

STATE OF IOWA

1916

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REPORT OF THE BOARD OF CURATORS

OF THE

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
OF IOWA

FOR THE

Biennial Period Ending June 30, 1916

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DES MOINES

ROBERT HENDERSON, STATE PRINTER

J. M. JAMIESON, STATE BINDER

## LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

Iowa City, Iowa, September 1, 1916.

*To the Governor of the State of Iowa:*

Pursuant to the provisions of law, the Board of Curators of The State Historical Society of Iowa submit herewith their thirty-first biennial report for the period ending June 30, 1916.

BENJ. F. SHAMBAUGH,  
*Superintendent.*

## STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

### ESTABLISHMENT AND LEGAL STATUS.

The State Historical Society of Iowa was established pursuant to an act of the Sixth General Assembly entitled "An Act to provide for an annual appropriation for the benefit of a State Historical Society" and approved on January 28, 1857. On February 7, 1857, organization of the Society was fully effected by the adoption of a constitution. In 1872 the Society was brought into closer relations with the State by "An Act to Reorganize the State Historical Society," which was passed by the Fourteenth General Assembly and approved on April 23. The Society was first incorporated in 1867. Its present incorporation dates from the year 1892.

The present organization, authority, and legal status of The State Historical Society of Iowa are based upon the provisions of the Code of 1897, Title XIII, Chapter 18, Sections 2882-2888.

### PUBLIC SUPPORT.

In 1857 the sum of \$250 was voted by the General Assembly as a permanent annual allowance for the use of the Society. This permanent annual support was increased to \$500 in 1860; to \$1,000 in 1880; to \$2,500 in 1902; to \$7,500 in 1904; to \$12,000 in 1907; to \$16,000 in 1911; and to \$20,000 in 1913.

In addition to the permanent annual support the following special appropriations have been voted by the General Assembly: \$6,000 in 1868; \$1,000 in 1892; \$2,000 in 1900; \$9,500 in 1902; and \$750 in 1906.

The present support of The State Historical Society of Iowa is provided for by an act of the Thirty-fifth General Assembly entitled "An Act making appropriations to the state historical society of Iowa", which was approved on April 16, 1913.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The following is a summary\* of the finances of The State Historical Society of Iowa from July 1, 1914, to June 30, 1916:

## RECEIPTS.

General Support Fund of 1913 (Act of 35th G. A.), including balance on hand July 1, 1914.....	\$ 40,067.13
Publication and Membership Fund (derived from membership dues and sale of publications), including balance on hand July 1, 1914	4,914.07
Total receipts .....	\$ 44,981.20

## EXPENDITURES.

	Am't.	Balance.
General Support Fund of 1913.....	\$ 39,865.79	\$ 201.34
Publication and Membership Fund.....	4,689.31	224.76
Total expenditures all funds.....	\$ 44,555.10	\$ 426.10
Total balance all funds.....	426.10	
Expenditures and balance equal total receipts.....	\$ 44,981.20	

## CURATORS AND OFFICERS.

The Board of Curators as now constituted consists of the following persons:

Appointed by the Governor in 1916—Marsh W. Bailey, Washington; J. P. Cruikshank, Fort Madison; M. F. Edwards, Parkersburg; J. J. McConnell, Cedar Rapids; John T. Moffit, Tipton; Byron W. Newberry, Strawberry Point; E. W. Stanton, Ames; W. H. Tedford, Corydon; J. B. Weaver, Des Moines.

Elected by the Society in 1915—J. W. Rich, Euclid Sanders, Arthur J. Cox, Marvin H. Dey, Henry G. Walker, Henry Albert, S. A. Swisher, Charles M. Dutcher, Geo. E. Grier, all of Iowa City.

The officers of The State Historical Society of Iowa as elected by the Board of Curators in 1916 are as follows:

Euclid Sanders, President; Paul A. Korab, Treasurer.

