

HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

State Historical Society of Iowa

The annual Mississippi River steamboat cruises for members of the Society were held on June 28, 29, July 4, 5, 6, and July 12, 13, aboard the *Rob Roy III*, with Commodore O. D. Collis and Superintendent William J. Petersen as hosts. All trips started from and returned to Clinton. Some 700 members and their friends took part.

Dr. William J. Petersen has written the first two volumes of a four-volume *Story of Iowa* recently published by the Lewis Publishing Company of New York. The third and fourth volumes contain biographies of Iowans. This is the first new history of Iowa to appear in twenty-one years. The volumes of history prepared by Dr. Petersen contain some 300 illustrations, both old and modern, and a great deal of statistical information not before available in one place. The books are not for general sale, having been sold previously on a subscription basis.

New accessions to our library include twenty-six new county plat books which have been sent in by members in response to a request in the December *News for Members*. Charles A. Hawthorn has given to the Society several diaries and miscellaneous papers of his grandfather, William E. Hawthorn of Riverside. Mrs. Sarah Gillespie Huftalen of Manchester has presented the Society with a series of diaries kept by her mother, Mrs. James F. Gillespie, covering the years 1858 through 1888.

Superintendent William J. Petersen addressed a meeting of the Iowa Society of Washington, D. C., on May 18. After the meeting Representative James I. Dolliver, president of the Iowa Society, presented Dr. Petersen with a large cup engraved with the names of past presidents of the Iowa group. This cup will be deposited at the State Historical Society of Iowa.

The Board of Curators and Superintendent Petersen honored Mr. and Mrs. Norman B. Shaffer at a tea at the Memorial Union in Iowa City on May 25, 1952. Mr. Shaffer, president of the First National Bank in Iowa City, was recently appointed Treasurer of the Society.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CALENDAR

- April 3 Attended farewell for Forrest Spaulding at Des Moines.
 April 17-19 Attended meeting of Mississippi Valley Historical Association at Chicago.
 April 21 Interviewed by Betty Wells over Radio Station KIOA in Des Moines about work of the State Historical Society.
 April 21 Addressed Newton Women's Club.
 May 15 Commencement address at West Chester.
 May 18 Addressed Iowa Society at Washington, D. C.
 May 22 Commencement address at Dana.
 June 3 Addressed Des Moines Ad Club.

The following members were elected to membership in the State Historical Society during the months of March, April, and May:

Algona

Mrs. Fred S. Geigel
 R. I. Mawdsley
 V. K. Rising

Ames

Kenneth L. McFate

Arcadia

Robert Kaspersen

Atlantic

Atlantic Public Schools
 Miss Bertha Kjar

Avoca

Oscar H. Rock

Bennett

Mrs. J. G. Engel

Boone

Mrs. Jessie Merrill Dwelle

Bronson

Superintendent of Schools

Carlisle

Austin Schooler

Carroll

Mrs. G. C. Richerson

Cedar Falls

John W. Teter

Cedar Rapids

Robert H. Caldwell
 Ralph F. Dresher
 Theodore Froeberg
 Mrs. J. W. Houser
 Mrs. Vernon E. Lichtenstein
 Dr. Frederick W. Mulsow

