

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

The United States since 1865. By LOUIS M. HACKER and BENJAMIN B. KENDRICK. With a foreword by DIXON RYAN FOX. (New York, F. S. Crofts & Co., 1932. xx, 775 p. Illustrations, maps. \$5.00.)

Since the depression began, there has been no dearth of explanations from everyone who could gain a hearing of the causes of our present miseries. For the literate and the not so literate, the freshly printed page has given ample cause for confusion of mind and weariness of spirit; for those who could not or would not read, there have been the radio talks of economists. Now, for the college generation of the "New Deal" there has been provided a new history text on America since 1865, which, it is hoped, will inform the bewildered sophomore just how we "got that way." The editor in his foreword assures us that "now we are under a different dispensation" wherein "history is chiefly used to explain the present," a history that will end with an "incisive treatment of the unfinished business of this very year."

Despite the editor's blurb, which might more properly have graced the jacket rather than the preface, the reader will find in these seven hundred pages a straightforward, vigorous narrative. There is a cold clarity in the authors' presentation of the spectacle of an acquisitive society, freed from the trammels of an earlier day, ranging over a continent, preëmpting and exploiting, laying strong hands on government, local and national, and creating the America of the Machine Age. There is no mincing of words. More than one of the sacred cows of American government and business are slaughtered. Such a complete exposition, for instance, of the part played by the federal judiciary in the service of capital is something new in our college texts.

All in all, the student should come away from a careful reading of the book with any romantic notions of the continuance of the older American democracy pretty well knocked out of his head, and a conception of the present-day capitalistic imperialism which is modern

America pretty well knocked in. To perform this service for the present generation of college students is a worthy task.

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MINNEAPOLIS

The Exploration of Western America, 1800-1850: An Historical Geography. By E. W. GILBERT, B. LITT., M. A. (Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1933. xiii, 233 p. Illustrations, maps. \$3.25.)

Here is a history of western American exploration with a new approach. The author reconstructs "the geographical setting in which the explorers accomplished their work" (p. xi). An historical introduction is followed by two major divisions. Part 1 is devoted to a discussion of geographical features that would influence exploration, separate chapters being devoted to physical geography, climate, natural drainage, vegetation, animal life, and Indian inhabitants. The descriptions are given largely in the words of the original reports of explorers. Part 2 presents an excellent general summary of the progress of discovery in the trans-Missouri country. A chapter is devoted to each of the major sectional developments: the discovery of the northern route, opened by Lewis and Clark and the fur traders; the opening of the central route, primarily by the men of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company (Gilbert's rendering of the name "Rocky Mountains Fur Company" is perhaps logical, but was not the official name nor the title as used); and the discovery of the southern routes, with emphasis on the work of Pike, Long, the Patties, and Wolfskill. Approaching his subject as a geographer and an Englishman, the author sees features that the American historian would ordinarily overlook. The general field is well covered, with a fair allotment of space to the movements and characters involved.

The following omissions were noted. Armijo's connection with the opening of the Old Spanish Trail is not mentioned; nor is the importance of the winter branch of the California Trail, running from Salt Lake City to Los Angeles, recognized. While Wislizenus' expedition to north Mexico is spoken of, no mention is made of his earlier journey of 1839. William Gilpin's explorations and his

writings along geographical lines should, the reviewer thinks, have entitled him to consideration in a work of this sort. Some minor slips or errors are made. The author has the Pony Express go through Bridger Pass instead of South Pass (p. 150). He says that the Preuss map was "on a scale of 32 inches to a mile" (p. 202). He places the "headwaters of the Arkansas in the South Park" (p. 184.)

Appropriately, most of the illustrations are maps. Important early ones are reproduced and newly drawn ones exhibit the routes of the principal explorations. A useful bibliography and a good index are included. The volume evinces wide reading and broad understanding of geographical discovery in western America. It is a good and useful book.

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DENVER

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

At the October meeting of the executive council of the society, the Honorable Eugene M. Phillips, commissioner of education, read a memorial address in honor of former Commissioner James M. McConnell, who died last April; and Dr. Grace Lee Nute, curator of the society's manuscripts, read a paper on "The Fur Trade" and described a book of fur-traders' diaries that has since been published by the University of Minnesota Press for the Minnesota Society of Colonial Dames. The address by Mr. Phillips is published elsewhere in the present issue of MINNESOTA HISTORY.

An audience of about two hundred and seventy-five members and friends of the society assembled in the auditorium of the Historical Building on the evening of October 18 to hear Professor Stephen Leacock lecture on "Lahontan in Minnesota." The president of the society, Mr. William W. Cutler, presided, and after the lecture the superintendent spoke informally, commenting on some of the historical problems involved in the Long River controversy. The society takes pleasure in publishing an abstract of Professor Leacock's interesting address in the present number of MINNESOTA HISTORY.

The announcement that the Minnesota Historical Society is co-operating with the Minnesota State Pharmaceutical Association in building up a collection of records and objects that will reflect the history of Minnesota pharmacy is the occasion for the publication of an editorial about the value of such a collection in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for July 21. "The plan should inspire other industries and businesses of Minnesota to exhibit a like interest in their historical backgrounds," comments the writer. "Business history is still a comparatively new field for the American museum and the necessity for increased activity along these lines becomes more pressing every year."

Twelve additions have been made to the active membership of the society in the three months ending September 30. The names of the new members, grouped by counties, follow:

BROWN: Fred W. Johnson of New Ulm.

DOUGLAS: Reverend James S. Strand of Osakis.

HENNEPIN: Jessie L. Angst, Gerald H. Burgess, William R. Everett, and Charles C. Webber, all of Minneapolis.

OLMSTED: Dr. M. C. Piper and John H. Metzgerott, both of Rochester.

RAMSEY: Dr. George N. Ruhberg, Ethel Shields, and Samuel E. Turner, all of St. Paul.

NONRESIDENT: Rev. Brother Memoriam of Edmonton, Canada.

The society has recently lost seven active members by death: Stillman H. Bingham of Duluth, July 22; Colonel Everett W. Foster of Watsonville, California, July 22; Andreas Ueland of Minneapolis, July 30; James T. Elwell of Minneapolis, August 10; Harold Harris of St. Paul, August 24; Katharine Dame of St. Paul, September 9; and Harry T. Drake of St. Paul, September 15. Notice has been received also of the deaths of Andrew D. Smith of Redwood Falls on July 11, 1932; of George L. Treat of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, on December 23, 1932; and of the Reverend Alfred O. Johnson of Spring Grove on March 7, 1933.

The superintendent gave talks on Minnesota history before the Ramblers Club of Minneapolis on September 8, the Philolectian Club of Anoka on September 22, and the Business and Professional Men's Club of St. Paul on September 28; and he spoke on local historical work at a meeting held at Worthington on September 10 which resulted in the organization of the Nobles County Historical Society. "Pioneer Women of Minnesota" was the topic of a talk presented by Miss Nute before the Business and Professional Women's Club of St. Paul on September 14. Mr. Babcock gave an illustrated talk on Minnesota history for members of the Grafil Club of Minneapolis on July 13, and he spoke informally on local historical work at the North Shore Historical Assembly held at Lutsen on August 21 and at the Kandiyohi County Fair at Willmar on September 14.

The feature of the society's exhibit at the Minnesota State Fair in September was a series of electrically lighted transparencies, which reproduced views of frontier Minnesota from the society's picture collection.

The superintendent has been made a member of the board of editors of the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, and the curator of manuscripts has been elected to membership in the executive council of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association.

Dr. Warren Upham has been appointed by the executive committee to the honorary position of archeologist emeritus in recognition of his long and faithful services to the society, and the former position of archeologist has been merged with that of the curator of the museum. Mr. Van Koughnet, who has served on the society's staff as research and general assistant for the past two years, resigned on September 15 in order to resume his studies at Harvard University.

