

The Indiana War History Commission¹

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Before the United States was involved in war by the attack upon Pearl Harbor, the state of Indiana cooperated with the nation in its defense and preparedness program. The General Assembly of Indiana on March 10, 1941, passed the State Defense Act which provided for an Advisory Defense Council, an Administrative Defense Council,² and a Civilian Defense Director who should also be the chairman of the Administrative Council. Clarence A. Jackson, the executive vice-president of the Indiana State Chamber of Commerce, was appointed Civilian Defense Director by Governor Henry F. Schricker.

In his new work the director looked for a descriptive historical account of the experiences of the director of defense during the World War of 1917-1918. He failed to find such an account in Indiana that would serve him as a guide. Anxious to prevent a possible repetition of his experience in the future and conscious of the historical importance of developments in which Indiana was participating, Mr. Jackson called upon President Herman B Wells of Indiana University to assist in preparing a plan by which the records of the war period should be collected, and an account written showing the part Indiana was playing in the war and the effect of the war upon Indiana. Understanding the importance of this request, the president volunteered the services of Indiana University.

The president appointed a committee of members of the university faculty to discuss ways and means of carrying out the plan.³ In the deliberations and discussions of this committee, the scope of the task and procedure to be followed were gradually developed. By this time the United States had been attacked, and preparations for war were going forward with speed and determination. Members of the teaching and administrative staffs were leaving for service

¹ The assistance rendered by Dr. Max P. Allen in the preparation of this paper has been so extensive and helpful as to approach joint authorship.

² *Laws of the State of Indiana, 1941*, ch. CXCIV.

³ H. B Wells to Clarence Jackson, March 5, 1942; H. B Wells to Dr. A. L. Kohlmeier, March 6, 1942; undated memorandum of Professor George A. Steiner; A. L. Kohlmeier to Professor George A. Steiner, April 1, 1942.

with the armed forces or other government agencies. The personnel of the committee fluctuated so rapidly that it was scarcely the same committee for two successive meetings. It was, nevertheless, quickly realized that the project had very large possibilities and that it would require the cooperation of the various agencies and institutions of the state, as well as numerous leaders of its business, agricultural, professional, and social activities. Conferences were held in which Governor Schricker, Mr. Jackson, President Edward C. Elliott of Purdue University, the late Dr. Christopher B. Coleman of the State Historical Society, and other persons interested in the history of the state participated. As the plan gradually developed, Indiana University was to take the lead in initiating and directing the work with the cooperation of other institutions of the state.

An announcement of the plans for the collection of material was made on April 14, 1942, which was printed in whole or in part in a large number of newspapers throughout the state.

The story of Indiana's participation in the war effort will be preserved for future historians through a systematic plan for the collection of data under the guidance of Indiana University, Governor Henry F. Schricker announced today after conferring with President Herman B. Wells, Civilian Defense Director Clarence A. Jackson and faculty members of the University who are to work under the direction of Prof. A. L. Kohlmeier of the Indiana University history department.

In selecting Indiana University to be the official historian of the state's role in the war effort, Governor Schricker pointed out that the University can serve as a collection point for pertinent war material gathered by all Indiana colleges and universities, from libraries and local historical organizations, and from the various agencies of government. He explained that this is an effort to prevent a recurrence of the condition during the last war when a vast amount of material was destroyed by those who did not recognize its value from an historical standpoint.

Preliminary steps have already been taken at the University and until such time as a permanent staff for assembling the material is ready, the History Department will assume the responsibility of caring for the various records. At the present the work of an I.U. faculty committee named by President Wells is to outline the nature of the material desired and then, working through the State Defense Council and other interested agencies, to publicize the need for cooperation in collecting the material.⁴

⁴ The announcement continued as follows: "Although plans for the future are indefinite, it is certain that a record of the state's part in the war will be published at the close of hostilities and that this may

The university committee began at once the collection of printed material under the supervision of Professor Kohlmeier, head of the Department of History. The university committee assigned the work of collection to Dr. John D. Barnhart, Associate Professor of History and editor of the *Indiana Magazine of History*. The committee continued in an advisory capacity with Professor Kohlmeier as chairman.

also be carried out on a county basis. However, the greatest value appears to lie in the opportunity to make this valuable source of material available in a convenient and usable form for the assistance of history [sic] and other writers and research students who want to make a thorough study of civilian life in this momentous period.

