BECAUSE of war conditions the executive committee of the association decided to have only a one-day meeting in 1943. The experiment proved to be a most happy one, for a very large number of members and friends assembled in Harrisburg on Saturday, October 16, for the twelfth annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Historical Association. The program began at 10:30 A. M. in the exhibit room of the State Museum, with Robert Fortenbaugh of Gettysburg College presiding.

A hearty welcome to Harrisburg was given by William B. McCaleb, president of the Dauphin County Historical Society. Mr. McCaleb recalled the many parts of the state where he lived as an official of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and stated that his interest in Pennsylvania history began through his connections with so many different localities.

The first paper, read by Dunning Idle of Gettysburg College, was entitled "Who Buried the Lead Plates?" It was an interesting account of the struggle between the French and the British for fur trade in North America, with particular reference to Pennsylvania. This struggle led to the adventure of Céloron de Bienville, who buried lead plates along the route. Mr. Idle explained the misunderstanding and uncertainty involved in this episode and showed how some historians came to use the name of Céloron de Bienville instead of the correct Bienville de Céloron.

The second paper, by Homer Rosenberger of the Department of Justice, Washington, D. C., was on "Early Maps of Pennsylvania." The talk was illustrated with a splendid exhibition of maps, a number of which are the personal property of the author. Especial emphasis was placed on the important maps made by the following individuals: Thomas Holmes, 1687; Louis Evans (map of the middle colonies) 1755; Nicholas Scull, 1759; William Scull, 1770; Pownall, 1776; and Howell, 1791 and 1817. Many of the early
maps, the speaker pointed out, are beautifully embellished. Some emphasize the long boundary disputes resulting from inaccurate maps. Mr. Rosenberger felt, however, that these disputes led to increased interest in mapmaking and also that the printing of these maps stimulated migration into the interior.

From 12:30 to 2:30 P. M. the members visited the special exhibit of outstanding Pennsylvania documents and manuscripts in the archives room in the Education Building. This exhibit was arranged by the state archivist, Colonel H. W. Shoemaker, and his staff. Many members lingered to examine the map exhibit and to discuss further points with Mr. Rosenberger and others having a special knowledge of certain maps and areas.

The afternoon session, attended by seventy-seven people, was held in the Penn-Harris Hotel, with Asa E. Martin of the Pennsylvania State College presiding. The first paper, by Marvin W. Schlegel, assistant historian of the Pennsylvania Historical Commission, was on “The Workingmen’s Benevolent Association—First Anthracite Miners’ Union.” Mr. Schlegel stressed the work of John Siney in organizing the union in the anthracite coal region in 1868. He pointed out that the strike of 1869 was favored by the operators as well as the miners; an eight-hour day was demanded because there was too much coal on hand and a higher price was desired. A strike would curtail production, rapidly decrease the surplus, and thus make for higher prices. As a result of the strike the “sliding scale” for determining wages was put into effect. In dealing with the monopoly of the anthracite coal fields by the coal-carrying railroads, particularly the Reading Railroad, Mr. Schlegel gave an illustration of how competitors were crushed. At one time when coal was selling for three dollars a ton at the mines, the Reading Railroad charged competing coal companies six dollars a ton for transportation to Philadelphia.

The independent operators asked Governor Geary for a senatorial investigation, but instead of investigating the Reading Railroad the committee investigated the W.B.A.

Charles Haydock spoke briefly about the work of the Independence Hall Association and its plans for the future. (See resolution adopted at the business meeting of the association.)

The last item on the program concerned the teaching of Pennsylvania history in the schools. The first speaker was Henry
Klonower, director of teacher education, Department of Public Instruction, Harrisburg, whose topic was "New Certification Requirements." He discussed the difficulties involved in making a workable rule or regulation for teacher certification. As an illustration he brought up the possible objections of a teacher from outside the state, perhaps holding a master's or a doctor's degree, who had been engaged to teach physics, for example, to being required to present credits in Pennsylvania history. He mentioned also that there is nothing to prevent someone who has not had a course in United States history from teaching American history in a Pennsylvania high school. A questionnaire sent to county and district superintendents of schools and college presidents before the present regulation was put into effect indicates majority approval of a new regulation requiring that all teachers in public schools should have credits in both United States history and Pennsylvania history. Mr. Klonower pointed out that the whole program was not yet complete or final and that the department and the State Council of Education were interested in receiving suggestions. He felt that all teachers should have a knowledge of United States history as well as of Pennsylvania history and said that a state-wide committee would be appointed to consider such details as how many semester hours should be required to meet the new certification rule and also whether one or two courses would be necessary.

The next speaker was Oliver S. Heckman, advisor, secondary education, Department of Public Instruction, who also discussed new teaching requirements. He stated that by Act 153 the General Assembly intended to make mandatory the teaching of the history of Pennsylvania and of the United States in secondary schools offering instruction beyond the eighth grade. "The completeness of this act," he said, "makes it very unusual in the history of educational legislation." The organization suggested by the department is as follows: local, state, and national government, ninth grade, first semester; Pennsylvania history, ninth grade, second semester; United States history, tenth grade; world history, eleventh grade; problems of democracy, twelfth grade.

