

## HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

The State Historical Society of Wisconsin has recently issued the *Proceedings of the Society at Its Seventy-third Annual Meeting*. This was held at Madison on October 15, 1925.

Doane Robinson, formerly superintendent of the Department of History of South Dakota, has published an *Encyclopedia of South Dakota*. This is an alphabetically arranged collection of information concerning the leaders, history, literature, geography, and science of South Dakota.

The Missouri Historical Society of St. Louis has recently published a *Year Book* for 1926. This is an attractively bound volume of some two hundred pages and contains valuable information concerning the Society, its members, and its work.

The fifth annual "historic tour" sponsored by the Minnesota Historical Society occurred on June 16, 1926. The group left St. Paul, visiting Sibley House at Mendota, Castle Rock, Northfield, Faribault, Madison Lake, and Mankato. At Castle Rock Frank E. Balmer gave a talk on "The Farmer and Minnesota History". The program at Mankato on June 17th included the following papers and addresses: "Pioneers of Southwestern Minnesota: The Story of My Grand Parents", by Fern Johnson, a high school pupil; "Some Experiences of a Soldier in the Sibley Expedition: From the Journal of Henry J. Hagadorn", by John P. Prichett; "The Historical Backgrounds of Mankato and Its Vicinity", by Thomas Hughes; "Southern Minnesota: How Manuscripts Tell Its Story", by Grace Lee Nute; and "Progress and Politics: A View of Minnesota in the Early Seventies", by William Watts Folwell. There was a luncheon conference on the promotion of local historical work in Minnesota, Judge Lorin Cray presiding.

### IOWA

The Lion's Club of Charles City sponsored a pageant of the

early history of the region. This was given on August 24 and 25, 1926.

H. S. Jones of Spencer, Iowa, is at work on two volumes relating to Iowa history. One is a collection of personal reminiscences; the other a history of Clay County.

A boulder marking the birthplace of William L. Harding, former Governor of Iowa, was put in place on July 12, 1926, in the corner of the Harding lawn in Goewey Township, Osceola County.

Balliet Chapter, D. A. R., of Mount Vernon held services on June 30, 1926, at the city hall of that place. Markers were placed upon the graves of Jerusha Nelson Witter and Mary Ide Mason.

On June 20, 1926, the Daughters of the American Revolution dedicated a monument marking the grave of Joanna Matthews Bond, a daughter of a Revolutionary soldier, who is buried at Richland. Mrs. Daise Schipfer gave the address.

The Hawkeye Natives and Auxiliary held their annual picnic at Crapo Park, Burlington, on September 15, 1926. Alex Miller was the principal speaker. This was the twenty-first anniversary of this organization of pioneers.

The second annual meeting of the Wyoming Historical Society was held on August 5, 1926. John Morse was elected president for the ensuing year; Fannie Franks, recording secretary; Mrs. Mae Johnson Peck, corresponding secretary; and Emma A. Alden, treasurer.

Winneshiek County staged a pageant showing episodes of local history on July 4 and 5, 1926. The picture begins with a village of the Winnebago Indians and ends with the return of the Winneshiek County soldiers at the close of the World War.

Old settlers of Mills, Fremont, and Pottawattamie Counties held their annual picnic at Glenwood on August 20, 1926. Henry Smith of Macedonia was named president for next year, and Mrs. H. K. Dye secretary. The meeting in 1927 will be held at Macedonia. The meeting this year is the fortieth annual reunion of the pioneers of this region.

The Okamanpedan Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution at Estherville provided a marker in the Okamanpedan Park locating the spot on the Mankato — Sioux City military trail where T. W. Sherman, a major in the United States army, camped in 1858, on his way from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to Fort Ridgely, Minnesota.

A pageant of Black Hawk County history, prepared under the auspices of the Cedar Falls Woman's Club, was given at Cedar Falls on July 5 and 6, 1926. One episode dealt with the Indian chief Black Hawk. The second episode presented pictures of early white settlements, the third the settlement of Cedar Falls. A quilting bee, the coming of the Danes, beginning of the Civil War, and somewhere in France were other scenes depicted.

The Ida County Farm Bureau was in charge of the historical pageant of Ida County given at Ida Grove on July 2 and 3, 1926. The Indians and the pioneers were represented in the earlier episodes and various historical events of the county were depicted. Representatives from various townships were in charge of these scenes which included a spectacular reproduction of a World War attack in which several hundred men took part, using flares and bombs.