In attempting to locate all the data possible which will show the impact of the war on various phases of activity in Indiana, the present plan is to house and index as much of this as possible at Bloomington. All contributing agencies will be asked to send their material there for storage and classification. At the same time the University will also appeal to those who are not able to turn over their material at present to preserve it so that it may be secured at a later date when its value is entirely of a historical nature. This is particularly true of records from defense production plants which are now military secrets but which in years to come will give first-hand information on the thrilling story of the changeover from domestic to war production and the conversion of peacetime industries into plants for the production of war materials.

By directing the appeal for help to all industries engaged in war work, [to] all persons who in trade or civic associations are familiar with the trend in their particular field of activity and to various levels of government from the federal to the community, it is felt that a sufficient mass of information can be obtained that it will shed light on the various fields which have been tentatively selected for concentration. These will include:

- A. General industrial and other economic fields
- B. Agriculture
- C. Local government
- D. Law
- E. The fine arts (literature, music, visual arts)
- F. Education
- G. The press and public opinion
- H. Geology (conservation)
- I. Health
- J. Sociology
- K. Military

The practical value of this undertaking is stressed by state and university officials who point out that their inability to locate many records and reports of happenings in the last war has proven a distinct handicap. In the matter of local government, the text of various city and town ordinances, the reports of various officials, and the complete story of some of the projects which were attempted and the public reaction to them would be of great assistance if they were available today.

The selection of Indiana University provides a central point for this collection and all persons willing to donate material to a place where it will be used most effectively are urged to contact Professor G. A. Steiner of the Indiana University School of Business who is secretary of the University Committee which will be in complete charge until the permanent staff is selected." News Release, April 14, 1942, and Indianapolis *Hoosier-Sentinel*, April 24, 1942.

Efforts were initiated to secure files of the publications of the various governmental agencies, such as the Office of Price Administration and the Council of Civilian Defense; of government camps and munition plants; of educational institutions, especially those undertaking any of the war training programs; and of the manufacturing companies, particularly those engaged in war production.

The General Assembly revised the State Defense Act in a measure signed by the governor on March 6, 1943. The Defense Council was directed to initiate a survey of the participation of the state in the war effort and to prepare a written report to be submitted to the governor as soon as practicable after the war. A progress report of this survey was to be made to the governor on April 1 each year. The report was to include (1) the contribution of man power, (2) bond purchases and other contributions by citizens of the state, (3) industrial development and production, (4) economic changes, (5) agricultural development and production, (6) changes in government, and (7) social changes and developments.⁵

The new Administrative and Advisory Defense Councils, as provided for in the new Defense Act, met and discussed the provision for a survey and report. It was decided to request the governor to appoint a committee to be known as the Indiana War History Committee, which would be a part of the Defense Council, and which would prepare a report of the state's contribution to the war and the changes produced by the war in the life of the state. It was to encourage historical activity by various agencies and officials and to prepare a history of Indiana's participation in and contribution to the war.⁶

⁵ "(b) The council is directed to initiate a survey of participation of the State of Indiana in the war effort and prepare a written report to be submitted to the governor as soon as practicable after the war. On April 1 of each year after 1943, a progress report of such survey shall be submitted to the governor. This report shall include, but shall not be limited to (1) the state contribution of man power; (2) bond purchases and other contributions by citizens of the state; (3) industrial development and production; (4) economic changes; (5) agricultural development and production; (6) changes in government; and (7) social changes and developments." *Laws of the State of Indiana, 1943*, ch. CLIII, sec. 4b.

