

## REVIEWS OF BOOKS

*The Rise and Fall of New France.* By GEORGE M. WRONG. In two volumes. (New York, The Macmillan Company, 1928. xiii, viii, 925 p. Maps. \$10.50.)

The dramatic story of French colonization in North America, which Parkman told in nine volumes, has now been retold in two volumes. A vast amount of research in this field has taken place since Parkman wrote, and Professor Wrong has profited by much but not all of it to correct and fill in gaps in the story. His point of view and interests are much the same, however, as those of Parkman; and his history is essentially a narrative of French discovery and exploration, of politics and missionary activity, of Indian relations, international rivalry, and war, with comparatively little attention to social and economic history. With this emphasis on the dramatic phases of history and with a literary style almost equal to that of Parkman, the author has produced a highly interesting work, which should have a wide appeal to the general reader. To the scholar, however, the work is less satisfactory, for practically no references are given in support of statements, many of which are strikingly at variance with the conclusions of other investigators. The lists of "authorities" arranged by chapters at the end of each volume are useful bibliographies, but they do not compensate for the lack of footnotes and they do not include, for example, so important a work as Louise P. Kellogg's *French Régime in Wisconsin and the Northwest* (1925). A perusal of this book would have enabled the author to avoid a number of errors.

Professor Wrong's work is evidently intended as the first installment of "A History of Canada," and this fact probably explains some of the inclusions and exclusions. The first volume opens with Marco Polo and the search for a sea route to the Indies; sketches Norse, Spanish, and English discoveries in North America; and then gives a fuller account of French exploration and early attempts at colonization, in Florida and Brazil as well as in Canada. At this point a chapter is inserted on "The

English on the Pacific Coast of North America," which has little bearing on the rest of the work but is doubtless intended to lay a foundation for future volumes in the series. The development of the French colonies in Acadia and the St. Lawrence Valley, the progress of exploration from Champlain to La Salle, the missions to the Indians, and the wars with the Iroquois, with one chapter each on the church and feudalism, make up the remainder of the volume. The greater part of the second volume is devoted to the long struggle between the French and the English for dominion in North America, with chapters on each of the four intercolonial wars and on "The Drama of Hudson Bay." One chapter deals with the work of La Vérendrye, his associates and successors, and the explorations of Anthony Hendry, but the development of the fur trade and other phases of the French régime in the upper lakes country and the upper Mississippi Valley are ignored. There is no reference, for example, to the founding of Detroit, Le Sueur and Fort Beauharnois are not in the index, and the long-drawn-out struggle with the Fox Indians is unmentioned. It might be contended that these are not a part of the history of Canada, but surely they belong to that of New France.

The chapters that deal with western exploration contain a number of statements that will be surprising to modern critical scholars. Thus we are told positively that Nicolet reached the Wisconsin and that he may have got as far as the Mississippi (p. 419), but Miss Kellogg thinks he went only a short distance up the Fox River. The first western expedition of Radisson and Groseilliers is not mentioned, but of the second it is asserted that "the party went as far as to the head waters of the Mississippi" (p. 419). Again we are told that these men traded "beyond the upper waters of the Mississippi," and that "it is hardly doubtful that they . . . reached overland the shores of Hudson Bay" (p. 592). La Salle's reputed exploration of the Ohio in 1669 is accepted as fully authenticated (p. 428), though Alvord asserts that it has been definitely disproved. Du Luth is credited with "some twenty years" of trading "in the regions beyond Lake Superior" and the city that bears his name is located in Wisconsin (p. 464). No doubt is expressed as to Hennepin's

leadership of the expedition up the Mississippi in 1680 (p. 456), and the route is inaccurately laid down on the map (p. 494). The impression is given that an "enclosure called Fort Miami" existed on the St. Joseph River when La Salle reached there in 1679 (p. 455), and the author seems to think that there is some connection between the name of the modern city of St. Louis and that of La Salle's Fort St. Louis on the Illinois River (p. 466). Other geographical slips noted are the location of Mobile on the Mississippi River (p. 76), the carrying of La Salle's expedition to Louisiana across the equator instead of the tropic of Cancer (p. 469), and several misconceptions regarding the water route from Lake Superior to Lake Winnipeg (p. 695-697).

The volumes are attractively printed and bound, but they should be carefully proofread for typographical errors before another printing. In the index only about a dozen of the principal headings are analyzed, and the reader who might desire to look up a point concerning the St. Lawrence River, for example, would find himself confronted with a block of seventy page numbers.

SOLON J. BUCK

*The Day of the Cattleman: A Study of the Northern Range, 1845-1890.* By ERNEST STAPLES OSGOOD. (Minneapolis, The University of Minnesota Press, 1929. 283 p. Illustrations, maps. \$3.50.)

One can note these days a changing fashion in doctoral dissertations. Formerly it was customary to assign to aspiring graduate students subjects extremely narrow in scope, and as nearly as possible untouched by previous investigators. That, of course, is still done. But the rapid multiplication of candidates for the Ph.D. degree in late years has made the search for such "subjects" increasingly difficult; even historians of the Turner school, who have not scrupled to encourage a foot by foot historical "conquest of the continent" hard on the trail of the pioneer, have been somewhat put to it to furnish "topics" and "materials" for the avalanche of candidates. Faced by this situation, a few daring souls, such as Professor Paxson of the University of Wisconsin, have turned over to their more promising students

fields of ample breadth, fields that oftentimes have already been penetrated by a host of popular writers and reseachers. The task of a student so favored thus becomes in large part one of synthesis. It is his duty to reëvaluate the work already done, to discover and fill in the gaps that have been left, to bring forth a harmonious, carefully organized whole. It may be objected that this is not work for the novice, but the proof of the pudding is in the eating. It is nothing unusual nowadays to discover that some really significant book started humbly as a seminar report.

*The Day of the Cattleman*, a study inspired by Professor Paxson and typical of the new trend in doctoral dissertations, covers the history of the range cattle industry in the Northwest from the middle of the end of the nineteenth century. Some of the story is not new, but it appears in this book better documented and more completely told than ever before. The prosperous cattle business that existed along the western trails prior to the beginning of the long drive is the subject of the opening chapter. Then follows an account of the more familiar Texas invasion, including, however, many unfamiliar facts about the location, growth, and prosperity of the cattleman's frontier in the seventies; then a compact and restrained chapter on the Indian barrier. From this point on the author increasingly hews out his own course. He shows how the cattle business tempted the speculative investor, both eastern and European; how by the middle eighties it had fallen a victim to over-expansion; how it was ceasing to be a strictly frontier industry. He traces, largely from the minute books of the stock-growers, their efforts to enforce through their organizations the customs of the range country, and he observes with interest the "characteristic frontier individualism succumb to the equally characteristic need for group effort" (p. 117). The various manifestations of these efforts of the cattleman—their branding and round-up systems; their schemes, legal and extralegal, for the protection of their property from the Indians, the cattle thieves, and the "Texas fever"; and their struggles against insuperable odds to prevent the overcrowding of the range—come in for full and strikingly original consideration. Finally, the cattleman's failure—his failure to convince the United States government that it should readjust its land policy to suit his needs; his failure to obtain either by fencing or by the

control of water rights the land privileges that he must have to keep his industry alive; his failure to cope with the Grangers, the "rustlers," and the elements, particularly the vicious winter weather of 1886-87—all these things are graphically portrayed.

