

## REVIEWS OF BOOKS

*The Coming of the White Man, 1492-1848 (A History of American Life, vol. 1).* By HERBERT I. PRIESTLEY. (New York, The Macmillan Company, 1929. xx, 411 p. Illustrations, map. \$4.00.)

The non-English colonies in North America are the subject of this book. Although preceded in publication by four other volumes of this series, which have already been reviewed in MINNESOTA HISTORY (December, 1928), this volume is designed to introduce the series. The editors in their foreword call attention to the fact that the history of the United States can be understood only as a part of the history of the New World as a whole, and they indicate that the objectives of this volume are to provide a setting and furnish standards of comparison as well as to portray the Spanish, French, and Dutch rôles in the history of the United States. The book, and especially the first half of it, which is devoted to New Spain, will help to correct the current notion that the only important developments in America before the Revolution took place in the thirteen English colonies along the Atlantic seaboard. The average reader will be surprised to learn that in most cultural matters the ancestors of our neighbors to the south were more advanced than our own ancestors in the English colonies.

In writing the social history of New Spain for American readers the author wisely includes, in outline at least, a narrative of events, and this serves to give movement and coherence to the work. The northern borderlands, which now form a part of the United States, naturally receive a large share of attention, but the fuller development of Spanish-American civilization in what is now Mexico is vividly portrayed. The competence of the author in this field is evident throughout, but unfortunately his own familiarity with Spanish terms causes him to sprinkle them liberally over his pages for his less learned readers to stumble over.

The three chapters on the French colonies in North America also include considerable narrative, but the chronological sequence of events is departed from so extensively as to confuse the average reader. French colonial life, not only in Canada and Louisiana, but also in the Illinois country, is well described, but the Great Lakes region and the upper Mississippi are barely mentioned. Neither in these chapters nor in those on the Dutch is there any adequate account of the fur trade, which played a very large part in the actual lives of the colonists. The most important contribution in the latter half of the book is to be found in the frequent comparisons of Spanish, French, Dutch, and English colonization; and of these one of the most interesting is that concerning Indian relations. The author finds that "each group of white men used the Indians for its own purposes as best it could" — the Spaniards preserved him "at the lowest level of subsistence and survival," in the English labor system he had no place "and so he was 'scorned,'" and the French used him in their trading system "on a plane of practical equality"; but the French plan pointed to ultimate extermination as surely as did the English.

The volume, like the others in the series, is well illustrated, adequately indexed, and has an extensive and valuable "Critical Essay on Authorities."

SOLON J. BUCK

*A History of the American Nation: An Interpretation of Achievement.* By WILLIS MASON WEST, sometime professor of history in the University of Minnesota. (New York, The Ronald Press Company, 1929. xi, 923 p. Illustrations, maps. \$6.00.)

Professor West's book covers the whole of American history from the days of discovery to the present time. He devotes approximately a third of its nine hundred pages to the colonial period, a second third to the years between 1783 and 1865, and the last third to carrying the story down to 1929. Comparisons are unnecessary and probably unwise, but it is difficult to avoid two which immediately occur to one upon examination of the book — on the one hand, a comparison with Professor West's own

earlier textbooks, and on the other hand, with the Beards's *Rise of American Civilization*. The similarities in scope, emphasis, and interpretation are apparent in both cases. In this volume the author seems to be taking a middle road between the two in some ways, and he has produced a book that has many merits all its own.

The style is delightfully clear, flowing, and easy. The book is well written and interesting; a summary of the author's broad scholarship and keen interest in American life and institutions. Those who know his other books will find the well-known idiosyncrasies of style, such as the constant use of the parenthetical statement with bits of comment, and references or allusions scattered liberally between double dashes, parentheses, or brackets. There are few footnotes in this type of work, but the results of many years of wide and varied reading are evidenced, fortunately, in the many quotations, long and short, from both original and secondary sources — quotations often extremely apt and unusual.

Professor West's political and economic theories and his close contact with the problems and progress of the agrarian and labor movements make the chapters dealing with them among the most valuable in the book. Without "riding a hobby" or endeavoring to base his entire interpretation of events upon an economic foundation, he emphasizes throughout the social and economic forces in American history, rather than the political, and leaves out almost altogether any discussion of military history.

The section in an early chapter on the causes and motives of English colonization is a sympathetic statement of the varied background of American history. The chapters on the causes of the Revolution and on the transition from colonies to states are summaries of modern research in those fields and evidence keen interest in the constitutional implications of such questions. Parts 5, 6, and 7, covering the period 1783 to 1840 in some two hundred and fifty pages, are in some respects the best parts of the book, the center in quality and interest as well as in pagination. The chapters on the labor movement and the intellectual and social progress of the Jacksonian period are especially valuable.

The period from 1840 to 1877 is slighted and apparently interests the author little. The quotations are less widely drawn, the

references and allusions less broad in scope, and the treatment much more perfunctory than in any other part of the book. Slavery, the Civil War, and reconstruction — topics now receiving revolutionary research on the part of a galaxy of historians — are discussed impartially but briefly and without much originality or interest.

After 1877, however, especially in the fields of western expansion and economic development, the author comes into his own again, and in the chapters on "The People vs. Privilege" and "Working Class Movements" his interpretation is most interesting. For no period of American history, with the possible exception of the World War, is there an adequate discussion of foreign affairs or any evidence that the author considers that they have played an important part in the history of American achievement. The final chapter, "A New Age," is a summary of the period since 1918, ending on a note of optimism and hope which is refreshing in an era that seems to pride itself upon the extent of its disillusionment.

The format of the book is excellent. It contains a number of woodcuts and adequate pen and ink maps and charts. There are few, if any, typographical errors and there is a very complete index.

ALICE FELT TYLER

*The Story of the Red Man.* By FLORA WARREN SEYMOUR, A.B., LL.B., LL.M., member of the board of Indian commissioners. (London, New York, and Toronto, Longmans, Green and Company, 1929. xi, 421 p. Illustrations, maps. \$5.00.)

This book is a series of sketches about Indian chiefs and the relations of Indians and whites. The author gives her idea of how the Indians lived before the discovery of America and then sketches Indian history down to 1763 with particular attention to the influence of Spaniard, Frenchman, and Englishman. In the first chapter appears the idea that reappears again and again — the rapid dilution of Indian blood with white. There appear savage Pontiac, whose conspiracy was a "fitting prelude to the Revolution," and Joseph Brant, "the courtier and the diplomat" and a

colonel in the British army, and beside them Sir William Johnson. Then she sketches the wild tribes of the West visited by Lewis and Clark, and Sacajawea who "whispered a little murmur of content" to her brown-eyed child as she "sat just outside the circle of the campfire" (p. 76). On the coast Lewis and Clark found that the white men had been there for "there were plenty of babies with light skin and even blue eyes" (p. 86). How does the author know? The procession of Indian chiefs is resumed with Tecumseh, and the vivid story of Pushmataha in the Creek Country, who thwarted the plans of the northern chieftain to raise the southern Indians.

Stories of Long's expedition, of Lewis Cass, and of fur traders and white settlers introduce Keokuk and Black Hawk. The westward migration of the southern tribes begun by Monroe and urged on by Jackson is described largely through sketches of such chiefs as McIntosh, Opothleyaholo, Menawa, John Ross, and Osceola, almost all of whom were of mixed blood.

The Oregon country seems to be inhabited mostly by Nez Percés with a few Cayuse Indians, according to Mrs. Seymour. Her story of the western Indian efforts to get missionaries to come to them is wrong; Flatheads or Selish, and not Nez Percés, sent to St. Louis for the "men with the book" to teach them the way of life. This chapter is highly imaginative. Those on the Old Southwest, New Mexico, and California are better history. From the fifties on the narrative deals mostly with Indian wars; it is well sketched and ends with the death of Sitting Bull. The last three chapters on the red man today and his accomplishments are good.

The book is written in a bright and lively style, but the narrative has frequent gaps in it that tend to leave the reader confused. It is not a book of much research, but it shows an intelligent appreciation of the Indian. The general reader will gather from its pages a better understanding of the red man and a greater tolerance for his character.

PAUL C. PHILLIPS

*America in the Forties: The Letters of Ole Munch Raeder* (Norwegian-American Historical Association, *Travel and Description Series*, vol. 3). Translated and edited by GUNNAR J. MALMIN. (Minneapolis, The University of Minnesota Press, 1929. xxi, 244 p. Portrait. \$2.50.)

This is a valuable contribution to American social history in the years 1847 and 1848, containing as it does a peculiarly incisive discussion of the characteristics of the Norwegians in dispersion.

The letters were a by-product of the author's mission to study the jury system in America, on which he prepared an exhaustive report for his government. His interest in social and political conditions was keen and, his principal objective giving him contacts with judges, lawyers, and public officials of the states, he was in a position to assemble valuable information to supplement his personal observations. He spent more time in Wisconsin than in any other community and his book deals to a large extent with the situation of his emigrating countrymen in that territory, just rounding into statehood. He was impressed by the courage they displayed in working out their economic salvation under the multiform hardships incident to pioneering in a new country; their adaptability, which was shown particularly by the young, who to a very large extent went into the service of Americans, winning golden opinions from employers; and also with their eagerness to imitate "those mighty Yankees," abandoning home customs for American customs. The writer shows, with the precision of a trained observer, the process by which the Norwegian language was first deformed through the substitution of English words for Norwegian, and finally — and very quickly — forgotten, particularly by the young non-literary immigrants.

