

HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

The seventieth annual meeting of the Kansas State Historical Society was held at Topeka on October 16, 1945.

Several cities in Ohio, including Chillicothe, Piqua, and Cleveland, are planning sesquicentennial celebrations in 1946.

Miss Caroline M. McIlvaine, Librarian of the Chicago Historical Society from 1901 to 1926, died in Chicago on November 26, 1945.

The Mississippi Valley Historical Association held its annual meeting at Bloomington, Indiana, on April 18-20, 1946. Paul W. Gates of Cornell University was program chairman.

The Mayo Properties Association of Rochester has authorized a gift of \$25,000 to the Minnesota Historical Society for the purpose of writing a "History of Public Health in Minnesota".

The students of Lakeville High School have organized the first junior historical society in Minnesota under a statewide program sponsored by Dr. Arthur J. Larsen, superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society.

The annual meeting of the Michigan State Historical Society was held at Grand Rapids on October 19 and 20, 1945. A feature of the luncheon meeting was the description and unveiling of a hand-carved panel of white pine, depicting the history of Michigan in eight scenes, the work of Hans Berg, a Grand Rapids furniture designer. Robert H. Larson of Dearborn was elected president and Dr. George N. Fuller of Lansing was reelected secretary-treasurer.

The forty-sixth annual meeting of the Illinois State Historical Society was held at Springfield on October 5 and 6, 1945. The program included an illustrated lecture on "Illinois Architecture", by Rexford Newcomb, a dinner at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel, with an address by Edward Everett Dale on the subject "From

Log Cabin to Sod House", and a trip to the New Salem State Park. At the meeting there, Dr. Edward P. Alexander spoke on "Getting the Most Out of Local History". The five directors whose terms expired at this time were reelected. James G. Randall was elected president by the Directors.

IOWA

The Pocahontas County Historical Society held its annual meeting at the Pocahontas courthouse on January 8, 1946. Mrs. Matie L. Baily was reelected president of the group. Other officers include Mrs. B. Kelleher, vice president, and Mrs. Ambrose Murphy, secretary-treasurer.

A special meeting of the Hamilton County Historical Society was held February 1, 1946. The yearly business session was followed by a program devoted to the story of Hamilton County's service in the Spanish-American war. J. W. Lee, vice president of the society, who served as a captain in that war, was in charge of the program.

The Guthrie County Historical Society held its regular annual business meeting on December 9, 1945. Another meeting was held on January 13, 1946. The program included special musical entertainment and a talk by John King on the route of the California gold rush across the county. Suggestions for a centennial pageant to be presented at the county fair were also discussed.

The mayor of Davenport has appointed a committee to make plans for the celebration of the Iowa Centennial. The chairman of this committee is Ralph Evans of the Tri-City Broadcasting Company and A. C. Boyd, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, has been named secretary of the committee. Plans have not yet been announced. Davenport also has a special committee of the Chamber of Commerce appointed to head a "State of Scott" celebration to be held the third week in June beginning on Sunday, June sixteenth. It will feature Scott County history. Mr. Boyd is chairman of this committee also. The "State of Scott" program was planned in October, 1945, as a "1000 Day" event and will

include various advertising features in addition to the Centennial celebration.

