

Obituaries

DR. EDMUND LEROY DOW, a director of the Historical Association of Southern Florida, a director of the Florida Historical Society and President of the Palm Beach County Historical Society, died at his home in Palm Beach, December 1, 1943, aged 73. Dr. Dow was a powerful force in vitalizing interest in the rich historical background of the state. His influence was naturally most strongly felt in his home organization, the Palm Beach Historical Society. Elected president of that body in December, 1941, he served continuously in that office until his death.

A joint meeting of the Palm Beach County Historical Society and the Florida Historical Society in January, 1940, was one of the most successful in the history of both organizations, due largely to the efforts of Dr. Dow. The meeting was held in Palm Beach, with the Palm Beach County Society as host. For weeks, Dr. Dow travelled over the state assembling material of historic interest, and the result was a carefully selected exhibit, covering Florida history from the beginning, that has probably never been surpassed.

Dr. Dow's energy and stimulus made the Historical Society a vital part of Palm Beach life. By personal contributions and solicitation, he provided the funds for the purchase of books that are the nucleus of a library for the organization. He was active in securing for the society all sorts of items of historical interest. Through his influence the library and the collections were housed, and a meeting place arranged, in the building of the Society of the Four Arts.

Dr. Dow's significance to the society did not end with his death. His generous bequest will be the foundation for a considerable enlargement of the buildings and facilities of the Society of the Four Arts in Palm Beach. The plans call for permanent exclusive quarters for the Palm Beach County Historical Society, its library and collections.

Dr. Edmund LeRoy Dow was born January 22, 1870, in Baldwinsville, N. Y. He held the degrees of B.S. and M.S. from Syracuse University, and M.O. from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University. He held several teaching positions in the College of Physicians and Surgeons and was connected with the staffs of Minturn Hospital, the Vanderbilt Clinic, Bellevue Hospital and others. He was interested in many civic activities besides the historical organizations, notably Bethesda-by-the-Sea, the Society of the Four Arts, the Palm Beach Garden Club and the Good Samaritan Hospital. His summers were spent in New York City and at Watch Hill, R. I.

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MRS. ROBERT MORRIS SEYMOUR, a director of the Historical Association of Southern Florida, and a well known figure in Miami, passed away on February 19, 1944.

She had been educated in St. Paul, Minnesota, and in California. She studied art at Columbia and later in Edinburgh, Scotland. This aesthetic training combined with a love of nature and a great appreciation of the beautiful made her the ideal person to draw the Florida Plan for landscape art and landscape gardening. Garden clubs in other states later adopted this Plan in its entirety. She did this work in 1932 while holding the position of Chairman of the State Beautification Committee. Among other official positions held by Mrs. Seymour were that of Research Member of the Civic Planning board of St. Paul; of President of the South Florida Garden Club and membership in other important garden clubs of Miami.

Mrs. Seymour's energies were directed toward the job of educating Miamians to a better knowledge of the names and uses of native plant life, its romance and history. This she did through talks to clubs and articles in horticultural and garden clubs' publications. She always looked upon landscape design as a part of the American cultural tradition and jealously guarded Miami's city parks from commercial encroachments.

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With the death of CLAUDE C. MATLACK the Association has lost, not only an able and interested Director, but also a witness to the phenomenal growth of Greater Miami; a witness who, unlike many others, was not satisfied merely to watch this growth but who did something about keeping a record of what was happening in front of him. We are referring to Matlack's collection of photographs covering the development of Miami, Miami Beach and Coral Gables. Some of his pictures played a truly important role in the classification of Fort Jefferson, on Dry Tortugas, as a National Monument, and in promoting the proposed Everglades National Park.

Claude C. Matlack came to Miami from Louisville, Kentucky in 1916. He was by profession an electrical engineer, and was commissioned to lay out the water and electrical plants for the first hangars built by Pan American at Dinner Key. While doing this job he took snapshots for his own amusement, and became more and more engrossed in his hobby. He eventually abandoned engineering and became a professional photographer.