Raeder's comments on the political attitude of Norwegians in the days of constitution-making in Wisconsin are significant, because in that field he was dealing with actual beginnings. In his own reaction to Wisconsin — and American — politics, he was a kind of cross between the social reforming "Barnburner" Democrat and the pro-tariff pro-bank Whig. He thought he would vote the Whig ticket, if he were an American citizen, and wondered

why his countrymen had so many doubts on the subject. They proved responsive to the free-soil propaganda and within a few years thereafter were safely anchored in the Republican fold.

Raeder also throws light on the religious history of the Norwegians in America, locating leading churches and assessing the work of their pastors. Being an orthodox Lutheran, he was critical of Unonius, the Swedish Episcopalian rector of the church at Pine Lake, Wisconsin, to whose work and doctrines he devoted several pages of rather acute polemical discussion.

The economic situation of immigrants, frontier agriculture, frontier social life, and American customs generally receive special attention. So does the government of Wisconsin, the condition and significance of the Mississippi Valley, and the relations of America with Europe. There are two long chapters on pan-Scandinavianism, suggested evidently by contemporary developments in Schleswig-Holstein.

The book contains some errors such as any European observer in America would be apt to make, but on the whole its blemishes are remarkably few, considering the rapid, informal way in which the letters were written. We covet more such sources.

JOSEPH SCHAFER

*A Raft Pilot's Log: A History of the Great Rafting Industry on the Upper Mississippi, 1840-1915.* By WALTER A. BLAIR, master and pilot of the "Ten Broeck." (Cleveland, The Arthur H. Clark Company, 1930. 328 p. Illustrations. \$6.00.)

One who has searched for printed materials on rafting and has found but little will welcome this book, which treats a neglected aspect of the lumbering industry. It both supplements and balances another new book on the same subject, Charles Edward Russell's *A-Rafting on the Mississippi* (1928). Russell's book is a far more literary and finished piece of work, but Captain Blair's has the authenticity that can only come from having spent a lifetime with the subject. The literary man, approaching his material as one seeking drama and human interest, writes his

story of rafting with that emphasis and produces a thrilling narrative; the old rafter, looking on rafting not as a pageant but as a vocation, writes a very different but singularly impressive book.

Captain Blair was for years a raft pilot on the upper Mississippi, beginning in 1882 as pilot and handling rafts until the decline of lumbering took him into the piloting of steamboats without the accompanying logs. Russell writes of him: "Captain Walter A. Blair, who commanded many famous vessels, owned one of great beauty and renown, and was accounted the smartest captain and one of the ablest pilots of the age, admired and applauded — behold him at seventy-four or more taking a job as pilot on a new towboat only for the same pleasure," that is, "just to have the wheel once more in his hands."

Though Blair's book has the defects of its merits — it is scrappily organized, undocumented, and at times ungrammatical or extremely colloquial in style — these defects are unimportant in comparison with the mass of first-hand information the book contains. It should delight the economic and the social historian — for here are homely details of wages, expenses, profits; of the kind of food the crew ate; of the average speed of a log raft; of the use of the "torch basket" for lighting a landing, and of the propensity of cooks to appropriate its fuel for their stoves. Chapters on the history of different steamboats, on sawmills and their owners, biographies of raft pilots and steamboat company heads, a "Complete list of raft pilots, 1840-1913," and other detailed lists of mates, engineers, and rapids pilots, no doubt contain information of value to the special student of the subject. More interesting to the general reader are the humorous and dramatic anecdotes interspersed throughout the book, of smallpox scares and liquor riots, of the whims and vagaries of passengers and pilots, of steamboat races on the river, of the "break-up" of a log raft and the subsequent retrieving of the lost logs. The reader cannot fail, either, to enjoy the flavor of the rafting vocabulary — cribs and strings and brails and pieces, "snubbin' works," butting-blocks, monkey-lines, and the like. Picturesque place names there are, too — such as Betsey Slough, Raft Channel, Crooked Slough, and Bad Axe Bend. The author has a



sense of humor, and writes entertainingly. Speaking of the Scotch-Canadians working in Beef Slough he says, "You could not throw a boom plug at any crew and not hit a Macdonald or a Mackenzie, and probably get one back from a Duncan" (p. 51). Most of the illustrations are from the author's collection of original photographs of steamboats and river scenes. Two pictures, showing steamboats with huge log rafts, are especially noteworthy (p. 173, 281). The index is adequate.

Minnesota readers will be interested in the discussion of the St. Croix Valley and Lake Pepin region, and in the biographies of several Minnesota pilots and business men. The author was an employee and later partner of Governor Samuel R. Van Sant, and several interesting anecdotes are told of him. One little-known fact will perhaps bear repeating (p. 63):

The old penitentiary of Minnesota was located at Stillwater. While the crew was fitting up the raft, I had some business ashore, and leisure enough to visit the state prison, in order to get a peek at Cole Younger . . . in for a long term for aiding Jesse James in robbing the bank in Northfield, Minnesota. . . . Cole Younger was a well built, handsome man. After serving many long years, with excellent behavior, my old employer, Captain Sam Van Sant, having become governor of the state, pardoned or paroled him and took a real interest in him. He had paid the penalty and had become a changed man.

ELIZABETH H. BUCK

*Where Goes the River.* By ALBERT S. TOUSLEY. (Iowa City, Iowa, The Tepee Press, 1928. 296 p. Illustrations. \$5.00.)

*Where Goes the River* is a chronicle of a twenty-five-hundred-mile canoe trip down the Mississippi River from Lake Itasca to the Gulf of Mexico, in which are portrayed by "word and picture" the beauties, the history, the legends, and the people of the country bordering on the Father of Waters. Much has been written in description of the Mississippi River. In exuberant rhetoric the beauties of its meandering miles, its sylvan lakes, its leaping waterfalls, its beetling cliffs, and lofty bluffs have been oftentimes described. The splendors of its verdant prairies, interspersed here and there with clusters of small trees and shrubberies of almost

every variety and hue; its rolling valleys of greensward, covered in many places with an abundant growth of birch, elm, oak, and polar; and the great virgin pine forests of the North have been particularized in equally glowing terms. The history of its discovery, the quest for its source, the early activities of the fur-trader along its course, the Indian feuds upon its banks, and finally the annals of organized settlement bordering upon it have been recounted in vivid detail. At times it is nigh impossible to distinguish accurately between its history and legendary lore. Much that is told of it probably originated in the excited minds of the uninformed, and thus many of the romantic, weird, and, yes, bloody stories connected with this magnetic waterway have no greater value as history than the "clash of the country-side." Yet the story of this mighty River of the World never loses its enchantment.

On Decoration Day, May 30, 1925, Mr. Albert S. Tousley — a young journalist — in a canoe called the "Charles H. Curley of St. Paul," pushed off from the dock at Douglas Lodge, Lake Itasca, to learn "Where Goes the River." Upon that day there commenced the fulfillment of a vow made many years before: "Some day . . . I'm going to find out where that river goes, and I'm going with it — clean to the Gulf!" For nearly four months he and his companions paddled as *voyageurs* of old down the waters of this winding stream, over its almost inextricable lakes, shot its rapids, crossed log booms, portaged around its dams and other obstructions made by man, fought its mosquitoes and ants, and finally reached the Gulf of Mexico, having "learned at last from the mighty Mississippi, from the unconquerable and incomparable Father of Waters, 'Where Goes the River.'"

Mr. Tousley has succeeded in the telling of an interesting story. Travel, history, legend, fancies, and present-day economics have been combined with considerable acumen. Descriptions of scenery, of towns and of quaint people along the river are fascinating and, for the most part, are not overdrawn. Now and then perhaps some reader might feel that the author at times is a bit too realistic or eulogistic, but in general he is free from any such indictments. The history recounted in the volume is remarkable.

Few inaccuracies have crept in, and those which have are so trifling that they need not even be noted here. The author writes graphically, and at times with a real measure of distinction.

*Where Goes the River* is a genuine contribution to the literature of the Mississippi Valley, and for those who seek dramatized narrative and easy amusement it will make a great appeal.

JOHN PERRY PRITCHETT

*Old Traverse des Sioux.* By THOMAS HUGHES, assisted by  
BRIGADIER GENERAL W. C. BROWN, U. S. A. RETIRED.  
(St. Peter, Minnesota, Herald Publishing Company, 1929.  
177 p. Illustrations, maps. \$2.50.)

One of Minnesota's "vanished" towns is Traverse des Sioux. Seventy-five years ago it appeared on practically every map; today one walks over its site and finds almost no trace of former habitation. But memories of its importance in the fur-trading days and the picturesqueness of its history have remained in the minds of two men who knew it in its heyday. From their own recollections and those of other former residents, supplemented largely by printed and manuscript sources, they have produced what the preface calls a "scrapbook." It is a collection of historical and biographical sketches showing the village as it was in the forties and fifties, though some material relates to an earlier period and a little to the later years.

