

1967

## Historical News

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## HISTORICAL NEWS

### ARTHUR W. THOMPSON MEMORIAL AWARD

The Arthur W. Thompson Memorial Prize in Florida History for 1966-1967 was awarded to Dr. Jerrell Shofner, professor of history and assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Texas Woman's University, Denton, Texas. The presentation was made at the annual meeting of the Florida Historical Society in Key West by Dr. Samuel Proctor, editor of the *Florida Historical Quarterly*, and it was accepted for Dr. Shofner by Dr. Herbert J. Doherty, Jr., first vice-president of the Society. The prize is given annually for the most scholarly article appearing in the *Quarterly*. Dr. Shofner is a graduate of Florida State University where he was a NDEA fellow. He has taught at Georgia Southern College and Texas Woman's University, and will be joining the faculty of the Department of Social Sciences, University of Florida, in September 1967. His articles have appeared in *Civil War History*, *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, *Textile History Review*, and the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. His winning essay was a study of "Political Reconstruction in Florida" in the post-Civil War period. The Arthur W. Thompson Memorial Prize in Florida History was established by an endowment to the Florida Historical Society by Mrs. Arthur W. Thompson of Gainesville and Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Siegel of New York City. Professor Thompson was a member of the historical faculty of the University of Florida and wrote many books and articles dealing with Florida and Southern history.

### P. K. YONGE LIBRARY OF FLORIDA HISTORY

The P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History has moved to its new quarters on the fourth floor of the Graduate Research Library on the University of Florida campus, Gainesville. At 10:30 a.m., October 7, 1967, the Library will mark its formal opening with a reception to which all the members of the Florida Historical Society are cordially invited to attend.

## ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

In May 1967, the Florida State Museum and the St. Johns County Board of Public Instruction inaugurated a new museum program. Supported by a grant from the U.S. Office of Education, the multi-county traveling museum will visit schools in St. Johns, Baker, Flagler, Gilchrist, Levy, Marion, and Putnam counties. This first exhibit concerns Florida Indian prehistory. The project's goal is to awaken children to the importance and reality of history, and Florida history was selected because of its pertinence to the environment of the children served by the project. The exhibits will be re-inforced by audio-visual aids. A four-minute film on Indian foods is planned for one exhibit area, and a twenty-minute film, discussing the story of the Florida Indian and the scientific techniques responsible for this knowledge about him, will be shown in a tent attached to the trailer. Plans for the future include an expansion of services, and trailer exhibits on later phases of Florida history, biology, geology, and botany. All topics will relate to the Florida environment.

A valuable collection of Jacksonville and Florida historical material has been deposited in the Jacksonville University Library by the Jacksonville Historical Society. Col. O. Z. Tyler, society president, and Harold Clark, a society director, signed a contract with Jacksonville University which provides for storing the material at the university library. To stimulate interest in local history, the society has acquired books, pictures, papers, letters, and articles relating to the Jacksonville area. Miss Audrey Broward will be in charge of the archives.

A scholarly edition of the papers of Chief Justice John Marshall (1755-1835) is being prepared under the sponsorship of the College of William and Mary and the Institute of Early American History and Culture. While Marshall's letters, political writings, diplomatic correspondence, and legal papers have long been of interest to American scholars, it was not until grants from the National Historical Publications Commission and the Commonwealth of Virginia were made to the sponsors in the summer of 1966 that this effort could begin in earnest. Because many of Marshall's papers have been destroyed or scattered it is imperative that meticulous care be exercised in attempting to recover all that

remains of the manuscript and printed record. Information concerning documents written by or addressed to John Marshall or other records bearing directly upon his life should be directed to Professor Stephen G. Kurtz, P. O. Box 220, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185. The University of North Carolina Press will publish the *Papers of John Marshall*.

The French Pavilion at the Montreal Expo '67 holds a special attraction for persons interested in early North American history and life. A display of 165 documents and objects relates France's role in exploring and settling the New World from Acadia to New Orleans, from the time of Jacques Cartier in 1543 to the end of the eighteenth century. Although a predominant portion of the exhibit, entitled "French-Canadian Friendship, From Jacques Cartier to Chateaubriand," is geared to Canada, visitors will find many items dealing with various expeditions throughout the continent. They can go back in time to as far as the sixteenth century with the magnificent Renaissance globe from Rouen. Etched in copper, it shows what was known of the American coast from the explorations of Verrazzano and Cartier. Original maps and manuscripts depict the wildlife, vegetation, and inhabitants of the New World. Detailed illustrations show various aspects of colonial life, from the style of architecture to the type of fishing vessels used. The visitor's attention will be drawn to a number of navigational instruments, as a mariner's compass dated 1650. Expeditions south to Florida and down the Mississippi are minutely documented in the exhibit with journals and maps, including the account of the establishment of Fort Caroline on the St. Johns River in 1562.

One of the important Florida business firms making valuable contributions to the cause of local history is Jones Brothers Furniture Company of Jacksonville. One floor of their store has been redecorated with the depiction of history as its general theme. Many pictures, including canvases of the Jacksonville fire of 1901 and an early race track, and insignia and gargoyles from razed buildings are on display. The original portrait of William Augustus Bowles, painted in England by Thomas Hardy about 1790, is also displayed. The Jacksonville Historical Society assisted in research and planning.

