



Minnesota Works Progress Administration:
Writers Project Research Notes.

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May 17, 1939

Mr. Arthur Lampe
Superintendent of Schools
St. Louis County Court House
Duluth, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Lampe:

For some months now the Minnesota Federal Writers' Project has been working on a history of the Finns in Minnesota. We have in mind a book of perhaps 75,000 words in length to include chapters on the Old Country background, the successive waves of immigration, and the part Finns have had in the history of this State. Similar volumes have already been published by the Federal Writers' Project in other states--such, for example, as the Armenians of Massachusetts, the Italians of New York, and others. These are generally sponsored by societies or committees representing the nationalities treated in the books.

We are now seeking such a sponsor for the Finns of Minnesota. At the suggestion of Consul Aaltio we discussed the matter with Mr. Alec Kyyhkynen of Duluth who was Chairman of the Minnesota Delaware Tercentennial Committee. However, he apparently is already engaged in other activities which might interfere. I understand the matter has already been discussed with Jack Heino, a member of the Cooperative Publishing Association in Superior, but apparently without tangible results. Another name that has been mentioned to us is that of Dr. John Raihala of Virginia, Minnesota but we have not had a chance to talk with him. A good deal of work has gone into this book and we think it really has extraordinary possibilities. It should be a distinct contribution in the field which up to now is virtually untouched.

It cannot be published, however, without a sponsor. There is no local historical Finnish society or local Finnish fraternal organization we know of that can qualify.

You as an editor will be quick to recognize the book's potential value. Could we persuade you, as a Finnish leader, to undertake the organization of a sponsoring committee? You are, of course, free to discuss the matter with

FEDERAL WRITERS PROJECT
415 HARVARD ST., S.E.
MINNEAPOLIS, - MINN.

Mr. Arthur Lampe

Page 2

May 17, 1939

any of the people I have mentioned in this letter.

I would enjoy talking this over with you in detail at the earliest opportunity. Do you expect to be in the Twin Cities in the near future? If so, I hope you will get in touch with me. Otherwise my assistant and I are tentatively planning a trip to Duluth around June 1 and perhaps we can arrange a meeting then.

The obligations of a sponsor are briefly outlined on the attached sheet.

Cordially yours,

Roscoe Macy
Acting State Director
Federal Writers' Project

RM:la
Enc.

WM. AHO, President
R. 1, Box 73
Eveleth, Minn.

ANTON LANKANEN, Vice-Pres.
Kinney, Minn.

SEP 21 1939
JOHN OTAVA, Treasurer
Mountain Iron, Minn.

Federation of Minnesota Finnish Civic Clubs

DIRECTORS—
V. J. Thompson
Gust A. Maki
Matt Louma
Jack Maki
Kontant Kykyri
William Aho
Matt Makinen
John E. Aho

Herman Kortesoja, Secretary
218 2nd Street North
Virginia, Minn.

DIRECTORS—
Frank Wirtanen
Herman Kortesoja
John Otava
Oscar Lukkarila
Axel Niskanen
Anton Lankanen
John E. Hill
William Hautala

Sept. 13th, 1939.

Mr. Roscoe Macy,
Acting Staye Director,
Federal Writer's Project,
Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Dear sir:

At the regular quarterly meeting of the Federation of Minnesota Finnish Civic Clubs the delegates at the meeting discussed the possibility of our organization sponsoring the publication of your writing of the Finnish people of Northern Minnesota and the Minnesota Finns and we are sorry to say that after discussion the vote was against our sponsoring this publication.

A good number were in favor of our taking part in this publication but in organizations like ours it is the majority that rules.

Very truly yours,

FEDERATION OF MINNESOTA FINNISH CIVIC CLUBS.

William Aho President.

Herman E. Kortesoja Secretary

HISTORY OF THE ORGANIZATIONS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES OF
THE FINNISH PEOPLE IN MINNEAPOLIS

The exact date is not known as to when the first Finnish people came to Minneapolis. It may be as far back as the time the community was first settled. Minneapolis has been a sort of thorough-fare or stopping place for the Finns who were going from place to place. It is known that many of the farmers who are now farming in Cokato, Franklin, North and South Dakota first resided in Minneapolis as far back as 1880.

