

NOTES AND COMMENT

Maquoketa held a homecoming celebration during the week of August 30, 31, September 1, 2, and 3, 1926.

An Iowa picnic attended by some two thousand former residents of Iowa was held at Spokane, Washington, on July 31, 1926.

A peace pageant was given at Tipton on August 12 and 13, 1926, under the auspices of the South Bethel and Tipton Methodist Episcopal churches.

The fortieth annual reunion of the old settlers of Madison and Warren counties was held at St. Charles, on August 25, 1926. Speeches were made by James Parsons of Des Moines, John Arnold, and C. C. Dowell. Officers for the ensuing year are: President, J. Y. McGinnis; Secretary, H. A. Mueller; and Treasurer, J. F. Johnston.

On July 4, 1926, occurred the dedication of the State park on Lake Okamanpedan, known as the Okamanpedan State Park. The gift to the State was accepted by Dr. Louis H. Pammel, chairman of the State Board of Conservation.

On July 2, Spirit Lake dedicated the Fred Gilbert Park, named in honor of Fred Gilbert, who has acquired fame as a trapshooter. H. E. Narey gave the dedicatory address.

Dr. Louis H. Pammel, Professor of Botany at the Iowa State College, has resigned from the State Board of Conservation, the resignation to take effect in December. He has been president of the Board since its organization eight years ago.

A pageant entitled "Drama of American Independence" was one of the features of the celebration at Bloomington on July 3, 1926. The text of the pageant was written by Della Sowers and H. Ostergaard. As its title suggests this pageant depicted scenes of the Revolution.

A pageant entitled "America Forever" was a feature of the Cass County Farm Bureau picnic at Atlantic on July 5, 1926. This was in honor of the sesquicentennial of independence and was under the direction of Miss M. E. Matthews of Chicago.

The twenty-ninth annual convention of the League of Iowa Municipalities was held at Carroll, Iowa, on August 17-19, 1926. Mayor Stewart Gilman of Sioux City was elected president for the ensuing year, Mayor B. C. Benham of Muscatine vice president, and Mr. Frank G. Pierce of Marshalltown secretary-treasurer.

ALBERT BAIRD CUMMINS

Albert Baird Cummins, United States Senator from Iowa since 1908, died at his home at Des Moines on July 31, 1926. Senator Cummins was born near Carmichaels, Pennsylvania, on February 15, 1850. He attended Waynesburg College, graduating in 1869, and came to Clayton County, Iowa, that year. Afterwards he went to Indiana where he was employed as an engineer in the construction of a railroad. In 1872 he was employed in similar work in Michigan, but soon gave up this employment to study law. He was admitted to the bar at Springfield, Illinois, on January 1, 1875, and three years later removed to Des Moines.

Mr. Cummins was temporary chairman of the Republican State Convention in March, 1892, and in 1894 was suggested as a candidate to succeed James F. Wilson, but was not nominated. He was elected Governor of Iowa in 1901, serving in this office until November 24, 1908, when he resigned to become United States Senator. In addition to his professional and political interests, Senator Cummins found time for other activities and was a life member of The State Historical Society of Iowa.

CONTRIBUTORS

KIRK HAROLD PORTER, Associate Professor of Political Science at the State University of Iowa. Born at Waukegan, Illinois, on April 7, 1891. Received the B. A. degree from the University of Michigan in 1914, the M. A. degree from the same institution in 1916, and the Ph. D. degree from the University of Chicago in 1918. Taught American government and American history at Earlham College, Indiana, in 1918 and political science at the State Teachers College at Emporia, Kansas, 1918-1919. Author of *History of Suffrage in the United States, County and Township Government in the United States, National Party Platforms*, and two monographs in the *Applied History Series*, published by The State Historical Society of Iowa.