The University of Florida Library's Latin American collection, now numbering some 90,000 volumes, is the outgrowth of con-

certed efforts to acquire Latin American materials that go back to the establishment of the University's Institute of Inter-American Affairs (forerunner of the present Center for Latin American Studies) in 1930. Because of Florida's own Hispanic past, a major impetus toward the development of strong Caribbean holdings, in particular, was given by the establishment of the P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History during the 1940's. In 1952 the University accepted the Farmington Plan, which meant an obligation to secure available book and research materials currently published in the Greater and Lesser Antilles and the Guianas. The Latin American holdings include several important special collections acquired by gift and purchase. One of the earliest major acquisitions was the Joseph B. Lockey Library, which includes the T. H. Reynolds and V. Dale Martin Collections. The Maury A. Bromsen Medina Collection was a major addition to library holdings in the fields of Latin American bibliography and Chilean history, and the Henry HARRISSE Collection gave the library special strength in the historical literature of American discovery and exploration. Concurrently with the building up of conventional library materials, the University of Florida has developed significant holdings of Latin American government documents, especially from the Caribbean and circum-Caribbean areas. A complete file of the United States diplomatic and consular correspondence relating to Latin America that has been microfilmed by the National Archives is available for researchers. Supplementing its current acquisition of Latin American newspapers, the library is building up its back files of newspapers on microfilm for regions of major research interest at the University. There are also some manuscript holdings, particularly for Haiti, the British West Indies, and Central America.

In March 1963 a dig was made at the site of Major Dade's battleground. This was the first time soil had been turned here since June 1842 when the bodies of Dade and his command were exhumed and taken to St. Augustine. During this dig 315 military buttons were recovered from the grave of the ninety-six enlisted men within the reconstruction of their redoubt. Since 1963 three digs have been carried out in search of the grave of the eight officers. The last try, made on May 26-27, 1967, simply identified, like the others, another series of spots where they were

definitely *not* buried. The guide on these occasions have been the descriptions by contemporaries and therein lies the problem - none of them are specific. Potter, for instance, says: “. . . outside the northeast angle of the work another grave received the bodies of 8 officers. . . .” Others describe it similarly but none say at precisely *what* angle from the north-east corner, nor how far from the barricade. Cooperating in the latest dig were N. E. “Bill” Miller, director of the Florida Board of Parks and Historic Memorials; William M. Goza, president of the Florida Historical Society and Mrs. Goza; Rolfe Schell, author of the recently published *DeSoto Didn't Land at Tampa* and other works on Florida history; Frank Laumer, member of the Board of Editors of the *Florida Historical Quarterly*; and Valerie Laumer.

## OBITUARIES

## KATHRYN ABBEY HANNA

A leading Florida educator, author and scholar, Dr. Kathryn Abbey Hanna, died in her Winter Park home in April at the age of seventy-one. The wife of Dr. A. J. Hanna, first vice president of Rollins College, she came to Central Florida in 1941. Earlier she was head of the department of history, geography, and political science at Florida State College for Women, now Florida State University. She served eight years on the Florida State Library Board, six years as chairman, and ten years on the Florida Board of Parks and Historic Memorials. Former Governor LeRoy Collins named her to the board of the Florida Constitutional Advisory Commission in 1955, making her the only woman to serve on that board. She was a member of the Florida Civil War Quadricentennial Commission and secretary of the Florida Citizens Committee on Education. She was commissioned by the University of North Carolina Press to write *Florida, Land of Change*, a one-volume history of Florida. She also wrote three books in collaboration with her husband: *Lake Okeechobee, Wellspring of the Everglades*, one of the volumes in the American Lakes Series; *Florida's Golden Sands*, a historical study of Florida's East Coast; and *Confederate Exiles in Venezuela*. She was joint author with Cleo Rainwater of *Our Journey Through Florida*. Dr. Hanna served as president of the Southern Historical Association and contributed articles and book reviews to the *Florida Historical Quarterly*, the *Mississippi Valley Historical Quarterly*, the *Journal of Southern History*, and other scholarly publications.

## DUNCAN LAMONT CLINCH

Duncan Lamont Clinch, the great grandson of General Duncan L. Clinch for whom Fort Clinch in Fernandina Beach was named, died on June 13, 1967, at his home in Chicago, Illinois. Born December 5, 1892, in Chicago, Mr. Clinch was in the railroad supply business. He was a patron of Florida historical

research, and gave grants for restoration of the Fort Clinch guard house, prison, and draw bridge. He also donated a cannon to the fort. He presented family papers and historical documents relating to his great grandfather to the P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History at the University of Florida. The biography of his great grandfather, *Aristocrat in Uniform: General Duncan L. Clinch*, was written by Rembert W. Patrick. He gave a grant to the Florida Historical Society to begin the society's book publication program. A longtime member of the Florida Historical Society, he had served as a member of its board of directors. Mr. Clinch maintained a home at Miami Shores,