

## Special Magazines

Iowa has had four law journals. The pioneer was the *Legal Inquisitor* (1851-1855), of Burlington. In 1865 two justices of the Iowa Supreme Court, George G. Wright and Chester C. Cole, established the Iowa Law School in Des Moines; and two years later the new institution induced Mills and Company, leading publishers of that city, to issue the *Western Jurist* under Cole's editorship. When the law school was moved to the State University at Iowa City, the journal remained behind and was published in Des Moines until 1883, when it was merged with the *American Law Review* (later the *New York Law Review*). At the University, the *Law Bulletin*, a bimonthly, was published 1891-1900. This was revived in 1915 as the quarterly *Iowa Law Bulletin*, which ten years later became the *Iowa Law Review*.

At the risk of too much cataloging, we must at least mention a group of journals designed for city and county officials in Iowa. *Iowa Commonwealth* was issued from Des Moines 1890-1902. *Midland Municipalities* was an excellent monthly published by Paul G. Pierce in Marshalltown as the organ of the League of Iowa Municipalities. Though largely devoted to Iowa affairs, it covered



the whole Midwest after a fashion. Thomas H. Macbride, of Iowa City, and Anson Marston, of Ames, were leading contributors. The journal was begun in 1900; in 1911 it merged with *New York City Hall* — now *American Municipalities*.

Two Des Moines monthlies are *Iowa Sheriff*, begun in 1928, and *Iowa County Officer*, begun in 1933; both are organs of state associations and sent free to their members. The *Iowa Guardsman* reaches about 10,000 members of Iowa's National Guard. A journal with the picturesque name of *Iowa Smoke-Eater* has been published at Onawa for the state's firemen since 1955. The *Iowa Rural Letter-Carrier* was published at Spencer 1930-1941. *Presidio* is the prison paper at Fort Madison; it has some paying subscribers who are at present on the outside.

The first periodical serving the medical profession of the state was the *Iowa Medical Journal* (1853-1869), of Keokuk. The title was revived for a Des Moines monthly in 1895; this later became the present *Journal of the Iowa State Medical Society*. Homeopathy had its journals in the quarterly *North-Western Annalist* (1876-1878), Dubuque; the monthly *Iowa Homeopathic Journal* (1907-1915), Des Moines; and the monthly *Iowa Homeopathic Bulletin* (1925-1928), Des Moines. Still another school of practice had the monthly *Eclectic Medical and Surgical Journal* (1884-1887) in Des Moines.



Iowa has furnished its full share of journals to osteopaths and chiropractors. The *Still College Journal of Osteopathy* (1906-1920), Des Moines, was followed by the *Iowa Osteopathic Bulletin* (1920-1928), Carroll. The *Iowa Osteopathic Physician*, of Des Moines, has been supplied monthly to members of the Iowa Society of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons since 1941. Davenport has two monthly chiropractic journals — the *Chiropractor*, published (1903-1961) by the parent school of the system, the Palmer School of Chiropractic; and the *International Review of Chiropractic*, begun in 1946 and distributed to members of the International Chiropractors' Association. The *Journal of the National Chiropractic Association*, founded in 1930 at Webster City, also has an organizational basis of distribution.

The only dental journal of importance ever published in the state was begun in Des Moines under the title *Tri-State Dental Quarterly* in 1905; it was later a monthly and bore the name *Dentists' Record* when it was discontinued in 1914. The *Iowa Pharmacist* has been the organ of the Iowa Pharmaceutical Association since it began its monthly publication in 1946.

Turning from the professional to the "fraternal" field, we find almost fifty periodicals published, briefly or at length, for the various secret orders that have flourished in Iowa in the last hundred years. We shall mention a few of them.