## SALARIED STAFF.

The following constitute the salaried staff of the Society, as provided for by action of the Board of Curators, from July 1, 1914, to July 1, 1915: Superintendent and Editor, \$2,400; Assistant Editor, \$1,800; Accession Clerk, \$500; Custodian, \$800; Secretary to Superintendent (for six months), \$500; Superintendent's Clerk, \$720; Stenographer, \$480; Library Research Assistant, \$600; Research Associate, \$900; Research Associate, \$900; Research Assistant, \$480.

\*For a detailed and itemized financial statement, see 1916 report of the Board of Curators to the Executive Council.

The following constitute the salaried staff of the Society, as provided for by action of the Board of Curators, from July 1, 1915, to July 1, 1916: Superintendent and Editor, \$2,400; Assistant Editor, \$2,000; Accession Clerk, \$560; Executive Clerk and Secretary to Superintendent, \$1,400; Clerk and Stenographer, \$600; Library Research Assistant, \$600; General Assistant, \$480; Research Associate, \$1,000; Research Assistant, \$480; Research Assistant, \$480.

All other services are paid for by the hour or by the week by order of the Board of Curators upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

## MEMBERSHIP.

Any person may become a member of The State Historical Society of Iowa upon election by the Board of Curators and the payment of an initial fee of \$3.00. Membership in this Society may be retained upon the payment of \$3.00 annually. Members of the Society are entitled to receive all the publications issued by the Society during the period of their membership. Any person may become a life member of The State Historical Society of Iowa upon election by the Board of Curators and the payment of \$50.00. Life members are entitled to all the privileges of members without the payment of annual dues.

On July 1, 1916, there were on the rolls of the Society 653 members and 14 life members.

## AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP.

Local historical societies (such as county historical societies, city or town historical societies, and old settlers' associations) may be enrolled as auxiliary members of The State Historical Society of Iowa upon application by such local historical societies and upon approval of the Board of Curators.

Patriotic organizations within the State of Iowa (such as the Iowa Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, the Iowa Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Iowa Society of Colonial Wars and the Iowa Society of Colonial Dames) may be enrolled as auxiliary members of The State Historical Society of Iowa upon application of such organizations and upon approval by the Board of Curators.

Auxiliary societies or organizations are entitled to receive all of the publications of The State Historical Society of Iowa issued

during the period of their affiliation without the payment of any fees or dues. Each auxiliary society or organization shall have one vote at the annual meeting of this Society.

On July 1, 1916, the auxiliary members of the Society numbered 24.

#### OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES.

In accordance with a recent resolution of the Board of Curators, library membership in The State Historical Society of Iowa was discontinued from and after January 1, 1916; and in lieu thereof certain public and college libraries within the State were designated as official depositories. These official depositories will receive all of the publications of the Society as issued without the payment of any fee or dues whatsoever. Thus the Historical Society will continue to make its publications accessible to the greatest possible number of citizens of the commonwealth.

Within the State there are now 155 official depositories, which include the following public and college libraries:

