On the afternoon of December first the Society met at the University of Cincinnati in its annual meeting. After a short business session followed by the annual election of officers, results of which appear on another page, President Hadley introduced the guest speaker, Mr. Howard H. Peckham of the Indiana Historical Bureau of Indianapolis, who read an interesting paper on the subject "Rip Roaring Canal Days". After the meeting members and guests gathered for a short reception, after which refreshments were served. These delightful hospitalities were in charge of Mrs. William T. Buckner, assisted by Mrs. Chalmers Hadley and Mrs. Beverley W. Bond.

Guests were noted from Dayton, Hamilton, Oxford, Columbus, Lawrenceburg and other points.
Canal boats formed an inevitable link in those journeys by which Mrs. Stowe escaped from a tiresome routine.
RIP ROARING CANAL DAYS

Before an audience of 180 members and guests Mr. Peckham traced the settlement of southeastern Indiana, particularly the Whitewater Valley, a section much dependent on Cincinnati as a trading center, a condition leading to the building of the Whitewater Canal. This canal was not only to make trading cheaper and more easily accomplished, but the canal was also to link the Valley with the Ohio river, the great water highway of early days.

After much effort accompanied by frenzied finance of great proportions the canal was started in 1836. At this time the Valley contained at least 50,000 people and the limited transportation facilities were strained to the utmost. Mr. Peckham described the humor in the situation regarding the arrangements to finance the canal. More bonds were sold than the state was able to pay interest on, with the result of insolvency with a capital I and heavy loss for the bondholders. Mr. Peckham stated that the great majority of the residents of the Valley were young men, and the enthusiasm of such a large group when the subject of public improvements was broached can be easily understood, so that their judgments on public finance could hardly be expected to be sound.

This great Valley eventually came into its own economically and for many years has remained an important section of the Cincinnati trading area. The canal systems of Indiana and Ohio, expensive to build, but because of the early success of the Erie Canal, enthusiastically attempted, were doomed to certain failure as improving railway and highway transportation became available. Mr. John J. Rowe displayed some very early paper money used in the Whitewater Valley.

After the meeting a member of the Society described to the Editor a canal boat wedding trip made from Glendale to Cincinnati by a certain lady who at one time resided in the Millcreek Valley. The trip may have been slow but time was not the important factor it is today. This particular trip is said to have occupied an entire day.
ANNUAL REPORT OF DIRECTOR-LIBRARIAN 1946-7

Expansion in a historical society, as in other organizations, or in organisms, may be either healthy or pathological. La Fontaine’s frog tried to emulate the bull and ended in disaster, having reached the limits of his personal elasticity. Our Society, however, after 116 years has certainly not even begun to approximate its normal limits in members, library acquisitions, or public activity. What we must first take care to avoid, therefore, is not over-expansion, but rather arrested development. The Board of Directors and Staff of this Society are at some pains to see that steady growth shall occur and that it shall be at a rate that we can sustain.

EVIDENCE OF GROWTH

Membership: Two years ago the membership numbered 151, in 1946 it was 248, today it is 415. This increase can be attributed to various causes, but must chiefly be credited to Mr. John J. Rowe, Chairman of the Membership Committee. It is hoped that this increase may be further augmented during the coming year. Present members can assist by proposing to the Board the names of suitable persons. Dr. David A. Tucker is at present performing valuable service in this respect.

LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

Here briefly are a few statistics:

- New titles catalogued—191, vols. 251
- New volumes added to serials—220 vols
- New manuscripts catalogued—80 titles, 120 pieces
- Maps catalogued—208
- Pamphlets added to collection—151.

Quoting such figures is an almost meaningless act. Quality is what we are constantly seeking. Our search follows two main patterns; methodical perusal of dealers’ catalogs, and the pursuit of persons known to possess family manuscripts or other material appropriate to our collection. Pictorial material of all kinds is especially desirable. The purchase during
the year of a handsome map case and four photograph files, enables us to accommodate maps and pictures of almost any size from Lilliputian to Brobdingnagian.

Let me briefly describe four or five representative acquisitions made during the past year: Through the courtesy of the late Virginia R. Van Voast and other members of her family, at the specific request of Marie Dickoré, a typewritten copy of the unpublished NARRATIVE OF GENERAL JAMES TAYLOR of Newport, Kentucky, distinguished pioneer and soldier, self-sacrificing Quarter Master General during the War of 1812. Source material of the first importance.

Through the gift of Walter S. Schmidt, 35 manuscript letters including letters from John Quincy Adams, Henry Clay, William Henry Harrison, Griffin Yeatman, Salmon P. Chase, John Sherman, U. S. Grant.

Gift of David K. E. Bruce, 18 volumes and file of ten folders of letters and papers of David K. Este and family.

Gift of Charles M. Williams, folio containing 718 photographs and newspaper clippings, documenting the flood of 1937.

By purchase, oil painting of Governor Jeremiah Morrow's Mill on the Little Miami near Fosters, painted by the Ohio artist Godfrey Frankenstein in 1869.

