

1951

The Florida Historical Society

Florida Historical Society
membership@myfloridahistory.org



Part of the [American Studies Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

Find similar works at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/fhq>

University of Central Florida Libraries <http://library.ucf.edu>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by STARS. It has been accepted for inclusion in Florida Historical Quarterly by an authorized editor of STARS. For more information, please contact STARS@ucf.edu.

Recommended Citation

Society, Florida Historical (1951) "The Florida Historical Society," *Florida Historical Quarterly*. Vol. 30 : No. 1 , Article 5.

Available at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/fhq/vol30/iss1/5>

THE FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THE ANNUAL MEETING

Our Annual Meeting, held in St. Petersburg March 30-31 while the last issue of the *Quarterly* was in the press, was a success in every way—in fact, it was one of the most successful we have had. Our host was the St. Petersburg Memorial Historical Society, with Mr. John C. Blocker, Mr. Walter P. Fuller, and Mrs. Mary E. Apple as chairmen of the arrangement committees.

A number of historical papers relating to Florida's history were written for the program, a summary of each of which will be included in this and other issues of the *Quarterly*. Our members attended from most sections of the State, between Tallahassee and Miami, Jacksonville and Everglades, showing the widespread and genuine interest they feel in our Society.

Our Board of Directors met on the previous evening with eleven directors present. The matters considered, with their recommendations, were passed on to the annual membership meeting, and are noted in the Minutes (*post*).

THE PROGRAM

March 30, Morning Session

Presiding: President Charlton W. Tebeau

Invocation: Rev. J. Wallace Hamilton, Pasadena Community Church

Address of Welcome: The Hon. Stanley Minshall, Mayor of the City of St. Petersburg

Mrs. Mary E. Apple, President St. Petersburg Memorial Historical Society
"Newnan's Invasion of 1812"

Rembert W. Patrick, University of Florida
"Significance of the Lykes Family in Relation to the Growth and Development of the West Coast of Florida"

Fred Lykes, Spring Hill, Brooksville, Florida
"The Addison Blockhouse"

John W. Griffin, Florida State Archeologist
"Civil War Days on the Homosassa"

Mary MacRae, Homosassa

Luncheon, Suwannee Hotel

FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

117

Afternoon Session

- Presiding:** First Vice-President, Richard P. Daniel
"A Summary of the Archaeology of the Tampa Bay Region"
Ripley P. Bullen, Asst. Florida State Archeologist
"James P. McKay"
D. B. McKay, Tampa
"Hurricanes"
Walter Pliny Fuller, St. Petersburg
"Life and Labor in Spanish Florida 1783-1821"
J. E. Dovell, University of Florida
-

Annual Dinner, Suwannee Hotel

- Presiding:** Charlton W. Tebeau, President
Speaker: Mercer White Brown of St. Petersburg
Theme: "History of the Parson Brown Orange"
-

March 31, Morning Session

- St. Petersburg Memorial Historical Museum
Presiding: Second Vice-President, John C. Blocker
"The Social Significance of Florida Southern College"
Leroy Johnson, Florida Southern College
"Boom Time Woes of Miami"
Frank B. Sessa, University of Miami
-

Business meeting of the Society

There was a large attendance at all of the sessions in addition to our members, of which we have many in St. Petersburg and Tampa. More than thirty members came from a distance including:

Mr. and Mrs. Mark F. Boyd, Tallahassee; George R. Bentley, Univ. of Fla.; Karl A. Bickel, Sarasota; Ripley P. Bullen, Gainesville; Miles Collier, Everglades; Mrs. G. E. Copeland, Winter Haven; Mr. and Mrs. Richard P. Daniel, Jacksonville; J. E. Dovell, Univ. of Fla.; William I. Fee, Fort Pierce; A. F. Fugitt, Lakeland; John W. Griffin, Gainesville; Mrs. John Henderson, Tallahassee; Justin Havee, Miami; Fred Lykes, Brooksville; Miss Mary Lewis, Tallahassee; Mrs. Andrew J. Moulds, representing the St. Augustine Hist. Soc.; M. P. Mickler, Kissimmee; Mrs. J. A. MacRae, Homasassa; Rembert W. Patrick, Univ. of Fla.; William Pierce, Fort Lauderdale; Samuel Proctor, Univ. of Fla.;

Miss Dena Snodgrass, Jacksonville; James F. Sunderman, Univ. of Fla.; Charles T. Thrift Jr., Fla. Southern Univ.; Charlton W. Tebeau, Univ. of Miami; Prof. and Mrs. H. S. Winters, Stetson Univ.; Iona S. Wright, Univ. of Miami.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

St. Petersburg Memorial Historical Society, March 31, 1951.

