

NOTES AND COMMENT

The National Municipal League will hold its annual meeting at Buffalo, New York, on November 14-16, 1910.

The thirteenth annual convention of the League of Iowa Municipalities was held at Waterloo, September 20-22, 1910.

Goldwin Smith, the eminent historian, passed away on June 7, 1910, at Toronto. He was eighty-seven years of age.

Dr. Charles Abiathar White, formerly State Geologist of Iowa and for many years a Professor in the State University of Iowa, passed away during the last week in June.

Mrs. Judith Ellen Foster, who played such an important part in the prohibitory amendment campaign in Iowa in the early eighties, died in Washington, D. C., on August 11, 1910.

A progressive move has been made at the University of Rochester by the establishment of a Department of Citizenship, which will be devoted largely to the problems of municipal government. Mr. Howard T. Mosher is in charge.

In accordance with an act of the legislature of the State of New York at its last session the Dutch manuscript records of New Netherland are to be translated and published. The enlightened policy of New York relative to the preservation and publication of official records and documents should serve as an example for other Commonwealths.

On August 7, 1910, occurred the death of Charles John Alfred Ericson at Boone. Mr. Ericson was born in Sweden in 1840, and in 1859 he came to Boone County where he entered upon a business career. Abundant success attended his efforts, and the Ericson Public Library in the city of Boone is a lasting monument to his memory. As a member of the General Assembly for many years Mr. Ericson occupied an influential and useful position.

A Legislative Reference Department was established in Ohio by an act of the legislature approved in May. The act provides that the Department shall be in connection with the State Library, but that it shall be in charge of a person fitted for the work by training and experience. Among other duties he is to assist in the formulation of bills when requested to do so by members of the legislature.

WILLIAM SALTER

Dr. William Salter passed away at his home in Burlington, Iowa, on August 15, 1910. He was born in Brooklyn, New York, on November 17, 1821. In 1846, as a member of the famous Iowa Band, he came to Burlington and took up his duties as pastor of the First Congregational Church of that place. In this position he remained until the date of his death—a remarkable record of sixty-four years' continual service in one pulpit.

Himself a pioneer of Iowa, coming to the State in the year of its admission into the Union and witnessing its development from a rude frontier to a prosperous, influential Commonwealth, he was admirably fitted to write upon subjects in Iowa history. And so from time to time he devoted himself to historical writing and the result is a large number of valuable articles in different periodicals, together with several separate volumes. Among the latter the best known and most widely used in his book entitled *Iowa: The First Free State in the Louisiana Purchase*. Other volumes from his pen are: *The Life of James W. Grimes*, with whom he was intimately acquainted; and *Sixty Years and Other Discourses with Reminiscences*.

It would be no exaggeration to say that William Salter exerted an influence which reached throughout the State whose interests he ever had at heart. The memory of his kindly, useful life will long be cherished by all who knew him, and his writings will continue to have an honored place in the literature of Iowa history.

CONTRIBUTORS

LOUIS PELZER, Professor of History in the Montana State Normal School. Born near Atlantic, Iowa, in 1879. Graduate of Iowa State Normal School in 1901. Principal of Schools, Shelby, Iowa, 1905-1907. Graduated from The State University of Iowa in 1907. Received the degree of Ph. D. at The State University of Iowa in 1909. Author of *The Negro and Slavery in Early Iowa*; and *The Origin and Organization of the Republican Party in Iowa*; and *The History and Principles of the Whigs of the Territory of Iowa*; and *The Election of Francis Gehon in 1839*; and *The History and Principles of the Democratic Party of the Territory of Iowa*; and *The History and Principles of the Democratic Party of Iowa, 1846-1847*; and *Augustus Caesar Dodge*, a biography; and *The History of Political Parties in Iowa from 1857 to 1860*. Editor of *A Journal of Marches by the First United States Dragoons, 1834-1835*.

NELSON ANTRIM CRAWFORD, JR., Assistant in English in the Kansas State Agricultural College, Manhattan, Kansas. Born in Miller, South Dakota. Graduated from The State University of Iowa, in June, 1910.