

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

Westward: The Romance of the American Frontier. By E. DOUGLAS BRANCH. (New York and London, D. Appleton and Company, 1930. xi, 627 p. Illustrations, maps. \$5.00.)

In fact and in logic the history of the frontier in America begins on the Atlantic beach, and continues until the last of the area suitable for the use of the typical single-family farmer passed into private hands. It runs from 1607 until not far from the financial crisis of 1893. It divides into two unequal parts: the former dealing with the first century and a half, during which, on the whole, the matter has to do with a series of European frontiers in the New World; the latter running since the close of the French wars and the issuance of the Proclamation of 1763, during which period the frontiers are chiefly American made, of American extraction.

Although the logic of the matter calls for a complete sweep over American history, much of the usage of historians has tended to begin the story near the opening of the second period. Thus it is presented in Professor Riegel's new *America Moves West* (1930) and thus it was sketched in my own *History of the American Frontier* (1924). But in *Westward*, which is now at hand, Mr. Branch has contracted to cover the whole theme, and in the first pages of his sprightly book he starts "When Massachusetts Was West." He does not, however, follow his contract to its implications. The American character, shaped on the frontier, began to be so shaped as soon as the first Europeans made contact with free land and the wilderness. It would have been appropriate to fit into the chapters covering this experience much of the basic detail upon which the whole argument of any frontier book must depend. But Mr. Branch has treated the period as only a curtain-raiser to a story of conventional propor-

tions which begins to run its usual course after the first hundred pages of colonial episode.

On the whole, Mr. Branch is not much concerned with the argument of the matter. He does not care greatly for the fundamental economics upon which frontier life was based and from which came much of its motivation. He is not interested in the land and its problem, or in the filtration of institutions that occurred along the border, or in that rebirth of self-governing communities that constitutes for us a clinic in democratic government. His passion, instead, is for human detail, and he has embroidered upon a rather thin fabric a heavy pattern of episode. His reading has been wide and his sense for the picturesque is good; but, not caring for the fundamental pattern upon which he works, he has given to his attractive book rather less meaning than he was capable of giving it. His love for unusual words gives his vocabulary an ornateness rare in historical composition; sometimes it adds piquancy to his descriptions for those who know the meaning of his words. But from start to finish he deals in personality and detail, and the nature of his purpose has made it unnecessary for him to cite chapter and verse for his authority at any point. Anyone who has read the literature for himself, however, will recognize old friends on every page, and will appreciate the industry and discrimination with which Mr. Branch has worked.

The book aims to attract the attention of the lay public. It will, if it succeeds, be useful to all of us who are more prosaic in our method.

FREDERIC L. PAXSON

When the West Is Gone (Brown University, *The Colver Lectures*, 1929). By FREDERIC L. PAXSON, professor of history in the University of Wisconsin. (New York, Henry Holt and Company, [1930]. 137 p. \$2.00.)

The Colver Lectures delivered by Frederic L. Paxson at Brown University in 1929 have received the customary courtesy of publication. *When the West Is Gone* is properly one lecture in

three parts. "One day or year we [*Americans*] act as the children of pioneer fathers might be expected to act; the next we behave like wealthy owners of a share of industrial society. We shall I suppose eventually average up to a uniform policy." Will our frontier heritage, puts the lecturer, be a help or a hindrance? Professor Paxson has, for the moment, turned eschatologist. He remains an admirable historian.

In his opening remarks the lecturer recalls the aphorism, "All the knowledge any human may possess about the future must be derived from his knowledge of the past." If we enter this scholium upon the margin, "Erratum: for 'future' read 'present,'" we have a pretty fair truism. If we write "stet," we thrust upon Clio a burden that she has never carried willingly or gracefully. The best prophets—prophets with their hearts in their work, I mean—have never been historians. Once they were metaphysicians, lately they were economists, and at present they are imbrued with pure science. The historical discipline is the poorest possible for an augur. *When the West Is Gone* reveals its handicaps—the lecturer admits that "error and ignorance and preconception are the stumbling blocks of prophecy," and puts forward his conclusions tentatively where a less informed person would be more positive. But not, I think, tentatively enough.

Professor Paxson assumes, initially, the immanence of some kind of international, semiadministrative superstructure. If he derives this premise from his knowledge of the past, he does not demonstrate the derivation; actually, it seems a fixed preconception, and the lecturer's problem is, using his keen knowledge of our nation's past, to determine whether our nation will be the right sort of peg for its destined hole in the international structure. He feels that it will; that, indeed, the American frontier may "prove to be the happy episode in world experience that suggested the basis for a finer and truer co-operation within the nations and without." To reach this conviction he must accept the theory of acquired characteristics unreservedly; Professor Paxson recognizes the necessity, and makes the commitment.

First, says the lecturer, "it is necessary to view the West when it was new and to inquire what it was. When next we meet, it will be useful to consider why it was that the West survived, as Middle West, despite the forces continuously working for its assimilation and conversion. And at the last will come the opportunity to face the larger questions of what we shall be when the West is gone." This second step, the second lecture in the series, is, to my taste, the neatest piece of historical writing since the Beards' chapter on "The Gilded Age." In explaining the tenacity of the Middle West, Professor Paxson's talent at clear-cut, succinct summarizing has never produced a more effective, more convincing article.

E. DOUGLAS BRANCH

The Fur Trade in Canada: An Introduction to Canadian Economic History. By HAROLD A. INNIS, associate professor of political economy in the University of Toronto. (New Haven, Yale University Press, 1930. 444 p. Map. \$5.00.)

As the general preface states, this historical sketch is a companion volume to the author's *The Fur Trade of Canada*, "an analytic study of the industry" which appeared in 1927. Unlike most other studies of the fur trade it is not limited to a particular period or to a given area within the country with which it is concerned. The limitation imposed by the modern international boundary, however, results in a certain incompleteness, for at times parts of the United States were as directly concerned with the administration of the Canadian fur trade as were many portions of the region known at the present time as Canada. Though Mr. Innis has indicated this relationship, he has been unable to treat in detail any other area than the modern Dominion. Nevertheless, those interested in the history of the trade in American regions that were economically identified with the Canadian régime will be comforted to learn that the main theses of this book are sound for them, at least for the period prior to 1815.

Few researchers in the intricate study of the fur trade have seen its fundamental significance. Most have been content to see only trees in a forest of facts, but Mr. Innis occasionally ascends to a vantage point from which not only the whole forest is visible, but the countryside as well. Thus, after showing how in the French régime the individual trader was of dominant importance in the interior, whereas the marketing of furs was controlled by a centralized monopoly, he points out the significance of this two-fold development for the success of French resistance to British competition until the conquest.

The advantages of the St. Lawrence drainage basin were sufficient to promote the growth of institutions and organizations which effectively checked competition from other drainage basins. When these advantages had disappeared through the exhaustion of the supply of beaver, these institutions continued effective. From the standpoint of the trader, long experience in dealing with native populations, knowledge of Indian economy and Indian life were of crucial importance in checking outside competition. From the standpoint of centralized monopoly, a highly developed militaristic organization in erecting fortified posts and in carrying on effective campaigns was able to supplement the influence of the trader.

Eventually, however, these institutions broke down, and as a result not only the colony but the mother country was weakened. Then France lost Canada.

Institutional development characteristic of the fur trade was not adequate to the new economic conditions. . . . Eventually colonies dependent on the fur trade were destined to take a subordinate position to those geographic areas which gave a more diversified economic development. . . . The conquest of New France was largely the result of the efficiency of English manufactures combined with the control of shorter routes to the interior from New York and Hudson Bay.

After the British conquest, Mr. Innis points out, competition was no longer with foreign colonists, but between the Hudson's Bay Company and the heirs of the French régime, the Northwest Company. This became a contest in the effectiveness of two

kinds of transportation typified by the York boat and the birch-bark canoe, the one representing a relatively cheap route by sea and great rivers, the other a superb personnel developed by a dangerous and difficult line of communication dotted with portages. A large part of the volume is devoted to these two organizations, the points of view, policies, and personnel of which were so diverse at the outset of their rivalry, but which combined in 1821 to form a company of such strength that it has survived to the present. The contributions of both are summed up as follows: "The Northwest Company which extended its organization from the Atlantic to the Pacific developed along lines which were fundamentally linked to the technique of the fur trade. This organization was strengthened in the amalgamation of 1821 by control of a charter guaranteeing monopoly and by the advantages incidental to lower costs of transportation by Hudson Bay." Thus the author is not misled into the current misconception that the Hudson's Bay Company contributed the larger part of the policy and resources of the amalgamated company. The importance of the contributions of the Northwest Company is also stressed. In addition, that company's significance for Canada and the empire is pointed out. At the time of the American Revolution it was "a new organization which was instrumental in securing the Quebec Act and which contributed to the future of the American Revolution so far as it affected Quebec and the St. Lawrence." In its later years it "assured a permanent attachment to Great Britain [*instead of the United States*] because of its dependence on English manufactures." It was of even greater service to the political destiny of Canada, for it was "the forerunner of confederation." The policies, trade methods, successes, and failures of the Hudson's Bay Company since 1821 fill almost half of the volume and are discussed with an impartiality and freshness of viewpoint that are wholly satisfying.

This is a book for the specialist and not for the undergraduate. A thorough understanding of the details of Canadian and American history is presumed. Explanations of references and of allusions are conspicuous by their absence. Moreover, the reader must be well-grounded in French,—not merely the Parisian

variety, but also that of the French-Canadian fur-traders,— for the author translates or not according to his whim. One suspects at times that even his French was inadequate to the curious jargon that characterized the traders. Nevertheless most of its terms had English equivalents among the traders from Hudson Bay and in the United States, though a long search is often necessary to determine them.

The omission of a bibliography is unfortunate, especially since the author uses many *op. cit.* references in his annotation. It is annoying and wasteful of time to be obliged to search for the first reference to a work in order to determine which of many books by a well-known author has been utilized. A complete list of the books, manuscripts, and other data cited in the footnotes would constitute one of the best available bibliographies on the fur trade. In the case of manuscripts, the author has not been explicit in his footnotes with reference to their location, language, length, and the like.