President Tebeau called the annual meeting of the Florida Historical Society to order at 11:40 A.M. The President gave a detailed report to the more than thirty members assembled on the removal of the Society's Library and headquarters from St. Augustine to the main library building of the University of Florida. He reviewed the various steps by which the move had been effected and pointed out that every effort had been made to give the members of the Society an opportunity to learn of the problems facing the Society and a chance to vote on the question of accepting the offer from the University of Florida. Acting under the authority delegated to it by the annual meeting of 1950, the Board of Directors concluded negotiations with the University of Florida and authorized a vote by the members of the Society on the proposition. Ballots had been sent out in August, 1950, and the returns had been counted in October. Two hundred eighty-eight members voted and 276 of them favored acceptance of the proposal from the University of Florida. Therefore the Directors authorized the move and the President appointed a committee to supervise the removal. The library holdings were sent to the Society's new headquarters during the Christmas holidays and were located on the fourth floor of the main library building at the University of Florida.

The final agreement between the University and the Florida Historical Society provided for the following: in return for free use of the Library of the Florida Historical Society by the students and faculty of the University of Florida, the University

agreed to provide adequate space for the Society's Library and headquarters including light, heat, local telephone service, and janitorial service; the services of an editor for the *Florida Historical Quarterly* as long as the Society desired these services; and the service of a librarian for the Society. Under this agreement Mrs. Johnson was placed on the payroll of the University of Florida as of April 1, 1951. According to the agreement the University would always employ a librarian upon recommendation by the Florida Historical Society. The librarian would not be assigned duties at the University of Florida other than caring for the Florida Historical Society Library and she (he) could hold other offices in the Society which the members thought desirable. Under the terms of the agreement the Florida Historical Society could remove its headquarters and Library whenever it thought advantageous to its members or for the good of historical scholarship in the State.

President Tebeau expressed his relief and satisfaction over the successful solution of a very pressing problem which had confronted the Society for the past years. The agreement with the University of Florida gave the Society excellent quarters and alleviated the serious financial problem of the Society. He believed the collections of the Florida Historical Society would now be available to more students and that the Directors, officers, and members of the Society should be highly pleased with the new arrangement. More money could now be devoted to the *Quarterly*. However, the President pointed out that there was a need for continued effort in the securing of new members and he especially urged that more individuals should take out \$10 memberships rather than \$4 memberships.

Mrs. MacRae paid tribute to Mrs. Johnson who had worked so hard to pack and prepare the books, manuscripts, and other material of the Society's Library for shipment to Gainesville. Mr. Tebeau reported that he had urged Mrs. Johnson to employ someone to do the work of packing, but found that she had al-

ready accomplished most of the task before he had suggested the hiring of help. "Nothing we can say will adequately express our debt to Mrs. Johnson," the President said. "No tribute in words will repay her for the time, energy, and devotion which she has given to the best interest of the Society. We can only repeat over and over our debt of gratitude to her and be thankful that we have one who places the interests of the Society above her own personal welfare."

The annual report of the Secretary-Treasurer was read. On a motion by Mr. Blocker and seconded by Mr. Winters, the Treasurer's report and the budget for 1951-52 were accepted. Mr. Tebeau explained that the University of Miami had contributed \$500 to the Society during the past year. Upon assuming the office of President of the Society he had seen the critical financial situation of the organization and had made extended efforts to secure large contributions. President Bowman Ashe of the University of Miami had responded with the promise of a \$500 annual subsidy for three years.

Mrs. Johnson pointed out that the Florida Historical Society could not have continued operation had the University of Miami not been so generous during the past two years. The contribution of the University had made possible the continued operation of the Library in St. Augustine and the publication of the *Quarterly*. The Society therefore, should be especially grateful to Dr. Bowman Ashe and the University of Miami.

