

HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

The Wisconsin Archeological Society has asked the Wisconsin State Planning Board to make a study of the Black Hawk Trail in Wisconsin and then mark the most important points.

On July 4, 1944, the city of Negaunee, Michigan, celebrated the centennial of the discovery of iron ore in that vicinity. A pageant, parade, and exhibit of antiques were features of the program.

"West Florida: The Evolution of a Book on Local History", by Dr. Isaac Joslin Cox, is the subject of the address presented at the monthly meeting of the Louisiana Historical Society at New Orleans on November 28, 1944.

The Nebraska State Historical Society and the Native Sons and Daughters of Nebraska held a joint meeting and dinner at Lincoln on September 30, 1944. The guest speaker was Edward Everett Dale whose topic was "The Social Homesteader".

The Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society has recently moved into "Our House", one of the historic old homes of Gallipolis, which was presented to the State of Ohio through the efforts of Dr. and Mrs. Charles E. Holzer. The presentation occurred on October 16, 1944. Henry W. Cherrington, Dr. Holzer, Arthur C. Johnson, and Dr. Henry C. Shetrone were the speakers.

The Committee on Guide for Study of Local History of The Social Science Research Council has recently issued a handbook entitled *Local History How to Gather It, Write It, and Publish It*, by Donald Dean Parker, revised and edited by Bertha E. Josephson. This handbook is in three parts. Part one, "Gathering Material for Local History", deals with sources of information, including newspapers and periodicals, public records, business records, church records, and cemetery inscriptions. The second part, "Writing Local History", deals first with the technique of gathering and organizing historical material on cards, taking notes on

printed works, manuscripts, and maps. A model outline for a local history is provided. Suggestions are offered as to composition, identification of persons, footnotes, bibliography, and index. Part three, "Publishing Local History", deals first with processes — printing, lithoprinting and planographing, mimeographing, and hectographing. These are described in some detail and the various problems, advantages, and disadvantages are pointed out. There is also a section on the various agencies which may publish local history manuscripts — local historical societies, schools, libraries, newspapers, clubs, churches, and anniversary committees. The book also contains a bibliography of technical works on writing and publishing, lists of articles and pamphlets, source books and guides, genealogies and genealogical aids, local histories, and periodicals. Each editor will, of course, have his own ideas of organization, style, punctuation, etc., but *Local History How to Gather It, Write It, and Publish It* furnishes valuable suggestions, techniques, and references on local history writing.

The Society of American Archivists, the American Association for State and Local History, and the Pennsylvania Historical Association held a joint meeting at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on November 8-11, 1944. The program for the first two days, presented by the Society of American Archivists, included "The Arrangement of State Archives", by Christopher Crittenden; "How Should an Historical Society Make a Disorganized Body of Manuscripts Available to Research Workers", by William G. Roelker; "Some Legal Aspects of Archives", by Margaret C. Norton; and "The Territorial Papers", by Clarence E. Carter. There was also a joint discussion of "Internships for Archives, Libraries and Historical Depositories", by Bertha E. Josephson, Harlow Lindley, and John W. Oliver. Officers elected by the Society of American Archivists were: Margaret C. Norton, president; Christopher Crittenden, vice president; Lester J. Cappon, secretary; Helen Chatfield, treasurer; and Howard Peckham, council member.

The meeting on November 10th was in charge of the American Association for State and Local History. Among the subjects discussed was "Corporation Archives and Local History", by Richard

C. Overton of the Burlington and Quincy Railroad, Herbert Kellar of the McCormick Historical Association, and William D. Overman of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company. Another topic was "Church Record Depositories and State, Local and Regional History", discussed by the Reverend T. H. Spence, Jr., representing the Presbyterian and Reformed Churches, Virgil V. Peterson, State Archives of Colorado, who presented the activities of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, and Thomas F. O'Connor, representing the Roman Catholic Church. The title of the presidential address, by Edward P. Alexander, superintendent of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, was "Getting the Most Out of Local History".

IOWA

The Tama County Historical Society continues to receive additions to its museum. Among these are photographs of servicemen from the county who have died during World War II.

N. F. Reed, clerk of the United States District Court, Southern District of Iowa, has compiled a "History of the Personnel of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa".

The old LeClaire house, built in Davenport in 1833, is now being moved to the grounds of the Davenport Public Museum. It is planned that the house will then be restored to its original condition as nearly as possible.

Judge George A. Johnston was the speaker at the memorial service held at the Beeson Barker marker on September 3, 1944. The marker was erected by 4-H Club members on the site of the first cabin erected in Dodge Township, Lucas County.

The Southwestern Iowa Pioneer Association had its annual meeting at Shenandoah on October 31, 1944. A number of residents and former residents gave reminiscences. The following officers were reelected: E. C. Fishbaugh, president; Fred Fischer, vice president; Mrs. C. L. Hoover, secretary; and Florence Kemp, treasurer.

At a meeting on September 8, 1944, the Wyoming Historical

Society appointed Mrs. S. G. Hutton, Mrs. Nettie Wherry, and Miss Harriet Alden as a standing committee to represent the Society. John Wherry was chosen to supervise the binding of some *Wyoming Journal* volumes, and bound volumes damaged by the flood in June were distributed among members who were to dry them.

THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

Miss Ethyl E. Martin, superintendent of the State Historical Society of Iowa, attended the meeting of the American Association for State and Local History at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on November 8-11, 1944.

Dr. Jacob A. Swisher, Research Associate of the State Historical Society of Iowa, spoke over WSUI on September 26, 1944, on "Religion on the Iowa Frontier". The talk was one in the series in charge of Dr. Marcus Bach on "Little Known Religious Groups". On December 14, 1944, Dr. Swisher gave his illustrated lecture on "Iowa Historical and Beautiful" before the South Prairie Institute at West Liberty.

Dr. William J. Petersen, Research Associate of the State Historical Society of Iowa, gave his illustrated lecture on "Steamboating on the Upper Mississippi: 1823-1944" before the Monticello Parents and Teachers Association on September 27, 1944. On October 20th he gave his illustrated lecture on "Modern Towboating on the Upper Mississippi" before the Masonic Luncheon Club in Iowa City. On November 22nd he spoke before the Iowa City Lions Club on the subject, "The First Thanksgiving in Iowa".

The following persons have recently been elected to membership in the Society: Dr. J. Ryan Beiser, Iowa City, Iowa; Mr. John Fatland, Iowa City, Iowa; Dr. Thos. G. Fultz, Pella, Iowa; Dr. W. B. Keil, Iowa City, Iowa; Dr. Joseph P. Donnelly, St. Louis, Mo.; Mr. Walter H. Fowler, Pella, Iowa; Mrs. Charles N. Housh, Garner, Iowa; Miss Mary E. McPherson, Fairfield, Iowa; Mrs. Mark F. Miller, Britt, Iowa; Mr. James Remley, Anamosa, Iowa; Mr. Fred Schwengel, Davenport, Iowa; Miss Lillian B. Thada,

Fairfield, Iowa; Miss Olive L. Brown, Iowa City, Iowa; Mrs. Harold Ellis, Waterloo, Iowa; Mrs. Josephine Watrous Hazen, Portland, Oregon; Mrs. Bridget Collins Kelleher, Pocahontas, Iowa; Miss Mary Helen Prehm, Iowa City, Iowa; and Mr. W. Howard Smith, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.