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Historical Notes and News

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND THE NATIVE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF NEBRASKA, OCTOBER 12-13

Since the statement in our last issue that September 22 was being considered as a meeting date, V-J Day has changed the general picture. It seems that time will improve travelling facilities and give more members and friends of the Society opportunity to attend the meeting.

The Native Sons and Daughters are preparing a program around the theme of immediate prospective developments within the state. A number of state leaders and officials will participate in this presentation.

The Society is extending an invitation to General Charles G. Dawes, Vice-President of the United States 1925-1929 and Ambassador to Great Britain during the Hoover administration, to be present. General Dawes was a resident of Lincoln 1886-1894. In view of the prospective development of historical work within the state in the next decade, the Society is also asking Dr. LeRoy R. Hafen of Denver to participate in our program. Dr. Hafen has directed the work of the Colorado Society for many years.

October 12th or 13th will be used for the Annual dinner pending final arrangements with speakers. The luncheon of the Native Sons and Daughters will be on Saturday, October 13. Morning and afternoon programs are also provided. The annual business meeting will be held Saturday morning preceding the literary program.

Printed announcements of the final program will be mailed to members.

THE HISTORICAL LIBRARY is again under one roof. The moving of the book collection from the University Campus was completed August 11. Owing to the pressure in vacating the old library building by the University Library our own moving was delayed for some

weeks. The problems of shelving and arranging the collection will take further time. The scarcity of equipment, especially catalog file cases, is also embarrassing. Only a temporary loan by the University enables us to appear respectable and retain the use of our card catalog.

Nevertheless, the assembling of the book collection within reach of the offices is a great added convenience. It will greatly facilitate the work of the staff. A considerable portion of the collection is shelved in the northwest wing of the Capitol basement. This is quite a distance from the offices but still accessible. The Staff needs the library as available as possible. Its more adequate cataloging calls for further attention.

HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES IN NEIGHBORING STATES

The Kansas Historical Quarterly for August has three articles of interest. The first, entitled, "General Eisenhower of Kansas" is an article which should have a very wide appeal. It quotes well selected portions of the General's recent speeches. A brief biographical sketch and a facsimile of his letter thanking Senator Bristow for his appointment to West Point in 1911 are included.

The other two articles are : (1) "Isaac McCoy's Second Exploring Trip in 1828," among the Indians of Kansas and Oklahoma; (2) "Pomeroy's 'Ross Letter': Genuine or Forgery?" The latter article makes it clear that the authenticity of the letter which Pomeroy denied is immaterial. There was more conclusive and even material evidence that Pomeroy was a crook. It is an exciting article on state politics.

The Missouri Historical Review, April, features "Reform in the Roaring Forties and Fifties," by Marie George Windell. This is pioneer Missouri with its problems of reform.

Dorothy Dysart Flynn in her serial, "Missouri and the War" has done a masterly job of combining the general course of the war and the personal activities of Missourians.

The Missouri society is distinguished for its large and active membership.

Iowa's Centennial Anniversary. March 3, 1845, Iowa statehood was authorized. Ora Williams, in the July issue of *Annals of Iowa*, devotes the leading article to "Iowa, My Iowa, Free Iowa," and follows it with a popular resume of the early history and politics of that state. Actual admission of Iowa was not completed until December 28, 1846. The legislature authorized and the governor has appointed a committee to make preliminary plans for the appropriate celebration in 1946 of this centennial.

The Annals of Wyoming for July carries an interesting article by Carl P. Russell, "Trapper Trails to the Sisk-ke-dee." It highlights the role of the trapper during fur trade days in the West. In the same issue of the *Annals*, under "Documents and Letters," is a detailed presentation, from many sources, of the explorations of the Verendrye Brothers.

County Historical and Pioneer Societies

DODGE COUNTY OLD SETTLERS picnic at North Bend on August 16 was a notable success, with a large gathering present. A program of music and talks had been arranged, which, with picnic dinners and other diversions filled the day and evening. These gatherings give the old settlers an opportunity to get together with the younger people of the community and keep alive the spirit of the pioneer and the history he helped make.

WASHINGTON COUNTY had its 29th annual Pioneer and Old Settlers reunion at Fort Calhoun August 17. Congressman Howard Buffett and Reed O'Hanlon were the featured speakers of the day. In their addresses each emphasized the grave problems that still lie ahead for the American people.

Election of officers was held and some discussion ensued as to plans for restoring the association to its pre-war vigor. Everyone present showed interest and optimism.

ROCK BLUFFS annual reunion was held August 26 at the Hutchinson farm grove, near the site where the old river town in Cass County once flourished. One hundred seventy-five descendants of

former residents of Rock Bluffs gathered to enjoy an informal program of talks and to partake of a picnic dinner.

WEBSTER COUNTY OLD SETTLERS picnic took place August 31 in the city park at Red Cloud. The program was built around the theme of early day history of business houses and business people. A number of papers and talks were presented, covering the communities of Amboy, Bladen, Blue Hill, Cowles, Guide Rock, Inavale, and Red Cloud. Election of officers returned all of the present incumbents.

BURT COUNTY pioneers and old settlers met at Tekamah August 31 for their 43rd annual reunion. An interesting program of music and talks was held, the principal address being delivered by County Superintendent W. T. Poucher. Mrs. Lorinda Farley, who celebrates her 104th birthday in September 1945, was present. She is the oldest person in the county and always attends reunions whenever possible. At the business meeting, officers were elected as follows: S. A. Wassum, president; E. I. Ellis, treasurer; Elmer Olinger, secretary. Vice-presidents were elected from each township in the county.