Although the Society's financial problems had been eased, President Tebeau stated that there was still a need for an increased income and more funds could be obtained from \$10 memberships, \$25 to \$50 institutional memberships, and \$100 life memberships. Mr. Blocker reported that Mr. L. C. Brown of St. Petersburg had sent in a check for \$100 for a life membership in the Society. This was unanimously accepted. Mr. Blocker also stated that he believed at least two other citizens of St. Petersburg would become life members of the Society. The Re-

Recording Secretary read the recommendation of the Board of Directors in regard to the income received from life memberships. In the opinion of the Board all life membership payments should be placed in a special endowment fund and the income used for general purposes of the Society. Mr. Lesley moved that all income received from life memberships be placed in an endowment fund and be invested in securities as authorized by the laws of the State of Florida for fiduciary funds, and the income from this endowment be used for the general purposes of the Society. Mr. Fuller seconded the motion and after some discussion it was passed without dissent.

The Recording Secretary reported that the Board of Directors had recommended that the incoming Board investigate the feasibility of the continued holding of two lots in St. Augustine which were owned by the Society. Mr. Daniel believed that the lots should be sold and the money placed in the trust fund of the Society. At present these lots were a liability rather than an asset, for taxes had to be paid on them each year. Mr. Blocker moved that the Board of Directors be authorized to investigate the possibility of selling the lots and, if in the opinion of the Board it would be to the best purposes of the Society, to sell these lots. Mr. Havee seconded the motion. Mr. Lesley asked whether the Society had the right to sell the lots. President Tebeau stated that there had been no limitation placed upon the Society as to the use or sale of the lots. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Recording Secretary read the report on membership for 1950-1951, which showed a total of 683 members on April 1, 1951. This represented a net decrease of 23 members during the past year. The total of 683 did not include 73 exchanges with other journals. Mr. Lesley was concerned about this decrease in membership and wanted to know what could be done to regain these former members. Mr. Havee asked about the sponsors who had originally nominated these members and wondered

whether those sponsors could not secure renewals. President Tebeau emphasized the importance of a large and active membership. Not only should the members and directors of the Society secure renewals, but they should work to obtain new members, and especially sustaining members at the \$10 annual rate. It was pointed out that life memberships should be encouraged for the funds received from such memberships would provide a very needed endowment for the Society. It was recommended that the Secretary-Treasurer send a list of the members of the Society and a list of former members to the Directors and urge them to take leadership in securing renewals and in nominating new members. It was further suggested that a statement of the various types of memberships be printed in each issue of the *Quarterly* along with an application blank.

The Recording Secretary read the budget for 1951-1952 as proposed by the Secretary-Treasurer and approved by the Board of Directors. Mr. Winters moved the acceptance of the report and Mr. Havee seconded the motion. President Tebeau pointed out that no provision was made for the salary of the librarian for that former obligation of the Society was now assumed by the University of Florida which was paying Mrs. Johnson \$200 per month. A number of members emphasized the importance of the *Quarterly*. President Tebeau stated that the financial condition of the Society had necessitated a decrease in the size of the *Quarterly*, but that the budget for the next year provided for an increase of almost thirty percent. After some further discussion the motion was passed.

President Tebeau read a letter from the Hillsborough County Historical Commission with a request that a genealogical section be printed in the *Quarterly*. Although the President favored this, he pointed out that it would have to be done with care. Mr. Havee feared there would be a tendency to increase and enlarge a genealogical section until it would become the main part of the *Quarterly*. Mr. Tebeau stated that the editor of the *Quarterly*

was in control according to the rules of the Society and that the editor could limit the amount of space devoted to genealogy. Mr. Daniel moved that the request be referred to Mr. Julian Yonge, Editor of the *Quarterly*. Mr. Winters seconded the motion and it was passed.

