

**THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF MISSOURI. SECOND BIENNIAL
REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE FOR THE TWO YEARS
ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1904**

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VARIOUS

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THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF MISSOURI

SECOND
BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FOR THE

TWO YEARS ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1904

COLUMBIA, MO.:
PRESS OF E. W. STEPHENS
1906

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY, 1904-6.

H. E. ROBINSON, Maryville, *President*.
ISIDOR LOEB, Columbia, *First Vice President*.
JOHN W. MILLION, Mexico, *Second Vice President*.
W. R. NELSON, Kansas City, *Third Vice President*.
W. R. PAINTER, Carrollton, *Fourth Vice President*.
P. S. RADER, Jefferson City, *Fifth Vice President*.
W. O. L. JEWETT, Shelbyna, *Sixth Vice President*.
R. B. PRICE, Columbia, *Treasurer*.
F. A. SAMPSON, *Secretary and Librarian*.
MINNIE ORGAN, *Assistant Librarian*.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

Term expires at annual Meeting, 1905.

FERRY S. RADER, Jefferson City. N. C. BELL, Potosi.
W. L. ROBERTSON, Gallatin. JNO. F. PHILLIPS, Kansas City.
WILLIAM L. THOMAS, Maplewood. W. O. L. JEWETT, Shelbyna.
W. D. THOMAS, Fulton. JOHN E. ORGAN, Salem.
C. F. COCHRAN, St. Joseph.

Term expires at annual meeting, 1906.

Wm. C. BRECKENRIDGE, St. Louis. JONAS VILES, Columbia.
JNO. W. MILLION, Mexico. R. M. WHITE, Mexico.
CORNELIUS ROACH, Carthage. WALTER WILLIAMS, Columbia.
F. M. CRUNDEN, St. Louis. E. M. VIOLETTE, Kirkeville.
H. C. McDOUGAL, Kansas City.

Term expires at annual Meeting, 1907.

R. D. SHANNON, Warrensburg. J. WEST GOODWIN, Sedalia.
PHIL E. CHAPPELL, Kansas City. CHAS. M. HARVEY, St. Louis.
FATHER JNO. ROTHENSTEINER, ISIDOR LOEB, Columbia.
Fredericktown. W. R. NELSON, Kansas City.
JNO. H. BRITTS, Clinton.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The twenty-six trustees, the president and secretary of the Society, the Governor, Secretary of State, and President of the State University, constitute the executive committee.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

R. M. WHITE, *Chairman*, Mexico.
WALTER WILLIAMS, Columbia. ISIDOR LOEB, Columbia.

the Society 5-17-06

LAW GOVERNING THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MISSOURI

REVISED STATUTES OF MISSOURI, 1899, CHAPTER 112.

Sec. 7533. Society Made Trustee for the State.—The State historical society of Missouri, heretofore organized under the laws of this state, shall be the trustee of this state, and as such shall hold all its present and future collections and property for the state, and shall not mortgage or deed in trust any of its property or sell any of such property except by way of exchange for property of equal value or for reinvestment. There shall continue to be an executive committee of said society, to consist of as many members as is or may be provided in the constitution of said society, and to have the same powers as the present executive committee.

Sec. 7534. Duties of the Society.—It shall be the duty of the Society to collect books, maps, and other papers and material for the study of history, especially of this state and of the middle west; to acquire narratives and records of the pioneers, to procure documents, manuscripts and portraits, and to gather all information calculated to exhibit faithfully the antiquities and the past and present condition, resources and progress of this state; to cause its collections to be properly bound and preserved; to conduct a library of historical reference, and to publish from time to time reports of its collections and such other matters as may tend to diffuse information relative to the history of this region; and to keep the rooms containing the collections of said society open at all reasonable hours on business days for the reception of the citizens of this state, without fee.

Sec. 7535. Shall Report to the Governor—Department Reports, Etc., to be Furnished to the Society.—The executive committee of said society shall keep an accurate account of the expenditure of all money which may be appropriated for the purposes of the society, and report biennially to the governor a detailed statement of such expenditure. To enable the society to augment its collections by effecting exchanges with other societies and institutions, sixty bound copies each of the several publications of the state, and of its society and institutions, except the reports of the supreme court and the courts of appeals, shall be and the same are hereby donated to said society as they shall be issued, the same to be delivered to the society by the secretary of state or other officer having the custody of the same; to include, also, for deposit in its collections, one set of all the publications of the state, including those heretofore issued, so far as possible, not excepting the reports of the supreme court and of the courts of appeal.

HISTORICAL MATERIAL DESIRED BY THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MISSOURI

The Constitution of the State Historical Society of Missouri provides that "its object shall be the collection, preservation, exhibition and publication of materials for the study of history, especially the history of this state and of the Middle West." In realizing this object the Society desires in the first place to collect everything that can in any way shed light upon the history of Missouri, from its earliest settlement to the present time. It is often the case that such

material, which is of little or no importance to the individual who possesses it, becomes of great value when incorporated as a part of a library of reference on all historical matters. With a view to encouraging the contribution of such material to its library, the State Historical Society publishes the following list of objects particularly desired by the Society:

