Department of History, News Letter No. 23
1938

THE Department of History presents its annual bulletin of items concerning the scholarly and professional interests of both faculty and graduate students

Faculty

Professors Root and Pelzer and Dr. Petersen attended the meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association in St. Louis last April. Professor Livingston was a member of the Conference on Canadian-American Relations held at Queens University, Kingston, Canada, June 14-18. Professor de Kiewiet read a paper at the Philadelphia meeting of the American Historical Association on “The Constitution and the Frontier in South Africa.” Professor Root served as a member of the programme committee for this meeting and presided at one of the sessions. Dr. George Gordon Andrews, professor of European History, died on March 29. The University has lost a great teacher, a fine scholar, and a gracious gentleman.

Professor de Kiewiet gave an address in January at Creighton University on “A Rational Attitude toward International Relations.” Professor Root gave an address last summer at the Teachers College, River Falls, Wisconsin, on “A Reappraisal of the American Revolution.” Professor Thornton made addresses before the University Club of Des Moines, the Illinois Education Association, and teachers’ conventions in Des Moines, Adair, and Cass counties. For the second consecutive year, Dr. Thornton served as chairman of the University’s Baconian Lecture Series. Professors Root, Andrews, Thornton, Livingston and Dr. Petersen attended the meetings of the Iowa State Teachers Association held in Des Moines last November. At that time Professor Root gave his presidential address before the Association of Social Science Teachers on the subject “The Teaching and the Teacher of History.” Dr. Petersen gave illustrated lectures on Mississippi steamboating to groups of teachers at St. Louis and Dupo, Illinois, last November.

Professor de Kiewiet’s book on The Imperial Factor in South Africa, a Study in Politics and Economics was issued by the Cambridge University Press this past winter. Dr. W. J. Petersen’s volume on Steamboating on the Upper Mississippi was issued by the State Historical Society of Iowa in June, 1937. Professor Thornton’s study on “Theodore Roosevelt: Historian” was published in the Marcus W. Jernegan Essays in American Historiography; also, his article on “The United States in 1838,” in the January (1938) number of the Palimpsest.

Graduate Students

The following promotions are noted: E. M. Erickson, Ph.D., 1922, to a full professorship at the University of Southern California; Paul H. Giddens, Ph.D., 1930, to an associate professorship at Allegheny College; Leonidas Dodson, Ph.D., 1927, to an assistant professorship at the University of Pennsylvania; Chester Sipple, Ph.D., 1931, to the headship of the department of history at Bradley Polytechnic Institute, Peoria, Illinois.

Gordon W. Prange, Ph.D., 1937, was appointed instructor in history at the University of Maryland; W. O. Mishoff, Ph.D., 1933, is now librarian at Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea, Ohio; W. C. Lang, M.A., 1936, was called to the history faculty of Yankton College, South Dakota; John Vieg, M.A., 1929, Ph.D., Chicago, 1936, joined the staff of the Department of Political Science at Iowa State College. S. P. Fogdall, Ph.D., 1925, resigned from his professorship at Ottawa University, Kansas, to accept the pastorate of the First Baptist Church, Clark’s Grove, Minnesota. Thomas Geary, M.A. 1933, Ph.D. 1937, in political science, is teaching in the Department of Political Science, University of South Dakota.

Wallace Taylor, M.A., 1936, taught in the Summer
Session at the Teachers College, Greeley, Colorado; Merrill G. Burlingame, Ph.D., 1936, Montana State College, taught in the Summer Session of the University of Montana; Fred A. Shannon, Ph.D., 1924, Kansas State College, will teach at Harvard University the coming summer; J. H. St. John, Ph.D., 1927, taught last summer at Humboldt State College in California, and will teach at the State College for Teachers, Albany, New York, the coming summer; Allen Umbreit, Ph.D., 1932, will teach during the present summer at Western State Teachers College, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Carlyle Klise, A.M., 1937, is research assistant at the University of Missouri; Henri Meyer, A.M., 1937, is a fellow in history at Yale University; and Paul Hendrick, A.B., 1937, is a fellow in the Fletcher School of Diplomacy.

