



Superintendent's Annual Address and Reports 1942

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Photographs / Images: Dr. Hetty K Painter, niece of John Brown; Raymond J Latrom, US Army, Fort Bliss, Texas

Superintendent's Annual Address

ADDISON E. SHELDON

September 26, 1942

Seventy-five years ago March first the reluctant hand of President Andrew Johnson signed the birth certificate of a new child born into the Union of States. He signed it in anger, for a two-thirds congressional majority over his veto forced him to sign. He put a blot on his signature. There the blot stands on the original parchment as I saw it on April 3rd of this year in the Federal Archives Building at Washington. You can see that blot in this full-sized photostat of Nebraska's Birth Certificate, which I brought back with me to find a permanent place in the Nebraska Historical Society Archives.

In the same year that Andrew Johnson signed his blotted signature—on the 29th of July of that year—the three big Nebraska men, David Butler, John Gillespie and Thomas P. Kennard, stood on the front porch of the Captain W. T. Donovan house about seven hundred feet northeast of the bronze tablet on the east face of the present Burlington passenger station. They there proclaimed a new State Capital and called it, not Johnson, but Lincoln. They left the name Johnson for future candidates in Nebraska primary elections.

And on the 26th day of August in that same eventful year, two of these same founders of Nebraska and Lincoln, with thirteen others, set their names to the articles of incorporation of the State Historical and Library Association—the predecessor of our present Nebraska State Historical Society. They gave it a whole block of land in the new City of Lincoln—and in their articles of incorporation they declared the purposes of the Historical and Library Association in these words:

Know all men by these presents: That we whose names are hereto annexed, in consideration of the Public Good, and according with the Statute in such cases made and provided, do hereby certify and declare that we have associated ourselves together for the purpose of establishing a State Historical and Library Association, and have filed a copy of

this first day of March, in
the year of our Lord, one
thousand eight hundred
and six score, and of the
Independence of the United
States of America the —
Ninth first.

A. Andrew Johnson

By the President:

William A. Seward
Secretary of State.

President Andrew Johnson's Signature
to
NEBRASKA'S BIRTH CERTIFICATE
March 1, 1867

this our Articles of Incorporation in the office of the County Clerk of Lancaster County, Nebraska, as required by law.

Article 1st—Said Library is to be held open to the public under such rules as may be adopted by the Association, and shall be located at the Capitol of the State of Nebraska. *Article 2nd*—The amount of capital stock shall be twenty-five thousand dollars, in shares of twenty-five dollars each. *Article 3rd*—The said company or association shall be held liable for a sum not to exceed fifteen thousand dollars. *Article 4th*—Said library shall be composed of good and useful books of ancient and modern history and other miscellaneous literature.

In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names and places of residence, and affixed our seals, at Lincoln, Lancaster County, this 26th day of August A. D. 1867.

NAMES	RESIDENCE
John M. Taggart	Nebraska City
Aug. V. Harvey	Nebraska City
H. S. Jennings	Lincoln
John Gillespie	Omaha
Jas. E. Philpott	Lincoln
Tho. P. Kennard	De Soto
S. B. Galy	Lincoln
J. V. Hollebaugh	Rulo
William J. Abbott	Lincoln
Jacob Dennison	Lincoln
G. B. Hardenburg	Lincoln
H. B. Beebe	Lincoln
Charles Wake	Lincoln
Robert Montieth	Lincoln
J. Cadman	Lincoln

State of Nebraska }
 Lancaster County } ss.

Personally appeared before me S. B. Galey County Clerk of said county the above named parties and acknowledged the above instrument to be their volutary act and deed.

S. B. Galey, County Clerk.

ENDORSED:

Articles of Incorporation—Filed for record Aug. 26th A. D. 1867 at 8 o'clock P.M.—Recorded in small record B. of miscelanous, Page 4—S. B. Galey Clerk by Cropsey Dp. State Hist. Society—

So this year we celebrate not merely the seventy-fifth year of Nebraska Statehood, but also the seventy-fifth year of the Nebraska State Historical Society—the oldest Nebraska State institution.

Today marks the sixty-fifth regular annual meeting of this Society, (reorganized September 26, 1878), under a call signed

by a group of far-sighted pioneers, among them such well known names as these:

Alvin Saunders, A. S. Paddock, Robert Hawke, R. R. Livingston, D. H. Wheeler, E. Lowe, John L. Carson, Silas Garber, Frank Welch, Robert W. Furnas, George L. Miller, J. Sterling Morton, J. C. Lincoln, William Adair, J. L. Edwards, Elam Clark, E. B. Fairfield, C. G. Barton, E. H. Rogers, and Thomas W. Tipton, with a leader, Robert W. Furnas, whose granddaughter speaks to us today.

This meeting announced the objects of the reorganized Historical Society in these words:

1. The general object of this society shall be to encourage historical research and enquiry, spread historical information, especially within the state of Nebraska, and to embrace alike aboriginal and modern history.

2. The particular objects of this society shall be: *First*, The establishment of a library of books and publications appropriate to such an institution, with convenient works of reference, and also a cabinet of antiquities, relics, etc. *Second*, The collection into a safe and permanent depository, of manuscripts, documents, papers and tracts possessing historical value and worthy of preservation. *Third*, To encourage investigation of aboriginal remains, and more particularly to provide for the complete and scientific exploration and survey of such aboriginal monuments as exist within the limits of this state.

The Territorial Pioneers

Companion to the State Historical Society in the early period was the "Nebraska Territorial Pioneers," an inner group of those who could show settlement in Nebraska prior to March 1, 1867. This group was akin to the Grand Army of the Republic, and many of them wore the Grand Army button. Their delight was to tell stories of the pioneer years. They never tired of telling these stories to each other. Each one had his story to tell. It was nearly impossible to choke them off, and many nights we ran past midnight with unsatisfied talkers clamoring for recognition to tell another pioneer story.

The Territorials, as the years went by, met the fate described by the Persian poet, Omar Khayam:

For some we loved, the loveliest and best
That from his Vintage rolling Time has prest,
Have drunk their Cup a Round or two before,
And one by one crept silently to rest.

