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Secretary's Biennial Report for 1926–1927

Lansing B. Bloom

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Santa Fe, New Mexico,
January 17, 1928.

BIENNIAL REPORT FOR THE YEARS 1926-1927

Lansing B. Bloom, corresponding secretary & treasurer

In assembling the material for a report upon the work of my dual office for the past biennium, one fact which became increasingly evident was that our Society has, in the last few years, made a third start in active and effective historical service.

First organized in December, 1859, the Society was forced to suspend operations in 1863, during the Civil War period. Reorganized and incorporated in 1880-81, the Society had, at times, a somewhat precarious existence, but, owing chiefly to the unflagging devotion of the late L. Bradford Prince, until his death in December, 1922, the Society during this period built up a very valuable and important museum and library and published occasionally through the years a series of twenty-three papers.

The third stage in the life and work of our Society may be said to have started with the active participation of the late Ralph E. Twitchell. Our list of papers published from 1881 to 1927 shows that, of the eleven titles published since 1917 (nos. 20-30), eight were from his pen. The revision of our constitution was effected after his death but was mainly along the lines proposed by him, providing among other things for a body of Fellows and for greater activity in research and publication. The correlating of our interests with those of the School of American Research in our museums, libraries, research and publication which has been realized during the past biennium has been along the line of policy which Colonel Twitchell had initiated.

Perhaps you will pardon this introduction, since it

explains in part the form which this report has taken. From the treasurer's report in January, 1915, until the election of your present officer in October, 1924, there is no treasurer's report of record. The State appropriation to our Society was \$1,200.00 a year — of which nearly a thousand dollars had not been collected until just before the then fiscal year ended; and receipts from other sources from 1914 to 1924 are not a matter of record in any papers which your present officer has seen, except a few entries in the *secretary's* book, the last of which were in the year 1919.

It has seemed best, therefore, in reporting as treasurer, to give a brief summary from October, 1924, to the end of 1927. (See Exhibit A) The 12th fiscal year ended November 30, 1924; by action of the state legislature that winter the 13th fiscal year, and subsequent years, were made to end June 30th. For the seven months of the 13th fiscal year, therefore, our Society received from the state \$700, prorated from appropriation of \$1,200.00 then in effect.

For the state biennium beginning July 1, 1925, our Society received \$1,800 a year; and for the state biennium beginning July 1, 1927, we are receiving \$2,000.00 a year. By our constitution as now in effect, the Society biennium begins January 1 of even-numbered years.

For details of receipts and expenditures from October, 1924, to date, members are referred to the treasurer's book. For this report, however, a second table is appended (Exhibit B) showing the more important expenditures of approximately \$25.00 or over.

For convenience in accounting to the state as to expenditure of our state appropriation, a column under the title "State Fund" is carried independently of the Society accounts as a whole. The latter are shown at present in five funds under the titles "Administration," "Library and Museum," "Purchase and Sales," "Fort Marcy," and "Cross of the Martyrs;" the "War Trophies fund" has been closed out. By action of the executive council in January, 1926,

receipts from fees and dues during the past biennium were put in the "Purchase" fund at the convenience of your corresponding secretary; and in the fund now are also placed receipts from sales and commissions on sales.

A tabulation of our membership at the close of 1927 shows:

<i>gains</i>		<i>losses</i>	
honorary life	— 1	death: honorary life	— 1
annual, elected,	— 84	life	— 4
annual, restored,	— 1	annual	— 7
			12
		resignations	— — — 5
		inactive	— — — 50
			67

86, or a net gain for the two years of 19

The membership of our Society, January 1, 1928, is as follows:

Honorary life	— 7
Life	— 39
Annual	— 118
	164
total,	— 164

The necrology list includes the following names:

Honorary Life
 Mrs. Eugene A. Carr
Life
 Edward E. Ayer
 Abe F. Spiegelberg
 Frank Springer
 Roberts Walker

Annual Members
 F. S. Curtis, Jr.
 Grant Jackson
 Andrieus A. Jones
 Leigh K. Patton
 Benjamin M. Read
 Chester H. Smith
 Charles Morgan Wood

The loss by death of associates in our work is always the occasion of sincere grief, especially when, as in the above list, those taken from us have taken an active and helpful part in the work of our Society.