The last talk, given by Edwin W. Cruttenden of the Scranton Central High School, was on "New Classroom Approaches." Mr. Cruttenden maintained that legislation requiring the teaching of
Pennsylvania history in the schools was not enough; also needed, he stated, was improvement in instruction. He particularly stressed the use of audiovisual materials, almost a virgin field in Pennsylvania; individual reading levels vary so much, he said, that the printed page must be supplemented. He noted the work of the Pennsylvania Historical Commission in its broadcast on "Pennsylvania: Keystone of Democracy," in which many important episodes in the history of the state were dramatized. With portable "play back" equipment, he remarked, recordings soon would be available for schools. The speaker showed some of the slides he had made of important historic landmarks in Pennsylvania and had used in his own classrooms with marked success.

The annual business meeting of the association was held at 4:30 P. M. The reports of the secretary showed that while many members were lost as a result of the war, new members, particularly teachers, had been added to the rolls during the past year. The treasurer reported the finances of the association to be sound. It was felt, however, that more history teachers should belong to the organization, and the president was accordingly authorized to appoint two membership committees: a general committee headed by Homer Rosenberger and a high-school committee headed by Edwin W. Cruttenden, Scranton High School. The report of the nominating committee was made. Miss M. Atherton Leach was elected first vice president, and the following were named for a three-year term on the council: Earl W. Dickey, Frederic A. Godcharles, Oliver S. Heckman, and Alfred P. James, with Richard Shryock, pro tempore, to fill the place of William A. Reitzel.

Miss Frances Dorrance reported for the archives committee that the following proposals had been made:

1. Survey of needs and type of building to house the archives.
2. Survey of what is being done in other states.
3. Enlistment of interest and endorsement by patriotic, military, historical, educational, and scholarly organization.
4. Ascertainment of the point of view of the governor as to type of building, etc.
The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Archives and History Building

RESOLVED, That the Pennsylvania Historical Association in meeting assembled hereby respectfully urges upon the attention of the Governor of the Commonwealth, Hon. Edward Martin, and the Postwar Planning Commission through its secretary, Hon. Mark James, the need for a suitable building in the State Capitol group devoted to the preservation of the Archives and History and the records of the veterans of the several wars of this great Commonwealth; and be it further
RESOLVED, That the attention of said officials is respectfully directed to the fact that several states with a less distinctive history either have erected such buildings or are contemplating their construction for the aforementioned purposes; and be it further
RESOLVED, That said officials be urged respectfully but strongly to consider as a part of any proposed postwar building for the State Government the construction and equipping of an Archives and History building to the needs and commensurate with the dignity and the rich historical traditions of this great Commonwealth; and be it further
RESOLVED, That the secretary is authorized to transmit a copy of this resolution to Edward Martin, Governor of the Commonwealth, and to Mark James, secretary of the Postwar Planning Commission.

Mr. Bining reported for the bibliography committee that the work should be finished by November 15. Between five and six thousand items have been listed, many of them annotated, and it was hoped that by the end of the year the manuscript could be turned over to the Pennsylvania Historical Commission for publication.

Mr. Stevens spoke about the work of the Independence Hall Association, and the following resolution was adopted:

Independence Hall

RESOLVED, That the Pennsylvania Historical Association hereby renews its endorsement of the purposes of the Independence Hall Association to safeguard this ven-
erated American Shrine; to improve its surroundings by the demolition of dangerous and unsightly buildings; and to develop such landscaped areas and other accessories as will improve and make more dignified the setting for these historic grounds; and that the Secretary be authorized to transmit a copy of this resolution to the proper authority.

Resolutions of thanks were voted to the following for their part in making the meetings a success:

RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Pennsylvania Historical Association be extended to Dr. Robert Fortenbaugh, chairman, and other members of the program committee; to Mr. S. K. Stevens, chairman, and other members of the committee on local arrangements; to Col. H. W. Shoemaker, State Archivist and his staff; to Mrs. Mabel Bittner, director of the State Museum; to President Wm. B. McCaleb and other members of the Dauphin County Historical Society; to all persons who assisted in the program; and to the management of the Penn-Harris Hotel for their respective contributions to the success of this meeting.

The annual dinner was held at the Penn-Harris Hotel at 6:30 P. M. with over sixty members and friends in attendance. A. C. Bining, president of the association, presided. Greetings were brought from Governor Martin, who was unable to be present, by Gregg L. Neel, a member of the State Insurance Commission. The address of the evening, “History as a Living Force,” was given by Christopher C. Crittenden, secretary of the North Carolina State Department of History and Archives.

The splendid program, the large attendance, and the enthusiasm shown fully justified the action of the executive committee in planning a one-day meeting. Many members expressed the desire that this precedent be followed during the rest of the present emergency.