

## HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

The new secretary and editor of the Wisconsin Archaeological Society is Kermit Freckmann succeeding Charles E. Brown, who died on February 15, 1946.

Dr. Louis Clark Jones has been appointed Director of the New York State Historical Association, succeeding Dr. Clifford L. Lord, who became Superintendent of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Dr. Jones is also editor of the *Folklore Quarterly*.

The Minnesota Historical Society celebrated its ninety-seventh anniversary on October 20, 1946. During the month it has had a special exhibit depicting the history of milling arranged by the Pillsbury Institute of Flour Milling History.

The Missouri Historical Society held its annual meeting on April 30, 1946, and elected nine members. The board of trustees held its regular meeting on June 5, 1946, and chose the officers for 1946-1947. George H. Moore is president of the Society and William G. B. Carson is secretary.

The trustees of the Rutherford B. Hayes-Lucy Webb Hayes Foundation have announced the appointment of Watt P. Marchman as director of research for the Foundation. The Hayes Memorial Library is located at Fremont, Ohio. Mr. Marchman was, previous to military service, the corresponding secretary and librarian of the Florida Historical Society.

The State Historical Society of Wisconsin celebrated its centennial anniversary in October, 1946. Weekly talks and an exhibition tracing the development of the society, which is two years older than the State of Wisconsin, were features of the celebration. The society has a library of some 700,000 volumes, 766,000 manuscripts, and 34,000 groups of museum materials in history and anthropology.

An organization known as the Dr. William Beaumont Memorial Foundation, Incorporated, is planning a restoration of the Fort Crawford military hospital at Prairie du Chien as a memorial to Dr. William Beaumont, who became famous because of his experiments on digestive processes observed over a period of years. The study took place in the old hospital and the patient was Alexis St. Martin, voyageur for John Jacob Astor.

The Mid-Year Meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association was held in Hotel Pennsylvania, New York City, on December 27-30, 1946. The program included: "Meat for Western Explorers and Immigrants", by Colonel Edwin N. Wentworth; "A Plan for the Study of the Economic and Social Thinking of Business Leaders", by Thomas C. Cochran; and "The Plan Applied to the Burlington Railroad Management in the Late Nineteenth Century", by Donald L. McMurry.

William O. Lynch of Indiana University was appointed temporary editor of *The Mississippi Valley Historical Review* to carry on the editorial work of Louis Pelzer who died on June 28, 1946. The committee appointed to recommend a permanent editor selected Dr. Wendell H. Stephenson, head of the department of history at Tulane University, New Orleans, as Managing Editor and the Executive Committee of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association confirmed the nomination. Dr. Stephenson took over his editorial duties in January, 1947.

The American Association for State and Local History held its annual meeting at Washington, D. C., on October 25-26, 1946. Among the papers and addresses were the following: "Training Historical Society Personnel", by Herbert A. Kellar; "The Historical Society and the Public", by Lt. Col. Frank Monaghan; "Making Missouri History Live", by Floyd C. Shoemaker; "The Historical Museum and the Historical Society", by Carl E. Guthe; "A Leader of the Old Northwest: Hercules Dousman and His Historic Home", by Mrs. F. R. Bigelow; and "Folk Songs of America", by Frank Warner.

## IOWA

The Mount Vernon Historical Society plans to publish a centennial history of Mount Vernon. More than one hundred sponsors are backing the project. Mrs. Mark Hutchinson is chairman of the editorial committee.

The Montgomery County Historical Society has received a bequest of \$500 from the late W. T. Hatswell. The money is to be used in building a fireproof County Historical Center whenever additional funds permit.

The semi-annual meeting of the O'Brien County Historical Society was held at Primghar, on September 4, 1946, with John A. Campbell presiding. Mrs. F. E. Frisbee, chairman of the county centennial committee, gave a report regarding centennial celebrations in the county.

Descendants of Scott County Pioneers met in Davenport on August 28, 1846, for their 90th reunion. Miss Millicent Spencer was elected president of the group and Mrs. E. J. Delarue was named secretary. Dr. Charles E. Snyder spoke on "Davenport in 1846". A tableau, "Iowa 100 Years Ago", was also presented.

