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News and Notes

Florida Historical Society
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NEWS AND NOTES

The Annual Meeting

The 1963 annual meeting of the Florida Historical Society will be held in Sarasota on May 3 and 4. The Board of Directors will meet on the evening of May 2. Headquarters will be at the Azure Tides Motel. The program is being arranged by Dr. Durward Long of Florida Southern College, and a stimulating and provocative series of papers is expected. Further information can be received from Margaret Chapman, University of South Florida Library, Tampa, Florida, or from the Azure Tides Motel Lido Beach, Sarasota, Florida.

Society Activities

President Frank B. Sessa has named William M. Goza of Sarasota to serve as membership chairman for the current year. Already, as a member of the Board of Directors, Mr. Goza has been more active than any other Society member in securing new memberships.

Our Executive Secretary, Margaret Chapman, was recently appointed to the Hillsborough County Historical Commission by the Board of County Commissioners. She was a guest speaker before the Commission in November, explaining the nature and extent of the collections of the Society in our Library at the University of South Florida, and also detailing the University's special collections. Members of the Pinellas County Historical Commission were present as guests. On December 14, Miss Chapman appeared before the Sarasota County Historical Society to speak on "Sources for Florida History."

At Miss Chapman's invitation the Hillsborough County Historical Commission held its regular January meeting at the headquarters of the Society in the University of South Florida Library building. With the Pinellas Historical Commission again as their guests, the members enjoyed a tour of the Library after their meeting.

The Society participated in the Miami Beach convention of the Southern Historical Association, November 8-10, 1962. In a Saturday morning program, President Sessa read a paper titled,

"The Florida Land Boom of the 1920's." Kathryn Abbey Hanna, famed Florida teacher and historian, presided at the session. Gilbert L. Lycan, immediate past president of the Society, discussed the paper.

Local Societies and Commissions

Historical Association of Southern Florida: Dedication ceremonies marking the opening of the Historical Museum of Southern Florida and the Caribbean were held on December 2, 1962. The featured speaker was Mr. Minor Wine Thomas, chief curator and director of collections of the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village at Dearborn, Michigan. Mayor Robert High King, the Honorable Alex S. Gordon, and other special guests participated in the program. The Museum was opened to public inspection after the ceremonies.

Jacksonville Historical Society: At the November meeting the Society was addressed by Miss Mary Louise Fagg, whose subject was, "The St. Johns River-A Tapestry." She related descriptions of the St. Johns from the works of such noted people as Audubon and the Bartrams. Happenings of significance along the river were highlighted. Miss Fagg is a writer, editor, historian, and speaker who has been active in the field of educational publishing.

During the Festival of Arts, October 3-6, 1962, at the new Jacksonville Civic Auditorium the Society participated by maintaining a display consisting of sketches done in charcoal of early city scenes. The sketches were the work of Mr. Robert D. Lee. The Society also sponsored the exhibition of a 3,000 year-old Indian pottery bowl which was recently found by Mr. Milton T. Tooke in a tributary of the Arlington River. The authenticity of its age was established by radio-carbon measurements and attested by Dr. Ripley P. Bullen of the Florida State Museum in Gainesville.

Historical Society of Fort Lauderdale: The members of this new Society held their first meeting at the Pioneer House on November 14, 1962, with eighty-one members present and President August Burghard in the chair. Donors to the Society were recognized and reports heard on membership, acquisitions, and plans for the future. On December 1, 1962, 263 total memberships were reported. One of the major objectives of the Society is the writing

and publishing of a definitive and authentic history of Fort Lauderdale. The project is well under way and gifts of valuable source materials continue to be received. The Society is particularly interested in receiving business records and photographs relating to the early days of the city.

Marion County Historical Commission: A seal to be used on markers of historic county scenes was recently designed by Robert Camp and transmitted to the Commission by member H. D. Leavengood. "It's similar to that used by the state, but features the county seal instead," said Secretary J. F. Nicholson, Jr. The placing of markers on locations of local rather than state-wide interest had been delayed by the absence of a local emblem. The first projected markers are to be erected at old Evergreen Cemetery, and in commemoration of the coming of the Spaniards to the "Province of Ocali" in 1539.

In January, the Florida Board of Parks and Historic Memorials erected a marker commemorating the 1890 meeting of the National Farmers Alliance at Ocala. The meeting was an important step toward the formation of the significant Populist party and at it the famous "Ocala Demands" were adopted, bringing nationwide notice to the city. The marker was placed on the east side of the County Courthouse, just off Main Street.