In 1918 three partners, F. A. Robinson, C. C. Matlack and Manly Brower opened a photographic Studio in the Southwest corner of the Halcyon Hotel on Flagler Street. A few months later Brower, for reasons of health, sold his interests to his two partners. Robinson in turn sold his to Matlack who remained sole owner of the studio. Due to the raise in rents, which eventually led to the "Boom," Matlack moved his finishing plant to Miami Beach to make room for sub-tenants; one of these was George Merrick who opened there his first real estate office. In 1923 the rents on Flagler Street having become prohibitive, Matlack moved his entire business to Miami Beach. He served with a committee of the Chamber of Commerce handling all of Miami Beach publicity and advertisement, and many of his pictures were used for this purpose. During his stay on Miami Beach Matlack was also instrumental in the founding and early organization of the Committee of One Hundred, in collaboration with Carl Fisher, James Allison and Charles W. Chase. Matlack later returned to Miami proper to live and died there on January 11, 1944.

Contributors

MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS, Coconut Grove, Florida, needs no introduction to the Historical Association of South Florida, of which she is a Founding Member. Her deep love of Florida and boundless enthusiasm are evident to anyone who has ever read any of the short stories she contributed to *The Saturday Evening Post*, or to anyone who has ever had the good luck of talking to her for any length of time. She is currently doing a vast amount of research in preparation for a book on the Everglades, to be published in the *Rivers of America Series*. She also holds the job of book reviewer and literary critic on the staff of the *Miami Herald*.

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JOHN M. GOGGIN of Miami discovered the fascination of archaeology while still in High School. At that time he used to collect snakes and sell them to Ross Allen, the profits thereof to be spent in gasoline for the "Glades' buggy" and on expeditions to Seminole inhabited hummocks. He attended the University of Florida, going from there to the University of New Mexico, where he did graduate work in anthropology on the Southwestern and Mexican Indians. He has had articles accepted by the following journals: *American Antiquity*, *New Mexico Anthropologist*, *American Anthropologist*, *El Palacio*, and *The Florida Historical Quarterly*. He holds an Assistantship in Research in the Department of Anthropology at the Peabody Museum of Natural Sciences at Yale, and also received a Field Grant for this past summer. This summer's work included a survey of Indian sites from Lake Okeechobee southward and also work on a site at Upper Matecumbe Key, where abundant and interesting material was found permitting the establishment of a chronology for pottery wares.

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JOHN C. GIFFORD, Professor of Tropical Forestry and Conservation of Natural Resources at the University of Miami, is so well known to the public of Miami and South Florida, that the Editor feels almost embarrassed and decidedly presumptuous in trying to write of him in this issue of *Tequesta*. Born in New Jersey and having studied Forestry at the University of Munich, Dr. Gifford came to Miami in the early days. He has contributed to scientific journals and publications, as well as to newspapers throughout the country. His latest articles on the

"Trees of South Florida" were published in the *Scientific Monthly* for July and August, 1944. He was President of the Historical Association of Southern Florida in 1943.

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REINHOLD P. WOLFF, Assistant Professor of Economics, is another member of the faculty of the University of Miami to contribute to this issue of the Journal. A specialist of industrial economics, Dr. Wolff came from Germany with his family in the early 1930's. He taught first at New York University, then came to Miami where, in addition to his academic duties, he has served as consultant with the OPA, and on several post-war planning organizations.

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DAVID O. TRUE, past president of the University Club of Miami and of the Miami Stamp Club . . . His interest, at first confined mainly to pirate lore and treasure trove has been extended to include the history of early Florida, on which subject he has done extensive research. He is editing the reprint of Fontaneda's *Memoir*.

EDITOR'S NOTES AND COMMUNICATIONS

CORRECTION: In the 1943 issue of *Tequesta*, pp. 49 and following, for Mary Barr Monroe, read Mary Barr Munroe.

In the same issue, same article, the name Coconut Grove is spelled Coconut Grove and Cocoanut Grove. In 1909, time at which Mrs. Munroe wrote the article for the *Miami Metropolis*, Cocoanut Grove was the accepted spelling; it was later changed to Coconut Grove.