It is an excellent book and a genuine contribution to the history of the West. The author writes unusually well, often with distinction, his research leaves little to be desired, and his ability to organize his material stands out on every page. If there is any valid criticism of the book, it is that the author has been too sensitive about including matters already fairly well treated by others. The rigorous exclusion of the cowboy and his methods of operation, for example, leaves a decided gap. The cowboy was not a cattleman, at least not if the stock-growers' association could help it (p. 148), but he was an integral part of the cattleman's business, and his activities lent color and richness to the life of the old West, even though the pictures provided in such books as the *Virginian* are vastly overdrawn.

Incidentally, the University of Minnesota Press is to be congratulated upon a well-nigh perfect production, mechanically considered.

JOHN D. HICKS

"Uses of Plants by the Chippewa Indians" (Bureau of American Ethnology, *Forty-fourth Annual Report*, 1926-1927, p. 275-397). By FRANCES DENSMORE. (Washington, United States Government Printing Office, 1928. Illustrations.)

Considerable attention has been devoted by scientists in recent years to the ethno-botany of the various Indian tribes, that is, to listing roots, plants, berries, and bark used by the Indians and to studying the uses made of such materials. In some cases it has been shown that the medicine men and women had considerable knowledge of the effect of medicinal plants upon the human system, but the "charm" idea was likewise very prevalent. In the present monograph Miss Densmore, with the assistance and coöperation of other scientists in government departments, has presented the results of her investigations in this field among the Chippewa. The plants are listed under their botanical, their common, and their Indian names, with information about the uses

made of them. The author has done much more, however, than merely list plants, as a survey of the table of contents will reveal. Some of the headings are: "Medicinal Properties of Plants Used by the Chippewa," "Plants as Foods," and "Plants as Medicine." She develops each topic in considerable detail and the result is a valuable and interesting study. As is usual with publications of the Bureau of American Ethnology, the study is profusely illustrated with photographs and text figures.

The monograph is a valuable addition to the growing collection of studies upon Chippewa life and customs. It might well be reprinted as a separate, since in its present form it is to some extent buried in a general report.

WILLOUGHBY M. BABCOCK

*Early Candlelight, A Novel.* By MAUD HART LOVELACE. (New York, The John Day Company, 1929. 322 p. \$2.50.)

It was inevitable that sooner or later a novelist would see the possibilities of Fort Snelling in pre-territorial days as the setting for an historical novel. Though it was not equally inevitable that the hero should be Henry Hastings Sibley, Mrs. Lovelace has demonstrated how readily a fictitious character bearing an uncanny resemblance to him plays the part. To this character she gives the name of Jasper Page. As the representative of the great fur company which controlled the lives of a large percentage of the population about the fort he naturally dominates the scene. The delineation of his character gives the novelist an excuse for describing a unique frontier home as his dwelling, the little garrison as his friends, the *voyageurs* as his employees, and the Indians as his clients. How dexterously she presents one class after another by means of their relations with Jasper Page! The reader is hardly aware that he is the device by which the novelist is able to make a plausible story out of the more or less unconnected persons and events in and about the fort.

As history the book is remarkable. It tells almost the entire story of what was happening about Fort Snelling from 1834 to 1840. Even such unessential details as the religious revival sponsored by Colonel Loomis at the fort and the presence of Dred Scott are not omitted. One can but marvel at the great research

that has preceded the writing of many of the descriptive passages, especially those relating to the styles of the day, the customs of the *voyageurs*, and the names and relations of the characters, nearly all of whom are historic personages who appear under their own names. But the elaboration of historic detail is managed so adroitly that the reader seldom has the sense of being fed history under the name of fiction.

As a novel the book cannot be commended so highly. Though the story holds one's interest to the end and though the style is brisk and, at times, distinctive, the work is lacking in the elements of greatness. It is a pretty story, prettily told. That is the highest praise one can give. Had Mrs. Lovelace in the romance been true to the historic sense she has exhibited elsewhere in the book, the forcefulness of her novel would have been greatly enhanced. She invents a love between a girl of a *voyageur* family and the representative of the fur company. This passion would not have been beyond the realm of the possible. When she allows her hero to marry the girl, however, she departs from historical truth and from all that is probable. In so much she weakens the story. The *bourgeois* of the fur trade did not marry into the families of the *voyageurs*. There was a practically impassable gulf between the two social classes. If there must be the passion, let it end there as it must have ended in "real life." The clash between Page's love and his dignity as the representative of a great monopoly would then have furnished a genuine climax and a chance to make him more than the stuff of which schoolgirls' dreams are made.

As Mrs. Lovelace has presented her story the hero is the weakest of all the chief characters. A little more convincing is Deedee, the *voyageur* heroine. Taliaferro, whose life as Indian agent at the fort held far more dramatic possibilities than Sibley's, plays a very minor rôle. Narcisse bade fair to be a real, if unusual, figure, until the unlikely episode of stealing the major's child occurred. It is in the character of Eva Boles that the author comes closest to success. This prudish, self-satisfied, calculating beauty seems to be made of real flesh and blood.

Despite the weakness of the characters the novel remains a very successful attempt to picture conditions at the mouth of the St. Peter's just prior to the incursion of settlers. This was

undoubtedly the author's main interest; the story was quite secondary in her mind.

GRACE LEE NUTE

*Seven Iron Men.* By PAUL DE KRUIF. (New York, Harcourt, Brace, and Company, 1929. xiv, 241 p. Illustrations, maps. \$3.00.)

*Seven Iron Men* is the life story of the seven Merritt brothers, pioneers of northern Minnesota and discoverers of the great iron deposits of the Mesabi Range. The author has shown that it is possible to treat a subject involving history and science in a manner that is both interesting and accurate. Many of our news and magazine writers would do well to read this volume as an example of accuracy. The descriptions of early Duluth and the life in the woods of northern Minnesota are excellent and not overdrawn, as anyone familiar with that life would testify.

The story of the discovery of the Vermilion and Mesabi ranges involves considerable geology and mineralogy. The author has based his statements on careful research, as is shown by the list of sources at the end of the book. Inaccuracies — for example the statement on page 23 that the ore discovered by Stutz weighed five times that of ordinary rocks — are exceptional. Perhaps the reviewer should add that the ore was, in fact, about twice as heavy as ordinary rock.

The fairness of treatment of everyone involved in the narrative seems obvious. There is no attempt to exalt the Merritts and their share in the development of northern Minnesota. Their failures as well as their successes are described. Incidentally the author's comparison of the rôle of microbes and men in these great deposits serves to remind the reader that man's part is, after all, but a small fraction of the whole and not nearly so important as one is wont to think.

