

## HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

The trustees of the Missouri Historical Society at St. Louis have announced the appointment of Charles van Ravenswaay as Director.

On April 14th, the Wisconsin Historical Museum presented "From Buckskin to Bobby-Sox", a review of two centuries of costumes in Wisconsin.

Beginning on March 30th the Indiana Historical Society has been giving a quarter-hour radio program each Saturday morning over Station WISH.

The Lake Mills-Aztalan Historical Society has made plans to purchase the Aztalan lands in the vicinity and to restore the prehistoric village which once stood on that site.

Governor Ralph F. Gates of Indiana has named a new War History Commission. Many of the forty-one members served on the former Commission. Herman B. Wells is chairman of the new Commission and John D. Barnhart is secretary.

The annual meeting of the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society was held on April 12, 1946. Raymond F. Fletcher gave an address on "Newspapers and History" and Professor Roy F. Nichols gave the dinner address on "Yesterday and Tomorrow in Ohio". Three trustees were elected.

The fortieth annual meeting of the State Historical Society of Missouri was held at Columbia on April 25, 1946. A collection of the original drawings of cartoons by Daniel R. Fitzpatrick was on display. Speakers at the luncheon were Dr. Isidor Loeb, president of the Society, and Thomas Hart Benton, whose subject was "The Artist Looks at His Public".

Dr. Clifford Lee Lord has been appointed Director of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, succeeding Dr. Edward P. Alex-

ander, who resigned to become Educational Director of Colonial Williamsburg. Dr. Lord comes to Wisconsin from the position of Director of the New York Historical Association. He served as lieutenant-commander in the Navy during the Second World War.

The site of the Angel Mounds near Evansville, Indiana, has been transferred by the Indiana Historical Society to the Indiana Department of Conservation, which will maintain the area as a State memorial. The Society retains the right to continue explorations. The Conservation Department plans to reconstruct an Indian village and establish a museum.

#### IOWA

The Guthrie County Historical Society met on April 14 and May 12, 1946, at Panora. Plans for observance of the State Centennial were discussed at both meetings.

The O'Brien County Historical Society met at Primghar, May 8, 1946. For the program each member told a pioneer incident in the county's history.

The Pocahontas County Historical Society held its regular meeting on April 16, 1946. Plans for observance of the State Centennial were discussed.

Fayette County plans to reorganize the Fayette County Historical Society as part of its centennial observance. The society was originally formed in 1940.

The Jasper County Historical Society sponsored a centennial celebration at Newton on July 4, 1946. A display of historical items was a feature of the program.

A Cass County Centennial Historical Association has been formed by a meeting held at Lewis. Among the activities planned is a Fourth of July celebration and the marking of historic sites.

B. L. Wick gave the address at the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of the Saron Lutheran Church at Cedar Rapids on November 9, 1945, and his address has been published in pamphlet form.

Among the counties announcing the formation of centennial committees are the following: Woodbury County, State Senator A. D. Clem, chairman; Louisa County, E. R. Hicklin, chairman; and Story County, D. E. V. Moody, chairman.

The Mahaska County Historical Society held its annual meeting at Oskaloosa on May 8, 1946. The program included a discussion of the erection of a community center to honor Mahaska County veterans of all wars. Mrs. Cora Martenstein discussed personal reminiscences of pioneer Mahaska County families, and Charles Kent gave a review of the county's history from the ice age to the present time. Officers elected for the coming year include: John C. Bradbury, president, and Mrs. Sarah Kalbach, secretary.

The Tama County Historical Society held its annual meeting at Toledo on April 9, 1946. The following officers were re-elected: Mrs. W. G. MacMartin, president; R. C. Wood, vice president; and Miss Thelma Carmichael, secretary-treasurer. Mrs. Carrie McKinney talked on "Photographs Are Historical", and Charles Pushetonequa spoke on "The Iowa Centennial from an Indian's Viewpoint". The Society will sponsor a series of six contests for prizes to be awarded at the meeting on August 4th. These include: best history of a township; best essay on life in early Tama County; best poem on Iowa or Tama County; best solo or choral number; best instrumental music composition; and best painting of a Tama County scene.

