



[Solon J. Buck Papers.](#)

## **Copyright Notice:**

This material may be protected by copyright law (U.S. Code, Title 17). Researchers are liable for any infringement. For more information, visit [www.mnhs.org/copyright](http://www.mnhs.org/copyright).

418 Lincoln Hall, Urbana, Illinois.

February 4, 1914.

Professor J. A. Woodburn,  
Indiana University,  
Bloomington, Indiana.

Dear Mr. Woodburn:-

A few days ago I received a letter from Dr. Fuller of the Michigan Historical Commission, in which he mentioned the "Indiana Prospectus for their Celebration in 1916." Can you give me any information about this volume, what it is, and where it is to be obtained? Do you remember our conversation on the train going to Charleston about your Indiana Magazine of History? I told you then that I had seen only the first number, issued under the auspices of the University, and you said that if I would remind you of it, you would see to it that the other numbers were sent to me. Our University Library appears to have none of the back numbers of this magazine. Can you tell me where or how they might be obtained? I mean the volumes published before the University took hold of the enterprise. Professor Alvord's plans for the Mississippi Valley Historical Review are maturing rapidly, and the first number will probably appear in May or June.

Sincerely yours,

S. J. B./MS

INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF  
HISTORY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

JAMES A. WOODBURN, Professor of American History and Politics  
SAMUEL B. HARDING, Professor of European History  
AMOS S. HERSHEY, Professor of Political Science and International Law  
ALBERT L. KOHLMEIER, Instructor in History

BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

My dear Mr. Buck:

Write to the W. K. Stewart Book Co. Indianapolis, for the "Indiana Prospectus for the Celebration in 1916." - the volume edited by Dr. F. B. Wynn. I am asking Esarey to send you the copies of the Magazine that we have issued. I doubt if a file of the earlier numbers can be obtained. Dr. Demarchus Brown of the State Library, Ind'na, may be able to tell. Mr. Esarey will write you.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

J. A. Woodburn

Feb. 8, 1914.

September 29, 1914.

Professor James A. Woodburn,  
University, Bloomington, Ind.

My dear Mr. Woodburn:

At the Conference of Historical Societies to be held in connection with the American Historical Association at Chicago next December, it is planned to have a discussion on the subject of "research in state history at state Universities." Would you be willing to open the discussion of this subject with a fifteen minutes paper? The plan is to bring out what is being done in Indiana and Illinois and especially to get up a discussion on the desirability of state Universities going into such work and the relations which should exist between this work and the work of the societies and other historical agencies in the states. Please let me have your decision as soon as convenient, as it is time we were getting the program into shape.

My work here is getting started very nicely. I have a class of 80 in the General History, 34 in the History of the West, and a Seminar with 8 graduate students enrolled. I am sure that I shall like it here very much.

I hope to see all of my Indiana friends at Chicago next Christmas.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES A. WOODBURN, PH. D.  
DIRECTOR  
SAMUEL B. HARDING, PH. D.  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
LOGAN ESAREY, PH. D.  
SECRETARY  
ERNEST V. SHOCKLEY, PH. D.  
RESEARCH FELLOW

## INDIANA HISTORICAL SURVEY

UNDER DIRECTION OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE  
OF INDIANA UNIVERSITY

The Indiana Magazine of History is published  
under the auspices of the Survey

LOGAN ESAREY  
EDITOR  
ERNEST V. SHOCKLEY  
BUSINESS MANAGER  
Subscription, One Dollar per Year

BLOOMINGTON, IND. October 1, 1914. 19

My dear Mr. Buck:

I am willing to open the discussion as you suggest, - in a paper not to exceed fifteen minutes in length. The subject is a good one, well worth considering. I shall try to set forth what we are doing in Indiana. A Committee of the Miss. Val. Assoc., as you may know, will consider the same subject at an informal conference.

I had heard of Anderson's going to Dartmouth but had not heard of your going to Minnesota. I wish you prosperity and happiness in your new field. You are growing into increasing usefulness, and as the years go by I shall take more and more pride to myself for the small part I had in starting you out. I think Indiana will be at Chicago in force and I look forward with pleasure to seeing you there. We have Kohlmeier and McDonald both with us now.

