

## HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

The twenty-fourth annual Indiana History Conference was held at Indianapolis on December 11 and 12, 1942. Clarence A. Jackson, Director of the State Defense Council, spoke on writing war history.

The Louisiana Historical Society held a monthly meeting at New Orleans on January 26, 1943. The program included symposia on "Louisiana in War 1700-1943" and "Travellers' Tales of Old Louisiana".

The State Historical Society of Wisconsin has recently opened a "pioneer room" as part of the Historical Museum. The first room opened under the new arrangement was the art gallery of Wisconsin portraits.

The Midwest Museums Conference was held at Springfield, Illinois, on October 16 and 17, 1942. A discussion on "Should Special Efforts Be Made to Collect Items Relating to the Present War?" was led by William D. Overman of the Ohio State Museum. Dr. Carl E. Guthe of the University of Michigan was reelected president.

The ninety-sixth annual meeting of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin was held at Madison on October 29, 1942. Elmer Plischke, executive secretary of the War Records Commission of the Wisconsin Council of Defense, made an appeal for the preservation of war records. General Roy F. Farrand talked on "What the War Means to Us".

The Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society has taken charge of the Lillian Bimeler Sturm house at Zoar, Ohio. Mrs. Sturm, one of the members of the Zoar Separatist Society, died in April, 1942, leaving her home, many relics, and \$10,000 to the Archaeological and Historical Society as a memorial to her former

husband, William Bimeler, and herself. The building will be known as the William and Lillian Bimeler Museum.

Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Superintendent of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, was elected president of the American Association for State and Local History at the annual meeting on October 27 and 28, 1942. The vice president selected is Christopher B. Coleman, the secretary Elizabeth B. Drewry, and the treasurer David C. Duniway. At this meeting C. C. Crittenden, the retiring president, spoke on "Our Association and the Future".

On October 25, 1942, a statue of Stevens T. Mason, Michigan's first State Governor, was presented to Mason Hall, Michigan State College, East Lansing. It was the gift of the Michigan Historical Commission and the presentation was made by Chester W. Ellison. Mason was Governor of the Territory of Michigan in 1834 when the Iowa country was attached to Michigan for governmental purposes and Governor Mason welcomed the temporary addition of people who were "intelligent, industrious and enterprising".

The Ohio War History Commission is sponsoring a series of sixteen weekly radio broadcasts on "Ohio in the War" over Station WOSW at Columbus. The first broadcast, presented on February 9th, dramatized the Ohio War History Commission. This was followed by "Ohio and the Army", "Ohio and the Navy", "Ohio and the Air Corps", "Ohio and the Marines", and "Ohio's Women in the War". The transcriptions will be preserved and filed as a part of the official historical archives. The War History Commission is also collecting a file of the *Daily Force*, a newspaper published by the 37th Division made up largely of Ohio troops.

#### IOWA

The Historical and Literary Club of West Union held its sixty-third annual banquet on February 15. The club still has one charter member, Mr. H. P. Hancock.

Because of the scarcity of gasoline and tires the Sac County Historical Society has given notice that no more meetings of the group will be held during the war unless special notice is given.

The Pocahontas County Historical Society held its annual meeting on January 5, 1943, and elected the following officers: Mrs. Matie L. Baily, president; Mrs. Ora Malcolm, vice president; and A. L. Schultz, secretary-treasurer. The date fixed for the next meeting is July 6th, when an old settlers' program will be given.

#### THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

On January 16, 1943, Dr. William J. Petersen, Research Associate of the State Historical Society of Iowa, gave his illustrated lecture on "Steamboating on the Upper Mississippi" to the Caxton Club in Chicago. On February first he showed his kodachrome slides on modern Upper Mississippi towboating to the Iowa City Library Club.

The State Historical Society has recently distributed *Iowa in Times of War*, by Jacob A. Swisher. This timely volume is the sixth in the *Centennial History Series* being published by the Society. In preparation for the writing of Iowa's part in the present World War, the Society now has a collection of approximately one hundred and fifty thousand clippings from Iowa newspapers.

The following persons have recently been elected to membership in the Society: Mr. Charles H. Boothroyd, Chicago, Illinois; Miss Ethel L. Brutsche, Coon Rapids, Iowa; Mrs. John H. Chittum, Wapello, Iowa; Miss Kate Daum, Iowa City, Iowa; Mr. Fred C. Evers, Chicago, Illinois; Mr. Thomas J. Frank, Pleasant Valley, Iowa; Mrs. Alta Hewlett, Rolfe, Iowa; Mr. Ben C. Mueller, Davenport, Iowa; Mr. Ernest H. Noteboom, Selby, South Dakota; Mr. Howard Brayton, Albuquerque, New Mexico; Dr. Leslie L. Carr, West Union, Iowa; Dr. T. L. Eland, Letts, Iowa; and Dr. D. O. Nutting, West Union, Iowa. Mr. Robert P. Adams of North Liberty, Iowa, has been enrolled as a life member of the Society.