

# UNIVERSITY OF IOWA SERVICE BULLETIN

Issued weekly by the University for the purpose of acquainting the people of Iowa with special lines of service which the University is prepared to render.

Entered at the post office at Iowa City, Iowa, as second class matter. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on July 3, 1918.

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VOL. XII

OCTOBER 13, 1928

No. 41

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## HISTORY NOTES AND NEWS, 1928

Following its custom, the Department of History has garnered these items of the professional and scholarly activities of the faculty and of the graduate students, past and present, in the belief that they will be of interest to those intimately concerned.

### Personal Notes

Professor Gilbert G. Benjamin, a member of the department for fifteen years, has resigned to enter upon a professorship in the University of Southern California. Professor Bessie L. Pierce again taught in the summer session of Columbia University. Professor Pelzer presided at a session of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association meeting at Des Moines in April. Professor Clara M. Daley spent part of the summer studying conditions in Mexico. This fall she spoke at a convention of the Southwestern Iowa Teachers Association in Council Bluffs and gave an address on Mexico at Charles City.

Professor Root was elected to the Council of the American Historical Association. The past year he visited eleven of the colleges of the state as University Research Lecturer and spoke on "American Colonial

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History, Old Style and New." He also addressed the faculties of State Teachers College and Morningside, and gave a talk to the Professional Mens Club of Des Moines; and is to address the Social Science Teachers at the time of the State Teachers Convention.

Miss Pierce was elected executive secretary of the National Council for the Social Studies and was appointed a member of the Council of Education of the N. E. A. She spoke at the Des Moines convention of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association last spring and in June attended the St. Paul session of the Committee on the Teaching of History in the Schools, and this fall she is scheduled to speak before the Southwestern Indiana Teachers meeting, the Southern Illinois Teachers Association, and the University of Illinois History Teachers Conference.

Professor W. I. Brandt has been appointed a member of the Committee on Membership of the American Historical Association. Dr. Bruce E. Mahan, Lecturer in History and Associate Editor of the State Historical Society, delivered a number of addresses throughout the state on Iowa history.

Professor F. C. Ensign on his return from England as exchange professor at Bristol University addressed the teachers in many Iowa counties on English educational conditions. Dr. Ensign was elected president of the National Society of College Teachers of Education and as such he has set to work a committee to encourage research and publication in the field of state educational history.

#### **Former Graduate Students**

E. D. Branch, Ph.D. 1928, has been appointed Honorary Research Associate in the University and Research Associate in the State Historical Society, and is in residence working on a historical production.

F. J. Bowman, M.A. 1927, and a candidate for the doctoral degree, is spending the current year in Sweden as fellow on the American-Scandinavian Foundation, investigating the subject of Swedish naval power in the seventeenth century. He represented the University at the Sixth International Congress of Historical Sciences held at Oslo and is to deliver a course of lectures on the American Frontier at Stockholm Technical College.

Leonidas Dodson, Ph.D. 1927, formerly of the history faculty, University of South Dakota, is now teaching in Princeton University. Dr. Dodson spent the summer in research work in the Huntington Library. R. L. Welty, Ph.D. 1924, formerly head of the history department at Morningside, is now professor of history at Texas Christian University, Fort Worth. Maurice Latta, M.A. 1925, on leave of absence from Morningside, is fellow in history at Ohio State University. Frederick Tilberg, Ph.D. 1928, during the past year served as professor of history at Bradley Polytechnic Institute, Peoria. Felix Vondracek, M.A. 1924, has been appointed assistant professor of American history, University of North Dakota. Vernom Cooper, Ph.D. 1927, professor of history, Cotner College, Lincoln, is president of the Nebraska State Teachers Association. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper spent the summer in study in Europe. Inda Wilson, M.A. 1924, received the Ph.D. in June from the University of Illinois, with a thesis on "Robert Spencer, Earl of Sunderland." Max Guyer, M.A. 1927, returns to the faculty of Palmer College, Albany, Missouri; Raleigh Wilson, M.A. 1926, is head of the department of history, Wiley College, Marshall, Texas; Helma Hanawalt, M.A. 1924, resigned from the junior college, Sheldon, Iowa, to go to the Tulsa, Oklahoma, High School; Verna Elefson, M.A. 1927, is teaching in the junior college at Cresco, Iowa.

