

## HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

In the October, 1936, issue of the *Indiana History Bulletin*, Elizabeth Shute gives an account of a trip over the old trail followed by William Henry Harrison and his army in 1811 on the way to the battle of Tippecanoe. The road has recently been marked by the WPA.

The Missouri Historical Society held a meeting at the Jefferson Memorial at St. Louis, on November 27, 1936. The speaker was Lee Merriwether and the subject was "Merriwether Lewis". A special exhibit of Lewis relics, bequeathed by the late Dr. Merriwether Lewis Anderson, were on display.

The home built by Hercules L. Dousman at Prairie du Chien in 1843 has been restored and presented to the city by the Dousman family. An *Illustrated Handbook of the Historic Home of Hercules L. Dousman* has been prepared by Mrs. E. B. Young of St. Paul, Minnesota, a granddaughter of Mr. Dousman, and her daughter, Mary Blake Young.

The thirty-seventh annual meeting of the Illinois State Historical Society was held at Peoria on May 15 and 16, 1936. It included a luncheon, an historical session, and a dinner on May 15th and a business meeting and luncheon on May 16th. The dinner program included a talk on the State park system by President James A. James and an illustrated address by Robert Kingery on "The State Parks and Illinois History".

### IOWA

The Webster County Historical Society has made plans for public meetings and programs during the year 1936-1937.

The Lions Club of Sioux City is planning to establish an historical museum to care for Indian relics and other historical collections.

The Midwest Antiquarian Association of Dubuque is planning

for a new building to house the Columbia Museum containing the historical, art, and scientific collections of the society.

The one hundredth anniversary of the founding of Monticello was celebrated on October 14 and 15, 1936. An historical pageant and public exhibits of historical relics were features of the celebration.

The Marshall County Historical Society is building a log cabin in Riverview Park at Marshalltown to be used for a museum and meeting place. Among the donors were Fred L. Maytag (\$250) of Newton, whose parents lived in Jefferson Township, Marshall County, and Lacey Grey, who sent his contribution from Brussels, Belgium.

Members of the Jasper County Historical Society, at a meeting held at Newton on September 14, 1936, made plans to preserve the former Emerson Hough home located just west of the Emerson Hough school. John Cross, the president of the Society, was instructed to appoint a committee to investigate the possibilities of preserving the home.

The Union County Historical Society held a called meeting at Creston on August 8, 1936. The regular annual meeting was held at McKinley Park in Creston on September 10, 1936. The following officers were elected for 1937: A. E. Otis, president; C. L. Carter, vice president; Mrs. Frank Seeley, secretary-treasurer; T. G. Hamilton, curator; and W. G. Wilson, historian.

The annual meeting of the Wyoming Historical Society was held at Onslow on August 21, 1936. The subject of discussion was "Early Transportation", including reminiscences of the Iowa Central Airline Railroad and the Midland Railroad. The following officers were chosen for 1936-1937: Frank Tasker, president; Leota Wherry, secretary; and Mrs. Emma Aldon, treasurer.

A pageant entitled "On Wings Of Time" was presented at Tipton on August 12, 1936, by more than 175 persons. It represented the 100 years of Cedar County history. Displays of heirlooms were assembled in Floral Hall. The pageant, directed by Lorna D.

Bates, included the following episodes: Indian days, the coming of the white man, the first school, the first wedding, the founding of Tipton, the regulators, John Brown, the Underground Railroad, the Civil War, the Spanish American War, and the World War.

The series *Exploring the History of Iowa*, prepared by John Ely Briggs for a syndicate of Iowa newspapers, is now in the fourth year. The first unit for 1936 is "Early Forts" and includes Old Fort Madison, Old Fort Armstrong, Fort Crawford, the First Fort Des Moines, Fort Atkinson, Fort Croghan, Fort Sanford, Fort Dodge, and the Second Fort Des Moines. The second unit is "City Beginnings". In this series articles have appeared on Dubuque, Burlington, Iowa City, Des Moines, Sioux City, Davenport, and Council Bluffs.

The Pioneer Settlers' Association of Scott County and its auxiliary held their annual meeting at Davenport on August 26, 1936. William M. Chamberlin delivered an address on "The Pioneer and the Centennial". Dr. Peter Donaldson of Pleasant Valley was chosen president of the Pioneer Settlers' Association, Mrs. Melissa Benford, secretary, Miles Collins, vice president, and Mrs. Sylvia Oysler, assistant secretary. Frank S. Fidler was elected president of the auxiliary, William Chamberlin, vice president, Etta Gabbert, secretary, Mrs. Julia Stroehle, treasurer, and Edna Whitaker, historian.

