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Historical News

Florida Historical Society
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HISTORICAL NEWS

Arthur W. Thompson Memorial Prize

Dr. Frank L. Owsley, Jr., professor of history at Auburn University, is the 1967-1968 recipient of the Arthur W. Thompson Memorial Prize in Florida History. The announcement was made at the annual meeting in Daytona Beach, May 3-4, 1968. The award is given annually for the best article appearing in the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. The judges this year were Judge James R. Knott of West Palm Beach, Dr. Herbert J. Doherty, Jr., of Gainesville, and Luis R. Arana of St. Augustine. The prize memorializes Professor Arthur W. Thompson who was a member of the history faculty at the University of Florida and an outstanding scholar and author of Southern and Florida history. Previous award winners were Father Michael V. Gannon of the Mission of Nombre de Dios, St. Augustine, and Dr. Jerrell H. Shofner, Department of History, Florida State University.

Professor Owsley's prize winning article, "British and Indian Activities in Spanish West Florida During the War of 1812," appeared in the October 1967 number of the *Quarterly*. A graduate of Vanderbilt University and the University of Alabama, Professor Owsley has taught at the United States Naval Academy and this past year was visiting professor at the University of Nebraska. He is the author of *The C.S.S. Florida: Her Building and Operations* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 1965) and is presently writing a history of the War of 1812. He is a member of the editorial board of the *Alabama Review* and is a contributor to *Encyclopedia Britannica Yearbook*.

Rembert W. Patrick Memorial Prizes

The Rembert W. Patrick Memorial Prizes for Junior Historians was established by unanimous action of the board of directors and the members of the Florida Historical Society at the annual meeting in May. Dr. Patrick was for many years an officer and director of the Society, editor of the *Florida Historical Quarterly*, and a tireless and influential figure in all of the activities of the

Society. The prizes will be awarded annually to three high school students who in the opinion of the judges write outstanding essays in Florida history. Cash awards and copies of Dr. Patrick's book *Florida Under Five Flags* will be given the winners. The names of the recipients will be announced at the annual meeting, and a special presentation will be made by an officer or director of the Society before an assembly in the student's high school.

Cross and Sword

Florida's Cross and Sword, Inc., of St. Augustine has arranged a special evening honoring the members of the Florida Historical Society. Paul Green's well known musical drama of the founding of Spanish East Florida will be presented in the St. Augustine Amphitheatre at 8:30 p.m., August 10, 1968, and all members of the Society will be allowed a ten per cent discount on their tickets. They are asked to present identification at the theatre box office or to so indicate when writing for reservations (P. O. Box 1965, St. Augustine, Florida 32084). An after-the-show tour of the amphitheatre will be conducted for interested members.

Development of Florida's Historical Resources

A state-wide Conference on the Development of Florida's Historical Resources was held in Tallahassee on March 29. The conference was called by Governor Claude Kirk, and Robert Williams, executive director of the Florida Board of Archives and History, served as coordinator. Pat Dodson, recording secretary of the Florida Historical Society and chairman of the Pensacola Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission, acted as chairman. Over 250 persons attended, representing local, county, and regional historical societies and commissions, historical, university, and public libraries, historical museums, preservation and restoration programs, and several Florida newspapers and magazines. A majority of those attending were members of the Florida Historical Society.

The speakers included James Massey, director of the Historical American Buildings Survey, National Park Service; Pro-

fessor F. Blair Reeves, professor of architecture at the University of Florida and State Preservation Coordinator of the American Institute of Architects; Glenn E. Thompson, chief of membership services, National Trust for Historic Preservation; Russell Keune, assistant keeper of the National Register, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, National Park Service; Thomas J. Armstrong, assistant regional administrator for Metropolitan Development, U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; Hale Smith, chairman of the Department of Anthropology, Florida State University; Samuel Proctor, professor of history and social sciences, University of Florida, and editor of the *Florida Historical Quarterly*; and Robert Roesch, director and coordinator of the Governor's Federal Program Coordinating Committee. Earle W. Newton, director of the Pensacola Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission and president of St. Augustine Restoration, Inc., was the luncheon speaker. David Early of the Florida Development Commission and President John Champion of Florida State University also spoke briefly at the luncheon. All sessions were held on the Florida State University campus. Another conference is planned before the end of this year.

Southern Historical Association

The Southern Historical Association, organized November 2, 1934, is dedicated to the promotion of interest and research in southern history, the collection and preservation of the South's historical records, and the encouragement of state and local historical societies in the South. The association fosters the teaching and study of all branches of history in the South.

The association publishes the *Journal of Southern History*, a scholarly magazine devoted to research in southern history. It circulates to more than 4,000 members. Meetings of the association are held annually in November. The term "southern history" is broadly interpreted by the board of editors in determining the policy and the content of the *Journal*. Each number normally contains four research articles, edited documents of historical notes, book reviews, and news of historical interest. The quality of scholarship in the *Journal* has been maintained at a consistently high level by the editor, Sanford W. Higginbotham and his predecessors - Wendell H. Stephenson, Fred C. Cole, William C.

