

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

Historical Scholarship in America: Needs and Opportunities. A Report by the COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION ON THE PLANNING OF RESEARCH. (New York, Ray Long & Richard R. Smith, Inc., 1932. ix, 146 p.)

This is a disappointing work. It could hardly have been expected to prove otherwise. One man possessing great experience and vision—such a man as Dr. J. Franklin Jameson—might, after much inquiry and obtaining much advice, produce a wise and stimulating report on historical scholarship in this country. A committee of two or three men might do so. But when the subject is parcelled out to five “conferences” of eight or ten scholars each, and their ideas and conclusions are then mulled over, pulled apart, and re-worked by another committee of seven (who incidentally confer with a dozen more), the result is pretty sure to be a hodgepodge. In this particular hodgepodge there are naturally a number of facts and proposals of value. Like our historical scholarship, it is fairly strong on details. But it offers no clear vision of the problem as a whole, it presents no searching analysis of any considerable part of it, and its conclusions are numerous, petty, and confusing rather than few, wise, and luminous.

If the primary reason for its weakness lies in the fact that it is the work of six committees and sixty minds, the secondary reason is almost equally important. It views historical scholarship almost entirely from the point of view of research. Perhaps that is why the term “historical scholarship” is used instead of the term “historical writing.” But scholarship, in this connection, ought to include interpretation and writing, and include them on a footing of complete equality with research. A careful reading of this brochure reveals that most of the men who produced it were thinking of scholarship as the ferreting-out and piling-up of facts. They were intent upon finding means of making it easier to get at facts; means of encouraging libraries and museums to accumulate facts; means of training graduate students to catalogue facts; and the opening up of new fields of facts. The report is primarily a treatise upon the better

organization and support of research in America, and much of it assumes that research is the be-all and end-all of scholarship. Actually, of course, it is but the lesser half of true scholarship. If the book had embodied a much larger conception of the problem, it might have been many times as useful.

Written by a multiplicity of scholars—all university scholars, by the way; not a breath of air was let in from outside the academic walks—and with research as its unifying idea, the report keeps close to the bookstack and the seminar table. As we have said, in detail many of its suggestions are excellent. There are proposals for annual conferences of research specialists in various fields; for the systematic training of archivists; for the systematic collection of motion picture films of historical interest; for the establishment of a fund to publish brief monographs; for the preparation of finding lists of European materials in American libraries; for a fund to enable medieval scholars to procure reproductions of documentary and other materials for research; for the better training of museum directors and the creation of a more adequate museum science; for the building up of source collections for research in American social, economic, and intellectual history; for the possible creation in Rome of a school to train students in archeology and medieval and Renaissance research; and even for helping scholars in ill-trodden fields to obtain the recondite linguistic equipment that is necessary. Shafts of light are shot casually into all sorts of little nooks and crannies. The reader of the report will find on one page something about the need for a good checklist of medieval cartularies; on another a call for more study of the art of conducting seminars; and on a third a question about the cultural contributions of immigrant groups in the Middle West, and their investigation.

All this from one point of view is extremely valuable, stimulating, and encouraging; from another point of view it is a valley of dry bones. The primary need of American historical scholarship is not more check lists of medieval cartularies, or anything of the kind. There are overtones and undertones in the report—implications between the lines—which suggest that the authors of it sometimes thought so themselves. That is, there are hints here and there of an uneasy feeling that something is seriously wrong with our historical scholarship and that more apparatus will not cure it. We have an unequalled horde of historical students—all turning out mono-

graphs. As the report says in one of its few epigrammatic sentences, the result of our system is that "the *doctorandi* publish books, while the professors publish articles." We have graduate schools that make the library shelves groan with dissertations; but for all their scholarship our graduate schools seldom turn out a great teacher, and almost never a really good writer. A century ago or a little less historical scholarship bulked large in American culture. Every educated man and woman in the country knew something of the work of Prescott, Bancroft, Motley, Parkman. Today historical scholarship has no significance even to most of the best-educated, and it is an eloquent fact that the historians who have a wide following—men like James Truslow Adams, Claude G. Bowers, Francis Hackett—have had little to do with universities and nothing to do with typical university research. Our scholarship is fertile in minute productions, but it is almost barren in ideas. When a man who is capable of supplying enlightening new interpretations happens along, like the late Frederick J. Turner, he looms up like a giant; and the rare seminar that opens up a new realm of ideas, like Carlton J. H. Hayes's seminar in nationalism, quickly becomes famous.

A multitude of minor defects and shortcomings in our historical scholarship are pointed out in this report and remedies suggested; its really fundamental inadequacies, the maladies that sap its soul, are scarcely suggested. The report has been accepted by the American Historical Association, and it deserved acceptance. But it should be supplemented. The association might do well to appoint a new committee—made up say of Mr. Michael I. Rostovtzeff for ancient history, Mr. Henry Osborn Taylor for medieval history, Mr. Carl Becker for modern European history, and Mr. James Truslow Adams for American history, all of whom know scholarship in the broader sense and the spirit that must animate it—to present a report that would get at the heart of present-day needs.

ALLAN NEVINS

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Atlas of the Historical Geography of the United States (Carnegie Institution of Washington, *Publications*, no. 401). By CHARLES O. PAULLIN. Edited by JOHN K. WRIGHT. (Washington, Carnegie Institution of Washington and the American Geographical Society of New York, 1932. xv, 162 p. Maps. \$15.00.)

The purpose of this work, "to illustrate cartographically . . . essential facts of geography and of history that condition and explain the development of the United States," has been admirably fulfilled. The work is based upon a plan formulated by Dr. J. Franklin Jameson and is the result of the coöperative labors of a number of scholars over a period of twenty years. The volume is divided into two parts, the first part comprising the text, and the second, the maps. The text gives references to the sources of information upon which the maps are based and the necessary explanation for a proper understanding of the maps, without, however, attempting to interpret them.

The first series of maps, illustrating the natural environment of the United States—its position, topography, climate, soils, vegetation, and mineral wealth—is followed by a number of reproductions of old maps showing the growth of geographical knowledge of the continent. A section devoted to Indian relations gives locations of battles between Indians and whites, Christian missions to Indians, Indian lands ceded to the government, Indian reservations, and the areas occupied by Indian tribes and linguistic stocks about 1650. The significance of land in the development of American civilization is illustrated by numerous maps covering such subjects as the evolution of boundaries, Indian land cessions, and the disposition of the public domain. The progress of settlement, the rise of urban centers, and changes in the composition of the population are covered by sections on "Settlement, Population, and Towns, 1650–1790," "States, Territories, and Cities, 1790–1930," and "Population, 1790–1930." Plates devoted to politics and reforms "set forth the shifting alignments of political sentiment in different sections and show where local interests have often diverged from the prevailing sectional interests," and a number dealing with industries and transportation, foreign commerce, and the distribution of wealth, as well as some of the maps included in the series on "Lands," illustrate important

aspects of the economic history of the nation. There are also sections on "Colleges, Universities, and Churches, 1775-1890," "Military History, 1689-1918," and "Possessions and Territorial Claims of the United States."

That the *Atlas* does not include a wide variety of topics that might well have been illustrated cartographically had unlimited space been available is recognized by the editors in their introduction. The volume will be a valuable aid to historians, teachers, and students as a reference work and as a basis for original research; it should be of equal value in pointing the way to further research in subjects that it does not cover.

M. W.

The Invasion: A Narrative of Events Concerning the Johnston Family of St. Mary's. By JANET LEWIS. (New York, Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1932. 356 p. \$2.50.)

This is neither a novel nor a history. Though leaning much farther toward the latter category than toward the former, it still introduces imaginative conversation and descriptive passages, which exclude it at once from the realm of pure history. Briefly, it tells the story of the region from La Pointe to Mackinac from the last decade of the eighteenth century to 1850 or thereabout, with some further matter on the Johnston family as late as 1928. The personalities of this family are made the thread on which to string the events of the region for over half a century. So cleverly has the author associated every event with a member of this family that it is seldom the reader wonders why an anecdote or a figure has been introduced. And it must be conceded that it takes ingenuity to convince one that even such an important unit as the Johnston family was connected in one way or another with *all* the explorers, traders, Indians, and scientists that touch Lake Superior's history from 1790 to 1850. The figure of Henry Rowe Schoolcraft helps materially to maintain the air of plausibility, for as Indian agent he came into the thick of things just as the first dominating character of the book, his father-in-law, John Johnston, the Irish gentleman trader, was leaving the scene.