Elmer Ellis, Ph.D., 1930, University of Missouri, was elected to the council of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association and to the editorial board of Social Education. He also spoke before the State teachers groups at Dallas, Texas, and Lexington, Kentucky. Howard R. Anderson, Ph.D., 1930, Cornell University, is a member of the advisory board of Social Education and was elected vice-president of the National Council for the Social Studies. Dr. Anderson also has addressed various groups of history teachers. Philip D. Jordan, Ph.D., 1935, Miami University, addressed the Tri-State Historical Conference meeting at Oxford, Ohio, in April, on the "Use of Visual Aids in History." Paul O. Carr, Ph.D., 1932, Wilson Teachers College, Washington, D. C., spoke before the social studies teachers in Washington on "Curriculum Trends in the Social Studies." Harold T. Hagg, Ph.D., 1936, Teachers College, Bemidji, Minnesota, addressed the Parent-Teachers Association at Thief River Falls, Minnesota, on "The Social Ideas of Horace Mann." John A. Greenlee, Ph.D., 1934, dean of the Junior College, Emmetsburg, Iowa, was elected president of the Junior College section of the Iowa State Teachers Association. Dorsey D. Jones, Ph.D., 1929, University of Arkansas, was chairman of the history section of the Southwestern Social Science Association which met in April at Oklahoma City.

Former graduate students at the meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association held in St. Louis in the spring were: Justin Williams and Walker Wyman, Teachers College, River Falls, Wisconsin; Paul H. Giddens, Allegheny College; Philip D. Jordan, Miami University; Fred A. Shannon, Kansas State College; Harold E. Briggs, University of Miami, Florida; Richard Beyer, Teachers College, Carbondale, Illinois; and Charles H. Norby, Iowa State College.

Merrill G. Burlingame, Montana State College; Vernon Cannon, Teachers College, Ellensburg, Washington; Francis J. Bowman, Washington State College; and Lyle S. Shemdin, College of Puget Sound, attended the meetings of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association at Seattle during the holidays. The graduate students who attended the Philadelphia meeting of the American Historical Association during the holidays were E. Douglas Branch, University of Pittsburgh; Fred A. Shannon, Kansas State College; Bessie L. Pierce, University of Chicago; E. P. Alexander, Director, New York Historical Association; Leonidas Dodson, University of Pennsylvania; Elmer Ellis, University of Missouri; Howard R. Anderson, Cornell University; Gordon W. Prange, University of Maryland; Charles H. Norby, Iowa State College; Paul H. Giddens, Allegheny College; Paul O. Carr, Wilson Teachers College, Washington, D. C.; Guy F. Hershberger, Goshen College, Indiana; Sylvester Hemleben, Fordham University; Alfred S. Martin, research assistant, University of Iowa; Paul Hendrick, Fletcher School of Diplomacy; and Ralph Turner, American University, and a member of the research staff of the Social Security Board.

Twenty-three candidates received the Master of Arts degree in 1937. Some were already in teaching posts to which they returned, while others entered upon new positions. In Iowa, Franklin Doty is teaching at Humburg, Willfred W. Black at Osceola, Bonita Dammon at Ames; in Illinois, Glynafa Terrell at Rockford and Eva Draegert at Harrisburg.

Eli Christofferson, Ph.D., 1924, and Maude Felter, M.A., 1924, are members of the teaching staff of Penn College, Iowa. Harry Kies, M.A., 1936, is in charge of the history work at Rockhurst College, Kansas City, and Arthur Nobles, M.A., 1932, is teaching history and economics at Montana State College, Havre. Alfred Johnston, M.A., 1935, resigned at Hamburg, Iowa, to accept a post in the high school at Macomb, Illinois; Clifford Durman, M.A., 1935, is teaching at Pekin, Illinois; Bernard Hamman, M.A., 1937, at Sterling, Illinois; William Ruppert, M.A., 1936, at Howard, South Dakota. Max O. White, M.A., 1933, is doing graduate work in library administration at Columbia University; Florence Kent, M.A., 1930, is teaching in the Junior College, Washington, Iowa, during the absence of Merlin Gingerich, M.A., 1930, who is completing his work for the doctorate. Gerald L. Livingston, M.A., 1932, who returned to work for the doctorate, died at the University Hospital in October.


Research and Publication
Bessie L. Pierce, Ph.D., 1923, University of Chicago, is the author of A History of Chicago, The Beginning of a City, 1673-1848, Vol. I (Alfred A. Knopf,
1937). This book is the first of four volumes which will present the definitive history of Chicago. Felix J. Vondracek, M.A., 1924, Ph.D., Columbia, 1937, University of North Dakota, is the author of The Foreign Policy of Czechoslovakia 1918-35 (Columbia University Press). S. B. Laughlin, Ph.D., 1921, Willamette College, is the editor of a volume of essays, Beyond Dilemmas, Quakers Look at Life (J. B. Lippincott Co.). Dr. Laughlin contributes to the volume the preface and an essay on “The Problem of Crime.” Wasyl Halich, Ph.D., 1934, is the author of Ukrainians in the United States (University of Chicago Press). Dr. Halich’s translation of Hrushevsky’s History of the Ukraine has been accepted for publication by the Ukrainian organizations. B. J. Hovde, Ph.D., 1924, University of Pittsburgh, contributed a chapter on “Norwegian Americans” in a co-operative volume on Our Racial and National Minorities. Dr. Hovde has completed the manuscript of a book on Scandinavian History, 1720-1865.

