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## HISTORY NOTES AND NEWS

The Department of History, following its custom, has gleaned these items of news about the scholarly and professional activities during the past year of the history staff and of graduate students for all who may be interested.

### Personal Notes

Dr. Bessie L. Pierce has been promoted to an associate professorship of history. She has also been honored by election to the presidency of the National Council for Social Studies, a body engaged in promoting intelligent teaching of these subjects, and by membership on the important Program Committee of the American Historical Association. In addition, Dr. Pierce has been elected secretary of the Teachers' Section of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association. Professor Donald L. McMurry has resigned from the faculty to accept a professorship of history and the headship of the history department in Lafayette College, Easton, Pa. Professor G. G. Benjamin taught in the Summer Session of the University of Southern California and also

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gave a series of six lectures upon the general subject of "America and the World" to the summer school and assembly at the Pacific Palisades. Mr. Ruhl J. Bartlett and Mr. J. Wesley Hoffmann, instructors in the department the past year, have been honored with research fellowships enabling them to complete researches toward the doctorate. Mr. Bartlett has returned to Ohio State University, and Mr. Hoffman is studying in Germany. Dr. A. P. Nasatir, Ph.D. University of California, 1926, and Mr. W. M. Newman, M.A. Harvard University, 1926, have entered the department as instructors. Dr. Raymond Sontag, formerly of the Iowa faculty, has been promoted to an assistant professorship of history at Princeton University. Mr. Ralph E. Turner, instructor at Iowa a few years ago and now on the history faculty at the University of Pittsburgh, is the author of a volume on *America in Civilization* from the press of Knopf. Mr. John Wuorinen, former instructor, now a member of the faculty of Columbia University, assisted in the new edition of Ploetz' *Epitome of Universal History*.

Members of the department and former students have been active in the life of the historical organizations. Professor Root presided over the session on Colonial History at the Ann Arbor meeting of the American Historical Association. Dr. Fred A. Shannon, Ph.D. Iowa, 1924, was made a member of the Committee on Historical Research in Colleges appointed by the American Historical Association, and was elected to the Executive Board of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association. At the Ann Arbor meeting at least a score of Iowa faculty members and graduate students, both past and present, met at breakfast. It was a pleasant and a profitable gathering, and it is warmly hoped an even larger group of this sort may be arranged for the Roches-

ter meeting during the holiday season. Five from Iowa's history staff and a goodly number of former graduates in history were in attendance at the meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, May 6-8, Springfield, Ill. Six appeared on the program with papers, and four were active in committee work. Professor Root was one of the principal speakers at a special session devoted to a discussion of "The Literary Motive in the Writing of History."

Professor Clara M. Daley gave an address on "The Growth of Economic Imperialism" before the Women's Club of Charles City on April 6. Professor Pierce is scheduled to speak at Minneapolis in November before the State Teachers' Association and at Chicago in March before the League of Women Voters Forum.

#### **Former Graduate Students**

Professor Fred A. Shannon has resigned from State Teachers College, Cedar Falls, to become associate professor of history in Kansas State Agricultural College. Professor C. C. Regier, Ph.D. Iowa, 1922, has been appointed professor of history at Evansville College, Indiana. Joseph S. Jackson, M.A. Iowa, 1924, fellow in history at the University of Pennsylvania the past year, is now instructor in history in Muhlenberg College, Allentown, Pa. Maurice C. Latta, M.A. Iowa, 1925, taught in the Summer Session at Simpson College. He resumed work this fall at Morningside College, where Raymond L. Welty, M.A. Iowa, 1924, is head of the department of history. Mr. Francis I. Moats, Ph.D. Iowa, 1926, taught in Northwestern University during the second semester and has returned to his professorship of history in Simpson College. Mr. T. P. Christensen, Ph.D. Iowa, 1924, taught in the Summer Session of Missouri State Teachers College, Cape Girardeau. Mr. E.

W. Peterson, after completing his residence work for the M.A. during the first semester, returned to his position in the Junior College, Madison, S. D. Miss Joanna Kyle, a former graduate student, is teaching at Cedar Falls, and Mrs. Esther Sharpe Vegors, M.A. Iowa, 1924, is teaching in the Iowa City high school. Herbert W. Rice, M.A. 1926, and Lyle E. Mantor, M.A. 1925, were awarded Lydia Roberts fellowships in Columbia University for the present year. Felix J. Vondracek, M.A. 1924, now working toward the doctorate at Columbia University, has passed all his examinations and has begun work on his thesis on the foreign policy of Czecho-Slovakia.