The reviewer considers *Seven Iron Men* a remarkable piece of work presenting an absorbing as well as an instructive story. It is strongly recommended to Minnesota readers who wish to be entertained while they are learning something of the discovery and development of the great iron ranges of Minnesota.

GEORGE M. SCHWARTZ



## MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

In the death of Dr. Folwell on September 18 the society lost its president emeritus and a most active member. His services to the state culminated in the writing of his *History of Minnesota*, which easily ranks as the most ambitious publication undertaken by the society. Members of the society and many others will rejoice to learn that the fourth and last volume of this work is in the press. It was sent to the printer one week before its author died and galley proof of the first chapter was received only the day before his death. Though Dr. Folwell did not live to see the last volume in print, he had the satisfaction of knowing that the work was completed; and he had already turned his vigorous and astoundingly vital interest and energy to the planning and writing of other books. The forthcoming volume will do more than complete an important historical work; it will fill out a monument to the author's memory that will last as long as books are read.

Nine additions to the active membership of the society were made during the quarter ending September 30: Ralph L. Goetzenberger, Dr. G. Elmer Strout, and George R. Taylor of Minneapolis; Ingebrikt F. Grose of Northfield; Mrs. Sidney W. Kinyon of Owatonna; William H. Jensen of Brown's Valley; Milton L. Erickson of Lake City; Margaret M. Sheardown of Winona; and Livingston W. Fargo of Chicago, Illinois.

The Hennepin County Medical Society of Minneapolis and the Martin County Historical Society of Fairmont have become institutional members of the society. The St. Cloud Public Library has taken out a subscription to the society's current publications.

The society lost six active members by death during the three months ending September 30: Mrs. Joseph L. Forepaugh of St. Paul, July 7; Carl A. F. D. Abbetmeyer of Chicago, July 18; the Reverend Everett Leshner of St. Paul, August 10; William D. Bailey of Duluth, August 31; Dr. William W. Folwell of Minne-

apolis, September 18; and Luther Mendenhall of Duluth, September 26. The death of another active member, John I. Bell of Minneapolis, on May 17, has not previously been reported in this magazine.

Miss Gertrude Krausnick resumed her work as librarian on September 1 after a year's leave of absence, which was devoted mainly to European travel.

A leave of absence has been granted Miss Mary E. Wheelhouse, editorial assistant, to enable her to carry on graduate studies in history at the University of Minnesota during the current academic year. In her absence her position will be occupied by Miss Livia Appel, formerly editorial assistant in the war records division.

Dr. Grace Lee Nute and Miss Bertha L. Heilbron, curator of manuscripts and research assistant, respectively, who were abroad on leave during the summer months, have returned to their posts.

The war records division was discontinued on June 30. The drafting of the second volume of *Minnesota in the War with Germany* was nearly completed at that time and it will probably be published soon after the last volume of Dr. Folwell's *History of Minnesota*. Mr. Franklin F. Holbrook, who has served as head of the war records division since its establishment in 1925, was formerly secretary and director of the Minnesota War Records Commission, and before his appointment in 1918 to that position he was for two years field agent of the society. He is at present engaged in the preparation of a history of Ramsey County's participation in the World War, a work sponsored by the Ramsey County War Records Commission.

An unusually large number of readers made use of materials in the society's manuscript division during the summer. In the quarter ending September 30 there were 101 users as compared with 60 for the corresponding quarter a year ago. That the society's collections are serving their purpose and are appreciated is evidenced, however, not so much by statistics of their use as by the fact that scholars come from a distance to consult them.

Thus Dr. Wayne E. Stevens of Dartmouth College, Dr. E. Douglas Branch of the State Historical Society of Iowa, Professor J. Patterson Smith of Illinois College, and Sister M. Aquinas Norton of the College of St. Teresa at Winona, among others, have recently utilized the resources of the society for considerable periods of time.

Among recent visitors who have investigated the equipment and methods used in the society's historical work were three representatives of the state of Indiana, the secretary of the State Historical Society of Nevada, the curator of manuscripts of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and the curator of the Detroit Historical Museum.

The superintendent discussed the work of the society before the Rotary Club of Fergus Falls on July 17 and at a meeting of the Daughters of American Colonists in Minneapolis on September 26. On September 24 the assistant superintendent addressed the freshmen of Augsburg College, Minneapolis, on "Educational Opportunities in the Twin Cities."

A stated meeting of the executive council was held on October 14, at which the assistant superintendent spoke on his experiences in hunting for American history materials in Norway.

The society's exhibit at the state fair in September consisted of a miniature Chippewa encampment, the wigwams for which were borrowed from Mr. H. D. Ayer of Vineland.

#### ACCESSIONS

The most important recent gift to the society consists of voluminous additions to the Folwell Papers sent in from time to time by Dr. Folwell himself before his death, and since then by his family. These papers include letters received by Dr. Folwell on a great variety of subjects: notebooks and diaries from the late fifties up to the last period of his life; Civil War papers; material collected for his *History of Minnesota*, including ten notebooks filled with records of interviews; and addresses and articles on subjects the range of which illustrates the catholicity of Dr.

Folwell's interests. Supplementing the manuscript materials are clippings and scrapbooks; several hundred pamphlets, books, and official documents; some five hundred numbers of magazines; and numerous personal objects. Included among the latter are photographs of Dr. Folwell, mainly from the later years of his life; of Presidents Northrop, Vincent, and Burton, taken singly and in group with Dr. Folwell; and of Mrs. Folwell. Among other interesting items are a knapsack and saddle used by Dr. Folwell in the Civil War, and a number of badges and medals. It is perhaps not the least of Dr. Folwell's many services that he carefully assembled his papers and records and saw to it that a large part of them were placed with the society's collections of records. The supplementing of the collection that he himself built up for the society has been in accordance with his wishes. The result is a body of historical materials invaluable for the student of Minnesota's cultural development and of Dr. Folwell's own far-reaching career.

Among the materials received from Dr. Folwell before his death is a collection of the papers of the late James K. Hosmer of Minneapolis, the outstanding item of which is a carbon copy of an autobiography. This document, filling more than six hundred typed pages, records in great detail the events in the author's life and his reflections about them. The collection also includes some correspondence dating from 1856 to 1916. Among the correspondents are such names as George Bancroft, Thomas Wentworth Higginson, and Charles Eliot Norton. A number of programs, clippings, and printed articles are among the miscellaneous items in the collection.

Still another gift from Dr. Folwell is a letter book kept by Colonel George N. Morgan of the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry in 1862 and 1863. It contains copies of thirteen letters, most of them of an official nature.

Certified copies of eleven letters written from 1818 to 1824 by Bishop J. O. Plessis of Quebec to or about missionaries whom he sent to the Red River colony and the Lake Superior region have been made for the society from the originals in the archives of the diocese of Quebec.

A photostatic copy of a permit to enter the Indian country issued at Fort Snelling on August 19, 1836, to Robert L. Wood, Catlin's companion on his visit to the Pipestone Quarry in 1836, has been presented by Wood's granddaughter, Miss E. Bertha Chinn of Washington, D. C.