Francis J. Bowman, Ph.D., 1929, Washington State College, presents two articles: “The Creation and Dissolution of the Danish-Swedish Alliance 1628” in Research Studies of the State College of Washington (September, 1937) and “Gustavus II Adolphus and the Protestant Reformation” in Baltic and Scandinavian Countries (September, 1937). Dr. Bowman is one of the associate editors of the latter Journal, published by the Baltic Institute. Howard R. Anderson, Ph.D., 1930, Cornell University, is the co-author of a pamphlet on Selected Test Items in World History, Bulletin No. 9 of the National Council for the Social Studies, and contributed a study of “Newspaper and Magazine Reading” to Social Education (May, 1937), and is co-author of an article on “Testing the Ability of Students to Outline” in The School Review (January, 1938). Elmer Ellis, Ph.D., 1930, University of Missouri, gave his presidential address to the National Council for the Social Studies on “The Dilemma of the Social Studies Teacher” which was printed in Social Education (February, 1930).


Paul H. Giddens, Ph.D., 1930, Allegheny College, published an article on “Governor Horatio Sharpe and his Maryland Government” in Maryland Historical Magazine (June, 1937) and is on sabbatical leave finishing a manuscript on The Birth of the Oil Industry in collaboration with Miss Ida M. Tarbell. Philip D. Jordan, Ph.D., 1935, Miami University, presents two articles: “Use of Pamphlet Material in the Social Sciences” Ohio Schools (June, 1936) and “The Hutchinson Family” in the Palimpsest. He is the compiler of a Bibliography of Periodical Literature dealing with American social history and co-editor of a Bibliography of American Historical Fiction. Dr. Jordan has been chosen to write one volume of a projected six volume history of Ohio.


During the past summer Charles H. Norby, Ph.D., 1935, Iowa State College, went abroad for research
and travel; Martin L. Cole, dean at Augusta College, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and graduate assistant last year, worked in Boston, gathering material for his dissertation on the History of the Massachusetts Legislature in the Eighteenth Century; and John H. Powell collected material in eastern archives for his study of John Dickinson.

The following graduate students read papers at the sessions of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association meeting in St. Louis in April: Philip D. Jordan, "Humor of the Backwoods, 1820-1840"; Paul H. Giddens, "The Birth of the Oil Industry"; E. Douglas Branch, "The Early Theatre in the Northwest," and Fred A. Shannon and Elmer Ellis were leaders of discussions at separate sessions. Merrill Burlingame read a paper at the meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the A. H. A. on "The Influence of the Army in Building a Western State." At the Philadelphia meeting of the A. H. A., E. Douglas Branch read a paper on "Henry Louis Bouquet, Professional Soldier," which was printed in the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History* (January, 1938). Elmer Ellis presided at a conference for high school teachers, and E. P. Alexander, M.A., 1931, New York State Historical Association, presided at a session for historical societies.

**Abstracts in History**

**Volume III**


**Summer Session 1938**

The session of eight weeks opens for registration on Saturday, June 11, and closes August 5. Eight credits as a maximum may be earned in this period and some courses may be taken for either two or three credits and in other cases the amount of credit is arranged.

In American history, Professor Root offers a course on the Old Empire and the New Nation, 1715-1789; Professor Thornton, on the Social and Economic History of the United States since 1865; Professor Philip D. Jordan of Miami University, on Sections and Frontiers in American History; Professor Livingston, on American Foreign Relations since 1865; Dr. Petersen, on the History of Iowa 1833-1930. In the field of Europe, Professor Chester Kirkby of Brown University, offers two courses, Modern European History Reappraised and European Democracy and Dictatorship; Professor Livingston, a course on the British Empire 1783-1935. The above courses are open to graduates and to qualified undergraduates.

For graduate students there are three seminars: American Civilization under Professor Thornton, History of the West under Professor Jordan, and European History under Professor de Kiewiet. In these seminars graduate students have the opportunity not only to secure training in historical scholarship but also to begin work on a thesis. There is also ample opportunity to do independent study in either the American or European field under guidance of one of the staff members.

Provision is made for a three-week independent study unit following the regular session. This is open only to graduate students recommended by the head of the department as qualified to work on assigned problems, research or thesis. A maximum of three credits may be earned in this way.

A new departure this summer is a curriculum laboratory for social studies teachers. It provides an opportunity for the development of special teaching materials under expert guidance. The director of the laboratory is William B. Brown, who has worked in the social studies for a number of years and recently was appointed director of the secondary curriculum in the Los Angeles Public Schools.