The authors have not been content to use only secondary works in gathering their data. Some hitherto unpublished documents are used to great advantage. Thus the manuscript diaries and maps of the explorer, Joseph N. Nicollet, are utilized, though the name Jean N. Nicollet is used by the authors. Another document that appears here for the first time is an extract, filling eighteen printed pages, from the diary of Frank B. Mayer, an artist who was present at the making of the famous treaty of 1851. This concourse of Indian traders, half-breeds, government officials, missionaries, and sight-seers was easily the outstanding event in the history of the village. Consequently its story forms the kernel of the book. Mayer's diary notes of this gathering are of themselves sufficient to give the volume distinction, rich as they are in

literary flavor and full of the details of color, form, and motion that only an artist would have noticed. But even better are the reproductions of crayon sketches that Mayer made of the persons and things that attracted his attention. That he was a portrait painter of no mean ability can be seen from such a sketch as that of George Provençalle. Whether or not Mayer added a Gallic touch intentionally does not appear, but the head of this half-breed trader of Traverse des Sioux that appears on page 74 would have drawn no comment except of admiration for its beauty in the court of Louis XIV. At least ten of the illustrations are from Mayer's collection, and possibly others, for the authors have not indicated the sources of a great many of the pictures.

Some interesting facts come to light in the reminiscences. In but one other account has the reviewer found a description of the peculiar manner of house-building that was in vogue in the Northwest during the fur-trade period. On page III Demos Young tells how he helped take down Provençalle's store. He says, "Instead of laying the logs crosswise, one on top of the other at the corners, corner posts had been set up on end with a stone for foundation, and the logs put one on top of the other and held in place by the ends being fitted into the groove made between the upright posts."

It may be well to point out that a few errors occur. On page 78 the text below the picture of Mayer states that it is a self portrait, though on the picture itself is the statement, "A. White, fecit." On the opposite page the reader is given to understand that the Mayer sketches and diary were unknown until General Brown "discovered" them in the Newberry Library in 1926. Yet in the issue of MINNESOTA HISTORY for June, 1925, the collection is described in some detail (see *ante*, 6: 201). Moreover an erroneous idea of the extent of the diary is likely to be given by the statement on the same page that "copies . . . of the notes complete secured by him [*General Brown*] appear in this volume." The diary is quite extensive, covering not only the events at Traverse des Sioux, but also Mayer's journey from the East.

One of the many valuable contributions of the volume is the

plat of the village, which gives not only the names of streets but the locations of many houses, of the site of the treaty, of the trading posts, and of certain trails and roads.

GRACE LEE NUTE

*Genealogies of the Lomen [Ringstad], Brandt and Joys Families.*

Compiled by G. J. LOMEN. (Northfield, Minnesota, Mohn Printing Company, 1929. 361 p. Illustrations, charts.)

This book, competently prepared by Judge Lomen of Nome, Alaska, and admirably printed by a Minnesota firm, is not the first Norwegian-American genealogy, but it is one of the most extensive thus far published. It serves as a gentle warning to the professional genealogists of the Northwest that the task of disentangling and tracing out family lines is steadily becoming more intricate and complex. The volume is in fact a genealogical commentary on amalgamation. In the index one finds not only such names as Lomen, Brandt, Odegaard, Gronvold, Aschehoug, Lund, Mohn, Preus, Bothne, Volstead, and Ringstad, but also such as Williams, Wood, Waterhouse, Taylor, Sewell, Macaulay, Hazzard, and Gray. One of the principal families mentioned in the volume traces its ancestry to John Joys, a London merchant who established himself in Christiania, Norway, in the eighteenth century.

Among the specially interesting sections of Judge Lomen's compilation are a vivid description of Valdres, the Norwegian valley which is the ancestral home of the Lomens; and an account of the "Coming of the Lomens to America." The latter includes translations of two immigrant letters of 1850 telling about the ocean voyage and about settlement in Wisconsin.

The genealogical information is assembled in three divisions. That dealing with the Lomen family relates to sixteen generations, extending from the fifteenth century to the present, with the principal attention devoted to the American generations, which comprise the last four of the sixteen. The Brandt family was originally Danish. A fifth generation representative emigrated to Norway; and several persons of the eighth generation emigrated from Norway to America, including the noted pioneer preacher, Nils Brandt. Taking together the Lomens, Brandts, and Joys,

one finds an unusually large number of leaders among Norwegian-Americans. Though the families are dispersed from the Atlantic coast to Alaska and from Canada to the gulf, the major portion seem to have found their destiny in the Northwest.

The volume, with its charts and family trees, its documents and illustrations, and its well-arranged and carefully indexed material, is one of much value and high interest.

T. C. B.

## MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

Since the activities of the society during 1929, including the three months ending December 31, are surveyed by the superintendent elsewhere in the present number of the magazine, only a few supplementary items need mention in the present section.

Thirty-eight additions to the active membership of the society were made during the quarter ending December 31. The names of the new members, grouped by counties, follow :

BELTRAMI: Francis J. McPartlin of Bemidji.

BLUE EARTH: Albert B. Morris of Mankato.

BROWN: Louis G. Vogel of New Ulm.

CARLTON: John E. Green of Carlton.

COOK: Newton J. Bray of Hovland.

FREEBORN: Homer B. Chase of Albert Lea.

HENNEPIN: R. J. Mayo of Hopkins; Theodore C. Crocker, Archibald A. Crane, Mary H. Folwell, Einar Hoidale, Cargill MacMillan, Arthur R. Rogers, James B. Schemerhorn, Cecil W. Shirk, and the Reverend Claus A. Wendell, all of Minneapolis.

LYON: James H. Hall of Marshall.

NICOLLET: Laura A. Laumann of St. Peter.

NOBLES: George O. Moore of Worthington.

OTTER TAIL: Carl E. Melbye of Fergus Falls.

RAMSEY: Leila O. Asher, Max H. Herrmann, Alexander E. Horn, Hector M. MacCraw, Mrs. Archibald MacLaren, Alice M. O'Brien, George W. Robinson, Mrs. Arthur H. Savage, Mrs. Henry S. Sommers, and Ellen Wheelock, all of St. Paul.

RICE: Karen Larsen of Northfield.

ST. LOUIS: Reverend Carl J. Silfversten of Duluth.

WATONWAN: Burton P. Grimes of Madelia.

WINONA: Albert E. Webster of Dresbach.

YELLOW MEDICINE: Reverend R. A. Neudecker of St. Leo.

NONRESIDENT: Mrs. Louis C. Bulkley of Shreveport, Louisiana; Winfield H. Lovely of South Foxboro, Massachusetts; and Justin Williams of River Falls, Wisconsin.

The Cook County Historical Society of Grand Marais, the Blue Earth County Historical Society of Mankato, and the Woman's Civic League of Fairfax have recently become institutional members of the society.

The public libraries of South St. Paul and Wayzata and the school libraries of Center City, Ceylon, East Grand Forks, Mountain Iron, Red Wing, Robbinsdale, Storden, and Tyler have recently taken out subscriptions to the society's current publications.

The society lost eight active members by death during the three months ending December 31: Edward E. Heerman of Devils Lake, North Dakota, October 23; William L. West of St. Paul, November 6; Frederick M. Catlin of St. Paul, November 17; Clarence I. McNair of Dansville, New York, November 26; Paul N. Myers of St. Paul, December 3; Dr. Olaf T. Sherping of Fergus Falls, December 7; Eugene H. Gipson of Faribault, December 11; and Mrs. Fremont N. Jaynes of Minneapolis, December 14.

The letter written by Guri Endreson in 1866 telling of her experiences in the Sioux Outbreak, as published in the last number of MINNESOTA HISTORY, is reprinted, with its introduction, in the *Willmar Tribune* for December 18. It is also the subject of an editorial in the issue of the *Minneapolis Tidende* for December 19.

"The Bibliography of American Travel: A Project" is the title of an article by the superintendent which appears in a recent issue of the *Papers* of the Bibliographical Society of America (vol. 22, p. 52-59). It was originally presented at Washington in 1927 before a joint meeting of that society and the conference of historical societies under the auspices of the American Historical Association. In it is traced the progress of an extensive coöperative project that eventually, it is hoped, will lead to the publication of a bibliography of American travel covering the period from 1600 to 1900. Dr. Buck sketches the general plans for the work as it is now being carried on under his direction. At the Decem-



ber, 1929, meeting of the American Historical Association he was reappointed a member of the committee on bibliography, with special charge of the bibliography of travel.

The superintendent attended the meetings of the American Historical Association and allied organizations at Durham and Chapel Hill, North Carolina, late in December. He contributed to the discussion of a paper by Professor Dixon R. Fox on "A Synthetic Principle in American Social History," reported to the conference of archivists on the progress made in a resurvey of the Minnesota archives, and participated in conferences of the directors of state historical work in the Northwest and of the Alvord memorial commission of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association.

Miss Lois M. Fawcett, head of the reference department in the library, attended the annual meeting of the American Library Association in Chicago in December.

The superintendent has been appointed chairman of a joint committee of the American Council of Learned Societies and the Social Science Research Council on the "Enlargement, Improvement, and Preservation of Data."

The assistant superintendent spoke on his researches in Norwegian immigration to a gathering of Minnesota college teachers of history held at Carleton College on November 1; and he addressed the students of Hamline University on present-day conditions in Norway on December 2. The curator of the museum discussed the subject of "Making Minnesota" before the St. Paul Women's Republican Club on October 7 and before the students of the Summit School, St. Paul, on November 8. He also spoke to a class in "community life problems" at the Minneapolis Vocational High School on October 9, taking as his subject "Early Minneapolis," and to the Rice County Historical Society at Faribault on October 21 on "Correlating Rice County Archeology with That of Minnesota." The curator of manuscripts addressed the Nature Study Club of Minneapolis on October 23 on "Pioneer Women of the Northwest."