The editorial board has agreed that starting with this year's publication we shall drop the designation of volume for our journal and simply number the issues consecutively. This year's issue will therefore be designated as NUMBER FOUR.

The editor wants here and now to repeat a plea, expressed many times before, but with no great results. There is a great deal of interesting local and historical material in South Florida; letters, diaries, reminiscences of early settlers, etc. If you own any such documents, or know of someone who owns them, drop us a note, or, better still, call up the University of Miami, 4-0801, and ask for the Librarian. We would like in the next issue to begin a department of Documents, in which we would print interesting material called to our attention. Due credit would, of course, be given to the owner of such contributions. Photostatic copies could be made of all documents submitted.

On November 23rd, *The Nassau Guardian* will celebrate its one hundredth anniversary of publication. The Editor thinks it fitting for our Association through *Tequesta* to congratulate *The Nassau Guardian*, its owner, editors, and staff on this most propitious occasion. Published daily in Nassau, New Providence, Bahamas, the *Guardian* is the oldest newspaper with a continuous publication in our immediate geographical neighborhood. The present owner and editor in chief, Miss Mary Moseley, daughter of the *Guardian's* founder, is well known to many of our members; those of us who have had occasion to do research in the Bahamas have always found her ready to put at our disposal her valuable time, her wide knowledge of the history and traditions of the islands, and any documents needed for our work. Miss Moseley will publish shortly a book with numerous illustrations depicting the growth of Nassau from its early beginnings to today. It promises to be a fascinating and valuable item for anyone interested in the history of the Caribbean.

Announcing

A REPRINT OF

Fontaneda's Memoir

ISSUED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
and the HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
OF SOUTHERN FLORIDA

ONE of the most important sources on early Florida, it contains much information not to be found elsewhere. Fontaneda was wrecked on the Florida Keys in 1545, lived with the Indians for 17 years, is said to have been rescued by the first French expedition under Ribaut in 1562, made his way to Spain and returned with the Spanish expeditionary forces under Menéndez in 1565.

He wrote about geography, plants, animals, Indians, and wrecks. During much of the time he was a captive of the Calusas, and for two years he lived with the Abalachis. The historian Muñoz gave him the name "Hernando" by mistake. Menéndez cheated him out of his pay. In 1854 Buckingham Smith translated his account into English, translation that has been criticized ever since. The Memoir has been subjected to considerable criticism because of its many errors. This new reprint has extensive revisions and corrections. As a study, the Memoir is thoroughly interesting, a credit to our Association.

A book that should be in all Florida collections. Contains in addition to the translation, extensive notes by Buckingham Smith, John R. Swanton and the editors. Also a map of Florida at that time. Buckingham Smith's edition of 100 copies is both rare and expensive. This edition is of only 500 copies. Copies are expected to be ready before the holidays, making it valuable as a gift. The advance price for board binding will be \$1.00. A more expensive binding will be available, on order.

Subscriptions or payments should be sent to Miss Cornelia Leffler, 618 Biscayne Blvd., in Miami.

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THE PURPOSES OF THE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN FLORIDA ARE (1) to collect, arrange and preserve all material pertaining to the history of, or in any manner illustrative of Southern Florida and related areas, including books, pamphlets, documents, archives, manuscripts, newspapers, diaries, notes, letters, speeches, maps, plats, surveys, portraits, photographs or other likenesses of men and women prominent in the history of Southern Florida, pictorial illustrations of the scenery of Southern Florida, relics and products; (2) to prepare, edit and publish articles, sketches, biographies, pamphlets, books and documents, descriptive or illustrative of Southern Florida; (3) to promote and stimulate public interest in the history of Southern Florida and such related areas as the Keys, Bahamas, Yucatan, Cuba, and the West Indies generally by (a) the publication of an annual journal and (b) quarterly programs of historical papers; (4) to preserve and perpetuate historic spots and places and to further in every way knowledge of Southern Florida's historic past.