Among the recent additions to the society's transcripts of material in the archives of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions are a large number of letters written by missionaries among the Chippewa at Red Lake and Pokegama from 1845 to 1850. There is also much material relating to the Sioux War of 1862 and to missionary work among the Sioux who remained in Minnesota during the ensuing decade. The Sioux War material includes four items copied from the *New York Evangelist* of 1862 and 1863, in which letters from Minnesota and Iowa telling of the outbreak are quoted.

Photostatic copies of eight letters written by prominent Minnesota pioneers between 1853 and 1915 to Charles Cavileer have been made by the society from the originals loaned by his daughter, Miss Lulah Cavileer of Pembina, North Dakota.

Two letters written by members of the Orkney family in Quebec during the Sioux War of 1862 and revealing their anxiety for a brother, W. G. Orkney, who they had reason to believe had been murdered by the Indians, have been presented by Mr. William A. Temple of St. Paul.

A three-volume manuscript history of the Civil War by Captain William F. Allee of the Twenty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry and a descriptive roll of Company K, Twenty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry, are the gifts of Captain Allee's daughters, Mrs. Nellie McKay and Miss Anne M. Allee of Minneapolis.

Some of the papers of J. I. Newman, a pioneer farmer in Blue Earth County, including correspondence with the Minnesota Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Association from 1867 and 1876, are the gift of the Reverend Frank Newman of San Jacinto, California.

Thirty-five commissions and other papers of Horatio P. Van Cleve are the gift of his son, Mr. J. R. Van Cleve of Thistle, Utah, through the courtesy of another son, Mr. Carl E. Van Cleve of Minneapolis. The papers date from 1827, when Van Cleve became a cadet at West Point, to 1890; and they include three commissions as adjutant general of Minnesota dated 1876, 1878, and 1881.

Mr. Harris Richardson of St. Paul has presented five early manuscript maps of railroad routes in Minnesota. Four of them show the lines of roads in the St. Croix Valley; the other is of a portion of the main line of the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad.

Photostatic copies of family records of Alexis Bailly and his descendants have been made from a Bible belonging to Mr. Edward C. Bailly of New York and loaned to the society by Mrs. John T. White of St. Paul.

A genealogical record of the family of Ramsay Crooks, copied from a Bible in the possession of Mr. Alexander Crooks of Toronto, has been presented by Miss Margaret T. Plunkett of Boston.

Four large scrapbooks containing clippings of announcements and reviews of plays and other entertainments presented at the Metropolitan Theater of St. Paul between August, 1906, and January, 1923, are the gift of Mr. L. N. Scott of St. Paul.

A crayon portrait of Mr. James C. Burbank and a photograph of Mr. Henry C. Burbank from Mrs. Henry P. Upham of St. Paul, photographs of Dr. James K. Hosmer and Dr. Charles N. Hewitt from Miss Mary H. Folwell of Minneapolis, and a large number of photographs of pioneers from Miss Mary G. Smith of St. Paul are recent additions to the portrait collection.

Additions to the military collection include an overcoat with a cape and a hat worn by Captain Gold T. Curtis of the Fifth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War, from Colonel William E. Per Lee of Stillwater; two powder flasks, from Miss Matilda V. Bailiff of Bloomington; and a revolver of an 1862 model, from Mrs. Henry H. Dickey of St. Paul.

Articles illustrative of pioneer and domestic life recently added to the museum collection include a walnut hat rack, a wall pocket, and a table, from the heirs of the late Professor Newton H. Winchell of Minneapolis; a mahogany cradle made in 1825, from Miss Marian Moir of Bloomington; a guitar bought in 1858 by Captain Louis Robert of St. Paul for his daughter Jeanette, from Mr. Locke L. Murray of St. Paul; a zither dating from 1880 and several pieces of sheet music published in 1866, from Miss Elizabeth Foss of Minneapolis; a Betty lamp and several candle snuffers, from Mr. John Seibert of Hillman; a wooden foot stove made in 1830, from Miss Margaret Sheardown of Winona; a blue Staffordshire china toilet set, from Mrs. D. F. Polk of St. Paul; several pieces of ironstone china, from Mrs. Clara S. Johnson of St. Paul; and a Britannia ware tea set, a pewter coffee pot, and a Sheffield tray, from Mrs. James T. Morris of Minneapolis.

Recent additions to the costume collection include a double-breasted Prince Albert suit and a blue brocaded satin gown worn by Mr. and Mrs. George H. Staples when they were married in 1887, presented by Mrs. Staples of St. Paul; a white satin wedding gown and slippers of 1886, given by Miss Margaret M. Sheardown of Winona; and a child's dress worn in 1883 and a pair of handmade black satin slippers dating from 1838, presented by Miss Mary G. Smith of St. Paul.

Two sets of doll's furniture and a collection of doll's dishes dating from 1895, received from Mrs. George H. Staples of St. Paul, and a small doll of the period around 1875, from Mrs. May Bantroff of St. Paul, have been added to the toy collection.

A large granite mortar found near Goose Lake, Waseca County, and a small pestle found near Jamestown, North Dakota, have been presented by Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Watson of Waseca.

A model of the first Bell telephone, as used in 1875, is the gift of Mr. Charles E. Hall, secretary of the Northwestern Bell Telephone Company, through the courtesy of Mr. R. L. Gamble of Minneapolis.

## NEWS AND COMMENT

"I wish to write a history, not of wars, but of society; and to ascertain how people lived in the interior of their families and what were the arts they commonly cultivated. . . . I want to know what were the steps by which mankind passed from barbarism to civilization." The advocate of the "new history" who wrote this choice sentiment was not Mr. Harry Elmer Barnes, but Voltaire, and the time of its writing not 1929, but 1752. The phrase is quoted by Charles A. Beard and Mary Beard in a valuable essay on "History and Culture," published in the *Saturday Review of Literature* for September 7.

"It is not a delusion, but a plain, palpable fact," writes Dr. C. B. Coleman in the 1928 *Proceedings* of the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society (*Indiana History Bulletin*, extra no. 3, August, 1929), "that in present day Indiana our historical societies, together with such organizations as the Academy of Science, and various scientific and literary clubs, are standing for the development of civilization as did the societies of the Italian Renaissance. They are keeping alive and they are increasing that broad, intellectual grasp of the evolution and the organization of our present day civilization which is the basis of any progress which we may hope to make in the future." Dr. Coleman's article, which is entitled "Emphasis in the Work of Historical Societies," stresses "correct historical principles" and therefore the preservation and the study of original documentary sources.