Then the bars were let down to admit the comers in the later decades, a decade or two at a time. There were still "first settlers" among us, for the period of first settlement beyond the Sand Hills extended down into the nineties.

The Old Man with the Scythe swung through the tall grass of the pioneer meadow with relentless edge. Voices which had never failed to stir the laugh or start the tear were no longer heard at our meetings. The younger generation had never known the personal experiences of "Starving to Death on a Government Claim." The surviving pioneers were fewer. They talked longer and often tried the patience of the meeting.

The Territorial and State Pioneers' Association fell off in membership and finally ceased to meet. Its records, pamphlets, manuscripts and memories are now in possession of the State Historical Society.

The Native Sons and Daughters

It was time for a new adjunct of the Historical Society—one that could attract the younger generation and look to the future while it preserved the past.

Margaret Thompson Sheldon saw the need. Born in Nebraska's early Territorial years herself; her childhood lived on the famous Thompson Ranch in Seward County by the side of the Oregon Trail Cut-off, her memory was rich in recollection of the great motion picture that daily passed her father's door—the bullwhacking freight outfits, emigrant wagons and Overland Stages of that early life so few of us living today have seen. With rare ability and tact she became the founder and leader of the new Society, "Native Sons and Daughters of Nebraska." She prepared its publicity, secured its charter members, became its secretary and moving spirit from its first organization January 16, 1924, to the day of her departure from our councils in the present year.

In her own words, the Native Sons and Daughters of Nebraska were to secure:

"The development of a statewide Nebraska spirit; a just pride in and publicity for Nebraska as a whole; recognition of her great part in the history of the Nation and especially of the West; helping to preserve records of the same; making known

her wonderful resources; and establishing her leadership in the great development of the near future."

For World Freedom and World Peace

Bound together by the ties of common aims and common memories, these two associations—the Nebraska State Historical Society and the Native Sons and Daughters—unite today for a common purpose—World Freedom and World Peace.

These two objectives will be attained by a united patriotic American mind. Such a mind in Nebraska is our chief daily drive. The main arsenal of Nebraska patriotic effort is found in the Historical Society collections. On our museum walls are the flags, the rifles, the emblems, the tools, of the heroes of Nebraska history. In our library is found the inspiring literature of our pioneers and frontiersmen. To our newspaper files and manuscripts every day come the seekers for stirring radio broadcasts and public addresses. No other Nebraska service furnishes such a vast body of patriotic war material.

Our patriotic service goes back and begins with the school children. In every Nebraska School District today the grade children are studying the inspiring stories of Nebraska history, product of the State Historical Society staff.

The State Historical Society did not wait for Pearl Harbor to declare its support of the World War for freedom. On November 28, 1940, its Superintendent gave an address on "The English-Speaking World in the World War," from which is quoted:

"My mind is ready for America to act and decide this war. When the air fleets of the United States can fill the sky of Europe as well as America; when the bombs they can drop are thick enough to level to the dust the grand old historic places of Germany and Italy—then we should join in demand for world peace with freedom. For those nations that refuse there will be but one answer: The English-speaking air fleet in the sky above them; the English-speaking sea fleet on the waters about them."

That was more than a year before Pearl Harbor!

State Historical Buildings



IOWA

Iowa
South Dakota
Wisconsin
Minnesota



SOUTH DAKOTA



WISCONSIN

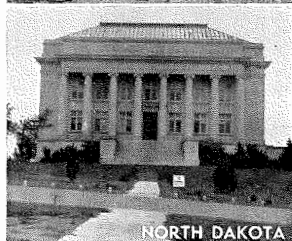


MINNESOTA

Kansas
North Dakota
Colorado
Oklahoma



KANSAS



NORTH DAKOTA



COLORADO



OKLAHOMA

Wanted:

A State Historical Building
in Nebraska to match the
noble Historical Buildings
in our Sister States.

Museum Report

By A. T. HILL

September 23, 1941, to September 21, 1942

Visitors (estimated attendance)	-	-	-	-	251,640
Number registering	-	-	-	-	25,164
Number registering during State Fair Week	-	-	-	-	2,087
Estimated attendance during Fair Week	-	-	-	-	11,478
Number of Museum Accessions, 1941 to 1942: Donors, 84; Items	-	-	-	-	401
Total Number of Cataloged Museum Items	-	-	-	-	18,142

In this period of world-wide war, with something like five thousand soldiers upon Lincoln's streets in the uniform of the United States Army, our Museum has become a place of entertainment and study beyond anything experienced here before. There has been a steady increase in the throngs moving slowly along these aisles ever since the day of the attack upon Pearl Harbor.

The estimated attendance for the past year is 251,640 persons. During four days in August we kept an actual count of men, women and children and found that we had 4,032 visitors. Forty-one per cent of these were soldiers. For the month of September we did not take a count but had some of the largest crowds of the season, and I feel confident that over half of these were men in uniform. I have talked to a great many of these boys who are stationed at the new Lincoln Air Base, and they seem very glad to know there is a place like this Museum which they can visit during their leisure hours. I find that they are very much interested in the old guns and war equipment, and they spend considerable time looking over the exhibits of Indian war material in the archeological rooms. There are many out-of-state callers who come here to visit their relatives at the Air Base. They all seem well pleased and comment on the Museum as being very interesting and instructive.

Our increase in visitors has been very gratifying in view of the fact that it has been more difficult for them to gain admission. In past years we were able to have the west door of the Capitol open on Sunday afternoons and holidays and many visitors came in through that entrance. But since the first of the year

the west door has been locked on those days, thus making it necessary for the public to come in at the north entrance and down the stairs or elevators from the second floor.

Our constant aim is to make the Museum attractive and educational for civilians and soldiers alike. We have completely rearranged the displays and have added many new ones during the past year, but due to the fact that we have had no WPA help for the last nine months it is difficult to handle our problem. For the last few years we have always had three WPA helpers in the Museum and they carried on the routine display work and did most of the janitor work. Now we have only one full-time Museum employee, Mr. William A. Gleason, who does some of the display work along with the janitor work. The bookkeeper, Mrs. Bernice Hermonie, assists in the Museum, catalogues the articles which are donated and also makes cards for the displays.

