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News and Notes

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NEWS AND NOTES

Activities of Historical Societies

The Halifax Historical Society visited the Bulow plantation ruins in May. Eileen Butts and Alice Strickland spoke before the Society. The next issue of the *Halifax Journal* is scheduled for October.



The Hillsborough County Historical Commission was the recipient of an original map of Florida by Will Stork, a gift from the Earl and Countess of Hillsborough on their recent visit to Tampa. Two initial sites have been selected by the Commission for marking, an 1856 Indian attack site and the location of a skirmish in 1863. Guest speakers at program meetings of the Commission the past year included Charles W. Arnade, Charles Knight and Major Edward Keenan. A museum, maintained in the court house, is open to visitors daily.



Ernest G. Gearhart, Jr., was elected president of the Historical Association of Southern Florida at the annual meeting in May. Other newly elected officers were E. M. Hancock, first vice president, Wayne E. Withers, second vice president and Robert M. McKey, treasurer. Kenneth S. Keyes, R. B. Roberts, H. Lewis Dorn, Thomas W. Hagan and Thomas P. Caldwell were added to the board of directors.

A former important industry of southern Florida was recognized in the dedication of a marker on March 5, 1956 by the Historical Association of Southern Florida during the Greater Miami Industrial Exposition. The marker, bearing the inscription "South Florida's First Industry: Starch Making", will be placed near Kendall on U. S. Highway No. 1 at the site of the last commercial starch mill. John B. Hurst, son of A. B. Hurst, owner of the mill, assisted in the unveiling. Thomas W. Hagan, the Association's president, spoke on the origin of the starch industry and its early significance.

John R. Dunkle of the University of Florida spoke before the Jacksonville Historical Society in May on the happenings in northeast Florida during the second Spanish period. Raymond H. King was elected president; Frank H. Elmore, Jr., first vice president; Mrs. Linwood Jeffereys, second vice president; Florence Morrish, treasurer; Martha Lee Segui, recording secretary; Mrs. W. E. Mott, corresponding secretary; Audrey Broward, archivist and Herbert Lamson, historian. Directors elected were Mrs. Karl Bardin, Burton Bryan, Harold R. Clark, James C. Craig, Theodore Hartridge, Mal Haughton, Mrs. W. S. Manning, Egbert Moore, H. Plant Osborne and Warren Wattles.



The Mount Dora Historical Society came into existence in 1954, and a little later was duly incorporated as a non-profit organization, for the purposes usually covered by historical societies. Its by-laws provide for a board of eleven directors, including the five officers, and call for four public meetings each year. At these public meetings the early experiences of the Simpson, Sadler and Donnelly families, first settlers in the 1870's, have been reviewed by members of those families; and the histories of Tangerine and Sorrento, adjacent communities, have been reviewed by early settlers in those communities. The churches, service clubs, recreational clubs, reading and art clubs, and all other organizations have been asked to furnish accounts of their organizations and history to date. Efforts have been made to impress upon all residents the importance of preserving such early documents, photographs and clippings as may be in their possession. This material will be the basis for the Society's main project - the writing of a comprehensive history of the city of Mount Dora. Frank E. Bridgman is president and Mary True Crosswhite is secretary of the Society.



A new series of museum exhibits, nineteen in number, have been placed in a remodeled museum room of the St. Augustine Historical Society. Through the use of colorful and dramatic modern museum techniques the visitor is introduced to the history

of our oldest city, told in chronological order. The first exhibit, containing arms and armor of the late sixteenth century, sets the theme of the conquest of the New World. Each case deals with one aspect of the story: The founding of St. Augustine, Drake's attack, Spanish missions, the War of Jenkins' Ear, the British town, the Minorcans, the Seminole War, the Flagler era, to mention a few.

The initial plan for the exhibit was the product of a committee of the St. Augustine Society. The exhibits themselves were constructed under contract with the Museum Laboratory of the National Park Service. A period of three years, from the initial planning to the final installation, was required before the museum was opened to the public in April.



The St. Lucie Historical Society and the Library Association at Fort Pierce have made plans for the addition of a new wing to the library for the Society's use with funds to be obtained from public subscription. The Society is interested in the collection of pertinent historical materials.



Guyte P. McCord was guest speaker before the Tallahassee Historical Society's annual meeting in May. Officers elected at that time were Weymouth T. Jordan, president; Miss Florence Bethea, vice president; D. A. Avant, treasurer and Miss Juanita Forbes, secretary.