The loss of such a considerable number through carelessness or lessened interest, on the other hand, possibly can be remedied. It may be due in large part to the fact that our effort in the line of publication for the past two years has been centered upon our new quarterly. Many seem to have taken memberships with little more thought than for the papers which they would receive; and in these two years we have issued only three. Your officers who are in charge of our publication work will welcome counsel as to its relation to membership.

The resuming of the publication of a quarterly, while it may be responsible in part for the effect upon membership, on the other hand has had the effect of broadening and strengthening our relations with other organizations and students in the historical field. This is evidenced by the growing correspondence of your president and corresponding secretary, and the increased office-work entailed. It is shown also by a stamp collection from the correspondence which comes to your secretary's office and which might be of interest in one of the cases of our museum. This was a boyhood hobby which, with children now in his family, has persisted in the saving of unusual stamps. Recently in looking over the rather heterogenous mass which has accumulated, it appeared that mail has been received from the following countries: England, Ireland, Spain, France, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Sweden, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Russia, Roumania, Turkey, Greece, Tunis, Egypt, China, Philippines, Bahamas, Bermuda, Cuba, Brazil, Argentine, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Mexico, Canada — and of course from all parts of the United States.

Without attempting any detailed analysis, this correspondence relates in the main to memberships, to the

work which our Fellows (now thirteen in number) and other students are doing in Southwestern history, to material submitted for publication, to requests for information of all sorts; to material held by book dealers and private individuals desirable for our museum or library,— books, pamphlets, papers, maps, archives.

In closing this report, your secretary would express the opinion that our Society is in a prosperous condition, and we may look forward reasonably to satisfactory development of our work and results attained. The money which has been invested in our publications, additional to subscriptions and the few paid advertisements, is well offset by the reserve copies which we hold for sale — and sales are increasing in amount, thus releasing this money for reinvestment. This means that our Society is now sharing in the encouragement of historical research, in the gathering of historical material, and in the publication of the studies which result from such work.

Respectfully submitted,

LANSING B. BLOOM

corresponding secretary-treasurer

EXHIBIT A

Summary of Treasurer's Accounts

Nov. 10, 1924,

balance received from former treas.,	\$120.51	
“Fort Marcy Fund” at bank,	—	37.81
Nov. 29-30, received from state auditor,		983.02
received from other sources,	—	26.50
disbursed	—	—
		\$293.55

Dec. 1, '24 to June 30, '25,

received from state auditor,	—	700.00
received from other sources,	—	167.48
disbursed	—	—
		1,220.43

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June 30, -Dec. 31,			
received from state auditor,	—	95.03	
received from other sources,	—	203.17	
disbursed,	—		623.56
January 1, 1926, balance,	—	—	195.98
			<hr/>
		2,333.52	2,333.52
			<hr/>
		balance,	— 195.98
to June 30, from state auditor,	—	1,704.97	
state auditor, War Trophies fund		1,500.00	
from other sources,	—	—	313.07
disbursed, Trophies,	—		758.83
disbursed, Society account,	—		1,618.52
July 1, '26, balance,	—	—	1,336.67
			<hr/>
		3,584.60	3,584.60
			<hr/>
July 1, 1926, balance,	—	\$1,336.67	
to June 30, '27, from state auditor	—	1,800.00	
from other sources	—	477.93	
disbursed, "Trophies"	—		\$826.95
disbursed, Society accounts,			2,491.36
balance,	—		266.29
			<hr/>
		3,584.60	3,584.60
			<hr/>
July 1, '27, balance on hand	—	266.29	
to Dec. 31, '27, from state auditor,	—	1,000.00	
from sale of bond,	—	500.00	
from other sources,	—	309.03	
disbursed,	—	—	1,131.65
balance,	—	—	943.67
			<hr/>
		2,075.32	2,075.32
			<hr/>
January 1, '28, balance on hand,		\$943.67	

EXHIBIT B

principal items of expenditure, Oct. '24, to Dec. 31 '27

The curator's salary, small as it is, has been about half the state appropriation.