Free Public Library.....Albia	Public Library .....Cresco
Free Public Library.....Alden	Library of Academy of Sciences..
Public Library .....Algona	.....Davenport
Public Library .....Alta	Public Library .....Davenport
Iowa State College Library.....Ames	Luther College Library.....Decorah
Public Library .....Ames	Free Public Library.....Denison
Free Public Library.....Anamosa	Des Moines College Library.....
Carnegie Library .....Atlantic	.....Des Moines
Free Public Library.....Audubon	Drake University Library.....Des Moines
Public Library .....Belle Plaine	Grand View College Library.....
Free Public Library.....Bloomfield	.....Des Moines
Ericson Public Library.....Boone	Highland Park College Library..
Free Public Library.....Burlington	.....Des Moines
Free Public Library.....Carroll	Historical Department.....Des Moines
Free Public Library.....Cedar Falls	Iowa Library Commission.....Des Moines
State Teachers College Library..	Iowa State Library.....Des Moines
.....Cedar Falls	Iowa Traveling Library.....Des Moines
Coe College Library.....Cedar Rapids	Legislative Reference Department
Free Public Library.....Cedar Rapids	.....Des Moines
Iowa Masonic Library.....Cedar Rapids	Public Library .....Des Moines
Drake Free Library.....Centerville	Free Public Library.....De Witt
Free Public Library.....Central City	Carnegie-Stout Free Public Li-
Free Public Library.....Chariton	brary .....Dubuque
Public Library .....Charles City	Public Library .....Dunlap
Public Library .....Cherokee	Public Library .....Eagle Grove
Public Library .....Clarinda	Free Public Library.....Eddyville
Public Library .....Clarion	Free Public Library.....Eldon
Public Library .....Clear Lake	Public Library .....Eldora
Free Library .....Clinton	Free Public Library.....Emmetsburg
Wartburg College Library.....Clinton	Epworth Seminary Library.....Epworth
Free Public Library.....Colfax	Public Library .....Estherville
Amity College Library.....College Springs	Free Public Library.....Fairfield
Free Public Library.....Corning	Parsons College Library.....Fairfield
Free Public Library.....Council Bluffs	

Upper Iowa University Library..	Public Library.....New Hampton
.....Fayette	Free Public Library.....Newton
Free Public Library.....Forest City	Free Public Library.....Odebolt
Free Public Library.....Fort Dodge	Free Public Library.....Oelwein
Cattermole Memorial Library....	Public Library .....Onawa
.....Fort Madison	Sage Free Public Library.....Osage
Free Public Library.....Garner	Free Public Library.....Osceola
Public Library .....Glenwood	Free Public Library.....Oskaloosa
Free Public Library.....Grand Junction	Penn College Library.....Oskaloosa
Grinnell College Library.....Grinnell	Public Library .....Ottumwa
Stewart Public Library.....Grinnell	Free Public Library.....Pauquina
Free Public Library.....Grundy Center	Central College Library.....Pella
Public Library .....Hamburg	Free Public Library .....Pella
Free Public Library.....Hampton	Free Public Library.....Perry
Free Public Library.....Hawarden	Public Library .....Red Oak
Lenox College Library.....Hopkinton	Free Public Library.....Rock Rapids
Free Public Library.....Humboldt	Free Public Library.....Rockwell City
Free Public Library.....Independence	Free Public Library.....Sac City
Public Library .....Indianola	Free Public Library.....Sanborn
Simpson College Library.....Indianola	Free Public Library.....Sheldon
Public Library .....Iowa City	Free Public Library.....Shenandoah
Law Library, State University...	Free Public Library.....Sibley
.....Iowa City	Free Public Library.....Sigourney
State University Library.....Iowa City	Morningside College Library.....
Ellsworth College Library.....Iowa Falls	.....Sioux City
Free Public Library.....Iowa Falls	Public Library.....Sioux City
Public Library .....Jefferson	Public Library .....Spencer
Public Library .....Keokuk	Free Public Library.....Spirit Lake
Free Public Library.....Knoxville	Buena Vista College Library.....
Free Public Library.....Lake City	.....Storm Lake
Graceland College Library.....Lamoni	Public Library.....Storm Lake
Library of the Reorganized	Free Public Library.....Stuart
Church of Jesus Christ of	Tabor College Library.....Tabor
Latter Day Saints.....Lamoni	Free Public Library.....Tama
Free Public Library.....Laurens	Free Public Library.....Tipton
Public Library .....Le Mars	Leander Clark College Library.....Toledo
Free Public Library.....Leon	Free Public Library.....Traer
Public Library .....Manchester	Free Public Library.....Villisca
Free Public Library.....Maquoketa	Free Public Library.....Vinton
Free Public Library.....Marengo	Chilcote City Library.....Washington
Free Public Library.....Marion	Public Library .....Waterloo
Public Library .....Marshalltown	Public Library .....Waukon
Public Library .....Mason City	Free Public Library.....Waverly
Free Public Library.....Missouri Valley	Wartburg Teachers Seminary and
Free Public Library.....Monticello	Academy Library .....Waverly
Free Public Library.....Mount Pleasant	Kendall Young Library.....Webster City
Iowa Wesleyan University Library	Schofield Library Association.....Wellman
.....Mount Pleasant	Enlow Public Library.....West Branch
Cornell College Library.....Mount Vernon	Free Public Library.....West Liberty
P. M. Musser Public Library....	Free Public Library.....Whiting
.....Muscatine	Public Library .....Winterset
Public Library .....Nashua	Free Public Library.....Woodbine
Public Library.....Nevada	