Had the author so wished, she could have made much of a member of the Johnston family whom she seldom mentions. This is

George Johnston, the second son of John and the White Fisher's daughter. He was sub-agent at La Pointe, an explorer of acumen, one of the party for running the Sioux-Chippewa boundary line in 1835, and a man of education and refinement. His papers have survived and are well worth recognition by this author. Still another son was William, whose letters as an independent trader from Leech Lake and vicinity in 1833 surely warrant his inclusion in the family circle as portrayed by the author. These letters not only reveal William's interesting personality, but by inference also indicate to some degree the character of the sister to whom they were written. Perhaps the author did not want her canvas to become too large; George and William would have extended it westward to Leech Lake and south to Fort Snelling, necessitating a portrait of the fiery but honest Taliaferro. Another character whom one misses is Ramsay Crooks, long a resident of Mackinac and later president of the American Fur Company. His frequent visits to Lake Superior certainly must have meant an acquaintance with John Johnston. But, here again, the author may have realized that she had too many characters in her picture as it was, and even the powerful Crooks had to be sacrificed to unity and simplicity.

The story begins to lose interest with the death of Johnston's wife and the removal of the Schoolcrafts to the East. Degeneration is never pleasant to watch, and none of John Johnston's grandchildren seem to have risen above the commonplace. Descriptions of the odd character of John Tanner and the mysterious murder of James Schoolcraft, Anna Maria Johnston's husband, maintain the tempo of the book into the middle forties. The reviewer would like further information about Lieutenant Tilden's deathbed confession of the murder. Tanner has borne the blame these many years in most readers' minds, and it is high time his innocence was proclaimed, if sufficient evidence is at hand.

The reviewer found the last fifty pages much inferior not only in content but also in treatment to the preceding three hundred. In fact, a genealogical table is needed to keep the relationship of the several descendants clear. Just the briefest narrative of the third and fourth generations would have been preferable, enough to have brought the family history up to date. Another title also might have been preferable. The author does not succeed in convincing the reader that her theme is the invasion of the Indians' country by

the whites. Rather, the reader feels that the book is a well-written and historically accurate narrative of a superlatively interesting family.

GRACE LEE NUTE

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ST. PAUL

The Origin and History of Swedish Religious Organizations in Minnesota, 1853-1885. By JOHN OLSON ANDERS, PH. D., professor of history, Bethany College. (Rock Island, Illinois, Augustana Book Concern, 1932. 101 p. Maps.)

In this book, an abbreviated version of a doctor's dissertation presented at the University of Minnesota, Dr. Anders has endeavored to trace the history of religious organizations among the Swedish immigrants in Minnesota from 1853 to 1885. The author has realized the necessity also of briefly discussing the history of these groups beyond the boundaries of the state in order to give the proper background to the currents in Minnesota. A great deal of research has been done in gathering the data presented, and hours of valuable time have been spent in organizing the material for use in this work. Mr. Anders shows soundness of judgment; his interpretation is keen, though at times cautious. His contribution is a marked contrast to the uncritical and biased histories of religious groups and nationalities in America. In particular, Mr. Anders' work is a contribution to the history of Swedish immigration, and a valuable addition to the history of Minnesota.

The reviewer wishes that the author had elaborated certain points and feels that much would have been gained had he told all he knew, but this, of course, was impossible in an abbreviated version of the story. Mr. Anders deals with "explosives" so tactfully that the most sincere hero-worshipper could not be offended. Nevertheless, the wisdom of almost completely ignoring the importance of the Swedish-American press might be questioned. Certainly, *Den svenska republiken* should have provided a great deal of material on the history of the Methodists, Baptists, and Episcopalians. *Frithetsvannen* should offer valuable information on the history of the Baptists, and *Zions baner* on the history of the Mission Friends. These two papers were the first mouthpieces of these two groups. More might have been said about *Sändebudet*, the paper of the

Methodists; and about *Minnesota posten*, the first Swedish newspaper published in Minnesota, *Missionären*, *Luthersk kyrkotiding*, *Skaffaren*, and a number of other papers. More extensive footnotes would also have been instructive to the reader. These are needed particularly for letters not published in *Tidskrift* for 1899 or elsewhere, as the book is not provided with a bibliography. The historical accuracy of the statement on page 59, quoted at length from the *Yearbook* of the Swedish Historical Society of America, might be questioned. An important fact omitted is that without the financial support of *Evangeliska fosterlands stiftelsen* and *Gustav Adolf stiftelsen* in Sweden, it would have been seemingly impossible for the Swedish Lutherans to compete successfully with other religious organizations in Minnesota, especially during the fifties and early sixties.

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MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

Since the superintendent's report, published elsewhere in this number of the magazine, surveys the activities of the society in 1932, including the last quarter of the year, only a few supplementary items are mentioned in the present section.

MINNESOTA HISTORY is one of several western historical quarterlies listed by the writer of an article on "American Quarterlies" in the *Review of Reviews and World's Work* for December. MINNESOTA HISTORY, the *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, and the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* are characterized as "able and important" periodicals.

Twenty-three additions to the active membership of the society have been made since October 1, 1932. The names of the new members, grouped by counties, follow:

HENNEPIN: Sylvia Bottineau, Earl R. Coppage, Mrs. Susanna P. Hamilton, Henry S. Jerabek, Henry R. Prescott, Mrs. David L. Sutherland, Mrs. Ell Torrance, Herbert Tout, and Mrs. Cyrus W. Wells, all of Minneapolis.

ISANTI: Robert B. Gillespie of Cambridge.

LYON: Mrs. Marvin E. Matthews of Marshall.

RAMSEY: Russell M. Berthel, E. T. Dahlin, Dr. George C. Dittman, Norman Fetter, Leone I. Ingram, George G. Lyberg, George A. Pond, Dr. John L. Rothrock, and Mrs. Harry B. Zimmermann, all of St. Paul.

RICE: Clarence A. Clausen of Northfield.

WASECA: Constance A. Everett of Waseca.

NONRESIDENT: J. Allen Anders of Lindsburg, Kansas.

The society has lost twelve active members by death during the three months ending December 30, 1932: Albert E. Webster of Dresbach, October 18; General Charles H. Whipple of Los Angeles, November 6; Dr. Sheridan G. Cobb of St. Paul, November 18; Cuyler Adams of Deerwood, November 29; William H. Fobes of St. Paul, November 30; William C. Edgar of Marine, December 2; Albert C. Loring of Minneapolis, December 11; F. A. Duxbury of

Caledonia, December 12; John U. Sebenius of Duluth, December 18; Frederick E. Kenaston of San Marino, California, December 20; Chauncy C. McCarthy of Grand Rapids, December 20; and George H. Partridge of Minneapolis, December 21. The death of Marvin E. Matthews of St. Paul on March 3, 1932, and of Laura S. Laumann of St. Peter on March 27 of the same year have not previously been noted in the magazine.

For her service in assembling the names of the 133 French soldiers who fell during the siege of Yorktown in 1781, Mrs. James T. Morris of Minneapolis, a member of the executive council of the Minnesota Historical Society, has been designated a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor by the French government. Mrs. Morris received the decoration at Paris on October 19, when a commemorative tablet recording the names of the Frenchmen who fell at Yorktown was "formally presented to the city of Paris and to the French people" by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

The superintendent presented addresses on "Pioneers of Culture" in connection with the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the St. Paul Public Library on October 3; on "Glimpsing Minnesota's Past through Contemporary Eyes" at the Mankato State Teachers College on October 25; on "Pioneers Who Laid the Foundations of Minnesota" before the St. Paul Retail Credit Association on November 18; and on "Introducing Minnesota History" before members of the Grafil Club of Minneapolis on December 15. Miss Nute gave an illustrated talk on pioneer life in Minnesota Territory before members of the Merriam Park Study Club of St. Paul on November 2, and she presented a radio talk on Minnesota pioneer women in connection with a program broadcast by the Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution over Station WCCO on November 25. Mr. Babcock presented an "Illustrated Ramble through Minnesota History" at the South St. Paul High School on October 21; he described the work of the society before a group of teachers who met in St. Paul on October 26; and he gave a talk on "Highways and History" in connection with the dedication of a highway marker at the Mayo home in Le Sueur on November 23. Mr. Van Koughnet spoke on the society's summer tour and convention on October 15 before members of the North Star chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Minneapolis.