However, even with the limited amount of help we did succeed in improving our Museum during the last twelve months, and are glad to report that many of our old guns which have been in storage have now been placed on exhibit. We have completed one gun case which seems to attract a great deal of attention, as most of the soldiers and civilians are well acquainted with the history of the guns. This case contains a gun once used by Buffalo Bill (William Cody), another used by Wild Bill (James B. Hickok), and others used by Sitting Bull (Sioux Warrior and Medicine-Man), Major Frank North (Commander of the Pawnee Indian Scouts), and old Jules Sandoz (father of Mari Sandoz, author of the book "Old Jules").

Another exhibit of twelve guns shows old flintlock muskets which were used in the Revolutionary War; caplock muskets used in the Civil War; and breech-loading guns of the Spanish-American War and World War I. Still another new exhibit includes approximately one hundred guns, revolvers and pistols in addition to the collection of several hundred shells, hand grenades, cannonballs, gas-masks, helmets and other war equipment from the first World War.

Six new cases were built in which to show soldiers' uniforms of the Civil War, Indian Wars and World War I, along with the two nurses' uniforms of the first World War.

We also brought out many old sword belts, knife scabbards

and money belts which were used in the early days and always arouse the interest of the public.

A great many visitors, particularly the soldiers, are very much interested in the exhibit we made of the material which has been found at the site of Old Fort Atkinson, first fort built in Nebraska. This fort was established in 1819 on the west side of the Missouri River, sixteen miles north of Omaha.

The case containing the old country doctor's medicine kits and instruments has been rearranged and quite a number of visitors seem interested in these relics.

Nearly all of our visitors stop to admire and comment on the beautiful shawls and fans which Mr. Dalbey presented to the Museum from his wife's collection. Mr. Dalbey states that three of these shawls were used by the de la Guerra family and that they brought them to California from Spain many, many years ago. Two of the lovely fans came from France, one from Spain, and the other from Italy.

The wonderful topographical map of Gettysburg Battlefield, obtained by Dr. Sheldon, attracts great attention from the soldiers.

There is an attractive exhibit of 113 wooden articles made by Governor Robert W. Furnas. A number of old hemp hackles which were used for combing hemp years ago have been placed in the pioneer section of the Museum, and it is possible that many of our elder visitors recall when these relics were used.

A flag, which was one of the forty-eight sent to the United States in 1931 in appreciation for the food, medical supplies and help that America sent to Greece at the end of the Grecian-Turkish War when Greece was defeated and helpless, has just been presented to our Society by Mr. Peter H. Kosmos, president of the Lincoln Chapter, Order of Ahepa, and placed on display in the flag case.

The case containing old clocks, watches, watch-fobs and medals has been rearranged and some that were in storage have been brought out and help make the display more interesting. Also a display of eye-glasses, hat-pins and other jewelry has been added to the exhibit.

Forty-six old-style shoes have been displayed. Some are made of leather and others are made of cloth and wood.

The Charles A. Tucker Collection of men's and women's fine old hats has been rearranged along with the exhibits of ladies' and children's clothing, which we have been able to display to better advantage on the used dress forms donated by Gold and Company.

We have rearranged some of the cases and displays in our Indian section of the Museum and find that many people are quite interested in these exhibits, especially the war equipment, as they like to compare the Indian war equipment with that of ours today.

Several nice pieces of Indian bead work have been added to our Museum by the donations of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Twamley; and also a South Sea collection from the Samoan Islands, which was given to them by the late Rear Admiral Paul Dungan, a native of Hastings, Nebraska.

In order to keep our Museum up-to-date and well arranged, each year at my own expense I try to visit and inspect some of the leading Museums in other states. During the last year I have had the opportunity to visit the following:

The Ford Museum, Detroit, Michigan
University of Michigan Museum, Ann Arbor, Michigan
Fort Ancient Museum, Fort Ancient, Ohio
The Field Museum, Chicago, Illinois
Los Angeles Museum, Los Angeles, California
The Southwest Museum, Los Angeles California

I found that the Southwest Museum had discarded all of the historical material and had established an archeological museum.

In conclusion I wish to state that we are continually rearranging our Museum so that it will be more educational and entertaining to our many visitors. I also wish to take this opportunity to thank the Historical Society Members, the Board Members and Dr. Sheldon for their loyal support of my efforts to maintain the Museum and archeological work.

Newspaper Department

Report of MARTHA M. TURNER, Librarian

For the year September 1, 1941, to August 1, 1942

Newspapers Now Received Regularly

Weeklies, Semi-Weeklies or Monthlies	393
Dailies	25
Foreign (Out of State)	14
Total	432

New Publications

Nebraska Selector, Lincoln, began publication (mimeographed) April 1941, with Commander P. H. Quimby, editor. The editor makes this statement: "The purpose of the *Selector* Service is to distribute the manpower of the nation into such groups as will best serve the war effort of the nation."

Sutton News began publication May 14, 1942, which date is of Vol. 1, No. 1.

Newspapers Discontinued

Weeping Water Republican	About October 10, 1941
Monroe News	June 25, 1942
Du Bois Paper, Du Bois	June 4, 1942
Stockman, Wood Lake	December, 1941
Brady Vindicator	October 30, 1941
Weekly Wymorean, Wymore	About March 12, 1942
Page Reporter	June 11, 1942
(The subscription was purchased by the Holt County Independent, O'Neill)	
Coryell Courier, Lincoln	December, 1941
(Discontinued for duration of the war)	
Royal Highlander, Lincoln	March, 1942
(Discontinued to cooperate with the government war plans)	
Hershey Citizen	April 30, 1942
(Merged with the Sutherland Courier)	
Dixon Journal	About May 29, 1942
Potter Review	About May 15, 1942
Hastings Spot Light	March 28, 1942
(The subscription was sold to the Hastings Daily Tribune)	
Kearney Daily News	December 27, 1941
Reclamation Era, Washington, D. C.	
(Discontinued for the duration)	

Changes

The Homer Star was discontinued at Homer and its publisher, Mrs. H. N. Wagner, moved the plant to South Sioux City, where the paper is published as the *Dakota County Star*. The removal took place July 9, 1942.