For a number of years it has been the policy of the State Historical Society to maintain exchange relations with certain libraries and institutions throughout the United States—an arrangement which has resulted in the acquisition of valuable materials for the library of the Historical Society. During the past

year the list of exchange institutions has undergone revision, with the result that 58 libraries and institutions have been designated as official depositories outside of the State.

Alabama Department of Archives and History.....	Montgomery, Alabama
Arkansas History Commission.....	Little Rock, Arkansas
Buffalo Historical Society.....	Buffalo, New York
California University Library.....	Berkeley, California
Chicago Historical Society.....	Chicago, Illinois
Chicago University Library.....	Chicago, Illinois
State Historical and Natural History Society.....	Denver, Colorado
Columbia University Library.....	New York City
Library of Congress.....	Washington, D. C.
Connecticut Historical Society.....	Hartford, Connecticut
Georgia Historical Society.....	Savannah, Georgia
Harvard University Library.....	Cambridge, Massachusetts
Illinois State Historical Society.....	Springfield, Illinois
University of Illinois Library.....	Urbana, Illinois
Indiana State Library.....	Indianapolis, Indiana
Indiana University Library.....	Bloomington, Indiana
Johns Hopkins University Library.....	Baltimore, Maryland
Kansas State Historical Society.....	Topeka, Kansas
Kentucky State Historical Society.....	Frankfort, Kentucky
Louisiana Historical Society.....	New Orleans, Louisiana
Maine Historical Society.....	Portland, Maine
Maryland Historical Society.....	Baltimore, Maryland
Massachusetts Historical Society.....	Boston, Massachusetts
Michigan Historical Commission.....	Lansing, Michigan
Michigan University Library.....	Ann Arbor, Michigan
Minnesota Historical Society.....	St. Paul, Minnesota
Minnesota University Library.....	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Department of Archives and History.....	Jackson, Mississippi
Missouri Historical Society.....	St. Louis, Missouri
Missouri State Historical Society.....	Columbia, Missouri
Montana Historical and Miscellaneous Library.....	Helena, Montana
Nebraska Historical Society.....	Lincoln, Nebraska
New Hampshire Historical Society.....	Concord, New Hampshire
New Jersey Historical Society.....	Newark, New Jersey
New York Historical Society.....	New York City
New York Public Library.....	New York City
New York State Library.....	Albany, New York
North Carolina Historical Society.....	Chapel Hill, North Carolina
State Historical Society of North Dakota.....	Bismarck, North Dakota
Ohio Historical and Philosophical Society.....	Cincinnati, Ohio
Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society.....	Columbus, Ohio
Oklahoma Historical Society.....	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Oregon Historical Society.....	Portland, Oregon
Pennsylvania Historical Society.....	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania University Library.....	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Rhode Island Historical Society.....	Providence, Rhode Island
Smithsonian Institution.....	Washington, D. C.
South Carolina Historical Society.....	Charleston, South Carolina
State Historical Society of South Dakota.....	Pierre, South Dakota
Tennessee Historical Society.....	Nashville, Tennessee
Texas State Historical Association.....	Austin, Texas
Vermont Historical Society.....	Montpelier, Vermont
Virginia Historical Society.....	Richmond, Virginia
Virginia State Library.....	Richmond, Virginia
Washington University State Historical Society.....	Seattle, Washington