In 1890 there was a Minneapolis Finnish Ladies Organization existing here, whose activities are unknown. *Surveys etc*

In 1892 the "Suomi Seura" or Finland Society was organized. Organizations of the same name and type existed for a good many years after 1892 in many of the Finnish communities all over the country. The purpose of this organization was to get the Finnish people together and to help the Finnish immigrants in need; also to promote cultural activities. The organization also held entertainments and social affairs and lasted until the year 1895.

In 1894 the "Kansallis-Veljeys Raittius Seura" or the National Temperance Brotherhood was organized. The object of this organization was to promote temperance and culture among the Finnish people in Minneapolis. This was a very active organization to begin with and it existed until 1900.

with a total of 12,075 coming in that year. 1902 was the peak year with the highest number ever to come to this country in one year, a total of 23,153.

Immigration on a larger scale from Finland to the United States started about 1899. The reason for this was that the Czar's Regime threatened the constitutional rights, freedom, and institutions of the Finnish people, and also threatened to take the Finnish boys to Russia and put them in the Russian Army. The Czar also sent General Bobrikoff, well known plutocrat to Finland as a Governor General.

Due to this heavy immigration from Finland, Minneapolis received a great number of newcomers. These people coming to a strange land and not understanding the new surroundings nor knowing the language felt the need for organization among themselves. Therefore, in 1901, these young people organized the Independent Temperance Society. The main purpose of this Society was temperance, as well as social activity among the Finnish people in Minneapolis. They were very active and successful in promoting its purposes.

In the beginning of the year 1903 a club was organized to train the members for public speaking and debating. This organization was a foundation for the Minneapolis Finnish Workers Society which was organized by these members in August 1903, with a membership of thirty. This was a historical event for years to come for the Finnish people in Minneapolis as it lasted for over twenty years. ~~They were so progressive that already~~ In the latter part of the same year they built their own hall together with the Temperance Society at 814-6th Avenue

North, at a cost of \$1,050. Of course, this was no pretentious building, but it answered the purpose and was a gathering place for the immigrants who were still coming in great numbers from the old country. Also many of the young people who were born in this country joined and took an active part in this Society.

A small group from the Temperance Society withdrew from it and organized a Young Peoples Organization in 1903, but this lasted for only about a year.

In the latter part of 1905, the Temperance Society ceased their activities and joined the Finnish Workers Society.

Most of these Finnish immigrants had Socialist Democratic ideals, many having been members of the Socialist Democratic Party and Trade Unions in Finland. Therefore, the Finnish Workers Society joined as a local branch of the Public Ownership Party of Minnesota, and took the name M.S.S. Osasto, meaning Minneapolis Finnish Socialist Local. Therefore, these immigrants naturally would study the economic, social and political questions in this new home country, and many took active part in the Local, State, and National elections and also a great number joined the Trade Unions. However, the main activity of this organization was education and culture, as well as furnishing amusement and entertainment in the way of plays and programs. The organization had a public library, a band, an orchestra, a dramatic club, a glee club, athletic club, debating club, and often obtained speakers and lecturers on scientific subjects. These speakers were easily obtained as there were many highly educated people who had left Finland or were exiled on account of Russian

pressure. The latest literature, both scientific and novels were added to the library and were made much use of by the general public as well as by the members. The ladies had their special clubs and activities as they had almost an equal number of ladies as members. The young people had their organization. There was Sunday School for the children and many other different committees to promote their activities and educational work. Meetings were held regularly once a week, and programs and educational entertainments were held almost every Saturday or Sunday.