## ACCESSIONS

Photostatic copies of twenty-eight items — mainly letters from Bishop J. O. Plessis and Catholic missionaries at the Red River settlements in 1818 to Lord Selkirk and transcripts of some of Selkirk's letters that relate to the missionaries and their work — have been obtained from the Canadian Archives at Ottawa.

About ninety pages of the *American Missionary* from 1846 to 1859, containing letters from missionaries of the so-called Oberlin band among the Chippewa of northern Minnesota, have been photostated for the society from the file in the library of the Chicago Theological Seminary.

An intimate picture of the life of the missionaries' families at Lac qui Parle, Traverse des Sioux, and other places in the Indian country of western Minnesota in pioneer days is presented in the reminiscences of Mrs. Mary Huggins Kerlinger of Berkeley, California, recently loaned to the society for photostating through the courtesy of her daughter, Miss Callie Kerlinger. They fill 275 pages and include interesting material on the Indians and half-breeds, the white and red children who grew up in the mission homes, trips up and down the Minnesota Valley, a visit to the East, the treaty of Traverse des Sioux, and the Sioux Outbreak.

A copy of the "Prairie Rose Bud," a quaint little manuscript magazine edited by Jane S. Huggins and "published on every alternate Monday at Cansu Paha," the Hazelwood mission on the upper Minnesota, is the gift of Mr. A. Doyell Clark of Minneapolis in honor of Mrs. Mary H. Kerlinger. Students of the mission school seem to have been the chief contributors. This copy,—volume 1, number 3,—which is dated March 20, 1854, includes childish essays on such subjects as "Flowers," "Kindness," "Fame," and "Influence."

The Reverend J. W. Prosser of Minneapolis has presented a copy of a deed of transfer dated November 13, 1818, by which one James Pennoyer sold his claim to 11,520 acres of land in the Carver grant to Thomas Prosser for \$11,500. It includes a partial record of the history of the grant and is accompanied by an abstract of title and a map of the grant.

Two letters and some notes about the Minnesota region, written by Isaac S. Metcalf during a visit to St. Paul in 1855, have been loaned to the society for photostating by his son, Mr. T. Nelson Metcalf of Ames, Iowa. They contain some interesting comments on St. Paul, Minnehaha Falls, Minneapolis, St. Anthony, Lake Minnetonka, Excelsior, the lumber industry, and people living in the new territory. Of Governor Gorman, Metcalf writes: "Acknowledged himself that he did not know where Minnesota was when he was appointed its Governor!"

A volume containing the minutes of the meetings of the Mantorville lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars from 1857 to 1860 and the subscription lists from 1861 to 1863 of the *Mantorville Express* are among the papers of John E. Bancroft recently presented by Mr. G. S. Bancroft of Wichita Falls, Texas, from the estate of Miss Nettie Bancroft. The gift includes also a Currier and Ives print of Elmer Ellsworth, the first Union officer killed in the Civil War, and about twenty-three hundred unbound newspapers. Most of the latter are copies of the *Mantorville Express*, of which John E. Bancroft was the publisher, from volumes 1 to 12; but the collection includes also such rare papers as some early numbers of the *Wasioja Gazette* for 1857 and 1859 and two issues of the *State Fair Post* of Rochester for October 2 and 4, 1867.

A clipping from the *New York Illustrated News* of November 10, 1860, of a long article about St. Paul by a special correspondent of the paper has come to the society from Mr. Edwin H. Frost of Yonkers, New York. It is accompanied by a photograph of Minnehaha Falls.

A diary kept in 1862 by Miss Mary LeDuc of Hastings, her notes on "lectures heard in Columbus, Ohio," during the winter of 1866-67, and a little book containing sentiments of friendship from many youthful Ohioans in the manner of the mid-century are the gift of Miss Alice LeDuc of Minneapolis.

Twenty-six letters written by the late Judge Jasper N. Searles during the Civil War, when he served with the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, have been presented by his widow, Mrs.

Searles of Minneapolis. His letters contain some shrewd comments on the conduct of the war and on public opinion relating to political and military conditions. Searles's Civil War diary was acquired by the society some years ago (see *ante*, 4:71).

Two letters from Stephen H. Tobey, a military prisoner on Johnson's Island, near Sandusky, Ohio, during the Civil War, have been received from Mrs. Carrie Prescott Morse of Robbinsdale. They were written in 1864 and 1865 and were addressed to cousins in Galesburg, Illinois. In one is a plea for certain articles of food, of which the prisoner was in great need.

A Civil War diary kept by P. S. Amerman of Company A, Thirteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, from January 1, 1864, to January 15, 1865, has been received from Mr. Ernest J. Cress of St. Paul.

Some papers of the Reverend William C. Pope, a Protestant Episcopal clergyman of St. Paul, a photograph of the Reverend Henry Kittson, a contemporary picture of the confirmation of some Sioux Indians by Bishop Henry B. Whipple at Fort Snelling in 1863, eight dated manuscript sermons preached by the Reverend Ezekiel Gear, an early chaplain at Fort Snelling, and Gear's velvet sermon case are among the items recently presented by Mrs. Edward H. Eckel of Tulsa, Oklahoma. The Pope Papers include three letters from Henry H. Sibley, five from Bishop Whipple, and two from the Reverend Joseph A. Gilfillan.

Mrs. Carrie Stevens of Minneapolis has presented a diary kept by her father, Simeon Harding, from 1863 to 1872 at St. Charles. It is concerned mostly with the small events of daily life, and it includes records of farming activities and financial transactions. Mrs. Stevens has also presented a number of family pictures and a few newspapers.

A small ledger kept by Schuyler Flint from 1861 to 1880 is the gift of Mr. Nelson Flint of North St. Paul. It includes some interesting entries for the period from 1861 to 1869 about Langola school district in Benton County, of which Flint was treasurer.

Two certificates of eligibility for service in the Civil War, a passport, and a ticket to the functions of the St. Paul Dramatic Club in 1880, found among the papers of Dr. Charles E. Smith, are the gift of his daughter, Miss Mary G. Smith of St. Paul.

A photostatic copy of an extract of a dispatch inclosed in a letter of February 22, 1867, from Lieutenant General J. Michel at Montreal to the British secretary of state has been presented by Professor Joe Patterson Smith of Illinois College at Jacksonville, Illinois, who recently found the original in the Canadian Archives at Ottawa. Michel reviews conditions in the lower Red River Valley and then expresses an opinion that "the Union of the Hudson Bay Territory to Canada, or the creation of a Crown Colony at the Red River settlement would be a source of weakness & danger both to Canada & England."

The Reverend Frank W. Street of St. Paul has presented about a hundred World War letters and papers covering the period when he was a private in a camp at Jacksonville, Florida, and when he served as a chaplain overseas with the Seventh United States Infantry and the Army of Occupation.

Mr. Allan Firestone of St. Paul has presented his World War correspondence and papers, consisting mainly of letters to his parents written from camps in Oregon, Oklahoma, and California. Mr. Firestone was a second lieutenant in the field artillery.

Among a collection of papers of Newton H. Winchell recently received from Mrs. U. S. Grant of Evanston, Illinois, is a "Manual of the Physical Features and Geology of Minnesota," which appears to have been prepared for publication, but never was printed. It is accompanied by nine sample maps, two charts, and four maps showing temperature and rainfall in Minnesota.

A sketch of a prominent Minnesota club woman and social worker, Mrs. Isabel Davis Higbee, by Mrs. Cyrus W. Akers, and a letter written by Mrs. Higbee in 1909 have been added to the papers of the Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs that have already been assembled for preservation in the society's manuscript collection.

Copies of two master's theses submitted at the University of Minnesota have been acquired recently by the society. One is a "History of Swift County" by Stanley H. Anonsen, and the other is a study of "The American Fur Company in the Upper Mississippi Valley" by Rollo C. Keithahn. The latter deals only with the Upper Mississippi Outfit, which had its headquarters at Prairie du Chien and operated throughout the vast territory extending from Dubuque to "a point above the Falls of St. Anthony" and from the Wisconsin Valley to the headwaters of streams flowing into the Missouri.

"Notes on Robert and Allied Families from Old French and Spanish Archives," including some information about the family history of Louis Robert, the St. Paul pioneer, is the title of a manuscript which comes to the society from Mrs. Louis C. Bulkley of Shreveport, Louisiana.

A white pique vest and a silk scarf dating from 1846, several lady's caps, and some articles of infant's clothing from Mrs. F. H. Chapman of Minneapolis; dresses, lingerie, and accessories from Miss Mary H. Folwell of Minneapolis; and hats and other articles of clothing from Miss Alice LeDuc and Miss Mable Gardner of Minneapolis have been added to the costume collection.

An interesting collection of the postage and fractional currency notes issued during the Civil War by the Union government is the gift of Mrs. Carrie F. Blackwell of Minneapolis, through the courtesy of Mr. A. R. Rogers of that city.

A pair of snowshoes of the "Fort Garry" type, probably made by Chippewa Indians, is the gift of Mr. and Mrs. J. Douglas Winter of St. Paul.