Mr. Babcock's article on "Highways and History," which appears *ante*, 13:377-384, is published in an abbreviated form under the title "History Reminders for Tourists" in the *United States Daily* of Washington for November 17.

ACCESSIONS

A photostatic copy of Radisson's narrative of his first few years among the Indians, the original of which is in the Bodleian Library at Oxford University, has been made for the society through the courtesy of Mr. Louis Hill of St. Paul from a photostatic copy in his possession. Mr. Edward C. Gale of Minneapolis has presented photostatic copies of two documents in the British Museum relating to Radisson's trips of 1682-83 and 1684. The first is a contemporary translation of a narrative written by Radisson in French, which is preserved in the Hudson Bay House in London.

A letter written by Robert Dickson from his post on the St. Peter's River in 1820, and another written by Bishop Frederic Baraga from L'Arbre Croche in 1832 have been copied for the society by the photostatic process from the originals among the John Lawe Papers in the possession of the Chicago Historical Society. Another item in these papers that has been photostated is a memorandum of the terms of an agreement proposed in 1818 by William B. Coltman and of Lord Selkirk's reply, regarding the dispute between the Northwest and Hudson's Bay companies.

A letter written by Dr. Edward Purcell, the post surgeon at Fort Snelling, on February 19, 1824, to George Johnston, the fur-trader, has been photostated from the original among the latter's papers in the Carnegie Public Library at Sault Ste. Marie. A letter in the same collection from Ramsay Crooks to John Johnston, dated January 11, 1819, also has been copied.

Trading posts and traders, the affairs of John Jacob Astor and the American Fur Company, and the treaties of Prairie du Chien in 1825 and Fond du Lac in 1826 are among the subjects touched upon on calendar cards recently received from Dr. Newton D. Mereness, the archival agent in Washington for a group of historical agencies, who has been working among the archives of the bureau of Indian affairs and the war department for the period from 1816 to 1845.

References to such interesting characters in the history of the North-west as Lawrence Taliaferro, the Indian agent at Fort Snelling; George Johnston, sub-agent at La Pointe; and Eben Weld, a government farmer at Kaposia, also occur on the cards.

A photostatic copy of an article entitled "A Prairie on Fire," which was written at Lake Traverse in 1836 by "J. H. B.," a traveler returning from the Far West, and published in the *Chicago American* for May 20, 1837, has been made for the society through the courtesy of the Chicago Historical Society.

A letter dated October 11, 1848, in which Franklin Steele asks Ard Godfrey to enter his employ at the Falls of St. Anthony, has been presented by Mr. Edward S. Stebbins of Minneapolis, through the courtesy of Mr. Edward C. Gale.

Five letters written from Stillwater and Taylor's Falls in 1851 and 1852 by Archibald M. McKellar, a pioneer Scotch settler in Minnesota, are included in an interesting collection of family papers for the years from 1830 to 1897 recently received from his son, Mr. Peter D. McKellar of Jackson. The letters reveal that the writer was unable to obtain employment in a Minnesota lumber camp and that he worked for the St. Croix Boom Company and as a blacksmith at Taylor's Falls. The collection includes eleven letters of Archibald's father, Peter McKellar, who settled on a farm in Clayton County, Iowa, and who gives much valuable information about frontier farming.

Seven accounts of visits in the fifties to St. Paul, St. Anthony, Shakopee, and the head of Lake Superior, and six reports written by members of the railroad excursion of 1854 are among clippings from the *New York Daily Times* and the *New York Tribune* for the years from 1853 to 1855, recently acquired through Mr. Edwin H. Frost of Yonkers, New York. There are also a number of items relating to mines and transportation along the south shore of Lake Superior. An article entitled "The North-west in '36," which has been clipped from the *United States Magazine of Science, Art, Manufactures, Agriculture, Commerce and Trade* for July, 1854, also has been obtained from Mr. Frost. It includes the diary of a member of a party of carpenters who traveled down the Mississippi aboard

a flatboat from Cassville, Wisconsin, to Rock Island and thence overland to Albany, New York.

Six architectural drawings made by Benjamin Densmore in 1854 for his father's residence, which was built at Red Wing in 1856, have been added to the Densmore Papers by his daughter, Miss Frances Densmore of Red Wing (see *ante*, 3:167).

Several interesting and detailed descriptions of steamboat trips up the Mississippi and of visits to St. Anthony, St. Paul, Stillwater, and Red Wing, which appear in issues of the *New York Evangelist* for 1855 and 1856, have been copied for the society from a file of that periodical in the Congregational Library in Boston.

Eleven bills for goods shipped to L. D. Newell at Prescott, Wisconsin, by Mississippi River steamboats in 1857 and 1858 have been presented by Mrs. Myrtle Meacham of Los Angeles, through the courtesy of Mrs. Edward Neeley of Prescott. A number of similar bills were received by the society in 1931 (see *ante*, 12:319).

Deeds to land in Ramsey and Goodhue counties, tax bills and receipts, and fire insurance policies make up the bulk of a filing box of papers of John F. and Benjamin F. Hoyt of St. Paul for the years from 1855 to 1886 which has been received from the St. Paul city water department.

Correspondence of the late fifties about a mill at Glencoe, politics, and the railroad bond question is included in twenty-five items from the papers of Judge Luther L. Baxter of Fergus Falls, received from his daughter, Miss Bertha Baxter of Minneapolis (see *ante*, 13:197).

A copy of a drama depicting the organization of the Chatfield Presbyterian Church on June 21, 1857, is the gift of the author, Mr. George A. Haven of Chatfield. It was presented on June 19, 1932, in connection with the celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the church (see *ante*, 13:342).

A little volume containing the records for the years from 1858 to 1874 of a school district at Lexington in Le Sueur County has been presented by Mr. Scott N. Swisher of Le Center. Minutes of meetings, lists of children of school age, and expense accounts are included.

Transcripts of eighteen letters written between 1858 and 1930 by German immigrants in Minnesota to relatives abroad have been

obtained through the courtesy of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. They were written from such places as Stillwater, Faribault, Henderson, St. Martin, Young America, and Wadena; and they contain interesting information from the immigrant's point of view about such subjects as prices of commodities, crops, wages, and ways of making money. The originals of these letters are in private hands in Germany; they were copied by a student at the University of Bonn.

A sermon by the Reverend Gideon Pond, the missionary, dated August 3, 1861, appears in the November issue of a mimeographed leaflet issued by the Oak Grove Presbyterian Church near Bloomington under the title of the "Oak Grove Outlook." A copy of this number has been presented by Miss Marian Moir of Bloomington.

About thirty items from the papers of Pennock Pusey, a private secretary to former Governor John S. Pillsbury, have been presented by Dr. John M. Armstrong of St. Paul. They include deeds to Minnesota land obtained in 1856 by military bounty warrants; and letters, dating from 1869 to 1883, written by Pillsbury, Andrew R. McGill, Senator Samuel J. R. McMillan, and others, about such subjects as the register for Minnesotans at the Philadelphia centennial exhibition, the defeat of Senator William Windom, political appointments, and real estate prices in St. Paul.

Recommendations and commissions issued between 1864 and 1918 to Lauritz M. Lange for various military and legal positions, including those of county attorney and judge of probate in Nobles and Cass counties; and some papers of his father-in-law, Harlow B. Comstock, of Canandaigua, New York, dating from the seventies and eighties, have been presented by Lange's daughter-in-law, Mrs. Sarah Lange of Seattle.

Charles C. Trowbridge's account of his experiences in South Carolina as lieutenant colonel of a regiment of colored troops under the Freedman's Bureau in 1865 and his appointment to the position have been presented by his daughter, Mrs. Charles Speedy of Excelsior.

A record book of meetings of the faculty of Seabury Divinity School at Faribault covering the years from 1866 to 1878, four volumes of minutes of meetings of various groups of Episcopal clergy-

men in Minnesota from 1886 to 1914, and two similar volumes for the Sunday School Association of the Minnesota diocese of the Protestant Episcopal Church from 1889 to 1920 have been added by the diocese to its archives already in the custody of the society (see *ante*, 13:427).