Their activities expanded to such an extent that soon the hall on 6th Avenue North was inadequate to meet the needs, and in 1912, the Society decided to build a new modern building on the corner of Humboldt and Glenwood Avenues North. It was completed in March 1913 at a cost of \$15,450. With the fixtures, furniture and scenery, the total cost was about \$20,000. The auditorium had a seating capacity of five hundred, and the building included many rooms, such as dining room, library etc. The membership had increased to about three hundred dues paying members.

During all these years there were not many differences of opinion among the members, with the exception of a few minor disagreements, but just at about this time the I.W.W. whose leader was Bill Haywood began to get supporters from organizations of this type throughout the country, and this propaganda found its supporters among some of the members of the M.S.S. Osasto.

In accordance with a decision of the National Finnish Federation of which the M.S.S. Osasto was a part, some of these I.W.W. advocates were expelled and others withdrew from its membership. On this account, the M.S.S. Osasto lost a considerable number of its members, but the work was still carried on with great enthusiasm and success. These I.W.W. advocates formed their own organization and held meetings and activities in different halls in down town Minneapolis. Their organization also carried on cultural and educational work, at the same time promoting Industrial Unionism. When America joined the World War, their organization discontinued its activities.

About the year 1920, or after the Russian Revolution and the Civil War in Finland, new difficulties arose within the M.S.S. Osasto. Many members who did not approve of Moscow's dictating to the policies of this organization withdrew, and from that time on, many were expelled from time to time. This Communistic organization carried on the educational and cultural work, but it was mostly Communistic propaganda.. The membership has been decreasing until at the present time, it is perhaps only about twenty five or thirty. During the Finnish war and afterwards, this organization took the stand for Moscow against Finland, and therefore their support by the Minneapolis Finnish people has decreased considerably. This Communistic organization also lost the hall, which was built to promote the cultural and educational work among the Finnish people in Minneapolis.

On March 19, 1930, at the Wells Memorial Hall, a non-political organization, the Minneapolis Finnish Workers Society was organized, with a membership of fifty, with the object to carry on educational and cultural work among the Minneapolis Finnish people, by literature, lectures, concerts, etc. Social activities and entertainments are also a part of their program. This Society has been holding its meetings, etc. at the Wells Memorial Hall and also at the Labor Lyceum College at 1800-6th Avenue North. Due to the fact that very few immigrants have been coming to this country from Finland for a number of years, this organization may never grow as did the M.S.S. Osasto, altho the Finnish population is many times greater than it was the first part of this century. Only on special occasions, such as during the Delaware Tercentenary Celebration and during the crisis in Finland was there a large response and attendance at the meetings.

The Fennia Club, a ladies' organization, got its start during the World War when some Finnish women gathered as a Red Cross unit to make bandages for the wounded. This organization still exists with a membership of fifty. The main purpose of this organization has been to help the needy people. It has also taken part in the cultural and social activities among the Finnish people in Minneapolis.

It may be said also that the Minneapolis Finnish churches

have done much along cultural, educational and social lines during the many years they have been in existence. Whenever the occasion arises for unity, such as during the Delaware Tercentenary and at present the helping of suffering people in Finland, the different denominations as well as other organizations lay aside their differences and work in harmony for the common cause.

May 15, 1940
Minneapolis, Minnesota

By John K. Sala.
1710 Glenwood Avenue

Crosby, Minnesota.

Social Ethnic
Paul Lekatz
Dec. 14, 1938.

Interviews with

Charles Syreen	Crosby, Minnesota
Mike Heglund	" "
Maurice Erkila	" "
Lizza Kangas	" "
Eino Ruoka	" "
John Johnson	" "

Cokato, Minnesota

December 2, 1939

Minnesota Writers' Project
Federal Works Agency
Work Projects Administration
500 Third Street South
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Gentlemen:

Attention: Mr. Andrist

I have to date received three letters from your office concerning your plans to gather additional material on the Cokato Finnish settlement for your history, to which letters I have not sent acknowledgement as I should have though I have made arrangements with interpreters etc. as instructed in your last two letters.

As I now understand it, you will be down here next Monday, December 4th to interview and choose an interpreter to help you with this work of gathering additional material. All of these people have informed me that they will be working on WPA projects in this vicinity but that they will be available between 4:30 and 5 p. m. Monday afternoon.