Early in January Governor Robert D. Blue announced the appointment of an Iowa Centennial Committee of twenty-one members. Named to this committee were Ross Burman, Burlington; L. B. Cunningham, Des Moines; J. N. Darling, Des Moines; Ralph Evans, Davenport; Mrs. Myrtle Fellingham, Council Bluffs; John W. Gannaway, Grinnell; Mrs. F. P. Gernand, Volga; Mrs. D. S. Humeston, Albia; Miss Ethyl E. Martin, Iowa City; Lester Milligan, Mason City; J. P. Mullen, Fonda; Miss Jessie M. Parker, Des Moines; William J. Petersen, Iowa City; Mrs. R. B. Pike, Sioux City; Mrs. R. R. Roberts, Britt; Hugo Saggau, Denison; F. E. Sheldon, Mt. Ayr; Homer S. Stephens, Clarinda; Bert Stolpe, Des Moines; E. W. Williams, Manchester; and Ora Williams, Des Moines. The first meeting was held at Des Moines on January 16, 1946. Lester Milligan was named chairman; Hugo Saggau, vice chairman; and Ethyl E. Martin, secretary. Two committees were named. One, with Homer Stephens as chairman, was directed to interview the Interim Committee to secure funds. The second, with Ross Burman as chairman, was to prepare a program. A second meeting was held at Des Moines February 7th. The Interim Committee allocated the sum of \$15,000 to the Centennial Committee for expenses such as executive staff, postage, printing, traveling expenses and advertising. Among the many suggestions presented was one for an Iowa centennial stamp and the Committee approved the suggestion made by Charles Fouts, a high school student in Albia, that Edwin H. Blashfield's painting "Westward" in the Iowa State House be used as the design for the stamp. It was also suggested that the Federal Treasury be requested to issue a centennial half dollar commemorating the admission of Iowa.

THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

Miss Ethyl E. Martin, Superintendent of the State Historical Society of Iowa, gave a talk on "Opportunities for Radio in the Centennial" before a luncheon meeting of the Cedar Rapids Radio Council on January 10, 1946. The Council, which includes repre-

representatives of some thirty-five civic, professional, and religious organizations in Cedar Rapids, is sponsoring short scripts on Iowa history and the Iowa Centennial which are given over WMT.

Dr. William J. Petersen, Research Associate of the State Historical Society of Iowa, was interviewed on the Iowa Centennial over Station WSUI at Iowa City on January 31st. He gave two talks on the Centennial at Ottumwa on February 11th, speaking before five hundred Junior High School students at an afternoon assembly and to the Kiwanians and their wives in the evening. On February 21st he spoke to the Centerville Women's Club on the Iowa Centennial and a week later he gave the same address to 150 members of the Cedar Rapids Junior Chamber of Commerce. On March 1st he spoke to the Junior and Senior High School students at University High in Iowa City on the part schools might play in the Iowa Centennial. On March 11th he spoke to Albia Rotarians and their wives. Dr. Petersen read his "Tall Tales of the Mississippi" at West Liberty before a dinner meeting of the Girl Reserves and their fathers. "Burlington and the Iowa Centennial" was the subject of his address given to the Burlington Rotarians on March 25th.

The following persons have recently been elected to membership in the Society: Mr. Lowell T. Blanchard, Los Angeles, California; Dr. R. H. Cutler, Little Sioux, Iowa; Mr. Charles P. Embree, Moline, Illinois; Mr. C. Sumner McCracken, Richland, Iowa; Mrs. Jennie A. McMartin, Beaman, Iowa; Mr. Frank A. Mallett, Des Moines, Iowa; Mrs. G. H. Stull, Marshalltown, Iowa; Mr. Richard C. White, Waukon, Iowa; Mr. Charles E. Wittenmeyer, Davenport, Iowa; Mr. George E. Brammer, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. L. E. Clark, Iowa City, Iowa; Mrs. Helen M. Conklin, Clear Lake, Iowa; Mr. Harry Flynn, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Mrs. Ruth Beard Fuller, Centerville, Iowa; Mr. Charles B. Harding, Mason City, Iowa; Mr. Wm. B. Lowry, Ottumwa, Iowa; Mr. George F. Sokol, Sibley, Iowa; Mr. Kenneth I. Waughtal, Mason City, Iowa; Mr. Charles B. Bradshaw, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. William J. Bucher, Tipton, Iowa; Mr. Aubrey C. Land, Iowa City, Iowa; Mr. Geo. H. Trede, Durant, Iowa; and Mrs. William M. Vest, Iowa City, Iowa.