The Grand Island Herald changed from weekly to daily publication with the issue for May 12, 1942.

The Fremont Tribune was purchased on July 3, 1941, by the publishers of the *Fremont Morning Guide*. The *Tribune* was converted to tabloid size and published as such in a separate paper until July 27, 1942, when the papers were combined under the heading *Fremont Guide and Tribune* and printed in regular newspaper size. The *Tribune* had been issued as a tabloid since June 15. The *Guide* had been a tabloid since its start. At the combination date the *Tribune* was Volume 75, No. 62, and the *Guide* was Volume 9, No. 260. The *Fremont Guide and Tribune* began its new issue carrying the *Tribune* record of Volume 75, No. 63.

Number of People Using Newspapers in Historical Society Basement Library

September 4, 1941, to July 20, 1942

September	1941	156
October	1941	166
November	1941	141
December	1941	98
January	1942	132
February	1942	111
March	1942	30
April	1942	27
May	1942	40
June	1942	58
July (20)	1942	49
Total number of visitors - -		1,008

Newspapers Used in Historical Society Basement Library

September 4, 1941 to July 20, 1942

September	1941	110
October	1941	241
November	1941	199
December	1941	246
January	1942	215
February	1942	180
March	1942	88
April	1942	76

May	1942	98
June	1942	144
July (20)	1942	120
Total of newspapers used		1,717

Records were not kept during the year beginning September 4, 1941, as to the number of calls from the public using local or territorial newspapers, which are filed in Room 1021 of the State House. This librarian was given no assistant in the department and it became a physical problem to systematically check and care for the routine demands. However, the requests for service would equal or surpass those of the previous year, the total of which is:

Newspapers Used

Six months' average 2,803

People Using Current and Territorial Papers in Room 1021

Estimated average for six months 410

In making above estimate the librarian calls attention to the fact that persons from various departments in the State House come to this department frequently to "check up" on items appearing in Nebraska newspapers, possibly for political or record use. This service is growing as the employees become acquainted with the library. It is a question in the mind of this librarian whether this is being square with the publishers—and also because of the fact that every time a newspaper is exposed to the air and light before it is properly bound, that paper deteriorates. Publishers are on our exchange list with the promise that their publication is received here to be preserved for future years. The paper is not supposed to be handled by persons for current reading—which naturally reduces chances of the publisher to increase his subscription list.

During the period from September 1, 1941, to July 15, 1942, Mr. Samuel McCoy with one assistant has bound 1,266 newspaper books. A good proportion of these were files of papers in our library to be rebound, and many were needing much repair work which was done by Mr. McCoy.

Gifts Received

J. Hyde Sweet, Nebraska City: Twenty-eight volumes of bound newspapers, as follows: *Daily Nebraska Press*, *Nebraska City News* (daily and weekly), *The Weekly News*, *Nebraska City News*, and *Nebraska City Daily News*.

Many of these volumes needed repair and have now been bound into fifty-six books—more convenient to handle than the originals.

Major C. W. Allen, Hot Springs, South Dakota: Complete file of *The Chadron Democrat*. The first issue was published August 27, 1885; the file ends with the issue of August 13, 1891. These books also were rebound by our department.

Rev. F. A. High, University Place: Copies of *The Evanston Press* (Illinois) under date February 26, 1898, and containing notices of the death of Frances E. Willard.

Amzi A. Hadden, Lincoln: Copies of the "*New Jersey Elizabeth-Town Journal and Gazette*" issued April 3, 1821; also of the *Free South*, published at Beaufort, South Carolina, under date March 19, 1864.

Mrs. Carl Powell: Files of *The Cody Round-Up*, almost complete 1936 to 1941.

Newspaper Collections

Report by ADDISON E. SHELDON

The Historical Society newspaper collections are by far the largest in the State of Nebraska. In many cases they constitute the only existing Nebraska newspaper files. They are chiefly located in the basement of the State Capitol, directly underneath the Historical Museum and Library on the first floor. Elsewhere, in the report of Miss Martha M. Turner, Newspaper Librarian, the general statistics of these collections are given.

The Federal Work Projects Administration, in cooperation with the State Historical Society and its superintendent, has made it possible to keep open to the public this vast newspaper library of bound volumes, including daily files of Omaha, Lincoln and other cities and the county weekly newspapers. Without the assistance of the Federal Government, through its WPA workers, it would have been impossible during the past year to police and give the general public access to this collection of Nebraska newspapers, the chief research material of Nebraska history. Especial use of war service material has thus been given to Defense Projects

Two persons have been assigned continuously to this work for the last year. Mr. William Everett has been in charge of the bound volumes of the Omaha and Lincoln dailies. Mrs. Edna Douglas was in charge of the weekly papers until her resignation August 1, 1942, when Mrs. Sophie Page became custodian and caretaker.

The following list shows the summary of Mr. Everett's daily record of the number of persons using the papers in his charge and the number of volumes used:

		Persons	Volumes
1941	October	96	216
	November	83	145
	December	95	327
1942	January	118	84
	February	265	501
	March	27	112
	April	31	70
	May	77	242
	June	71	177
	July	40	52
	August	61	83
Total		964	2,009

Photograph Department

Report of MARTHA M. TURNER, Librarian

September 1, 1941, to August 1, 1942

Photos and Negatives on file	- - - - -	45,281
Photos and Negatives which were indexed and filed from September, 1941, to August 1, 1942 (included in the number above)	- - - - -	719
Photos and Negatives now stored in boxes ready to be indexed and filed, not included in above report, estimated at	- - - - -	500
Photos loaned to people wishing to use them for publication, publicity, or study problems— October 1, 1941, to August 1, 1942	- - - - -	606

During the past year the librarian has had no regular assistant with the exception of one hour's service each day by Mrs. Edna Douglas, who used that time in keeping the photos in order, but could devote no time to filing the larger accumulation of pictures. The one hour a day was not sufficient to begin a big job of filing—such as the large number of photos in the N. P. Dodge collection of George Simon drawings, reported in this librarian's record of last year. There are hundreds of cards in the cross-index system to be made for so large a number as in the Dodge collection. A librarian cannot start a job of that sort without time sufficient to keep at it continuously until finished. The photos must simply be set aside until the work can be done properly.