## NEWS AND COMMENT

"Is it really true that persons above the moron grade who have an interest in the past can be induced to read only those histories and biographies that are replete with thrills?" This question, which occurs in an editorial comment in the *Indiana Magazine of History* for December, is occasioned by a mournful consideration of the "New Biography." The editor declares that it "is the business of the historian to remove prejudice, not to create it." Historical works that do not meet this requirement, he continues, do not deserve to live. He concludes that the "new biography," which gives so large a place to the subjective, probably will not have a long life. In time there will be a call for another kind of writing, "neither as dull and stilted as the 'Old Biography' nor as effervescent and unreliable as the 'New Biography.'" A somewhat similar point of view is set forth in an article entitled "New Modes in Biography" by James Truslow Adams in *Current History* for November.

The advance of differentiation, or specialization, constitutes, according to Professor Dixon R. Fox, a "Synthetic Principle in American Social History." Arguing the case in an article published in the *American Historical Review* for January, he contends that it is an integrating principle, bringing many facts into relation, and this, he declares, is "what the social historian really wants."

"A migrating person is interesting," writes Emory S. Bogardus in *Immigration and Race Attitudes* (New York, 1928. 268 p.). "He is more than flesh and bones, more than clothes, a bundle on his back, and a satchel in his hand—he is a culture medium, and a part of all human life that has preceded him."

A stimulating address on "The Value of Research to Business" by N. S. B. Gras is published in the November *Bulletin* of the Business Historical Society. Business history, he declares, "is going to give to business men an intellectual interest in what

they are doing." He laments the failure of business men to "appreciate the great social and public service of their business."

Antiquated agricultural machines have a place in a museum of agricultural history, but if such a museum is to be distinctive, its scope must be broader than that, according to Mr. Russell H. Anderson, the author of an article entitled "Agriculture in the Museum of Science and Industry Founded by Julius Rosenwald," published in *Agricultural History* for October. "It must cover the industry from the fundamental factors underlying agriculture to the manufactured foods and fibers as they reach the consumer."

The farmers' elevator movement, coöperative buying,—including experiments of the Grangers and the Farmers' Alliance,—and the coöperative handling of dairy products are among the subjects discussed in a volume entitled *Coöperation in Agriculture* by H. Clyde Filley (New York, 1929. 468 p.).

A list of books and articles on the economic history of the United States and Canada appears as a regular feature of the annual *Economic History Review* (London). The latest one, in the issue for January, 1930, includes the titles of materials published in 1928.

An interpretation of the literature of the pioneer West is offered in an article on "O. E. Rölvaag and the Conquest of the Pioneer" by Percy H. Boynton in the *English Journal* for September.

The *American Stage*, by Oral S. Coad and Edwin Mims, Jr., and *Annals of American Sport*, by John A. Krout, published as volumes 14 and 15 of the Yale University Press's *Pageant of America* series (New Haven, 1929), are valuable additions to that extended pictorial history of American life. Chapters in the former on the frontier theater and the western circuit, though they do not deal specifically with the upper Northwest, are of much interest for the period when the pioneer Minnesota communities first came into the orbit of the traveling theatrical companies. Professor Ralph H. Gabriel, the general editor, prefaces the latter



volume with a valuable essay on "Sport in American Life." Chapters of special interest both for their numerous and well-selected illustrations and for their explanatory and interpretative commentary are those on "Sports for the Masses," "The Day of the Athletic Clubs," "Golf and the Country Club," and "The Great Out-of-Doors."

In a brief article entitled "Contribution to the Life History of the Northwestern Lumberjack" by Robert Marshall, published in *Social Forces* for December, the author presents the results of a statistical analysis of the lumberjack's speed in eating, his table manners, the subjects of his conversation, and his use of profane and libidinous language.

A broad historical approach is illustrated in an article on "Federal Aid to Oregon Trail Prior to 1850" by J. T. Morris, in the *Oregon Historical Quarterly* for December. It opens with an account of Jefferson's plans for the West, in which Pike's expedition to the upper Mississippi played a part.

In an article on "Benjamin Gott and the Anglo-American Cloth Trade," published in the *Journal of Economic and Business History* for November, Professor Herbert Heaton of the University of Minnesota traces the career of a Leeds business firm that "supplied the lion's share of the cloths and blankets" bought by the American Fur Company in the thirties. Eventually Gott lost in the competition with the French for the fur company's blanket trade, and in 1839 the firm was "crossed off the list of blanket providers." The article pictures Gott losing his trade generally because he "stuck to the production of the old best" and "refused to have any truck" with the business of cheapening and degrading the old wares.

*Red River Trail* (Philadelphia, 1927. 310 p.) is an unusually interesting story of adventure placed against the geographical and historical setting of Minnesota and the Northwest. The author, Miss Ethel C. Brill, is well versed in the history of the region, which is sketched in with a firm hand. The nature of the local color is suggested by such chapter titles as "The First Steamboat

at Fort St. Anthony," "The Traverse des Sioux," "The Lac qui Parle," "At the Trading Post," "The Red River Carts," "The Camp of the Buffalo Hunters," "The Prairie Fire," and "At Pembina." The same author is responsible for several other novels written for young readers, all of which have their setting in the early Northwest. The *Island of Yellow Sands* (Philadelphia, 1925. 308 p.) deals with the Lake Superior country and gives considerable attention to Grand Portage. The *Secret Cache* (Philadelphia, 1926. 304 p.) and *When Lighthouses Are Dark* (New York, 1921. 192 p.) also deal with the Superior region, the former in the days of the fur trade as carried on by the Northwest Company. *South from Hudson Bay* (Philadelphia, 1929. 319 p.) gives an extraordinarily vivid picture of the Selkirk settlement in its early period.

Some of the possibilities in the study of foreign language literature in the United States are suggested in an article entitled "A Survey of German Literature in Texas" by Selma M. Reunick, published in the *Southwestern Historical Quarterly* for October. There is need of similar studies of German and Scandinavian writings in Minnesota.

Under the striking title "Scandinavian Placenames in the American Danelaw," Mr. Roy W. Swanson presents in the August issue of the *Swedish-American Historical Bulletin* a study of special Minnesota interest. He points out that there are more than four hundred place names of Scandinavian origin in Minnesota. He finds them "thickest in those parts of the state whose first settlers were mostly Scandinavians, and they exhibit themselves in every degree, from the purest, most unmistakable Scandinavianisms down to those anglicized beyond ready recognition." Two brilliant articles are contributed to the *Bulletin* by its editor, Dr. George M. Stephenson. In one he tells the story of "Isidor Kjellberg: Crusader," a Swedish editor and publicist who was in America from 1869 to 1872 and spent part of this time as editor of the *Minnesota Tidning* in St. Paul. Both in Sweden and in this country, Kjellberg was a militant crusader for reform in the interest of the workingman. In America, for example, he struck

out violently against the frauds practiced by runners and emigration agents upon unsuspecting newcomers. In his second article Dr. Stephenson discourses on "Astrology and Theology" as they were illustrated in the careers of two Swedish immigrants, Dr. C. W. Roback and Eric Janson. The story of these two individuals, the one an astrologer of the nineteenth-century variety, the other a "prophet" who established a New Jerusalem in the Middle West, is extraordinarily interesting in the juxtaposition arranged by the author. Other articles in the *Bulletin* are on "The Voyage of the Immigrant and How It Was Changed," by Einar J. Anderson; and on "Ansgarius College," a Swedish Lutheran theological school in Illinois, by C. V. Bowman.

An illuminating study of "The Adjustment of a Pioneer Pastor to American Conditions" by Karen Larsen opens the fourth volume of the Norwegian-American Historical Association's *Studies and Records* (Northfield, Minnesota, 1929. 159 p.). The pastor in question was the Reverend Laurentius Larsen, who began his American career in 1857 by becoming a pioneer preacher at Rush River, Wisconsin. Four years later he became president of Luther College, a position that he held until 1902. The volume also includes studies of "Immigration and Social Amelioration," by Joseph Schafer; and "The Mind of the Scandinavian Immigrant," by George M. Stephenson. "Three Civil War Letters from 1862" are translated and edited by Brynjolf J. Hovde; one of them is an eyewitness's account of the battle between the "Monitor" and the "Merrimac." Another immigrant letter, translated and edited by Henrietta Larson, tells of the sinking of the "Atlantic," a Lake Erie steamer, in 1852.

The annual meeting of the Swedish Historical Society of America was held at the Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis, on December 6. Dr. G. A. Lundquist of the University of Minnesota spoke on "Tendencies Among the Swedish Rural Population in Minnesota," and the Reverend J. W. Johnson of Minneapolis gave an address on "The Immigrant Pathfinder."

One chapter of Miss Agnes C. Laut's two-volume work, *The Romance of the Rails* (New York, 1929), is devoted to a sketch

of "James J. Hill and the Great Northern, 1873-1913," and another describes what took place "When Hill and Harriman Collided, 1848-1907."

A stimulating address, in part historical, on the *Significance of the Rocky Mountains to Transcontinental Railways* by Ralph Budd, president of the Great Northern Railway Company, has been published as a pamphlet (1929. 12 p.).

