

America, comments on the fact that the amazing tales of the speed of American steamboats, which some Europeans were inclined to doubt, were all true, and that the "Rochester," on which he made the trip from Albany to New York, attained the speed of 16.55 miles an hour, going with the current.

This same "Rochester," and the "Swallow," a boat belonging to a rival line, were said to be the two fastest of the Hudson River steamboats at the time. Daniel Drew had an interest in the "Rochester." Every trip of these two was a race, the honors remaining about even for almost a whole season. The suspense finally became unbearable, and a trial was arranged, with no passengers on board. The "Rochester" won by five minutes, (making a 140-mile trip in 8 hours and 57 minutes), on account of some engine trouble which delayed the "Swallow."

Racing was not confined to the "Rochester" and the "Swallow." In the early 40's the safety of passengers became a thing of slight moment in comparison with the importance of breaking a rival's record. It was a general thing for a steamboat in competition with another to slow up when approaching a way stop, lower a small boat over the side, and sheer in near the landing. The passengers on the wharf would jump into the small boat as best they could, and the steamboat would be on her way again. The legislature finally put a stop to this boarding and landing "on the fly," in consequence of an accident at Poughkeepsie in which several passengers lost their lives.

In Memoriam

A SHORT time ago the Society lost from its rolls a member who has for years been most active and efficient in the world of business research. At the time of her death, Mrs. Jennie Lee Schram was Director of Research and Librarian of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce. She was born in St. Louis, and her first library position was that of Assistant Librarian of the Public Library of Webster Groves, Missouri. While she held this post she became interested in special library work, and enrolled at Washington University for special courses.

From the time when the Bell Telephone Company at St. Louis employed her to install a filing system and take charge of the company's library, she has done splendid work in her own field, first

with Graham, Anderson, Probst and White, who were the engineers for the Hercules Powder Company during the war, for the Illinois Power and Light Company, and finally for the Illinois Chamber of Commerce.

An account of her work in *Special Libraries*, at the time of her death, calls her "outstanding in her ability to accomplish an immense amount of work." She was active in securing the formation of the Illinois Chapter of the Special Libraries Association, and was made its Secretary on its installation in 1925. She gave freely of her time and energy in all its affairs, and also participated largely in the activities of the national Special Libraries Association, and a number of others.

The Business Historical Society, and indeed, everyone interested in business research, will feel keenly the loss of Mrs. Schram, of whom the Executive Vice-President of her own organization said, "She was one of the most competent Research Directors I have ever known."

Secretary's Column

The following acquisitions have been received during the past month and are gratefully acknowledged: —

From J. M. Davis, President, Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, New York, A fine set of tracings of early Delaware, Lackawanna and Western locomotives, and a historical sketch of early activities, catalogues and other data.

From Hon. F. H. Gillett, U. S. Senate, Files of Congressional Records.

From Charles E. Lauriat, C. E. Lauriat Company, Boston, "The Down Easters, American Deep Water Sailing Ships" by Basil Lubbock; also "Old Sailing Ships of New England."

From L. F. Loree, President, Delaware and Hudson Company, New York, "A Century of Progress," History of the Delaware and Hudson Company, 1823-1923.

From Hon. George Holden Tinkham, U. S. Congress, Files of Congressional Records.

From Delfin Carlos Silva, Director, Instituto de Expansao Commercial, Rio de Janeiro Economic and Statistical information of development.

From Romolo Angelone, Commercial Attaché, Royal Italian Embassy, Business and Financial Reports, Complete file of reports issued by the General Fascist Confederation of Industries.