I regret to report the loss of twenty-four photos sent on May 15, 1941, to the Work Projects Administration, Washington, D. C. At this date Mr. Rudolph Umland of the State Writers' Project procured from this department twenty-four photographs which were selected as a group to illustrate a book on "A History of Grazing" to be published. Mr Umland later reported that he could get no answer from the Washington office handling that subject; that the department evidently knew nothing of what had become of the material collected. The Nebraska State Writers' Project was also discontinued at about this date.

This librarian has previously suggested that this department should exact pay for each photo loaned—the money to be refunded when the property is returned, provided no damage is done to the photo.

May I add that I believe the photograph collection in this library is perhaps the best in the United States as regards pictures available to the public, organized, indexed and protected in folders, concerning local history. I frequently hear this remark from visitors from other states who are seeking local cultural subjects. Personally I know of no other state keeping a collection comparable to that of this library, and I have sought for such information.



**Dr. Hetty K. Painter,
Niece of John Brown**
(with her daughter)

SHORTLY before the Civil War, when living in Kansas, Mrs. Painter saw her husband dragged from his bed and murdered before her eyes. This probably was the work of Jayhawkers, who also set fire to the house. Mrs. Painter and her adopted daughter, (above) escaped in their night clothing.

As a spy, as a nurse and as a doctor, Mrs. Painter rendered valiant service throughout the war. This picture shows her in the role of spy for the Union cause. At the time she was forty years of age; but by removing all her teeth, with an old pipe in her mouth and wearing this cap and glasses and patched dresses, she appeared quite aged.

The small photograph here reproduced is one from Dr. Painter's own collection, given to the Historical Society by Mrs. Guy M. Jackson of Lincoln who lives at 1300 South Twenty-third Street. Mrs. Jackson's mother and Dr. Painter were very dear friends.

Gifts Received

Mrs. R. L. Cochran, Lincoln: Several photograph collections, among them being ten interior views of the Governor's Mansion.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy M. Jackson, Lincoln: Forty-two original photographs of the Civil War period which had been collected by Dr. Hetty K. Painter, who served not only as doctor but as nurse during that war.

Horace M. Davis, Lincoln: Twenty-six photographs of Nebraska newspaper publishers.

The Association of American Railroads, Washington, D. C.: A set of fifty-six prints which, together with corresponding booklets issued in 1942, form a complete study of transportation in the United States.

Nebraska State Historical Society

WPA Defense Library Project No. 7455

(In the absence of Mr. Raymond J. Latrom, who put on the uniform of a soldier in the United States Army July 14, 1942, the work of preparing this report has been done by Miss Ruth S. Watson and Miss Myrtle D. Berry, who have been in charge of this field since Mr. Latrom's departure.—Editor.)

The Work Projects Administration in cooperation with the Nebraska State Historical Society continued the work of the Defense Library Project to July 15, 1942. An average of fifteen persons was employed in the different phases of the work which were started at the beginning of this project in July, 1941.

General assistance was rendered the public in the use of newspapers, books, and scrapbooks and manuscripts. Old newspapers were bound and books and pamphlets bound and rebound. Indexing **Nebraska History** magazine was continued and an index of ten county histories of Nebraska was made. The cataloging of the books and pamphlets of the Society proceeded satisfactorily, making many books available in the reference library.

The staff engaged in sorting and mounting newspaper clippings carried forward the work on the county scrapbooks, so that now scrapbooks are completed for each of the ninety-three counties of Nebraska—the Douglas and Lancaster County books being finished this year. In addition to the county scrapbooks, books have been completed on prominent Nebraskans and general statewide topics, as well as the alphabetical files of obituaries of Nebraskans.

In library reference and research, an outstanding defense service was rendered in the assistance given many persons seeking to ob-

tain birth certificates whose birth is not recorded in the Division of Vital Statistics. The project workers at the State Historical Society have searched the newspaper files, the Voters' Registers and county histories for this information, and have furnished many records of value to such persons.

Other war service activities have included the furnishing of information and records to aid the State Defense Committee in setting up its organization. At that time the original minutes and reports of the State Council of Defense of 1917-1918 in the Historical Society's files were extensively used. A number of other pieces of research were completed for the use of the Committee and general war information service given to the public.

Besides the research related directly to defense, a large volume of general historical research has been completed in answer to requests from the public. The following list is illustrative of the work done in this field:

- "Beauvais Ranch—Location and History." 3 pp.
- "Building Stone in Nebraska." 2 pp.
- "De Soto, Nebraska." 3 pp.
- "First White Child Born in Nebraska." 6 pp.
- "History of Nebraska Society, Home for the Friendless." 6 pp.
- "Lincoln City Directories—Their History and Use." 29 pp.
- "Knox County: Some Historic Sites." 3 pp.
- "Missouri River—History and Navigation—Bibliographies." 15 pp.
- "Nebraska State Archives." 3 pp.
- "Notable Women of Nebraska." 12 sketches.
- "Oregon Trail—Its Development as a National Highway." 5 pp.
- "Rubber—Development of Commercial Plantations." 5 pp.
- "Sappa Creek Indian Raid in Kansas, 1878." 3 pp.
- "William J. Bryan—A Symposium of Newspaper Comment on Selected Speeches." 6 pp.

An interesting feature of the year's work in the library reference and research division has been a number of requests for material for use in preparing articles, theses and novels. Among the more noted writers represented may be mentioned Bess Streeter Aldrich, J. Frank Dobie and W. S. Campbell. The latter is better known by his pen name Stanley Vestal. Mrs. Aldrich received material about Fort Berthold and the early fur trade on the upper Missouri. Mr. Dobie wished ranch life reminiscences and experiences, and Mr. Campbell sought data on the history of the Missouri River. All three desired the material for use in their forthcoming books.