As previously mentioned, we have some time ago already organized a local Finnish historical society but its constitution and regular officers have just very recently been adopted and elected for the coming year. The name of this society is the Cokato Finnish-American Historical Society and it will concern itself chiefly in the area which takes in Cokato, French Lake in Wright County and Dassel and Kingston in Meeker County. This area takes in the entire Finnish settlement in this part of the state.

We have not done so very much collectively to further our purpose as you readily can ascertain from the fact that our organization has but just very recently been completed. In fact, we are but just ~~beginning~~ beginning in this work. However, as an organization of which this writer is the secretary, we shall do our best to co-operate with you in every way possible to aid you in this work.

Concerning works of Rev. Solomon Ilmonen, there are three different volumes about the Finnish people in America, but however, only one volume deals with the Finnish people of Minnesota.

I trust that we may be of service to you in your work here. I expect to see you some time Monday next. You will find me here at the State Bank of Cokato.

Very truly yours,

Vernon J. Barber

Finland

Minnesota Writers' Project
500 South Third St.
Minneapolis, Minn.
December 7, 1939

Mr. A. Mickelsen
Finnish Apostolic Lutheran Church
Cloquet, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Mickelsen:

We indeed appreciate your kindness in sending us the information contained in your letter of December 6.

Mr. Andrist, who is writing the Finnish book for us, is in Cokato this week, where he will talk to many of your people, including Mr. North, mentioned in your letter. On his return, he will no doubt find the information you have supplied very helpfully to him in writing the chapter on Finnish Churches.

Very truly yours,

S. L. Stolte
State Administrator

Roscoe Macy
State Supervisor
Minnesota Writers' Project

Ralph Ambrose

RM:lv
CC Mrs. Bundy

*file
-
Finns*

Central Co-operative Wholesale



Reg. U.S. Pat. Office

Superior, Wisconsin



July 3, 1940

Mr. Roscoe Macy, State Supervisor
Minnesota Writers' Project
28 N. E. 2nd Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Macy:

Mr. George Halonen has asked me to reply to your inquiry of June 24 as to the accuracy of the accompanying passage to be included in a forthcoming manuscript under the title "Iron Men: The Finns of Minnesota."

I would reword the first sentence so as to read: "Seventeen of the member societies withdrew their support from the Exchange. ..." In explanation, these societies did not withdraw from membership but remained as shareholders of our organization. What they did do was to refuse to patronize the Wholesale and to establish their own separate central buying organization.

I would also reword the last sentence so as to read: "This group of stores has steadily lost ground and now there is strong sentiment among them for coming back into the original organization" -- a number of them are already patronizing the Central Co-operative Wholesale. Some are no longer in existence. In the case of others, since they are being considered as competitors of co-operatives in their localities which have remained loyal to the Wholesale, merchandise has not been sold to them and their membership has been terminated through redemption of their stockholdings.

Very truly yours,

A. J. Hayes

General Manager.

AJH:ha
Encl.



Writers Project
Finns
AUG 14 1940

August 13, 1940

Mr. Roscoe Macy
State Supervisor
Minnesota Writers' Project
28 Second St. N. E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Sir:

In answer to your letter of June 19, 1940, with which you submitted two copies of the manuscript Iron Men: The Finns of Minnesota, I wish to say that I asked Mr. Adolf Lundquist, editor of Minnesotan Untiset, New York Mills, Minnesota; Dr. John Raihala, Virginia, Minnesota; Mr. Arne Halonen, 523 Penn Avenue North, Minneapolis, Minn.; and Mr. J. A. Harpet of Finnish Publishing Company, Duluth, Minn., to peruse and send me their criticism of the proposed history. I herewith enclose a copy of such criticism by Arne Halonen.

Dr. Raihala has one of the manuscripts, and I have not heard from him yet. Mr. Lundquist has not answered me, and I am contemplating a trip to see him.