Martin County Historical Society: On October 27, 1962, the following new officers were elected: president, Maurice Hartman; vice-presidents, Mrs. Hugh L. Willoughby, Jr., George K. Perkins, and Charles A. Porter; secretary, Mrs. Isabel T. Taylor; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Mildred Spring; treasurer, Mrs. F. C. Begy; assistant treasurer, Miss Mary Ann Susdorf; attorney, Evans Crary, Jr.; and director, Stephen Schmidt. Twenty-four trustees were also elected.

On November 17 a special program commemorating the first anniversary of the dedication of the Elliott Museum was held. Officers and trustees greeted guests at the door and costumed guides directed them throughout the Museum. Refreshments were served in a gay-nineties atmosphere.

The month of December featured a one-man art show at the Museum by the Hungarian-born artist Leslie Szakacs. This was followed in January by a display of news photographs by Ed Gluckler. The January meeting featured a discussion of the medi-

cal history of Martin County by Drs. J. D. Parker and James Grossnickle.

Palm Beach County Historical Society: The Henry Morrison Flagler Museum was the scene of the Society's January meeting. Dr. Charles W. Arnade of the University of South Florida was the featured speaker. His topic was "Contrasting Cultures in Early Florida," and centered on the differing policies, related to politics, land tenure, commerce, Indians, and Negroes which prevailed in the three very different cultures in colonial Florida.

College News

Florida State University: Dr. Weymouth T. Jordan, chairman of the Department of History, was recently elected president of the Agricultural History Society. At the Southern Historical Association meeting last November, Dr. George Lensen served as the moderator on a panel discussion on "The Introduction of Asian Studies in the Undergraduate Curriculum."

Jacksonville University: The eminent English historian Arnold Toynbee was the featured speaker at the Mid-winter Convocation held February 7, 1963. Dr. Toynbee was also presented an honorary degree at the hands of Franklyn Johnson, president of the University. The impressive ceremonies were part of the Founders' Week celebration.

Dr. Benjamin F. Rogers, vice-president of the University and a director of the Florida Historical Society, was recently named president of the Southern Conference of Deans of Faculties and Academic Vice Presidents.

University of Florida: Professor Hans Kohn, world-famed expert on the subject of nationalism, gave a public lecture on March 25, 1963, and spent several days participating in advanced history seminars.

Lyle N. McAlister returned to his duties as chairman of the History Department in January, after a leave of absence of a year. Arthur W. Thompson, professor of history, has been recognized by the student government for excellence in classroom teaching. Grants-in-aid for research during the summer have been awarded to John K. Mahon, associate professor of history, and to Samuel Proctor, associate professor of history and social science. Dr. Ma-

hon's grant is from the American Philosophical Society for study in England of the military aspects of the War of 1812. Dr. Proctor's grant is from the American Association for State and Local History for a study of anti-Southern thought and action in Florida during the Civil War.

Donald E. Worcester, professor of history, was toastmaster for the Phi Alpha Theta dinners at both the Southern Historical Convention in November and the American Historical Association meeting at Chicago in December. At the latter meeting, Dr. David M. Chalmers, associate professor of history and social science, was the critic for a program on "Patterns of Intolerance." Dr. Chalmers, in January, delivered a lecture on "Extremism in American Life" in Los Angeles under the sponsorship of a public lecture series of the Earl Warren Institute of Ethics and Human Relations of the University of Judaism.

University of Miami: Two faculty members played important roles in the recent Southern Historical Association meeting at Miami Beach. Dr. Ione S. Wright presided at a session on "Cuban Cross Currents: 1868-1962." The program on "Politics and Politicians in Twentieth Century Russia" was chaired by Dr. Gerald G. Govorchin.

University of South Florida: Dr. Charles W. Arnade, associate professor of history, took part in historical marker dedications at Key West on February 1, 1963, and spoke on the problems of Florida history.

Publication of a Notable Guide

The Southern Historical Society Papers, long a rich source of information concerning the Civil War, are to get what all people who have used them agree is their greatest need—an index. The project will be sponsored by the Richmond Civil War Centennial Committee. J. Ambler Johnston, chairman, announced the formation of a group to undertake the work. The actual indexing will be done by George F. Markham, Jr. The papers are now in the possession of the Virginia Historical Society. When completed the index will be published in book form with more than 300,000 index references. Publication is scheduled for June, 1963.