1. Books and pamphlets relating to Missouri or to any of its subdivisions; county or other local histories or narratives.
2. Books and pamphlets written by Missourians. The Society possesses one of the most extensive collections of books by Missouri authors in existence, and desires to make the same as complete as possible.
3. Manuscripts: Any original documents containing accounts of the early settlements of Missouri or the Louisiana Territory; or of the various movements affecting the history of the State or in which its citizens have participated, from the early relations with the Indians through the French and Spanish periods to the events that have occurred under American rule. Old letters, Journals and accounts written by pioneers are especially desired. *The Society has the use of a fire-proof vault in which valuable manuscripts will be preserved.*
4. Official State Reports and Documents: Copies of the Revised Statutes, Session Acts, Journals and Appendixes of the Territorial and early State Legislatures; Messages of the Governors and Reports of State Officers, Boards and Commissions and of the State educational, charitable, eleemosynary and penal and reformatory institutions.
5. Reports and Documents of Counties, Cities, etc., Ordinances, Journals and Reports of City Councils. Reports of Mayor and other City Officials. Reports of Boards of Health, Fire and Police Departments, Reports of Boards of Trade and Commercial and Business Men's Associations. Plans of town sites and additions thereto.
6. Reports and documents of Educational Institutions: Catalogues, Schemes of Studies, Reports, Bulletins, etc., of Universities, Colleges, Academies and Public Schools; Reports of School Boards, School Superintendents, College and School Associations, Teachers' Associations, Students' Clubs and Associations, University Extension Societies, and anything which touches upon the educational life of the State.
7. Reports of Societies and Organizations: Annual and other reports of all kinds of social, religious, industrial and political organizations; reports and published documents of fraternal societies, literary associations, press associations, athletic organizations, women's clubs, social clubs, etc.; reports of all religious bodies, synods, conferences, conventions and associations; reports of railroads, manufacturing companies and commercial corporations; reports of agricultural and horticultural organizations, and of all meetings and proceedings connected with the development of the industrial, commercial, agricultural, mineral or other resources of the State; reports, platforms, declarations, etc., of all political parties.
8. Files of Missouri Newspapers and Periodicals: The Society is now receiving and binding over seven hundred newspapers representing every county in Missouri. Complete volumes of the issues of past years of all Missouri newspapers are especially desired.
9. Maps, Engravings, Paintings, Photographs, etc.: Maps of the Louisiana Purchase Territory, of Missouri, of Counties, Townships, Cities, etc.; Pictures of any kind representing historic places, buildings, etc.
10. Historical Relics: Photographs and other portraits of pioneers and

distinguished citizens; Autographs of the same; Medals; Coins; War Relics; Old Arms, Weapons, etc.; Historical Souvenirs of all kinds.

11. Indian Relics: Stone Axes, Spears, Arrow Heads, Pottery, Weapons, Costumes, Ornaments, etc.

The Society cordially invites all persons to assist it in developing a great State historical library and museum by contributing any of the above objects or anything that has any bearing upon the history of Missouri. The Society will defray all freight charges upon such donations and all contributions will be credited to the donors, in the official reports made by this Society to the Governor of the State, and will be preserved and made accessible to all the people.

All communications and donations should be addressed to the Secretary of the State Historical Society, Columbia, Missouri.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

To His Excellency, Joseph W. Folk, Governor of Missouri, and to the Forty-third General Assembly of Missouri:

Complying with the requirements of sections 7535 and 7717 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, 1899, I have the honor on behalf of the Executive Committee of the State Historical Society of Missouri to submit herewith a report for the biennial period ending December 31, 1904.

The past biennial period has been a successful one for the Society—successful in building up its library, and in an increased use of it; in the exhibits made by it at the World's Fair, and the consequent larger number of persons who have come in contact with its work and become interested in it.

The society brought together and prepared for exhibition at the World's Fair the publications of nearly all the newspapers and other periodicals of the State for the year 1903, many of which also included former years, the magnitude of which work can be realized from the fact that these volumes contain more than 42,000 different issues, the daily mail of the Society often exceeding 360 pieces. It also brought together for the same exhibit the very large collection of publications by Missouri authors. The preparation of the catalog of these two exhibits was no light task and required much extra time. That the exhibits were valuable and creditable is attested by the fact that the Society was given a Grand Prize and the Secretary a Silver Medal.

NEWSPAPERS.

Perhaps the majority of persons who are in the habit of daily reading the newspapers and then throwing them in the waste basket do not appreciate the importance of the preservation of files of them; and yet these same persons are greatly interested when they see a volume of them fifty to a hundred years old.

A few years ago the librarian of the Montana Historical Society obtained the opinions of the leading historical librarians of the country as to the value of newspapers, and I will quote from some of them.

Warren Upham of the Minnesota Historical Society wrote that his society had collected and preserved all newspapers published in the territory and State since 1849 and said "this department of the library is a priceless treasury of materials for future historians. All of our nearly 450 state newspapers regularly received by our Society's library are bound for permanent preservation and we now have about 3,900 of these bound newspaper volumes. They are much consulted, even those of the small and distant towns; and we regard them as the most useful source of history for future research. Kansas surpasses us in this work and Wisconsin does three-fourths as much as our Society."

William Engle, State Librarian of Pennsylvania says: "We bind 500 volumes. What to-day seems worthless, in 10, 20, or 50 years from now may be considered priceless volumes. Fifty or sixty years ago many of our state publications were either unbound or bound in paper; the result has been that of many of these no copies exist and some of them would to-day be worth their weight in gold if they could be obtained."

Nebraska State Historical Society: "I regard the newspaper as the most valuable record of the local records of the State, and would advise you not to throw away a single copy of any paper. I am hunting now high and low for old papers of any description of Nebraska, and they are the hardest things to find you ever hunted for. We are now trying to save every issue of every paper. The papers of a town are the only reference books of the contemporary history of a town in which they are printed and they will be needed as sources of history by and by."

Similar opinions were expressed by the librarians of Ohio, Connecticut, Kansas and other states.

Newspapers have the sole record of thousands of facts, and any paper, even the most obscure, may have in its advertising or local news columns data that will in future years be of great value to some in-