*Coxey's Army: A Study of the Industrial Army Movement of 1894*, by Donald L. McMurtry (Boston, 1929. 331 p.), is a comprehensive review of the "curious crusades of the unemployed" in the nineties. The author finds in Coxeyism "one of the symptoms of the rapidly developing economic revolution in the United States." The movement "showed certain reactions of the American frontier spirit to the growing industrialism which was replacing the old order." One of the industrial armies from the Far West, under Frank (Jumbo) Cantwell, passed through Minneapolis in June, 1894, with three hundred men in its ranks (p. 222).

An interesting article on upper Mississippi River steamboating is that entitled "Steamboats *Dubuque*" by William J. Peterson in the *Palimpsest* for November. Several of the boats bearing the name indicated were familiar sights at the St. Paul landing in the gala days of steamboating.

The sudden decline of steamboating on the Red River in the early eighties, when this form of transportation was replaced by the railroad, is recalled by Henry W. Alsop in an interview, published in the *Bemidji Sentinel* for October 18. Mr. Alsop and his brother were the owners of two Red River boats, the "Pluck" and the "H. W. Alsop." According to this account, the "Pluck" was purchased at Brainerd on the Mississippi, where it was sawed in half to be transported to the Red River by teams.

A succinct account of *Wisconsin Indians during the American Revolution* by Louise P. Kellogg has been issued as a reprint

from volume 24 of the *Transactions* of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts, and Letters (November, 1929).

The "Americanization of a French Settlement"—Green Bay, Wisconsin—is described by Louise P. Kellogg in the *Green Bay Historical Bulletin* for July-August-September. The author points out that after the Americans built Fort Howard in 1816 the French inhabitants of Green Bay considered migrating to the Selkirk settlement on the Red River. A committee sent to investigate conditions there, however, "returned with discouraging reports," and as a result the "Green Bay settlers decided to remain and to take out papers of American citizenship."

A valuable study of the *Settlement and the Distribution of the Population in Wisconsin* by Guy-Harold Smith has been issued in pamphlet form as a reprint from volume 24 of the *Transactions* of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts, and Letters (November, 1929. 55 p.). Professor Smith also is the author of an important racial study entitled "Notes on the Distribution of the German-born in Wisconsin in 1905," in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* for December. The situation at that time is graphically illustrated by a map. In the same magazine is an installment of "The Life of a Lumberman" by John E. Nelligan, which includes a chapter on "Cruising in Minnesota." The author tells of spending the summer of 1883 in the neighborhood of Leech Lake, where he located and estimated some of the best pine timber in the state. An article on "Pioneer Priests at Prairie du Chien" by Dr. P. L. Scanlan, in the same issue of the *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, includes notes on a number of priests who also figure in the story of early Catholicism in Minnesota—Bishop Matthias Loras, Father Augustin Ravoux, Bishop Joseph Cretin, and Father Lucien Galtier.

The relations between Joseph M. Street, Indian agent at Prairie du Chien in the thirties, and the traders, and some of the problems he encountered in dealing with the natives are revealed in an article entitled "Joseph M. Street's Last Fight with the Fur Traders," by Ida M. Street, his granddaughter, in the *Annals of Iowa* for October.

By taking over a room in the local public library for a permanent display of pictures illustrating the history of the community, the Commercial Club of Cedar Falls, Iowa, sets an interesting example of civic enterprise for other similar clubs to follow.

A prize of a hundred dollars is offered by the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society to the person submitting the best article on some subject in Michigan history in a contest closing September 1, 1930. It is specified that the article must be based on original research and be accompanied by proper documentation.

Readers of Professor M. M. Hoffman's "New Light on Old St. Peter's and Early St. Paul," which appeared in MINNESOTA HISTORY for March, 1927, will be interested in a contribution by him entitled "Some Unpublished Lorian Documents," in *Mid-America* for October. In it he throws new light on the career of Bishop Loras of Dubuque, whose visit to the pioneer Minnesota settlements in 1839 formed the subject of the earlier article.

"Iowa of the Early Seventies as Seen by a Swedish Traveler," contributed by Roy W. Swanson to the October number of the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics*, consists of a translation, with introduction and footnotes, of the Iowa portion of Hugo Nisbeth's *Two Years in America*, published originally at Stockholm in 1874. The Minnesota material from the same book was brought out, in Mr. Swanson's translation, in MINNESOTA HISTORY for December, 1927.

An account of the Old Mission Mill on the Turkey River near St. Lucas, Iowa, appears in the *Evening Tribune* of Albert Lea for December 16. The mill is supposed to have been used in frontier times by many settlers from across the border in Minnesota, who took their grain there to be ground into flour.

"Custer's Black Hills Expedition of 1874" and "The Discovery of Gold in the Black Hills" are the titles of two articles by Cleophas C. O'Harra in the *Black Hills Engineer*, a publication of the South Dakota State School of Mines, for November. Of special interest are the illustrations, which include views of the

expedition on the march and of Custer's wagon train passing over the Dakota prairies and hills.

An illustrated account of the "Nebraska Historical Train," an exhibit on wheels that traveled 4,858 miles in Nebraska from June to November, 1928, and was viewed by more than 180,000 people, is presented in the October-December, 1928, number of the *Nebraska History Magazine*, printed in September, 1929.

An account of an immigrant journey from England to Winnipeg in 1876 that took the writer across Minnesota from Duluth to Fisher's Landing on the Red River opens an article entitled "Fifty Years on the Saskatchewan," by Robert Jefferson, in the *Publications* of the Canadian North-West Historical Society for 1929.

"The story of the Canadian frontier is closely interwoven with that of the westward movement in the United States," in fact, the "'interlacing' of these frontiers is a factor in North American history which has scarcely yet been realized," writes Walter N. Sage in a discussion of "Some Aspects of the Frontier in Canadian History," published in the 1928 *Report* of the Canadian Historical Association.

A scholarly account entitled "The Re-Discovery of David Thompson" by J. B. Tyrrell and a study of "A Pretty Quarrel Over Rum in Old Michillimackinac" by William Renwick Riddell are among the papers published in volume 22, section 2, of the *Transactions* of the Royal Society of Canada for 1928. Judge Riddell's article centers about Robert Rogers, the commandant at Fort Mackinac, who was responsible for the appearance of Jonathan Carver in the upper Northwest in 1766. The complications in which Major Rogers became involved, as sketched by Judge Riddell, help one to understand why the search for the Northwest Passage by the Tute expedition was abandoned in 1767.

#### GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

Some information about Jean, or John, Hay, a fur-trader of the Northwest who passed through the Minnesota country in 1794,

is included in a sketch of his father entitled "Detroit Biographies: Jehu Hay," by Milo M. Quaife, published as the *Burton Historical Collection Leaflet* for September.

The services of Dr. Folwell to the university and the state are featured in the *Minnesota Alumni Weekly* for September 28. The issue includes a tribute by President Coffman; a reminiscent sketch by A. M. Welles, Dr. Folwell's "first secretary"; and a brief general survey of his activities. Some excellent likenesses of Dr. Folwell are included among the illustrations.

*The Frontier Doctor*, by Henry F. Hoyt (Boston and New York, 1929. 260 p.), is an autobiography filled with picturesque and adventurous incident. The author was born on "a typical Minnesota farm" near St. Paul in 1854. His father, Lorenzo Hoyt, was a pioneer who settled in Minnesota in 1848. The younger Hoyt had a varied career. He aided in a survey of the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad's line between Glyndon and St. Vincent in 1872 and the next year was a member of the astronomical party that surveyed the Canadian boundary line. In 1874 he began the study of medicine and surgery in the office of Dr. J. H. Murphy of St. Paul and the following year was an interne in a St. Paul hospital. After studying at the Rush Medical School in Chicago he went out to Deadwood, Dakota Territory, to practice medicine. Later he appeared in Texas, where he was successively a doctor, a vigilante, and a cowboy. In 1882, after having in the meantime lived in New Mexico, he returned to St. Paul, where for nine years he was head of the municipal department of health, and where he held numerous other positions. When the war with Spain came, he was made major and chief surgeon of volunteers. His book tells interestingly about all these steps in his career. Naturally, the adventures in the West receive considerably more attention than the more prosaic events in his home state, but the latter are recorded, if briefly. The book is therefore of value for its Minnesota interest as well as for the light it throws upon the farther West.

Father Lucien Galtier, who built the Chapel of St. Paul, is buried in the yard of St. Gabriel's Church at Prairie du Chien,



according to an article in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for December 15. Pictures of the grave and the church, which he served as pastor from 1847 to his death in 1866, appear with the article.

A spirited contemporary narrative of a visit to St. Paul and St. Anthony in 1854 by J. M. Smith is published in the *Green Bay Historical Bulletin* for April-May-June, 1929. It is in the form of a letter written at Green Bay, Wisconsin, on August 1, 1854. Smith reported that citizens of St. Paul thought of their city as the "Eldorado of all things," but he describes its glories in ironical terms: "Not only the place to get rich, but the place to live always; the place where cold and heat do not affect you. with the thermometer 110 in the shade in the summer (it was that when I was there) and 45 degrees below zero in winter. (Only think of that and weep!)" Smith declared that he had never seen men "so perfectly wild in their views of property as the holders of real estate are in St. Paul." Business lots fifty by one hundred feet cost from two to five thousand dollars; land a mile from the business center was valued at a thousand dollars an acre, and farms three to five miles away sold at from one to two hundred dollars an acre. The writer predicted that the boom would lead to a "general smash among the real estate owners — not only in St. Paul, but in Minnesota generally."