There was a general expression of satisfaction with the hospitality which had been extended by St. Petersburg. A number of members stated that this had been one of the best, if not the best, meetings in the history of the Florida Historical Society. Expressions of thanks were made to Mr. Blocker, Mr. Fuller, and Mrs. Apple, for their work in making a success of the annual meeting. It was also suggested that the papers presented in the various sessions were of such excellence that they should be published in the *Quarterly*. It was pointed out, however, that this was not feasible since some of the papers were not available for publication. It was agreed that a request should be made to the editor of the *Florida Historical Quarterly* that a summary of the papers be printed in the *Quarterly*.

President Tebeau reported that a number of invitations had been extended to the Society for its 1952 annual meeting, but the place of the annual meeting would be selected by the Board of Directors in a later meeting.

The Recording Secretary read the report of the Nominations Committee. Mr. Havee who had been nominated as a director for a two year period, declined the nomination on the ground that other duties would prevent him from serving for the next years. Mr. Daniel then nominated Miss Snodgrass. Mr. Proctor nominated Mr. Bentley. After both nominees had withdrawn there was a general discussion of the number of directors which should be elected at this time. Mr. Patrick reported that the Nominations Committee had provided for one additional director in anticipation of the fact that the State of Florida would have two additional congressional districts in 1952. Mr. Blocker then moved that both Miss Snodgrass and Mr. Bentley be nominated.

Mr. Lesley seconded the motion on the ground that there was no question but that the State would have two additional congressional districts in 1952 and it was in keeping with the Society's established precedent to add a director for each new congressional district. The motion was carried and the report of the Nominations Committee as amended by the motion was read.

OFFICERS

Richard P. Daniel, **president** (Jacksonville)
John C. Blocker, **1st vice president** (St. Petersburg)
Charles T. Thrift, Jr., **2nd vice president** (Lakeland)
Rembert W. Patrick, **recording secretary** (Gainesville)
Mrs. M. A. Johnson, **treasurer, corresponding secretary,
and librarian** (Gainesville)

DIRECTORS

Second District: Samuel Proctor (Gainesville)
Fourth district: Miles Collier (Everglades)
Sixth district: Roscoe T. Anthony (Palm Beach)
At-large: Miss Dena Snodgrass (Jacksonville)
George Bentley (Gainesville)
David R. Dunham (St. Augustine)
R. L. Goulding (Tallahassee)

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE FOR 1952

Walter P. Fuller, chairman (St. Petersburg)
Donald E. Worcester (Gainesville)
Miss Occie Clubbs (Pensacola)
H. S. Winters (DeLand)
C. W. Tebeau (Coral Gables)

President Tebeau asked for additional nominations. When there were no additional nominations from the floor, Mr. Lesley moved that the Recording Secretary cast a unanimous vote

for the candidates as reported by the Nominations Committee and amended by the Society. Mr. Fee seconded this motion which was passed and the Recording Secretary cast the vote as directed.

Mr. Blocker moved that the members present give President Tebeau a rising vote of thanks for his services during the past two years. Without the formality of a second the members rose and applauded President Tebeau for the work which he had done. President Tebeau then asked Mr. Daniel to assume the office as President of the Florida Historical Society.

President Daniel accepted his office and promised that he would work industriously to increase the membership of the Florida Historical Society.

The annual meeting was adjourned at 12:45 P.M.

R. W. PATRICK
Recording Secretary

Approved:

CHARLTON W. TEBEAU
President

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

For period April 1, 1950 to April 1, 1951

| | | |
|---|-------|-----|
| Total membership, April 1, 1950 (Exchanges not included) | 706 | |
| New members during year | 53 | |
| Renewals | 4 | |
| Libraries | 3 | 766 |
| Deaths | 10 | |
| Resignations | 26 | |
| Moved, no forwarding address | 47 | |
| | - - - | 83 |
| Total Membership April 1, 1951 | | 683 |
| Exchanges | | 73 |

Society: The Florida Historical Society

126

FLORIDA HISTORICAL QUARTERLY

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Covering Period from April 1, 1950 to April 1, 1951

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Balances, April 1, 1950 | | |
| Robertson Memorial Fund | 4.00 | |
| Archaeology | 57.78 | |
| Building | 25.00 | |
| | <u>486.78</u> | |
| Deficit | 251.24 | |
| | <u>235.54</u> | \$ 235.54 |