Very sincerely yours,

*James A. Woodburn*

Minneapolis, Minn.

October, 20, 1914.

Professor James A. Woodburn,  
University of Indiana,  
Bloomington, Ind.

My dear Mr. Woodburn:

I am very glad that you are willing to open the discussion on "Research in State History in State Universities" at the Conference. I should like very much to receive a copy of your paper by the middle of December, in order that I may have copies made for those who are to take part in the discussion. I did not know that this subject was to be considered by a Commission of the Miss. Val. Hist. Assoc., but do not think that that would interfere with the plans of the Conference.

I appreciate very much the good wishes which you express in your letter and shall do my best to make good here. There are several other former Indiana people here, including Crograve and Lagow.

Sincerely yours,

December 8, 1914

Professor James A. Woodburn  
Indiana University  
Bloomington, Ind.

Dear Mr. Woodburn:-

If possible I wish you would furnish me within a few days with a copy of the paper which you will read at the Conference of Historical Societies. I wish to have copies of it made for distribution to those who are to discuss the paper. I expect to leave here in about ten days, and as I will not be back until after the meetings, I will have to get this attended to before I leave.

Sincerely yours

INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

INDIANA HISTORICAL SURVEY  
INDIANA MAGAZINE OF HISTORY

JAMES A. WOODBURN, Professor of American History and Politics  
SAMUEL B. HARDING, Professor of European History  
ALBERT L. KOHLMEIER, Assistant Professor  
JAMES G. McDONALD, Assistant Professor  
LOGAN ESAREY, Instructor in Western History; Secretary of the  
Indiana Historical Survey; Editor of the "Indiana Magazine  
of History"  
OSCAR H. WILLIAMS, Critic, Teacher in History

BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

Dec. 13, 1914.

My dear Mr. Buck:

I cannot possibly get my article to you before you leave. I have been rushed. Examinations come next week and I cannot get down to writing it out till after they are over. The best I can do is to scratch out an abstract of what I have been expecting to say, as I have done tonight, and which I enclose. If you can have a copyist take this off, it may serve as a basis for any discussion which any one may wish to give to it. I understood I was to introduce the subject by a brief paper, not to exceed fifteen minutes. So my abstract is nearly half as long as my paper will be. I hope this will answer your needs; I am sorry not to do better. Have I got my subject right?

I have lost my program. Can you send me another?

In sending this out please indicate that it is merely an abstract of my paper. I hope to prepare the paper and not to reduce the exercise to "informal remarks".

With best wishes

Sincerely,

James A. Woodburn

Is Miss Grace Foland with you in the Library? If so, I hope she is doing well and that you will give her my love. She can explain the propriety of that.

W.

December 17, 1914

Professor James A. Woodburn,

University of Indiana, Bloomington, Ind.

My dear Mr. Woodburn:-

Your letter with the abstract of your paper arrives just as I am leaving and I havenot even time to look it over. I am leaving word, however, to have it copied and copies sent to the men who are to discuss your paper. The abstract will then be returned to you with this letter, and a copy of the preliminary program will be included also as requested.

You are right in understanding that your paper is to introduce the subject and is to take not to exceed fifteen minutes. I will have my secretary forward a copy of the abstract to me also and will write you again if I have any special comments to make upon it.

Miss Foland is no longer with the historical society, but is, I believe, employed in the Minneapolis Public Library. She was here recently and I had the pleasure of meeting her. She spoke at that time of being a relative of yours.

Sincerely yours

February 8, 1915

Professor James A. Woodburn  
Indiana University,  
Bloomington, Ind.

Dear Mr. Woodburn:-

I do not find among my papers a copy of the paper which you read at the Conference of Historical Societies in Chicago, and I have no recollection of you having turned it over to me. Leland has asked me to compile the report of the conference as soon as possible, and I will appreciate it very much if you will send me a copy of your paper at your earliest convenience.

I enclose a sheet containing a stenographic report of the remarks with which you concluded the discussion. I should like to have this returned to me soon with any corrections or changes which you may care to make.