Two members of the society's staff have contributed to the double number of the *North Dakota Historical Quarterly* for January and April, 1933. An article on the "Fur Trade as an Aid to Settlement" by Mr. Babcock is a revision of an address that he delivered on June 19, 1932, at the celebration at Warroad of the bicentennial of the arrival of La Vérendrye in the Lake of the Woods region (see *ante*, 13:345). Miss Heilbron supplies an introduction and notes for an account of "A British Agricultural Expert in the Red River Valley, 1879," which is a reprint of a chapter from Finlay Dun's *American Farming and Food* (London, 1881).

The work of the society is reviewed by the superintendent in an article entitled "History and the State," which appears in the *Ace*, the publication of the St. Paul Athletic Club, for October.

Mr. Babcock contributes an essay on "Indian Folk Lore" to the August issue of the *Wigwam*, a magazine published at Minneapolis as the "organ of the American Indian."

For the publication of the series of radio talks broadcast last year over station WLB under the auspices of the society, the *Minnesota Alumni Weekly* was awarded second place in the national annual magazine awards contest conducted by the American Alumni Council. The award was announced at the national convention of the council, which was held in Evanston, Illinois, in June. The alumni magazines of 168 colleges and universities were entered in the contest.

ACCESSIONS

Photostatic copies of sixteen documents relating to Groseilliers' visit to London in 1665 and 1666 and to the efforts made by the Hudson's Bay Company between 1682 and 1699 to remove the French from the Hudson Bay region have been received from the Public Record Office in London. Thirty-two additional documents relating to the same subjects and to the activities of Radisson, Groseilliers, and other employees of the Hudson's Bay Company in the Hudson Bay country have been copied for the society from transcripts in the Public Archives of Canada at Ottawa. The originals of these documents also are in the Public Record Office.

Information about annuities, claims, missions, half-breed scrip, and schools among the Sioux, Chippewa, and Winnebago is to be found on the calendar cards received recently from the bureau of Indian affairs. There are also some references to attempts to establish saw-mills on the upper branches of the Mississippi a century ago.

A collection of field notes and township plats made by Milton P. Noel, county surveyor for Stearns County in the fifties, have been received from his daughter, Mrs. William D. Mitchell of St. Cloud. The plats bear the names of the owners of each section of land mapped. Several plats for surrounding counties, which were made by other surveyors, are included in the gift. Mrs. Mitchell also has presented a transit, a compass, a plummet, and other articles of surveyor's equipment used by her father.

A photostatic copy of a letter written by Isaac I. Stevens on August 7, 1853, to Pierre Bottineau, commending him for his services as guide for the Northern Pacific Railroad survey of that year, is the gift of the latter's grandniece, Miss Sylvia Bottineau of Minneapolis. The original letter is owned by Mrs. Charles Chenevert of Osseo.

A group of papers of Samuel B. Abbe is the gift of his niece, Miss Abby Abbe Fuller of St. Paul. The papers include valuable material on the purchase by members of the Crow Wing Land Association of the Fort Ripley military reservation, which was announced for sale in 1857. Many of the papers relate to land speculation and to the activities of town-site companies at Otter Tail City, Chaska,

Shakopee, and Fort Ripley. Material about the activities of Abbe's brother-in-law, David L. Fuller, who was engaged in trading with the Winnebago at Sauk Rapids and Little Falls, also is to be found in the papers.

A preëmption certificate granted at the Minneapolis land office in 1856 to Eleazer Snell, and six receipts issued to his brother, Stephen D. Snell, for payment of taxes on land in Minneapolis between 1861 and 1880 are the gifts of the latter's daughter, Mrs. Charles C. Stetson of St. Paul. Mrs. Stetson has also presented a certificate of appointment of Reese M. Newport as colonel by brevet for services during the Civil War; and a commission issued in 1908 to his daughter, Miss Mary M. Newport, as a member of the governing board of the State Art Society of Minnesota.

Photostatic or photographic copies of the population schedules of all the Minnesota counties covered in the special census of 1857 are now available to students who make use of the society's resources. The originals are preserved in the archives of the census bureau at Washington.

The proposed Sioux treaty of 1858, the visit of an Indian delegation to Washington, the machinations of traders and land speculators, and the government's policy of civilizing the Indians are discussed in letters written in 1858 and 1859 from Pajutazee in Yellow Medicine County by Thomas S. Williamson, the missionary, which have been copied for the society from the originals among the archives of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions in Boston.

A record of marriages, baptisms, and funerals kept between 1875 and 1905 in Wisconsin, Iowa, California, and Minnesota by the Reverend Joseph B. Gidney, a Baptist minister, has been copied for the society by the photostatic process from the original in the possession of Miss Martha M. Gedney of Minneapolis. The Minnesota records relate to Houston County. Three letters containing information about the genealogy of the Fowler, Beyea, and allied families, written in 1929 by Andrew S. Beyea to Miss Edith Fowler, are gifts of Miss Gedney.

The diary of the late Andrew A. Veblen, contained in about thirty small volumes, is included in a substantial addition to his papers, fill-

ing several filing boxes and covering the years from 1876 to 1932, which is the gift of his son, Professor Oswald Veblen of Princeton University (see *ante*, p. 217). He has also presented a volume of correspondence carried on between Veblen and Joseph Dorfman of New York and relating to Thorstein Veblen, the noted economist; several scrapbooks of clippings about the careers of the Veblen brothers; and groups of papers about the activities of the Norwegian-American *bygdelags*, the genealogy of the Veblen family, the Kensington rune stone, and the founding of a chair of Scandinavian literature at the University of Iowa.

Minutes of meetings and treasurer's records of the New Century Club of St. Paul covering the years from 1887 to 1927 have been received from that organization through the courtesy of Mrs. Fred Blodgett of St. Paul. A record of the club's activity as a member of the Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs from 1896 to 1902 is included in the gift.

Letters written to Senator Knute Nelson by his constituents and papers relating to his activities as chairman of a joint committee of Congress appointed in 1910 to investigate the department of the interior and the bureau of forestry have been added to the Nelson Papers by former Governor J. A. O. Preus. He has also presented six filing boxes of his own correspondence dating from 1923, when he was campaigning for the senatorial seat left vacant by Nelson's death.

Several letters from Governor Winfield S. Hammond regarding his election in 1914 and a letter from President Wilson referring to the Minnesota branch of the Patriotic Americans of German Origin are included among twenty items of personal papers that have been presented by Mr. Henry F. Wessel of St. Paul. Mr. Wessel was president of the German society, which was organized on April 2, 1918, but was dissolved after the signing of the armistice.

The Better Business Bureau of the Minneapolis Advertising Forum has turned over to the society a large mass of its records for the period from 1912 to 1925, consisting of correspondence, formal reports, account books, and scrapbooks. The papers include material about prices, trade names, imitation products, patent medicines, in-

vestments, publications, and other matters that were the subject of investigation by the bureau.

A series of detailed sketches of Dakota County pioneers, prepared by the late John H. Case of Hastings and based upon information that he gathered by means of interviews and questionnaires, has been received from his daughter, Mrs. Lewis C. Church of Minneapolis. Material about the families of Alexis Bailly, Auguste L. Larpenteur, Alexander Faribault, Eli Pettijohn, Hazen Mooers, and about the Sioux chief, Medicine Bottle, is included.

Master's theses on "Frontier Homes and Home Management" by Evadene A. Burris, on the "History of the Temperance Movement in Minnesota to 1865" by Agnes E. Ellingsen, and on "The Social and Cultural Aspects of the Methodist Church in Pioneer Minnesota" by Merrill E. Jarchow, prepared at the University of Minnesota, have been received from its history department. A master's thesis by Wesley Lauritsen entitled "The Scandinavian Influence in Minnesota," which was submitted at Gallaudet College, is the gift of the author. Term papers prepared at the University of Minnesota for a course in Minnesota history and presented by the writers include "The 'Old Crossing' Chippewa Treaty of 1863" by Ella Hawkinson, "A History of St. Cloud, Minnesota, 1861-65" by Henrietta L. Memler, and an account of Mantorville in 1857 and 1858 by Claude C. Lammers.