Centerville

Hillis A. Johnson

Charles City

Mrs. Arnold P. Niedorf

Clarinda

C. Edwin Hoskinson

Clinton

Frank C. Bonebrake
 Mrs. John A. Buchanan
 Miss Elise A. Schnell

Columbus Junction

Mrs. Glen Cummings
 W. D. Dillon

Council Bluffs

Harvey R. Horton

Dallas Center

Mrs. Ethel Hays

Davenport

Miss Vera Ehlers

Mervin A. Fulton

Miss Gladys Furniss

Cable Von Maur

Decorah

Mrs. Olaf Williams

Des Moines

Ralph W. Baker

Carl L. Bloom

A. E. Brickley

Miss A. Florence Carl

Elmer Cobb

Walter P. Davis

Neal A. Dellinger

Miss Kathryn McLaughlin

Carl F. Mahnke

George F. Malcolm

Masonic Temple Library

Raymond R. Mitchell

William F. Poorman

R. L. Shultz

Miss Irene M. Smith

Joseph J. Stanton

Miss Margaret E. Tomlinson

M. M. Welton

Douds

Mrs. Tom Nutt

Dubuque

John P. Dorweiler

Miss Minnie Ricklefs

William G. Rozeboom

Eagle Grove

Mrs. Harry M. Clappison

Elkader

H. M. Wolf

Fairfield

Lewis W. Cooley

Fort Dodge

Robert D. Brainerd

Griswold

Horace Ireland

Guttenberg

Chris A. Frommelt

Clifford C. Frommelt

Kann's Gift Shop

L. B. Kent

Harold E. Murray

Rev. E. J. Starr

Cornelius Tuecke

Jerome J. Tujetsch

Hampton

Rev. Ralph Baker

Mrs. A. G. Madsen

Harlan

Harlan Public Schools

Humboldt

Mrs. Arthur E. Strachan

Ida Grove

Lee A. Horn

Indianola

James W. Ritchie

Iowa City

Mrs. W. J. Boatman

Mrs. Herman Bushman

Robert M. Carran

Clark DeHaven

Kenneth M. Dunlop

Miss Elizabeth Emmons

- Clifford E. Haley
 Mrs. Charles A. Hawthorn
 Dr. Peter P. Laude
 E. Wallace McMullen
 Joseph E. Negus
 Mrs. Joseph E. Negus
 John C. Nunn
 Grant Pickering
 Mrs. R. G. Schreffler
 Robert Jean Shafer
 Mrs. Mildred Dow Voss
- Keokuk*
 Mrs. John G. Bartholomew
 Robert A. Kammerer
 Mrs. Jesse M. Marsh
 W. W. Wolf
- Lake City*
 Dr. Paul Ferguson
- Lamoni*
 Mrs. Lillian McAninch
- Lewis*
 Miss Helen DeLean
- Lowden*
 Rev. Norman S. Roberts
- McGregor*
 Effigy Mounds National
 Monument
- Madrid*
 Miss Esther E. Sundberg
- Manchester*
 M. H. Runkle
- Manly*
 Dr. Gabriel Westly
 Soren Westly, Jr.
- Marble Rock*
 Mrs. Ralph A. Wilson
- Mason City*
 Joel F. Hanes
 Mrs. Ida L. Kinney
- Missouri Valley*
 Mrs. Nellie M. Mackland
- Mount Vernon*
 Robert C. Jeffrey
- Muscatine*
 Miss Bernice L. Gravatt
 Dr. Robert F. Klein
- Nashua*
 C. J. Weidler
- Newton*
 Frederick Bock
 Arza R. Hughes
 Dr. J. P. Hull
 W. J. Molleck
 Mrs. Edith Mooar
 Mrs. Daisy M. Santen
 Melvin A. Scholl
 Jack M. Wormley
- North English*
 Alfred J. Johnson
- Northwood*
 M. H. Kepler
 Worth Co. Supt. of Schools
- Ogden*
 Dr. R. W. Jack
- Osceola*
 J. M. Grimes
- Ottumwa*
 Edward T. Buckley
- Pierson*
 Pierson Consolidated School
- Ralston*
 Ralston Public Schools

Renwick

Mrs. George Latch

Saint Anthony

Mrs. Cozzie R. Dillon

Spirit Lake

Miss Ione McClintock

Stockport

Mrs. Roy T. Lanam

Tipton

Mrs. Ruth Hegarty

Viola

Mrs. Nellie Patterson

Waterloo

Arnold C. Rathkey

Kenneth J. Stultz

Waukon

Mrs. William H. Hegeman

Webster City

Mrs. E. M. Jeffers

A. G. Osmundson

What Cheer

Irving J. Smith

Roy H. Gustafson of Des Moines was elected a Life Member of the Society.