**PUBLIC ACTIVITY**

The two major events of the Society's public calendar were the Annual Meeting of December 2, and the opening of our Spring Exhibit the evening of April 18. At the annual meeting Dr. Theodore C. Blegen addressed the Society on the subject, Taking Stock of our Folk Culture. The Spring Exhibit, an innovation which we intend to make standard practice, was held at the Taft Museum through the courtesy of the Directors of the Fine Arts Institute, and Miss Katherine Hanna, Curator of the Taft Museum. Members of this Society lent to the exhibit family manuscripts, books, and pictorial material of historical importance to this region. The exhibit and the fine spring weather brought out an almost capacity attendance for the opening. Thereafter the display was thrown open to the public for two weeks. Attendance totalled about 2500 during that period.
Our quarterly Bulletin is treated in a separate report by the Editor, Mr. Lee Shepard. Here I should like to refer to another innovation, The News-Letter. Response of the membership to the first number, issued in October, was encouraging and it is our purpose to continue to publish such letters at intervals during the year. Two results are intended: first, that members may be informed of what we are doing, with special reference to acquisitions by purchase or donation; and second, that more members may be encouraged to add to our collections by gift.

Those collections have been accumulated over a period of 116 years. They comprise a deposit of regional historical materials, valuable beyond all calculation because they are irreplaceable. This Society has the obligation to safeguard and enrich those collections, to make them accessible to scholars and other qualified persons, and to use them as a means of enlightening the people of this region, and the nation, in regard to their own history.

The Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio is expanding modestly in response to these obligations. The year just ended was in many ways a gratifying one, but we are far from having reached our appropriate size or appropriate quality. We are a regional society, fortunately situated in a region that propagated one of the healthiest strains in our national life. To make the most of this happy situation requires interest and effort from the Board and Staff, but also, and primarily, the active participation of all members, directed to making this Society worthy of the community, and the community worthy of its history.

Virginius C. Hall

NECROLOGY

We deeply regret to announce that the following members of the Society have died during the year: Miss Julia W. Anderson, Mr. Troy W. Appleby, Judge Frederick L. Hoffman, Mr. Charles Louis LaBoiteaux, Dr. Edwin Forrest Landy, Mrs. J. Evans Lippincott, Mrs. Howard B. Luther, Mr. Arthur L. Moler, Mr. Roger Kemper Rogan, Mr. Edward F. Romer, Mr. Thomas L. Tallentire and Miss Virginia Van Voast.
TREASURER’S REPORT
HISTORICAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF OHIO

To the President and Members of the Historical Society:

I have the honor to present the Treasurer’s Annual Report of the income and expenditures of the Society for the year ending November 30, 1947, together with a statement of the investments held by The Central Trust Company, as Custodian, showing the inventory value and current market values.

ANNUAL STATEMENT

Cash Balance—December 1, 1946  $ 7,868.32

Receipts

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<td>Membership Dues</td>
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<td>Sale of Books and Publications</td>
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Expenditures

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Balance on hand November 30, 1947

L. C. Bucher, Treasurer

December 1, 1947.
REPORT OF EDITOR OF THE BULLETIN

Since the last annual meeting of the Society we have published four numbers of the Bulletin. As the Society has grown considerably this year we are now printing about 800 copies for our own members and for our exchange list. It is also necessary to keep extra copies on hand, as we get calls from out of town sources for special numbers.

Our exchange list brings us in return for the Bulletin numerous printed items of interest from other Historical Societies, including quarterly publications. So we regard our exchange list as profitable investment on our part.

We try to use a variety of articles in the Bulletin hoping thereby to give each member something of interest and to further interest the members in the work of the Society. It would be very encouraging if more of our members felt the urge to write something for the Bulletin and for suggestions along this line they can contact either Mr. Hall or myself. From the interest displayed as to special articles we have used we feel that we are on the way to better things in the future.

This next year we hope to introduce some new features and if they meet with approval we will continue to experiment for ways to improve our little quarterly. Criticisms will be carefully considered and we bespeak your help in making the Bulletin a worthy mouthpiece of the Society.

LEE SHEPARD, Editor in Chief

The annual election of officers resulted as follows:

President, CHALMERS HADLEY
First Vice-President, LUCIEN WULSIN
Second Vice-President, LEE SHEPARD
Recording Secretary, HERBERT F. KOCH
Corresponding Secretary, CORNELIUS J. HAUCK
Treasurer, LAWRENCE BUCHER
At Fosters, Ohio, twenty-two miles east of Cincinnati, the Little Miami River is spanned by a handsome concrete bridge, arching some seventy-five feet above the river bed. Until rather recently, however, the road dipped down to water level, crossed over on an iron and plank structure, and mounted sharply on the far side. But that iron bridge, now by-passed but still to be seen down below, is really prematurely old. As recently as 1913 traffic at this point passed through the shady tunnel of a covered bridge. The great flood of that year carried it away.

In this area the river makes a wide bend, flowing fast in a series of riffles suitable for water power, so that Jeremiah Morrow chose here a site for his grist mill. That was in 1812 and Morrow by that time was well established in the neighborhood, having come up river from Columbia some fifteen years before. But to say that he was well established in the neighborhood is understatement. By 1812, he had received practically every political honor in the State, including that of United States Senator, every important office except the Governor's, and that was to come ten years later. He was a man known for simplicity of manners and grave wisdom.

But let us come back to the Little Miami. Settlers were thirty miles upstream by 1795, clearing land in what is now