Lumbering activities in Minnesota, the acquisition of pine lands and dam sites by means of half-breed scrip, and relations between the railroads and the Minneapolis mills are among the subjects touched upon in a group of letters written in 1869 by William D. Washburn to his brother Cadwallader C., photostats of which have been made for the society from the Cadwallader C. Washburn Papers in the possession of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. In one letter, dated June 2, 1869, Washburn expresses himself as being "a good deal worried at the shape Railroad matters are taking. Our St. Paul friends," he continues, "are doing everything in their power to centralize all the railroad interests of the state there. The managing men of the St Paul and Pacific all reside there: the Minnesota Valley is run with no other view, than to conserve the interests of St Paul, while the Milwaukee yields rather to the pressure." Photostatic copies of a number of items of Minnesota interest in other collections owned by the Wisconsin society also have been received. These include two letters written in 1871 and 1873 by Joseph Knight from Rock County, in which he describes the region and his farming operations there; a letter to the governor of Wisconsin from Cushman K. Davis, dated May 2, 1861, in which he asks for a position in the military organization of the state; and an account of a trip to Minnesota by wagon and ox team, written from Cannon River in 1854 by J. A. Stewart.

Frank B. Mayer, the artist whose Minnesota diary was published recently by the society, describes his plans for a painting of the treaty of Traverse des Sioux, which he witnessed in 1851, in two letters written in 1869 to Governor Ramsey and recently presented to the society by the latter's daughter, Mrs. Charles E. Furness of St. Paul. A photostat of a draft for one of the letters had been obtained earlier through members of Mayer's family (see *ante*, 13:196).

"Changes in the Content and Presentation of Reading Material in Minnesota Weekly Newspapers, 1860-1929" is the title of a doc-

toral dissertation submitted at the University of Minnesota in 1931 by Irene Barnes Taeuber, a copy of which she has presented to the society. Mrs. Taeuber based her study upon a measurement of newspapers in the society's collection. She has treated certain phases of the subject in articles published in the *Journalism Quarterly* and in the *Publications* of the American Sociological Society (see *ante*, 13:211, 442).

A petition for special privileges on the part of a group of Russian Mennonites who intended to settle in Minnesota and Dakota is the subject of four items of correspondence dated in 1873 between President Grant and Secretary of State Hamilton Fish, transcripts of which have been made from the Fish Papers in the possession of Columbia University and presented by Mr. Carlton C. Qualey.

The moving of city and county archives from the old to the new courthouse in St. Paul has resulted in the transfer of a considerable body of noncurrent archives to the custody of the society. Most of them are records of the Ramsey County auditor, but some are papers of the St. Paul police and water departments. Some of these archives have been stored in garret rooms for years and hark back to territorial days. Poll lists, tax records, contracts for public works, and diagrams of city blocks and streets are especially valuable.

A mass of genealogical data about the Dodge family in America and the correspondence carried on by Louis L. Dodge of Minneapolis between 1890 and 1927 while gathering this material have been presented by Mrs. Dodge. The gift includes two items relating to a company of New York infantry which volunteered for service in the War of 1812—a muster roll and a list of signatures of the members of the company.

A copy of the autobiography of Judge Henry J. Grannis of Duluth, who has been judge of the eleventh judicial district since 1923, is the gift of the author. In 1890 Judge Grannis settled in Duluth, "which was then booming and heralded as a second Chicago." He went there at the instigation of F. A. Bean, who planned to manage a flour mill near that city in Wisconsin and who promised to turn over the legal aspects of his business to the young lawyer. The real estate boom collapsed late in the fall of the same year, and the writer states that during the subsequent business depression "law practice

was up hill work for even many experienced and established attorneys in Duluth" and that he found consolation only in the fact that many others were in a similar situation and living expenses were low.

Two volumes of the minutes of meetings of the St. Paulus Evangelical Lutheran Church of South St. Paul from 1892 to 1930 have been presented to the society by that church. The minutes for the period from 1892 to 1926 are in German.

Six letter books kept by Christopher C. Andrews while he was serving as secretary of the Minnesota forestry board from 1899 to 1913 and as chief fire warden and forest commissioner between 1904 and 1912 are included in a mass of archives recently received from the Minnesota department of forestry and fire prevention. Among these archives also are the journals kept at the Itasca State Park Forest Experimental Station from 1911 to 1921 inclusive, and about forty filing boxes of daily reports and diaries kept by forest rangers throughout the state between 1911 and 1927.

A substantial addition to the papers of Hiram D. Frankel, for many years a St. Paul attorney (see *ante*, 12:193), consists of four filing boxes of personal correspondence for the years from 1921 to 1930, which have been presented by his son, Mr. Hiram D. Frankel, Jr., of Winnetka, Illinois. Material relating to the Minnesota National Guard and to the Independent Order of B'nai Brith is included in the gift. Mr. Frankel also has presented about a hundred pamphlets relating to the World War.

About fifty letters and other items relating to the genealogy of the Lavocat family in America have been presented by Miss Matilda V. Baillif of Minneapolis, who collected them while preparing a volume on *The Lavocat Family in America from 1845 to 1929* (see *ante*, 11:110). The material includes the World War service records of the descendants of Nicolas Joseph Lavocat, who came from France and settled at Stillwater in 1845.

Biographical sketches of two founders of the Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs, Mrs. Helen M. Evans and Mrs. Margaret Evans Huntington, have been added to the papers of that organization (see *ante*, 11:97) by Mrs. Charles N. Akers of St. Paul and Miss Maude Stewart of Northfield.

Typewritten and printed copies of minutes of the annual conventions from 1930 to 1932 of the Minnesota district of the Walther League, a young people's organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and other states, have been received from the secretary, Miss Erna Jahnke of Austin.

The Minnesota department of the American Legion has presented the registration cards of its state conventions held at Rochester and Bemidji in 1931 and 1932, of the spring conferences held at Minneapolis in 1930 and 1932, and of the convention of its auxiliary at Rochester in 1931 (see *ante*, 12:430).

A folder of correspondence and minutes of meetings of the committee appointed by former Mayor Gerhard Bundlie of St. Paul to take charge of the celebration in that city of the George Washington Bicentennial has been received through the courtesy of Mayor William Mahoney.

A file of *Folkebladet*, a Norwegian newspaper published at Minneapolis, covering the period from June 29, 1887, to December 27, 1893, and bound in six volumes, is the gift of the Reverend A. M. Arntzen of Lake Lillian. He has also presented a number of unbound issues of this paper for the years 1894 and 1908 to 1911.

A copy of the *Selbstbiographie, Gedichte, Predigten und Vorträge* of the Reverend A. Van der Lippe, edited by the late Charles Bremicker of St. Paul and published at Cleveland in 1894, is the gift of Mr. Paul B. Bremicker of Minneapolis. The volume contains the writings of a Prussian immigrant of 1851 who served for twenty-six years as a Presbyterian minister in St. Louis.

The scenic beauties of America, especially of the West and the Middle West, are described by Hermann H. Zagel in a volume entitled *Reisebilder aus den Vereinigten Staaten* (St. Louis, 1907), which has been presented by the Reverend R. C. Ackermann of South St. Paul. The sketches published herein appeared originally in a periodical known as *Abendschule*.

A model of a Sioux tepee, made about 1907 by a Winnebago-Sioux woman, is the gift of Miss Frances Densmore of Red Wing. Mrs. James T. Morris of Minneapolis has presented three small, finely woven grass baskets of Blackfoot workmanship.

A gigantic tin dinner horn, five feet in length, that was used in a lumber camp of the Virginia and Rainy Lake Company is the gift of Mr. D. A. Mitchell of Mountain Iron. Through the courtesy of Mr. Mitchell, the society has received from Mr. John E. Hanson and Mr. William H. Fliehr of Virginia a collection of forty-four pictures of the operations of the same lumber company. Two large panoramic views of its pond and mill at Virginia are included.

Joseph Rolette, Pierre Bottineau, Father Hennepin, and Harriet Bishop are among those represented in a group of thirteen figures dressed to represent characters in the history of Minnesota, which has been presented by the auxiliary of the Minnesota department of the American Legion, through the courtesy of Mrs. C. O. Bemies of Minneapolis. The figures were designed and dressed by members of various units of the auxiliary and entered in a state contest.

A wrist watch, campaign hat, uniform cap, collar ornaments, identification bracelet, and other articles that belonged to Major Harold M. Clark of the United States army air service before his death in 1919 have been presented by his mother, Mrs. Charles A. Clark of Shreveport, Louisiana. Photographs of her son and of her husband, who was a lieutenant in the Thirteenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry in the Spanish-American War, are included in the gift.