Woodward

Mrs. J. G. Krenmyre

Wyoming

LeRoy Bender

California

Robert C. Aulmann,

Studio City

Ralph W. Core, Glendale

Iowa Association of Long Beach,

Long Beach

Guy Lundvall, San Francisco

Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Mary L. Hanna

Clark R. Mollenhoff

Illinois

Warren S. Smith, Rockford

New Jersey

Princeton University Library,

Princeton

Tennessee

Albert Dillahunty, Pittsburg

Landing

Francis R. Holland, Pittsburg

Landing

Iowa Historical Activities

The thirtieth annual History Conference at the State University of Iowa was held March 28-29, 1952. Speakers were Daniel J. Boorstin, University of Chicago; George L. Mosse, University of Iowa; Hajo Holborn, Yale University; Fred A. Shannon, University of Illinois; and Burr W. Phillips, University of Wisconsin. A seminar room in the new University Library was dedicated to the memory of Winfred T. Root, former head of the history department of the University.

Mrs. Faye Brice MacMartin of Tama was re-elected president of the Tama County Historical Society at their annual meeting, April 9, 1952.

Other officers are: Harold Hufford, Toledo, vice-president; E. A. Benson, Toledo, secretary-treasurer; and Roy L. Shaffer, William Malin, and Mrs. Herbert Giger, members of the board of directors.

The Louisa County Medical Society observed its centennial on April 24, 1952, at Wapello. This is the oldest county medical society in Iowa.

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. M. M. Hoffman of Dyersville was elected president of the Dubuque County Historical Society at its annual meeting on May 8, 1952. Fred Fuhrmann was elected vice-president; Miss Elsie Datismann, secretary; and Mrs. Marjory Ferguson, treasurer. Msgr. Hoffman is the author of *Antique Dubuque* and other works of history, and is at present preparing an article on the growth of the Catholic Church in Iowa for *The Palimpsest*. Major General Ulysses S. Grant, III, addressed the Society at its meeting on May 22, 1952.

The Mahaska County Historical Society held its annual meeting in Oskaloosa on May 14, 1952. Marion H. Pothoven was elected new president, to succeed Stillman Clark. Other officers elected were: J. C. Mattix, vice-president; E. L. Butler, treasurer; Mrs. Phil Hardinger, secretary; Mrs. Stillman Clark, historian; Stillman Clark, curator; and Hobart Morris, Dr. F. A. Gillett, Zola Kramme, C. D. Mattix, and John Sproatt as directors. The Museum of the Society held open house during the week and more than 600 persons attended.

Dr. H. B. Field of Decorah was elected president of the Iowa Archaeological Society at its meeting at Cherokee on May 18, 1952. Will Logan of McGregor is editor of the *Journal of the Society*. Vice-presidents are W. D. Frankforter of Cherokee, C. Lowell Miller of Davenport, S. A. Cohagan of Waterloo, Paul R. Rowe of Glenwood, and W. J. Kennedy of McGregor. Mrs. A. I. Mason of Cedar Rapids is secretary-treasurer.

George E. Pike was elected chairman of the Henry W. Grout Historical Museum Commission at Waterloo at a meeting on May 18, 1952. He succeeds the late John W. Rath, who had been chairman since the death of Henry W. Grout in 1930. Other members of the board of trustees are James M. Graham, treasurer, and Howard H. Rath. S. A. Cohagan is secretary and custodian of the Museum. According to the will of Henry W. Grout, his fine collection of Americana was to remain on display in the YMCA for fifteen years after his death, after which it was to be housed in

a museum. The Commission is anxious to add material to the collection, which consists of material on Lincoln, American presidents, the Civil War, and Iowa history.

Members of the Guthrie County Historical Society made a tour of Madison County covered bridges and the site of the original Delicious Apple tree, June 1, 1952. The trip was made by bus. Mrs. Gladys Kasner, Panora, is secretary of the Society.

The annual meeting of the Adair County Historical Society was held June 8, 1952, at Fontanelle. E. E. Johnson of Greenfield is secretary of the Society.

A feature of the centennial of Wartburg College was a pageant at Waverly on June 11, 1952. Over 200 persons took part in the pageant, which portrayed the 100 years of the College's history in 21 scenes. Another pageant, called "Cedar Falls Centurama," was part of the July 2-4 centennial celebration in that city. Held in the State Teachers College stadium, the pageant had a cast of some 700 people.