⁶ ". . . RESOLVED, that the Indiana State Advisory and Administrative Councils believe that the most effective way to comply with Section 4 (b) is to request the Governor to appoint a committee to be known as the Indiana War History Committee which shall be a

Further conferences were held with various leaders in trying to devise the best methods, to secure the cooperation of prominent citizens and organizations of the state, and to obtain agreement upon the type or procedure and organization. Governor Schricker appointed forty-two prominent Hoosiers to serve as members of the Indiana War History Commission.⁷ The following were the persons appointed:

Mrs. Oscar A. Ahlgren, Recording Secretary, General Federation of Women's Clubs, Whiting
 Mr. J. Chester Allen, Coordinator, Negro Activities, Civilian Defense Council, Indianapolis
 Mr. H. B. Allman, Superintendent of City Schools, Muncie
 Miss Mary E. Bostwick, Indianapolis *Star*, Indianapolis
 Mr. Harold F. Brigham, Director, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis
 Dr. Franklin L. Burdette, Butler University, Indianapolis
 Dr. Joseph C. Carroll, Crispus Attucks High School, Indianapolis
 Mrs. Frederick Conkle, President, Indiana Congress of Parents and Teachers, Noblesville
 Dr. Edward C. Elliott, President, Purdue University, Lafayette
 Mr. Wray E. Fleming, Director, Hoosier State Press Association, Indianapolis
 Mr. Edmond C. Foust, Editor, *The Hoosier Farmer*, Indianapolis
 Mr. Walter Frisbie, Secretary-Treasurer, Indiana State Industrial Union Council, Indianapolis
 Col. Everett L. Gardner, Director, Indiana Employment Security Division, Indianapolis
 Rabbi Maurice Goldblatt, Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, Indianapolis
 Mr. Othniel Hitch, Attorney, Indianapolis

part of the Defense Council. The committee shall prepare a report of the State's contribution of man power, bond purchases and other contributions of citizens of the State, industrial development and production, economic changes, agricultural development and production, changes in government and social changes and development. The committee shall cooperate with and utilize the facilities of all state and local governmental agencies, educational institutions, libraries, business, scientific, professional, veteran, librarian, historical, agricultural, labor, and civic organizations in collecting and preserving the information and records necessary to complete the survey and report. It shall be the responsibility of the committee to encourage the various agencies and officials to maintain a current history of the various matters coming within the purview of the survey in order to facilitate the annual progress reports which shall be submitted to the Governor April 1, 1944.

It shall be the further duty of the committee to encourage the writing of and publication of a history or histories of Indiana's participation and contribution to World War II." Minutes of the Meeting of Administrative and Advisory Defense Councils, April 18, 1943.

⁷ In appointing the members the governor used the word "commission" rather than "committee" as found in the resolution of the Defense Council. Since the change seemed agreeable to all, the term commission has been used.

Col. Robinson Hitchcock, State Director, Indiana Selective Service, Indianapolis
 Mrs. George W. Jaqua, Director, Women's Division, Indiana State Defense Council, Indianapolis
 Dr. O. P. Kretzman, President, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso
 Mr. Eli Lilly, President, Eli Lilly & Company, Indianapolis
 Dr. Ross F. Lockridge, Director, New Harmony Memorial Commission, Bloomington
 Dr. Carleton B. McCulloch, Indianapolis
 Dr. Clement T. Malan, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Indianapolis
 Mr. Carl H. Mullen, President, Indiana State Federation of Labor, Indianapolis
 Mrs. Jeannette Covert Nolan, Bloomington
 Mrs. Roscoe C. O'Byrne, Brookville
 The Reverend Hugh O'Donnell, President, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame
 Mr. Eugene C. Pulliam, State Chairman, Indiana War Finance Committee, Indianapolis
 Dr. M. O. Ross, President, Butler University, Indianapolis
 Mr. Louis Ruthenburg, President, Servel, Inc., Evansville
 Mr. Don Scism, Editor, Evansville *Courier*, Evansville
 Judge Curtis G. Shake, Indiana Supreme Court, Indianapolis
 Dr. Frank H. Sparks, President, Wabash College, Crawfordsville
 Mr. Burr S. Swezey, President, Lafayette National Bank, Lafayette
 Mr. Ralph N. Tirey, President, Indiana State Teachers College, Terre Haute
 Mr. W. E. Wagoner, Acting President, Ball State Teachers College, Muncie
 Dr. Louis A. Warren, Lincoln Foundation, Fort Wayne
 Mr. Frank White, Editor, *The Hoosier Legionnaire*, Indianapolis
 Dr. Clyde E. Wildman, President, DePauw University, Greencastle

An organization meeting was held in Indianapolis on December 16, 1943. President Wells was appointed chairman of the commission. Governor Schricker was elected honorary chairman; Mr. Jackson, vice-chairman; and Professor Barnhart, permanent secretary and director.

