

NOTES AND COMMENT

Lock and dam, number 12, at Bellevue, Iowa, was dedicated on September 4, 1939. The address, on "Bellevue — A River Town Gem", was delivered by Halleck W. Seaman.

The Southwest Iowa Pioneers' Association held a meeting at Shenandoah on October 6, 1939, with an attendance of more than 500 persons. Vernon Johnson, mayor of Sidney, gave the principal address. Mrs. Mary Watson, 91, was the oldest settler present.

Mrs. Dorothea Tomlinson Marquis has completed three mural paintings for the Mount Pleasant post office. One of these represents a scene in Mount Pleasant in the 1840's, a second represents a farm scene, and the third represents life on the Iowa Wesleyan College campus. The Tomlinson family settled at Denmark more than a hundred years ago.

The cornerstone of the new Buchanan County courthouse was laid on September 20, 1939. A sketch of the county history prepared by R. J. Hekel, Sam Houston, and A. G. W. Blank, was read by R. J. Williamson. Grand Master Homer A. Benjamin of the Iowa Masonic Grand Lodge laid the stone and the address was given by J. L. Cherny of Independence.

A granite monument in honor of Stephen H. Taft, minister, pioneer, philanthropist, and founder of the town of Humboldt and Humboldt College, was dedicated at Taft's Park, Humboldt, on November 10, 1939. The sponsor of this memorial was the Taft Memorial Association, composed of members of the former Unity Church, a Unitarian body. At the dedication, addresses were made by the Reverend H. E. Blough and George Bicknell.

Edward K. Putnam, director of the Davenport Public Museum and administrator of the estate of William C. Putnam much of which was to be used for the benefit of the museum, died at his home in Davenport on May 22, 1939. Mr. Putnam was born in

Davenport on November 17, 1868. Before his connection with the Museum Mr. Putnam did newspaper work and from 1901-1906 was instructor in English at Leland Stanford University.

Dr. John Benjamin Magee was inaugurated as President of Cornell College, Mount Vernon, Iowa, on October 27, 1939. The Honorable Alfred M. Landon delivered an address on "America's Problems Come First" and Dr. Magee's address was on "Quality In A Liberal Arts Education". Addresses following the inauguration included "America Gambles With War", by John T. Flynn; and "An Interpreter, One Among A Thousand", by Dr. Georgia Harkness.

Pioneer settlers of Mills, Pottawattamie, and Fremont counties assembled in Macedonia on September 16, 1939, for the fifty-second annual reunion. Willoughby Dye of Macedonia was president. Adam Gipe, 95, of Strahan, was the oldest resident present. Mike Spitler of Fremont County was elected president for the 1940 celebration which will be held at Sidney. Glen Nichols of Sidney was named secretary and treasurer. The main speaker of the day was Senator M. B. Pitt of Crescent.

The city of Ames celebrated its diamond jubilee on September 27-29, 1939. A parade, window displays, an old settlers' program, a dance, and other amusements were part of the program. On the twenty-seventh, a memorial plaque in honor of Ben Cole was unveiled. On September 28th the new Ames high school building was dedicated, with Governor George A. Wilson as the chief speaker. An American Citizenship program was presented on September 29th, with Frank Miles making the address.

A Conference on Educating for Improved Human Relations was held at Drake University at Des Moines on November 18, 1939. Co-sponsor with Drake University was the National Conference of Christians and Jews. The program included discussion under the direction of Herbert Seamans, with a panel made up of Shelton Beatty, Grinnell College, C. N. Burrows, Simpson College, Indianola, Melvin Gingerich, Washington Junior College, Dr. Herbert Martin, State University of Iowa, R. F. Myers, Thomas Jefferson

High School, Council Bluffs, and Rev. Robert A. Walsh, Dowling College, Des Moines.

The war in Europe has made the distribution of magazines and journals a difficult undertaking. Subscribers to foreign periodicals who fail to receive their copies should report the fact to the American Documentation Institute, Bibliofilm Service, c/o U. S. Department of Agriculture Library, Washington, D. C., giving the name of the periodical, the place of publication, name of publisher, the volume, date, and number of the last issue received, details as to where the subscription was placed, and the name and address of the subscriber.

The Iowa State Teachers Association held its annual convention at Des Moines on November 2-4, 1939. Among the notable speakers were Jan Masaryk, Mrs. Ruth Bryan Owen Rohde, Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, Miss Jessie M. Parker, Miss Ella Enslow, Dr. A. J. Stoddard, and Dr. Thomas H. Briggs. Officers elected for the ensuing year were as follows: A. E. Harrison, county superintendent of schools, Buena Vista County, president; and J. H. Trefz, principal of the Creston High School, vice president. Miss Agnes Samuelson of Des Moines is the executive secretary of the Association and Ernest A. Zelliott of Des Moines is treasurer.

The Methodist Church of Iowa City celebrated its centennial anniversary on November 26-December 3, 1939. The program included: a sermon by the present pastor, Dr. Edwin E. Voigt, on Sunday, November 26th; an all church dinner on the evening of November 28th at which the Reverend Harry D. Henry, a former pastor, spoke on "The Church in a Hundred Years of Service"; an indoor pageant-revue—"A Century of Service", presented by the Ladies Aid on the afternoon of November 29th, a dinner on Friday night, sponsored by the Wesley Foundation, at which representatives of various educational groups spoke, followed by an address by Dr. Nelson P. Horn, President of Baker University, on "The Church Faces Its Educational Opportunity". The celebration closed with a special Sunday School program on December third and a sermon by Bishop J. Ralph Magee of Des Moines on "The Church in the Modern World".

Cyrenus Cole, newspaperman, Congressman, writer of Iowa history, and life member of the State Historical Society of Iowa, died in Washington, D. C., on November 14, 1939. He was born on a farm near Pella, Iowa, on January 13, 1863, the son of Aart and Hendrica de Boeey Cole, who had come to Pella from Holland in 1847. The story of his life he himself told in the volume *I Remember I Remember* published by the State Historical Society in 1936. His career divides into five parts — his boyhood in Marion County and his education in the public schools and at Central University in Pella, 1863–1887; working as a reporter and assistant editor of the *Iowa State Register* at Des Moines, 1887–1898; editing the *Cedar Rapids Republican*, 1898–1921; Representative from the Fifth Iowa District in Congress, 1921–1933; and historical writing during his later years in Washington, 1933–1939.

Mr. Cole enjoyed writing and even as a newspaperman and Congressman he published *A Bit of Holland in America* (1895), *The Two Great Canyons* (1907), *From Four Corners to Washington* (1920), and *From Washington to Four Corners* (1922). Best known and most important of his earlier books was *A History of the People of Iowa*, published by the Torch Press at Cedar Rapids in 1921. After his retirement from office he wrote his autobiography (*I Remember I Remember*). *I Am A Man — The Indian Black Hawk* was published by the State Historical Society in 1938. At the time of his death the Society had ready for printing a third book by Mr. Cole, *Iowa Through the Years*, which is to be the first volume in the *Iowa Centennial Series*.

CONTRIBUTORS

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