The Wyoming Historical Society held its regular annual meeting on August 15, 1946, at the Harriet Alden home. The program included a memorial service for deceased members and an address, "100 Years in Iowa", by Francis E. Shimanek. Officers elected to serve for the coming year include: Mrs. J. W. Morse, president; Mrs. L. M. Koch, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. Henry Bramer, treasurer.

The annual meeting of the Union County Historical Society was held on October 2, 1946, at Creston. The following officers were elected: president, Marshall Camp of Creston; secretary-treasurer, Ella Day; and curator, W. G. Wilson. Miss Day, Union County superintendent of schools, was the speaker of the afternoon, talking on education in Iowa and especially in Union County. The winning essay from the county schools was also read.

Plum Grove, the home built by Robert Lucas at Iowa City in

1844, has been restored and on November 2, 1946, it was dedicated as a State historic shrine. Mr. Frank W. Mattes, chairman of the State Conservation Commission, which carried on the restoration work, made the presentation address and Governor Robert D. Blue gave the acceptance speech. State Senator LeRoy S. Mercer presided at the exercises. The interior of the two-story brick house has been restored with open fireplaces, hand-blocked paper, and Lucas and Kirkwood furniture.

#### THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

"The Iowa Centennial" was the subject of an address given by Dr. Jacob A. Swisher, Research Associate of the State Historical Society of Iowa, before the Kiwanis Club at Davenport, on December 12, 1946.

Miss Ethyl E. Martin, Superintendent of the State Historical Society of Iowa, gave an address on "Iowa — Symbol of the Middle West" at a dinner sponsored by the Des Moines Altrusa Club at Des Moines on October 16, 1946.

Dr. William J. Petersen, Research Associate of the State Historical Society of Iowa, delivered his talk on the Iowa Centennial before the Iowa City Lions Club on October 2, 1946, and the meeting of the Iowa Association of Mutual Insurance Associations at Des Moines on November 19th. He gave his illustrated lecture on "Steamboating on the Upper Mississippi" before the Fayette County Schoolmasters Club at Arlington on October 10th and the 25-year Club of the Maytag Company on November 21st. He spoke on "Masonry and the Iowa Centennial" before a Masonic gathering at Tipton on November 7th and addressed a similar gathering at Wilton Junction on November 26th.

The following persons have recently been elected to membership in the Society: Mr. Warner Armil, Davenport, Iowa; Mr. Walter H. Bonn, Victor, Iowa; Mr. V. C. Darby, Ainsworth, Iowa; Mrs. Carl LeBuhn, Davenport, Iowa; Mr. Robert E. Owen, Humeston, Iowa; Mr. Wade K. Roszell, Vinton, Iowa; Miss Berneice Schneider, Wilton Junction, Iowa; Mr. John H. Shields, Waterloo, Iowa;

Mr. J. S. Winton, Milford, Iowa; Mr. Lorren Bixby, Liscomb, Iowa; Mr. Corwin David Cornell, Iowa City, Iowa; Mr. Irvin F. Duddleson, Oxford, Iowa; Mrs. Robert Leaverton, Granger, Iowa; Mrs. Milo M. Miles, San Diego, Calif.; Miss Hazel A. Veith, Keokuk, Iowa; Miss Esther M. White, Keokuk, Iowa; Miss Ada H. Edwards, Fairfield, Iowa; Mr. Fred Maytag II, Newton, Iowa; Mr. Lewis O. Seaman, Waterloo, Iowa; Mr. Robert L. Werner, Greene, Iowa; and Mr. Robert A. Young, Waterloo, Iowa.

The following persons have been enrolled as life members of the Society: Mrs. Lawrence A. Falvey, Albia, Iowa; Mr. Melvin Gingerich, North Newton, Kan.; Mrs. Lena B. Hecker, La Porte City, Iowa; Mr. Gerhard Ottersberg, Waverly, Iowa; and Mr. John P. Berg, Cedar Falls, Iowa.