An evening gown of 1914 and two gentleman's hats dating from 1910 have been presented by Miss Frances Densmore of Red Wing.

A revolving fan that operates by clockwork, which dates from 1876, is the gift of Mrs. Rush B. Wheeler of St. Paul. Other additions to the domestic life collection include a large iron kettle, a pair of scales, and knives and forks that are said to have been used in the pioneer St. Paul fur-trading store of Marcel Gagnon, presented by Mr. Theodore Martineau of St. Paul; a rolling-pin made by hand about 1850, from Mrs. Virginia Plante of St. Paul; and a large framed hair wreath, from Mrs. C. Fries of St. Paul.

Recent additions to the furniture collection include a chest made in 1832 and a wooden rocking chair, presented by Mrs. Bessye Mates of St. Paul; a center table and two rocking chairs, from Mrs. C. Oakes of St. Paul; and a French china cabinet, two side tables, and

a number of pieces of living room furniture, from Mrs. David W. Gray of St. Paul.

Photographic reproductions have been made for the society of thirty-one water-color paintings by Frank B. Mayer, the originals of which were borrowed from Goucher College, Baltimore (see *ante*, 13:408-414).

St. Paul and its vicinity in the nineties are pictured in a collection of twenty-seven negatives presented by Mr. Walter M. Thurston of St. Paul. Nineteen small photographs of early Minnesota scenes have been recieved from Miss Camelia Koons, through the courtesy of Miss Margaret Densmore of Red Wing.

NEWS AND COMMENT

Two letters published in the first volume of *The Writings of George Washington from the Original Manuscript Sources*, edited by John C. Fitzpatrick and brought out under the direction of the United States George Washington Bicentennial Commission, are duplicates of items in the collection of Washington Papers in the possession of the Minnesota Historical Society. The first is a letter dated August 12, 1754, to Colonel James Innes, of which the society has a draft in Washington's handwriting; the second is a letter relating to the navigation of the Potomac. The latter seems to be based on notes that accompany a sketch map in the society's collection, but curiously the notes and the map are credited to another institution (p. 100).

A valuable bibliography of the *Mississippi River and Valley* has been published by the United States Engineer School at Humphreys, Virginia (1931. 116 p.). Among the headings under which the books and pamphlets listed are arranged are antiquities, discovery and exploration, history, description and travel, commerce, navigation, physical geography, and fiction. There is also a chronological list of articles published in periodicals between 1897 and 1930.

Mrs. Kinzie's *Wau-bun: The "Early Day" in the North-West* has been reprinted with an historical introduction by Milo M. Quaife as the 1932 Christmas volume issued by the Lakeside Press of Chicago. In a preface the publishers state that this work was chosen because "it seems appropriate for the year in which Chicago is to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of its incorporation as a village."

During the period of the Civil War, whenever "issues arose that involved real or supposed regional interests, however much the northern sections might mutually abhor and combine to thwart the pretensions of the planter, it was evident that East was East and West was West," writes Earle D. Ross in an article on "Northern Sectionalism in the Civil War Era," which appears in the October issue of the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics*. Mr. Ross finds "New

England standards and prejudices . . . manifested most characteristically in the observations of Charles Francis Adams on his campaign tour in 1860," which took him to St. Paul. The writer draws upon these observations and upon those of Charles Francis Adams, Jr., both of which are published *ante*, 8: 157-171, for examples of the New England attitude toward the Middle West and its people during the war period. He quotes also from Seward's famous campaign speech at St. Paul in 1860.

A collection of drugs and plants used for medicinal purposes by the American Indians was assembled by Professor Earl B. Fischer and displayed in the Pharmacy Building of the University of Minnesota during the second week in October. Several items used in the exhibit were obtained from the Minnesota Historical Society.

In an article entitled "The Forty-ninth Parallel in the Great Plains: The Historical Geography of a Boundary," which appears in the *Journal of Geography* for December, Stephen B. Jones undertakes "to show how an astronomical line has been a good boundary, a bad boundary, and again a good one, as human occupancy of the Great Plains has passed thru successive stages." The writer contends that the forty-ninth parallel was a "bad boundary" during the period of trouble with the Plains Sioux on the American side of the line, and at the time when livestock ranching was developing in the region. Then, writes Mr. Jones, "there was so little cooperation between police officers on the two sides of the border that the Indians dubbed the Forty-ninth Parallel 'the medicine line,' for "a fugitive from justice crossed the line and magically became a free man."

A study by Jim Dan Hill of "The Early Mining Camp in American Life" as a "social phenomenon" appears in the *Pacific Historical Review* for September. After examining the activities of the miners, the author concludes that they were for the most part merely adaptations in a new environment of practices in the fields of government, law, extra-legal control, and the like that were in vogue in the older parts of America. For example, he points out that "about the only difference between the vigilantes and the various anti-horse-thief societies of the agrarian frontier is the romantic title of Spanish coinage under which the former masqueraded." Mr. Hill believes "that the mining camp gave little to what we think of today as Americanism," but that "in its own bizarre way" it "reflected much."

Three Minnesota forts — Ridgely, Ripley, and St. Anthony — are among the "American Posts" listed by Edgar M. Ledyard in the October issue of the *Utah Historical Quarterly* (see *ante*, 13:107, 433). Mr. Ledyard locates Fort Ridgely on the Minnesota River "at Fairfax in Nicollet County." Fairfax is in Renville County some miles north of the river and the site of Fort Ridgely. The name of Fort St. Anthony was changed to Fort Snelling in 1825.

A detailed study of "Henry de Tonty," La Salle's trusted lieutenant and aide in his exploration of the Mississippi Valley, is contributed by Ethel Owen Merrill to the October issue of *Mid-America*.

Two "moderate shocks" in Minnesota are listed in an *Earthquake History of the United States Exclusive of the Pacific Region* by N. H. Heck, which has been issued by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey of the department of commerce as number 149 of its *Special Publications* (61 p.). Of the first Minnesota quake, which occurred in 1860, little is known; the second took place on September 3, 1917, and damaged the region around Brainerd and Staples.

The colonizing activities in Minnesota of James Shields and Archbishop John Ireland are briefly described in a volume dealing with *Catholic Charities in the United States: History and Problems* by John O'Grady (Washington, 1930. 475 p.). A section is devoted to the Minnesota Irish Immigration Society, the organization of which in 1866 is described as the "most important step" in a "new effort to bring the Irish back to the land." Other items of special Minnesota interest in the volume are an account of the founding of St. Joseph's Hospital in St. Paul by Bishop Cretin in the fifties, and a note about the Margaret Barry Settlement of Minneapolis.

A brief account and a picture of the Sibley House at Mendota, contributed by Mrs. Percy J. Lawrence of Minneapolis, are included in a volume devoted to *Old Homesteads and Historic Buildings* which has recently been issued by the Manhattan chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in New York City (235 p.). The pictures, most of which are of homes located in the Atlantic coast states, were collected for presentation to the department of historic architecture of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The volume was compiled by Lura Ballard Nordyke.

The Fort Necessity chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, which is located at Uniontown, Pennsylvania, has published in commemoration of the Washington bicentennial an interesting volume entitled *Fort Necessity and Historic Shrines of the Redstone Country* (1932. 144 p.). It consists of sketches by various authors of sites of historic interest in this region, with notes on monuments, markers, and buildings or ruins to be found on these sites. Special emphasis is placed upon Washington's associations with the district.

A brief account of the Norse-American Centennial celebration of 1925 is included in a volume entitled *Immigrant Gifts to American Life* by Allen H. Eaton, which was published recently by the Russell Sage Foundation (1932. 185 p.). The writer states erroneously that the celebration was held in Minneapolis when it actually took place at the state fair grounds in St. Paul. A Minnesota artist whose work is described in the volume is Pauline Fjelde of Minneapolis. An appreciative account of her tapestry of Hiawatha is presented, and a picture of the hanging is included.

