

Indiana Historical Society

By CHRISTOPHER B. COLEMAN

The September number of the *Indiana History Bulletin* is devoted to history in the high schools under the title of "High School Number." The Society is making a special effort to cooperate with the teachers of history in the schools of Indiana and to enlist them in its membership. It is extending to them the privilege of membership from September, 1932 to December 31, 1933, sixteen months, upon the payment of the regular dues of two dollars for one year.

There is no reason why the Indiana Historical Society should not for this state, occupy the position that the American Historical Association does for the country at large. It ought to be the clearing house for historical activities in the schools as well as among men and women in other walks of life. The word "Indiana" in the name of the Society ought to be construed geographically rather than topically. While Indiana history is naturally emphasized and given more attention than any other field, the program of the Society ought to include the general field of historical reading, study, and teaching. To an increasing extent, such subjects are being included in meetings of historical societies in the state.

The "High School Number" of the *Indiana History Bulletin* can be secured without cost at the Historical Bureau, 334 State House. It should be read by all teachers of history, especially those in the high schools of the state.

The new State Library and Historical Building is progressing rapidly. It is on the southwest corner of Senate Avenue and Ohio Street, across the street to the west from the State House. The reinforced concrete work has been carried to the top of the third floor, nearly the height of the finished building. The contract calls for completion of the building in July of 1933. It will house the State Library, the Historical Bureau, Public Archives, and the William Henry Smith Memorial Library of the Indiana Historical Society.

Annie Morrison (Mrs. David W.) Coffin, of Beverly Hills, California, now in her 92nd year, sends a newspaper clipping

containing a letter which she wrote many years ago concerning Morgan's Raid. Mrs. Coffin, then Miss Morrison, had just graduated from Glendale College and returned to her home in Salem when Morgan's Raid threatened that town. Among the many incidents recalled were the saving of securities from the bank by hiding them in private houses, the preparation of a bounteous lunch for the home guards drilling in the town square which was served instead to Morgan's men, the filling of an empty cistern with goods from the neighboring store and labelling the store "for rent," and the hiding of a Captain Thomas. There are not so many survivors of the time of Morgan's Raid now living that the recollections of such persons as Mrs. Coffin can be overlooked.

The Fourteenth Annual Indiana History Conference will be held at the Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis, Friday, December 9, and Saturday, December 10. It will begin with the annual luncheon and business meeting of the Indiana Historical Society at 12 noon on Friday and will close with the annual dinner of the Society of Indiana Pioneers in the Riley Room, Saturday evening.