The activities of each unit of the American Legion Auxiliary in Minnesota during 1931, 1932, and 1933 are surveyed in sketches prepared by the unit historians and turned over to the society by the state historian, Mrs. M. E. Withrow of International Falls (see *ante*, 11:445).

A scrapbook of correspondence and newspaper clippings relating to the activities between 1883 and 1904 of the First Regiment, Minnesota National Guard, has been compiled and presented by Brigadier General Charles McCormick Reeve of Minnetonka Beach.

Mr. Victor Robertson of St. Paul has added forty-eight volumes to the collection of works dealing with the genealogy of the Robertson family and with Scotch history that he presented to the society some months ago (see *ante*, p. 218). Other gifts received from Mr.

Robertson are a copy of a rare newspaper, the *Watab Reveille* for January 10, 1851, and two photographs of the pioneer Minnesota editor D. A. Robertson.

Sketches of a number of Minnesotans are included in a genealogical work entitled *An American Family: Botsford-Marble Ancestral Lines* by Donald L. Jacobus (New Haven, 1933. 267 p.). A copy of this volume has been presented to the society by Mr. Otis Marble Botsford of Winona, for whom the work was compiled. Accounts of Mr. Botsford's pioneer experiences in South Dakota in the eighties and of his career as a lumberman in Winona are included.

An interesting addition to the society's genealogical collection is a *Genealogy of the Cabot Family* (Boston, 1927), which is the gift of the author, Dr. Vernon L. Briggs of Boston. He has also presented a copy of his *California and the West* (Boston, 1931) and a group of pictures and pamphlets used in its preparation.

In accordance with a plan formulated by the Minnesota society of the Daughters of the American Revolution at its annual convention for 1933 (see *ante*, p. 214), a group of seven volumes relating to genealogy has been presented to the society by this organization.

A pamphlet entitled *The Scalpel under Three Flags in California* by Dr. George D. Lyman (San Francisco, 1925. 67 p.) is the gift of the author. It includes some material about John Marsh, the "trail-blazer on six frontiers" whose biography Dr. Lyman published in 1930 (see *ante*, 11:430-432).

The first eleven volumes of the *Evangelical Review*, covering the years from 1849 to 1860, have been received from the Reverend George Fritschel of Wartburg Seminary at Dubuque, Iowa.

A valuable addition to the newspaper collection is a file of the rare *Sauk Rapids Frontiersman* from the first number, issued on April 26, 1855, through 1858, which has been presented by Mrs. J. H. Coates of Sauk Rapids, a daughter of Jeremiah Russell, the first editor of the paper.

A file of the *Saturday Evening Post* of Burlington, Iowa, for the period from August 12, 1911, to May 30, 1914, has been received from Mrs. Mabel Agnew of Burlington. A wealth of material

relating to the navigation of the upper Mississippi appeared in the *Post* between 1911 and 1932, a period for which the society's file is now nearly complete.

A collection of more than seven hundred photographs of Civil and Spanish-American War scenes and personages assembled by the late Captain J. Colfax Grant of Minneapolis and about eighty lantern slides made from these pictures are included in an important gift consisting, in addition to pictures, of manuscripts, books, and military objects, which has been received from Captain Grant's sister-in-law, Mrs. U. S. Grant of Evanston, Illinois. Materials relating to investments made in Minneapolis in the eighties by Major General Lewis A. Grant, the father of Captain Grant, and some items relating to the genealogy of the Grant family are to be found among the manuscripts. The books consist of about three hundred volumes, half of which are government documents. Other features of the gift are a large oil portrait of Major General Grant and a group of military objects, including uniforms, swords, and belts.

Of unusual interest and value are two oil paintings that have been added recently to the society's collections. One showing the Mississippi at St. Anthony was painted by R. Sloan in 1852, when he was a guest at the old Cheever House of St. Anthony. As a means of settling his account he painted this picture for the proprietor, whose son, Mr. H. A. Cheever of Attleboro, Massachusetts, has until recently had it in his possession. It has now been presented to the society through the generosity of Mr. Everett H. Bailey of St. Paul, the treasurer of the society. The second painting, which depicts the Mississippi in the vicinity of Red Wing about 1854, is the work of George H. Durrie. He painted the canvas for Colonel James Babcock, the editor of the *New Haven* [Connecticut] *Palladium*, who visited Minnesota in 1854 as a member of the famous Rock Island Railroad excursion of that year. With the painting, the donor of which will be announced later, the society has acquired a little leather notebook containing letters written to the *Palladium* by Colonel Babcock while on his western trip.

A steel mill pick used in a pioneer mill on Minnehaha Creek near the present site of Hopkins by Peter Schussler is the gift of his son, Dr. O. F. Schussler of Minneapolis.

The uniform and diving knife used by the late James W. Frazer of St. Paul, master diver in the United States Navy, have been presented by his widow, who has also given several photographs showing Frazer in his diving suit.

The brass bell that was used on the Civil War battleship "Minnesota" has been turned over to the society by the navy department as a result of the efforts of Congressman Paul Kvale.

A silver mounted revolver and shoulder straps that belonged to General James Shields, a Civil War sabre and belt used by his son, Captain Charles Shields, and other items are the gifts of the Shields family, through the courtesy of Miss Alice Shields of St. Paul. Other additions to the military collection include several Civil War guns, a canteen, a shot flask, a revolver, and some caps presented by Mrs. E. I. O'Neil of Los Angeles.

A carved rosewood bed, wardrobe, and cabinet dating from the fifties, an Italian mosaic table, various pieces of fine china and glassware, and other items are the gifts of Mrs. James D. Denegre of St. Paul. Mrs. E. I. O'Neil of Los Angeles has presented some cooking utensils, china, silver, glassware, and other domestic objects used in pioneer Minnesota.

Recent additions to the costume collection include a child's embroidered merino cape and bonnet dating from 1856, from Miss Nellie Cardozo of St. Paul; wedding waists worn in 1840 and 1855, from Mrs. P. M. Leakin and Mrs. George W. Garrard, both of Frontenac; a lace bonnet of the nineties, from Mrs. Leakin; and a colonial costume and other articles of clothing, from the estate of the late Mrs. Marshall Coolidge of Minneapolis.

NEWS AND COMMENT

"Local history, in my matured judgment, is one of the most rewarding fields of research," writes Alexander C. Flick in an article entitled "Our Buried Treasures," which appears in *New York History* for January. "It is in the study of local history," he points out, "that we can see most clearly that vital operation in historical development, institutional growth—political, educational, religious, social and economic. This process can be traced most easily in the small community." After demonstrating the value of local history, Dr. Flick makes an appeal for its teaching and for the collection and preservation of local historical records and objects.

The past "is our own in a way that nothing else in life is," writes Grace King in the preface to her *Memories of a Southern Woman of Letters* (New York, 1932). We "are our past; we do not cling to it, it clings to us. Innumerable filaments of memory fasten it to us, and we go through life with them dangling behind us." The memories, she continues, "go back far beyond our experience, out of sight of it, to fasten upon parents and grandparents."

The use of the photo-lithographic process and of other methods of reproducing books and manuscripts in facsimile is doing much to make available to students of history in all parts of the world rare sources that previously could be consulted only in a few large depositories. Many of the disadvantages of ordinary printing are eliminated by these means of reproduction. The tedious work of copying and collation in preparing the manuscript for the printer and the various details involved in proof-reading become unnecessary. Thus the cost of production is reduced. Furthermore, it is virtually impossible for errors to creep into works that are in effect photographic reproductions of the originals. Some excellent examples of this type of publication have been issued during the past year or two. A facsimile reproduction of the original Portuguese text, issued in 1557, of the *True Relation of the Hardships Suffered by Governor Fernando de Soto & Certain Portuguese Gentlemen during the Discovery of the Province of Florida* forms the first volume of a recent publication of the Florida State Historical Society (DeLand, 1932).