Of great interest and value for the student of missionary activity in the Northwest is J. H. A. Lacher's study of "Nashotah House: Wisconsin's Oldest School of Higher Learning," which appears in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* for December. For Minnesotans this article must have a special significance, since it reveals that the famous Episcopal theological seminary was founded in 1842 chiefly as a result of the efforts of the Reverend James Lloyd Breck, later a missionary in Minnesota, and of Bishop Jackson Kemper, whose field of jurisdiction as the first Episcopal missionary bishop included the Minnesota country. Much biographical material about both men is included, and their letters and diaries are quoted extensively. With three other young Episcopal clergymen Breck went to Wisconsin in 1841 to found what he hoped "would develop into a real revival of the monastic life for men," and when in the following year the school was established on Nashotah Lakes, he became its first head. Missionary activity in the surrounding country was combined with the work at the school. Among the letters from Breck that are quoted in the article is one in which the young Easterner expresses himself as being somewhat shocked by the crowded conditions under which he found people living on the frontier. He tells that "We once slept eight in a room, and the tattling old woman

kept the Bishop awake a long time," but he seems to have believed that housing conditions would soon improve. "What is civilizing this land," he remarks, "is neither education nor Christianity, but the introduction of *saw-mills!*" Breck remained at Nashotah House until 1849, when he resigned to go to Minnesota. There, in addition to his missionary activities, he helped to establish the Seabury Divinity School. Excellent portraits of Kemper and Breck and a picture of Nashotah House in 1850 accompany the article.

The complicated legal proceedings which resulted in the "unification of the lumber interests on the Chippewa and on the Mississippi" in the eighties under the Minnesota lumber magnate, Frederick Weyerhaeuser, are explained by his "trusted lawyer and confidential adviser," Roujet D. Marshall, in his recently published *Autobiography* (2 volumes. 1928, 1931). Judge Marshall describes his boyhood on a Wisconsin frontier farm and his career as a lawyer at Chippewa Falls in the first volume of this work; in the second he gives an account of his work as a justice of the supreme court of Wisconsin.

The *Distribution of the Aboriginal Population of Michigan*, especially in its relation to the food supply, is discussed by W. B. Hinsdale in a pamphlet published by the Museum of Anthropology of the University of Michigan as number 2 of its *Occasional Contributions* (35 p.). Of general interest are accounts of the kinds of animal and vegetable food used by the Indians and the methods of preparing them.

The name of Samuel Medary, the last governor of Minnesota Territory, has been added to the Ohio Journalism Hall of Fame and his picture has been hung with portraits of eighteen other Ohio journalists who have been similarly honored in the Journalism Building of Ohio State University.

A plan for the *Correlation of Local, State, and National History* in Iowa, prepared by Erik M. Eriksson, has been published as number 12 of the *Aids for History Teachers* issued by the department of history of the University of Iowa and as number 243 of the university's *Extension Bulletins* (1930. 16 p.). The writer believes that it is feasible to "include local and state history in the American History course," to illustrate events and developments of general

significance with examples from the history of the pupil's immediate environment. A bibliography of books and articles on various phases of Iowa history is included in the pamphlet.

"A survey of the agricultural, industrial and natural resources of the state" of Iowa, made recently under the direction of Dean Anson Marston of the Iowa Engineering Experiment Station, has resulted in the publication by the state of *The Book of Iowa* (1932. 268 p.). It includes a general section dealing with government, population, public health, and climate; and sections on manufacturing, agriculture, natural resources, utilities, transportation, corporation laws and taxes, labor, banking and insurance, education, recreational facilities, and urban statistics.

With an account of "The Aftermath of the Spirit Lake Massacre," Professor F. I. Herriott continues his detailed discussion of the Indian massacre of 1857 in the *Annals of Iowa* for October (see *ante*, 13:335, 438).

The Black Hills region during the days of the gold rush is described by the Reverend George S. Pelton, a Congregational minister from Glyndon, in a number of letters that he wrote in 1880 and 1881 to the *Red River Valley News* of Glyndon, which have been reprinted with an introduction and notes by Arthur J. Larsen, head of the newspaper department in the library of the Minnesota Historical Society, in the *North Dakota Historical Quarterly* for October. Pelton writes in a lively and entertaining fashion of his journey from the Minnesota railroad town to Deadwood, and he presents a vivid picture of life and conditions in the frontier mining community. "After one week's experience in this city I have not yet ceased to wonder," he writes. "All times of the day, Sundays and all, business is red-hot. . . . There are over 50 lawyers, about 12 physicians, and how many other professional men I know not; and they are all doing well, if their own words are to be believed. Saloons are a legion, I could not count them." Another contributor to this issue of the *Quarterly* is Mr. Merle Potter of the *Minneapolis Journal*, who presents an interesting review of the "North Dakota Capital Fight." He tells of the plans and manipulations, in which James J. Hill and his railroad played a part, which resulted in 1883 in the location of the statehouse at Bismarck. "Official Immigration Activities of Da-

kota Territory" is the subject of an article by Herbert S. Schell, which also appears in the October *Quarterly*.

North Dakota Literary Trails are illustrated and located on a map of the state made under the direction of Hazel W. Byrnes and published by the State Teachers College at Mayville (1932). It is accompanied by a bibliography of authors and titles referred to on the map.

That such dramatic classics as *Richard III*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, and *The School for Scandal* were produced in St. Louis before 1820 is revealed in a volume entitled *The Theatre on the Frontier: The Early Years of the St. Louis Stage* by William G. B. Carson (Chicago, 1932. 361 p.). This interesting contribution to the social and cultural history of the Middle West includes as an appendix a "Record of Performances of Individual Plays" in the Missouri city from 1815 to 1839.

The immigration of a group of Mennonites in 1876 and the settlement that they established in Kansas are described by C. C. Regier, a descendent of a member of the colony, in an article entitled "An Immigrant Family of 1876," which appears in *Social Science* for July. The detailed account presented by Mr. Regier of the German and Russian backgrounds of the colony and of the crossing of the Atlantic by its members is of interest in Minnesota as well as in Kansas, since at Pittsburgh the company divided and the larger group went to Mountain Lake, Minnesota.

An Historical Guide to Colorado: A Pilgrimage over the Outstanding Sites and Landmarks by Lillian R. Brigham has been published by the Colorado society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (1931. 140 p.). It includes lists of historic sites and markers, and brief descriptions of the important events connected with the past of each locality.

John McLean's *Notes of a Twenty-five Year's Service in the Hudson's Bay Territory*, which was first published at London in 1849, has been supplied with a "Biographical Introduction" and annotations by W. S. Wallace and reprinted by the Champlain Society as number 19 of its *Publications* (Toronto, 1932. xxxvi, 402, xii p.). For Minnesotans the chief interest of the narrative lies in its "Sketch

of Red River Settlement." Here McLean uses his first-hand knowledge of the Canadian frontier, where he lived from 1820 to 1845, to outline the history of the settlement and also to picture the inhabitants and their mode of living. He was aware of the fertility of the Red River Valley, for he remarks that "If a sure market were secured to the colonists of Red River, they would speedily become the wealthiest yeomanry in the world. Their barns and granaries are always full to overflowing; so abundant are the crops, that many of the farmers could subsist for a period of two or even three years, without putting a grain of seed in the ground." McLean devotes another chapter to the activities of his father-in-law, the Reverend James Evans, who was engaged as a Wesleyan missionary among the Indians of the Great Lakes region. Further light is thrown on Evans' career by the publication in volume 28 of the *Papers and Records* of the Ontario Historical Society (1932) of ten letters written by the missionary in 1838 and 1839, which have been edited by Fred Landon. These relate to Evans' missionary journeys on and about Lake Superior.

Three of the "six plays for the microphone from the romance of Canada series of radio broadcasts" included in a volume entitled *Henry Hudson and Other Plays* by Merrill Denison deal with characters and incidents in the history of the Northwest (Toronto, 1931. 183 p.). The first, "Pierre Radisson," pictures the explorer at the court of Charles II recounting his adventures in the New World; another tells the story of Seven Oaks and the struggle of the Northwest and Hudson's Bay companies for supremacy in the Red River country; the third deals with Alexander Mackenzie and his overland journey to the Pacific. The plays were prepared for the Canadian National Railways and were broadcast from Montreal during the winter and spring of 1931.

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

The seventy-fifth anniversary of Minnesota's admission to the Union will be celebrated on May 11.

A valuable and interesting *History of Minneopa State Park* by Judge Thomas Hughes of Mankato has been published in pamphlet form by the division of forestry of the Minnesota department of conservation (1932. 30 p.). It includes an explanation of the name,

an account of Le Sueur's explorations in the vicinity of the park and of his search for copper ore, some material about the Indians of the region, a description of the Sioux-Chippewa battle of 1860, and accounts of the earliest settlers along Minneopa Creek. The story of the "Creation of the Park" in 1906 also is related, and some information about its administration and improvement is presented. A sketch of the history of the "Seppman Old Stone Windmill of South Bend," which stands on a tract that was added to Minneopa Park in 1931, is included in the pamphlet.