During the past eighty years the state of New York has secured ownership or control of a large number of buildings, forts, parks, monuments, and sites of special significance in that state's history. Before 1924 these were administered through scattered bureaus, boards, and institutions, and there was no uniform policy. In 1924, however, unified control was established under a State Council of Parks, though the advisory services of interested local and state organizations were retained. As matters worked out in practice attention was largely given to the parks and recrea-



tional activities involved, and the historic properties were neglected. Ultimately control of the latter was shifted to regional park commissions. The state historian of New York, Dr. A. C. Flick, is confronted by a difficult situation. To leave matters as they stand will mean indifferent care or neglect. To go back to the old system, with neglect combined with politics, would be worse. Hence he has recently suggested the formation of a "State Council of Historic and Scientific Reservations" to formulate policies, draw up budgets, and control "all historic and scientific reservations owned or supported by the State." This council would work through an administrative bureau, with a permanent office and staff. Since most states have problems similar to those of New York in this respect, the New York attempt to evolve a systematic method of handling its historic places, monuments, and the like will be watched with much interest. All are in agreement with Dr. Flick when he writes of these properties, "properly managed they would return rich cultural values to the citizens of this State and to outside visitors." The subject is discussed by Dr. Flick in the April number of the *Quarterly Journal* of the New York State Historical Association.

An important contribution to an understanding of the career of Father Louis Hennepin, with special reference to his relations with the English, is made in chapter 3 of an excellent study entitled *The Southern Frontier, 1670-1732*, by Verner W. Crane (Durham, North Carolina, 1928). New points are brought out also concerning the dates of publication of some of Hennepin's books.

A consideration of the problem of agriculture in the Middle West, coupled with a vigorous argument against the Hawley Bill, is presented by Governor Christianson in an article entitled "Is the Tariff Fair to Farmers?" published in the *North American Review* for September.

The literature of the "agrarian crusade" continues to grow. One of the latest and most valuable additions to it is a scholarly article on "The Farmers' Alliance," by John D. Hicks and John

D. Barnhart, published in the *North Carolina Historical Review* for July. This survey, both for its bibliographical information and its clear analysis of the sequence of events in the alliance movement, will be indispensable to all students of the subject.

A study of "The Cattleman in the Agricultural History of the Northwest" by Ernest S. Osgood appears in *Agricultural History* for July.

Many references to Minnesota are included in a volume on *Our Federal Lands: A Romance of American Development*, by Robert S. Yard (New York, 1928. 360 p.). Among the subjects discussed are the public domain, national forests, "Our Indian Wards," and the national parks system.

A study of the *Grain Trade During the World War* by Frank M. Surface (New York, 1928. 679 p.) contains much information of interest for Minnesota history, especially in its discussion of the question of a fair price for the 1917 wheat crop, its chapters on the control of flour milling, and its consideration of legislative activity and farm marketing.

How Norwegian officials attempted to discourage emigration in the mid-nineteenth century by circulating false impressions of conditions in America is discussed by Thor Kittleson in an account of the experiences of a Norwegian family which came to America seventy-nine years ago and settled in Wisconsin, published in the *Milan Standard* for September 20. Many believed, he says, that the United States was occupied chiefly by "scalping Indians, wild animals, rattle snakes, tornadoes, swamps, malaria germs, cholera epidemics and — Yankees. And the worst of all was the Yankee. In fact some of the immigrants at that time had the same idea of the Yankee as the southern slaves had at the time of the Civil War — that they had horns, tails and claws." The immigrant's first encounters with the Yankee pioneers of the West promptly dispelled these false notions.

Three articles on "Early Northwest Days" in the *Northwestern Chronicle* of St. Paul for July 27 describe, respectively, the "Beginning of Early Catholicity in Wisconsin," "Catholicity in Iowa," and "Early Days of Church in Minnesota." The last

reviews briefly the growth of the Roman Catholic church in Minnesota since the establishment of an episcopal see in 1850.

*Sources of Northwest History* is the title of a series of *Historical Reprints* that is being issued by the State University of Montana under the editorship of Paul C. Phillips. Recent numbers include the "Journal of Peter Koch: 1869-1870," a Danish pioneer who after a career as a trader eventually became a banker at Bozeman, edited by Elers Koch; the journal of Richard Owen Hickman, relating the story of "An Overland Journey to California in 1852," edited by M. Catherine White; and "A Reminiscence of John Bozeman" by James Kirkpatrick, edited by Paul C. Phillips.

A collection of *Documents Relating to Detroit and Vicinity, 1805-1813*, edited by George N. Fuller, has been brought out as volume 40 of the *Michigan Historical Collections* (Lansing, 1929. 754 p.). It consists in considerable part of letters from Governor William Hull of Michigan Territory to the secretary of war and necessarily it incorporates much information about frontier defense and related problems and conditions. The introduction to the volume, a brief and undocumented sketch of Hull's career by William L. Jenks, originally written for publication elsewhere, is useful, but fails to bring out the broader significance of the documents. In the entire volume of more than seven hundred pages there is only one footnote. This omission of explanatory annotation probably prompts the editor's remark that those who use the book for serious purposes will presumably be familiar with "the people, places, and general setting." One cannot escape a feeling, despite this disclaimer, that the serious editing of documents, even for the use of specialists, places an obligation upon a scholarly editor to bring his own special knowledge to bear upon some of the puzzling minor problems and details that inevitably arise. True, annotation sometimes has degenerated into the painful elucidation of the obvious and so has become an exercise in pedantry, but there would seem to be a happy medium. The reader is told that the documents, unless otherwise indicated, are drawn from the archives of the war department; but no clues are given as to the file or even the division of that voluminous collec-

tion in which they are to be found. There is no explanation of the basis of selection and one looks in vain for a key to the use of brackets, rows of periods, and other devices. Despite its deficiencies the book is a welcome addition to printed source material on the history of the Northwest.

The autumn number of the *Michigan History Magazine* is a "Teachers' Number," containing several discussions of the teaching of state history and numerous items intended to be of practical aid to teachers. In an article on "Teaching State History in the High School" by R. M. Tryon, the introduction of state history material in general American history courses, under the appropriate "units," is advocated. A list of topics for reports and themes in Michigan history and several pages of bibliographical suggestions add to the value of the number. Other items include "Fifty Questions on Local History," a plan for "School History Clubs," "Practical Hints for Local Historical Work," and a "Constitution for a County Historical Society."

Of more than ordinary interest is Lieutenant Commander Louis H. Roddis' account of a middle-western frontiersman published under the title "A Cherokee County Pioneer" in the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics* for July. The pioneer in question was the author's father, Henry Roddis, born in Northamptonshire, England, who settled in northwestern Iowa in 1866. The story has Minnesota interest, for in 1896 Roddis, then fifty-five years old, removed to central Minnesota, where he bought a tract of land, on the north shore of Lake Osakis. "It can be imagined," writes Commander Roddis, "that the man who had planted one of the first large orchards, vineyards, and mulberry groves in northwestern Iowa would not forget horticulture in Minnesota." The details of his experiments with plants and flowers throw light upon what someone has called the "transit of culture" and hence upon the history of civilization in the Northwest. Roddis represents a type of pioneer that deserves more study than it has thus far received at the hands of historians of the West—the pioneer "who first tilled the new country, planted the first orchards in it, reared the first herds and flocks there, and labored to improve both plants and animals."