Sincerely yours

FEB 13 1915

INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

INDIANA HISTORICAL SURVEY  
INDIANA MAGAZINE OF HISTORY

JAMES A. WOODBURN, Professor of American History and Politics  
SAMUEL B. HARDING, Professor of European History  
ALBERT L. KOHLMEIER, Assistant Professor  
JAMES G. McDONALD, Assistant Professor  
LOGAN ESAREY, Instructor in Western History; Secretary of the  
Indiana Historical Survey; Editor of the "Indiana Magazine  
of History"  
OSCAR H. WILLIAMS, Critic, Teacher in History

BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

Febr. 10, 1915.

My dear Mr. Buck:

I turned my copy over to Seland, in the lobby of the Congress Hotel. This, as I supposed, was in accordance with the formal printed request from him. If he cannot find the copy, let me know and I shall make up another from my first draft. I gave Esarey my other copy for the Indiana Magazine. Let me hear what you learn from Seland.

Very sincerely,  
James A. Woodburn

February 13, 1915

Professor James A Woodburn  
University of Indiana  
Bloomington, Ind.

My dear Mr. Woodburn:-

I am in receipt of your letter  
of the tenth and am writing Leland to send the copy  
of your paper on to me. If I do not receive it,  
will write you again.

Sincerely yours

June 14, 1915

Mr. J. A. Woodburn

Bloomington, Ind.

My dear Mr. Woodburn:-

During the meeting of the American Historical Association in Chicago last December, a number of men in charge of state historical work in the northwest got together for an informal breakfast to consider possibilities of cooperation. Because of the pressure of other things, little was accomplished and I was requested to call another meeting in Chicago in June. You are invited, therefore, to attend such a meeting at the Sherman House in Chicago on June 24; detailed arrangements to be announced later.

Among the subjects suggested for discussion are: 1. Cooperation in securing calendars and transcripts of material for Mississippi Valley history in the archives of eastern missionary and religious organizations; 2. Uniformity of style in historical publications. I presume that the question of the publishing of material for Mississippi Valley history in the French archives will also come up. Have you any other topics to suggest?

The list of those invited is as follows:

Clarence W. Alvord, editor of the Illinois Historical Collections,  
and director of the Illinois Historical Survey.

416 Lincoln Hall  
Urbana Ill.

J.A.W. 6/14/15 -2

Solon J. Buck, superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Edgar R. Harlan, director of the Historical Department of Iowa. *Des Moines, Ia.*

O.G. Libby, secretary of the North Dakota Historical Society. *University N.D.*

Harlow Lindley, director of the Department of Archives and History of the Indiana State Library and secretary of the Indiana Historical Commission. *Richmond, Ind*

Charles B. Moore, secretary of the Michigan Historical Commission. *Lansing Mich.*

M.M. Quaife, superintendent of the Wisconsin Historical Society. *Madison Wis.*

B.F. Shambaugh, superintendent of the State Historical Society of Iowa. *Iowa City, Ia*

J.A. Woodburn, director of the Indiana Historical Survey. *Bloomington Ind*

Several of these have already agreed to attend and

I trust that you will be with us if you can possibly arrange to do so. Personally I believe that regular or even occasional meetings of the men directly in charge of state historical work in this region might become a very important factor in advancing the historical interests of the Northwest. Please let me hear from you about it at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours

JUN 23 1915

INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

June 21, 1915.

My dear Dr. Buck:

I regret that I cannot be in Chicago at the time you indicate in your letter of June 14th. I presume Professor Lindley will be there and I am glad he can represent Indiana. I hope we shall be able to cooperate fully in the work you are beginning and I believe the conference will be productive of good results. We hope to make progress in Indiana within the next two years, such as will put our Commission and its work on a permanent basis.

With best wishes for you, I am

Very sincerely yours,

*J. A. Woodburn*

June 22, 1915

Mr. James A. Woodburn  
Bloomington, Ind.

My dear Mr. Woodburn:-

I have had received any reply from you to the call for a conference of those in charge of state historical work in Chicago, June 24. I am hoping that you will be present, however, and am writing to let you know the arrangements. Those of us whose trains arrive in Chicago in time will lunch together at the Sherman House at twelve thirty. The conference will begin at two o'clock at the same place, and we can then arrange to dine together if it seems desirable. Acceptances have been received from Alvord, Quaife, Shambaugh, and Lindley, so that at least five states will be represented. Paine and Libby cannot come and the others have not been heard from.

Sincerely yours