

HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

The Fourth Annual Meeting of the Southern Historical Association was held at New Orleans on November 3-5, 1938. The Association began the publication of *The Journal of Southern History* in 1935.

The Texas Memorial Museum at Austin was opened to the public on January 15, 1939. The building was financed in part by the sale of Texas Centennial half dollars. In 1935 the State legislature appropriated \$300,000 for the building and \$225,000 for the collection and installation of exhibits, which will include both historical and scientific objects.

The thirty-second annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association will be held at Memphis, Tennessee, on April 20-22, 1939, with headquarters at the Claridge Hotel. William C. Binkley, of Vanderbilt University, is chairman of the program committee. The general subjects to be covered are: North-South Relations in the Mississippi Valley; Materials for Research in the South; Spanish Interests in the Lower Mississippi Valley; The Abolitionist Movement; The Changing Function of the Middle West in American Democracy; Regional Problems within the Great Plains Area; Aspects of American Foreign Policy in the Late Nineteenth Century; and Some Phases of Town Life in the Ante-bellum South.

Mr. Ira C. Oehler of St. Paul was elected president of the Minnesota Historical Society at the annual meeting of the executive council of the Society held on January 16, 1939. Professor Lester B. Shippee of the University of Minnesota and Judge Julius E. Haycraft were chosen vice presidents, Mr. Julian B. Baird Treasurer, and Dr. Theodore C. Blegen secretary and superintendent. Officers are elected every third year. The executive council is made up of thirty persons chosen at the annual meeting of the Society. The program at the meeting included the following pa-

pers and addresses: "Local Historical Activity in Minnesota in 1938", by Bertha L. Heilbron; "Local History Work in Grant County", by William M. Goetzinger; "The WPA and Local History Work in Minnesota", by Mildred Law; "The Writing of Local History", by Edgar B. Wesley; "Some Frontier Institutions", by LeRoy G. Davis; "A Scientist Looks at History", by E. M. Freeman; "Early Observations on Minnesota's Game Animals", by Evadene Burriss Swanson; "The Minnesota Historical Society in 1938", by Theodore C. Blegen; and "The Humanity of the American Indian", by Walter S. Campbell.

IOWA

The Polk County Historical Society was organized on December 17, 1938. E. R. Harlan, formerly Curator of the Historical Department of Iowa, was chosen president. J. E. Howard was elected vice president, I. H. Tomlinson secretary, and H. C. Plummer treasurer. Harvey Ingham was elected honorary president.

A meeting of citizens of Pocahontas County was held at Pocahontas on February 1, 1939, to discuss the organization of a Pocahontas County Historical Society. The group decided to organize and elected the following temporary officers: W. W. Harris, president; Mrs. J. H. Pollock, vice president; A. L. Schultz, secretary; and F. E. Hronek, treasurer. Annual dues were fixed at fifty cents a member.

THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

On March 18, 1939, Dr. Jacob A. Swisher, Research Associate of the State Historical Society of Iowa, presented an illustrated lecture, "Iowa Historic Sites", before the rural teachers of Johnson County, at the courthouse at Iowa City.

Dr. William J. Petersen, Research Associate of the State Historical Society of Iowa, spoke at the Davenport Municipal Art Gallery on January 20, 1939. His subject was: "Cultural Aspirations in Iowa a Century Ago". On February 23rd Dr. Petersen spoke before the Iowa City Philatelic Society on "Iowa Postmarks". "The

Capitals and Capitols of Iowa" was the subject of his address before the University of Iowa Alumni at Centerville on February 27th. On March 20th he spoke on "Centennials in Iowa History" at the fortieth annual conference of the Iowa Daughters of the American Revolution at Des Moines. Dr. Petersen read a paper before the Prairie Club at Des Moines on March 25th, entitled "The Mississippi River Through Many Eyes".

The following persons have recently been elected to membership in the Society: Mr. W. H. Bartley, Iowa City, Iowa; Mr. Robert C. Clark, Ames, Iowa; Mr. Thomas Farrell, Jr., Omaha, Nebraska; Mr. C. F. Flemming, Spirit Lake, Iowa; Mr. Lawrence A. Hard, Iowa City, Iowa; Rev. Anthony Haverkamp, Pella, Iowa; Mr. Brenton B. Henderson, South Pasadena, Calif.; Mr. Chas. H. Korn, Davenport, Iowa; Mr. Henry McSweeny, Westgate, Iowa; Mr. Roy B. Martin, Des Moines, Iowa; Miss Elizabeth A. Moeller, Davenport, Iowa; Mr. Charles S. Rogers, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa; Mr. Gilbert Sanders, Postville, Iowa; Miss Eula Van Meter, Iowa City, Iowa; Mr. John J. Wagner, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Mr. Marion P. Wormhoudt, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Emma Anderson, West Liberty, Iowa; Miss Mary Ann Baker, Davenport, Iowa; Mr. A. E. Carroll, Davenport, Iowa; Miss Esther Eloise Chesire, Chicago, Illinois; Mr. Bartholow V. Crawford, Iowa City, Iowa; Miss Gertrude Hill, Greenfield, Iowa; Mrs. Leslie K. Hull, Waverly, Iowa; Mr. J. J. Monnett, Williamsburg, Iowa; Mr. D. C. Poshusta, McGregor, Iowa; Mr. Oney Fred Sweet, Hollywood, Illinois; Mr. Gray Alan Wilson, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Mr. Charles Carey, Chicago, Illinois; Mr. Wesley T. Carroll, Blencoe, Iowa; Mr. James M. Chamberlin, Davenport, Iowa; Mr. W. W. Harris, Pocahontas, Iowa; Mrs. Esther Beatty Ketchum, Urbana, Illinois; Mr. Clark E. Lovrien, Britt, Iowa; Mr. O. P. Malcolm, Pocahontas, Iowa; Mr. David Middleton, Truro, Iowa; Mrs. Lois Mills, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa; and Mr. Harold Simmers, Eddyville, Iowa.