The work has been edited by James A. Robertson, whose translation of the text is published as the second volume. Manuscript as well as printed material is reproduced in volume 1 of the *Early Minutes of the Trustees* of Columbia University (New York, 1932). The Facsimile Text Society has chosen for volume 7 of its *Language and Literature* series *Five Travel Scripts Commonly Attributed to Edward Ward*, which have been "Reproduced from the Earliest Editions Extant" and supplied with a bibliographical note by Howard W. Troyer (New York, 1933). The format of each of these works is unusually attractive. They illustrate to good advantage the use of a book-making process that is both beautiful and practical.

An interesting kind of activity for local historical organizations is suggested in an article entitled "Replacement Records of County Historical Buildings" by Chester E. Wheeler, which appears in the *Quarterly Bulletin* of the Westchester County, New York, Historical Society for April. Mr. Wheeler tells of a project that has been worked out in Westchester County providing for the "preservation as a public record of complete architectural and detail plans" of historical buildings in the county.

Among the subjects of special interest to students of Minnesota and Northwest history that appear in the *List of Doctoral Dissertations in History Now in Progress at the Chief American Universities*, issued in 1932 by the Carnegie Institution of Washington, are the following: "Influences of the Frontier on Religion in America" by R. F. Lee (Minnesota); "Early History of the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railway" by H. W. Rice (Iowa); "The American Fur Company" by W. S. Bridgwater (Yale); "The Army on the Frontier, 1815-1845" by H. P. Beers (Pennsylvania); "The Nonpartisan League" by R. H. Bahmer (Minnesota); "Intertribal Relations among the Great Lakes Indians" by G. T. Hunt (Wisconsin); "The Development of Manufactures in the Great Lakes Basin" by J. E. Pautz (Columbia); "The History of the Catholic Church in Minnesota" by Sister Grace McDonald (Minnesota); "The Operation of the Federal Land Policy in Minnesota" by V. E. Chatelain (Minnesota); "History of the Lumber Industry in Minnesota" by Agnes M. Larson (Radcliffe); "The Civil War Veteran in Minnesota Politics" by F. H. Heck (Minne-

sota); "The Norwegians in Iowa" by H. F. Swansen (Iowa); "The Red River of the North" by A. H. Moehlman (Michigan); and "The Riel Rebellions" by J. A. Jonasson (Stanford).

An illustrated account of the explorations of "La Vérendrye, Pathfinder of the West" is contributed by Lawrence J. Burpee to the *Canadian Geographical Journal* for April. Some memories of the voyageurs and traders of the Red River region by John P. Turner appear under the title "Men of the Long Portage" in the January number of the same magazine.

The figure of a *fleur-de-lis* is engraved on the metal remains of an ancient pistol, discovered recently near the mouth of the Big Grassy River on the Lake of the Woods and placed with the St. Boniface Historical Society. It is conjectured that the pistol belonged to one of La Vérendrye's men.

That the author of *Giants in the Earth* "gave the American people their great pioneer saga" and "enriched American letters with a new and penetrating depiction of the immigrant" are claims made by Einar I. Haugen in a study of "O. E. Rølvaag: Norwegian-American," which appears in volume 7 of *Norwegian-American Studies and Records*, issued by the Norwegian-American Historical Association (Northfield, 1933. 139 p.). Mr. Haugen points out that the "dominant passion of Rølvaag's life was his attachment to his race," and he shows in detail how this passion influenced the author's work. Another publication issued by the Norwegian-American Historical Association during the past year is a volume entitled *Norwegian Sailors in American Waters: A Study in the History of Maritime Activity on the Eastern Seaboard* by Knut Gjerset (271 p.).

An account of pioneer experiences in the Red River Valley in the early seventies by a Norwegian immigrant, the late A. O. Serum of Halstead, is included in the second volume of *Selbybogen: Meddelelser om Selbyggernes Slægt i Amerika og deres Virke* (Minneapolis, 1931). This is one among many items of Minnesota interest in a volume dealing with immigrants from the Selbu district in Norway. A mass of biographical information is brought together for given areas, such as Olmsted, Dodge, and Mower counties; Jackson and Cottonwood counties; Lac qui Parle County; and northern and cen-

tral Minnesota. The author and editor is the Reverend John U. Pedersen, who was also responsible for the first volume, noted in this magazine, *ante*, 4:462. At the end of the book is considerable information about Selbulaget, the organization that has sponsored the publication.

The first migration of Norwegians to America and their experiences as pioneers in the United States form the central theme of an historical novel by Martin W. Odland entitled *The New Canaan* (Minneapolis, 1933. 208 p.). The novel was published originally as a serial in the *St. Paul Dispatch*.

Three chapters of *A History of American Mining* by T. A. Rickard (New York and London, 1932. 419 p.) are devoted to lead mining in Iowa and Wisconsin, gold mining in the Black Hills of South Dakota, and copper mining in the Lake Superior country. The subject of iron mining in northern Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan is, however, neglected. The discovery of mineral resources by the early French and British explorers of the Northwest as well as the development of mining is touched upon in the volume.

The beginnings of the lyceum movement are well outlined by Leslie H. Meeks in an article on "The Lyceum in the Early West," which appears in the June issue of the *Indiana Magazine of History*. Special emphasis is placed upon lyceum activities at Terre Haute in the late fifties.

Members of the South Slavonic Catholic Union of America, a national organization that originated at Ely on July 18, 1898, met in that city on July 30 to celebrate its thirty-fifth anniversary. A short history of the union appears in the *Ely Miner* for July 28.

The centennial of the publication of Dr. William Beaumont's *Experiments and Observations on the Gastric Juice*, in which the surgeon gave to the world the results of experiments carried on while he was stationed at pioneer military posts in the Northwest, has been the occasion for the appearance of a number of items about his life and work. For example, articles on the "William Beaumont Centennial" and the "Pioneer of American Physiology," both recalling events that took place at Mackinac and at Fort Crawford, appear in the issues of the *Medical Pocket Quarterly* for June and September;

and a booklet which reproduces the cover and title page of the first edition of the *Observations* and includes a number of interesting items about its author was published at Jersey City. The New York Academy of Medicine, meeting early in October, commemorated the anniversary and displayed a set of lancets once used by Dr. Beaumont and now owned by the St. Paul Institute, according to the *St. Paul Dispatch* for October 6. In this connection it is interesting to recall that Beaumont's work is commemorated by a marker erected near the ruins of the Fort Crawford post hospital by the State Medical Society of Wisconsin in 1931. It bears the following inscription: "William Beaumont, M. D., Pioneer in Physiology. Born Lebanon, Conn. 1785; Died St. Louis, Mo. 1853. At old Fort Crawford, one and one-half miles northwest of this spot, one hundred years ago, Doctor Beaumont, a surgeon in the U. S. Army performed those experiments on Alexis St. Martin which laid the foundation for our knowledge of digestion." To call attention to the dedication of this marker, the *Courier of Prairie du Chien* published with its issue of August 25, 1931, a supplement, which is made up of articles and illustrations relating to the career of Dr. Beaumont.

The "Grand Excursion of 1854," which marked the completion of the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad to the Mississippi, is characterized as "by far the most brilliant event the West had ever witnessed" by William J. Petersen in the *Palimpsest* for August. The journey up the Mississippi by steamboat from Rock Island to St. Paul of a group of celebrities who had reached the West on the newly opened railroad and the entertainments with which the excursionists were greeted at St. Anthony and St. Paul are described in some detail. Mr. Petersen also contributes a sketch of the building of the Rock Island to this issue of the *Palimpsest*.

The fiftieth anniversary of the "colorful and noisy ceremonies" at Gold Creek, Montana, on September 8, 1883, which marked the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad between Lake Superior and the Pacific was the occasion for the publication of a large number of newspaper articles about the building of the road. "The Last Spike" is the title of an illustrated feature article in the *Minneapolis Journal* for July 30, in which emphasis is placed upon the story of the laying of the track across Minnesota, Dakota, and

Montana. Henry Villard and the great celebration at Gold Creek are the centers of interest in an article published in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for August 6. The breaking of the first sod on the surveyed route of the Northern Pacific near Duluth in February, 1870, is described in the *Duluth News-Tribune* for September 8.