College News

Charles W. Arnade of the University of Tampa has been awarded a grant by Princeton University for the publication of his book on the history of Bolivia. Gene Sterks has been requested to contribute a monograph in the Confederate Centennial Series.

Lyle N. McAlister of the University of Florida is doing research this summer in Mexico, D. F. on a grant from the American Philosophical Society. Rembert W. Patrick gave a series of lectures on social changes in the New South at Memphis State

College in June. John Allen Krout, vice president of Columbia University, lectured at the University of Florida in April. The lectures, which will be published, dealt with the principal historical forces which are reflected in American life today.

The Florida Folk Festival

The fourth annual Florida Folk Festival was held on May 4 and 5 at the Stephen Foster Memorial on the Suwannee River near White Springs. Aspects of Florida's history were re-enacted through the presentation of customs and dances of pioneers, Indians and various representative nationalities.

Inter-American Studies

A survey of investigations in progress in the field of Latin American studies is being jointly sponsored by the Department of Cultural Affairs of the Pan American Union and the School of Inter-American Studies of the University of Florida at Gainesville. Questionnaires have been sent to faculty members and graduate students in all disciplines, and to independent scholars and researchers who may have investigations under way connected with Latin America. Those who do not receive questionnaires through the mail are urged to request them from the School of Inter-American studies, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla., in order that the published results may be as complete as possible. Distribution of the completed survey is scheduled for early fall.

The Lewis State Bank

The editorial staff of the *Quarterly* is grateful to George E. Lewis II and to Mark F. Boyd for the History of the Lewis State Bank which was distributed to members of the Society along with the April number of the *Quarterly*. An article on the Bank was conceived in the fall of 1955 and was planned for the April, 1956, issue of the *Quarterly*. Unfortunately the printing schedule prevented inclusion of the article in the *Quarterly*, but President Lewis of the Lewis State Bank arranged for distribution of the pamphlet history as a gift to our members. Mark F. Boyd was

requested by officials of the Bank to write the history, and the interesting and scholarly account was the natural result. The *Quarterly* salutes the Lewis State Bank on its centennial, and urges other business enterprises to give consideration to their history.

Olustee

The second edition, revised, of Mark F. Boyd's *Federal Campaign of 1864 in East Florida* has been published by the Florida Board of Parks and Historic Memorials. This definitive study of Olustee first appeared in the July, 1950 *Quarterly*. In addition to the text, the forty page pamphlet contains four pages of maps and a picture of the Monument and Museum of Olustee Battlefield.

The National Park Service

A recent addition to the National Park Service staff at Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, St. Augustine, is Historian Luis R. Arana. He is a native Puerto Rican, a graduate of Polytechnic Institute of Puerto Rico at San German, and has done graduate work at the University of Puerto Rico. Luis Arana entered the National Park Service at San Juan National Historic Site, Puerto Rico, in 1951. His work has included research in the history of the Spanish fortifications and military campaigns in Puerto Rico, which closely parallels the colonial history of Florida.

Albert Manucy, Supervisory Historian at Castillo de San Marcos, is on a several months' assignment with the Museum Branch of the National Park Service. This work is in connection with the "MISSION 66" program of the Service, aiming toward development of areas within the National Park System by 1966. Albert Manucy is designing museum exhibits for several historical parks in the South. Of special interest to Floridians are the museums under construction at Fort Caroline National Memorial near Jacksonville, Fla., and Fort Frederica National Monument, St. Simons Island, Ga. The Fort Caroline museum will tell the story of the 16th century French colony on the St. Johns river, and the Frederica displays cover the period 1736-1742, when

Anglo-Spanish hostilities in the Southeast reached a climax. Frederica was the fortified settlement established by James Oglethorpe as a base of operations against the Spanish at St. Augustine.

Two antique British cannon were presented to the National Park Service by the Island of Jamaica, British West Indies, through the Jamaica Historical Society for erection at the Fort Frederica National Monument, St. Simons Island, Georgia. The ceremonies attending the reception of the cannon were held at Fort Frederica on May 20 under the auspices of the National Park Service and the Fort Frederica Association.

Woodville School Centennial

Woodville School, at Woodville in Leon County, celebrated its centennial on May 5. Established first as Hickory Grove Academy and later called White Church School, it has been in continuous existence for 100 years. Many former pupils assembled at the school to witness a pageant depicting its history. F. A. Rhodes of the State Department of Education, successively pupil, teacher and principal at the school, delivered an address which outlined the institution's history and the work of many who had a part in its establishment and operation.