It must be added that in numerous instances no sources whatever are given for statements of some significance. Thus on page 245 the authorities for four statements in a single paragraph have not been indicated. Pages 226, 235, and 297 also need further annotation. Many fresh manuscript sources have been utilized, especially in the Canadian Archives and in depositories in Toronto. Apparently the author did not consult the diaries of traders preserved in the library of McGill University, nor some of the other manuscripts located there.

The physical appearance of the volume is all that could be desired, with the possible exception of page 193, where the text is abruptly cut short to permit a table to appear *in toto* on the following page; and of paragraphs of statistical data that would be much more pleasing to the eye, as well as more useful, in tabular form. It is the reviewer's opinion that lists such as that of traders, canoes, cargoes, and men found on pages 196 and 197 would be more useful in footnotes or appendices. Only one typographical error has been noted, and that a very minor one. As there is no list of plates, the very useful map of posts opposite page 376 will be discovered by many after the waste of a great deal of time in

looking up rivers and forts on maps in other books. The index is reasonably full, though there are some peculiarities — for example, "Anglican Missions" is listed under the first word with no entry for the second, though the activities of other sects are mentioned in the text. And surely it would not have been difficult to find the Christian names of Father Aulneau, De Repentigny, De Razilly, De Saint Pierre, Deschambault, De Seignelay, De Tracy, Du Luth, Radisson, and Groseilliers, to mention but a few of the patronymics that stand alone in the index. And is it not unusual to include in an index such an item as "Porteoue, Mr." ?

GRACE LEE NUTE

The Trans-Mississippi West: Papers Read at a Conference Held at the University of Colorado, June 18-June 21, 1929.
Edited by JAMES F. WILLARD and COLIN B. GOODYKOONTZ.
(Boulder, University of Colorado, 1930. xi, 366 p. \$2.00.)

With a subject as broad and replete with possibilities as the *Trans-Mississippi West* one may expect to find a conference ranging from the river to the Pacific and from the Mexican border to the Canadian Northwest, with a variety of topics limited only by the imagination of the sponsors and the exigencies of time. Such a thing as a review in the ordinary sense of the term is out of the question, for, although the general subject supplies a thread of unity, the contributions extend from syntheses like Herbert E. Bolton's "Defensive Spanish Expansion and the Significance of the Borderlands" to the "West in American Literature," presented in varying aspects by Percy H. Boynton, Walter S. Campbell, and Lucy L. Hazard, or western missions, transportation, the "Historiography of American Territorial Expansion" by Eugene C. Barker, "Historical Geography and the Western Frontier" by Carl Sauer, "Finance and the Frontier" by Fred-eric L. Paxson, or "The Problem of Adequate Historical Collections" by Solon J. Buck.

Prepared for round-table discussions, these papers are singularly free from sweeping generalizations of a loose character. Many, perhaps most of them, are constructive contributions to historical knowledge. Even more significant are the suggestions as to un-

worked or little-worked fields or to new approaches to problems already subjected to investigation. Colin B. Goodykoontz, for example, both adds to available information about "Protestant Home Missions and Education in the Trans-Mississippi West, 1835-1860" and shows how there is still much to be done to integrate this phase of activity with the general topic of westward expansion. He calls attention to the limited manner in which the papers and documents of missionary and church bodies have been hitherto used. Even the old controversy about the importance of Whitman's Oregon activities has new light shed upon it by Archer B. Hulbert's "Undeveloped Factors in the Life of Marcus Whitman." His emphasis on the relation of the proposed curtailing of the Oregon mission to the activities of the American Board in other fields puts the whole matter in a new light.

In like manner John C. Parish's study of migrants "By Sea to California" calls attention to a fresh aspect of the gold rush; his investigation has developed the neglected fact that the Forty-niners who crossed the plains and the mountains were not responsible for everything that took place in the region about the Golden Gate, that the argonaut who took the water route was from a different social group and tended to play a different part in the economic and cultural life of the Pacific coast. LeRoy R. Hafen, in "Hand Cart Migration Across the Plains," likewise touches upon a phase of the westward movement that has been little noticed.

Frederic L. Paxson brings a ray of hope to the university teacher who sometimes finds himself at a loss in suggesting topics for theses for the ever-increasing horde of candidates for advanced degrees when he points out that "the spade and pick work necessary for the full confirmation of the Turner hypothesis"—namely, "that the frontier has exercised a larger influence in directing the general course of American affairs than its population, its wealth, or the creative novelty of its ideas would seem to warrant"—is yet to be done. Specifically he notes the need of this spade work in the field of "Finance and the Frontier," the cost of moving the settler to the new frontier and the methods by which he built up "the local fluid wealth" to a point where "this indigenous

capital" balanced the "absentee-owned debt" and made him independent; in other words, the point where that frontier ceased to be frontier. Such studies call for the exploitation of papers hardly yet begun to be collected, to say nothing of being utilized in any appreciable degree by historians. Dr. Buck's paper dovetails with Professor Paxson's suggestions when he emphasizes the need of saving and putting in manageable shape the masses of material heretofore neglected if not lost altogether.

Still another little-considered field receives attention in Carl Sauer's "Historical Geography and the Western Frontier," while Joseph Schafer's "Rural Life Survey of a Western State" shows, among other things, how in some degree Dr. Sauer's suggestions may be worked out.

Not all the papers printed in this book have been noted in this review; enough, however, has been said to indicate the utility of such a conference as Professors Willard and Goodykoontz engineered and to convey some inkling of the inspiration to workers in the historical field these meetings must have been.

LESTER BURRELL SHIPPEE

John Marsh, Pioneer: The Life Story of a Trail-blazer on Six Frontiers. By GEORGE D. LYMAN. (New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1930. xii, 394 p. Illustrations. \$3.50.)

There are times when one with an avocation pursues his aim more persistently than one with a vocation. Dr. George D. Lyman is not a biographer or historian by profession, but a very successful physician in San Francisco. His quest, he tells us, of the story of John Marsh "lasted for more than five years and led me from the Pacific to the Atlantic, from California to Massachusetts, and then through the files of the great State [historical] libraries of the country." It was in the libraries of the Minnesota and Wisconsin historical societies that Dr. Lyman found the material for the early career of his subject and decided that a biography of this strange, interesting man, John Marsh, would be worth while.

Dr. Lyman became interested in Marsh in California, where he was the first American to practice medicine. The author then

discovered that Marsh had been the first schoolmaster in Minnesota, whither he had gone to teach the children of the officers at Fort Snelling. He also found that Marsh had carefully studied the language and the customs of the Sioux and may be called one of the first ethnologists in Minnesota. Pursuing his trail he came upon Marsh as Indian agent, first at Fort Snelling, then, through the favor of Governor Cass, at Prairie du Chien. It was while he held this latter office that he had the distinction of receiving the surrender at the portage of Red Bird, the hostile Indian chief — an event called by the late Dr. R. G. Thwaites the most romantic episode in early Wisconsin history.

Three years later Marsh had the less enviable notoriety of betraying the Fox Indians to the Sioux and instigating the massacre of the former near Prairie du Chien. For Marsh was now a Sioux "squaw man," having taken as consort a young Siouan-French half-breed, Marguerite Decouteaux. After the massacre Marsh found that she and her young son were in great danger at Prairie du Chien and took them for safety to New Salem, Illinois, where he placed them in the care of a neighbor of Abraham Lincoln. He had now lost his position as Indian agent, although he was pressed into service during the fateful months of the Black Hawk War, when he visited the Sioux and induced them to take up arms against the hostiles.

Meanwhile Marguerite had become homesick in the strange atmosphere of New Salem, had run away, and by a long dangerous journey had reached Marsh at Prairie du Chien. There, worn by the hardships she had undergone, she soon died. Marsh no longer wished to tarry at this place where he had lived and loved too well and turned to the Southwest, where after many vicissitudes he finally arrived at Spanish California, and later aided in establishing there the American régime. Many years later his mixed-blood son appeared at his door, a wanderer and a beggar, and knew not that it was his father from whom he asked aid. Marsh, who lived at Mount Diabolo in the Santa Clara Valley, became a recluse and a misanthrope and was finally murdered in 1856 by some Mexican ruffians.

It is a sad yet thrilling story, and Dr. Lyman appreciates it to

the full; it justifies his subtitle: "The Life Story of a Trail-blazer on Six Frontiers." By full documentation the author proves the seemingly improbable narrative to be strictly true and once more exemplifies the adage that "fact is stranger than fiction."

Dr. Lyman thinks that Marsh was the only Harvard graduate who led a life upon the frontier; he makes much of the fact that this man of the backwoods carried a diploma. "Herein," he says, "lies John Marsh's chief title to fame. Not only did he blaze a trail; he carried a torch." Possibly our author over-emphasizes the value of a college diploma at that early day and accords more scholarship and refinement to his subject than he deserves. But he has made a well-written and closely wrought narrative that holds the reader absorbed to the end. The book is attractively printed, has a good bibliography worked into the notes, a good index, two maps on the lining papers of the covers, and illustrations that illuminate the text. Most important of all to historical readers, the author has unearthed and printed considerable new source material on preterritorial days in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

It is a biography worth reading and pondering. As long as men love romance and the wild life of the frontier, so long will Marsh's story be prized. Only one thing is lacking to make it of permanent value—a noble character. Marsh failed himself, his ancestry, and his *Alma Mater* at the crises of his career. Compare his personality with that of another California trail-blazer, Jedediah Smith, and this book is seen to be not only a biography but a study in abnormal psychology, a lesson in human nature to be conned as well as a romance to be enjoyed.

LOUISE PHELPS KELLOGG

A Pioneer of Old Superior. By LILLIAN KIMBALL STEWART.
(Boston, The Christopher Publishing House, [1930]. 322 p.
\$2.50.)