A conference of about twenty midwest archaeologists was held at Mount Vernon on November 6 and 7, 1936. The meeting was under the sponsorship of Dr. Carl E. Guthe of the University of Michigan and Dr. Charles R. Keyes of Cornell College was the local host. The purpose of the meeting was the comparison and study of the various archaeological collections. The group included Ellison Orr, field supervisor of the Iowa archaeological survey and out of the State men from Illinois, Michigan, Oklahoma, Texas, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Washington, D. C., and Missouri.

A marker commemorating the one hundredth anniversary of Louisa County has been recently placed in a boulder located where the

county government had been initiated a century ago — at the corner of Fort and Main streets in Toolesboro. The project was begun by Robert Seth Curtis who made the suggestion and offered to provide the marker. On October 21, 1936, the marker was presented by Mr. Curtis to the county. A brief talk by Judge Oscar Hale and an address by Dr. Jacob A. Swisher of the State Historical Society staff were also on the program which was followed by an historical pageant.

The old settlers of Johnson County held their annual meeting at Iowa City on September 10, 1936. The chief address was delivered by Dr. Jacob A. Swisher, Research Associate of the State Historical Society of Iowa, who spoke on "The Spirit of the Pioneers". The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: L. O. Leonard, president; George Koser, vice president; O. A. Byington, secretary, and Emma Stover, treasurer. The association decided to appoint a committee to collect and preserve local historical materials and to mark historic sites. The members appointed were W. E. C. Foster, Emma Watkins, and Dr. T. L. Hazard. The first work of this committee was the marking of the site of the first Indian trading station in Pleasant Valley Township, Johnson County. This marker was dedicated on October 23, 1936.

#### THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

Dr. William J. Petersen, Research Associate of the State Historical Society of Iowa, spoke on "Centennials in Iowa History" at the pioneer day speakers' program at Council Bluffs on August 10, 1936.

Dr. Jacob A. Swisher, Research Associate of the State Historical Society, delivered an address on the pioneers at a meeting of the old settlers of Johnson County at Iowa City on September 10, 1936. On October 21st, Dr. Swisher gave an address at the dedication ceremonies of the memorial tablet placed on a boulder on a corner in the town of Toolesboro. On the 23rd of October Dr. Swisher spoke at the dedication of a marker commemorating the first Indian trading station in Johnson County.

The following persons have recently been elected to membership

in the Society: Mrs. John W. Leavitt, Cedar Falls, Iowa; Mrs. William Weber, Iowa City, Iowa; Mr. John D. Alden, Asbury Park, New Jersey; Mr. A. R. Bastian, Chugwater, Wyoming; Mrs. H. W. Clements, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Mrs. Helen H. Fischer, Iowa City, Iowa; Miss Ethel M. Fitzsimons, Iowa City, Iowa; Mrs. Glenn Johnson, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Miss Eleanore Kelley, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Mr. E. E. Kugler, Plymouth, Iowa; Miss Blanche Miller, Parkersburg, Iowa; Mr. C. W. Price, Spirit Lake, Iowa; Mr. Lyle S. Shelmidine, Tacoma, Washington; Miss Cora I. Gund, Marcus, Iowa; President Earl Enyeart Harper, Indianola, Iowa; Mr. Addison Hickman, Iowa City, Iowa; Mr. M. Glen Kirkpatrick, Collingswood, New Jersey; Miss Luella M. Wright, Iowa City, Iowa; Mrs. Walter Bradley, Iowa City, Iowa; Mr. Harry G. Carl, Bennett, Iowa; Mr. F. I. Gardiner, Storm Lake, Iowa; Mr. Vernon C. Hoffman, Walker, Iowa; Mr. Oliver Murray, Davenport, Iowa; and Mr. Raymond J. Schlicher, Shannon City, Iowa.

The following persons have recently been enrolled as life members of the Society: Mr. Wayne G. Cook, Davenport, Iowa; Rev. Patrick N. McDermott, Atlantic, Iowa; Mrs. Frederick W. Weitz, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. Otto F. Hanzlik, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Mr. L. W. Powers, Denison Iowa; Mr. James E. Blythe, Mason City, Iowa; Mrs. James LeCron, Washington, D. C.; and Mr. Ben H. Wilson, Joliet, Illinois.