An attractive pamphlet entitled *Helping Record Indiana's Part in the War* was prepared with the assistance of the Director of Civilian Defense, and mailed to some twelve thousand persons, asking for the cooperation of the public generally. Although the response indicated that the people of the state were historically conscious, it demonstrated that more direct methods of securing results would be necessary.

A staff of workers was formed at the university to undertake more efficient methods of collection. Dr. Max P. Allen and Professor J. Wymond French were loaned to the

commission by the departments of History and Journalism respectively. They called upon the manufacturers of the state to learn the part they played in war production and the effects of the war upon manufacturing. This work was begun on a small and experimental scale, but was found to be productive of good results. It was extended over the southern half of the state and to some extent into the northern half. The larger cities, however, seemed too big for this procedure, so little was attempted in Evansville or Indianapolis, or other large communities in the northern part of the state. Dr. Donald F. Carmony was added to the staff very shortly after this work was undertaken, and he and Professor French have done most of it.⁸ Each staff representative visited a community and interviewed the heads of the more important manufacturing establishments. An account of each interview was then written, and sent to the official interviewed for correction or approval. When returned the report was filed with the other records which the commission was collecting. Wherever possible, supplementary printed material was also assembled and filed with the report.

While this work was being done, an organization was formed to secure the assistance of a large number of prominent leaders throughout the state. The work of collecting the records of Indiana's part in the war and the effects of the war upon Indiana was divided into six divisions and a chairman was appointed for each division. The work within each division was subdivided and assigned to subchairmen. Serious efforts were made to bring into the organization individuals who were personally acquainted with the phases of activity for which they were to collect the records. Because of the importance of the commission's work, it was assumed that the cooperation of outstanding Hoosiers could be secured. Generally persons connected with some organized activity were chosen, because their positions in the organization often made available to them the means of knowing what was going on, of collecting the records, and also of getting work done which others not so connected could not possibly do even at considerable personal sacrifice. Much

⁸ Dr. Carmony on August 1, 1944, became executive secretary of the South Bend-Mishawaka center of the extension division of the university and since then has been able to give but half of his time to the commission.

care and time was spent in making these appointments. Seldom have the requests for assistance been denied, even though many persons already overburdened with other activities have been asked to participate in the work.

Mr. Louis Ruthenburg, President of Servel, Inc., Evansville, was appointed chairman of the Division of Economic Changes. His subchairmen and their subdivisions are as follows:

Manufacturing, Mr. Harry Newcomb, Vice-President, Servel, Inc., Evansville
Transportation and Communication, Mr. Herschel A. Hollopeter, Traffic Director, Indiana State Chamber of Commerce, Indianapolis
Mining, Mr. C. C. Lydick, Managing Director, Coal Trade Association of Indiana, Terre Haute
Merchandising and Distribution, Prof. Albert Haring, Marketing Division, School of Business, Indiana University, Bloomington
Banking and Finance, Mr. Don Warrick, Secretary, Indiana Bankers' Association, Indianapolis
Taxation, Mr. Howard Friend, Research Director, Indiana State Chamber of Commerce, Indianapolis
War Bond Sales, Mr. Eugene C. Pulliam, State Chairman, Indiana War Finance Committee, Indianapolis
Public Utilities, Mr. C. V. Sorenson, Northern Indiana Public Service Co., Hammond
Labor, Mr. Carl H. Mullen, President, Indiana State Federation of Labor, Indianapolis; Mr. Walter Frisbie, Secretary-Treasurer, Indiana State Industrial Union Council, Indianapolis; Mr. Ray C. Gilbert, State Representative, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, Indianapolis; Dr. Joseph A. Batchelor, School of Business, Indiana University, Bloomington
Committee for Economic Development, Mr. Louis Ruthenburg, President, Servel, Inc., Evansville

Dean Harry J. Reed of the Agricultural School, Purdue University, accepted the appointment as chairman of the Division of Agricultural Developments. His subchairmen and their subdivisions include the following:

