

HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

The South Dakota Historical Society has begun the publication of the *South Dakota Historical Review*. The first number was issued in October, 1935.

A large newspaper and archives filing room is being added to the Minnesota Historical Building at St. Paul. The project has been financed under the FERA and WPA.

The Louisiana Historical Society held a monthly meeting at New Orleans on October 22, 1935. Preliminary announcements were made concerning the centenary of the Society, which was organized in 1836.

A meeting of the Missouri Historical Society was held at the Jefferson Memorial on October 25, 1935. The speaker was Cyril Clemens and the subject was "Mark Twain His Centenary". On November 29, 1935, Dr. H. von Schrenk spoke at a meeting on "Trees as Historians".

Plans have been made to celebrate the hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Ordinance of 1787 at Marietta, Ohio, in the summer of 1937. Ex-Governor George White, of Marietta, is chairman of the local committee and Harry E. Schramm is secretary. The plan has received the endorsement of the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society and the Mississippi Valley Historical Association. Among the suggested features of the celebration are a pageant at New York City on July 13, 1937, in honor of the enactment of the Ordinance by Congress, then in session at New York, and a cavalcade of twenty-two men and a Conestoga wagon drawn by oxen to travel from Ipswich, Massachusetts, to Marietta and on through the Northwest Territory. Since the Iowa country was, at various times, attached to territories whose governments were founded on the Ordinance of 1787, this celebration will be of interest in this State.

IOWA

The regular September meeting of the Marshall County Historical Society was held at Marshalltown on September 10, 1935, with the president Albert L. Beane, presiding. A movement to mark historic spots in the county was approved.

The town of Salem celebrated its hundredth anniversary on August 23-25, 1935. Friday was Whittier day and did honor to the students and faculty of Whittier College. A pageant showing the history of the town was presented on Saturday.

The Van Buren County Chapter of the D. A. R. has completed a two-year project in county history. The marriage records of the county from 1837 to 1880 were copied and the gravestone records of all persons buried in the county before July 1, 1880, were tabulated.

Sabula celebrated its centennial on August 2 and 3, 1935. A parade, music, and speeches were features of the program. Among the speakers were Wm. C. Rathke, State Commander of the American Legion, and Mayor George Ulmer. The first settler at Sabula was Isaac Dorman who came there in 1835.

The Pottawattamie Historical Society is developing its museum of which O. J. Pruitt is curator. The additions include a portrait of Grenville M. Dodge, painted by Burleigh Hacker, Indian skeletons, newspapers, pioneer agricultural implements, household furnishings, and other items of historical interest.

An historical pageant depicting the settlement and early history of Lyons was presented on September 20 and 21, 1935. An Indian village, the log cabin home of Elijah Buell, a saw mill, a political rally of 1860, soldiers leaving on a train, an automobile, and World War scenes were included in the pageant.

The Wyoming Historical Society held its annual meeting on August 23, 1935. The subject for the program was "Neighboring Storms and Their Consequences". The following officers were elected for 1936: President, Mrs. S. G. Hutton, of Onawa; First Vice President, Mrs. W. B. Brown; Recording Secretary, Miss

Grizelda Morse; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. A. W. Peck; and Treasurer, Miss Emma Alden.

Dr. Charles R. Keyes, of Mt. Vernon, Iowa Archaeologist, has been employed in locating, surveying, and excavating various mounds and Indian village sites in Iowa and has recommended that several of the sites containing prehistoric mounds and village sites be taken over by the State Conservation Commission to be preserved. Dr. Keyes visited Wapello and Burlington in July, 1935, to look over the prehistoric sites there. On October 22, 1935, he gave a talk to the Pioneer Club of Mt. Vernon, in which he described the work on the mounds under the FERA.

The Jasper County Historical Society held a meeting at Newton on October 18, 1935, to plan for the annual meeting and for the incorporation of the society. John Cross, the acting president, presided. A number of valuable relics and documents have already been turned over to the organization and are on display at the Newton Public Library. The first annual meeting of this society was held on December 2, 1935. John E. Cross was re-elected president and W. S. Johnson was again made secretary. A constitution was also adopted. The Jasper County Historical Society has been supplying some historical articles for the local papers.

