State University of Iowa Publication
Department of History, News Letter No. 34
1948-1949

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

The Faculty

Five members of the SIU History Department gave papers at the annual meetings of learned societies during the past year: Professor George E. Mowry, Assistant Professor Robert S. Hoyt and Assistant Professor George L. Mosse at the American Historical Association in December, 1948; Professor H. J. Thornton at the Mississippi Valley Historical Association in April, 1949; and Associate Professor W. O. Aydelotte at the Economic History Association in September, 1948.

Professor Thornton has published the following items since our last news letter: "The Path to World Peace," Daily Iowan, April 25, 1948; "Builders of the University," Iowa Alumni Review, June, 1948; "America's Freedom Train," The Palimpsest, September, 1948; "America's New Position Among the Nations," Des Moines Register, November 16, 1948; "Locating the State University of Iowa," Iowa Journal of History, January, 1949; and book reviews in American Historical Review and Mississippi Valley Historical Review. During the year, Dr. Thornton has delivered public addresses before numerous groups, including: The University of Omaha; Geneseo State Teachers' College; Luther College; the John Deere Company's plant at Dubuque; and the Schoolmasters' Club of eastern Iowa. In August, 1948, he gave seven lectures at Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, N. Y. on the occasion of the Institution's seventy-fifth anniversary.

Professor George E. Mowry is a member of the program committee of the MVHA and has been elected to the Board of Editors of the Mississippi Valley Historical Review. He has published book reviews in the American Historical Review, Pacific Historical Review, Mississippi Valley Historical Review, Journal of Indiana History, and Journal of Economic History.

Assistant Professor Robert S. Hoyt has been awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship for the year 1949 for study in England. He plans to do research for a book dealing with the medieval origins of the modern national state, both in its ideological and institutional aspects.

Assistant Professor George L. Mosse has published an article, "Freshman History: Reality or Metaphysics?" in The Social Studies for March, 1949, and has contributed two book reviews to Speculum. He contributed, "The Iowa Course in Western Civilization" to General Education in the Humanities, edited by Earl J. McGrath, 1949.

Professor W. R. Livingston continues his research on British imperial conferences, and his work in building the university library collection of documentary materials on the history of the British Empire. Professor Harry G. Plum is going on with his research in 18th century England. Associate Professor W. J. Petersen, superintendent of the Iowa State Historical Society, has been conducting an active and successful membership campaign. He was elected a member of the executive committee of the MVHA in April, 1949. Dr. Petersen gave the 1949 Lincoln Day address to a joint session of the 53rd General Assembly of Iowa.

Assistant Professor John H. Haefer is a member of the Executive Committee of the National Council for the Social Studies, chairman of its Nominating Committee, and led a discussion panel on "The World History Course" at the Council's annual meeting. He was a staff member and instructor for the Tri-County Teachers Institute, has worked with teachers throughout the state at local school meetings and county institutes, and is currently active in the revision of the Iowa State Course of Study for Secondary Schools. He recently published a book review in the American Historical Review. During the 1949 summer session, Dr. Haefer will be teaching at the University of Minnesota.

Associate Professor W. O. Aydelotte, who became interim chairman of the Department at Dr. Root's death in December, 1947, was appointed chairman in June, 1948. Dr. Aydelotte has published two articles during the year: "History in a Liberal Education" in The Journal of General Education, October, 1948; and "The England of Marx and Mill as Re-

It gives us pleasure to announce the appointment of the following four men as assistant professors beginning September, 1949: In Latin American history, Mr. Charles Gibson, Jr. Mr. Gibson was trained at Yale, and is the author of The Inca Concept of Sovereignty and the Spanish Administration in Peru, Austin, 1948. In Russian history, Mr. Nicholas Valentine Riasanovsky. Mr. Riasanovsky is a graduate of the University of Oregon, received his M.A. from Harvard, and will receive his Ph.D. this spring from Oxford, where he is at present in residence as a Rhodes Scholar. In ancient history, Mr. James Frank Gilliam, who took his Ph.D. at Yale and is now an assistant professor at Wells College. Mr. Gilliam is the author of two monographs on Roman military history. In early modern European history, Mr. Ralph W. Greenlaw, Jr., who was trained and has been teaching these last few years at Princeton.

The following have acted as instructors in the core course in Western Civilization during the year, 1948-1949: Francis L. Broderick; Gilbert A. Cahill; Paul L. Hughes; Robert W. Iversen; John J. Kamerick; Walter P. Metzger; George R. Muirhead; Lenore M. Rickels; Ernest F. Sixta; Joseph J. Stephens; and Neelak S. Tjernagel. Mr. Broderick is the author of an article in the William and Mary Quarterly for January, 1949, entitled, “Pulpit, Physics and Politics: The Curriculum of the College of New Jersey, 1746-1794.”

Graduate Students

Bryn J. Hovde, Ph.D., 1924, president of The New School for Social Research, has published several articles and editorials, and delivered an address at the World Congress of Intellectuals for Peace at Wroclaw, Poland, in August, 1948. Dorsey D. Jones, Ph.D., 1929, head of the department of history and political science at the University of Arkansas, is co-author of “Francis Rawdon Chesney: Success or Failure,” which will appear in the spring issue of The Historian.