Binkley, Thomas D. Clark, J. Merton England, William H. Masterson, W. W. Abbot, and Philip F. Detweiler. The list of contributors contains almost everyone who is doing significant work in the field of Southern history.

Anyone interested in history is invited to join the Southern Historical Association and to attend its annual meetings. The annual dues are set up on the calendar year basis. The rate is \$4.00 per year for registered students, \$7.00 for regular memberships, and \$140.00 for life memberships. (Life memberships may be paid in quarterly installments.) Dues and requests for membership should be addressed to Bennett H. Wall, Secretary-Treasurer, History Department, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana 70118. Requests for student memberships must be endorsed by a faculty member of the institution in which the student is enrolled. All checks should be made payable to the Southern Historical Association.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

The Southern Heritage Foundation will hold its fall meeting on October 11-12, 1968, in Pensacola. T. T. Wentworth, Jr., of Pensacola and Adam G. Adams of Coral Gables are directors of the Foundation. All members of the Florida Historical Society are invited to attend the sessions in Pensacola.

The Florida Medical Association's archives committee dedicated a historical marker May 8, 1968, at the home of Dr. Joseph Yates Porter, 429 Caroline Street, Key West. Dr. Porter was Florida's first state health officer and mainly through his farsighted and energetic leadership yellow fever was conquered in this state and many other epidemic diseases were controlled. Dr. Porter was a member and former president of the Florida Medical Association. The association is planning to erect other markers noting outstanding Florida medical personalities and events. A marker in Monticello at the home and office of Dr. Thomas M. Palmer of Civil War fame is planned.

The Florida Board of Parks and Historic Memorials and the Florida Federation of Art, Inc., dedicated the DeBary Hall Historic Marker on Sunday, June 16, 1968, at DeBary. The Florida

Federation of Art maintains the DeBary Mansion as an art gallery and uses it as its state headquarters.

The third annual Conference of Southern Historical Societies was held in Savannah, Georgia, on April 4-6, 1968. It was sponsored by the American Association for State and Local History in cooperation with the Georgia Historical Commission, the Georgia Historical Society, and the National Park Service. The lecture-discussion sessions dealt with a variety of pertinent topics, including historical markers, museums, societies, and publications, and historic site security. Representatives of the National Park Service met concurrently with state preservation officers and their staffs. Among the Florida participants were Robert Williams, executive director of the Florida Board of Archives and History, Bradley G. Brewer, director of the St. Augustine Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission, and Professors F. Blair Reeves and Samuel Proctor of the University of Florida.

The University of North Carolina Press has announced plans to republish, beginning in the spring of 1969, a number of southern nineteenth century literary classics - mostly novels - that have long been unavailable. Known as the Southern Literary Classics Series, the books will be in both cloth and paperbound editions. Each will contain a new introduction by a scholarly authority. The series will be under the general editorship of Professors C. Hugh Holman and Louis D. Rubin, Jr., of the Department of English, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Titles already selected include *Chita* by Lafcadio Hearn, *Virginia Comedians* by John Esten Cooke, *Tiger-Lilies* by Sidney Lanier, *Letters of the British Spy* by William Wirt, *Life of Francis Marion* by Parson Mason L. Weems, *Valley of Shenandoah* by George Tucker, *Knights of the Golden Horseshoe* by William A. Caruthers, *Partisan Leader* by Nathaniel B. Tucker, *Some Adventures of Simon Suggs*, *Late Captain of the Tallapoosa* by Johnson J. Hooper, *The Planter's Northern Bride* by Caroline Lee Hentz, and *In Old Virginia* by Thomas Nelson Page. Further information may be obtained from the University of North Carolina Press, Box 510, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

To commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of its founding, the Genealogical Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints will sponsor a worldwide convention and semi-

nar for genealogists, archivists, historians, and librarians next year, August 5-8, 1969, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Inquiries about the conference, reservations, and programs should be directed to the Society, 107 South Main Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111.

A ten-page compilation of major publishing outlets for articles on state and local history was released recently by the American Association for State and Local History. The listing includes a brief description of the type of material which the particular journal usually publishes as well as the name and address of the editor to whom contributions may be sent. It is arranged alphabetically according to journal titles and typed in an open format which allows a potential author to skim it easily when looking for an appropriate source of publication. "The purpose of this compilation was to give some guidance to serious students of state and local history who were looking for publication outlets," stated William T. Alderson, association director. The listing is available for limited distribution from the AASLH offices, 132 Ninth Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee 37203. Persons wishing a copy are requested to send twenty-five cents in coin or stamps to cover postage and handling.