

Historical Society celebrates 50th year of Highland House Museum

Wilbur J. Carr
1870-1942

Wilbur J. Carr was born in Highland County. He entered the Department of State as a clerk in 1892.

He was the director of the Consular Service from 1909 through 1924.

A believer in scientific management and administrative efficiency, Carr took pride in having brought Consular Service operations “as near to perfection as possible.”

He strove to extend professionalism and merit to all aspects of the department and helped draft the Rogers Act.*

He served as assistant secretary of state from 1924-1937 under Presidents Coolidge, Hoover and Roosevelt.

Carr was also minister to Czechoslovakia from 1937 until 1939 when Hitler invaded.

During his 47 years of foreign service, he served under 10 presidents and 17 secretaries of state. He was known as the “Father of Foreign Service.”

* The Rogers Act of 1924 merged the United States’ diplomatic and consular services into the United States Foreign Service. – Wikipedia