I have talked with Mr. J. P. Rautama of Nashwauk and John Kehola of Virginia about financing the publication but have not come to final conclusion before all the criticisms are received.

Yours very truly

VHG: EG
1 encl.

Arne Halonen

File
F-
Linn
February 20, 1941

Miss Gertrude Esteros
2125 Como Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Miss Esteros:

I am sorry your letters of February 3 and 4, addressed to us at Duluth have been delayed in reaching me.

We do not have any census figures on population groups broken down to show the number of residents in specific communities. I do not know whether the Census Bureau maintains a detailed breakdown of this sort or not.

With regard to your study of the Finnish crafts, I wonder if you have ever consulted Miss Marjorie Edgar, of Marine on St. Croix? Miss Edgar, now working with us on a special assignment, has for years been recognized as an expert on subjects relating to the Finns in Minnesota. If you have not already consulted her, I should imagine that it might be well worth your while to get in touch with her.

Very truly yours,

Roscoe Macy
State Supervisor
Minnesota Writers' Project

RM:lv

File
Finnish

MARINE ON ST. CROIX
MINNESOTA.

Answered 3/4/41

February 28, 1941.

Dear Mr. O'Connell,

Here are two scenes from Finland, which might be used in the book, as we can probably get the original photographs, with corresponding scenes from Minnesota that resemble them. The enclosed Kalevala postal is from another Gallen-Kallela picture, illustrating the departure of Väinämöinen. I might use part of this runo anyhow, to close the Culture and Customs chapter, as it would fit in with the part about Sibelius, the music groups, and the kantele.

This is Kalevala Day (Lönnrot's birthday) and I wonder why it was left out of the manuscript. It is rather a modern celebration, but many Finnish groups keep it, with parties and speeches - of recent years, over the radio - so I think a brief mention of it would be a good idea, if you approve.

I shall be in Minneapolis next Thursday, but do not believe that there will be enough done on the mss., by that time, for me to come to the office, although I may telephone. One of Mr. Rovainen's neighbors in north Minneapolis is going to take me to see him, so I shall know more about those "white swallows", and the pioneer harvests.

Please let me know what you think about using the

Kalevala pictures-one or two anyhow-if we can get
the photographs.

Sincerely,

Mayorie Edgar

Then the aged Väinämöinen
Went upon his journey singing,
Sailing in his boat of copper.....
But his kantele he left us,
Left his charming harp in Suomi,
For his people's lasting pleasure,
Mighty songs for Suomi's children.

Kalevala Runo 50

Kirby translation.

This has been interpreted as a prophecy of Sibelius and his
magic music; it is more subtle in the Finnish version.

File.
Hammes

MARINE ON ST. CROIX
MINNESOTA.

APR 12 1941
RECD

April 12, 1941.

Dear Mr. Macy,

I wish I had known that Mrs. Rautavirta had been consulted by the Writer's Project on the subject of the Temperance Society; there is, as I told you, a conflict between the two Temperance Societys. I had hoped, through using Mrs. Leino's rather general account of early organization and aims, to avoid a row, but this makes it more difficult. There are a good many mistakes in early history, in this account, and, I would think, too extreme propaganda—however, there are three or four interesting paragraphs, which might be added to what we have already. If you have not already answered Mrs. Rautavirta's letter, will you wait before doing so until I see you, please? I shall be in Minneapolis next week, between the 16th and 18th.

Thank you, I had a fine trip, although it was not all "vacation". The Southeastern Folk Lore Society took a few days, and I did a little work with some Washington Films, though not for the book.

Sincerely,

7

Marjorie Edgar

*File
Marjorie*

MARINE ON ST. CROIX
MINNESOTA.

APR 22 REC'D

April 20, 1941.

Dear Mr. O'Connell,

Mr. Barberg thinks I had better visit
Cokato next week, so I am planning to go there on
the 30th.