Nov. 29, '24,	purchase of Twitchell manuscripts,	\$155.00
Dec. 6,	purchase cuts for paper -----	51.13
	"Santa Fe placards" -----	33.50
12-24,	O. S. Halseth, work in museum, --	25.00
1-9-25,	Santa Fe N. Mexican Co., 2 papers,	314.80
2-25,	Gerald Cassidy, 2 paintings, -----	150.00
	museum cases and shelves, -----	23.90
4-16,	Larson, museum shelving, -----	46.65
7-17,	Cassidy, painting, -----	100.00
9-12,	F. Gomez y Orozco, archive work,	75.00
12-4,	paper stock, for publication, -----	35.65
3- 6- 26,	Otto Lange (Wagner book), -----	43.68
2-9,	purchase Twitchell library, -----	350.00
5-24,	purchase 3 bookcases, Mrs. Laughlin,	45.00
6-30,	Torch Press, on account, -----	40.00
	Welch-Haffner, cuts, -----	23.84
	to Hist. Review for publication,	400.00
10-19,	Otto Lange, books, -----	96.15
10-26,	Duke Press, 5 volumes, -----	25.00
	photostat. paper, -----	28.00
11-19,	Torch Press, on account, -----	32.00
	Blake (Mexico) books, -----	37.00
	Otto Lange (Italy) books -----	43.27
2-5-27,	S. F. N. Mex. Co., binding 71 books,	195.00
2-9,	Torch Press, balance, -----	176.00
3-1,	Welch-Haffner, cuts, -----	47.90
5-16,	A. M. Ortiz, binding 81 vols., -----	165.00
5-18,	to Hist. Review for publication,	400.00
8-1,	A. M. Ortiz, binding 51 vols., -----	124.20

10-17,	to Review account, -----	200.00
	A. M. Ortiz, 54 books, bound; -----	69.55
12-19,	Welch-Haffner bill, (Review credit),	88.92

 NECROLOGY

LT. LEW WALLACE SPRINGER

Death came with tragic suddenness to Lt. Lew Wallace Springer, youngest son of the late Dr. Frank Springer of Las Vegas. An aeroplane in which he was riding together with Sterling Rohlfs, the owner, and W. E. King, an attorney, went into a nose dive while over Toluca, Mexico, and crashed to the ground, 1000 feet. Rohlfs and Springer were killed instantly and King died in less than an hour. The party had left Santa Fe by aeroplane and flew to Douglas, Arizona, from where the start for Mexico City was made. The news of the fatal accident came to Edward Springer, the brother of Wallace, over radio at Cimarron in Colfax County, New Mexico. Lew Wallace Springer was born at Las Vegas, October 10, 1890, the son of the late Dr. Frank Springer and Josephine M. Springer. He attended the Normal University in that City of which Dr. Edgar L. Hewett had been president and Dr. Frank Springer a regent. He graduated from the Washington, D. C., Law School, after which he studied electrical engineering for two years at Columbia University, New York City. Wallace, as he was known to his intimates, volunteered for the United States Aviation service immediately upon the declaration of War in April 1917. He was assigned to training school at Columbus, Ohio. In June 1917 he was selected as one of four out of the Squadron for special service in Europe and was said to have been one of the first twelve American aviators to arrive in France. He finished his training in the French aviation schools. In July 1918 he was assigned to Day Bombing Squadron No.