The history of the press used by James M. Goodhue in printing the *Minnesota Pioneer* is briefly traced by Douglas C. McMurtrie in a survey of the "Beginnings of Printing in Iowa," which appears in the *Annals of Iowa* for July. According to Mr. McMurtrie the press was purchased in Cincinnati by John King, who established the *Du Buque Visitor* in 1836. Six years later it was sold and removed to Lancaster, Wisconsin, where it was acquired by Goodhue. The later history of the press, which has been the subject of considerable controversy, also is related by Mr. McMurtrie. He cites authorities who assert that the press was removed from St. Paul to Sioux Falls, where it was destroyed by Indians and where its remains still are preserved in a museum; and he refers to other writers who claim that the press was used in the late fifties at Sauk Rapids. He mentions also the press in the museum of the Minnesota Historical Society, which, he says, is "claimed to be the original press used by John King in Iowa."

Wisconsin's Belgian Community: An Account of the Early Events in the Belgian Settlement in Northeastern Wisconsin with Particular Reference to the Belgians in Door County, by Hjalmar R. Holand, is an interesting and valuable study of a single racial group in a middle western state recently published by the Door County Historical Society (Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, 1933. 105 p.). The author has painstakingly drawn up a list of the Belgians who settled in the three townships of Union, Brussels, and Gardner before the Civil War; and he has obtained from the office of the Door County register of deeds records of all preëmptions of land made by Belgians before 1862. In the volume these records are illustrated by township plats on which are located all lands legally preëmpted by Belgians. Other chapters, which seem to be based to a large extent upon interviews with pioneers and old letters, deal with "Pioneer Experiences," the forest fire that swept over the settlement in 1871, the history of the local churches, and "Belgian Characteristics and Customs" as reflected in the social life of the community.

The site of the boyhood home of Senator Knute Nelson near Whitewater, Wisconsin, has been marked with a bronze tablet, which was unveiled and dedicated with appropriate ceremonies on May 28. Among the speakers were Dr. Joseph Schafer, superintendent of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Professor Julius Olson, and Mr. Rasmus B. Anderson.

Extracts from the travel literature of more than two and a half centuries make up one of the most interesting volumes about Chicago that has been inspired by "A Century of Progress." It is published under the title *As Others See Chicago: Impressions of Visitors, 1673-1933*, and has been compiled and edited by Bessie L. Pierce and Joe L. Norris, both of the University of Chicago (Chicago, 1933. 540 p.). The area around the mouth of the Chicago River from the days of Father Marquette to those of G. K. Chesterton is here pictured, and the origin and growth of the city are reflected. Each extract is introduced by a sketch of the writer, and adequate and informing annotations accompany the texts.

Copper mining operations on Isle Royale in 1874 and 1875 form the background for a little book entitled *Winter on Isle Royale* by Sarah Barr Christian, whose husband was superintendent of the mine (1932. 44 p.). She describes vividly the conditions under which the little group—consisting for the most part of Cornish miners and engineers and their families—lived during the long northern winter.

A History of South Dakota State College edited by William H. Powers has been issued to commemorate the passing of half a century since this pioneer agricultural college of the Dakotas was founded (Brookings, 1931. 144 p.). The progress of agricultural education is well illustrated in this little book, which includes accounts of the administrations of the various presidents of the college, of the extension of its curriculum, of the growth of the campus, and of the careers of its graduates.

Two large volumes containing 704 pages are required for the publication of a *Bibliography of the History of California* by Robert Ernest Cowan and Robert Granniss Cowan, recently published in San Francisco (1933). A third volume is devoted to title, subject, and chronological indexes.

A state history of more than ordinary interest and value is *Colorado: The Story of a Western Commonwealth* by LeRoy R. Hafen (Denver, 1933. 328 p.). From the "Days of the Cliffdwellers," through the eras of exploration, the fur trade, and settlement, and down to the actual year of publication, the history of Colorado is traced. A chapter on "Recent Changes and Innovations" includes paragraphs on such subjects as modern transportation, the use of gas and electricity, the radio, the motion picture, and the state's tourist business.

That the paintings of Paul Kane "constitute the best existing record of the dress, manners, and customs of the redmen of the great North-West before it had been invaded by white civilization" is the claim made by Hector Charlesworth in a sketch of the artist which is included in a volume entitled *The Canadian Scene* (Toronto, 1927). The writer points out that "Kane was nothing if not a hardened realist," and that for this reason his work is more reliable and accurate than that of the romantic Catlin. A concise account of Kane's western travels is included in this sketch. Other articles in this volume that are of special interest for the Northwest are accounts of "George Stephen's Battle for a Transcontinental Railroad," of the history of "The Great Company,"—the Hudson's Bay Company,—and of "Lincoln and Canada."

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

The commemoration of Minnesota's "Diamond Jubilee," which opened with elaborate ceremonies in May and was marked by numerous celebrations throughout the summer months (see *ante*, p. 343–348), continues to inspire historical programs, newspaper and magazine articles, essay contests, and the like. Two local historical societies—those of Martin and Pipestone counties—included in programs presented on August 27 and September 4 addresses about the state's seventy-fifth anniversary. The city of Pipestone arranged a community celebration on October 5, which commemorated not only the state anniversary but the fifty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the village and the fifty-fourth anniversary of the organization of the county as well. Senator Henrik Shipstead delivered the principal address on this occasion, and historical talks on the state, the city,

and the county were presented by George P. Gurley, M. Tedd Evans, and Winifred Bartlett. The program included a pageant reviewing the history of the county, and a ceremonial dance by students from the Pipestone Indian school. A special performance of the "Minnesota Diamond Jubilee Pageant," which was presented six times during the summer at Itasca State Park, was staged at Whitewater State Park on August 20.

The winners in a state-wide essay contest conducted by the tourist bureau of the Minnesota department of conservation and the Northwestern Minnesota Historical Association were guests of Itasca State Park for the final performance of the pageant on September 4. About a hundred essays dealing with Sioux War experiences were submitted, and of these the three prepared by Mr. Harry B. West of Morgan, Miss Dorothy Kuske of Olivia, and Mrs. Julia E. F. Lobdell of Minneapolis were selected for prizes by a committee consisting of Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of the museum of the Minnesota Historical Society, Mr. George H. Bradley, director of the Minnesota tourist bureau, and Mr. Earle A. Barker, president of the Northwestern Minnesota Historical Association. A detailed review of the material included in the pageant is published under the title "Our Heritage from the Pioneer" by Alfred L. Nelson in the *Minnesota Conservationist* for August. Another magazine that has given some attention to the "Diamond Jubilee" is the *Minnesota Alumni Weekly*, which devoted some space in its issue of October 14 to a survey of the history of the university against a background of state history. Several views of the campus—"past, present and future"—accompany this sketch. A "State Day Convocation" arranged at the university on October 26 commemorated the state's seventy-fifth anniversary and was held particularly "in honor of the pioneer editors of Minnesota and in recognition of the contribution of the Press to the development of the State." On this occasion an address on the history of the Minnesota press was delivered by Mr. Herman Roe, publisher of the *Northfield News*.

The H. W. Wilson Company has issued for use in the schools and by study clubs a pamphlet entitled *Minnesota: State Name, Flag, Seal, Song, Bird, Flower, and other Symbols* by George E. Shankle (1933. 15 p.). It closes with a "List of Outstanding State Histories." Only four are included—*Minnesota in Three Centuries*

and the works by Folwell, Burnquist, and Neill. In describing Dr. Folwell's history, the author mentions a mythical fifth volume, which he says is "in the course of preparation."