Livestock and Poultry, Prof. Claude Harper, Animal Husbandry Department, Purdue University; Prof. R. A. Wilhelm, Animal Husbandry Department, Purdue University
Dairy Farms, Prof. E. A. Gannon, Smith Hall, Purdue University
Vegetable Growers, Truck Gardeners, Victory Gardeners, Prof. F. C. Gaylord, Horticultural Building, Purdue University
Cereal Crops, Prof. K. E. Beeson, Agronomy Department, Purdue University
Horticulture and Fruit Raising, Prof. Monroe McCown, Horticultural Building, Purdue University

Conservation:

Forestry and Conservation, Mr. Hugh A. Barnhart, Director, Department of Conservation, State House, Indianapolis

Soil Conservation, Mr. Kenneth Welton, Soil Conservationist Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Lafayette

Farmers' Organizations and Cooperatives, Mr. Hassil Schenck, President, Indiana Farm Bureau, Inc., Indianapolis

Agricultural Education, Mr. Harry F. Ainsworth, Supervisor, Agricultural Education, State Department of Public Instruction, Indianapolis

Finance, Labor, and Price Control, Dr. E. L. Butz, Agricultural Economics Department, Purdue University

Farm Security Administration, Dr. E. H. Shideler, Director, Farm Security Administration, Lafayette

Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Mr. L. M. Vogler, Chairman, Indiana Agricultural Conservation Committee, Indianapolis

Rural Electrification

The Division of Armed Forces was placed under the chairmanship of the late Dr. Christopher B. Coleman, Director of the Historical Bureau; and his subchairmen are as follows:

Induction of Indianans into the Services:

Selective Service, Col. Robinson Hitchcock, State Director, Selective Service, Indianapolis

Navy Recruiting, Lt. Comdr. W. A. Chapman, Jr., Officer in Charge, U.S. Navy Recruiting Station, Indianapolis

Marine Induction Recruiting, Major Ralph E. Boulton, Officer in Charge, U.S. Marine Corps, Induction and Recruiting District, Indianapolis

Federal Military and Naval Establishments:

Fort Benjamin Harrison, Mrs. Filomena Gould, Indianapolis News, Indianapolis

Camp Atterbury, Captain Wesley Jones, Public Relations Officer, Fifth Service Command, Camp Atterbury

Quartermaster Supply Depot, Dr. A. D. Beeler, Butler University, Indianapolis

Stout Field, Lt. F. H. Baumann, Special Services Officer, Army Air Base, Stout Field, Indianapolis

<i>Jefferson Proving Grounds</i>	} Dr. Louis Warren, Lincoln Foundation, Fort Wayne
<i>Baer and Scott Fields</i>	
<i>Casad Army Ordnance Depot</i>	
<i>Freeman Field</i>	

Jeffersonville Quartermaster Depot, Dr. David Spence Hill

Army Air Forces, Specialist Depots

Indianapolis Naval Armory, Mr. Howard C. Caldwell, Indianapolis

Bunker Hill Naval Air Station, Mr. Richard Simons, Tipton Daily Tribune, Tipton

*Naval Ammunition Depot, Crane**Individual Records:*

Gold Star Honor Roll, Miss Dorothy Riker, Historical Bureau,
State Library and Historical Building, Indianapolis

Indiana Book of Merit (Citations and Decorations), Miss Nellie
A. Robertson and Miss Dorothy Riker, Historical Bureau,
State Library and Historical Building, Indianapolis

Service Records of all Indianans in Army and Navy, Acting Adj.
Gen. William P. Weimar, Adjutant General's Office, Indiana
National Guard, State House, Indianapolis

Demobilization and Rehabilitation:

Army and Navy Training Schools in Colleges and Universities,
Dr. Frank H. Sparks of the Division of Social Forces

The Division of Social Forces was assigned to Dr. Clyde
E. Wildman, President, DePauw University, Greencastle.
The subdivisions and the respective subchairmen follow:

Education:

Colleges and Universities, Dr. Frank H. Sparks, President, Wa-
bash College, Crawfordsville

Public and Parochial Schools, Mr. Robert H. Wyatt, Executive
Secretary, Indiana State Teachers Association, Indianapolis

Churches, The Rev. Dr. Ralph L. Holland, General Secretary, Church
Federation, Indianapolis

