

HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

The War Records Commission of the Wisconsin State Council of Defense has issued a guide for those interested in the preservation of county war records. The sixteen-page pamphlet is entitled *War Record Manual*.

The Wisconsin Historical Society featured "Wisconsin, Mother of The Circus" as its display from June 4 to August 2, 1944. "Black Hawk, the Indian" was the subject of the exhibit in August and September. The Society has received a collection of manuscripts, paintings, and photographs from the estate of Zona Gale Breese.

Dr. Julian P. Boyd is preparing a definitive edition of the writings of Thomas Jefferson. An attempt is being made to contact all persons who have manuscripts, documents, and letters written by Mr. Jefferson or communications written to him. When completed, *The Papers of Thomas Jefferson* will be published by Princeton University.

The Missouri Historical Society held its thirty-eighth annual meeting at Columbia on May 4, 1944. The usual dinner was omitted because of war conditions. Officers elected included: Isidor Loeb, president; George Robb Ellison, first vice president; and R. B. Price, treasurer. A report on the work of the Society was given by Floyd C. Shoemaker, secretary and librarian.

The meeting of the Louisiana Historical Society at New Orleans on April 25, 1944, heard Dr. Lionel C. Durel discuss "Creole Civilization in Donaldsville, 1850, according to *Le Vigilant*". The "Opera in New Orleans, an Historical Symposium" was the subject at the meeting on May 23rd, and on June 27th Lt. Dewey A. Somdal presented "Captain T. P. (Push-ma-ta-ha) Leathers and the Great Days of the Mississippi Steamboat".

The Illinois State Historical Library has recently received manu-

script copies of the two addresses delivered at Gettysburg on November 19, 1863, one by Abraham Lincoln and one by Edward Everett. The Lincoln manuscript is the third of the five copies written by Abraham Lincoln. The two documents were purchased with funds amounting to \$60,000 collected by school children of Illinois, aided by a gift from Marshall Field.

The Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society held its annual meeting at the Wigwam, near Reynoldsburg, on June 2, 1944. After the annual reports there was discussion of a proposed "History of Ohio in World War II", which is to be prepared in cooperation with the Ohio War History Commission. The officers of the Society were reelected, including Arthur C. Johnson, president, Freeman T. Eagleson, first vice president, Harlow Lindley, secretary, O. F. Miller, treasurer, and Henry C. Shetrone, director. During the summer of 1944 the Society maintained an Anthony Wayne Memorial Exhibit at its headquarters in Columbus.

The American Association for State and Local History has recently issued a handbook entitled *Historical Societies in the United States and Canada*, compiled and edited by Christopher Crittenden and Doris Godard. The list for Iowa includes the names of thirty-six State and local historical societies. These include the State Historical Society of Iowa, at Iowa City, the State Department of History and Archives, at Des Moines, county historical societies in Adair, Cerro Gordo, Des Moines, Fayette, Hamilton, Howard, Jasper, Linn, Madison, Mahaska, O'Brien, Osceola, Pocahontas, Polk, Pottawattamie, Ringgold, Union, Warren, Webster, Henry, Jefferson, Marion, Marshall, Plymouth, Tama, Wayne, Woodbury, and Worth counties.

IOWA

The Hamilton County Historical Society held one of its regular meetings at the Kendall Young Library at Webster City on August 23, 1944. Reminiscences by Finch Hook, tributes to F. C. Runkle, an introduction to the history of Fremont Township, by H. O. Cutler, and an article on Mrs. Agnes Briggs Olmstead, by Ethel Virtue, were features of the program.

The Ringgold County Historical Society held its eighth annual reunion at Mount Ayr on July 20, 1944. An address on the history of the county and the events covering the century from 1844 to 1944 was presented by H. C. Beard. Announcement was made that the next reunion would be held on July 19, 1945. Officers for the year 1944-1945 are: A. T. Bennett, president; Earl T. Hoover, vice president; Vera F. Dickins, secretary; and Clint D. Allyn, treasurer.

The Grand Lodge of Iowa of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons celebrated the hundredth anniversary of its organization in Iowa at Cedar Rapids on June 12-15, 1944. The program of the centennial banquet, held on June 12th, included greetings from the Grand Lodges of North Carolina, Tennessee, and Missouri — "Masonic Ancestors", and from the Grand Lodges of North Dakota and South Dakota — "Masonic Posterity". The evening address was by E. G. Williams, Past Grand Chaplain.