A feature story about the "Minnesota Man" (see *ante*, p. 222), reprinted from the *Milwaukee Journal* in the *Fergus Falls Daily Journal* for August 16, is prefaced by an announcement that Dr. Albert E. Jenks of the University of Minnesota, who identified the skeleton found in Glacial Lake Pelican in 1931 and declared that it belonged to the pre-glacial era, was again excavating in the vicinity of Pelican Rapids during the summer.

A large number of Minnesota churches held anniversary celebrations during the past summer. Among the oldest were the Houston Swedish Baptist Church, which commemorated the eightieth anniversary of its founding from August 11 to 13, and the Trinity Episcopal Chapel of Excelsior, which celebrated its seventy-eighth anniversary on August 2. Churches that were founded in the year that Minnesota became a state and could therefore join the commonwealth in the celebration of a "Diamond Jubilee" include the Anoka Episcopal Church (September 17 and 18), the Chaska Moravian Church (July 23), the East Union Scandinavian Evangelical Lutheran Church in Carver County (July 1 and 2), St. George Catholic Church of New Ulm (September 10), St. John's Lutheran Church of Red Wing (September 17 to 23), St. Bridget's Catholic Church near Rochester (August 13), the Rockford Presbyterian Church (August 27), the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church of Vista (July 30), and the West Union Lutheran Church in Scott County (August 13). A sixty-fifth anniversary was celebrated by Paul's Reformed Church near Hamburg in Carver County on August 20; a sixty-first anniversary, by the Norwegian Lutheran Church of Richwood in Becker County on September 24; sixtieth anniversaries, by the Glendorado Lutheran Church in Benton County on August 27, the First Lutheran Church of Litchfield on July 9, the Mandt Lutheran Church in Chippewa County on September 17, St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Preston on September 10, St. Nicholas Catholic Church in Stearns County on August 27, and the Solem Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church in Douglas County on July 30; fiftieth anniversaries, by the St. Rose of Lima Catholic

Church of Argyle on August 30, the Assumption Catholic Church of Barnesville in Clay County on August 30 and 31, the Norwegian Lutheran Church of Bergen in McLeod County on July 16, the Mission Covenant Church of Braham from September 8 to 10, the Swedish Mission Tabernacle of Duluth from July 26 to 30, the Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church of Duluth from September 13 to 17, St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Fairmont on August 27, the Community Methodist Church of Perham from August 18 to 20, the Skjeberg Lutheran Church of Teien Township in Kittson County on July 8 and 9, and the Spring Creek Lutheran Church in Yellow Medicine County on September 16 and 17; a forty-fifth anniversary, by the Immanuel Lutheran Church of Iron Hub in Crow Wing County on September 10; and a fortieth anniversary, by the Denham Methodist Episcopal Church in Pine County from August 3 to 6. Most of the celebrations here noted were described in the local press, and in many cases historical sketches of the churches were published. Of special interest is an illustrated section devoted to "Swedish Lutheran History" which appears with the *Waseca Journal* for July 26. It contains much detailed historical material about the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church of Vista, which was founded in August, 1858, by the Reverend Eric Norelius. Another church history is that of the Salem Lutheran Church of Karlstad compiled by its pastor, the Reverend Robert W. Ericsson, which appears in the *Karlstad Advocate* for July 28 and August 4 and calls attention to the passing of half a century since the church was founded.

Extracts from what appears to be a letter book kept in 1827 by Colonel Josiah Snelling, for whom Fort Snelling is named, are quoted in the *St. Paul Dispatch* for September 21. The volume, which is described as a diary, is owned by Mrs. William Ritchie of Omaha, a grandniece of Snelling.

The history of the Old Capitol, which was closed recently, was reviewed in a talk presented over radio station WCCO by J. P. McDonnell on July 27. The talk is published in the *Wright County Journal-Press* of Buffalo for August 3.

Brief sketches of the services of William W. Folwell, Cyrus Northrop, William S. Pattee, Maria Sanford, and Henry T. Eddy to the University of Minnesota have been published in a pamphlet

entitled *Builders of the Name* (28 p.). They were originally presented at a Charter Day convocation held at the university on February 16 (see *ante*, p. 231).

The Daughters of Liberty chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution of Duluth have erected on the route of the old Vermilion trail through that city a bronze marker, which was dedicated on August 29. It bears the following inscription:

Past this point ran the old Vermilion trail from Minnesota Point on the north shore of Lake Superior through eighty miles of unbroken forest to the shores of Lake Vermilion.

This wilderness highway was laid out and built in 1865 by white men and Indians, under the direction of Surveyor George R. Stuntz, a notable pioneer of this region. Originally planned to serve the army of prospectors that for five years journeyed to an unprofitable search for gold at Lake Vermilion, it later furnished access to the genuine wealth of the Vermilion iron range.

To identify and perpetuate this historic site, this memorial is presented to the city of Duluth by Daughters of Liberty chapter, D. A. R., 1933.

The program worked out by the Minnesota State Federation of Labor in 1914 relating to prison labor is discussed in some detail in chapter 20 of the "Legislative History" of this organization, which appears in its *Year Book* for 1932 (see *ante*, 13:444).

The death on September 19 of Le Grand Powers, to whom Dr. Folwell gave the title of Minnesota's "Apostle of Labor" in his *History of Minnesota*, is the occasion for the publication of an editorial in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* of September 23. The writer points out that the results of Powers' work are evident in the labor laws both of Minnesota and of the nation.

In an article on the "Indians of Martin, Faribault Counties," which appears in the *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* for July 8, Mr. Allen L. Moore expresses the belief that the "Indians who occupied the Martin county area many years ago and the Indians who habitually camped along the Blue Earth river a few miles east were two different tribes."

President Lincoln's order for the execution of thirty-eight Indians at New Ulm in December, 1862, is quoted and some information about the Sioux Outbreak is presented in the issue for July 10 of

Lincoln Lore, a bulletin published each week by the Lincoln National Life Insurance Company at Fort Wayne, Indiana. The writer apparently saw only a facsimile of the order, and he seems to be unaware that the original is owned by the Minnesota Historical Society.

Descendants of Samuel W. and Gideon H. Pond, the Minnesota missionaries, have organized the Pond Family Association of Minnesota, which has for its objects the "fostering and promoting of interest in the work and accomplishments of Samuel William Pond and Gideon Hollister Pond . . . and their descendants; the cultivation of social intercourse among its members; [and] the collecting and publishing of genealogical and historical data relating to its members."

The Reverend Joseph Buh, Father Francis Pierz, William T. Boutwell, Frederick Ayer, George B. Aiton, and other missionaries figure in a brief survey of mission activities among the Indians of northern Minnesota that appears in the *Grand Rapids Herald-Review* for July 19. It is reprinted in the *Duluth Free Press* for August 11.

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

The destruction by fire of the old mill at St. Francis, which was built in 1887 and was last used during the World War, is the occasion for an article about its history in the *Anoka Herald* for July 19. Two pictures of the mill accompany the article.

The chaise used by Bishop Henry B. Whipple in his journeys as a missionary through frontier Minnesota has been acquired by the Blue Earth County Historical Society and placed in its transportation collection exhibited at Sibley Park, according to an announcement in the *Mankato Free Press* for July 24. Another feature of this museum is an exhibit of pioneer agricultural and household implements, and to this there has been added recently a plow mounted on wooden wheels which dates from 1885. Smaller objects owned by the Blue Earth County society are exhibited in the Mankato Public Library. There the society displays its large and valuable collection of Indian objects, pictures, newspapers, and objects illustrative of pioneer life.

An "Historical Narrative Contest" is being conducted by the Blue Earth County Historical Society among the school children of

the county and statements of the rules of the contest have been made available to all teachers, according to Mr. Horace W. Roberts, president. Prizes of from one to fifteen dollars are being offered for the fifteen "best written, most interesting and historically valuable accounts" of pioneer incidents or experiences in Blue Earth County.