Professions Other than Medicine, Mr. John S. Hastings, Director,
Civilian Defense Council, Daviess County, Washington

Medical Profession, Mr. Thomas A. Hendricks, Executive Secretary,
Indiana State Medical Association, Indianapolis

Population Movements, Prof. George W. Starr, Director, Bureau of
Business Research, Indiana University, Bloomington

Recreation, Mr. Paul V. Brown, Chairman, Board of Park Commis-
sioners, Indianapolis

Social Service Organizations, Mr. Virgil Sheppard, Executive Secre-
tary, American Red Cross, Indianapolis

Governmental Welfare Organizations, Mr. John Barnett, Assistant Re-
search Director, Indiana State Chamber of Commerce, Indianapolis

Women's Organizations and Clubs, Mrs. Oscar A. Ahlgren, Recording
Secretary, General Federation of Women's Clubs, Whiting

Newspapers and Radio, Mr. Wray E. Fleming, Director, Hoosier State
Press Association, Indianapolis

The Division of Governmental and Political Changes is
under the chairmanship of Dr. Ford P. Hall of Indiana Uni-
versity, Bloomington. The work has been divided into the
following subdivisions and assigned to the following sub-
chairmen:

Civilian Defense, Mr. Clarence A. Jackson, Director, Indiana State
Defense Council, Indianapolis

Office of Price Administration, Mr. James D. Strickland, District Director, Office of Price Administration, Indianapolis

Federal Agencies

State Agencies, Mr. Arthur Tiernan, Director of Public Relations, State Department of Conservation, Indianapolis

Local Agencies, Mr. Harold C. Feightner, Secretary, Indiana Brewers' Association, Indianapolis

Parties and Political Developments, Mr. Ralph F. Gates, Columbia City; Mr. Fred F. Bays, Sullivan

Legislation, Mr. Herbert P. Kenney, Director, Indiana State Legislative Bureau, Indianapolis

Civic Organizations, Mr. William H. Book, Executive Vice-President, Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, Indianapolis

Municipal Postwar Planning, Mr. Scott Chambers, Editor, *Courier-Times*, New Castle

State Postwar Planning, Mr. Stephen C. Noland, Editor, *Indianapolis News*, Indianapolis

The Division of Libraries, Historical Societies, and Museums was created and placed in charge of Mr. Harold F. Brigham, Director of the Indiana State Library. After getting the work started, it was felt that it should be divided and that the libraries should alone remain in this division. It was organized with this thought in mind and the chairmen and their subdivisions are as follows:

Public Libraries:

District 1, Mr. James A. Howard, Librarian, Public Library, Hammond

District 2, Miss Ethel G. Baker, Librarian, Public Library, South Bend

District 3, Mr. Rex. M. Potterf, Librarian, Public Library, Fort Wayne

District 4, Mr. Lloyd W. Josselyn, Librarian, Public Library, Lafayette

District 5, Miss Florence Crawford, Librarian, Public Library, Terre Haute

District 6, Mr. Luther L. Dickerson, Librarian, Public Library, Indianapolis

District 7, Mr. Walter H. Kaiser, Librarian, Public Library, Muncie

District 8, Miss Ethel F. McCollough, Librarian, Public Library, Evansville

District 9, Miss Amy Johnson, Librarian, Public Library, Vevay

College and University Libraries:

North Region, Prof. William M. Hepburn, Librarian, Purdue University, Lafayette

South Region, Dr. Robert A. Miller, Director of Libraries, Indiana University, Bloomington

Special Libraries, Miss Ethel Cleland, Librarian, Business Branch, Public Library, Indianapolis

Public Archives (State & Local), Miss Margaret Pierson, State Archivist, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis

State Library, Miss Nellie M. Coats, Chief Cataloguer, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis

Division Six has a rather unique position in the work of the War History Commission. In general, it has three special functions. First, it is guiding local libraries in making collections for their own institutions. It is assisting in the solution of such problems as the scope of local collections, housing, cooperation, avoidance of duplications, and the like. Secondly, it is assisting the War History Commission in its task of collecting the records of the war. In order to facilitate the work of the division, subchairmen have been chosen to represent different types of libraries for different geographical areas. Finally, it is planning a state-wide comprehensive bibliography of the materials which record Indiana's part in the war and the effect of the war upon Indiana.