*The Immigrants' Trek: a Detailed History of the Lake Hendricks Colony in Brookings County, Dakota Territory, from 1873-1881*, by Gustav O. Sandro of Hendricks, Minnesota, tells of the settlement of a party of Norwegian immigrants, most of them from the Trondhjem region, in 1873 and their subsequent history. The opening chapter, detailing the progress of the party across southern Minnesota in eleven prairie schooners, reminds one of descriptions in Rölvaag's *Giants in the Earth*.

As usual, the current issue of the *North Dakota Historical Quarterly* contains material of special interest and value for Minnesota. In this case — the issue for July — there are articles on "Early Freight and Stage Lines in Dakota," by Harold E. Briggs, and on "The Buffalo in Trade and Commerce," by Merrill G. Burlingame. The first contains considerable information about the early Red River cart traffic, stage lines connecting St. Paul with the Red River country, the Fisk expedition of 1864, and other topics that have to do with Minnesota. The second article also touches the cart trade; among other things it presents some figures on the value of the furs delivered at St. Paul from the Red River country in the fifties. Only a part of these furs, however, consisted of buffalo robes.

#### GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

One of the most important figures in the early history of Minnesota, Major Lawrence Taliaferro, was honored on September 10, when a tablet commemorating his work in this region was unveiled at Fort Snelling. It bears the following inscription: "In recognition of the faithful services of Major Lawrence Taliaferro, 1794-1871, who served as agent for the Sioux nation from 1819 to 1840, and whose agency house stood near this spot. This tablet is erected by Colonial chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, Minneapolis, 1929." In connection with the dedication of the tablet, the story of Taliaferro's work as agent was reviewed by Chaplain Gynther Storaasli of Fort Snelling.

*A Gazetteer of Meandered Lakes of Minnesota* (1928. 183 p.) issued by the state department of drainage and waters, of which

Mr. E. V. Willard is commissioner, provides not only a "ready reference to the extent and location of the meandered lakes of the state" but also considerable food for thought with reference to the names and naming of Minnesota's lakes. More than a thousand of the lakes referred to appear to be nameless. Of those boasting names many can lay no claim to distinctive ones. There are, for example, 99 Long lakes, 91 Mud, 76 Rice, 43 Bass, and 40 Twin. Names of foods appear to have been utilized, such as Coffee, Sugar, Sandwich, Ham, Egg, Potato, Cranberry, Plum, Lobster, and Pie. Such appellations, the commissioner thinks, convey no identification to those seeking information. Nor does he approve of Rum and Whiskey, which no longer enjoy the grace that once was theirs. Yet other names, though picturesque, are frowned upon as unattractive, such as Dead Fish, Dead Man, Pig's Eye, and Dirty Nose. Further, it seems "that every known bug, insect, bird, beast and fish may be found in the column of names." The commissioner approvingly calls attention, however, to names that perpetuate explorers, pioneers, and other "makers of history" and also to those that draw upon the Indian lexicon. He believes that Minnesotans would serve their communities and state by giving attention to the renaming of many and the naming of other lakes, in all cases attempting to find names attractive and significant.

How the Scotch instincts of that hardy Minnesota pioneer, Martin McLeod, served him to advantage in a civil suit during the fifties in which he was defendant and fought his own case is told in an article in the *Hutchinson Leader* for July 5. The account is based on two letters from McLeod to his brother in the possession of the Minnesota Historical Society.

The unusual combination of circumstances that brought Henry A. Swift to the governor's chair, in 1863, despite the fact that he had merely been elected a member of the Minnesota senate, is explained in the *Weekly Mirror* of Minneapolis for August 24.

A pictorial map of the "Arrowhead" region of northern Minnesota and a sixteen-page pamphlet containing the *Story of the Arrowhead Country from the Age of Stone to the Age of Steel*

have recently been issued under the auspices of the Hibbing branch of the American Association of University Women.

"Half a Century of Duck Observation in Minnesota" is the title of an article by George D. Hamilton in the September number of *Fins, Feathers, and Fur*, in which the author compares the abundance of wild life fifty years ago with its scarcity today and makes a strong plea for its conservation. The article is reprinted in the *Detroit Lakes Tribune* for September 12.

A mimeographed pamphlet entitled *The Quist Family, 1771 - ?* by P. P. Quist (8 p.) contains in addition to genealogical data an extremely interesting account of the author's father and mother, who emigrated from Sweden in 1865. Four sons had left for America a few years before; one of them offered to give the father forty acres of his homestead in Scandia Grove, Minnesota, if he would come. The pamphlet tells in detail about the journey and the experiences of the emigrants after their arrival in Minnesota.

Considerable information about recent progress in Minnesota agricultural life is published in the August issue of *Minneapolis*, the quarterly organ of the Minneapolis Civic and Commerce Association. An interview with Dean W. C. Coffey telling about the work of the Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Minnesota in developing improved types of grain appears under the title "How Marquillo Wheat Was Developed," and the story of the master farmer and master farm home-maker movements in the Northwest is told by Dan A. Wallace in an article entitled "Recognizing Achievement in Rural Life."

Mr. Albert M. Welles of Minneapolis presents his recollections of a "journalistic career of nearly half a century, begun on the St. Paul Pioneer Press and concluded with three decades spent in conducting successful weekly newspapers in Minnesota towns" in an article in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for August 4.

The part played by the Thirteenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry in the battle of Manila is recalled in an interview with General Charles M. Reeve, who commanded the regiment, in the *Minneapolis Journal* for August 11.

A series of articles on "Early Vermilion History" by Edward Lynch in the *Ely Miner* includes an account of a federal investigation involving over a hundred persons indicted for plundering the government of timber and ore lands, July 19; and a description of the carrying of the mail over the Vermilion trail in the eighties, August 16.

#### LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

A sketch of the first school in Aitkin County, established at Libby more than a quarter of a century ago, with lists of teachers and pupils, is published in the *Aitkin Republican* for July 18.

"Requiescat in Pace" is the title of a brief historical account of South Bend in the September issue of the *Interpreter*, a publication of the extension division of the University of Minnesota. It tells of the founding of the town in the Minnesota Valley in 1853; of its short-lived prosperity; and of its decline after it was ignored by the railroad, which was routed through Mankato.

An interesting feature of the Diamond Jubilee and Homecoming Celebration held in New Ulm on July 4 and 5 was a pageant in fourteen episodes depicting historical events such as early payments of annuities to the Indians by government agents, the selection of the town site of New Ulm by its founders, incidents of the Sioux Outbreak, and the call to arms during the World War. The celebration was also the occasion for the dedication of two memorials. One, placed in Pioneer Park and presented to the city of New Ulm by the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, consists of a boulder to which is attached a bronze plate bearing the inscription: "In this vicinity pioneers were accustomed to ford. Here also was the site of a fur trading post." Among the speakers at its dedication was Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of the museum of the Minnesota Historical Society, whose address, entitled "The Fur Trader as an Aid to Settlement," is printed in the *New Ulm Review* for July 10. In it some attention is devoted to Joseph Laframboise, the fur-trader whose post is referred to in the inscription of the marker. The other memorial dedicated was a monument in Milford Township bearing the following inscription: "Erected by



the state of Minnesota in memory of the men, women and children of Milford who were massacred by the Indians, August 18, 1862." A summary of the dedicatory address delivered by Governor Christianson is given in the *Brown County Journal* for July 12.

