

1961

## The Annual Meeting

Florida Historical Society  
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### Recommended Citation

Society, Florida Historical (1961) "The Annual Meeting," *Florida Historical Quarterly*. Vol. 40 : No. 2 , Article 9.

Available at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/fhq/vol40/iss2/9>

THE ANNUAL MEETING, WEST PALM BEACH  
APRIL 7-9, 1961

*MINUTES OF THE DIRECTORS MEETING*

The Board of Directors met at the Town House, West Palm Beach, Florida, April 7, 1961, at ten o'clock with President Gilbert L. Lycan presiding. Members present were Judge Knott, Mrs. Sette, Mr. Harris, Mr. DeVane, Mr. Keene, Mr. Weed, Mr. Patrick, Mr. Sessa, Mr. Manucy, and Mrs. Peters.

The financial report read by Mrs. Sette showed that the Society received \$6,859.90 from all sources during the year. The expenditures were \$5,526.89. Including the \$7,214.76 in the treasury at the beginning of the year, April 1, 1960, there was a balance of \$8,547.77 on hand at the close of the year. Total memberships for March 31, 1961, were 913, a drop of 16 from the preceding year. Fourteen deaths were reported during the year.

Mrs. Sette announced that there were fewer contestants this year in the Annual Essay Contest, between 75 and 80, and that the judging had not been completed.

Mr. Patrick suggested that it might be to the advantage of the society to withdraw some of the funds from the savings bank and put them into speculative bonds. Mr. Sessa moved and the Directors agreed that the Financial Committee should be empowered to take all money above \$2500 in the First Federal Savings and Loan Association (\$4,754.43 as of March 31, 1961) and on July 1, 1961, move it to some other investment provided conditions at that time would make such a move seem advisable.

Mr. Patrick moved to extend aid in the amount of \$500 to the St. Augustine Historical Society toward the cost of publishing a biography of Menendez written in 1568 by Barrientos, a professor at Salamanca. The publication of the Menendez biography is a joint venture of the St. Augustine Historical Society and the University of Florida Press. To the extent of \$500 the Florida Historical Society would participate on a pro rata basis, where either profits or losses may result. In the opinion of Mr. Manucy the Society could expect to receive back a profit. The Society acted upon Mr. Patrick's motion and carried it unanimously.

Mr. Keene suggested that the board as a whole work to extend the membership, each board member working in his own district. Mr. Patrick reminded the board that doctors and dentists would be likely members since the *Quarterly* could be used in reception offices and membership dues are deductible.

Mr. Patrick reported on the *Quarterly*, the four issues of the year amounting to over 400 pages. He announced that in September Dr. Herbert J. Doherty, Jr. would become associate editor of the *Quarterly*. He also said that the contribution of the University of Florida to the Society amounted to at least \$7,000 annually since the University pays the salary of Mrs. Sette, the salaries of assistants and proof-readers, and furnishes the headquarters for the Society. Mr. Keene moved the acceptance of Mr. Patrick's report and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Lycan appointed Judge Knott, Mr. Sessa, and Mr. Johns as a resolution committee.

Mr. Lycan announced that the Society had had an invitation from the Jacksonville Historical Society to hold the annual convention in that city in 1962. Mr. Patrick moved that the Society accept this invitation and the motion carried. The exact date of the meeting was to be left to the Jacksonville Society.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 P.M.

#### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

The annual business meeting of the Florida Historical Society was held at the Palm Beach Towers Restaurant, Palm Beach, following a luncheon, April 8, 1961. The meeting was called to order by the president, Mr. Gilbert L. Lycan. Officers and directors of the organization were introduced.

The treasurer, Mrs. Sette, gave a resume of the report given at the board meeting. She reported that the balance on hand was \$8,547.77.

The president urged that all members work to get new members for the Society. He stated that there had been a slight decline in membership, from 929 to 913.

The various local societies represented at the meeting, twelve, gave brief reports of their activities and achievements.

Mr. Sesa, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, introduced the following resolutions: 1. a resolution expressing the deep

sorrow of the Society due to the death of D. B. McKay and Herbert Lamson, 2. a resolution that the Society ask the State of Florida to set aside money for improving the archives of the state, 3. a resolution expressing gratitude to the University of Florida for its many services to the Society, 4. a resolution from the Society commending the State of Florida for the work of the Committee for the Restoration of St. Augustine, 5. a resolution thanking the local committee and the Palm Beach Historical Society for their gracious hospitality during the convention. All of the resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Mr. Tebeau, chairman of the nominating committee, reported the slate of officers for the coming year. The other members of the committee were Miss Snodgrass and Mr. Manucy. The slate presented was as follows: President, Gilbert L. Lycan; 1st Vice-President, Frank B. Sessa; 2nd Vice-President, Lucius S. Ruder; Recording Secretary, Mrs. H. H. Latour; Executive Secretary, Lois Sette; Directors, Thomas O. Brown, Duncan L. Clinch, Mrs. Mary MacRae, Paul L. Maddock, Ben F. Rogers, and Maurice M. Vance.

A motion was made and adopted that the secretary be directed to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 P.M.

## RESOLUTIONS

The resolutions committee, Frank B. Sessa, chairman, James R. Knott, and John E. Johns, submitted the following resolutions which were adopted as read.

1. Be it resolved that the Florida Historical Society in annual meeting convened, expresses its heartfelt sorrow and grievous loss occasioned by the death of the Honorable D. B. McKay of Tampa, a man who contributed immeasurably toward the betterment of this Society as well as his community and his state.

2. Be it resolved that the Florida Historical Society in annual meeting convened, expresses its profound sense of loss in the death of its former president Herbert Lamson. Mr. Lamson devoted himself tirelessly to the cultural improvement of his fellow citizens and served this Society and his state with unselfish devotion.

3. Be it resolved that the Florida Historical Society in annual meeting assembled, urges the Legislature of the State of Florida

to recognize the need and responsibility of our state in collecting and preserving the record of our colorful past by providing adequate financial support to the State Library for the accomplishment of this purpose.

4. Be it resolved that the Florida Historical Society in annual meeting assembled, expresses its deep appreciation to the University of Florida for providing personnel, space, and facilities which make possible the functioning of the Society's library, the printing and editing of its *Quarterly*, and the furnishing of other services for the benefit of the people of Florida.

5. Be it resolved that the Florida Historical Society in annual meeting assembled, commends the Government of Florida upon the creation of the St. Augustine Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission and for its foresight in giving to that Commission the broad powers necessary to assure the restoration, preservation, and reconstruction of a significant part of Florida's priceless heritage.

6. By this resolution the officers and members of the Florida Historical Society express their gratitude to the Palm Beach County Historical Society, its Committee on Local Arrangements, and to all who have devoted themselves to making this a memorable meeting with an outstanding program. We express, too, our appreciation to the Town House Hotel and to the West Palm Beach Chamber of Commerce for their generous hospitality.

Be it further resolved that these resolutions be published in the *Quarterly* and that copies be sent to the appropriate individuals.