Accomplishment Report

September 16, 1941 — June 30, 1942

	Unit	Completed
Books Checked in and out - - - - -	each	6,545
Books Shelved - - - - -	each	47,315
Books Accessioned - - - - -	each	159
Books Labeled - - - - -	each	3,170
Books Cataloged - - - - -	each	2,003
Books Classified - - - - -	each	2,973
Books Recased - - - - -	each	1,118
Catalog Cards Typed - - - - -	each	4,011
Reference Questions Searched - - - - -	each	1,639
Reference Material Typed - - - - -	sheet	2,816
NEBRASKA HISTORY Index Cards Made - - - - -	each	3,347
County History Index Cards - - - - -	each	18,936
Newspaper Clippings Sorted - - - - -	each	59,644
Newspaper Clippings Mounted - - - - -	each	30,247
Scrapbook Pages Added - - - - -	each	23,366
Newspaper Volumes Bound - - - - -	each	1,620
Newspaper Volumes Checked Out - - - - -	each	9,306
Newspaper Volumes Shelved - - - - -	each	14,874
Newspaper Volumes Labeled - - - - -	each	4,162

Nebraska State Historical Society

WPA Statewide Consolidated War Program Project

On July 14, 1942, the Defense Library Project was terminated and on the following day the fifteen WPA workers of the State Historical Society who had been employed on this project began work as a unit of the WPA Statewide Consolidated War Program Project assembling material on War Information and making it available for public use. This program is sponsored by Dwight Griswold, Governor of Nebraska, and Walter F. Roberts, Secretary-Coordinator of the Advisory Defense Committee.

Posters of World War II are being collected and indexed and will supplement the Society's collection of posters of World War I which includes Dr. Sheldon's large collection secured in Europe during that war. Pamphlets and books on the war and all related activities are being secured, bound when necessary, cataloged and placed in the Society's rooms for the use of the public. A part of the workers are engaged in research on war information in answer to requests re-

ceived by the Society, while others assist visitors to secure this information themselves.

The mounting of newspaper clippings is continued but is limited to clippings pertaining to the war, organizations engaged in war work, defense industries or any related phase of war information. Current papers are being clipped and also those of earlier date to secure clippings from the time of the United States' first steps toward preparation for defense to the present moment.

One important part of this work is the clipping of all references that appear in the papers to any Nebraskan in the service. These clippings are arranged alphabetically upon 8 x 10 mounting cards, with a card for each individual Nebraskan. As further clippings are made they are added, so that each card will represent the Nebraskan's history of service as it has been found and clipped from the newspapers. This involves a great deal of cross-indexing, as many references occur in long lists of individuals from which data must be typed to add to each card. Already some clippings have been mounted for each letter of the alphabet, making a file of 1,273 cards to which each day are added new individual cards and additional clippings on cards already prepared.

Accomplishment Report

July 15, 1942 - September 15, 1942

War Posters and Photographs Accessioned	635
War Posters and Photographs Indexed	210
War Information Clippings Clipped	4,617
War Information Clippings Sorted	7,664
War Information Clippings Mounted	4,663
Pamphlets and Books Bound	456
Pamphlets and Books Cataloged	575
Reference Questions Searched	159
Reference Material Typed	873



RAYMOND J. LATROM

In U. S. Army, Fort Bliss, Texas

After eight years of service with this Society as director of various WPA projects, Mr. Latrom was called into the service of his country on July 14, 1942, and assigned to a post at Camp Robinson, Arkansas. In September he was transferred to Fort Bliss in Texas, three miles from El Paso—Spanish in the architecture of its splendid public buildings as well as in its name. There he is an assistant in the Headquarters Office of Coast Artillery, likely to go overseas. The few hours of leisure a soldier enjoys may be spent among the 700 acres of parks (one being dedicated to soldiers of the World War), or riding along the superb scenic highway of Mount Franklin against a background of mighty mountain ranges.

The American Imprints Inventory in Nebraska

BY R. HAROLD MARKS, SUPERVISOR

This, a WPA project, was created to locate and describe known issues of the early American printing presses in the several states and regions of this country. The purpose was, in part, to make available to historians a useful and highly elusive class of source materials, and also to learn more of the activities of the early printers who played such an important part in the settlement and growth of the frontier. Books, pamphlets and broadsides (single sheets and leaflets), if printed before certain dates for each region, were catalogued, and a number of mimeographed check-lists were issued describing these before the war program forced termination of the project.

The Inventory was begun in Nebraska in June, 1938, sponsored by the State Historical Society and supervised by R. Harold Marks. In March, 1941, due to near-completion of field phases and reduction of personnel, the project was merged into the Nebraska Historical Records Survey project, supervised by Frank J. Stanosheck, with Mr. Marks continuing to supervise the Imprints unit. In June, 1941, the complete national file of Nebraska early imprints title slips was received, and the editing of these for publication in check-list form was begun by the editorial office.

Typed drafts of two related publications, one covering territorial and state documents of Nebraska through 1876 and the other including non-documentary titles for the same period, were prepared early this year. Of these only the latter could be published before the termination of the Historical Records Survey, it being mimeographed and distributed to many libraries under the title of *A Check List of Nebraska Non-Documentary Imprints, 1847-1876*. The documentary volume exists in rough draft form only, copies being distributed at your Society's quarters and the Library of Congress. In addition, the Nebraska project contributed more than 45,000 titles, many of them unique and important, to the national files and for other published lists.

The encouragement and assistance of many persons contributed to the Imprints Inventory in this state. Douglas C. McMurtrie of Evanston, Illinois, was largely responsible for approval of the program as a WPA national project; Nebraska librarians were uniformly gracious and co-operative; and the State Historical Society through its Superintendent made the work possible and successful.

Nebraska Writers' Project

BY ZERNE P. HANING, SUPERVISOR

It is difficult to estimate in any measurable way the benefit of the source material of the Nebraska State Historical Society to the Nebraska Writers' Project during the time of its operation under the supervision of Mr. Rudolph Umland as a state-wide project by the Work Projects Administration in Nebraska.

The facilities of the Society, always available to the workers and editors of the Project, were more than ordinarily valuable because in no other place could the many items of information which we sought be found.

The newspaper files were especially valuable for the many items preserved there which could be found in no other library. The Writers' Project, though itself a war casualty, lives on in its publications. These publications are indebted to the Society and to Dr. A. E. Sheldon and Miss Martha Turner for their helpful suggestions and assistance. The Society sponsored several of the publications of the Nebraska Writers' Project—the more recent being the *Pioneer Life in Nebraska* series.