Some of the history of the area around Sandy Lake and the old Savanna Portage is recounted in a feature article in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for December 18 by Rolf Mills, who calls attention to the proposal of the Minnesota department of conservation that this region be set aside as a state forest. The writer mentions some of the explorers who used the well-known Savanna Portage route between Lake Superior and the upper Mississippi and who left descriptions of the country through which they passed, and he calls special attention to the Schoolcraft expedition of 1832. He also tells of the retracing of the portage route in the summer of 1926 by Professor Irving H. Hart and Mr. William P. Ingersoll and describes the more recent survey of the region by members of the department of conservation. Among the illustrations that appear with the article are a view on the West Savanna River and a map of the proposed state forest.

An interview with Mr. E. J. Pond of Shakopee, in which he presents his recollections of the battle of Shakopee, fought between the Sioux and the Chippewa in 1858, appears in the *Southern Minnesotan* for October. In the same issue is an account of an example of frontier justice at Lexington in Le Sueur County in 1858, when a mob lynched C. J. Reinhardt for the supposed murder of a man named Bordell.

Some interesting impressions of modern Minnesota by a German novelist, Heinrich Hauser, are included in a book about travel in America entitled *Feldwege nach Chicago* (Berlin, 1931. 268 p.). The writer traveled in a Ford automobile from La Crosse to Minneapolis, thence to Lake Itasca, and back to the Mill City by way of Brainerd and Mille Lacs. Like many earlier travelers in the Min-

nesota country, Herr Hauser compares the scenery of the upper Mississippi to that of the Rhine.

A *Geologic Map of the State of Minnesota* has been issued by the Minnesota Geological Survey under the direction of W. H. Emmons (1932). On this single large-scale map, rock formations throughout the state are shown.

A map of Minnesota on which the events described in Mr. Merle Potter's *101 Best Stories of Minnesota* are graphically illustrated in color appears in the magazine section of the *Minneapolis Journal* for November 20. Copies of the map are on sale in Twin City book stores for seventy-five cents apiece.

The programs presented in the various St. Paul cemeteries in commemoration of Memorial Day in 1932 are outlined in a booklet issued by the Memorial Day Association of St. Paul under the title of *Heroes All!* (60 p.). A valuable feature of this publication is a list of veterans of the wars in which the United States has participated who are buried in St. Paul, at Fort Snelling, and at Acacia Park. The arrangement is by cemeteries, the names are listed in alphabetical order, and in the case of Civil War veterans the company and regiment in which the individual served are named.

A reproduction of a little-known portrait by Tom Woodburn of Alexander Ramsey appears on the cover of the *Recruiting News* for December 15. The magazine contains a brief sketch of Ramsey's career, in which special attention is called to his service as secretary of war under President Hayes.

The history and policies of the Mayo Clinic and its relation to the Mayo Foundation of the University of Minnesota were covered in an address by Dr. William J. Mayo, which was delivered before a meeting of the faculty of the clinic at Rochester on November 21.

The Dowling School for crippled children in St. Paul is included in a list of memorials to men and women of Irish birth and descent in the United States, which appears with an article entitled "Towers of Silence Speak" by James H. McCann in volume 30 of the *Journal* of the American Irish Historical Society (1932). A brief sketch of Michael J. Dowling accompanies the mention of the school.

The long and interesting career of William C. Edgar as business manager and editor of the *Northwestern Miller* is reviewed in that magazine for December 7, the first issue published after the death of the editor on December 2. Some of his other activities, such as those connected with the editing of the *Bellman* and with the organization of the Millers' Belgian Relief movement in 1914, also are described.

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

The naming of the Rum River is discussed by Irving A. Caswell in the *Anoka Union* for December 29. He writes:

Early maps of this territory label the stream "Iskootawaboo." A literal translation of the words which form the compound . . . is said to be "warm water."

The Chippewa language had comparatively few words. To members of this tribe, all liquids were "waboo"—water. Whatever gave the senses the impression of warmth or heat was "iskoota."

Ardent spirits (whiskey and rum) furnished these simple folk by the white traders were "hot" to their taste. Therefore rum or whiskey was "iskoota-waboo"—a hot liquid.

The writer suggests that in naming the river the Indians probably had reference to the fact that the waters of this shallow stream, which ran through open country, were warm by comparison with those of larger rivers in wooded areas. Traders, however, in translating the name, thought only of its second meaning, and called the stream "Rum River." Dr. Warren Upham, discussing the name of this stream in his *Minnesota Geographic Names* (p. 348), states that "it was indirectly derived from the Sioux," whose name for Mille Lacs, "Mde Wakan, translated Spirit Lake," was applied to the river, but "changed by the white men to the most common spirituous liquor brought into the Northwest, rum." Nicollet's map of 1843, Dr. Upham continues, "has 'Iskode Wabo or Rum R.,' this name given by the Ojibways, but derived by them from the white men's perversion of the ancient Sioux name Wakan, being in more exact translation 'Fire Water.'"

The history of Edwardsville, a stagecoach station that flourished in the late seventies on the road between Ortonville and Browns Valley, is briefly outlined in the *Ortonville Independent* for October 27. The station, according to this account, was established by John P. Edwards, whose homestead included the site.

As a result of plans made during the Moorhead session of the state historical convention on July 15, the Clay County Historical Society was organized at a meeting held at Moorhead on October 8. Senator G. D. McCubrey of Moorhead was elected president of the new organization, Mr. R. E. Duddles of Ulen was named vice president, and Mrs. S. E. Rice of Barnesville, secretary. Sixteen corresponding secretaries, who will represent the society in various sections of the county, gather historical material, and enlist new members, were elected at a meeting held on November 16.

Changes in the harbor and the shore line of Lake Superior at Grand Marais since the early eighties are briefly described in an article in the *Cook County News-Herald* for October 6. It includes an account of the building of the piers in the harbor from native timber and notes that these are now being replaced by concrete structures.

Senator O. J. Finstad was the principal speaker at a joint meeting of the Cottonwood County Historical Society and the local old settlers' association, which was held at Windom on October 21. A paper on the history of Windom was read by Mrs. Mae Scarborough. Members of the historical society elected the following officers: Mr. H. E. Hanson, president; Mr. Isaac Bargen, vice president; and Mrs. George Warren, secretary. After the meeting, members of the two associations visited the museum which has been arranged by the historical society in a room of the Windom High School.

An excellent picture of life and conditions on a Fillmore County farm in the sixties is presented by Carroll K. Michener in a pamphlet entitled *The Lives and Times of Daniel Kinsey Michener and Ida Lena (Blakeslee) Michener* (Minneapolis, 1932. 51 p.). The writer points out that there was in the "span of living" of the subjects of her narrative "all of the usual contrast that marks the beginning and end of pioneering." The farm that supplies the setting for the sketch was acquired in 1857 by John L. Michener, who emigrated with his family from Indiana.

In connection with the celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the First Lutheran Church of Newburg on October 2, a monument "erected to the memory of the early pioneers" was dedicated. Pictures of the church building erected by the congregation in 1864 and of the present structure, a brief history of the church, and a list of pioneer members appear in the *Mabel Record* for October 7.

At the annual meeting of the Goodhue County Historical Society, held at Red Wing on December 5, all officers of the society were reëlected (see *ante*, 13:118). Mr. Emil C. Pearson presented a paper on early days in Vasa, and some reminiscences of C. W. and J. B. Melander of Red Wing in the fifties were read by Miss Rosalie Youngdahl.

At the annual meeting of the Jackson County Historical Society, held at Jackson on October 7, Mr. Porter W. Ashley of Lakefield was elected president; Mrs. T. J. Knox of Jackson, vice president; Mr. J. S. Fiddes of Jackson, secretary; and Mrs. Mabelle E. Burnham of Jackson, treasurer. The annual report of the society, presented at this meeting, shows that the organization has obtained the use of a room in the courthouse, that this room has been equipped with a wall case, that Mrs. Knox has presented the society with a file of the *Jackson Republic* for the years from 1872 to 1897, and that every newspaper in the county is now setting aside a file of its current issues for the local society.