Western Reserve Historical Society.....	Cleveland, Ohio
Wisconsin State Historical Society.....	Madison, Wisconsin
Yale University Library.....	New Haven, Connecticut

#### HISTORICAL RESEARCH.

In most states the principal function of the State Historical Society has been that of collection and exhibition, historical research having been left for the most part to individual initiative. But with The State Historical Society of Iowa historical research and publication have in recent years become the dominant activity. Through its organization and institutional activities the materials of state and local history are discovered, critically studied by specialists, compiled, edited, and published. Thus, instead of attempting to make the largest possible collection of historical materials in one place, the Society endeavors to compile, publish and distribute the greatest amount of accurate, scientific historical literature. Instead of hoarding books and manuscripts for the use of the few, the Society makes the history of the State accessible to the many.

The work of historical research and investigation is done largely by specialists under the direction of the Superintendent. Neither partisan bias nor personal prejudice is allowed to enter into the work of those who are engaged in research for the Society.

During the biennial period from July 1, 1914, to July 1, 1916, the research activities of the Society have covered a variety of subjects. Considerable progress has been made on two volumes for the *Iowa Biographical Series*, namely, a biography of Governor Samuel J. Kirkwood and a biography of General James B. Weaver.

For the *Iowa Economic History Series* a volume on the *History of Economic Legislation in Iowa* has been completed and is ready for publication.

Researches for the *Applied History Series* have been carried forward with the result that a volume on *Statute Law-making in Iowa* will be issued before the close of the year.

During the biennium under review a manuscript on the *History of Third Party Movements Since the Civil War—With Special Reference to Iowa* was compiled, edited, and published. A manuscript on the *History of the Half Breed Tract* has been prepared and edited for publication. During this period also a pocket edition of the *Constitution of Iowa*, with historical introduction and index, was compiled and published. Indexes to the *Messages and*

*Proclamations of the Governors of Iowa* and the *Annals of Iowa* (1863-1874) were completed, typewritten, and bound in convenient form for reference purposes. A revised and enlarged edition of *One Hundred Topics in Iowa History* was compiled and published for the use of study clubs and public schools.

The most extensive researches carried on by the Society during the biennial period under review relate to the history of education in Iowa. Indeed, this work when completed will constitute the most comprehensive history of education which has thus far appeared anywhere in the United States. Four volumes have already been published and distributed, and the remaining two are in manuscript form awaiting publication in the near future. A more complete discussion of the contents of these volumes appears elsewhere in this report under the head of "Historical Publications".

In co-operation with five other States in the Mississippi Valley, namely, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, The State Historical Society of Iowa has undertaken an investigation of the archives at Washington, D. C. So far as Iowa is concerned, the purpose of this investigation is to ascertain the extent and character of the materials relative to the history of Iowa which have been preserved in the national archives at Washington. These researches are being conducted by Dr. N. D. Mereness, who acts under the direction of the co-operating States. The expenses of the work are borne equally by the six co-operating States. The results of the work will be an extensive card catalogue of the materials at Washington which relate to the history of the State. During the past year the researches have been confined to the archives in the Department of State.

During the biennial period from July 1, 1914, to July 1, 1916, the following persons have carried on researches for the Society:

Research Associates—C. R. Aurner, John E. Briggs, F. H. Garver, John L. Gillin, F. E. Haynes, F. E. Horaack, John C. Parish, O. K. Patton, Louis Pelzer, H. J. Peterson, Ivan L. Pollock, L. B. Schmidt, and J. Van der Zee.

Research Assistants—Karl J. Knoepfler, John M. Pfiffner, Thomas Teakle, and C. B. Upham.

#### APPLIED HISTORY.

For a number of years the publications of The State Historical Society of Iowa have included an *Applied History Series*. Under-

lying these researches is the idea that history may be exploited in the cause of social betterment. Indeed, the opportunities for utilizing and making practical application of the results of historical research are perhaps nowhere more promising than in the field of social and economic legislation. To put the facts of history to the utmost practical use is the highest aim of historical research.

