

NOTES AND COMMENT

The Georgia Historical Society has offered for the year 1929 a prize of one hundred dollars to the person submitting the best article on some subject in Georgia history.

Dr. Harlow Lindley, who has been director of the Hayes Memorial Library and Museum, has become curator of the department of history of the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society at Columbus, Ohio.

The Des Moines public schools plan to undertake a comprehensive project in local history during the coming school year. The various studies will be published for subsequent use in history courses in the Des Moines schools.

That buffalo roamed Jefferson County as late as 1842, and that a buffalo wallow existed near the site of the city of Fairfield as late as 1835 was a statement in an address made by E. R. Smith before the Jefferson County Old Settlers Association. Mr. Smith has made a careful study of wild game in early Iowa.

The Iowa State Fair and Exposition this summer will celebrate its diamond jubilee, commemorating the first State Fair which was held at Fairfield, Iowa, in 1854. Many historical features will be included in the program of events from August 21 to 30, the dates selected for the seventy-fifth anniversary fair and exposition.

A comprehensive history of New Jersey will soon be undertaken by the Princeton University History Department. A fund of \$100,000 to defray the expense of research and publication has been donated to the university by Lloyd W. Smith. The history will be composed of some twenty-five monographs each dealing with some important phase of the subject.

Dr. Fred A. Shannon, formerly a graduate student in the State University of Iowa, was awarded the Pulitzer prize of two thousand

dollars for the best book of the year dealing with the history of the United States. His work, *The Organization and Administration of the Union Army, 1861-65*, was also awarded the Justin Winsor prize of the American Historical Association.

Pioneer days in the west, the abolition movement, the Civil War, the World's Fair at Chicago, and the temperance question are a few of the phases of history dealt with from a personal view point in "Grandmother Brown's Hundred Years, 1827 to 1927", which has been awarded *The Atlantic Monthly* prize of five thousand dollars. The author of the book, Mrs. Herbert D. Brown, is the daughter-in-law of Mrs. Maria D. Brown, the narrator of the story. Mrs. Herbert D. Brown is a former resident of Fort Madison, Iowa.

The eighteenth biennial convention of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs was held at Sioux City from May 21 to 24, 1929. The following officers were elected at this meeting: Mrs. Galen Tilden of Ames, president; Mrs. William Larrabee, Jr., of Clermont, first vice president; Mrs. Eugene Henely of Grinnell, second vice president; Mrs. Eugene Cutler of Des Moines, corresponding secretary; Mrs. R. H. Volland of Iowa City, treasurer; Mrs. H. C. Houghton, Jr., of Red Oak, recording secretary; and Mrs. E. H. Hall of Davenport, auditor.

On May 26, 1929, the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic dedicated a park on the capitol grounds at Des Moines in memory of the G. A. R. The committee in charge of this project consisted of Lillian Clark Cary, Jennie Beymer, and Ella Edelman. Governor John Hammill presided at the dedicatory ceremonies. Speakers included Colonel C. B. Robbins, John Weir, and Judge J. W. Willett. Many patriotic organizations were represented by delegations. Twelve trees were planted in honor of the memory of Civil War veterans.

The Clarence Walworth Alvord Memorial Commission of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association was organized at the recent meeting of the Association at Vincennes. The Commission plans to raise a revolving fund for the publication of source materials for the history of the West. The Commission is composed

of Solon J. Buck, Minnesota Historical Society, chairman; Arthur C. Cole, Ohio State University; Edward E. Dale, University of Oklahoma; Archibald Henderson, University of North Carolina; Archer B. Hulbert, Colorado College; Louise P. Kellogg, State Historical Society of Wisconsin; Theodore C. Pease, University of Illinois; Dr. Otto L. Schmidt, Illinois State Historical Society; and Benj. F. Shambaugh, State Historical Society of Iowa.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM T. RIGBY

Captain William T. Rigby, resident commissioner of the Vicksburg National Military Park and for years a member of the State Historical Society, died at Vicksburg on May 11, 1929, at the age of eighty-eight years. Captain Rigby was born in Red Oak Grove, Cedar County, Iowa, on November 3, 1841. In 1862 he assisted in enrolling Company B, Twenty-fourth Iowa Infantry and rose through the commissioned grades to the rank of captain in 1863. With his company he engaged in the operations against Vicksburg and Jackson, the Teche and Red River campaigns, and at the battles of Winchester and Cedar Creek in the Shenandoah Valley. At the battle of Winchester he rendered exceptionally meritorious service. Following the Civil War, Captain Rigby entered Cornell College from which he was graduated in 1869. In June, 1870, he married Eva Catron. He engaged in farming until 1895 when he became secretary of the newly formed Vicksburg Military Park Association. It took three years of work before Congress passed an act to establish the park. In 1899 Captain Rigby became one of the commissioners and took up his residence at Vicksburg. Through his untiring efforts the Vicksburg National Military Park has become one of the finest in the nation. In November, 1928, a portrait bust of Captain Rigby, contributed by his friends in recognition of his services as commissioner, was unveiled in the park. He was buried alongside his wife on a slight eminence in the park to which he had devoted over thirty years of service.

CONTRIBUTORS

HERBERT CLARE COOK, Assistant Professor of Government at Iowa State College, Ames. (See THE IOWA JOURNAL OF HISTORY AND POLITICS, April, 1929, p. 336.)

FRED W. LORCH, Assistant Professor of English at Iowa State College, Ames. Born in Germany, October 29, 1893. Received the B. A. degree from Knox College in 1918, and the M. A. degree from the University of Iowa in 1928. On the staff of the Department of English at Iowa State College since 1921.

LOUIS H. RODDIS, Lieutenant Commander, Medical Corps, United States Navy. Born near Cherokee, Iowa, February 16, 1887. Received the M. D. from the University of Minnesota, 1913. Appointed to the Navy from Minnesota the same year. Fellow of the American College of Physicians. Member of Association of Military Surgeons, the Minnesota Historical Society, and the Norwegian American Historical Society. Author of monographs relating to Minnesota history and medical history.

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