The experiences of Charles Dean Kimball, the central figure of this book, span a comparatively brief period in the great drama of the westward movement, but are not for that reason lacking

in significance. This pioneer of Old Superior went to Wisconsin in 1848 from the region of the Kennebec River in Maine. He was drowned in Lake Superior not far from Grand Marais, Minnesota, in 1864, while serving as a member of Dr. A. W. Hanchett's geological expedition. As a lumberman, engineer, surveyor, geologist, and miner, Kimball displayed the energy and versatility of a true pioneer—traits apparently bred in him, for he was descended from a family which began its migrations with the Puritan movement to America and for eight generations attacked successive frontiers, overcoming every opposing force of nature and red men.

The author, who is Kimball's daughter, fortunately has not confined her efforts to giving a simple biography of her father, but has portrayed in effective fashion many of the larger scenes of western expansion in which her family lived. A fascinating story is told of the founding of Superior and the neighboring city of Duluth. In the development of settlement in that region Kimball's name is frequently mentioned. Some of Superior's earliest harbor improvements, as well as numerous business houses and dwellings in the settlement, were planned and built by him. Shrewd town-site speculations made him prosperous; and even the panic of 1857, which put an end to the mushroom-like growth of the young Wisconsin city, did not cause him to lose faith in the future of his new home. Perhaps the fact that national figures like Stephen A. Douglas and John C. Breckenridge were also financially interested in the project at Superior served to increase Kimball's confidence in its success. As a result, even the Civil War with its attendant threats of Indian perils and Canadian intervention did not dismay him. The constant strain imposed by such conditions, however, combined with other forces to wear down his physical resistance. His wife was left crippled after a serious illness during which he could get no adequate medical attention for her. A favorite brother met death in Lake Superior by drowning. And finally he had to face the question of whether to join the Union army and leave his family on the bleak shores of the northern lake or stay with them. He chose the latter course, but his decision gave him no peace of mind.

Throughout the story the reader feels that while Mrs. Stewart has used family records and other general sources with patience, she has drawn liberally upon her own memory of these scenes of her early childhood and also, it must be added, upon her imagination. To Minnesotans the tale, so far as it relates to the St. Louis River and "Arrowhead" regions and to Indian life in the northern part of their state, is of particular interest. The story of the Hanchett geological survey, involving, as it does, the untimely death of Kimball, illustrates once more the grim way in which the frontier exacts its toll from those who would seek its mysteries. Moreover Mrs. Stewart's account indicates that, in addition to the official purpose of the expedition, its organizers intended to investigate the possibility of promoting with the aid of eastern capital extensive mining operations in the Arrowhead country. Certainly Kimball and his companions anticipated the future of that great iron-mining region, though their schemes were unsuccessful. The book is well written, despite certain minor errors. The reviewer feels that much of the first chapter, which contributes nothing to the story itself, could have been omitted to advantage.

VERNE E. CHATELAIN

A History of Swift County (A thesis submitted to the graduate faculty of the University of Minnesota in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of master of arts, October 28, 1929). By STANLEY HOLTE ANONSEN. ([Appleton, Swift County Historical Society, 1930]. 77 p.)

This county history is quite different in appearance and content from the species that has hitherto appeared on the market. Within the heavy morocco binding of the old type of history were embalmed full-page photographs and biographical sketches of the presidents of the United States and the governors of the state, followed by more or less accurate chapters on the various churches, business enterprises, and other activities of individuals and groups of individuals, concluding with eulogies and photographs of such public-spirited citizens as were willing and able

to contribute the sum necessary to give them space. The present volume, which is published by the Swift County Historical Society, is modest in dress and language and smells strongly of the technique of a seminar in American history. It was originally submitted to the graduate faculty of the University of Minnesota "in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of master of arts." According to the preface, it seeks to describe the settlement and economic development of one of the administrative units of Minnesota.

The footnotes and bibliography furnish ample evidence of the industry and skill of the author in collecting material, as well as the possibilities of county history for research; but it requires more imagination than the average graduate student possesses to breathe life into the documents. Mr. Anonsen has traced in painstaking fashion the emergence of Swift County from the Indian era, the process of settlement, the racial composition of the population, the rise and development of towns and villages, the invasion of the railway, the building of highways, the organization of school districts and congregations, the establishment of newspapers, the ups and downs of agriculture, commercial activity, and the like. Mr. Anonsen evidently was disappointed in the results of his research on the political history of the county. Instead of enumerating a long list of nominating conventions, candidates, and platforms, which he found differed in no essentials from the national and state parties, he pays his respects to the political activity of the citizens by giving a short chapter entitled "Politics" and supplements it with an analysis of election results and tables of successful candidates. In national politics the county has been consistently Republican, although agricultural depression and factional fights have occasionally upset the plans of the G.O.P. Democrats like John Lind and John A. Johnson have wooed many away from the dominant party, and the candidates of the Nonpartisan League for the legislature have also won favor.

Two events of catastrophic proportions are listed in the annals of the county, namely, the Sioux Massacre in 1862 and the visitation of the grasshoppers in 1876 and 1877. Mr. Anonsen's

research has added nothing to our knowledge of these events, perhaps through no fault of his. Among the interesting paragraphs are those given to the effort of the Catholic Bureau of Colonization, under the directing genius of Bishop Ireland, to establish a colony, which in the first years ran afoul of the grasshopper plague.

GEORGE M. STEPHENSON

The War Cry of the Sioux: A Historical Romance from the Sioux Outbreak of 1862. By EDDY E. BILLBERG. (Boston, The Christopher Publishing House, [1930]. 162 p. \$1.75.)

Nathan Almer, "the prairie scout," eluding the murderous Sioux after the ambush at Redwood Ferry, finds his lost sweetheart Claudia a refugee, wandering in the Minnesota Valley with a helpless infant clasped in her arms. Almer and Claudia had previously been separated by a dastardly plot, the falsity of which Claudia had discovered only after her lover's enlistment in the Union Army. Wounded and invalided home soon after, he had offered his services as scout in the Sioux Uprising. Placing Claudia in concealment, our hero returns to ensure the safety of other civilian refugees, but in his absence Joe Pierre, the half-breed, lures Claudia to captivity in the Indian camp. The scout sees the other refugees safe in New Ulm, and then returns to seek Claudia.

The rest of the book is concerned with this search. The prairie scout and a friend watch from a distance the battle of Birch Cooley; they participate in the defense of Fort Ridgely and the battle of Wood Lake; they are present at Camp Release—but Claudia is not there. There Almer learns, however, that she has been rescued from Joe Pierre by friendly Sisseton, who are taking her to Fort Abercrombie for safety. Hastening forward on the Sisseton's trail, they find that Joe Pierre has surprised the little company and recaptured Claudia. Then follows a hot pursuit over the prairie; Joe Pierre and a companion are slain, but not before they have shot Claudia; and the rescuers take the wounded maiden to Fort Abercrombie. Here come also their Sisseton friends with

the white infant whose safety so concerned Claudia; here Claudia, after lingering at the brink of death, recovers and plights her troth to the prairie scout; here too the future of the orphan child is made bright by his adoption by the affianced couple.

Though the book throws no new light on the Sioux Uprising, it may be said to enliven history by the thrilling story here summarized.

E. H. B.

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

An informal talk on the Sioux by Dr. Charles A. Eastman, the noted authority on Indian life, was given at a stated meeting of the society's executive council held in the superintendent's office on the evening of October 13, with the president, Dean Guy Stanton Ford, presiding. The program also included memorials in honor of two council members who died recently. That of the late William A. McGonagle was prepared by the Honorable William E. Culkin of Duluth and read in his absence by Dr. Blegen. The memorial of the late Frederic A. Fogg was presented by Mr. Ira C. Oehler of St. Paul. Mr. Culkin's paper appears elsewhere in this number of the magazine, and that by Mr. Oehler is published herewith.

FREDERIC AUGUSTINE FOGG

Frederic Augustine Fogg was born on July 12, 1850, in Portland, Maine, the son of Sumner and Caroline Goding Fogg, both descended from English colonists who arrived in New England before the middle of the seventeenth century. He attended the public schools at Portland, Maine, and Bowdoin College, from which he was graduated with the degree of bachelor of arts in 1869.

The following year Fogg went to Minnesota, teaching school the first year at Elk River. For several years he was principal of the Jefferson School in St. Paul. He served as superintendent of the Ramsey County schools for one year, 1877-78. In 1877 he opened a private school at the corner of Fifth and Franklin streets. This was called the English and Classical School and consisted of a primary and an advanced department, the latter being a college preparatory department. He was engaged in educational work until 1881. Although he then turned from school work to business, he maintained his interest in the educational affairs of St. Paul and was president of the board of education in 1885-86. Later he became interested in the development of the public library and was a member of its board of directors from 1900 to 1914. He served as chairman of the building committee under the direction of which the present public library building was erected and equipped.

Fogg was a member of the Minnesota Historical Society for many years, serving on the executive council from 1906 until 1927. He became second vice president on February 8, 1915, first vice president on March 2, 1918, and president on January 17, 1921. The latter office he held for the usual term of three years.

His business interests were many and varied. In 1881 he became secretary of the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce, a position which he held for two years. Later he became president of the Northwestern Town Lot Company and a member and president of the board of trustees of special stock of the St. Paul and Sioux City Railroad Company. This trust held more than four hundred thousand acres of the land grant of the railway, located in nineteen counties, for the most part in southwestern Minnesota. Fogg gave personal and effective attention to the development and cultivation of many thousands of acres of land in southern Minnesota. He was a vice president of the St. Paul Trust Company. He was one of the incorporators of the Northwestern Trust Company in 1903, and he served as its vice president and director. He was a director of the St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company from April 20, 1896.

Fogg was married to Louise Miller on December 30, 1880. Two children, Frederic M. and Caroline (Mrs. Thomas J. Cassidy), were born to them. At his death on March 27, 1930, he was survived by his son and by four grandchildren, the children of his daughter.