While the officers and advisers of the commission were busy creating the organization of chairmen and subchairmen and the staff was continuing its efforts to collect various types of records, arrangements were made for the second meeting of the commission. A fairly elaborate but tentative outline of the work to be done and a list of the persons who had agreed to assist was prepared. This was embodied in a forty-page mimeographed pamphlet and distributed to the members of the commission and to the chairmen and subchairmen of the organization. Because of the rapidly expanding work of the commission, Dr. Allen was made assistant director.

On June 9, 1944, there was held at the Memorial Union, Indiana University, the second meeting of the Indiana War History Commission. The chairmen and subchairmen were also in attendance. The program was as follows:

Conference of Division Chairmen	- - - - -	10:30 A.M.
Director John D. Barnhart, Presiding		
Business Meeting, Indiana War History Commission	- -	11:00 A.M.
Chairman Herman B Wells, Presiding		
Luncheon, Indiana War History Commission, Division		
Chairmen and Subchairmen, and Other Guests	- -	12:30 P.M.
Chairman Herman B Wells, Presiding		
Program:		
"Recording War History in Other States," Dr. Lester J. Cap-		

pon, Chairman, Committee on State and Local War Records, American Association for State and Local History, University of Virginia

"Indiana's Opportunity," Vice-Chairman Clarence A. Jackson, Director, Indiana State Defense Council

Division Meetings - - - - - 2:00 P.M.

Economic Changes, Chairman Louis Ruthenburg, Presiding

Agricultural Developments, Chairman Harry J. Reed, Presiding

Armed Forces, Chairman C. B. Coleman, Presiding

Governmental and Political Changes, Chairman Ford P. Hall, Presiding

Social Forces, Chairman Clyde E. Wildman, Presiding

Libraries, Historical Societies, and Museums, Chairman Harold F. Brigham, Presiding

Conference of Division Chairmen - - - - - 3:00 P.M.

Director John D. Barnhart, Presiding

In the first meeting of the day, procedures were outlined for the division chairmen who were to preside at the later meetings of the subchairmen and to report at the final meeting in the afternoon. The War History Commission assembled at eleven o'clock and approved the "Progress Report," which the director had submitted to the Indiana State Defense Council previous to April 1, 1944. The organization of chairmen and subchairmen that had been established since the first meeting of the commission was also approved. An understanding was reached to place the historical societies and museums in a seventh division. This has not been carried out because of the death of Dr. Christopher B. Coleman, the secretary of the Indiana Historical Society.

Dr. Lester J. Cappon in his address at the luncheon meeting commented upon the enthusiasm of Indianans for recording the history of this critical period. He stressed the importance of collecting the records and of doing this before many of them were lost. The collection must be broad and inclusive since total war involves all classes and activities. Mr. Jackson spoke briefly, pointing out that the records are a means to the end and that the real target is a written history. The aims and procedures, the work of the chairmen and subchairmen, the improvement of the outlines, the nature of the records and documents, and the scope of the commission's task were discussed in the section meetings of the chairmen and subchairmen. The final meeting of the division chairmen brought together the experiences of the earlier meetings and concluded the work of the day.

Letters were mailed from the director's office asking the assistance of various groups, such as the manufacturers, the colleges and universities, the local unions of the A. F. of L. and the C. I. O., the county medical societies, and the newspapers. The compilation of a directory of Indiana at war was also undertaken. This volume is planned to include a list of organizations, federal, state, and local, involved in war work; a statement of their legal basis and purposes; and a list of their officers. The history department of the university loaned the services of Professor Heber P. Walker for the purpose of preparing this directory.

The following subchairmen of the Division of Economic Changes have reported progress in getting their work started: Mr. Harry Newcomb, manufacturing; Mr. Herschel A. Hollopeter, transportation and communication; and Mr. C. V. Sorenson, public utilities. The activity, interest, and efficient procedure of the chairman, Mr. Ruthenburg, has no doubt influenced his co-workers. In the Division of Social Forces, of which President Wildman is chairman, Mr. Virgil Sheppard, social service organizations, Mr. Wray E. Fleming, newspapers and radio, and President Sparks, colleges and universities, have reported activity. The Division of Armed Forces has been handicapped seriously by the death of Doctor Coleman, but work is proceeding. Dorothy Riker, Gold Star Honor Roll, has published in the *Indiana History Bulletin* a "Gold Star Honor Roll, December 7, 1941-June 1, 1944,"⁹ and Colonel Robinson Hitchcock, Selective Service, has prepared a record entitled "Indiana State Headquarter's Selective Service System." Many of the subchairmen have appointed committees to assist them in their work.