The third volume of this series, which relates to the subject of *Statute Law-making in Iowa*, is now in preparation and will be published before the first of January, 1917. This volume has been a co-operative undertaking, including the services of some six or eight researchers. It will be the most exhaustive work on statute law-making thus far compiled for any State in the Union. Work on the volume has involved a careful examination of about 83,416 pages of the legislative journals and 21,015 pages of the statute laws.

#### HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS.

Publication is an essential feature of the activities of The State Historical Society of Iowa, since its purpose is not alone to investigate, to discover, to collect, and to preserve, but also to make accessible the materials of Iowa history.

#### THE QUARTERLY.

During the biennial period just closed *The Iowa Journal of History and Politics*, the quarterly publication of the Society, has been continued. With the close of the year 1916 fourteen volumes of this publication will have been completed. The principal contributions to the *Iowa Journal* during the period from July 1, 1914, to July 1, 1916, are as follows:

French Discovery and Exploration of the Eastern Iowa Country before 1763. By Jacob Van der Zee.

Fur Trade Operations in the Eastern Iowa Country under the Spanish Regime. By Jacob Van der Zee.

The Private Land Claims of the Old Northwest Territory. By Louis Pelzer.

The Quakers of Iowa in 1858. By Louis T. Jones.

Fur Trade Operations in the Eastern Iowa Country from 1800 to 1833. By Jacob Van der Zee.

The Public Domain as a Field for Historical Study. By Louis Pelzer.

Early History of Lead Mining in the Iowa Country. By Jacob Van der Zee.

Text-book Legislation in Iowa. By O. E. Klingaman.

The Half-breed Tract. By Jacob Van der Zee.

The Career of Jacob Rich. By George Evan Roberts.

Some Episodes in the Early History of Des Moines. By Dan Elbert Clark.

The Oldest Land Titles in the State of Iowa. By Jacob Van der Zee.

The Indians of Iowa in 1842.

The Neutral Ground. By Jacob Van der Zee.

The Grasshopper Plagues in Iowa. By John E. Briggs.

John A. Nash and the Early History of Des Moines College.

The Black Hawk War and the Treaty of 1832. By Jacob Van der Zee.

The Legislation of the Thirty-sixth General Assembly of Iowa. By Frank Edward Horack.

History of Presbyterianism in Iowa City. By Jacob Van der Zee.

The Indian Agent in the United States before 1850. By Ruth A. Gallaher.

The Removal of the Capital from Iowa City to Des Moines. By John E. Briggs.

Captivity of a Party of Frenchmen Among Indians in the Iowa Country, 1728-1729. By Jacob Van der Zee.

The Romance in Iowa History. By Thomas Teakle.

The Indian Agent in the United States Since 1850. By Ruth A. Gallaher.

The Career of Samuel R. Thurston in Iowa and Oregon. By Hiram F. White.

A Western Demand for Internal Improvements.

#### IOWA SOCIAL HISTORY SERIES.

The *Iowa Social History Series* represents a new phase of historical research which has been developed by the Society during the last biennium. It is the purpose of this series to deal with social problems both from the historical and from the practical viewpoint. The following volumes have appeared in this Series:

*History of Poor Relief Legislation in Iowa*, by John L. Gillin, (1914.) Pp. 404.

*History of Social Legislation in Iowa*, by John E. Briggs, (1915). Pp. 444.

#### MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS.

One of the most timely publications issued by the Society during the past two years is a *History of Third Party Movements Since the Civil War—With Special Reference to Iowa*, by Dr. F. E. Haynes. This volume contains 564 pages and is the outgrowth of plans to make available the history of political parties in Iowa. That such a volume should emanate from this State is both logical and fitting, since Iowa is in the very heart of the region in which the new movements have originated.

The miscellaneous publications have also included a leather-bound, pocket edition of the *Constitution of Iowa*, with an historical introduction and index by Benj. F. Shambaugh. This booklet contains 131 pages.