The graduate students of the past year now located in college positions are: Harold E. Briggs, Culver-Stockton College, Canton, Missouri; Dorsey D. Jones, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville; Marie Hirsch, Colorado Agricultural College, Hesperus; George Reynolds, Colgate University, Hamilton, New York; Helen McCobb, Converse College for Women, Spartansburg, South Carolina. The following received appointments to teachers colleges: Justin Williams, River Falls Normal, Wisconsin; Sylva Hansen, Michigan State Normal, Ypsilanti; Louise Scott, Oshkosh Normal, Wisconsin; W. H. Walker, Ph.D. 1928, East Tennessee State Teachers College. The following are teaching in junior colleges in Iowa: Olive Brown, Sheldon; Margaret Gearhart, Eagle Grove; Clare Jarard, Glenwood; Olive Zezula, Olin.

#### Publications

*Aids to History Teachers*, a series published by the department, has been expanded by two numbers, one from Professor G. G. Andrews on "The Teaching of Modern History with Special Reference to the Junior College"; the other by Miss Pierce on "A Topical Study of the Relationship of the United States to Australia, China and Japan." Miss Pierce has another article in the *Survey*, October 15, 1928, "The History We Teach," and one in the *Occasional Leaflet* on "New Type Tests in the Social Studies."

Dr. Mahan prepared a pageant *The Story of the Indian*, published by the State Historical Society for use in schools throughout Iowa. Dr. Mahan also contributed sixty "Stories out of Iowa's Past" to the Associated Press, and in collaboration with Dr. Ruth A. Gallaher prepared a manuscript of *Stories of Iowa for Boys and Girls* to be published by Macmillan Company.

Two volumes on *Organization and Administration of the Union Army*

by F. A. Shannon, Ph.D. 1924, professor of history, Kansas State Agricultural College, have come from the press of the Arthur H. Clark Company. A volume on *The Hunting of the Buffalo* by E. D. Branch is now in the press of D. Appleton and Company.

R. L. Welty contributed two articles to the *North Dakota Historical Quarterly* the past year, one "The Frontier Army on the Missouri River 1860-1870" (January), the other "The Army Forts of the Frontier" (April). F. I. Moats, Ph.D. 1926, professor of history, Simpson College, has an article on "The Rise of Methodism in the Middle West" in the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, June, 1928. T. P. Christensen, Ph.D. 1924, has contributed "Danish Settlements in Minnesota," *Minnesota History*, December, 1927; "Danish Settlements in Wisconsin," *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, September, 1928; "Danevig, Texas," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, July, 1928; "The State Parks of Iowa," *Iowa Journal of History and Politics*, July, 1928. An article by B. J. Hovde, Ph.D. 1924, professor of history, University of Pittsburgh, on "Russian American Relations 1917-1927" carried in *Current History*, November, 1927, appeared in Russian translation in the December issue of *American Trade and Industry*. Mrs. Ethel Grant Inman, M.A. 1927, has an article on "Pioneer Days in Northwestern Missouri-Harrison County 1837-1873" in the *Missouri Historical Review*, April, 1928.

Several graduate students in residence have recently contributed articles. Elmer Ellis, graduate assistant, has an article in *Current History*, October, 1928, on "Bryan's Record as a Democratic Leader." Paul Giddens, fellow, has a study on "Coöperation of the Southern Colonies in the Forbes Expedition against Fort Duquesne," *Virginia Magazine of History*, January and April issues, 1928; another on "A

Comparative Study of George Bancroft and Charles A. Beard on the Making of the Constitution'' to appear in the *Historical Outlook*; and a third on "Amendments to the Constitution, Introduced during the First Session of the Seventieth Congress" accepted for the *American Law Review*. W. J. Petersen, graduate assistant, read a paper on "The Virginia, the Clermont of the Upper Mississippi River" at a convention held in June at Brainerd, Minnesota, under the auspices of the Minnesota State Historical Society, a paper to appear in the December issue of the *Minnesota History*.