Fogg was a member of the Minnesota Club and of the University Club of St. Paul. He was also a member of Phi Beta Kappa and of Alpha Delta Phi. In politics, he allied himself with the Democratic party. He was of a quiet and retiring disposition, finding his recreation in reading and studying.

Thirty-three additions to the active membership of the society were made during the quarter ending September 30, 1930. The names of the new members, grouped by counties, follow:

BELTRAMI: Eugene Cassidy of Puposky.

BLUE EARTH: William A. Just of Rapidan and George W. Sugden of Mankato.

BROWN: Emil H. Fritsche of New Ulm.

HENNEPIN: Andrew C. Anderson, Dr. Leo M. Crafts, John L. Gleason, Oscar C. Hedin, William J. McNally, Fred C. Mueller, J. Frederick Sutherland, and Edward P. Wells, all of Minneapolis.

KANDIYOHI: Charles Nelson of Willmar.

LE SUEUR: Joe Errickson of Waterville.

MARTIN: Byron H. Curtis and Judge Arza R. Fancher of Fairmont.

MEEKER: Edward P. Peterson of Litchfield.

POLK: Paul W. Wentland of Fosston.

RAMSEY: Alice E. Andrews and Marie Koehler of St. Paul, and William H. Miller of White Bear.

RICE: The Reverend William E. Thompson of Dundas.

ROSEAU: J. W. Durham of Roseau.

ST. LOUIS: Dr. Richard Bardon, Lewis G. Castle, and Robert Kelly of Duluth.

WASHINGTON: R. A. Wilkinson of Lake Elmo.

WATONWAN: Paul V. Fling of Madelia and H. O. Johnson of Darfur.

WILKIN: Dr. Ernest W. Rimer of Breckenridge and Julius Schendel of Campbell.

NONRESIDENT: Walter A. O'Meara of Chicago and Ruth West of Spokane, Washington.

The Pipestone County Old Settlers' Historical Society became an institutional member during the quarter.

The Lester Park Branch of the Duluth Public Library and the public library of St. Charles have recently become subscribers to the society's current publications.

The society lost six active members by death during the three months ending September 30: Joseph G. Pyle of St. Paul, July 27; William C. White of Deerwood, July 31; William A. McGonagle of Duluth, August 2; Susan H. Olmstead of New York City, August 10; Mrs. Charles P. Noyes of St. Paul, September 9; and John Lind of Minneapolis, September 18. The deaths of the following active members have not been reported in earlier numbers of the magazine: Edwin E. White of Milwaukee, September 28, 1928; Dr. George O. Moore of Worthington, December 20, 1929; Judge Nicolaus Henningsen of New Ulm, January 12, 1930; and William E. Nelson of Minneapolis, May 28, 1930. William E. Connelley, secretary of the Kansas State

Historical Society and a corresponding member of the Minnesota Historical Society, died on July 15, 1930.

Following a visit to the newspaper division of the Minnesota Historical Society, Mr. Win V. Working, a well-known writer of articles about Minnesota Valley history, remarks in the *Belle Plaine Herald* for September 18: "The Society is performing an excellent service in preserving these old newspaper files. All parts of the state are represented." He also estimates the value of the newspaper collection for the writer of local history: "But the old newspaper files prove that the greatest function of a newspaper is the preservation of the record of community life, and no documents extant are more interesting, impartial and illuminative in their respective periods than the newspapers."

The following communication, signed "Saintpaulite" and addressed "To the Historical Society," appears in the contributors' column of the *St. Paul Daily News* for August 16: "Frequently I have telephoned the society for information on Minnesota history. Always I have received the most courteous, prompt, and satisfying answers. Sometimes those who get my queries have not the information at hand but they look it up and call back within ten minutes. This is a real service and it is appreciated."

An illustrated account of the state historical convention of 1930, by Don P. Shannon, is published under the title "Visit Historic Spots in Minnesota" as the leading article in the *Farmer* for June 28. One of the illustrations shows Mr. Frank E. Balmer addressing the historical tourists at Clark's Grove.

As has been already announced (*ante*, 10: 446), the society is building up an extensive collection of Folwell Papers, the nucleus of which was received from Dr. Folwell himself and from members of his family. Unfortunately, however, the papers now in the society's possession include very few written by Dr. Folwell, since he did not keep copies of the letters that he wrote. The society is asking people who have such letters to add them to the collection, since its value could thus be greatly enhanced. Original letters for permanent preservation are particularly desired, but

whenever the owners prefer to keep the originals, the society will undertake to reproduce them, if of sufficient value, and to return the originals.

During the summer Dr. Nute visited St. Francis Seminary, at St. Francis, Wisconsin, and examined in its library the files of several rare religious periodicals, in some of which she found items of value for the history of missionary work among the Indians of Minnesota. She also made a visit in July to Quebec, where she was accorded the privilege of examining materials preserved in the archiepiscopal archives, which contain many original documents having to do with early Catholic missionary work at Pembina.

The society's exhibit at the annual state fair was viewed by many thousands of visitors. Centering about the theme of the farmer in Minnesota history, it included agricultural implements, manuscripts, books, pamphlets, and pictures in this field. One feature of special interest was the showing of a film of Minnesota farm scenes, made by Mr. D. A. Leonard of Minneapolis from originals in the society's collections. Mr. Arthur J. Larsen, the head of the newspaper department, had charge of the exhibit.

The superintendent, as chairman of the joint committee on materials for research of the American Council of Learned Societies and the Social Science Research Council, is supervising the compilation of a report on the activities of American agencies affecting materials for research in the social sciences and the humanities, and of a bibliography of guides to and inventories of source materials. He attended a two-day meeting of the committee in Branford, Connecticut, in September.

Commenting upon the suggestion made in the last number of this magazine as to the need of interpreting "historical documents" to include humble records of various kinds as well as records conventionally looked upon as possessing historical significance, the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* in an editorial on September 30 points out that "This way of looking at the historical document brings it nearer home, closer to the lives of ordinary folk.

There is many a household, farm, or institution whose attic or storeroom may be, under this broader interpretation, a veritable archive of historical documents."

The superintendent spoke at historical meetings held at St. Peter on July 23 and at Grand Portage on August 23 (see *post*, p. 460, 464). On August 14 the assistant superintendent spoke on "The Historical Backgrounds of the Northwest" to the fifteen hundred members of the Citizens Military Training Camp at Fort Snelling; and on September 18 he gave a talk to the Daughters of the American Colonists, in Minneapolis, on "Glimpsing Minnesota History through the Eyes of Contemporaries."

The annual meeting of the society will be held in St. Paul on January 19. It will open with a luncheon; the local history conference will comprise a part of the afternoon session; and the annual address will be given at the evening session.

Miss Selma Press, for several years editorial assistant to Professor Clarence E. Carter of Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, has been appointed office and editorial assistant in place of Miss Anne H. Blegen, who resigned to accept a position on the faculty of Macalester College. Miss Press took up her duties on August 15.

Summer is the period when scholars and others from outside the state may be expected to make extensive use of the society's collections, and this year an unusually large number of such visitors made their appearance. Among them were Mrs. Lynn Haines of Washington, D. C., who is working on a life of Charles A. Lindbergh, Sr.; Dr. J. F. Fulton of Yale University, who is studying the career of Nathaniel P. Langford; Mrs. F. M. Marten of the *Manitoba Free Press* of Winnipeg; Mr. and Mrs. Scudder McKeel, who are studying cultural changes among the Sioux Indians for the Yale Institute of Human Relations; and various members of the faculty of the Harvard School of Business and the University of North Dakota.

The printing of volume 4 of Dr. Folwell's *History of Minnesota* is completed and it is expected that the volume will have been

distributed before the present number of the magazine is in the hands of members.

ACCESSIONS

A trader's account book of the late twenties of the last century has been added to the Alexis Bailly Papers by Mr. Paul P. Thompson of Winona (see *ante*, 7: 180).

That the war department archives include important material about the expeditions into the Northwest of Stephen H. Long and Joseph N. Nicollet is revealed by the calendar cards for papers in the offices of topographical engineers and of commander in chief of the army, recently received from Dr. Newton D. Mereness, the archival agent at Washington of a group of historical agencies. Many of the cards also are for papers that relate to Forts Snelling, Ripley, and Ridgely during the fifties.

A commission and two land patents issued to William H. Forbes, a fur-trader at Mendota and St. Paul for many years after 1837, are the gift of his granddaughter, Mrs. Elizabeth G. Patterson of Cooperstown, New York. They are an interesting addition to the society's considerable collection of Forbes Papers (see *ante*, 6: 294).

A "Mail Book of Croffut and Clark, Minnesota State News and Falls Evening News, St. Anthony" that once belonged to Edwin Clark, has been received from Mrs. Merle Potter of St. Paul. The record seems to have been kept during the fifties, and it is interesting to note that these pioneer Minnesota newspapers were sent to people in nearly every state in the Union.

The papers of Marcus P. Nichols, for many years a real estate dealer in St. Paul, have been presented by the Honorable J. A. A. Burnquist of Minneapolis. They cover the period from 1830 to 1911. Those for the years previous to the early fifties relate mainly to land in Wisconsin, but the later papers deal with land values, tax rates, and other economic conditions in Minnesota.

An interesting volume containing the minutes of meetings and other records of school district number 3, later district number

5, West St. Paul and Mendota, from 1859 to 1875 has been presented by Mrs. George H. Staples of St. Paul. Lists of children of school age, copies of letters and reports to the state auditor, records of expenses, contracts with teachers, and similar data are included.

A typed copy of an autobiography written in 1928 by the late Judge James H. Quinn of St. Paul, beginning with the early sixties when he left his Wisconsin home to travel in a prairie schooner to southern Minnesota, has been presented by Judge Julius E. Haycraft of Fairmont. Social and economic life in Blue Earth County in the sixties, seventies, and eighties, and legal cases with which the author was connected as a lawyer or judge are among the subjects covered in the narrative.