A notable early Masonic magazine was the *Evergreen*, founded in Dubuque in 1868 as a monthly of 16 quarto pages. Devoted to "Masonic culture, uniformity, and progress," it was edited for two or three years by E. A. Guilbert, P.G.M.; then it came into the hands of T. S. Parvin, in Davenport, who made it a 48-page octavo until he turned it over in 1872 to the *Freemason*, of St. Louis, with which it was merged. The *Square and Compasses* was published at Bonaparte 1872-1880 as an octavo magazine of 36 pages. Later Masonic journals were *Freemason and Fez* (1893-1901), Cedar Rapids monthly; and *Masonic Bulletin* (1908-1918), Des Moines monthly offered at 50 cents a year.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows has been served by ten or more periodicals, commonly short-lived. One of the earliest was the *North-Western Odd-Fellow*, founded in Council Bluffs in 1871 by W. R. Vaughan, who discontinued it when he began his newspaper, the *Council Bluffs Republican*, in 1874. The *Western Patriarch* (1873-1876), of Charles City, was newspaper-size at first, then octavo, then back to folio. The *Odd Fellows' Banner* was a newspaper-style weekly published by Joel B. King at Bloomfield 1874-1877; in 1878 he moved it to Cedar Rapids, where it promptly died. Longest-lived of the I.O. O.F. periodicals in the state is the *Iowa Odd Fellow*, published in Maxwell since 1891.



The versatile H. W. Dodd published monthlies at Fort Madison for both the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias — the latter 1877-1907, under the title *Knight's Sword and Helmet*; and the former in 1885-1890 as the *New Monitor*. Both were newspaper-size papers. The *Knight's Journal* (1890-1900) was a Knights of Pythias monthly in Cedar Rapids. At Dubuque, B. W. Blanchard pointed his *Pythian Spear* at an Iowa audience for nearly a decade, beginning in 1888. It was a good little 40-page octavo selling at \$1 a year. The title was revived for a Des Moines monthly at half the price, 1939-1961. *Pythian Sister Tidings* was published at Maquoketa — 1924-1960.

The *Iowa Workman* (1876-1880) was a newspaper-size semimonthly at Davenport, called in its last year *Iowa and Illinois Workman*. An *Iowa Workman* was published in Mason City in 1883-1889. These periodicals served the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

The *Grand Army Advocate* was begun in Des Moines in 1882 as a monthly of eight folio pages at 75 cents a year. In 1900 it changed title to *Grand Army Advocate and W. R. C. Magazine*; thus as a semimonthly magazine at \$1 a year, it served 7,800 Iowa members of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Women's Relief Corps. But, in spite of a great general's poetic declaration that "old soldiers never die," they do at least stop sub-



scribing for magazines, and the *Advocate* expired in 1918. The *Iowa Legionnaire* has been published monthly in Des Moines since 1921 by the Iowa Department of the American Legion. The quarterly *Service Star* (1922-1943), of Oskaloosa, was published by the Women Relations of Veterans.

The most important collectors' journal ever published in the state is the *Coin Collector*, of Anamosa. Roy C. and Ray L. Lawrence were graduated from the Anamosa High School in 1923 and at once began publishing a little paper for stamp collectors called *Philatelic Press*, a tabloid-size monthly selling for 50 cents a year. The boys attended Coe College and the State University at Iowa City, keeping the paper going, paying all their own expenses and sending money home. In 1946 they changed hobbies from philately to numismatics, adopting the present title for their paper. Circulation boomed, and the *Coin Collector* now has 17,250 subscribers, scattered all over the world, at \$2 a year. Its 24 to 48 pages are crammed with interesting articles and advertising. Roy is editor and Ray advertising manager.

In the field of natural history, we may note the *Iowa Naturalist* (1905-1917), an Iowa City monthly; the *Iowa Ornithologist* (1894-1900), called in its last two years *Western Ornithologist*, a Salem monthly; the quarterly *Iowa Bird-Life*, organ of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union, which is



a continuation of the *Bulletin* of that society, published 1929-1930 at Winthrop. *Bird-Life* was moved from Winthrop to Davenport recently. The *Floral Instructor* (1880-1889) was a little magazine published by the editor of the local newspaper, R. Rennie McGill, at Ainsworth.

Let us close this survey on a lighter (though not precisely hilarious) note. Probably the first humorous paper in Iowa was Hiram A. Reid's *Chip Basket*, published in Davenport in 1857. P. D. Swick published the *Printer's Devil* at Northwood 1873-1875; ten years later we find him putting out *Hawkeye Siftings* (1885-1890) in Des Moines. The latter was clearly an imitation of Alex Sweet's famous *Texas Siftings*; at least its puns are as forced as those in its Texas contemporary, and its wit as dated. The *Iowa Blizzard* (1884-1885) was a Greenfield monthly paper at 40 cents per year. After all, the spells of laughter indicated by the dates of these few papers seem uniformly short.