I have re-written part of "Culture and Customs"
and am sending it to you, with the original mss.
pages. Will you and Mr. Macy look it over and send it
back to me, with your corrections and suggestions?
When I have omitted anything from the mss., it is
because I think it may be either incorrect, or too
much (as in the sauna) of a generalization. I have
changed my own incantation slightly to make a better
translation, and given the places in Minnesota that
the incantations came from (I can also give the
people's names, in a foot-note) I thought that the
incantations were handled very well by whoever wrote
about them, but I felt he thought they were too much
considered "children's pastimes", so I left that out,
with the "Magic Touch", also a misunderstanding of
the business of loitsuja. I did not think there was
enough about the sauna ~~furniture~~ ^{furnishings}, in the original, but
do not know that I improved matters much.

May I have it back, with your remarks, in a few days?

Sincerely,

Marjorie Edgar

Finn

MARINE ON ST. CROIX
MINNESOTA.

MAY 7 REC'D May 6, 1941.

Dear Mr. Macy,

I am enclosing a report on my Cokato trip. The Barberg family gave me a delightful day, and I had a better understanding after seeing the pretty country, all little hills and lakes, of a Finnish farming community, different from the homestead farms of the North. I am going back the first week in June, on my own, for songs, but will put in part time on the book, also, as they will want to see how it goes by that time.

The Folk Song Gathering, simple as it was supposed to be, has taken a lot of time since Saturday, so I think I had better take time off beginning tomorrow—four days altogether. The ^oprogram starts at 2, with some traditional Finnish songs by a very good singer, followed by some muttered incantations by me, then some ancient and authentic Icelandic ballads, the best thing we have, I think, with Negro, British, Czech and Jewish songs after that. Jonathan Sax thinks he will get down, to speak on the Laskiainen celebrations—if he does, I shall have the Laskiainen part of the manuscript ready for him to look over after the program, or take back with him.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Edgar

MAY 7 REC'D

Trip to Cokato May 2, 1941.

I spent the day (9:20 to 7) at the Vernon Barberg's house most of the time, with the late afternoon at Isaac Barberg's farm. Mr. and Mrs. Barberg read through the chapter "Culture and Customs" and the shortened, slightly re-written stories sent me by Isaac Barberg, and approved the changes. At Isaac Barberg's farm, we looked at some old landmarks, and spent the rest of the time doing proverbs, as they had many more, ready to be mailed to me. I also saw the story of "Sementipää" which was also shown you, and think it could be used, with more anecdotes of that character. I heard some grand anecdotes of early Laestadian church members, perhaps too good to use in the book without offending present day Laestadians.

Photographs; Vernon Barberg took one last summer of Hjalmar Procope and Mrs. Procope beside one of the pioneer log cabins, and thinks it would be good as an illustration. I do not know how you would feel about pictures taken in the Cokato museum, but they have some fascinating old things in it. Their little monument, to the Delaware settlers and the Cokato pioneers as well, would be interesting, too, although its chief beauty is the colored rocks and artistry of the Finnish stone mason who made it. There is a picture of a coffin made by one of the old-timers (not Matti) long before his death, with an inscription lettered by him; the funeral was memorable to all the younger members of the church, as there were two sermons, each lasting an hour. However, I suppose one coffin-and-grave anecdote will be enough in the book, as we are not as tough-minded as the old Finns were-and are-on the jolly old subject of death.

The Barbergs heartily approve using the three pictures of the farmstead at Saarikoski, which would be loaned by the Historical Society, and they gave me some interesting facts about log architecture on Finnish farms. They were originally, like many of my friends in northern Minnesota

from northwestern Finland, where farm buildings were made of logs and all facing in to a yard, rather like a mediaeval Scandinavian courtyard. That type of farmstead was not built in southern Minnesota but the individual farm buildings were much the same.

Mayorie Edgar
May 6, 1941
C

June 16, 1941.

Mr. O'Connell:

I shall be in Minneapolis on Friday, bound north, and would like to come in some time between two and three-thirty, and really look through the files material this time. I will pick up my song mss. at the same time.

Mr. Macy wanted the "Culture and Customs" title changed; how about one of these ?