Letters of Governors Austin, Merriam, and Nelson have been added to the papers of Judge Luther L. Baxter by his daughter, Miss Bertha Baxter of Minneapolis (see *ante*, p. 205).

A group of documents used by one of the lawyers in a suit of the state "on the relation of the Minnesota Midland Railway Company against the town of Roscoe" in Goodhue County to determine whether the town had the right to rescind in 1877 its vote of 1876 authorizing bonds to aid the railway has been received through the courtesy of Professor Carle C. Zimmerman of the University of Minnesota. Among the papers are an election notice, minutes of meetings of two elections, a writ of mandamus, and a list of the voters of the town, apparently for the year 1890, giving their names, nationalities, religions, occupations, and party affiliations.

Photostatic copies of two sets of regulations dated 1904 and 1905, with accompanying letters, giving the method prescribed for cutting timber on lands allotted to Chippewa Indians on the Fond du Lac and White Earth reservations, have been received from the office of Indian affairs in Washington.

Dr. Helen H. Hielscher of Mankato, historian for the Minnesota department of the American Legion Auxiliary, has presented a large collection of historical material relating to that organi-

zation. It includes histories of each unit "filed and presented to the Department Convention at Hibbing" in 1930. Among the items of information presented for each unit are the story of its organization, the origin of its name, an outline of its current history, and a "sketch of how the communities employed themselves during the time the men were absent at the War."

The papers of the Minnesota state central committee of the Committee of 48, the state unit of a national body that was substantially a third party, consisting of letters received, copies of letters sent, minutes of meetings, and other records, have been presented by Mr. Burton H. Bowler of Minneapolis. They cover the years from 1920 to 1924.

Miss Mabel Marvin of Winona has compiled and presented a list of soldiers buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Winona. It is interesting to note that one soldier of the Revolution rests there, as well as seven veterans of the War of 1812 and three of the Mexican War.

Copies of three master's theses — "Canada and the American Revolution" by Margaret I. Conway, "Claus L. Clausen, Pioneer Pastor and Settlement Promoter, 1843-1868" by Margareth A. Jorgensen, and "Roosevelt, Opportunist: A Study of His Position during His Political Career on the Principles of the Progressive Party Platform of 1912" by Renata R. Pecinovsky — have been presented by the history department of the University of Minnesota. Miss Conway's thesis includes a chapter on the Quebec Act and its influence on the Canadian fur-traders at the time when Canada was being urged to become the fourteenth rebellious colony; and Miss Jorgensen's study contains material on the Norwegian element in Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota and on the immigrants' views on slavery during the Civil War.

Among the state archives recently placed in the custody of the society are about a hundred and fifty filing boxes of correspondence for the period from 1880 to 1911 from the office of the attorney general. Three letter books for that office covering the years 1877, 1878, 1888, 1889, and 1890, and located in the auditor's office, also have been received. From the office of the adju-

tant general have come a group of letters and reports relating for the most part to the Civil War period.

A copy of the rare first issue of the first edition of Lahontan's *Nouveau Voyage dans l'Amerique*, published in 1703, is the first purchase made by the society from the income of the Herschel V. Jones fund (see *ante*, 9:296).

A great mass of non-current records of United States land offices in Minnesota, filling sixteen large packing boxes, have been turned over to the society by the Cass Lake land office. These papers form a valuable addition to the collection of federal land office records received by the society in 1925 (see *ante*, 6:291).

An interesting gift to the society is a copy of *The Field of Gettysburg: A Metrical Narrative of Love and War* (Amity, Oregon, 1929. 109 p.), presented by the author, Mr. John Talman, who for many years served as newspaper librarian on the society's staff. Mr. Talman's talent for stately and sonorous poetical narrative finds a congenial outlet in the stirring drama of Gettysburg, with the charge of the "First Minnesota" as one of its heroic episodes. The volume contains an introductory word of appreciation by Edwin Markham.

A notable addition to the society's museum is a collection of about a hundred and fifty articles illustrative of life among the Chippewa Indians assembled by Miss Frances Densmore at Grand Portage and including objects actually used as well as specimens and models made by the Indians for the collection. A full-sized birch-bark tepee is to be added to this collection.

Among the objects illustrative of pioneer life recently received are a large platter of brown willow ware, snuff boxes, and a set of bobbins for making lace from Mrs. Carey M. Johnson of South St. Paul; a folding writing desk from Miss Dorothy Eddy of St. Paul; an early type of melodeon from Mr. Paul P. Thompson of Winona; a taxidermist's case from Miss Mabel Marvin of Winona; and a shoulder yoke, tools, and a hunting knife from the estate of John Seibert of Hillman, through the courtesy of Dr. J. C. Ferguson of St. Paul.

Recent additions to the costume collection include several ladies' and children's dresses of the sixties and seventies from Miss Mabel Marvin of Winona; a white silk dress of 1895 from Mrs. Robert Rosenthal of St. Paul; an infant's hand-embroidered christening robe of 1860 from Mrs. Margaret L. Smith of Minneapolis; a christening dress of 1850 from Mrs. J. W. Teasdale of St. Paul; a mauve silk wedding dress of 1872 from Miss Dorothy Eddy of St. Paul; a black lace-covered parasol of 1900 from Miss Lillian Lovenstein of St. Paul; and a number of ladies' hats, dresses, and accessories of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, together with a gentleman's silk hat in a leather hatbox from the estate of William Moorhouse of Hastings, through the courtesy of Mrs. J. Holbrook of Los Angeles, California.

An oil painting of Judge Orlando Simons presented by his daughter, Miss Blanche Simons of St. Paul; a photograph of Julia Laframboise, received from Miss Callie M. Kerlinger of Berkeley, California; and pictures of eighteen Indian chiefs presented by Mrs. George H. Drake of Minneapolis through the courtesy of Dr. Kenneth Colwell of St. Paul have been added to the portrait collection. Among the other pictures recently received are a group picture of members of the Ramsey County Medical Society in 1889 and twenty small views of early Minnesota scenes from Miss Theresa Erickson of St. Paul; an album of early views of St. Paul and Minneapolis from Mrs. George H. Warren of Minneapolis; three pictures of the site of Fort St. Charles from Mrs. George P. Douglas of Minneapolis for the Society of Colonial Dames in Minnesota; and two photographs of the ruins of Joseph R. Brown's house near Sacred Heart from Mr. Ralph Molm of Sacred Heart.

A large birch-bark basket used by Indians in winnowing wild rice is the gift of Mr. D. A. Mitchell of Mountain Iron.

A silver presidential medal of the Polk administration has been presented by Mrs. George H. Warren of Minneapolis. It once belonged to the Chippewa chief, Bobodosh.

A banner of the Haycreek Grange number 126 is the gift of Mr. A. J. Schunk of Minneapolis.

A set of silver coins of the Republic of Panama for the years 1904, 1905, and 1907 has been received from Mr. Paul P. Thompson of Winona. Mrs. Carey Johnson of South St. Paul has presented several pieces of Continental and fractional currency.

A German gas mask, a field glass case, some war bread, fragments of shrapnel, and shells, and pieces of an airplane have been presented by Mr. Clifford S. Erickson of St. Paul, who collected them during the World War.

NEWS AND COMMENT

"Despite the handicaps under which social scientists labor in applying their principles of scientific methodology," write Walter E. Spahr and Rinehart J. Swenson in a volume entitled *Methods and Status of Scientific Research* (New York, 1930), "they deal with problems which are far more fundamental in nature than do the exact scientists, for the simple reason that they deal with the question of human relations" (p. 25).

"Try as they may to jump out of their skins," writes Dr. Preserved Smith, "men cannot write about other men as they write about bees and about atoms; and could they do so they would miss one of the great interests of study. To lay stress on the personal is to make history unscientific; to omit it altogether is to make our study inhuman." Dr. Smith discusses "The Place of History among the Sciences" in a volume of *Essays in Intellectual History* (New York, 1929) dedicated to James Harvey Robinson by some of his former seminar students.

By establishing a pictorial archive of early American architecture the Library of Congress has launched an enterprise that merits hearty support. A large collection of negatives for permanent preservation is contemplated, supplemented by files of prints for consultation by students and others. The Library of Congress will welcome gifts of negatives in the special field of the collection, which is to be administered by the division of fine arts.

The archives of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States have been deposited with the New York Historical Society.

A translation of Nicolas Perrot's commission of May 8, 1689, to take possession of portions of the West, including the "country of the Nadesioux, rivers St. Croix and St. Pierre," appears in the *Green Bay Historical Bulletin* for April-May-June. It was made from a photostat of a copy of the commission in the French archives at Paris. The original is in the Canadian Archives.

Mr. Arthur T. Adams attacks the problem of Lahontan's "Long River" in an article entitled "Minnesota's Missing River" in the *Minneapolis Journal* for August 3. The writer attempts to prove that this stream "was the combined Cannon, Le Sueur, Blue Earth and upper Minnesota" all connected as a result of high water and floods, "thus forming a continuous waterway east and west across the state."

"Anglo-Spanish Rivalry in the Iowa Country, 1797-1798" is the title of an important article by Abraham P. Nasatir in the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics* for July. Dr. Nasatir's narrative, which is accompanied by a series of documents, is of interest for Minnesota history, for in the period indicated that portion of Minnesota lying west of the Mississippi was under the Spanish flag. Furthermore, Prairie du Chien, long a fur-trading base for the Minnesota country, figures prominently in the story. Dr. Nasatir is also responsible for the translation of "An Account of Spanish Louisiana, 1785" by Estevan Miro, which appears in the *Missouri Historical Review* for July. Though this does not include specific information about the Minnesota area, it has many references to the Sioux Indians and is valuable for its general description of upper Louisiana.

One of "Two North West Company Documents" printed with editorial comment by Walter N. Sage in the *Canadian Historical Review* for June is the contract of a *voyageur* named Joseph Flamand made at Grand Portage on July 14, 1792.

