

## Indiana Historical Society

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A new series of pamphlets, "Prehistory Research Series," is being initiated by the Society different from, and independent of, the *Publications*, now in their twelfth volume. The new series is made possible by contributions received by the Archaeological Section. Reports on archaeology and anthropology of the type hitherto published by the Historical Bureau in its *Indiana History Bulletin*, will hereafter be included in this series. The page size will be approximately that of the *Indiana Magazine of History*. This will allow a better rendering of the cuts of excavations and artifacts than does the page size of the *Bulletin*.

The articles contemplated for the series are the product of the researches of the staff of the Historical Society and others working upon American archaeology and anthropology. Paul Weer, of Indianapolis, who contributed "Preliminary Notes on the Siouan Family" to the *Indiana History Bulletin*, February, 1937 (Volume 14, No. 2, pp. 99-120, reprinted by the Historical Society), has also contributed to the series similar notes on the Iroquoian family, to be followed by a study of other groups. Dr. C. F. Voegelin, of DePauw University, is to contribute etymological and philological studies upon Indian languages—investigations into the linguistic relations of various Indian groups and families; Glenn A. Black is to contribute reports on archaeological surveys and excavations and E. Y. Guernsey, of Bedford, is preparing for the series a historical and archaeological survey of Clark County. Other articles on various phases of American, and especially Indiana, prehistory, are contemplated. Miss Gayle Thornbrough, of Indianapolis, has been added to the staff of the Society, with the management of the series and seeing it through the press as her principal work.

The archaeological publications heretofore issued in the *Indiana History Bulletin* are listed on the cover of the reprint of "Preliminary Notes on the Siouan Family," referred to above. The list includes surveys of Lawrence, Washington, Parke, Randolph (including the Fudge Mound), Porter, Dearborn and Ohio counties, the *Excavation of the Albee Mound* (two Bulletins), "Excavation of a Blackford County Site," *Excavation of the Newlin Mound*, the *Archaeology of the*

*Whitewater Valley, Bibliography on Indiana Archaeology*, and an article, "Sweeping a Prehistoric Floor" (a Marion County site).

An illustrated volume upon *Prehistoric Antiquities of Indiana* by Eli Lilly, president of the Society, is being prepared for the press. It is to be printed and bound by the Lakeside Press as a special publication, entirely independent and separate both from the Indiana Historical Society *Publications* and the "Prehistory Research Series".

*Sons of the Wilderness: John and William Conner* by Charles N. Thompson, of Indianapolis, is announced as Volume 12 of the Indiana Historical Society *Publications*, constituting a volume by itself. This publication is expected during the summer. Approved for publication are "The Contribution of the Friends to Education in Indiana," by Mrs. Ethel McDaniels, of Wilkinson, and an article by Wiley J. Daniels, of Indianapolis, upon the bringing of the Madison and Indianapolis Railroad to the latter city, an elaboration of a paper entitled, "A Chapter in Early Indiana Railroad History—the Little Village at the End of the Road," read by Mr. Daniels at the seventeenth annual Indiana History Conference, December 13, 1935.

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The question raised by a prospective member as to whether the Society should devote itself entirely to Indiana and local history deserves consideration. In the opinion of the writer, the Society should not do so. He would like to think of it as an organization centering in Indiana, of persons interested in history, rather than as an organization for the promotion solely of Indiana history. Almost all the *Publications* of the Society have dealt with the history of the state, with localities within the state, and with people living here. Only a few *Publications* upon general themes have been issued. This is as it should be, for members and contributors of the Society, for the most part, are in a better position to write upon the former subjects. Articles of merit upon United States or general history can usually find a more appropriate medium of publication in such magazines as the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, or the *American Historical Review*, or in publications issued for the book trade. However, we ought to secure occasionally for meetings of the Society and for publication, articles of value upon subjects of general

scope. Historians might well regard this as a medium for the preliminary publication of work which they have in hand and which they plan to develop into more extensive, permanent contributions to historical knowledge. Writing without official authorization, it is nevertheless safe to say that information about such articles will be gratefully welcomed by those in charge of the programs of meetings and by the committee on publications.