Plans for the "establishment of a museum for agricultural history and records on the campus of the department of agriculture of the University of Minnesota" were announced recently by Mr. Frank E. Balmer, state leader of county agents. A committee appointed to consider the matter held a meeting at the University Farm on December 13 and decided "that an agricultural history exhibit be made a feature of the forthcoming Farmers' and Homemakers' Week," from January 20 to 25, 1930.

The third volume of the *Dictionary of American Biography*, edited by Allen Johnson for the American Council of Learned Societies (New York, 1929) runs from "Brearily" to "Chandler." Of special interest for Minnesota readers are biographies of James Lloyd Breck, the missionary, by E. J. M. Nutter; of Jacob V. Brower, the archeologist, by Walter Hough; of Étienne

Brulé, the early Great Lakes explorer, by Louise P. Kellogg; of Horace Bumstead, who was for three years a Congregational minister in Minneapolis in the seventies, by E. H. Johnson; of Marion Le Roy Burton, president of the University of Minnesota from 1917 to 1920, by Charles F. Thwing; of Jonathan Carver, the noted traveler and explorer, by Louise P. Kellogg; of Lewis Cass, the exploring governor of Michigan Territory, by L. M. Sears; of George Catlin, the artist of Indian life, by R. P. Tolman; and of J. J. Chambers, a journalist who in 1872 explored the headwaters of the Mississippi, by Muriel Shaver.

An informing study of "Irish Immigration to Minnesota, 1865-1890," by Howard E. Egan, is published in two installments in *Mid-America* for October and January. In its preparation the author made extensive use of manuscript materials, newspapers, and other sources. Similar studies are much needed for various other population elements that have contributed to the building up of Minnesota.

A genealogical work of much interest for Minnesota is *The Lavocat Family in America from 1845 to 1929* by Matilda V. Baillif (1929. 153 p.). The family has its setting in ante-territorial pioneering, for the founders were Joseph Lavocat and Anne Jeanne Claude, both of Bournois in southern France, who came to America in 1845 and made their way to St. Croix in Minnesota. The story of this family is connected with that of the Baillifs, Lavalees, Cornieas, and St. Martins, the genealogical records of which are detailed in this well-planned and informing volume. At the end is a useful roster-index.

An article entitled "The Indian Ohiyesa" by Stanley E. Johnson, published in the *Dartmouth Alumni Magazine* for June, 1929, deals with Dr. Charles Eastman, the distinguished Sioux author, who was graduated from Dartmouth in 1887. It is accompanied by a reproduction of a full length oil portrait of Dr. Eastman in Indian costume.

In an autobiography entitled *My Life East and West* (Boston, 1929), William S. Hart tells of childhood experiences in southern

Minnesota, where his father operated mills in such places as Oronoco and Zumbro Falls.

Accounts of Minnesota communities published recently in the Sunday issues of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* under the heading "Industrial Minnesota" include: Le Sueur, September 22; St. James, September 29; Breckenridge, October 13; St. Peter, October 20; Windom, October 27; Worthington, November 3; and Hutchinson, November 17. Historical sketches are included in many of the accounts.

#### LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

Pike's dramatic gesture at the Leech Lake post of the Northwest Company in February, 1806, when he replaced the British flag that floated above the fort with the American emblem, was reenacted in one episode of the historical pageant, "Builders of Aitkin County," presented at Aitkin on October 17, 18, and 19. The pageant was staged in connection with a celebration that marked the completion of a new court house and its dedication on October 18. Much of the newspaper publicity calling attention to the dedication related to the history of the region. For example, the issues of the *Aitkin Independent Age* for October 10 and 11 include a history of the county compiled by Mrs. A. F. Getting, the story of education in the county, and an account of the coming of the railroad and the beginnings of the city of Aitkin.

"Erected in memory of the men, women and children who perished in the conflagration of October 12, 1918," reads the inscription on the state monument unveiled at Moose Lake on October 12.

The history of the Keating Hotel, built at Graceville in 1879, is reviewed by H. J. Bilsborrow in the *Graceville Enterprise* for December 26.

A bronze tablet commemorating the first hotel at Blue Earth and its founders, Mr. and Mrs. Henry P. Constans, was placed on the front of the present Constans Hotel and dedicated on October 16 by the local chapter of the Daughters of the American

Revolution. The tablet bears a picture of the first Constans House, built in 1856, and a long inscription relating to the services of Mr. and Mrs. Constans. An account of the dedication appears in the *Blue Earth County Post* for October 22.

County Auditor Oscar W. Samuelson is the author of a series of articles "Concerning Carlton County," the first of which appears in the *Cloquet Pine Knot* for October 18. They tell the story of this locality as revealed in the county records.

Members of the congregation of the Paine Memorial Presbyterian Church of Carlton celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its founding on November 22, 23, and 24. On the opening day the Reverend William J. Bell of Mountain Iron gave the principal address, choosing as his subject the beginnings of Presbyterian work in Minnesota. The program presented on November 22 included the presentation of a history of the local church by Mr. John E. Green, and of histories of the Sunday school and various church societies by Miss Anna Gillespie, Mrs. John F. Hynes, and Miss Frances Waugh. These accounts are published in the *Carlton County Vidette* for November 28. The same issue contains a sketch and a portrait of the Reverend James A. Laurie, who founded the church, and some reminiscences of his son, Dr. James A. Laurie.

At a meeting of the Walker Commercial Club on November 27 Mr. Thomas Hammond and Mr. Robert F. Ross pointed out the fact that there are many sites of historic interest in the vicinity of Leech Lake that could be appropriately marked. Members of the club took up the suggestion with interest and decided that "ways and means be devised for the appropriate marking of all historical points near Walker."

At the annual meeting of the Cottonwood County Historical Society at Windom on October 7, secretaries for the various townships were given printed questionnaires, which they will distribute for the purpose of "securing historical data which will eventually be used in a new history of Cottonwood county."

A "School Dedication Section" published with the *Dakota County Tribune* of Farmington for December 13 contains some interesting material on the history of the local school system. One article traces the development of education in this community from 1857, when Miss Mary A. Wellman taught a group of pioneer children in a private home, to 1862, when the first school-house was built, and through various stages of progress to the present. The names of nearly five hundred students who have been graduated from the Farmington school since 1884 are printed; and a sketch of Dr. Charles P. Berkey of the class of 1887, now a professor of geology at Columbia University, is included.

An article about the Chatfield Academy, published in the *Chatfield News-Democrat* for November 28, gives an interesting account of the school's curriculum, purposes, and history from 1855, when it was established by an act of the territorial legislature, to 1859. The material is drawn from a copy of the school's catalogue for 1859, now in the Chatfield Public Library. In the *News-Democrat* for November 14 and 21 is an article based on another early Chatfield publication—a pamphlet by J. W. Bishop, editor of the *Chatfield Republican*, printed on the press of that paper in 1858. The author presents a glowing picture of conditions in Chatfield at that time and reviews the previous history of the town.

A pioneer of Chatfield, Mr. F. G. Tesca, tells of his family's immigration from Bohemia in 1855 and of the westward journey by rail, boat, and ox-drawn wagon to Minnesota in an interview published in the *Rochester Post-Bulletin* for December 13.

A brief history of the First Baptist Church of Clark's Grove appears with an announcement of the celebration of its sixty-sixth anniversary on October 11, in the *Evening Tribune* of Albert Lea for October 9.

The monthly meeting of the Goodhue County Historical Society, held at Red Wing on November 4, was devoted to a discussion of the county's part in the Civil War. The subject was outlined in

general by Clarence Taylor, and extracts from a Civil War diary kept by John Nelson of the Sixth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry were read by his son, Mr. Walter Nelson of Burnside. At another meeting on December 2, Dr. W. M. Smith gave an informal talk entitled "Indian Mounds and Trails, With Personal Reminiscences of Dr. W. M. Sweney," and Mr. C. A. Rasmussen read a paper dealing with the stone cairns in the Cannon River Valley. According to an announcement in the *Red Wing Republican* for December 3, a meeting room for the historical society and the Goodhue County Horticultural Society will be included in the plans for the new court house to be erected at Red Wing.

The memoirs of T. R. Stewart, which have been appearing in installments in the *Caledonia Journal* since May 1 (see *ante*, 10: 358), are completed in the issue for October 2. Early days in Caledonia are sketched by W. D. Beldon in an article published in the same paper for October 9 and 16.

Articles about localities in Itasca County published recently in the *Grand Rapids Herald Review* include the story of Goodland Township, which was named by lumbermen who were favorably impressed by the magnificent stand of white pine that the soil produced, October 2; a description of the northern townships of the county, October 9; a sketch of the first settlement in the Trout Lake district, now the site of one of the largest iron ore concentrating plants in the world, October 23; an account of the development of the Sugar Lake region, October 30; and a history of the locality known as Suomi, November 13.

The series of articles on the history of Kanabec County by Arthur G. Peterson (see *ante*, 10: 463), which has been appearing in the *Kanabec County Times* of Mora, is completed in four installments published in the issues for October 31 and November 7, 14, and 21. The articles, which cover the story of the county from 1860 to 1925, deal for the most part with population and agriculture.