A meeting of the Iowa Centennial Committee was held in the State House at Des Moines on March 26, 1946. Mrs. Edith W. McElroy of Des Moines was named secretary of the Committee. Rodney Q. Selby of the Iowa Development Commission was named by Governor Robert D. Blue as an additional ex-officio member of the Committee. After various reports, the group adjourned to meet again on April 28th and 29th. County community centennial chairmen met with the Committee on the second day. Iowa City was named as the place for the first-day sale of the centennial stamp and Meredith Willson's "Iowa" was selected as the official centennial ballad.

At the meeting of county and community chairmen reports were received on celebrations planned for Davenport, Clinton, Cedar Falls, State Center, Council Bluffs, Newton, and Ottumwa. At the luncheon Governor Blue welcomed the delegates and committee members, and MacKinlay Kantor gave the main address. At the afternoon session various reports were presented. Some ninety of the ninety-nine counties are now organized.

On May 11th, Mrs. McElroy began the distribution of a *Weekly Bulletin* to present centennial news items. One of these is the selection of an Iowa Centennial Seal, copyrighted by John A. Baal. A red border bears the words "Iowa Centennial 1846 1946". Inside is an outline map of Iowa in blue, flanked by a minute scene of industry on one side and agriculture on the other. Across the map is the word "Iowa" with an Iowa flag and the slogan "100 Years of Progress".

#### THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

Dr. Ruth A. Gallaher, Associate Editor of the State Historical Society of Iowa, spoke on "A Century of Iowa History" at the meeting of the Iowa County Federated Women's Clubs at Williamsburg, on April 9, 1946.

Mr. William G. Kerr, a life member of the State Historical Society of Iowa and a member of the Board of Curators from 1922 to 1928, has donated to the Society four scrapbooks of his articles in various Iowa newspapers.

Dr. Jacob A. Swisher, Research Associate of the State Historical Society of Iowa, gave the address at the commencement exercises of the Johnson County rural schools, held at Iowa City on May 28, 1946. His subject was "Iowa, Its Wealth and Culture".

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Benj. F. Shambaugh at Iowa City has been presented to the State University of Iowa by Mrs. Shambaugh as an official guest house. Dr. Shambaugh, for many years Superintendent of the State Historical Society of Iowa, died in 1940.

The following persons have recently been elected to membership in the Society: Mrs. E. L. Baxter, Central City, Iowa; Mr. Robert P. Hogan, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Mr. Dave G. Krauss, Amana, Iowa; Mr. Adam A. Kreuter, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Mrs. Raleigh R. Snyder, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. Roger J. Sullivan, Dubuque, Iowa; Mrs. Donald McDonald, Davenport, Iowa; Mr. Waldemar Argow, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Mr. Arnold J. Boldt, Davenport, Iowa; Mr. L. Call Dickinson, Des Moines, Iowa; Mr. H. P. Field, Decorah, Iowa; Mr. Charles Gilchrist, Davenport, Iowa; and Mr. A. J. Shaw, Pocahontas, Iowa.

Mr. Edward A. Behrens of Fort Madison, Iowa, has been enrolled as a life member of the Society.

Dr. William J. Petersen, Research Associate of the State Historical Society of Iowa, delivered talks on the Iowa Centennial before the Cedar Rapids Coin Club on April 10th, the American Association of University Women at Iowa City on April 27th, a statewide meeting of county Centennial delegates, sponsored by the Iowa Centennial Committee, at Des Moines on April 29th, the Iowa Library Association meeting at Des Moines on May 2nd, the Dubuque Rotary Club on June 11th, the 102nd annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Iowa Masons at Des Moines on June 12th, and the Des Moines Rotary on June 27th. Three high school commencement talks also featured the Iowa Centennial—at Morning Sun on May 16th, at Lisbon on May 22nd, and at Washington on May 28th. Dr. Petersen prepared a 15-minute transcription on "Robert Lucas and the Lucas Home" for broadcast over Station KXEL at Waterloo on April 1st, the anniversary of Lucas's birth. A similar transcription was made on "Iowa City and the Old Stone Capitol" for broadcast on April 8th. On May 27th he gave his illustrated steamboat lecture before the Men's Club of the First Presbyterian Church at Cedar Rapids. He spoke on "Old Man River" before the State meeting of the Iowa Chamber of Commerce secretaries at Davenport on June 7th and gave his "Tall Tales of the Mississippi" before the Cedar Rapids Rotary on June 17th.