Traditions and Customs

Traditional Customs

Finnish Folk Traditions

The Finnish Inheritance

Racial Culture

Old Country Heritage ?

I think the first is the best, and the last the worst (sounds like a proverb). I am not getting on very fast, because no one answers any letters. A lot of festivals and celebrations, choir contests, temperance meetings, Finnish Relief meetings, and plays are being held or gotten ready in June; perhaps by ^(celebrating) juhla-ing this week end myself, I may get in touch with people better.

Marjorie Edgar

Hums

Report to Mr. O'Connell;

In Cokato, at the Midsumme r Juhla, I had a very satisfactory inter view with Mr. Lundquist, who likes the New York Mills chapter, nbut took it back with him for possible corrections in pioneer history. He and Mrs. Lundquist also read and approved the "Traditions and Customs" chapter. I also saw Mr. Rattama of Nashwauk, Mr. and Mrs. Parta of New York Mills and others interested in the book and helpful with suggestions. There were no dancers or anything in the out of door celebration that would have photographed well-the evening choirs would have been fine for photographs, but there was no photographers or oppotunity (all music, and fine for a choir write-up.)

I spent two hours this morning ~~seeing~~^{with} Mr. Lampe in Duluth.

Will you please show this to Mr. Macy ?

June 24, 1941.

Marjorie Edgar

June 28, 1941.

June
Dear Mr. Macy,

I shall be in Minneapolis on July 1st, and will bring the three completed chapters of "The Finns of Minnesota" to the office, with two others returned as they were originally. There are still two incomplete chapters, although some good material has been sent in for them.

As to the Cokato reimbursement, I imagine it is too late for me to do anything about it now.

The Cloquet Midsummer Festival, while naturally not a cheerful one, was very good, and helped a great deal with the book, especially with the New York Mills contacts.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Edgar

Fin

June 28, 1941.

Report to Mr. O'Connell:

I am enclosing some time report cards, as I have too many here. I shall be in Minneapolis on Tuesday, and will bring my time report card with me, filled in through Monday-I hope that is correct.

The chapter, "Culture and Customs" will be completed by Tuesday, and I would like to go over with you then before I leave it, with the New York Mills and Cokato chapters.

I shall telephone you before coming in, probably in the afternoon.

Marjorie Edgar

Finn

MARINE ON ST. CROIX
MINNESOTA.

July 13, 1941.

Dear Mr. Macy,

I enclose the list of people who have helped me with the manuscript; would you like the addresses as well ?

I went over part of the manuscript on Thursday with Dr. Arthur Larsen, and left it with him for further criticism. I did not have time to get the statistics needed about Finnish immigration and Dr. Larsen suggested that someone from the Writer's Project do it, as there are a number of them working at the Historical Society. Will you please see about this ?

Mr. Lundquist sent back the chapter on New York Mills, with very few corrections, so I shall have it in shape to return to you the end of the week, if the Marine trip comes off.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Edgar

Jorgenson Jan 8818

79

June 9, 1941

Mr. Victor J. Gran
Assistant Attorney General
State House
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Gran :

Recently, at the suggestion of Dr. Arthur Larsen, Mr. J.P. Raattama and others, we asked Miss Marjorie Edgar of Marine to make certain minor revisions and additions to the manuscript on the Finns of Minnesota. I asked Miss Edgar to consult with you before her work took final form, and she reports that she saw you in your office the other day.

According to Miss Edgar, you agree with Mr. Arne Halonen that the chapter on Cooperatives ought to be revised, preferably by Mr. Severi Alanne of Superior, and that you would ask him to do the work. If that is correct, we will leave it to you to make this arrangement with Mr. Alanne. I believe you have a copy of the Cooperatives chapter which you can give to Mr. Alanne as a pattern for length and style - if not, please let me know and I will see if we can resurrect a copy here.

Yours very truly *Roscoe Macy*

Roscoe Macy
State Supervisor

People Helping with "The Finns of Minnesota."