Dr. John E. Briggs is continuing his newspaper articles on the history of Iowa for the third consecutive year. This series appears in many of the papers of the State under the title "Exploring the History of Iowa". The first series of six articles is devoted to the weather and includes stories of winters, the flood of 1851, the drought of 1934, tornadoes, and earthquakes. The second series deals with schools and contains the following subjects: the first school, public school beginnings, academies, high schools, pioneer colleges, and State colleges. Series three deals with churches, and the following lessons are presented: the first church, Old Zion Church, the Catholics, the Andover band, the Lutherans, and the Trappist Abbey.

An historical pageant, sponsored by the Fort Dodge Women's

Club, was presented at the fairgrounds at Fort Dodge on August 21, 1935. Among the scenes portrayed were: the coming of the United States dragoons, the coming of early settlers, the military post, pioneer homes, work, and amusements, the wrestling match which was said to have decided the county seat contest, the relief expedition, the Civil War, the coming of the railroad, and a scene from the World War. In connection with this centennial pageant, the Webster County Historical Society issued an invitation to all persons interested in the history of the county to join the Society. The Webster County Historical Society was incorporated in January, 1931. J. L. Hanrahan is the president and Maude Lauderdale is the curator of the historical museum located in the Public Library building.

THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

Mr. William R. Hart, of Iowa City, has been appointed a member of the Board of Curators of the State Historical Society of Iowa, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Dr. W. L. Bywater.

In October, 1935, Dr. Frank S. Smith, of Nevada, Iowa, a member of the State Historical Society of Iowa, donated to the Historical Society's Archaeological Museum a collection of some six hundred objects found on an ancient woodland village site in southwestern Marshall County. The collection includes many potsherds and one entire pottery vessel as well as a number of grooved axes, arrow shaft smoothers of sandstone, flint knives, drills, scrapers, quartz hammerstones, and a large quartzite milling stone. Dr. Smith, with the aid of interested friends, carried on the work of excavating this site for many weeks. The collection is of interest for two reasons: it represents a prehistoric village site and tells many things about the people who lived there; and it indicates a variation from the usual woodland culture types of Iowa which until this time was little known.

The following persons have recently been elected to membership in the Society: Mr. A. E. Harris, Iowa City, Iowa; Miss Hazel Pitts, Shenandoah, Iowa; Mr. Jeremiah J. Ryan, Davenport, Iowa;

Sister Mary Ambrose, Dubuque, Iowa; Mrs. George A. Blake, Charles City, Iowa; Miss Helen Christenson, Peterson, Iowa; Dr. F. R. Holbrook, Des Moines, Iowa; Miss Chrystal Holmes, Iowa City, Iowa; Mr. Everet R. McGrath, Eagle Grove, Iowa; Mrs. W. G. MacMartin, Tama, Iowa; Mr. Charles Frederick Rahn, Underwood, Iowa; Miss Marione Ross, Iowa City, Iowa; Miss Anna M. Schneller, Denison, Iowa; Mrs. Esther Leighton Smith, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Miss Martha M. Stewart, Iowa City, Iowa; Mr. W. H. Tate, Manly, Iowa; Mr. William C. Traylor, Council Bluffs, Iowa; Miss Martha Wangberg, Irene, South Dakota; Miss Charlotte C. Watters, Dubuque, Iowa; Mr. Lester B. Krabill, Washington, Iowa; Dr. J. A. Nye, Ida Grove, Iowa; Mr. Joseph B. Wells, St. Louis, Missouri; Mr. Ross Maxwell, Mount Pleasant, Iowa; Mr. T. M. Nielsen, West Union, Iowa; Miss Mary Powers, Ames, Iowa; and Mr. Harry W. Warren, Des Moines, Iowa. The following persons have been enrolled as life members: Mr. W. E. Mitchell, Council Bluffs, Iowa; Mr. Norman H. Ringstrom, Davenport, Iowa; and Mr. F. O. Block, Davenport, Iowa.