It is estimated that the Writers' Project workers, from October 1, 1941, to February 28, 1942, (when it ceased operation), spent a total of 6,480 working hours in the Society libraries. During this time, thousands of papers and other documents were examined, and over one million words compiled.

War Service Project

BY ZERNE P. HANING, EDITOR

This Project of the Nebraska Works Projects Administration, sponsored by the Nebraska Advisory Defense Committee, makes daily use of the files and libraries of the Nebraska State Historical Society. The material, most of which concerns the civilian effort in the present war and in the first World War, is too recent in history to be available in any place other than the Historical Society files.

It is too early to estimate fully the value of the Society to this project in a statistical manner. Two workers spent most of their time working in the newspaper library. In common with all study and research groups, we are indebted to Dr. A. E. Sheldon for the information that can be found only in his own rich storehouse—his memory.

Historical Records of Lancaster County, Nebraska

Collected, Compiled, Edited and Published

by

The Genealogical Records Committee of Deborah Avery Chapter

National Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Report of Mrs. Jiles W. Haney

Sponsor: Nebraska State Historical Society

Statistical Summary

Of the work done in the period October 18, 1937, to May 1, 1942, assisted by the Historical Research Committee of Deborah Avery Chapter; with further assistance from a unit of the Work Projects Administration sponsored by Nebraska State Historical Society.

I.	Volumes Completed	-	-	-	-	-	20
II.	Volumes in Process	-	-	-	-	-	6
III.	Material in Files	-	-	-	-	Undetermined	
IV.	Receipts and Donations	-	-	-	-	-	\$508.97
V.	Expenditures of Genealogical Records Committee	-	-	-	-	\$ 461.45	
VI.	Time contributed by D.A.R.—11,472'21" at 50c an hour	-	-	-	-	5,736.00	
VII.	Mileage contributed by D.A.R.—2,394 miles at .04c a mile	-	-	-	-	95.76	
VIII.	Expenditures of Nebraska State Historical Society	-	-	-	-	41.15	
IX.	Administration Facilities of said Society	-	-	-	-	531.38	
X.	Contribution of University of Nebraska Library	-	-	-	-	59.00	
XI.	Contribution of Nebraska Law Library	-	-	-	-	59.00	
XII.	Expenditures of W. P. A.	-	-	-	-	8,615.60	
XIII.	Certification of D.A.R. Contribution—Completed	-	-	-	-		
XIV.	Assets of Genealogical Records Committee June 1, 1942	-	-	-	-	-	\$46.32
XV.	Summary	-	-	-	-	-	

(Project closed for Duration of War. Material stored with Nebraska State Historical Society. Inventory filed.)

Madam Regent and Members of Deborah Avery Chapter:

I am happy to have this opportunity of reporting to you on the accomplishments of your project. . . In the past six years, over a million and a half typewritten pages of unpublished material have been received by the National Chairman for the D.A.R. Library. There are 2,560 chapters, which would average 585 pages per chapter. The goal set for us was "one page per member per year." This would total 825 pages for five years and we sent in 4,621 pages. You can see that your chapter has more than contributed its share.

Your chapter reported fourteen volumes at the State Conference

at Norfolk on March 18, and these will be recorded in the State Proceedings. They were valued at between \$7,500 and \$8,000. . .

I wish to recommend that the Superintendent of Nebraska State Historical Society be sent a letter of appreciation for the valuable services given, without which we would not have been able to function so effectively. . . .

On behalf of the committee, I wish to thank you one and all for your homes, your cars, your time, your money, and your loyal cooperation. . . .

And now the war is here and I do not know what the future holds; but I do know, after five years of living and working with one hundred and thirty members and friends who have contributed to the project, that you have a sterling sense of values, and that whatever piece of constructive work Deborah Avery Chapter decides to do, it will be accomplished.

I will let no man drag me down so low as to make me hate him.

—Booker T. Washington.

Archeological Field Trips in 1942

By A. T. HILL

We now have 403 members in our Archeological Division which we organized in 1939. These members live in 24 different states and find our Nebraska archeology an interesting subject. Our membership is composed mostly of young men, therefore a great majority of them are now in the armed forces. During the last year the Archeological Division obtained 43 new members.

Very little has been accomplished in our archeological laboratory this year, as we have not had any WPA help during the last nine months. However, in order to comply with the agreement made between the WPA officials and our Society we prepared and sent to the United States National Museum of the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, D. C., a nice collection of pottery sherds representing the many sites which we have excavated in Nebraska with the assistance of WPA helpers.

We have written a report on our 1939 Archeological Survey in Chase and Dundy counties. This report consists of 60 printed pages and 30 illustrations and maps. It was published as the NEBRASKA HISTORY magazine Volume XXII, No. 2, and has been mailed to all of our archeological and historical members from whom we have received many letters of commendation. This number is the eighth magazine published on the archeological work—making a total of 594 printed pages and 143 maps, charts and illustrations therein.

Last fall we had a fine group of students lined up for this summer's field work, but after war was declared we decided it would be best to postpone any archeological field activities other than some surface surveying which I could carry on alone. During the summer I made several field trips as follows:

We have been finding a great many flint artifacts in the Republican and Platte valleys in the western part of the state but had been unable to discover the source from which the Indians obtained their flint. In order to secure more information on this subject I decided to try to locate some of their quarries. On April 23rd I found a very large quarry near Beaver City where the Indians had been getting a fine grade of light brown jasper. We have found artifacts in western Nebraska and Kansas and eastern Colorado made from a material similar to that obtained from this quarry. From there I went to a site a few miles east of Norton, Kansas, and found an extensive quarry of the dark brown jasper from which arrow and spear points of a similar material have been found in western Nebraska and Kansas. Along the Platte and Republican drainage we have been finding artifacts which were made of a very thin brownish flint. This indicated that the flint-bed would be in layers not over a quarter of an inch thick. As we had heard of such a bed of flint west of

Hill City, Kansas, I thought I would drive over there and try to locate it. I found it on a hilltop and it lay in several stratifications running from one-quarter to one-half inch thick. We have found specimens made of flint and resembling the material from this quarry in western Nebraska and Kansas and southeastern Wyoming.