Economic conditions in the vicinity of Mapleton and Mankato in the seventies and eighties are described in an interview with Mr. Thomas B. Taylor of Mapleton which appears in the *Blue Earth County Enterprise* for August 25. He recalls that his father hauled wheat to Mankato, where he disposed of it at a mill, and he relates that often a line of teams "almost a mile long" would be waiting along the road that approached the mill. Other recollections of pioneer days in Mapleton are included in interviews with Mr. Charles Ware, who was formerly a contractor and builder in the community; with William Albrecht, a local merchant who emigrated from Germany and settled in southern Minnesota in 1872; and with Hiram B. Tenney, whose father was the first village drayman. These interviews appear in the *Enterprise* for September 1, 8, and 15.

A History of the Christian Church, Garden City, Minnesota (8 p.) has been published to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of its founding (see *ante*, p. 353).

The building of Fort Hill near Lake Hanska as a protection against the Indians during the Sioux War is recalled and the remains of the fort are described in an interview with Ole Synstebby, a Brown County pioneer, which appears in the *Sleepy Eye Herald-Dispatch* for August 10.

A "History of St. John's Society," which was organized by a group of men from St. Mary's Parish of Sleepy Eye in June, 1883, is contributed by the Reverend Francis S. Rant to the *Brown County Journal* of New Ulm for August 18.

The fifth annual North Shore Historical Assembly, a joint meeting of the historical societies of Cook, St. Louis, and Lake counties, was held at Lutsen on August 21. Attention was called to the state's Diamond Jubilee at the afternoon session by William E. Culkin of Duluth, who spoke on "Minnesota's Admission to Statehood and the

North Shore in 1858." Other speakers at this session were Mr. Dennis Dwan, who described the "Growth of the Postal System on the North Shore," and Mr. John D. Jenswold, who discussed the "Pigeon River in Relation to the Webster-Ashburton Treaty." The evening program included a report by Mrs. G. A. Wily on the dedication of a memorial to Father Baraga at Cross River, and an illustrated address by Captain James McCannel on "Early Navigation on the Great Lakes."

At a meeting of the Cook County Historical Society held at Grand Marais on September 15, the following officers were elected: the Reverend E. F. Lindquist of Grand Marais, president; Mr. W. E. Smith of Cross River, vice president; and Mrs. E. M. McLean of Grand Portage, secretary-treasurer.

A step toward the organization of an historical society in Douglas County was taken at the annual meeting of the Douglas County Old Settlers and Pioneers Union, which was held at Alexandria on August 27. A committee was appointed to draw up a constitution.

About 175 descendants of the earliest settlers of Pilot Grove Township in Faribault County gathered at the site of the community's first schoolhouse on June 8 to celebrate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the settlement by four Scotch families from Palmyra, Wisconsin. The story of the little community that had its beginnings on the shores of Weasel Lake in June, 1858, was reviewed for the gathering by the Reverend Archibald Cardle of Burlington, Iowa, a son of one of the original settlers. He named the twenty-one persons who were the "original settlers of Pilot Grove township" and noted that other settlers of Scotch origin arrived in the sixties, when, near by to the south, there grew up also an Irish settlement. The speaker pointed out that the Scotch settlers were characterized by their love for their church, their belief in education, their industry, frugality, and thrift, and their sympathy for one another.

At the second annual meeting of the Chatfield Historical Society, which was held on September 11, Mr. G. A. Haven was elected president; Mrs. G. R. Thompson, first vice president; Mr. L. M. Thurber, second vice president; Miss Ruth Shimer, treasurer; and Mrs. G. H. Underleak, recording secretary. Plans were made for

the display in the local library of some of the pioneer objects collected by the society.

The Hubert Sholaas post of the American Legion at Hoffman has erected a granite marker on the site of "one of the first burial places in Grant county" and it plans to take over the care of the old cemetery, which has long been neglected. The marker also commemorates the site of the county's first school and earliest church, according to the *Grant County Herald* of Elbow Lake for August 3, which presents brief histories of both. A list of some of the pioneers who are buried in the cemetery also appears in the *Herald*.

The history of Wayzata and of the north shore of Lake Minnetonka was reviewed in a pageant presented at Wayzata on August 4, 5, and 6 to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of the municipality.

The passing of half a century since the village of Heron Lake was incorporated was appropriately celebrated by the people of the community from July 13 to 15. On "Homecoming Day"—July 14—Mr. Arthur M. Nelson of Fairmont spoke on the history of Heron Lake and Jackson County. His address is printed in the *Heron Lake News* for July 20. During the celebration collections of pioneer objects were on display in the shop windows of the village. The issue of the *News* for July 6 is a "Golden Anniversary Edition," a feature of which is a facsimile of the first page of the first issue of Heron Lake's earliest newspaper, the *Guardian* of October 1, 1880. It is reproduced from an incomplete file in the possession of the Minnesota Historical Society. Articles on early life in the village, including many reminiscent features, are contributed by a number of former residents—Mr. Sam S. Haislet and Mr. Carl Eastwood of Minneapolis, and Mr. G. A. Fairfield of St. Paul.

An unusually interesting community history is a narrative entitled "Pelan of Yesterday" by Ralph Johnson, which appears in installments in the *Karlstad Advocate* between August 11 and October 6. The writer, a resident of Pelan, prepared this history of his home community as a term paper in connection with a course in history at St. Cloud State Teachers College. His picture of the growth in the nineties and decline in the opening decade of the pres-

ent century of this village on one of Minnesota's last frontiers—Kittson County near the international boundary—is based upon material gleaned from local newspapers, from old letters, and from interviews with pioneers. The narrative opens with an account of the settlers who came into the region in the eighties and nineties, and of the Englishman, Charles Pelan, whose name is commemorated in that of the community. The organization of the township in 1900 and the incorporation of the village in 1903 are noted; the beginnings of churches, schools, and social organizations are described; and accounts are given of the stores and industries that developed. Of special interest is an account of the stage and hotel business that was conducted by Andrew and Nels Olson. The writer reveals that a stage line between Roseau and Stephen—a distance of seventy-five miles—did a thriving business before the days of the railroads. He points out that it was the coming of the railroads, two of which invaded Kittson County without passing through Pelan, that spelled the doom of the village. It “reached the climax” of its growth in 1903, and then gradually declined as the railroad villages of Karlstad and Greenbush developed. An account of social and industrial life in the village at the time of its greatest development is based upon items that appeared in the *Pelan Advocate*.

An “Aultman and Taylor ten horsepower wooden wheel traction engine with a hand steering wheel” that was used by a threshing crew in Le Sueur County as early as 1882 is described in the *Mankato Free Press* for July 24. The engine is owned by Mr. Joseph T. Rynda, Jr., of Montgomery, who, according to this account, intends to place it in the Edison Institute at Dearborn, Michigan. A picture of the pioneer engine, which is said to have been manufactured in 1877, accompanies the article.

A display of objects and pictures illustrative of Indian and pioneer life in Minnesota attracted considerable attention at the Lincoln County fair held at Tyler from August 24 to 27.

A kerosene street lamp formerly used in Marshall, a melodeon, a drum used in the Civil War, a candle mold, and a hand-made butter churn were among the objects included in an “historical relics exhibit” arranged at the Lyon County Fair early in September.

The annual summer meeting and picnic of the Martin County Historical Society, which was held on August 27 near the site of old Cedarville, a deserted village, attracted about four thousand people. Attention was called to Minnesota's Diamond Jubilee by Judge Julius E. Haycraft, president of the society, who gave the principal address, taking as his topic "Minnesota's Seventy-five Years." The history of the Cedarville locality and of the northwest section of Martin County was outlined by Mr. Arthur M. Nelson, and the story of the English colony that was established around Fairmont in the seventies was recalled by one of its members, Mr. Harry M. Serle.

Lowville Township in Murray County is described as the site of Joseph Laframboise's trading post in the thirties of the last century in an outline of the history of the township published in the *Lake Wilson Pilot* for July 27. According to this account the first settlers, John and Bart Low, arrived in 1866; the township was organized in 1873; and the first census, which listed twelve families, was taken in 1875.