Members of the congregation of the Trinity Lutheran Church of Dawson celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its organi-

zation with appropriate services on November 10, 11, and 12. An historical program presented on November 11 included the reading of papers on the history of the church by Mr. Broder Grande and on the ladies' aid society by Mrs. N. N. Fjoseide. Both sketches are published in the *Dawson Sentinel* for November 21.

A paper on the history of Two Harbors, read by Mrs. R. B. Elliott at the joint meeting of the historical societies of St. Louis, Cook, and Lake Counties on August 22 (see *ante*, 10: 465), is printed in the *Lake County Chronicle* of Two Harbors for October 10.

The history of the Marble Lutheran Church in Marble Township, Lincoln County, is briefly outlined by the Reverend C. Haugen, its present pastor, in the *Canby News* for November 1. The church celebrated its fiftieth anniversary on October 27.

A brief history of the Opdal Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran congregation at Florence, Lyon County, which recently celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its founding, is published in the *News-Messenger* of Marshall for October 25.

Among the articles in a series dealing with local history recently published in the *Hutchinson Leader* are sketches of Olaf Larson, a Lynn Township pioneer, October 4; Harrison Fuller, who settled in Collinwood Township in 1864 after leaving the Confederate army, October 11; the Reverend Alvah A. Kennedy, November 15; Dr. John Benjamin, a surgeon who went to Hutchinson in 1857, December 6; and T. T. Sargent, a pioneer steamboat captain, December 20. Some Sioux War reminiscences of Mr. Benjamin G. Lee of Minneapolis, who lived in Hutchinson as a boy, appear in the *Leader* for November 1; and an account of the hardships suffered by Hutchinson pioneers during the winter of 1857, based on the manuscript diary of Lewis Harrington, is published in the issue of December 6. Articles about the founding of Hutchinson on November 19, 1855, pioneer life there, and the singing Hutchinsons, in the *Leader* for November 22, commemorate the anniversary of the town's beginning.

An interesting analysis of agricultural statistics of McLeod County for 1899, by Win V. Working, is published in the *Hutchinson Press* for December 24.

The Brotherhood of the Glencoe Congregational Church held an old settlers' meeting on October 22 at which Mr. Orlando Simons presented some reminiscences of early days in Glencoe and Mr. L. W. Gilbert reviewed the history of the church.

Members of the Meeker County Old Settlers' Association, at their annual meeting held at Litchfield on October 1, adopted a resolution which provides for the erection of "permanent markers on or near the spots where some of our early settlers were killed by Indians" during the Sioux War of 1862 and extends to the people of the county an invitation "to participate in the erection of these monuments by donating to a special fund designated for this worthy object."

Two early Meeker County mills—one located at Collinwood and the other, known as the Carwell Mill, near Kingston—are described in the *Cokato Enterprise* for October 17. The mill stones used in these mills have recently been acquired by Mr. C. R. Peterson of Cokato.

The progress of the motion picture industry in Austin from the days of the first itinerant exhibitors in the early years of the present century to the present is traced by Don V. Daigneau in an article published in the *Austin Daily Herald* for September 13.

The history of Gustavus Adolphus College at St. Peter, which was founded at Red Wing as St. Ansgar's Academy in 1862, is outlined in the *St. Peter Herald* for October 30. The school was removed to St. Peter in 1876.

An audience that taxed the capacity of the court room of the local court house attended the meeting of the Otter Tail County Historical Society at Fergus Falls on October 18. The program included papers and addresses on the early history of Dunn Township, by John H. Page; the history of Carlisle Township, by Mrs. C. Evjen; the history of Eagle Lake, by Miss Hulda Evander;



early experiences in Fergus Falls, by E. T. Barnard; and pioneer days in the Vining district, by the Honorable Charles Lund. Abstracts of the papers and talks appear in the *Fergus Falls Tribune* for October 24 and Miss Evander's sketch is published in full in the *Grant County Herald* of Elbow Lake for October 31.

Mrs. A. C. Melland is the author of an article describing early days in Pelican Rapids, published in the *Frazee Press* for December 12.

Some of the economic problems faced by creamery owners and operators in Minnesota thirty years ago are recalled in an article in the *Thief River Falls Times* of October 24. It tells how the men interested in a creamery established at Thief River Falls in 1902 found it necessary to introduce the use of the separator on farms in the vicinity before they could get a supply of cream sufficient to keep their plant running.

A brief sketch of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Crookston, which celebrated its fiftieth anniversary from November 1 to 3, appears in the *Polk County Leader* of Crookston for October 31.

The history of St. Mary's Catholic parish, which had its beginning at Bird Island fifty years ago, is reviewed in the *Bird Island Union* for December 5.

Professor C. A. Duniway of Northfield was reëlected president of the Rice County Historical Society at its annual meeting, held at Faribault on October 21. Other officers elected are Mr. Carl L. Weicht of Northfield, vice president; Mr. Frank Kaisersatt of Faribault, secretary, and Mr. A. R. Leach of Faribault, treasurer. The program included a talk on "Indian Finds in Rice County" by A. B. Morris of Faribault, illustrated with items from the speaker's personal collection of Indian relics, and an address on local archeology by Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of the state society's museum.

General Adelbert Ames's part in defeating the James-Younger band of robbers at Northfield in 1876 is described in a four-page

leaflet issued as a reprint from the *Northfield News* of August 2. Some attention also is given to the general's business interests in Northfield and to his Civil War services.

Meetings held at Floodwood on October 24 and at Duluth on November 4 brought the total number of meetings of the St. Louis County Historical Society for 1929 to five. The program presented at Floodwood, with about five hundred auditors, included papers on agriculture in the vicinity of that place, by S. F. Hutchinson; on "The Ancient Route via Floodwood Between the Head of the Lakes, Sandy Lake and the Mississippi," by William E. Culkin; on "Indian Relics, Mounds and Reminiscences of Floodwood," by J. W. New; and on the "History of Lumbering at Floodwood," by Garfield Blackwood. A large audience also was present at the Duluth session to listen to papers on the "Peat Deposits in St. Louis County," by H. W. Richardson; on the "Red Cross in Action in St. Louis County," by Mrs. Gertrude Y. McGiffert; and on the "Work of the Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion," by Mrs. Alvin C. Schaefer; and to an address by Mr. Culkin on "Some of the Ancient Maps of Northeastern Minnesota."

The history of the Catholic church in Duluth and the story of the founding of the Duluth parish and the building of the first church there are outlined in the *Catholic Bulletin* of St. Paul for December 14.

The town of Belle Plaine in the late seventies, when a few flickering kerosene lights illuminated the streets and candles were used to a considerable extent in the houses, is described by Win V. Working in one of a series of local history articles in the *Belle Plaine Herald* for November 28. In the issue for December 19 the same writer tells of some early Christmas celebrations. Articles about the Stur, Huss, and Haas families, all prominent in the pioneer history of Scott County, appear in the *Herald* for November 14 and December 5 and 12.

The settlement that grew up around a trading post of Pierre Bottineau's and the agricultural community of Orono, which

eventually combined to make up the single village of Elk River, figure prominently in a history of that village published in the *Sherburne County Star News* for November 28. This issue, which is a fiftieth anniversary edition of the paper, includes also a concise review of the early history of the county; an account of the founding in 1915 and the progress of the county fair; a history of Orrock, a Sherburne County farming center; and some recollections of J. W. Featherstone, an early employee of the *Star News*.

The gay "Fire Laddies" of the eighties wore red shirts, according to an article in the *Arlington Enterprise* for November 28, which reviews the story of the Arlington fire department during the past fifty years as revealed by the minutes of the company's meetings.

About a hundred people attended a meeting at Benson on November 26 which resulted in the organization of the Swift County Historical Society. Senator Victor E. Lawson of Willmar and Mr. S. H. Anonsen of Kerkhoven were the principal speakers. The following officers were elected: Dr. C. L. Scofield of Benson, president; Mr. Knute Knutson of Camp Lake, vice president; Mr. Anonsen, secretary; and Mr. P. W. Bresnahan of De Graff, treasurer. Considerable newspaper publicity, emphasizing the importance of collecting and preserving historical material, preceded the meeting, and one paper — the *Kerkhoven Banner* for November 22 — urged the people of the county to "Preserve the early history of Swift county before the march of time has wiped it out."

The Civil War services of eighty-one veterans who lived at or near Janesville have been commemorated by the erection of a marker bearing their names and an inscription in their honor. The tablet, which was set up by the M. L. Devereaux Woman's Relief Corps No. 97 of Janesville, was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies on November 10 by Mr. A. C. Beccue, the only surviving Civil War veteran of the community.

That the day in November, 1879, when the first train was run into Rothsay was a momentous one for the little town is shown

in an article entitled "Early Times in Rothsay" by H. L. Shirley, in the *Gazette-Telegram* of Breckenridge for December 11.

Miss Gratia Countryman, Miss Josephine Cloud, Mrs. Walter Marcle, and Mr. Kristen Heiberg, all members of the staff of the Minneapolis Public Library when its present building was opened in 1889, spoke at a dinner celebrating the fortieth anniversary of that event on December 16. During the week that followed a collection of pictures showing life and conditions in Minneapolis during by-gone days was on exhibit at the library. The history of the library is outlined in the *Minneapolis Journal* for December 15.

At the homecoming services held in the Plymouth Congregational Church of St. Paul on December 15, Dr. Warren Upham reviewed the early history of the congregation and Mr. George W. Peterson told of its later years.



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