### Publication and Research

Faculty and students, past and present, have been active in the domain of scholarly study and production.

Professor Louis Pelzer is engaged upon a series of studies on the general theme of the Ranch and Range Cattle Industry, an essential phase of frontier history. An article on "A Cattlemen's Commonwealth on the Western Range" was printed in the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, June, 1926. "Captain Ford's Journal of an Expedition to the Rocky Mountains" appeared in the March issue of the same magazine. A paper read before the Illinois State Historical Society last May on "The Shifting Cow Towns of Kansas" will be printed in the annual transactions of that body. Another paper on "The Boom in Cattle Companies in the Eighties" is now ready for publication. These are parts of a considerable volume on the general theme to appear when all the necessary exploitation of sources has been finished.

Professor Pierce's book on *Public Opinion and the Teaching of His-*

tory has just come from the press of Knopf. Dr. Pierce is now drafting a report founded upon a broad study of civic education in the United States which she carried on the past year under the Laura A. Spelman Rockefeller Foundation.

*The Journal of Political Economy*, June, 1926, brought out Professor Benjamin's study on "The German and French Socialists and the Agrarian Problem." Professor Benjamin is now working on a study of the labor movement in Europe since the World War. An article by Mr. Ross Livingston on "The First Responsible Party Government in British North America" appeared in *The Canadian Historical Review*, June, 1926. Mr. Livingston is preparing a volume on the development of responsible government in the Maritime Provinces based upon sources found in Ottawa and Halifax. In collaboration with Dr. A. G. Doughty, Dominion Archivist, he has also just completed the work of editing the important Elgin-Grey private correspondence. Professor W. I. Brandt is at work upon a translation of Pierre Dubois' *De Recuperatione Terre Sancte*, a plea for universal peace, with a specific plan, many features of which have been incorporated in the scheme of the League of Nations. Professor Brandt has completed the translation and is now preparing the notes and introduction.

Dr. Fred A. Shannon is the author of several articles on the general theme of the Union Army during the Civil War. One on "The Mercenary Factors in the Creation of the Union Army" appeared in the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, March, 1926; a second on "The Conscription and Bounty Problem of the North during the Civil War" was read at the Ann Arbor meeting of the American Historical Association; and a third on "The Life of the Common Soldier in the Union Army" was read at the Springfield meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association. These studies form part of a large work in two volumes on *The Organization and Administration of the Union Army*, the manuscript of which is now in the publisher's hands.

Mr. Bruce E. Mahan, M.A. Iowa, 1920, lecturer in history and associate editor of the State Historical Society, has just published a volume

on *Old Fort Crawford and the Frontier* through the State Historical Society. The department has accepted this volume as a doctor's dissertation.

Fresh from the Appleton press comes a book by Edward Douglas Branch, former scholar in history, on *The Cowboy and His Interpreters*, which "stands the cowboy of reality and the one of popular fancy side by side and shows the actual cowboy to be a more interesting person than his fictitious and aggrandized twin." Mr. Branch is at present professor of history in the Louisiana Polytechnic Institute at Ruston.

Professor B. J. Hovde, Ph.D. Iowa, 1924, of the history faculty of Allegheny College, Meadville, Pa., has a study of "The Socialists and the Triple Entente" in the *Journal of Political Economy* for June, 1926. Professor E. M. Eriksson, Ph.D. Iowa, 1922, of the history faculty of Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has an article on "Official Newspaper Organs and the Campaign of 1828" in the *Tennessee Historical Magazine* for January, 1925, (issued February, 1926) and several studies on Masonry in the 1926 numbers of the *Bulletin of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F. and A.M.* He read a paper on the "Federal Civil Service Under Jackson" before the Mississippi Valley Historical Association at Springfield. At this meeting also Mr. Willis G. Swartz, M.A. Iowa, 1925, of Sterling College, Kansas, read a paper on "Mormon Life and Doctrines in Illinois and Utah 1840-1860." Mr. Edgar Allen Holt, former scholar in history, contributed a study on "Mississippi River Transportation in the Expansion of the West" to the *Missouri Historical Review*, April, 1926.

Messrs. Leonidas Dodson, J. H. St. John, R. C. Werner, and Arthur S. Williamson, fellows in history, each spent from three to four months this past summer in eastern libraries gathering source material for their doctoral dissertations. Mr. Dodson exploited the sources dealing with the career of Alexander Spotswood, a governor of Colonial Virginia; Mr. St. John gathered material on the subject of the Anglo-Spanish Commercial Relations of the Eighteenth Century; Mr. Werner found a wealth of sources dealing with Joseph Galloway, the Loyalist;