GENERAL FUND:

RECEIPTS:

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Dues from members | 2164.50 | |
| State Library Board | 900.00 | |
| University of Miami | 750.00 | |
| Mrs. Henry Kohl | 50.00 | |
| William Rodgers | 25.00 | |
| Stetson University | 25.00 | |
| Books sold | 14.15 | |
| 2 oil heaters sold | 65.00 | |
| Refunds on deposits lights | | |
| Telephone & insurance | 12.90 | |
| | <u>3406.55</u> | \$4006.55 |

DISBURSEMENTS:

| | | |
|---|----------------|-----------|
| Salary | 1800.00 | |
| Rent | 450.00 | |
| Quarterly publication | 1240.99 | |
| Books and subscriptions | 17.00 | |
| Am. Asst'n State & Local History | 5.00 | |
| Taxes | 1.64 | |
| 1950 Annual Meeting expenses | 45.74 | |
| 1951 programs | 26.78 | |
| General expenses (supplies, lights, telephone, printing, postage) | 309.94 | |
| | <u>3897.09</u> | |
| Balance, April 1, 1951 | 109.46 | \$4006.95 |

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Balance, March 1, 1950 | 235.54 | |
| Total receipts | 4006.55 | |
| | <u>4242.09</u> | |
| Total expenditures | 3897.09 | |
| | <u>345.00</u> | \$ 345.00 |

PROPOSED BUDGET, APRIL 1, 1951 to APRIL 1, 1952

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Cash balance General Fund | 345.00 | |
| Membership dues | 2500.00 | |
| Quarterlies sold | 50.00 | |
| | <u>2895.00</u> | \$2895.00 |

FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

127

Expenditures:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Quarterly publication | 2000.00 |
| Purchase of books | 25.00 |
| Insurance | — |
| Equipment | 50.00 |
| Annual Meeting | 75.00 |
| Freight & express | 10.00 |
| P.O. box rent | 4.00 |
| Postage | 75.00 |
| Taxes | 2.00 |
| Am. Asst'n State & Local History | 5.00 |
| Florida Anthropological Society | 3.00 |
| Copyrights & postage | 35.00 |
| Office supplies | 50.00 |
| Incidentals | 50.00 |

\$2384.00

NEW MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY

Life members:

Nominated by

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| L. Chauncey Brown-St. Petersburg | John C. Blocker & Walter P. Fuller |
| Fred Lykes-Brooksville | |
| Richard P. Daniel-Jacksonville | |

Members:

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Mrs. Mary B. Scofield-Inverness | O. F. Scofield |
| Mrs. A. G. Davis-Jacksonville | Dena Snodgrass |
| Ernest B. Simmons-Lutz | D. B. McKay |
| Mrs. W. A. Smith-Marianna | |
| Gabriel Lowe-Vandervilt University | A. Johnson |
| J. Mercer Brown-St. Petersburg | A. Johnson |
| Mrs. J. D. Calloway-Bradenton..... | Mrs. W. H. McColl |
| John W. Schaut-Bradenton..... | E. C. Kavanaugh, Jr. |
| Philip W. Moore-Miami..... | John G. McKay, Jr. |
| John G. McKay, Jr.-Miami | |
| Emily Atkins-University of Florida | H. J. Doherty, Jr. |
| Charles E. Fetherston-Green Cove Spgs. | J. C. Yonge |
| Wellington Wells-Palm Beach | R. T. Anthony |
| F. L. Durland-Palm Beach | R. T. Anthony |
| Mrs. F. L. Durland-Palm Beach..... | R. T. Anthony |
| Bert Winters (renewal)-Palm Beach | R. T. Anthony |
| C. H. Willoughby (renewal)-Gainesville | |
| Olin W. Norwood (renewal)-Duke University | |
| A. F. Fugitt-Lakeland | Charles T. Thrift, Jr. |
| C. Herbert Laub-University of Tampa .. | A. Johnson |
| Major M. J. Hansinger USAF, American Embassy, Teheran, Iran | A. Johnson |
| Mrs. Jeanne B. Bills-Miami | Justin Havee |
| Mrs. H. M. Porter-Marianna..... | A. Johnson |