The Division of Agricultural Developments under Dean Harry J. Reed of Purdue, who is aided by a group of subchairmen largely of the Purdue staff, was particularly well represented at the June 9th meeting. The section meeting was presided over by President Edward C. Elliott of Purdue in the absence of Dean Reed. The work of this division is centered at Purdue where it is now in progress.

The Division of Libraries has had the energetic direction of Mr. Harold F. Brigham, Director of the State Library. He has described the work of the War History Commission in

⁹ *Indiana History Bulletin* (Indianapolis, 1923-), XXI (1944), 383-414.

the *Library Occurrent* and has urged the libraries of the state to undertake the task of collecting the records of their particular localities.¹⁰ He has held a series of district meetings in which among other problems the part of the libraries in preserving the records of the war was discussed.

The commission has had the active cooperation of other organizations such as the Indiana State Chamber of Commerce, the Indiana Limestone Institute, the Indiana Historical Society, the Indiana State Library, the Indiana Committee for Economic Development, and the Chambers of Commerce in Connersville, Indianapolis, Lafayette, Lebanon, Shelbyville, Terre Haute, Vincennes, and numerous other communities. Much of this cooperation has been due to the untiring efforts of Clarence A. Jackson, whose wide acquaintance and numerous connections throughout the state have made his assistance invaluable.

Federal, state, and local officials have repeatedly evidenced a sincere desire to facilitate the activities of the commission. This is particularly true of Governor Henry F. Schricker who has made every possible effort to forward the work. This same spirit has been manifested by the representatives of semi-public and private organizations generally.

From the members of the faculty and staff of Indiana University much aid has also been received. Among these are President Wells and Professor Kohlmeier, whose counsel has always been available; Mr. E. Ross Bartley of the University News Bureau, who has managed the publicity work of the commission; and Dr. Joseph A. Batchelor, who has prepared a report on the limestone industry in the war years.

Since the commission's first purpose is the collection of the records which reveal Indiana's part in the war and the effects of the war upon the state, the work of collecting has been continuous from the very beginning. Among its manuscript collections are reports of some 233 manufacturing concerns during the war period, letters from Indiana colleges and universities in regard to war programs and the effects of the war upon the institutions, a few letters from labor leaders, and a group of miscellaneous correspondence. It has also collected the periodicals published by approxi-

¹⁰ *Library Occurrent* (Indianapolis, 1906-), XIV, January-March, 1944, pp. 231-34; *ibid.*, XIV, April-June, 1944, pp. 260-67.

mately one hundred manufacturing and business concerns, by labor organizations, by colleges and universities, by twenty-five military or naval organizations, including camps, depots, and groups in training, and various government agencies. It has secured the publications of the Indiana State Defense Council and a very large portion of the publications of the Office of Price Administration as well as various other government agencies. Since the University Library and the State Library maintain an extensive collection of newspapers, the commission has not endeavored to duplicate this activity. It is expected that the collection will contain before the work of the commission is complete more extensive manuscript accounts written by various observers and participants in the war activity throughout the state.

Plans are being completed at the present which should make considerable additions to the collections of the commission and should activate many other phases of its work. An artistic folder is being prepared which is designed to secure the stories of manufacturing plants and to solve the problem of reaching numerous manufacturers in the larger cities of the state. Meetings are being arranged with various subchairmen and their committees in order to hasten the collection of records in their respective fields. Dr. Allen is engaged in this work of stimulating and coordinating the operation of the entire organization. The services of other members of the staff in addition to those of Dr. Allen are available to the chairmen and subchairmen in carrying out their assignments. It is expected that all parts of the organization will be in operation very soon and that preliminary reports will be made to the director by the first of the coming year. Such activities as are unfinished because of the continuation of the war will be included in later or supplementary reports.