Under the direction of Mr. Melvin S. Wroolie, superintendent of schools in Lac qui Parle County, an experiment in the collecting and recording of "pioneer stories" by pupils in the rural schools of the county is being made. The children have been instructed to interview pioneers and to write essays of not more than a thousand words about what they learn. Among the topics suggested are early buildings, pioneer life in a given township, the story of an early school or church, pioneer industries, and life in a pioneer home. With an outline for the work, the pupils have been furnished with several "type stories" that may be used as models. The best essays prepared by eighth-grade pupils in each district will be sent to the office of the county superintendent, who hopes to preserve them in some permanent form.

Members of the congregation of St. Scholastica's Catholic Church of Heidelberg celebrated the seventy-fifth anniversary of its founding on October 23. The parish was organized in 1857 by Benedictine brothers for German and Bohemian immigrants who were settling in this portion of Le Sueur County. A history of the parish appears in the *Montgomery Messenger* for October 21.

A history of the Hemnes Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lyon County was presented by the secretary of the congregation, Mr. Martin A. Teigland, in connection with the celebration of its sixtieth anniversary on October 9. His account, which is based on the church records, is published in part in the *Minneota Mascot* for October 14.

An interesting picture of the conditions under which pioneer children received their schooling is presented in a letter of Mr. Frank Buck of Greeley, Colorado, which appears in part in the *Glencoe Enterprise* for October 13. The writer, an early resident of Glencoe, describes the first three schools built in the community—a log structure of the fifties, a one-room frame building put up after the Sioux War, and Stevens Seminary, erected in the early seventies. The dedication of the seminary building, according to Mr. Buck, “was one of the greatest days in the history of Glencoe.” He relates that “a dance was given in the upper room the proceeds of which were used to buy a bell which I suppose has been ringing through all the years since it first called us to school in the fall of 1870.”

In a talk presented before Farm Bureau meetings in various parts of Morrison County during the early fall, Mr. V. E. Kasperek called attention to some events in the history of the county. The speaker used photographs of Indians and of industrial scenes to illustrate his talk. The text is published in the *Little Falls Herald* for September 30.

An entire section of the *St. Peter Herald* for October 7 is devoted to articles about the history of St. Peter's Catholic Church and parish, which celebrated on October 9 the seventy-sixth anniversary of their founding. A general history of the parish tells of the first Catholic services in St. Peter, conducted in 1854 by the Reverend Francis Vivaldi, a missionary to the Indians; of the organization of the parish in 1856 under Bishop Joseph Cretin; of the first resident priest, the Reverend John Zuzek, who arrived in 1865; and of the building of the various parish churches and schools. A long article is devoted to sketches of the priests who have served the parish; another describes the activities of Father Augustin Ravoux, especially emphasizing his visits to Traverse des Sioux. Histories of the church

societies, the choir, and the parochial school, which is known as John Ireland School, also are included in this issue of the *Herald*.

At the annual meeting of the Otter Tail County Historical Society, which was held at Fergus Falls on October 18, Senator Elmer E. Adams gave an informal talk in which he pointed out the value of the files of early Otter Tail County newspapers in the collection of the Minnesota Historical Society. Reminiscent talks were given by the Reverend E. Berlie, who has served for more than forty years as a Lutheran pastor at Dalton; and by Mr. C. W. Kaddatz, a pioneer resident of Fergus Falls. Conditions among the Cass Lake Chippewa were described by the Reverend A. W. Rosness.

"It is well to look back once in a while over the road that has been traveled," reads an editorial in the *Thief River Falls Times* for October 6, "and draw from past experiences the knowledge necessary to a well ordered future course." The occasion for this comment on "The Past and the Future" was a "Pioneer Days Fete" held at Thief River Falls from October 12 to 15 in commemoration of the passing of forty years since the Great Northern Railroad was completed to that place. The celebration opened with a review of the past in the form of floats picturing the development of the community. October 14 was Pioneers Day, and this was marked by a meeting at the local auditorium with addresses by Mayor E. L. Tungseth on the pioneers of Thief River Falls and by Superintendent A. A. Dowell of the Northwest School of Agriculture on Red River Valley pioneers and history. A number of articles of local historical interest appear in the *Times* of October 6. These include an outline of the history of the city from 1879, when Frank Russell, the first white settler, camped on Squaw Point; a note on the origin of the name of Thief River; and some items from the initial number of the *Thief River Falls Press*, issued on August 17, 1889.

"I believe that the local historical collection should aim to supplement or parallel rather than rival that of the State Historical Society, and that the activities of the local societies should be so coordinated as to make distinct contributions to the state," said Mrs. Bessie G. Frost, librarian of Carleton College, Northfield, in an address on "The Historical Museum: Its Purpose and Content," presented before the annual meeting of the Rice County Historical

Society at Faribault on October 17. The speaker pointed out that the "Historical Museum should serve as a clearing house of historical material." Her address is published in full in the *Faribault Daily News* of October 27. At the same meeting, Mr. H. H. Kirk described "The Early Public Schools in Rice County."

Four churches of the "Morristown Methodist Larger Parish" conducted joint services in celebration of their seventy-fifth anniversaries from December 11 to 18. The histories of the churches, which are located at Morristown, Blooming Grove, and Warsaw, are reviewed in a series of three articles in the *Faribault Daily News* for December 22, 23, and 24.

Scenes and events from "Pioneer Days in Duluth" were dramatized in a series of six acts presented by students of the East Junior High School of Duluth for members of the St. Louis County Historical Society, who met in the auditorium of this school on December 14. The subjects depicted were the pioneer home and the mission school of Edmund F. Ely, 1835; "Naming Duluth," 1856; the first election, 1855; the Merritt home at Oneota, 1856; the McCormick home on Minnesota Point, 1869; and "Duluth Society in 1873." The dialogues were written by Ellen Boer, Winifred Wilbur, and Harriet Gregory, teachers in East Junior High School; and the various parts were played by students. Each scene was preceded by a brief explanatory introduction, and each was played in an appropriate setting. Some of the Chippewa music recorded by Miss Frances Densmore was presented in connection with the program. The St. Louis County society is to be congratulated upon the success of this program, which gave a group of young people an opportunity to use its resources and afforded entertainment and instruction for its members.

A history of the Czechs in Steele County, compiled by the late Frantisek Kovár of Owatonna, appears in the 1933 issue of a Czech almanac published at Chicago under the title *Amerikán národní kalendár*. The narrative is based upon the reminiscences of pioneers who settled in Steele County in the fifties.

The first Congregational and Presbyterian churches of Owatonna, which are now united under the title of the Associated Churches,

celebrated the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the two religious organizations on October 16. Histories of the Sunday school activities of the two denominations were presented by Miss Alice Jefferson and Mr. H. J. Jager, and histories of the churches were read by Mrs. Flora Moran and Mr. Paul H. Evans. The two latter papers are published in the *Owatonna Journal-Chronicle* for October 21.

A history of Trinity Lutheran Church of Long Prairie by its pastor, the Reverend E. T. Heyne, appears in the *Long Prairie Leader* for October 27. Members of the congregation celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the church on October 30.

A brief history of the First Baptist Church of Breckenridge, which celebrated its fiftieth anniversary from November 9 to 13, appears in the *Gazette-Telegram* of Breckenridge for November 9. According to this account "the first religious service was held in Breckenridge in 1872, in a Great Northern railroad passenger coach under direction of Jonathan E. Petit, a Baptist," but "it was not until 1882 that a distinctly Baptist organization was formed."

The days when Winona County farmers took their wheat to local mills to be ground into flour are recalled in the *Winona Republican-Herald* for December 10 by Paul P. Thompson in an article entitled "Historic Pickwick Mill, Still Busy, Stands as Monument to Forgotten Millers of Early Days." The writer reviews the history of the picturesque mill near La Moille, which was built in 1854 by Thomson Grant and which is still used as a grist mill. Numerous other mills that were operated in Winona County between the fifties and the eighties are described more briefly. A picture of the Pickwick Mill appears with the article.

An interesting contribution to the history of fraternal organizations in Minnesota is made by Dr. E. Klaveness in a recently published pamphlet entitled *Sixty Years of Pythianism in St. Paul* (10 p.). The account was prepared as an address presented on July 20, 1932, on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the founding of St. Paul Lodge No. 2 of the Knights of Pythias. The first Pythian lodge in Minnesota was established at Minneapolis in 1870, six years after the order was founded.



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