#### HISTORY OF EDUCATION IN IOWA.

The most comprehensive work issued during the period from July 1, 1914, to July 1, 1916, is the *History of Education in Iowa*, by Dr. C. R. Aurner. Four volumes of this work have already been published and distributed.

Volume I of the series contains 436 pages and is devoted to the history and organization of the common school system both of the Territory and the State of Iowa. The book is divided into the following parts: I. General Historical Introduction. II. The Public School Funds. III. School Districts. IV. Teachers in the Schools. V. Text-books in the Schools.

Volume II contains 469 pages and is concerned with the activities and agencies of school supervision. The following subjects are discussed in detail: I. School Supervision. II. State Boards. III. Teachers' Institutes. IV. Teachers' Associations. V. Miscellaneous Activities. VI. Proposed Legislation.

The third volume of the series, which covers 464 pages, relates to secondary education in Iowa and includes a consideration of the following educational agencies: I. The Incorporated Academy. II. The Unincorporated Academy. III. Institutions for Special Instruction. IV. Secondary Schools under Sectarian Domination. V. The Public High School. VI. Course of Study in the High School.

Volume IV covers 471 pages and contains a brief history of each of the following State institutions for higher learning: I. The State University of Iowa. II. The Iowa State College of

Agriculture and Mechanic Arts. III. The State Teachers' College.

Volumes V and VI will deal with the history of educational work in the State industrial and charitable institutions, and with the history of private and denominational colleges in Iowa.

#### BULLETINS OF INFORMATION.

A revised and enlarged edition of Bulletin No. 7, entitled *One Hundred Topics in Iowa History* was issued in 1915. This bulletin contains a comprehensive list of topics in Iowa History along with carefully selected references, and is of particular interest and value to study clubs and public school teachers.

#### THE LIBRARY.

Since its establishment in 1857, The State Historical Society of Iowa has maintained a library of books, pamphlets, and manuscripts for the use of those interested in the study of Iowa and American history as well as for the benefit of those who either upon their own initiative or under the direction of the Society are engaged in scientific historical research. It was not, however, until the removal of the Library to the Hall of Liberal Arts in 1901 that the entire collection was completely classified, accessioned, and shelf-listed according to modern library methods. An inventory of the Library taken in July, 1916, records the following statistics:

Number of titles accessioned.....	44,384
Number of bound newspapers.....	3,050
Number of miscellaneous duplicates.....	3,450
Number of duplicates of Iowa documents.....	*2,800
Total number of titles.....	53,684

Besides the large collection of miscellaneous titles bearing upon the general and local history of Iowa, the Mississippi Valley, and the United States, the Library contains the various official and scientific publications of the United States Government, publications issued under the authority of the State of Iowa, the laws of the Territories and States of the Mississippi Valley, and the publications of the various historical, scientific, and learned institutions

\*In the early years the distribution of Iowa documents was effected by The State Historical Society of Iowa through its exchange relations. In more recent years this function has been performed by the State Library and the Document Department at Des Moines. Accordingly, a considerable number of duplicates of Iowa documents were returned to the Document Department during the past year. This accounts for the very apparent depletion in the number of these duplicates in comparison with the number given in previous reports.

of the country. In recent years an effort has been made to collect the writings of Iowa authors.

During the past biennial period the expansion of the Library has necessitated the installation of a considerable amount of additional steel shelving.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS.

The State Historical Society of Iowa is a growing institution whose financial support has been enlarged with its increasing activities. At present the most pressing needs of the Society are the following:

For Research, annually.....	\$ 4,000.00
For Publication, annually.....	2,000.00
For the Library:	
One Cataloguer, annually.....	1,200.00
One Collector, annually.....	1,400.00
Purchase of Books, annually.....	1,000.00
Steel book-shelving, annually.....	400.00
Total, annually .....	\$ 10,000.00

Accordingly, the Board of Curators now recommends that an appropriation of \$10,000 annually be added to the permanent support of the Society.