The Dallas County Farm Bureau was the sponsor of the historical pageant given at Adel on August 19, 1926. Indians from the reservation at Tama presented the first scene. A reproduction of Blashfield's mural painting "Westward" and a treaty with the Indians made up the second scene. Seven townships gave the remaining scenes, each furnishing a dramatic representation of some events in the history of Dallas County.

An historical pageant depicting the events in Clayton County was given at Elkader on July 15 and 16, 1926. It was under the direction of Mrs. B. L. Thurston of Chicago and the cast included some four hundred persons. A Winnebago village scene, the first settlement on Turkey River, recruiting during the Civil War, and scenes representing the departure and return of the soldiers of the World War were features of the pageant. The proceeds went to the Elkader fair association.

The elaborate silver service presented to the battleship *Iowa* when it went into commission in 1896 was recently returned to Iowa and on June 1, 1926, was installed among the collections of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa. The *Iowa* went into service in 1896, and took a prominent part in the Spanish-American War. On March 22, 1923, the old battleship was sunk during fleet target practice.

#### THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

Miss Helen J. Wylie, a graduate of the New York State Library School, joined the library staff of the State Historical Society on July 1, 1926.

A revised list of the members of the Board of Curators selected by the Governor gives the names of Mrs. Edna Paschal and Mrs. Wendell Huston in place of Mrs. C. W. Britton and Mrs. W. L. Harding.

On August 17, 1926, Dr. Ruth A. Gallaher, Research Librarian of The State Historical Society of Iowa, gave a talk before the convention of the League of Iowa Municipalities at Carroll, Iowa, on the subject "Proposed Researches in Municipal Government and Administration in Iowa".

Bruce E. Mahan, Associate Editor of The State Historical Society, gave the address at the meeting of the old settlers of Hardin County in the Elerding grove, southwest of Eldora, on August 22, 1926. His subject was "Some Dramatic Episodes in Early Iowa History".

The following persons have recently been elected to membership in the Society: Mr. Howard H. Cherry, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Mr. Dwight E. Crawford, Gladbrook, Iowa; Mr. H. J. Dane, Iowa City, Iowa; Mr. C. C. Dowell, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. W. C. Eastland, Clinton, Iowa; Mr. Joseph R. Frailey, Fort Madison, Iowa; Dr. C. H. Graening, Waverly, Iowa; Mr. Dwight Lewis, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. J. W. Long, Ames, Iowa; Mr. William B. Martin, Dubuque, Iowa; Mr. J. G. Merritt, Glidden, Iowa; Mr. J. L. Oakes, Davenport, Iowa; Mr. R. H. Richardson, Mason City, Iowa; Miss

Agnes Samuelson, Iowa City, Iowa; Mr. Leonard Simmer, Ottumwa, Iowa; Mr. Robert W. Turner, Council Bluffs, Iowa; Mr. P. V. Alexander, Guthrie Center, Iowa; Mr. Ira Arch, Council Bluffs, Iowa; Mr. Edmund L. Brown, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. G. B. Bywater, Garwin, Iowa; Dr. J. B. Bywater, Stratford, Iowa; Mr. Harry E. Eaton, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. John C. Glenn, Sheffield, Iowa; Mr. Harold D. Peterson, Fort Dodge, Iowa; Mrs. Minnie Wiese, Lone Tree, Iowa. The following persons have recently been elected to life membership in the Society: Mr. C. R. Aurner, Iowa City, Iowa; Dr. Fred W. Bailey, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Mr. W. E. Bickel, Vinton, Iowa; Mr. H. H. Carter, Corydon, Iowa; Mr. Simon Casady, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. Walter E. Coffin, Des Moines, Iowa; Dr. G. D. Darnall, West Union, Iowa; Mr. Brode B. Davis, Chicago, Illinois; Mr. A. H. Davison, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. M. F. Edwards, Parkersburg, Iowa; Mr. J. A. Henderson, Jefferson, Iowa; Miss Anna M. Klingenhagen, Oberlin, Ohio; Mr. C. H. McNider, Mason City, Iowa; Mr. James R. McVicker, Iowa City, Iowa; Mr. Earl E. Mason, Webster City, Iowa; Mr. Chas. S. Medbury, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. J. L. Powers, Ames, Iowa; Mrs. J. J. Richardson, Davenport, Iowa; Mr. R. S. Sinclair, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Mr. J. F. Traer, Vinton, Iowa; Mr. Ralph Van Vechten, Chicago, Illinois.