Mrs. A. S. Marquis has told the story of Dr. John McLoughlin (*The Great White Eagle*) for children in a pamphlet recently published as one of the *Ryerson Canadian History Readers* (Toronto. 31 p.). An ivory miniature painted in the late thirties of the trader, who became known as the "father of Oregon," is reproduced in the booklet. Before his Oregon career McLoughlin was a fur-trader of the Northwest and Hudson's Bay companies at Rainy Lake and other points west of Lake Superior.

The Astor House, the headquarters of the American Fur Company at Mackinac, is the subject of a feature article by Elmo S. Watson in the *Wabasso Standard* for August 21. The author

tells briefly of the American fur trade at this point and describes in detail the old house, which recently was converted into a community center.

The importance of the work of the Italian explorer, Beltrami, both from the scientific and from the literary points of view, is gaining increased recognition, according to an article by Eugenia Costanzi Masi entitled "Notizie di Giacomo Costantino Beltrami sugli indigeni Americani" [Notes of Giacomo Constantino Beltrami on the Aborigines of America], published in *Atti d. XXII Cong. Internazionale degli Americanisti, Roma, 2:685-696* (1928), as reported in *Social Science Abstracts* for October. Cooper and Chateaubriand freely utilized Beltrami's material, the author declares.

An historical pilgrimage to sites made famous by explorers and pioneers in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan is described by William J. McNally in a series of twelve articles published in the daily issues of the *Minneapolis Tribune* from September 16 to October 1 under the title "Motor Trails through the Old Northwest." From Minneapolis the writer went south to Prairie Island in the Mississippi, where Le Sueur and possibly Radisson and Groseilliers made stops; from that point he went to Frontenac, the site of Fort Beauharnois and other French posts and of General Garrard's residence; next he visited the site of Perrot's Fort St. Antoine in Wisconsin; then "Battle Island: the Scene of Black Hawk's Last Stand"; Prairie du Chien was his next stop; then he followed the "Fox-Wisconsin Waterway" to Portage, the site of Fort Winnebago, and Green Bay; from there he turned northward to Mackinac and Sault Ste. Marie; and finally, after following the course of the Brule and St. Croix rivers southward to Prescott, he returned to his starting point. The history of each stopping place is exploited and often is correlated in an interesting manner with contemporary European history.

A "Covered Wagon Centennial" celebration, "commemorating the 100th anniversary of the birth of Ezra Meeker and celebrating the 100th anniversary of the first Covered Wagon Train to cross the Continental Divide" was held at Independence Rock

near Casper, Wyoming, on July 3, 4, and 5. The rock is a famous landmark of the old Oregon Trail and on it are carved the names of more than five thousand emigrants who went to the Far West by this route. Among them are the names of at least two Minnesotans, A. Balcomb and W. K. Winans.

The Fisk expedition of 1862 is described by Florence Lehmann in a feature article entitled "The Wagon Trail from Minnesota" in the magazine section of the *Minneapolis Journal* for July 20.

In a volume entitled *The States of the Old Northwest and the Tariff, 1865-1888* (Emporia, Kansas, 1929. 199 p.), Dr. Clarence H. Miller declares that for a decade after the Civil War a majority of the Congressmen from the Northwest voted as representatives of agriculture, for another decade they voted as representatives of manufacturing, and in 1888 all the northwestern Congressmen voted "as members of their respective political parties," for "the tariff had become a rigid party issue."

Shanty-boat, by Kent and Margaret Lighty, is the story of a voyage in a house boat down the Mississippi from the mouth of the Minnesota to New Orleans (New York, 1930. 321 p.). Woven into this unusual travel narrative is the history of many a point along the great river.

Know Your North Dakota is the title of a useful pamphlet by Helen J. Sullivan issued by the North Dakota department of public instruction as a handbook for the schools of that state (1929. 90 p.). One section of the pamphlet presents a condensed account of North Dakota history and there is a valuable bibliography printed under the heading "Some Books about North Dakota."

In a study entitled "The Swedes and the New History," contributed by Roy W. Swanson to the *Swedish-American Historical Bulletin* for September, the writer deals with the Swedes during the colonial period and attempts to picture the "amalgamation of a group into the American scene through the breakdown of language and custom." In the same issue of the *Bulletin* is a series of "Letters from Jonas Engberg to Erik Norelius in the Fifties," which includes several dated at Red Wing and Cannon Falls Town-

ship. Norelius was the editor and Engberg was the printer of *Minnesota-Posten*, the first Swedish newspaper published in Minnesota. The latter was also a pioneer schoolteacher. "Last Sunday," he notes in a letter probably written on November 8, 1856, "Willard announced to the congregation that they could deliver oats or potatoes, to apply on my salary, yesterday, Monday." It appears from the letter that some ten or twelve bushels of potatoes received in this manner were put in the schoolhouse and froze before they could be marketed.

A list of thirty-eight Norwegian-American "lags" with the names and addresses of their officers is included in *How to Write the Family History* by Arthur F. Giere (Northfield, Minnesota, 1930. 23 p.). This pamphlet is a genealogical handbook designed especially for workers in the field of Norwegian-American genealogy.

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

Of state-wide interest are "Minnesota's 101 Best Stories, based on historical incidents," as selected and recounted by Merle Potter, which have been appearing in the daily issues of the *Minneapolis Journal* since July 27. Geographically the stories cover Minnesota from Martin County in the south to Marshall County in the north; they deal with incidents that occurred at such varying times as 1700 and the present century; and their range of interest may be judged from the fact that they include such diverse subjects as a famous murder case and the love story of a missionary. Many of the picturesque figures in Minnesota are represented: Joe Rolette saves the capital for St. Paul, July 27; James Dickson marches across the northern part of the state with his "Indian Liberating Army," July 29; Joseph R. Brown experiments with his steam wagon, August 1; Jane Grey Swisshelm clashes with Sylvanus B. Lowry, August 4; Le Sueur takes his boatload of blue earth down the Minnesota and Mississippi rivers and across the Atlantic, August 18; and Ignatius Donnelly dreams of a great city at Nininger, September 2. The spectacular events described include the "Blueberry War" in Crow Wing County in 1872,

August 3; the grasshopper plague of the seventies, August 11; the great mill explosion of 1878, August 29; the Wright County war of 1858, September 4; the race in which Dan Patch broke the world's pacing record at the Minnesota State Fair in 1906, September 8; the arrival of the "Virginia" at Fort Snelling in 1823, September 10; and the Leech Lake Indian uprising of 1898, September 25.

The Sioux village of Kaposia on the site of the present village of South St. Paul, the battle that took place there in 1842, and the line of chiefs who ruled it under the name of Little Crow are described in a feature article in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* of August 3, written by Kathryn F. Gorman and based on an interview with Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of the museum of the Minnesota Historical Society. A picture of Kaposia, a modern view of its site, and a portrait of the second Little Crow illustrate the article.

The history of the Birch Cooley mission, established in 1860 by Bishop Whipple for the members of Good Thunder's band and other Indians living around the Lower Sioux agency, is reviewed by J. L. Brown in the *Redwood Gazette* of Redwood Falls for July 2. The writer relates that a church was started at this time but was not completed because the Sioux Massacre interfered with its construction. After the outbreak Good Thunder returned to the vicinity of the agency, bought eighty acres of land, and in 1881 "announced he would give one-fourth of his land or 20 acres to the church if a missionary would be sent." The Indians "removed all of the stone from the Old Agency to the present site of the church," and in 1891 the structure was completed and consecrated by Bishop Whipple. Some account of the work of Miss Susan E. Salisbury and of the more recent history of the mission also is included.

The treasures stored in the home of Bishop Whipple at Fari-bault are described in a feature article by Charles W. Moore, published in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for September 14, shortly after the death of Mrs. Whipple in Italy.

The "Stirring Adventures of the Jos. R. Brown Family" during the Sioux War of 1862 are the subject of an interesting narrative by a grandson of the famous pioneer, G. G. Allanson of Wheaton, published in two installments in the *Sacred Heart News* for August 14 and 21. The author's point of departure is the famous "castle" that Major Brown built near Sacred Heart in 1861. He describes in some detail the nineteen-room mansion overlooking the Minnesota Valley, tells about the life of the Brown family there, and explains how its members were forced to flee for their lives one morning in August, 1862, leaving their home to be burned by the Indians. Some intimate details of their captivity in Little Crow's camp, which Mr. Allanson learned from his mother, Ellen Brown, are revealed. Two views of the ruins of the Brown mansion appear with the first installment. The article has been reprinted as a twenty-page pamphlet with a number of additional illustrations—portraits of Major Brown, his son Samuel, and Little Crow, and a picture of Brown's famous steam wagon.

An elaborate historical pageant presented at Fort Ridgely State Park on August 22 and 23 marked the sixty-eighth anniversary of the Sioux War and of the siege of Fort Ridgely. It depicted scenes of Indian life, activities at Laframboise's trading post, and pioneer life in the Minnesota Valley, and revealed incidents leading up to and connected with the outbreak. The celebration was given wide publicity and the performances were attended by about three thousand people. Another feature of the anniversary was the unveiling on August 22 of bronze plaques in memory of Colonel Timothy J. Sheehan, commander of Fort Ridgely during the siege, and of Charles H. Hopkins, "preserver of the site for a state park." A booklet issued by the Fort Ridgely State Park and Historical Association in connection with the celebration, entitled *Memorial of the Sioux Indian Outbreak, 1862* (Fairfax. 20 p.), is especially noteworthy for descriptions and pictures of monuments erected to commemorate the outbreak.

A picture of the Milford monument, a Sioux War memorial near New Ulm, with a brief history of its site and an account of

its erection appears in the *Brown County Journal* of New Ulm for July 11. A leaflet containing a picture of the monument, copies of the inscriptions on it, and a list of those who were massacred at Milford has been printed for free distribution among visitors to the site.

