Historical Society. In 1863 Camp Peoria, which was garrisoned by the Sixth Iowa Cavalry and the Thirtieth Wisconsin Infantry, was near the site of the boulder.

An historical museum of unusual interest at Cherokee will be opened to the public sometime in the spring or summer of 1951. The museum, to be known as the Sanford Memorial Historical Building, has been donated by Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Sanford in memory of their son, Tiel. In addition to historical rooms and displays, there will be a planetarium, one of the first in Iowa. W. D. Frankforter, a graduate of the University of Nebraska, has been appointed as Curator.