The first installment of a history of Fort Ridgely by Fred Johnson of New Ulm appears in the *Fairfax Standard* for September 7. He opens with an account of the selecting of the site and of the building of the fort on the Minnesota River between 1853 and 1855. A detailed description of the completed fort is included, and brief sketches of army officers who were stationed there from time to time are presented. Among them were such well-known figures as Captain N. J. T. Dana, Captain Alfred Sully, and Major Samuel Wood. Mr. Johnson was the principal speaker at a celebration held on the site of Fort Ridgely on August 22 in commemoration of the eightieth anniversary of the founding of the fort and the seventy-fifth anniversary of the battle of Fort Ridgely.

Plans for restoring old Fort Ridgely and for housing an historical museum within its walls were discussed at a meeting held at the home of Mr. L. E. Potter of Springfield on August 7, according to an announcement in the *Mankato Free Press* for August 11.

About five hundred people attended a meeting at Worthington on September 10 which resulted in the organization of the Nobles

County Historical Society. The state historical society was represented by its superintendent, Dr. Theodore C. Blegen, who spoke on local historical work in Minnesota. Among the other speakers on the program were Mrs. James Gardner of Kinbrae, Mrs. A. J. Rice of Adrian, C. R. Saxon of Indian Lake Township, and Mrs. H. J. Ludlow of Worthington, each of whom outlined the history of his own locality. The new society, which was organized with eighty-two members, elected the following officers: Mrs. Ludlow, president; Mrs. E. J. Jones, vice president; and Mrs. Blanche Smallwood, secretary-treasurer. One of the first activities of the society was the arrangement of an historical exhibit at the county fair, which was held at Worthington on September 27 and 28. The *Worthington Globe* offered prizes for the entries that best illustrated pioneer life, and it published in its issue for October 3 an account of the exhibit.

The fiftieth anniversary of the cyclone that destroyed many of the buildings in Rochester on August 21, 1883, is the occasion for the publication of an account of the storm and its results in the *Rochester Post-Bulletin* for August 21. Several pictures of the disaster, from the collection of the Olmsted County Historical Society, accompany the article.

"The Coming of Colored People" to Fergus Falls is the subject of an interesting article by Senator Elmer E. Adams in the *Fergus Falls Daily Journal* for September 16. He asserts that when the Grand Army of the Republic held its encampment at St. Paul in 1896, real estate dealers from Fergus Falls distributed literature among the visitors in the hope of attracting settlers. Some of the leaflets were carried back to Kentucky by colored Civil War veterans, and there a colony was organized with the purpose of emigrating to Minnesota. Mr. Adams relates that a "great influx of colored people" consisting of about eighteen families arrived in Fergus Falls in April, 1897, and that many of the younger members of the group are still living in the locality.

"Minnesota's Diamond Jubilee" was the subject of a talk given by George P. Gurley at a meeting of the Pipestone County Historical Society held at Pipestone on September 4. Other speakers included Colonel E. S. Wheeler of Slayton, a Pipestone County pioneer, who

gave a reminiscent talk on early days in the region; and Mrs. W. H. Anderson, who presented an obituary sketch of the late A. E. Rydell of Fountain Prairie. The following officers were elected for the coming year: Mrs. Dora Chesley, president; Miss Mary Brown, secretary; Mr. J. E. Morgan, treasurer; and Miss Winifred Bartlett, historian.

The Rice County Historical Society coöperated with the *Northfield News* in arranging an historical exhibit at the Rice County Fair, which was held on September 22 and 23. An enumeration of some of the valuable and interesting articles included in this exhibit appears in the *News* for October 6 with the suggestion that "Northfield should have a museum for the collection and preservation of local historical objects." In an editorial about the exhibit and the interest aroused by it in the community, which appears in the *News* for September 29, the paper offers to "undertake a voluntary subscription effort to raise a fund to start Northfield's permanent historical museum." Such a fund would be used to buy cases in which historical exhibits could be displayed in the library building.

The program presented at the summer meeting of the Rice County Historical Society centered around the history of the Seabury Divinity School of Faribault, where the meeting was held on July 31. Sketches of Bishop Seabury, for whom the school was named, and of James Lloyd Breck, its founder, were presented by A. B. Childress and the Reverend V. E. Pinkham. Some "Outstanding Characters in Seabury's History" were described by H. C. Theopold, and Dr. Francis L. Palmer read a "Brief Outline of Seabury's History." The program commemorated the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the school as well as the conclusion of its activities, since it has been merged with another Episcopal theological seminary at Evanston, Illinois.

The most spectacular event in the history of Northfield,—the bank raid of September 7, 1876,—is the subject of a booklet recently issued by the *Northfield News* (1933. 32 p.). It contains the story of the raid "in which a notorious gang of bandits led by Jesse James met their Waterloo, not at the hands of armed officers of the law, but of quiet, ordinary, peace-loving citizens of a little college town."

A brief "Historical Sketch of Northfield" is included in the pamphlet.

An historical pageant, a parade, and exhibits of pioneer objects and pictures in store windows were features of a three-day celebration held at Hibbing from September 15 to 17 to mark the fortieth anniversary of the founding of the village. The event was further commemorated in an elaborate anniversary number issued by the *Hibbing Daily Tribune* on September 14. Herein it is made clear that the story of Hibbing's origin and development is part of the larger story of iron mining on the Mesabi Range. A general account of the exploration and development of the range is contributed to the issue by W. L. Taylor; William E. Culkin is the author of a review of the early history of the region entitled "Hibbing under Four Flags" and of an account of the part played by the Merritt brothers in the finding of ore on the Mesabi range. The discovery of ore at the west end of the range in the Hibbing vicinity, the organization in 1892 of the Lake Superior Iron Company by Frank Hibbing, the latter's career, the land boom of the nineties, and the surveys made by George R. Stuntz and John Longyear are the subjects of other sketches that center around the story of iron. Another industry that claims some attention is lumbering; an article on this subject is accompanied by an excellent view of a lumber camp. The issue is notable for the amount of space that is devoted to social history. Forms of entertainment enjoyed by the earliest settlers are described by Eula B. Oliver; music, drama, and the motion picture are given considerable attention; the development of local sports is reviewed by Clarence T. Smith; early doctors and hospitals, fraternal organizations, and the public library are the subjects of articles. Arthur Silliman contributes a general survey of the community's church history; the story of "Early Education" is reviewed by Mrs. Susan Gandsey, the first teacher in Hibbing. Accounts of the local fire department, police force, and park system are included; and the organization of the village government is described. The part played by the people of Hibbing in the World War is recalled by John Saylor.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the forest fire that swept over Chisholm on September 5, 1908, and of the rebuilding of the village

was commemorated on September 3, 4, and 5. A program presented on the last day included talks on the fire by Edward Freeman of Virginia and by Mrs. G. L. Train of Chisholm, and an address entitled "Pioneers" by Martin Hughes of Hibbing. A bronze plaque commemorating the fire and honoring the pioneers who rebuilt the village was unveiled.

Merchandising methods and economic conditions on the Minnesota frontier of the seventies are vividly recalled by J. E. Townsend in an account of the "Store Business as Carried on in Belle Plaine 63 Years Ago," which appears in the *Belle Plaine Herald* for September 7, 14, and 21. Mr. Townsend became a clerk in the store of Thomas Jordan at Belle Plaine in 1870. He tells what the farmers of that day received for eggs, butter, pork, and other produce; he describes the methods used in counting and packing eggs; he relates that "butter was brought in by the women in fancy one-pound prints"; he tells about Jordan's activities in handling cordwood, farm machinery, dry goods, and groceries. The duties of a clerk in 1870 also are described by Mr. Townsend, who relates that he received a salary of twenty-five dollars a month. The writer of an editorial in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for September 11 comments on these reminiscences, remarking that they are "emphatic reminders" of the fact that the marketing of "farm products has undergone a great transformation in 60 years."



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