According to a report in the *Renville County Journal* of Olivia for September 11, the Birch Cooley battle ground was inspected recently by Colonel J. C. Landers of Washington, D. C., with a view to determining whether the war department should erect a monument there. He is said to have been so favorably impressed with the site that he will recommend a "suitable monument in keeping with the natural surroundings, and commensurate with the historic significance and value to posterity of the grounds."

A document of special interest for Minnesota history appears under the title "Making a Farm on the Frontier: Extracts from the Diaries of Mitchell Young Jackson," edited by Solon J. Buck, in *Agricultural History* for July. Jackson was born in Ohio in 1816. Five years later he was taken to Indiana by his parents. In 1854 he removed to Minnesota, where he lived until 1874. From his diaries, which are in the possession of his son, Mr. Preston T. Jackson of St. Paul, Dr. Buck has selected items in the period from 1854 to 1857 which give a vivid and realistic picture of the process of "making a farm" on the frontier of the upper Northwest.

"Early Harvest Days" and the machinery used by the pioneer farmers of the sixties are recalled by P. P. Quist in the *Winthrop News* for July 31.

The beginnings of an important Minnesota industry are described in a sketch of "The Danielson Creamery and Its Fortieth Anniversary" in the *Willmar Daily Tribune* for July 29. It includes the statement that "The late Soren Nelson of Danielson Township in Meeker County is no doubt entitled to the credit of founding the first Co-operative Creamery using a whole milk separator in the manufacture of butter in the state of Minnesota." The history of this pioneer creamery, which was founded in the spring

of 1880, is presented. Attention also is called to the anniversary celebration on July 1, when Mr. John Brandt and Mr. Charles Nelson were the speakers.

The Minnesota Department of Health: A Brief Review of Its Early Days and of Its Subsequent Growth, by Dr. E. C. Hartley, has been published by the division of child hygiene of the department as a "Special Historical Number" of its *News Letter* (August, 1930. 12 p.). The author relates that the department, established in 1872, "is one of the oldest branches of our state government, as well as the third oldest state health department in our country." He describes in some detail the work of Dr. Charles N. Hewitt, its first secretary, and, more briefly, the development of the board and its personnel after Dr. Hewitt retired in 1897. A diagram of the present organization of the board of health is included in the pamphlet.

Library work in American prisons is the subject of an article by Bernice Cosulich entitled "Making the 'Old Bit' Pay," in the *New York Herald-Tribune Magazine* for August 3, in which the library of the Minnesota state prison at Stillwater is described as the "finest prison library in America . . . cited by penologists the world over for its amazing work." The writer declares that the "best reflector of the serious reading done by men at Stillwater is 'The Prison Mirror,' oldest prison newspaper in existence."

The 1930 annual issued by the students of Macalester College, *The Mac of 1930*, is of considerable historical interest for the sketches that it contains of the career of Dr. Edward D. Neill, the founder and first president of the college. The sketches tell of Neill as "A Pioneer Pastor," "A Pioneer Educator," "Serving the Nation," and "Founding a College." Taken together they give a rounded and well written survey of the career and services of an outstanding pioneer of culture in early Minnesota.

Reminiscent sketches and letters by pioneer teachers and graduates of the Mankato State Teachers College are printed in the 1930 *Katonian*, the annual publication of the senior class. This is an "anniversary edition" commemorating the sixtieth anniver-

sary of the school's removal from the business section of Mankato to its present campus and of the graduation of the first class.

Recent changes in the tone of student life of the University of Minnesota are discussed by Professor George P. Conger in an article entitled "After Ten Years," published in the second August issue of the *Minnesota Alumni Weekly*.

Short As Any Dream by Elizabeth Shepley Sergeant (New York, 1929) is an interesting addition to the steadily increasing number of novels in which Minnesota backgrounds figure. Of particular interest for Minnesota readers is the inclusion of the story of Jane Grey Swisshelm and of her newspaper, the *St. Cloud Visiter*. Another recent novel with a Minnesota setting is *Lone Voyageurs* by Wanda Fraiken Neff (Boston, 1929), in which "Chippewa University" appears to be a disguise for the University of Minnesota.

The story of General William G. Le Duc and his home at Hastings is told by Kathryn F. Gorman in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for September 21. Pictures of the old house and its owner illustrate the article.

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

The murder of Michael Durgan, a tavern keeper, near Anoka by two guests in January, 1860, and the trial and sentence of one of the murderers, Charles Dumphy, are described in an article in the *Anoka Union* for July 2.

Members of the Scandia Baptist Church, "the oldest church and first organization of any kind in Carver county," celebrated the seventy-fifth anniversary of its founding on July 10. Historical sketches of the church, which still occupies a log structure erected in 1858, appear in the *Minneapolis Journal* for July 11 and the *Wacoma Patriot* for July 17.

In an interview published in the *Gazette-Telegram* of Breckenridge for July 16, Mrs. Anna Miller of Moorhead tells how her father, George Motschenbacher, emigrated from Wisconsin in

1880, settled in Clay County, and planted the first seed corn in the vicinity.

A brief history of St. Ansgar's Hospital of Moorhead is included in the *White Cap*, the annual publication of the hospital's school of nursing, for 1930.

A joint meeting of the historical societies of Cook, Lake, and St. Louis counties, known as the North Shore Historical Assembly, was held at Grand Portage and Grand Marais on August 23. At the afternoon session at Grand Portage Dr. Solon J. Buck, superintendent of the state historical society, spoke on "The Grand Portage Indian Reservation"; and papers were presented by Judge Bert Fesler of Duluth on "The Fishermen of the North Shore in 1890"; and by Albert Headley of Two Harbors on "Historical Philosophy Applied to the North Shore." The evening program presented at Grand Marais included an address by E. A. Allen, superintendent of the Minnesota Chippewa, on "United States Relations to Grand Portage Indians"; and papers on "The American North Shore of Lake Superior" by Charles E. Adams of Duluth; on "The Scotch Northwesters" by William Clinch, superintendent of the Cook County schools; on "The Activities of the Northwest Company, Especially Stressing Grand Portage" by Mrs. John A. Barton of Two Harbors; and on "The History of Cook County" by F. A. Andert, superintendent of schools at Grand Marais. On the day following the meetings a group of those who attended retraced the old portage trail leading to Fort Charlotte and examined the site of the fort. A two-page illustrated feature story by Margaret McEachern about life at Grand Portage in the fur-trade period appears in the *Minneapolis Journal* for August 31.

At the annual meeting of the Cook County Historical Society, held on September 19 at Grand Marais, the following officers were elected: Mr. N. J. Bray of Hovland, president; Mr. William Clinch of Grand Marais, vice president; and Mrs. Effie M. McLean of Grand Portage, secretary-treasurer.

A brief sketch of the beginnings of exploration for iron ore on the Cuyuna Range twenty-five years ago appears in the *Ranger* of Ironton for September 26.

A first step toward the organization of a Dodge County historical society was taken at Mantorville on August 23 when a meeting to discuss the project was held and a committee of three was appointed to draft a constitution for the proposed organization. Among the speakers at the meeting were Mr. George R. Martin of Minneapolis, vice president of the Great Northern Railway Company; Mr. Burt W. Eaton of Rochester, president of the Olmsted County Historical Society; and Dr. Theodore C. Blegen, assistant superintendent of the state historical society. When the constitutional committee has completed its work another meeting will be called to organize the society on a permanent basis.

In commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the establishment of Freeborn County, an historical pageant depicting the history of the region was presented at the fair grounds at Albert Lea on July 3, 4, and 5.

Members of the congregation of the First Swedish Lutheran Church of Red Wing celebrated the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of their church on September 28. The history of the church is outlined in the *Red Wing Daily Republican* for September 29.

The history of Kandiyohi County was reviewed in a pageant presented at the fair grounds at Willmar on July 25, 26, and 27. The proceeds were used to finish paying for the log cabin of the Kandiyohi County Old Settlers' Association (see *ante*, 8:269).

An historical sketch and picture of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Yellow Bank Township, Lac qui Parle County, which celebrated its fiftieth anniversary on September 1, appear in the *Western Guard* of Madison for August 29.

Governor Christianson spoke on exploration and settlement in the Minnesota Valley before a meeting of the Old Settlers'

Association of Le Sueur County at the fair grounds at Le Sueur Center on August 3.

The fiftieth anniversary of the building of St. Canice Church of Kilkenny in Le Sueur County and the seventy-second anniversary of the founding of Kilkenny parish were celebrated with appropriate ceremonies on September 14. A history of the church which tells of its building, its pastors, its parochial school, and its members appears in the *Montgomery Messenger* for September 19. The narrative includes an interesting note on the first confirmation. This "was conducted by Archbishop Ireland. To accommodate the large crowd a temporary church was constructed with a framework of poles and artistically decorated with leafy branches."

An historical exhibit, consisting chiefly of objects illustrative of pioneer life, was arranged in connection with the Lyon County fair from September 10 to 13.

The exhibits of historical objects arranged in the store windows at Hutchinson in connection with the celebration of the city's seventy-fifth anniversary in July (see *ante*, p. 333-335) have resulted in a permanent museum. According to an announcement in the *Hutchinson Leader* for July 11, the local historical society has renovated a room in the basement of the public library, installed cases, and placed on exhibit its permanent collection.

Nearly all the recent articles in a local history series published weekly in the *Hutchinson Leader* are based on letters or other contemporary source materials. A Civil War letter of Lloyd G. Pendergast, "the first in McLeod county to enlist for services in the Civil War," in which the writer tells of the battle of Fair Oaks, is published in the article for July 18; a document in which the town-site proprietors of Hutchinson agreed to grant to John Chubb a block of land if he would erect a hotel on it is the basis for the sketch printed on August 1; a list of claims filed by people living in and around Hutchinson for property destroyed during the Sioux War appears in the issue for August 22; and two letters relating to the purchase of Sioux half-breed scrip, written

in 1860, are included in the article for September 5. Some recollections of Mrs. Johanna Rose of Gaylord, who relates that she went to school in the Hutchinson stockade during the Sioux War, appear on July 25.