Professor Pelzer in February visited Lincoln, Nebraska, to gather material for his book on the "Cattleman's Frontier." Mr. Branch also visited Lincoln, and made a trip to Washington, D. C., for material on his study of the buffalo. Harold E. Briggs during the winter visited Pierre and Bismarck and found rich sources bearing on his study of the "Territory of Dakota." Willis H. Walker spent seven months in France collecting material for his dissertation on "Franco-American Commercial Relations 1815-1855." Dorsey D. Jones found considerable material at Washington this summer for his study on "The Early Development of Public Health in England." R. L. Beyer, fellow, spent seven weeks this summer collecting material for his study in the libraries at Albany, New York Historical Society and the Pennsylvania Historical Society. His subject is "Robert Hunter, Royal Governor of New York." F. J. Bowman visited the libraries at Syracuse, University of Vermont, Cornell University, Yale, Harvard and the New York Public Library in the interest of his study on "Influence of Sea Power on Swedish Expansion, 1611-1660." W. J. Petersen spent most of the summer gathering material for his thesis on "Early History of Steamboating on the Upper Mississippi," travelling over two thousand miles

by steamboat between St. Louis and St. Paul, and visiting the historical society libraries in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Missouri and Iowa, besides spending two weeks in the library at Galena, Illinois.

#### **Historical Conference and Summer Session**

The Eighth Annual Conference of History Teachers was held in the Old Capitol, February 3 and 4, 1928. Approximately 200 people attended, seventy-three of whom were high school history teachers, twenty-two college instructors, three superintendents, three principals, twenty-two visiting graduate students, and the remainder members of our own faculty and student body. Professor Van Tyne of the University of Michigan and Professor Dodd of the University of Chicago each gave two addresses. Mary S. Gold, University High School, University of Minnesota, and John A. Kinneman, Illinois State Normal University, spoke on teaching problems. From our own faculty the speakers were Professor Knight of the College of Education, Miss Pierce and Miss Daley of the history faculty. The Ninth Annual Conference comes on Friday and Saturday, February 1 and 2, 1929.

On March 19, 1928, Professor Herbert Heaton of the University of Minnesota spoke at a Round Table held in Old Capitol on the subject "Where is the British Empire Going." Professor T. F. Tout of the University of Manchester, England, spoke at a similar gathering on May 18 on "Unity of Medieval Civilization."

During the Summer Session of 1928 the department was fortunate to have the services of four visiting professors: Professor James C. Malin of Kansas University, Professor John L. Conger of Knox College, Professor John E. Pomfret of Princeton University, and Professor James H. St. John of Miami University. Of the regular staff Professors Brandt, Livingston and Root taught the whole session through; Pro-

fessors Andrews, Ensign and Van der Zee the first term and Professor Pelzer the second.

#### **Present Academic Year**

The holders of fellowships are: R. L. Beyer, M.A. 1928; P. H. Giddens, M.A. Harvard, 1925, former instructor at Iowa State College; W. G. Swartz, M.A. 1926, former professor of history, Sterling College, Kansas and the past year holder of a Carnegie Fellowship at Clark University. The assistants are: Elmer Ellis, M.A. University of North Dakota 1925, on leave of absence as professor of history, State Teachers College, North Dakota; Howard Anderson, M.A. Chicago, 1928; W. J. Petersen, M.A. Iowa, 1927; U. R. Pugh, M.A. Baylor University, 1925; S. L. Rugland, B.A. Luther College, 1922, and former instructor at Luther; John Vieg, B.A. St. Olaf College, 1926, and former instructor at Pleasant View Academy. The scholars include Wallace Grieve, M.A. 1928; Cecil F. Marshall, B.A. Morningside, 1928; Morris McEldowney, B.A. Simpson, 1928; John N. Thurber, B.S. Iowa State College, 1928.

The registration in history showed a very large increase in the past Summer Session, chiefly in the number of graduate students. In the first term there were about eighty graduate majors in history and in the second nearly forty. Among these may be listed the following college teachers of history: P. H. Giddens, Iowa State College, S. L. Rugland and C. N. Evanson, Luther College, Ethel Jones, Drake University, H. F. Staack, Augustana College, N. H. Baxter, Park College, Missouri, E. A. Holtwick, Greenville College, Illinois, H. E. Briggs, Culver-Stockton College, Missouri, Everett Thornton, Fort Dodge Junior College, W. G. Swartz, formerly of Sterling College, Kansas, Sylvester Hemleben, New Rochelle College, New York, O. A. Kinchen, formerly of Butler College, Indiana.