February-July, 1941

Superior, Wisconsin:

Minneapolis:

Miss Elma Anderson

Dr. and Mrs. V. A. Luttio

Mr. John Abram Rovainen

St. Paul:

Mr. Victor Gran

Dr. Arthur Larsen

Miss Sarah Davidson

Cokato:

Mr. and Mrs. ^V~~V~~enon G. Barberg

Mr. Isaac Barberg

New York Mills:

Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Lundquist

Cloquet:

Miss Elvi Heikkinen

Duluth:

Miss Olga Lakela

Mr. Arthur Lampe

Mr. Frank Blatnik

Mr. Carl H. Salminen

Virginia:

Mr. Jonathan Sax

Mrs. Milma Lappala

Ely:

Mrs. Anna Leino

Mrs. Otto Sarkipato

Nashwauk:

Mr. John Raattamaa

Finns

Central Co-operative Wholesale



Superior, Wisconsin



June 11, 1941

Mr. Victor Gran,
Assistant Attorney General,
State Capitol,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Friend Gran:

The suggestion you made in your letter of June 10th about my rewriting the chapter on Co-operation in the History on Minnesota Finns, is very interesting. I had the notion to say yes, but before I am in a position to commit myself definitely, I would like to get some additional information in regard to the project. First, how extensive is the chapter; in other words, how many typewritten sheets does it comprise? After reading the chapter as it is now written, would I be free to rewrite it completely in case I come to the same conclusion as Arne Halonen, that it is weak? I have sometimes been asked to improve poor translations and I have almost invariably come to the conclusion that instead of trying to improve on a poor translation, it would take less time and effort to do the translation entirely anew. I have a notion that this is true also of poorly composed manuscripts.

I would also like to know if it is expected that I do this work without any compensation. I am willing to contribute a little to good causes, but just now I am so busy with my regular work that I couldn't find much time beyond regular working hours to do such extra work. However, I have the consent of our Educational Director to take time from the C.C.W. for this work, provided, that my time will be compensated.

Please let me know about these matters and also if you are in any particular rush with this work.

Terve tervehyttäjälle!

Fraternally yours,

CENTRAL CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE

V. S. Alanne

V. S. Alanne,
Educational Dep't.



VSA:AH

*Roscoe Macy, you answer this
6/12-41 letter. Nick Bryan*

June

MARINE ON ST. CROIX
MINNESOTA.

July 23rd.

Dear Mr. Macy,

I was looking forward to seeing you and Mrs. Macy last Saturday, but after I heard you were not coming I went up to the North Shore on Friday and enjoyed Lake Superior, loons and herring-as I hope you and your family did also (So different from the Canal Zone)

About the Marine call, I hope it will be some time early in August, perhaps Saturday the 2nd, or around that time. I have been taking a complete vacation from the manuscript, and now I have a lecture and some other things to do at the Stillwater Summer College (refugee). But by the first of August I shall try to have the manuscript in shape to show you, and probably as much finished as my part will be.

Did you ask someone from the ^{Writer's Project} office to look up the Finnish emigration material in the Historical Society? I would like to put it in to that first chapter when it is done.

Sincerely,

Mayorie Edgar

Finnis

MARINE ON ST. CROIX
MINNESOTA.

Friday.

Dear Mr. Macy,

I was using a department store line yesterday, and an outside call came in on the conversation, so that I am not sure if my last remarks got over or not.

I shall be here on the 9th, 10th or ~~11th~~ ^{11th} and any of these afternoons would be fine for the Marine trip of the Macys, so just let me know when you decide which is the best for you. I mentioned Monday the 11th because I thought you might want to go somewhere for the week-end that did not combine with the St. Croix Valley, and perhaps late in the afternoon on a Monday would be possible.

By the 9th I hope to have enough of the manuscript on hand to go over it with you; at any rate, there will be the "organizations" chapter, which I am putting together now.

When the Writer's Project gets the Finnish immigration statistics, would ~~you~~ please have them mailed out to me?

Sincerely,

Marjorie Edgar