Howard R. Anderson, Ph.D., 1930, chief of Instructional Problems Section, Division of Secondary Education, U.S. Office of Education, has taken part during the year in a number of workshops and curriculum laboratories. He has published two articles: “Guidance for Active, Articulate Citizenship,” Educational Leadership, November, 1948; and “Teaching Good Citizenship,” The School Executive Magazine, December, 1948. Elmer Ellis, Ph. D., 1930, dean of the University of Missouri, was elected vice-president of the MVHA in April, 1949. Paul H. Giddens, Ph.D., 1930, head of the department of history at Allegheny College, Meadville, Pa., continues research on the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, and published The Early Days of Oil, with the Princeton University Press in October, 1948. He appeared on the program of the Pennsylvania Historical Association at its October, 1948 meeting. Floyd A. McNiel, Ph.D., 1930, of the Principia College of Liberal Arts, Elsah, Illinois, taught history in the summer of 1948 at Washington University, St. Louis.


Richard Drost, Ph.D., 1934, is professor of history at Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan. John A. Greenlee, Ph.D., 1934, is associate professor of history and assistant to the dean, division of science, at Iowa State College at Ames, William Halleck, Ph.D., 1934, has published: “Stalin and What After,” Duluth News Tribune Sunday Supplement, February 22, 1948; and “Ukraine: Russia’s Most Violent Headache,” Ukrainian Quarterly, December, 1948. Guy F. Hersherberger, Ph.D., 1935, of Goshen College, Goshen, Ind., read a paper at the Indiana Academy of Social Science in October, 1948, and is preparing a history of the Mennonite Church in World War II. He will spend next year in Europe on a sabbatical leave.

Philip D. Jordan, Ph.D., 1935, of the University of Minnesota, has published The National Road, with Bobb-Merrill, 1948, the third volume in the Trails of America Series. He has published articles in the following journals: Southern Folklore Quarterly; Hoosier Folklore; New York Folklore Quarterly; Western Folklore; Bulletin of the History of Medicine; and reviews in the following: Mississippi Valley Historical Review; American Historical Review; New York History; and Minnesota History. Arthur G. Umheide, Ph.D., 1935, of Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska, is secretary of the Omaha Committee on
Foreign Relations, and a member of the mayor’s special committee on city planning. Vernon Carstensen, Ph.D., 1936, of the University of Wisconsin, has for the past three years devoted most of his time, in collaboration with Merle Curti, to a history of the University of Wisconsin which will appear shortly. He read papers at the MVHA in 1948 and the Wisconsin Historical Society.

Harold T. Hagg, Ph.D., 1936, has become a director of the Minnesota Council for the Social Studies. Gordon W. Prange, Ph.D., 1937, has been granted a further leave of absence from the University of Maryland to continue his historical work in General Headquarters, Tokyo. Eugene R. Fair, Ph.D., 1938, has been since January, 1948, chief, Educational Branch, Education and Cultural Relations Division, Office of Military Government for Hesse, Wiesbaden, Germany.

Melvin Gingerich, Ph.D., 1938, director of research of the Mennonite Research Foundation, has a book, Service for Peace, a history of Mennonite civilian public service, now in press. He has also just published a booklet entitled, What of Noncombatant Service? He is now managing editor of the Mennonite Quarterly Review. Martin L. Cole, Ph.D., 1939, has left St. Olaf College to become head of the Department of the History at Western Reserve University, Cleveland. These two books are both well written and highly recommended for all interested in the history of nonviolent service in the United States.

John S. Galbraith, Ph.D., 1943, of the University of California, Los Angeles, has published: “The Imperial Conference of 1921 and the Washington Conference,” Canadian Historical Review, June, 1948. In December, he presented a paper, “The Hudson’s Bay Land Controversy,” before the Pacific Branch of the AHA. Daryl Pendergrass, Ph.D., 1943, associate professor at Iowa State Teachers College, Cedar Falls, will again direct a branch summer school for 12 weeks this summer at some city in southwest Iowa. Rev. Norbert C. Barrett, Ph.D., 1944, was appointed dean of studies at Loras College in 1947. Mildred Thorne, Ph.D., 1946, has become associate editor, State Historical Society of Iowa, at Iowa City. Maxwell O. White, Ph.D., 1946, has accepted a professorship at Northeastern State College, Tahlequah, Okla.


Mildreent Haines, M.A., 1938, of the New York State College for Teachers, published: “Thinking

A Ph.D. in history was granted in 1948 to William H. Seiler, who is now at Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia, Kansas. Since our last news letter, M.A. degrees in history have been received by the following: Richard J. Brown; Helen A. Hamil; Syndora D. Maiden; Arvil Parks; Glenn H. Smith; Herbert B. Smith; Walter F. Peterson; Mary Maglott Van Epps; Robert W. Garwood; Ernest F. Sixta; Norbert J. Gossman; Myrtia I. Harrison; Daniel B. Hoyt; Harry M. Hutson; William C. Jackson; Donald V. Lowe; Robert S. Moth; Sister Mary C. Murray; Lowell W. Reed; Leo F. Solt; and Leonhard C. Waerffel.

The Summer Session

The regular Summer Session of eight weeks will open Monday, June 13, and close Wednesday, August 10, 1949. This year there will be two visitors from other institutions: Professor Albert R. Newsome, head of the department of history at the University of North Carolina; and Professor Margaret Hastings, of the New Jersey College for Women.

Courses offered in the Department this summer will be as follows: *Europe Since 1370*, Mr. Aydelotte; *Ancient and Medieval Culture*, Mr. Hoyt; *American Foreign Relations in the 20th Century*, Mr. Livingston; *History of the United States in the Middle Period: 1860-1877*, Mr. Thornton; *United States History Since 1900*, Mr. Newsome; and *History of Iowa*, Mr. Petersen.

In addition, the following seminars will be offered: *American Civilization*, Mr. Thornton; *Medieval Thought and Institutions*, Mr. Hoyt; *British Empire*, Mr. Livingston; *The American West*, Mr. Newsome; and *Modern England*, Mr. Aydelotte.

The Department will offer again the general course in *Western Civilization in Modern Times*, under Miss Hastings.