

NOTES AND COMMENT

The seventy-fourth birthday of Herbert Hoover was celebrated at West Branch, Iowa, on August 10, 1948, at the restored two-room birthplace of the former president. Mr. Hoover and members of his family joined with some fifteen thousand Iowans in the birthday party.

Dr. William J. Petersen, Superintendent of the State Historical Society, outlined the plans of the Herbert Hoover Birthplace Society for the future development of the site. On the grounds surrounding the house trees from each of the 48 states and from each of Iowa's 99 counties will be planted. The blacksmith shop of Mr. Hoover's father will be restored and plans are being made for a museum, in the pattern of a Quaker meeting house, which will contain relics and memorials of Herbert Hoover's life and services.

Eight Curators of the State Historical Society — S. T. Morrison, L. C. Crawford, L. H. Kornder, H. J. Lytle, Carl Mather, Louella B. Thurston, Fannie B. Hammill, and Helen L. Vanderburg — attended the celebration. Dr. Jacob A. Swisher, Research Associate of the Society, contributed a poem which was sung to the tune of "America the Beautiful." The Society devoted the September issue of *The Palimpsest* to Herbert Hoover and 7,500 copies were reprinted with a special cover.

CONTRIBUTORS

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