A description of New Ulm in the late fifties and early sixties is included in an article on "German Methodist Pioneering" by the Reverend Gustavus E. Hiller, published in the *Northwestern Christian Advocate* for September 12 and reprinted in the *Brown County Journal* for September 27.

An example of the displacement of Swedish farmers by Germans in the post-pioneer period is afforded in the history of settlement in Benton and Dahlgren townships, Carver County, according to an article by Win V. Working in the *Belle Plaine Herald* for July 18. In another article, on Penn Township, McLeod County, published in the *Glencoe Enterprise* for July 11, Mr. Working illustrates the usual process, that of the displacement of Yankees by Germans.

Other recent local history articles by Win V. Working in the *Belle Plaine Herald* include an account of the experiences of a Swedish immigrant youth, J. P. Halgren, in earning a living in Minnesota and in the Far West during the eighties, July 4; a description of changes in threshing methods in the past half century, August 1; the story of the experiences of a New Auburn soldier during the Sioux Outbreak as revealed in his diary, August 15; and a study of the growth of trade in Cologne and Belle Plaine, September 5.

A room in the court house at Grand Marais has been set aside for the preservation and display by the Cook County Historical Society of objects illustrating the county's history.

The almost deserted village of Wasioja, situated on the Zumbro River in Dodge County, forms the subject of an article in the *Rochester Post-Bulletin* for July 31. Wasioja was the scene of a typical town-site speculation in the fifties; now it is the "symbol of hopes gone astray."

An historical sketch of the Hubbel House at Mantorville, claimed to be the oldest hotel standing in Minnesota, appears in the *Rochester Post-Bulletin* for August 1.

The beginnings and growth of Swedish Lutheran church work in Alexandria and the adjoining region are discussed in an "Historical Sketch of the Alexandria District of the Red River Valley Conference, 1879-1929," by the Reverend J. Edward Larson, published in the *Park Region Echo* of Alexandria for September 26.

An organization known as the Pioneers and Old Settlers Union of Douglas County was formed at Alexandria on July 14. At the first meeting, held the same day, Mr. Constant Larson presented a paper on the history of Douglas County, which is published in the *Alexandria Citizen News* for July 18.

The seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of Rushford was commemorated from July 3 to 5 with a Diamond Jubilee and Homecoming celebration, one feature of which was an historical pageant depicting the history of the city from Indian days to the present. The event was the occasion for the publication in the *Tri-County Record* of Rushford for July 4 of a number of historical articles, including accounts of the founding and growth of the city, early pioneer conditions, the development of transportation facilities, early schools, and industrial progress. Reminiscences of "Early Pioneer Days East of Rushford" recorded by "a native" and a history of government in the area now comprising Fillmore County are published in the same issue.

At a joint meeting of the Goodhue County Historical Society and the Vasa Community Club, held at Vasa on July 19, an interesting program dealing with the history of this pioneer Swedish settlement was presented. Papers by Miss A. E. Willard and Mr. C. A. Rasmussen of Red Wing, and Mr. Aaron Pearson and Mr. F. A. Carlson, early residents of Vasa, were read; Mrs. Frances Boynton of Hastings spoke briefly about early days in the Swedish colony; and the Reverend J. A. Oslund told of the work of Dr. Eric Norelius and the beginnings of the Swedish

Lutheran church there. Objects illustrative of pioneer life and belonging to people in the community were exhibited in connection with the meeting.

Besides a wealth of material relating to present-day Red Wing, a special edition of the *Red Wing Daily Republican*, issued on August 21 to give publicity to the Elks' state convention, contains a number of historical articles, including sketches of Barn Bluff, saved from destruction at the hands of quarriers about twenty years ago through the efforts of local citizens; of the settlement of Frontenac; and of the lives of two Indian chiefs buried in the heart of Red Wing.

An historical sketch of the Villa Maria Academy at Frontenac, founded by the Ursuline sisters in 1878, appears in the *Catholic Bulletin* of St. Paul for July 27. The article includes also some information about French explorations in the Lake Pepin region, early Catholic missions, and the founding of Frontenac.

The arrival by steamboat of the "first large influx" of settlers at Red Wing, on August 6, 1854, and their reception by the "first Red Wing official delegation to bid welcome to a band of immigrants" form the subject of a brief sketch in the *Red Wing Daily Eagle* for August 6.

The building of a stockade near Pomme de Terre in 1862 as a defense against the Indians, its occupation by government troops until 1865, and its subsequent history are described in an article in the *Grant County Herald* of Elbow Lake for August 8. The article was occasioned by the identification of the graves of two soldiers in Company D, Eighth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, who were killed in September, 1862, during a skirmish with a small band of marauding Sioux.

The memoirs of the late T. R. Stewart, pioneer settler of Houston County, which are being published in the *Caledonia Journal* beginning with the issue for May 1, tell in detail the story of his father's emigration from Massachusetts to the West, the family's settlement at Caledonia in 1853, and the building of the new home. They afford an intimate and illuminating view of many of the

everyday phases of pioneer life, such as the furnishing of the cabin, the dangers — real and imagined — of the wilderness, hunting and fishing, transportation problems, and the amusements of the frontier. A sketch by the author of the log cabin of Samuel McPhail, founder of the village of Caledonia, accompanies the installment appearing on June 5.

How lumberjacks of the eighties cut their trails through the woods and opened the region near Wabana Lake, Itasca County, for the community of farmers and summer residents that later settled there is described in a series of articles published in the *Grand Rapids Herald-Review* from August 7 to 21.

Recollections of the town of Jackson in the seventies are recorded in an interview with V. W. Avery, a pioneer settler, published in the *Jackson Republic* for July 26.

Statistical information about population, the extent of settlement, crop production, and manufacturing in Kanabec County between 1860 and 1880 is given in a series of articles by Arthur G. Peterson in the *Kanabec County Times* of Mora for August 15, 22, and 29. Lumbering activities during the seventies are described by Thomas McDonald, a pioneer logger in the county, in a sketch published in the *Times* for September 12.

A typewritten letter, dated May 27, 1886, from the Winona Harvester Works to John Ryan of Le Sueur, in the possession of the latter, reveals that a shipment of machinery was carried up the Minnesota River to Le Sueur in that year on the "Alvira." The letter, with additional information about the boat, is published in the *Le Sueur News-Herald* for July 3.

How the mail was brought to Hutchinson and neighboring communities during the fifties is described in a brief article in the *Hutchinson Leader* for July 5. The issue for July 12 contains a sketch of the development of lighting facilities in the city.

Governor Christianson and Mayor W. F. Kunze of Minneapolis were among the speakers at Fort Ridgely State Park on August 23, when a program commemorating the sixty-seventh anniversary of the siege of Fort Ridgely was presented.