A series of reminiscent talks and some displays of historical objects in local store windows were features of a "Pioneer Day" celebration at Glencoe on August 16.

About fifteen hundred people attended the summer meeting and picnic of the Martin County Historical Society held on Lake Martin on August 31. The meeting commemorated especially the Fowler settlement on Elm Creek, near Lake Martin, which was established in 1857. Henry Martin, for whom the county is named, was a member of this colony. Among the speakers were Mr. E. R. Flygare, who outlined the history of the settlement; and Mrs. Mary Fowler Sargent, who told of its church, known as the Horicon Church. Mr. Flygare's talk is published in the *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* for August 30, and that by Mrs. Sargent appears in the same paper for September 2.

A new method for collecting historical materials has been inaugurated by the Martin County Historical Society. The *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* of August 12 carries an announcement that "President Haycraft offers a free life membership in the society to the person bringing the oldest school register of a Martin county school district." This society also arranged an historical exhibit at the Martin County fair, which was held at Fairmont from September 15 to 17.

Center Creek Township, Martin County, Minnesota: An Historical Narrative Covering the Period from 1856 to 1929, by C. B. Davison (Fairmont, 1930. 15 p.), is an interesting addition to the published histories of Minnesota townships. The title notwithstanding, the sketch deals for the most part with pioneer days—the organization of the township, the earliest settlers, agricultural beginnings, education, politics, transportation, and similar matters. The publication was sponsored by the Martin County Historical Society.

The progress of Onamia during thirty years is described in an article entitled "Indian Trading Post of 1900 Prosperous Village of 1930," in the *Mille Lacs Messenger* of Onamia for August 21. The writer, who is the editor of the paper, Mr. C. A. Sherman, tells of a trip to the village by bicycle in 1900, when the only store was a trading post conducted by Ernest Cundy.

A history of the Opstead school, presented by Mrs. Peter Sehlin at a school reunion and picnic on August 3, is printed in the *Mille Lacs Messenger* of Onamia for August 14. The author tells of the organization of the Opstead school district in the spring of 1893 as the result of the efforts of August Hagland and Andrew Sehlin; and she relates that it was a "big day at Opstead" when the "first factory-made desks were installed in the fall of 1898."

Souvenir of the Seventieth Anniversary Celebration of the Little Cedar Congregation is the title of a pamphlet which includes a history of the Little Cedar Lutheran Church of Adams and accounts of its parochial school and of its ladies' aid and young people's societies (1929. 16 p.). Pictures of the buildings occupied by the church at various times in its history and of its successive pastors illustrate the booklet.

A meeting of the Nicollet County Historical Society at St. Peter on July 23 was attended by about three hundred people. A constitution was adopted and the organization of the society was completed. Among the speakers were Dr. Solon J. Buck, superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, who spoke on history and its significance to the modern community, and Dr. Conrad Peterson of Gustavus Adolphus College, who described the local society's plans for the future.

A local historical celebration of more than ordinary interest, marking the seventy-fifth anniversary of the beginning of white settlement in Oshawa Township, Nicollet County, took place at the farm home of Mr. William A. Johnson on July 4. One of the farm buildings was vacated to house an "historical display" of pictures, Indian relics, pioneer agricultural implements, costumes, and similar objects; and a pageant depicting the progress of the

community was presented by members of the Lakeside Bible Class. The guest of honor at the celebration, Colonel John Lundeen, who with his parents settled in Oshawa in 1855, is the subject of a sketch published in the *St. Peter Herald* for July 5. Perhaps the most noteworthy feature of the anniversary was the publication of a pamphlet entitled *Lower Oshawa* by Amelia and Florence Turner (St. Peter, 1930. 40 p.). On the material included in this narrative, the pageant presented at Oshawa was based. Chapters on settlement, township organization, and clubs and social life, and many sketches of residents are included in the pamphlet.

A booklet recently issued by the Rochester Public Library under the title *By-laws and History* (1930. 18 p.) includes a sketch of the "Early History of the Library" beginning with its organization in December, 1865, and a list of the members of the library board from 1895 to the present.

The "Old Doctor" of Rochester, Dr. W. A. Allen, who has been practicing there since 1872, is the subject of a feature article by Kathryn Gorman in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for July 20.

The Otter Tail County Historical Society recently installed an exhibit, including Indian relics, objects illustrative of pioneer life, maps, and other items, in a glass wall case in the vestibule of the courthouse at Fergus Falls. The case was furnished by the board of county commissioners.

The history of a pioneer flour mill near Fergus Falls is recalled by a former employee, Mr. George Reynolds, in an interview published in the *Fergus Falls Journal* of September 24.

At a meeting of the Pipestone County Old Settlers' Historical Society on September 1, Mr. A. H. Adams reviewed the history of Eden Township, Mrs. Carrie Ludolph read a paper entitled "Days Gone By," and several reminiscent talks were presented. Announcement was made that the organization had become affiliated with the Minnesota Historical Society as an institutional member. It has also received permission from the county commissioners to exhibit its collections in the courthouse.

Builders of Pope County by Daisy Ellen Hughes (44 p.) is a compilation of material about the history of the county drawn from various sources. Exploration of the region, early settlement, and the organization of the county are discussed briefly; the history of each village and township is sketched; church histories are presented; and the county's part "in Three Wars" is described. The pamphlet was issued in connection with a celebration held at Glenwood in June (see *ante*, p. 337).

The formal opening and dedication of the Buckham Memorial Library of Faribault on July 20 is fittingly commemorated in a special supplement published with the *Faribault Daily News* for July 18. It includes sketches of Judge Thomas S. Buckham, in whose memory the library was given to the city, and of Mrs. Anna Buckham, the donor; a history of the Faribault Public Library, which was established in 1897; and an account of the Rice County Historical Society's room in the new building.

The part played by the late Dr. A. O. Sorbel of Webster, South Dakota, in the capture of the Younger brothers after the Northfield bank robbery of 1876 is described in the *Northfield News* for July 25.

Two pioneer Roseau County churches were marked by the Roseau County Historical Society in July. On July 4 a marker was placed on the community hall at Pine Creek, the first church building erected in the county. The local church celebrated its fortieth anniversary on the same day. A marker describing the Norwegian Lutheran Free Church at Rose as the "first church organized in Roseau County, July 16, 1888," was placed on its building on July 27. Special programs with talks by officers of the society and local pastors were presented at both places.

An "historic realty deal" of 1869 by which a large portion of what is now the business section of Duluth was sold for twenty thousand dollars is described in an interview with Mr. E. M. Nettleton of Covington, Virginia, published in the *Duluth Herald* for July 31. Mr. Nettleton also presents some pioneer recollections of Duluth, where he resided for a few years following 1868.

How the railroad came to Chisholm is recounted in an article which calls attention to the "20th anniversary of train service," in the *Tribune-Herald* of Chisholm for July 24.

"The Beginning of Belle Plaine" as recalled by a pioneer who settled in the vicinity in 1854, Mr. John McConnell of Le Sueur, is described by Win V. Working in articles published on July 10 and 17 in the *Belle Plaine Herald*. Other sketches by the same writer printed in recent issues of this paper deal with the brick-making industry at Blakeley in the eighties and nineties, July 31; a letter of U. S. Deming telling of conditions in the Minnesota Valley in 1858, August 7; the celebration of December 27, 1866, "marking the advent of the Minnesota Valley railroad in the valley," September 4; and train schedules for the summer of 1867, — the "days when Belle Plaine was 'the end of the Line,'" — September 11.

A "harvest ball" held in August, 1885, at Arlington, which was sponsored by the local fire department, is the subject of one of a series of local history articles in the *Arlington Enterprise* for July 17. Another article in the same series, published on August 14, includes a letter from John McLeod to a cousin in Vermont, written in September, 1863, and telling about experiences in the Sioux War.

The history of banking at Morris and the pioneer history of Stevens County were reviewed by the Honorable Julius A. Schmahl in an address before the stockholders of the Morris National Bank at Pomme de Terre Lake on July 20. The speech is printed in the *Morris Tribune* of July 25.

The Swift County Historical Society has secured the use of a room, which will be converted into a museum, in the courthouse at Benson.

The traders Augustine Rocque, Edward Hudson, and Charles R. Read figure prominently in an article about the history of Read's Landing, a village at the foot of Lake Pepin near Wabasha, by Charles W. Moore in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for August 17.

The growth of the trading post into a "depot of supplies for mill owners, commission houses, lumbering concerns and backwoods storekeepers" during the steamboating era and its decline with the coming of the railroad are described. Some excellent views of the village and of steamboats at its landing illustrate the article.

The completion of Mr. William E. Easton's sixty years of service with the *Stillwater Gazette* and the sixtieth anniversary of the publication of the paper are commemorated in a series of historical issues published during the first week in August. Extracts from the earliest numbers of the *Gazette*, remarks about some of its oldest advertisers, reminiscences of Mr. Easton, and pioneer views of Stillwater are among the items included. The anniversary was the subject of comment by newspapers throughout the state.

St. John's Lutheran Church of Baytown, which celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary on August 24, is the subject of a brief historical sketch in the *Stillwater Daily Gazette* for August 19.

Rothsay owes its existence to the "building of the railroad through this part of the country in 1879," writes Swend Larson in an historical sketch of the village published in the *Rothsay Enterprise* for July 17.

"Father Hennepin Lives Again in the Heart of Minneapolis" is the title of an illustrated feature article in the *Minneapolis Star* for August 16. It announces the celebration on October 12 of the two-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of Hennepin's discovery of the Falls of St. Anthony and recalls the program presented in Minneapolis fifty years ago when the two-hundredth anniversary of that event was commemorated.

The history of the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Paul, which celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary on September 14, is reviewed in a pamphlet published for the occasion under the title *Remembrances of Trinity's 75th Birthday* (44 p.). It is elaborately illustrated, and most of the material included is printed in German as well as in English.



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