While there I drove on down to the Saline River and attempted to locate a flint quarry of a reddish color but was unable to find it. It is possible that there are undiscovered flint-beds in Nebraska, Kansas and Wyoming which have this same kind of flint. On one of our trips to the Weeping Water we again checked over the flint-beds at Nehawka. We find artifacts resembling the material from the Nehawka flint quarry all up and down the Missouri River and practically all over Eastern Nebraska. In western Nebraska we also find many artifacts made of flint from the Spanish Diggings near Lusk, Wyoming.

While in Kansas I wished to check over the Quartejejo site in Scott County, as we had heard that several new discoveries had been made, but a rain had flooded the countryside and this made it impossible to reach the site, as the roads were washed out. I drove 763 miles while on this trip.

On April 28th I made a trip to Ann Arbor, Michigan, to visit Doctors Carl Guthe and James Griffin of the University of Michigan Museum. Dr. Griffin drove me down to the Fort Ancient site in Ohio where we also visited the Fort Ancient Museum, then went on to Cincinnati, Ohio, to attend the annual conference of the Society for American Archeology on May 8th and 9th. After the meeting adjourned I took the train to Chicago and visited the Field Museum before returning to Lincoln.

The caretaker at the Scott County State Park reported that they had discovered a Woodland village and also more of the old Indian Pueblo village in the park. About the first of July I decided to make a trip down there and found that his reports were correct. The old Pueblo village ties in with our Chase County site on the Stinking Water Creek, and the Woodland site ties in with numerous Woodland sites in the state of Nebraska. The mileage for this trip was 756 miles.

We thought it important to keep a check on the old Indian sites and see that no pothunters would dig out and destroy the evidence they contained, therefore I try to visit them from time to time. On July 15th I visited sites worked in 1937 at Ashland, Meadow and Bellevue and then drove north of Omaha to visit the sites worked in 1938 at Florence, Long's Hill, Fort Calhoun and Blair, then over to the Platte River to inspect the Leshara, Yutan and Gates sites. On this inspection tour I traveled 182 miles.

During the latter part of July and the first of August I made a trip to South Dakota to study the old fortifications of an ancient Arikara site on Crow Creek in the Crow Creek Indian Reservation. I brought back a very fine collection of artifacts and a map of the old Indian fortifications.

On my way to South Dakota I went by Fremont and struck the Elkhorn River south of Winslow where I started checking numerous ancient Indian villages along the river, up through Dodge, Cuming, Stanton, Madison, Antelope and Holt counties to O'Neill, then north to the Niobrara River where I did some scouting on Ponca Creek, near Butte, in Boyd County. On this trip I visited several sites along the different rivers, but the vegetation was so dense this year that it was rather difficult to find specimens.

In coming back from the old Arikara site on Crow Creek I worked the south bank of the Missouri River and visited several sites between the north Nebraska line and the mouth of the Platte River. This trip took several days and I traveled 765 miles.

In 1939 we excavated the Ash Hollow Cave in Deuel County and found clear-cut stratification that furnished further evidence to confirm our belief that the Woodland people were the first inhabitants to make pottery in Nebraska; the Upper Republican people were second; and the Dismal River people were third. Since that time we wanted to make a search for rock-shelters and eaves in the Republican Valley in the hills south of Bloomington and Franklin. I concluded to carry out the plan this season. On August 14th I started for Bloomington, stopped to check over the Pike-Pawnee village, Bill Shipman and Inavale sites in Webster County and visited the Riverton, Naponee, Bloomington and Cotton Wood Creek sites north of the Republican River in Franklin County. Called on Garrett Fritzen while in Bloomington and looked over his collection. Crossed the Republican River at Bloomington and worked the south side by going to the Dooley site on Lost Creek, the Rebecca Creek site on Rebecca Creek, and the Ted Hill and Reams Creek sites on Reams Creek. I then drove further south into the hilly country to check for the rock-shelters and caves. Found one rock-shelter which showed evidence of being inhabited by ancient people. I worked the divide south of the Republican River on down to the Hardy ancient Indian village and then went on to Republic, Kansas.

I then decided to drive from Republic, Kansas, to Clarks, Nebraska, to visit sites previously worked in the Loup and Platte valleys. I visited the old Pawnee site on the south side Platte River near Clarks, drove to the Skidi Pawnee site north of the Loup River near Palmer, down the Loup River to the Little Republican site, on the Horse Creek site on Horse Creek, the Cunningham site on the Loup four miles west of Fullerton and then to the Lovers' Leap site on Cedar Creek north of Fullerton. From there I went to the old Pawnee village site at the mouth of Cedar Creek and the Burnt village a few miles further down the Loup River. Also visited the old Dunbar and Allis Pawnee Mission and a prehistoric village site near there. Inspected the Burkett and Wright sites west of Genoa and the Larson site east of Genoa; then stopped to check over the Monroe site north of town which we worked in 1941, before going on to the old Skidi Pawnee site on Shell Creek north of

Schuyler; to the Ancient Pawnee village at Bellwood, another Pawnee village at Linwood, and then to the prehistoric village at Morse Bluff. While making this survey I traveled 598 miles.

We received some interesting reports on the McClain site near Fremont so I decided to drive up there on August 22nd. I did some scouting and with the assistance of the McClain boys excavated one cache and did considerable testing in the old village. The round trip was 110 miles.

August 29th I drove to Elm Creek to examine the Howard Miller collection of guns and historic relics. The mileage on this trip was 390 miles.

Taking the season as a whole, much has been accomplished in the way of new discoveries, new material obtained and additional information for some interesting excavations after this great war situation has been successfully settled.

I have made all of the foregoing trips with my own automobile at my own expense, although I would have been allowed to present my claim of 3,564 miles at 4c per mile—\$142.56, plus other expenses such as hotel, meals, etc.

“God grant that not only the love of liberty but a thorough knowledge of the rights of man may pervade all the nations of the earth, so that a philosopher may set his foot anywhere on its surface and say, ‘This is my country.’”

—*B. Franklin, 1789.*