The finding of an old schoolbook in which the names of pupils attending Rochester's first school seventy-two years ago had been pencilled by the owner is the occasion for an article in the *Rochester Post-Bulletin* for September 21.

A number of articles dealing with the settlement and development of Crookston appear in the *Crookston Daily Times* for July 1, in connection with news of the fiftieth anniversary celebration held there on July 3 and 4. Another article on the early history of Crookston, accompanied by a picture of the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad station there in the early seventies, is published in the *Polk County Leader* of Crookston for July 4.

A summary of government in Pope County since its organization in 1862 and an explanation of the organization and objects of the old settlers' association in that county were included in an address delivered before a picnic meeting of the association on August 11 by its president, the Honorable E. M. Webster. His address and abstracts of the other speeches given on that occasion appear in the *Pope County Tribune* of Glenwood for August 15.

Several historical sketches relating to Boon Lake Township, Renville County, have appeared recently in the *Hutchinson Leader*. Information about its first schools and teachers is given in an article published in the issue for September 6; and the experiences of the James Hodgdon family, one of the first to locate in the township, and of another pioneer settler, Gibson A. Richards, are described in articles published on September 13 and 20.

A biographical sketch of Sacred Heart's "grand old man," Bernt Haganson, in the *Sacred Heart News* for July 18 throws many interesting sidelights on conditions in that region during the seventies.

A description of Faribault, the "Athens of the West," in 1880, which appears in the *Faribault Daily News* for July 9, is based largely on an article in the first city directory, published in that year.

An interesting feature of the third annual summer meeting of the Rice County Historical Society, held at Northfield on

August 12, was a group of exhibits, displayed in local shop windows, of old furniture, linen, musical instruments, vehicles, books, pictures, clothing, china, and other objects. The formal program included papers on "John W. North, a Pioneer Statesman," by Carl L. Weicht, and on "Early Trails and Roads in Rice County," by Maude Stewart, both published in full in the *Northfield News* for August 16; and a talk by Isabella Watson on "Some Historic Landmarks in This Vicinity," of which the substance is given in the same issue of the *News*. The meeting was attended by about a hundred and fifty people.

A brief account of the founding of the first Methodist Episcopal church in the Fox Lake community by the Reverend W. E. Thompson, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal churches at Dundas and Little Prairie, appears in the *Northfield Independent* for September 12.

A joint meeting of the historical societies of St. Louis, Cook, and Lake counties, "planned to stimulate interest in the history of the American North Shore of Lake Superior," was held at Two Harbors on August 22. The success of the meeting may be judged by the fact that about seventy-five people attended the afternoon session and more than a hundred were present in the evening, and that nine North Shore cities and villages were represented. At the afternoon session papers were presented on "Grand Portage, the Indian City," by Mrs. Effie McLean; "North Shore Fishermen at Tofte and Other Places; Their Homesteads and Their Work," by Hans Engelson; "North Shore Place Names," by William E. Culkin; and "Two Harbors and Its History," by Mrs. R. B. Elliott. The evening program included a survey of the "Forest History of Lake County," by Judge W. E. Scott; an address entitled "Back from the Shore," by Judge Bert Fesler; "Early Railroad Building Reminiscences," by William A. McGonagle; and an account of "Grand Marais; Its Harbor, Its People, and Its History," by Dr. F. B. Hicks.

A description of St. Cloud in the sixties, when the family of William Orcutt settled there, and of the changes that have taken place since in population, transportation facilities, agriculture, industry and commerce, and natural resources, is given by Wright

T. Orcutt, a son of the pioneer settler, in an article published in the *Sauk Rapids Sentinel* for August 15.

An account of a trip taken by Mrs. Jane Grey Swisshelm from St. Cloud to Fort Snelling on the steamboat "Enterprise" in 1861, based on a report in her paper, the *St. Cloud Democrat*, for May 23 of that year, appears in the *Sauk Centre Herald* for August 8.

The history of the old ferry at Clearwater, which has been in use since territorial days and is soon to be displaced by a bridge, is discussed in an article in the *Buffalo Journal* for August 8. A brief historical sketch of the ferry appears also in the *Sauk Centre Herald* for August 1.

A marker erected at Morris and dedicated on October 4 by the Wadsworth Trail chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution bears the following inscription: "To commemorate Wadsworth Trail. Established in 1864 from St. Cloud to Fort Wadsworth, later called Fort Sisseton. This trail was used by soldiers and traders who came up the Mississippi River by boat. It passed through Sauk Centre, Gager's station (which was located four and one-half miles north and east of this spot), Toqua, Browns Valley and the government agency on the Sisseton reservation." A history of the trail, presented by Miss Grace Hall during the dedication ceremonies, is published in the *Morris Tribune* for October 11.

An "Old Settlers' Log Cabin," erected on the Todd County fair grounds as the "permanent home of the Todd County Old Settlers' Historical Society," was dedicated on August 21. A résumé of the speech delivered on that occasion by the Honorable George W. Peterson, touching on many interesting developments in the history of the county and the state, is published in the *Long Prairie Leader* for August 29.

An anniversary dinner on September 6, special services on September 8, and a "tribute service and pilgrimage to the grave of Rev. William T. Boutwell" on September 15 were the features of a celebration marking the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Stillwater.

The services in honor of Boutwell were held at his old homestead, a farm just west of Stillwater, and they included an address by Judge Orris E. Lee on "Boutwell as I Knew Him." An article about early missionary activity at Stillwater and the establishment and progress of the local Methodist church, published in the *Stillwater Daily Gazette* for September 6, is based in part upon original manuscript materials.

The settlement and development of Buffalo are sketched by a pioneer settler, A. E. Sturges, in the *Buffalo Journal* for September 5.

Colonel David Edwards is characterized as "St. Anthony's First Wag" in a sketch by A. J. Russell published in the *Minneapolis Journal* for August 2. The writer tells how Edwards perpetrated the "Great Nesmith Cave Hoax" in 1867 by publishing in a Minneapolis paper an account of the discovery of a fabulous cave beneath the surface of the city.

Pioneer days at Hopkins are recalled by Mr. Will E. Perkins, whose family settled on a farm there in 1873, in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for September 29. A series of intimate pictures of life on a frontier farm located near a growing community is presented. The narrative also includes an account of a grist and flour mill built on Minnehaha Creek by Mr. Perkins' grandfather in 1869.

The story of the Gustavus Adolphus Swedish Lutheran Church of St. Paul was outlined by the Reverend C. J. Carlson, its senior pastor, at special historical services held to commemorate its fortieth anniversary on September 23.

The seventy-fourth anniversary of the founding of the Trinity Lutheran Church of St. Paul was celebrated with special services on September 15. A brief history of this pioneer German church appears in the *St. Paul Dispatch* for September 14.

The beginning of work on the "Third street widening project" in St. Paul is the occasion for the reprinting, in the *St. Paul Dispatch* of July 2, of an editorial from the *Minnesota Pioneer* for January 15, 1852, in which the editor, James M. Goodhue, advocates a similar improvement of the St. Paul waterfront.





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