Crawford County plans to celebrate its 100th birthday in July, 1952. The town of St. Charles in Madison County will be 100 years old on October 7, 1952; the Coe College centennial was celebrated in May, 1952. Nevada and Story County are making plans for a centennial in 1953, while the Ringgold County Historical Society is already beginning work for its centennial in 1955.

Tabor's centennial was observed July 23-25, 1952. The celebration was the culmination of almost two years of planning. Parades, concerts, window displays, and the usual old-time costumes and beards were all features of the birthday.

A Guttenberg Historical Society has been organized, with Dr. W. W. Jacobs as president, G. W. Hunt as vice-president, and Clifford Frommelt as secretary-treasurer. Directors are W. D. Weyant and C. J. Kann.

The Marshall County Historical Society, originally organized in 1908 but inactive since 1939, has been revived and new officers elected. For president, the group chose R. A. Rockhill; for vice-president, Mrs. Frank Blanchard; secretary, Mrs. John L. Lowry; treasurer, Perry Cooper; and curator, Mrs. Laurence Belknap. Members of the board of directors are

Genevieve Coates, Mrs. E. Lester Williams, Mrs. M. U. Chesire, George Lewis, Mrs. Wallace Arney, Dr. R. M. Allen, and Ray P. Scott. The impetus to the revival of the Society was given by the will of the late Mrs. Susie F. Sower, formerly active in the original Society. Her will provided funds for a historical museum.

Other Historical Activities

At the meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association at Chicago, April 17-19, 1952, James L. Sellers of the University of Nebraska was elected president, and Fred A. Shannon of the University of Illinois, vice-president. The 1953 meeting of the Association will be held at Lexington, Kentucky.

The Minnesota Historical Society held its annual meeting in Minneapolis on May 14, 1952. To aid in the preservation on microfilm of Minnesota newspapers, a joint committee of the Minnesota Editorial Association and the Society has been appointed to study the problem.

The annual meeting of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin was held at the Trees for Tomorrow Camp, Eagle River, June 6-8, 1952. To head the Society's American History Research Center, George Waller has been appointed Director. Mr. Waller will supervise a national program of grants-in-aid and also raise funds for the program of the Center, which covers study in state, regional, and local history. The Wisconsin Society's Labor History project is going forward with renewed vigor. The John Crerar Library of Chicago has turned over to the Society certain holdings in the labor field, and the Wisconsin State Federation of Labor has given its second annual \$2,000 grant for the Project. Another project of the Society is the Medical History program. Since its inauguration a year ago, much valuable material has been collected by the director, Donald McNeil.

A new national society for the study of American civilization has been organized under the name American Studies Association. The aims of the society are "a better understanding of our country" through "communication across the established disciplines about the various aspects of America." Membership, at \$4.00 yearly, includes a subscription to the *American Quarterly*. The first president is Carl Bode of the University of Maryland; vice-president is Merle Curti of the University of Wisconsin; secretary-treasurer is Robert Land of the Manuscripts Division, Library of Congress.

Ohio will celebrate 150 years of statehood in 1953. A Sesquicentennial Commission, headed by Harvey S. Firestone, Jr. as chairman, is already busy at work with plans for the commemoration. Efforts will be made to organize every county in the state for participation in the birthday.

The third Wisconsin Institute on Local History was held at Madison June 23-25, 1952. Workshops, conferences, and general meetings were a feature of the Institute, the subjects all dealing with the various phases of work in local history.

The Historical Society of Michigan has a number of events scheduled for the summer months. The Third Annual Upper Peninsula Historical Conference was held at Houghton, June 21-22. On July 11-12 a Museum Conference was held at Kalamazoo. Tentative plans for the annual meeting of the Society are that it will be held in September at Petoskey which is celebrating its centennial. On September 16 there will be a Centennial Farm Marker Presentation at Adrian.

Director Harold D. Cater represented the Minnesota Historical Society at the jubilee convocation of the United States Military Academy at West Point on May 20. The Minnesota Historical Society was the only state society so represented.