The Pocahontas County Historical Society, with Mrs. Matie L. Baily as president, sponsored the old settlers picnic held at Pocahontas on August 24, 1944. The program included talks by Congressman F. C. Gilchrist, State Senator A. J. Shaw, Fred Haroley, John Collins, and Chas. Smith. The placing of markers at the site of Old Rolfe and at the site of the first settlement in the county in Lizard Township was discussed and a collection was taken to help pay for the markers.

THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

Dr. William J. Petersen, Research Associate of the State Historical Society of Iowa, gave an address on "Old Times on the Mississippi" before the Pioneer Settlers Descendants of Scott County, at Davenport, on August 30, 1944.

Dr. Ruth A. Gallaher, Associate Editor of the State Historical Society of Iowa, gave an address on "The Significance of a Century of Methodism in Iowa" at the centennial celebration of Grace Methodist Church at Brooklyn, Iowa, on August 13, 1944.

The State Historical Society has recently purchased five rare

volumes — the *Journal of the House of Representatives of the Territory of Wisconsin*, Second Session, November, 1837, and Special Session, June, 1838, and the *Journal of the Council of the Territory of Wisconsin*, First Session, October, 1836, Second Session, November, 1837, and Special Session, June, 1838. Since Iowa was a part of the Territory of Wisconsin during this period these volumes contain valuable Iowa history material. Another acquisition of the Society is a Microfilm Reader, the Recordak Model C.

The following persons have recently been elected to membership in the Society: Mr. Thomas S. Boothroyd, Chicago, Ill.; Mr. William Wesley Boothroyd, Humboldt, Iowa; Mr. John A. Hughes, Ruthven, Iowa; Dr. Robert McGrath, New York City; Mr. J. M. Porter, Des Moines, Iowa; Mrs. H. W. Statler, Keota, Iowa; Mr. Charles H. Swisher, Iowa City, Iowa; Mr. Harlan J. Thoma, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. Wilson L. Abel, Mason City, Iowa; Mr. A. E. Dickeson, Pleasant Valley, Iowa; Dr. D. L. Crissinger, Iowa City, Iowa; Mr. Henry H. Griffiths, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. Burr G. Lichty, Waterloo, Iowa; Mr. Robert O. R. Martin, Iowa City, Iowa; Mrs. O. W. Stevenson, Fayette, Iowa; Mr. Oakley B. Davidson, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. H. T. Lambert, Sioux City, Iowa; Mr. Preston H. Luin, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. Realff Ottesen, Davenport, Iowa; and Miss Hope Sankot, Belle Plaine, Iowa.

The following persons have been enrolled as life members of the Society: Mr. H. R. Bechtel, Davenport, Iowa; Dr. Thomas A. Burcham, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. Walter Condran, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. C. W. Cruikshank, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa; Mr. E. C. Finkbine, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. John S. Gebuhr, Council Bluffs, Iowa; Mr. Remley J. Glass, Mason City, Iowa; Mr. J. M. Gronstal, Tregonor, Iowa; Rev. P. A. Johnson, Grinnell, Iowa; Mr. Philip D. Jordan, Oxford, Ohio; Mr. H. J. Lytle, Davenport, Iowa; Mr. Charles E. Payne, Grinnell, Iowa; Mr. Roswell H. Pickford, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Mr. John W. Rath, Waterloo, Iowa; Mr. Robert P. Redfield, West Lafayette, Ind.; Mr. H. N. Rogers, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. G. D. Rose, Dubuque, Iowa; Mr. D. L. Ross, Council Bluffs, Iowa; Mr. James E. Stronks, Iowa City, Iowa; Dr. P. E. Stuart, Nashua, Iowa; Mr. Otho S. Thomas, Rock Rapids, Iowa;

Mr. Chas. E. Wilson, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. J. Harold Ennis, Mt. Vernon, Iowa; Mr. G. Decker French, Davenport, Iowa; Mr. Clyde L. Herring, Des Moines, Iowa; and Mr. Louis Pelzer, Iowa City, Iowa.